



Helping Kids Grow in Kindness God's Way

When Small Acts Make a Big Difference

Lesson Aim:

Children will learn that kindness reflects God's heart and can be shown through everyday actