LESSON 18 "KINDNESS" (page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Acts 9:1-22 (page 1196-1198)

CHARACTER WORD

<u>Kindness</u> – a friendly, good-natured attitude toward others

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

With God's help, I can show kindness to others.

MEMORY LINK

Ephesians 4:32a

"And be <u>kind</u> to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one anotherl." (KBC Study Bible pg. 1289)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Paper, bag

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Slips of paper, pencil Option 2: Beach ball

BIBLE CONNECTION

None

SURF TEAM LEADER

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Beach balls, music Option 2: Bean bags

Ananias Helps Saul

WHAT'S THE POINT?

<u>Kindness</u> is going beyond any expectations, cheerfully and lovingly. It is putting someone else's needs and desires before your own. It is also listed in Galatians 5:22-23 as a fruit of the Spirit. As this lesson is taught, remember that true <u>kindness</u> can only come from God. Without Jesus in charge of our lives, it is impossible to be truly <u>kind</u> on our own. God showed us the ultimate act of <u>kindness</u> by looking beyond our sin and providing a Savior, Jesus.

GET CONNECTED



Building relationships in Surf Teams; introducing today's lesson

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the kids in your Surf Team and to introduce today's lesson.

- Today's Character Word is kindness? What does that mean to you?
- Share an example of how you were kind today.
- Share an example of a time you were not kind.
- Can you name a story in the Bible where someone showed kindness?

Optional: Write each letter of the word "kindness" on a piece of paper. Place them in a bag. The kids may dump out the letters and arrange the word to discover the Character Word for the day.



Guide students to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

WORSHIP TIME



Pointing hearts toward God

Consider starting with a fun, upbeat, moving song and finishing with a slower more worshipful song. Pray for listening eyes, ears and hearts before the speaker comes to share God's truth. Good songs include "Great Big God" by Vineyard Kids and "Whom Shall I Fear" by Chris Tomlin.

MEMORY LINK

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2 Minutes - Teaching the Bible verse to students

8 Minutes - Activity to help them memorize the verse

No supplies needed

Focus on the Bible

Who brought a Bible? Each week in Memory Link, count who remembered to bring their Bible. Encourage kids to hold up their Bibles high in the air while you count. Keep a running total each week and try to increase the number of Bibles brought every week.

Focus on Today's Memory Link

Guide the children to find Ephesians 4:32a in their KBC Study Bible (page 1289). Call on a student to come to the front and read the verse aloud as the other students follow along. Take time to discuss the words "kind," "tenderhearted" and "forgiving," letting the children explain when called on as to what each mean; further explain if necessary.

Today you will hear a Bible story that tells about a man who was kind to a bully. He did this because God told him to do so, and He trusted God enough to obey Him. Can anyone give me an example of when someone has not been kind to you? How did you respond to them? How should we respond? True kindness is given to us from the Holy Spirit when we are made new by trusting Jesus as our Savior. The power to be truly kind comes from God.

Option 1 – ACTIVE VERSE

Slips of paper, pencil, Memory Link poster

Prepare

Write each action listed below on a slip of paper. You can add your own!

Guide kids to take turns drawing one slip of paper. They must say the verse in the way that is explained on the paper. Each student takes a turn while looking at the Memory Link poster and a second turn while reciting the verse from memory.

- In fast forward while jogging in place
- In a whisper while tiptoeing
- Shouting while marching
- In slow motion while jogging in place
- In a normal voice while walking backward

Option 2 - CIRCLE BALL

Beach ball

Surf Teams will stand in a circle with one player in the middle. The middle player passes the beach ball to each person in the circle, one right after the other in standing order. When an outside player catches the ball, he or she passes the ball back to the person in the middle. As each outside player receives the ball, they say a word in the verse. Players should say the verse in order until it's complete, including the reference. Continue passing the ball faster each time the verse is recited. Allow kids to take turns standing in the middle of the circle.

Ephesians 4:32a

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one anotherl." (KBC Study Bible pg. 1289)

Teaching Tip

Without the Spirit of Christ within us, our nature is inclined toward that which is evil and bad. The Holy Spirit produces in us kindness and goodness, helping us to minister to the world with the love of Jesus. It is important that students understand where the power from which true kindness comes; it is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

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BIBLE CONNECTION



LESSON 18
"KINDNESS"

(page 3)

Teaching today's Character Word through a gospel-centered Bible story

No supplies needed

Set the Stage

It's easy to be <u>kind</u> to people who are <u>kind</u> to us. But Jesus wants us also to be <u>kind</u> to people who aren't <u>kind</u> to us. Who can tell me what it means to be <u>kind</u>? (allow for answers) <u>Kindness</u> is friendliness that puts others' needs before our own. Today's story is about a Christian (a person who believes in Jesus) named Ananias who was <u>kind</u> to someone who everyone knew to be a bully to Christians. In fact, this bully hunted for Christians so he could put them in prison or even kill them. God told Ananias to be <u>kind</u> to this bully. Let's listen to the story to discover how Ananias treated the bully.

Tell the Story

Ask students to find Acts 9:1-22 in their KBC Study Bibles (page 1196-98). Ask them to find the name in Acts 9:1. (Saul) Saul was a passionate Jewish man who hated Christians and wanted to hurt them. He was a bully and many Christians were afraid of Saul. Show students the map on page 1197. Help them locate Jerusalem and Damascus on the map. Explain that today's story begins on the road between those two cities.

Saul set out from Jerusalem to a town named Damascus, where it was thought many followers of Christ were living. He wanted to arrest them and bring them back to prison. While Saul was traveling on the road, something happened. A bright light shone from heaven and a loud voice spoke.

Direct Student No. 1 to read Acts 9:4-6 aloud as the other students follow along in their Bibles (page 1197). Who was the voice speaking to Saul? (Jesus) When the light was gone and the voice stopped speaking, Saul couldn't see. He was blind. The men with him had to lead him into Damascus. Saul stayed in a house there for three days and didn't eat or drink anything.

While this was happening to Saul, a disciple of Jesus named Ananias, who lived in Damascus, had a vision from God. God told Ananias to do something very specific. Direct Student No. 2 to read Acts 9:11-15 aloud as the other students follow along in their Bibles (page 1197). Can you believe what God asked Ananias to do? God wanted Ananias to go and help Saul, a known bully against Christians. Ananias answered God, explaining that Saul was a dangerous man. But God told Ananias that He had a special plan for Saul. Ananias had a decision to make. Would he trust God enough to obey God and show Saul kindness?

Ananias chose to trust God. He didn't know what would happen, but he went to the house and placed his hands on Saul. Draw kids attention to Acts 9:17 (page 1197). Ananias even called Saul a "brother" and told Saul about his vision from God. Immediately, something like scales fell off Saul's eyes. He could see again! Saul got up, and Ananias baptized him as a follower of Jesus. Saul, the bully, was completely changed by the power of Jesus. Let's find out what Saul did next.

As You Prepare

Gather three students to the front with you who will read sections of the story from their KBC Study Bibles.

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Direct Student No. 3 to read Acts 9:20-22 aloud as the other students follow along in their Bibles (page 1198). What did Saul do after he could see? (He preached about Jesus) Many people were confused that Saul was teaching about Jesus. They said, "Isn't he that bully who tried to arrest and kill Christians?" But Saul wanted to tell everyone about Jesus, proving to other Jews that God sent Jesus to be the Savior.

Ananias obeyed God and showed <u>kindness</u> toward Saul and many people came to know Jesus! God changed Saul's heart. The <u>kindness</u> of Ananias played an important part in that change.

How hard was it for Ananias to be <u>kind</u> to Saul? It was hard, but Ananias loved God. He obeyed God and showed this <u>kindness</u> to a man who was known for hating and killing Christ followers. Have you ever had the chance to be <u>kind</u> to someone who was not <u>kind</u> to you? That's a hard thing to do, but God could use your <u>kindness</u> to change a life, just like God used Ananias' <u>kindness</u> to change Saul's life.

Application

On your way back to your Surf Team, think of a way you could be <u>kind</u> to someone who has not been <u>kind</u> to you. Share this with your team.

Gospel Connection

The key ingredient in kindness is love. The Bible says, "love is kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4). Kindness is the way to express love to someone. This is true both for God showing kindness to us or us showing kindness to one another. God has shown us the greatest kindness by giving His Son to die for our sin. We can trust Jesus as our Savior just like Ananias and just like Saul. God's Word tells us God's plan for how people can become followers of Jesus. It's as simple as A-B-C. ADMIT you're a sinner and ASK Jesus to forgive your sin and come into your life. Next, BELIEVE that Jesus' sacrifice paid the debt for your sin and then CHOOSE TO FOLLOW Jesus by turning away from your sin and choosing God's way rather than your own way.

Invite students wanting to know more about praying to ask Jesus to be their forever friend to move to the designated counseling area to talk with a leader one on one. Be sure to have all the decision supplies available.

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Teaching Tip

Help students realize the importance of bringing their Bibles to Beach Club. That importance is shown by the amount of time students are hands on with their Bibles. If you don't ever require its use in club or use it yourself, they won't either! Point out everyone who remembers to bring a Bible. Encourage students to find and read scripture for themselves. Involve the Bible in every part of Beach Club and share with students who may have forgotten a Bible. It takes more time, but it is time well spent for the advancement of students knowing God's word personally!

SURF TEAM TIME

5-10 MINUTES

Connecting with kids in small groups; applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens

Today's Bible Lesson

- Before you begin, ask if there are any students who would like to talk with the Bible Connection leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their forever friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.
- What questions do you have about today's story?
- Why would it have been difficult for Ananias to go find Saul like God told him
 to do? (Direct the children to look at Acts 9:13-14.) Would you be able to be
 kind like that with someone who may not be kind to you? Why or why not?
- How did God make Ananias feel confident to go to this man who had killed Christians? (Direct the children to Acts 9:12,15.) How can you use this true story to help you be <u>kind</u> in your own life, especially to those who are not kind to you?

Use the Bible

Give each child a Memory Link card. Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide kids to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles. Lead them to highlight today's Memory Link.

Hang 10 Pages

Give each child a Hang 10 page. Challenge them to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage kids to do the Weekly Challenge and bring back their Hang 10 pages next week for a time of discussion.

This week, let's be watchful for others who look sad or lonely. Ask God to help us be creative in sharing <u>kindness</u> to someone to whom we might not normally be <u>kind</u>. Next week, you will earn an extra punch {or ticket} if you are able to share something that you actually did.

Pray

Give the kids a few minutes to share their prayer requests or write them on index cards. Ask someone to lead the group in prayer. Take the cards home and remember to pray for the kids in your Surf Team this week.

God, You are so <u>kind</u> to us. With Your Holy Spirit in our hearts, we can be <u>kind</u> to others. Help us cooperate with You this week and show <u>kindness</u> each and every day for Your glory. In Jesus' name, amen.

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Teaching Tip

Repetition is key with students. It is how they learn best and how retention is achieved. Don't be afraid to repeat ideas and truths every week. In fact, make a list of the top-five truths you hope your kids will know by the end of the year. Find a way to incorporate them every week. An example might be coming up with a rhyme and motions expressing "what God's word is" such as "true, good and neverchanging." Repeat these truths with students at the same time each week!

Teaching Tip

Consider planning your last Beach Club meeting for this school year. Make it special! Plan a party or give students small gifts. Communicate what's happening at your church during the summer months and extend an invitation to your Beach Club kids. Double check your attendance and decisions in the KiDs Online Management System. Make sure the information is up to date so you can continue to communicate with your students and follow up with those who've made professions of faith this year.

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME



LESSON 18
"KINDNESS"
(page 6)

Playing a game to review today's Bible Connection and Character Word

Option 1 - BALL TOSS

Beach ball, music

Instruct each Surf Team to sit in a separate circle. Give each Surf Team a beach ball. Play the music for all Surf Teams to start tossing the ball randomly between students. When the music stops, whoever has the ball (or if in mid-air, whoever touched it last) answers a review question asked by their Surf Team leader. Continue until all questions are asked and answered or time runs out.

Option 2 - OVER/UNDER RELAY

Bean bags

Each Surf Team lines up single file. Give the first person in each line the beanbag. Each Surf Team leader needs to stand in front of their team, facing the first player. When the leader says, "go," the beanbag is passed over the first player's head to the second player. The second player passes the ball through his legs to the player behind him. Continue the over/under pattern until the last player receives the bean bag. The last player runs to the front of the line, answers a review question and begins the passing process again. Continue play until every player has answered a question at the front of the line. The first Surf Team to finish wins!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. What is today's Character Word? (Kindness)
- 2. Share an example of kindness.
- 3. Why was Saul travelling to Damascus? (to arrest and persecute Christians)
- 4. Who spoke to Saul on the road? (Jesus)
- 5. Who did God send to help Saul? (Ananias)
- 6. How did Ananias know to go find Saul? (God told him in a vision)
- 7. How did Ananias show kindness to Saul? (he obeyed God and healed him from blindness)
- 8. Where did Ananias receive the ability to heal Saul's blindness? (God)
- 9. Say the Memory Link or tell me the three things this verse tells us to do. (be <u>kind</u>, be tenderhearted, forgive one another)
- 10. How has God shown kindness to you?
- 11. How can you practice kindness this week?

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another."

Ephesians 4:32a

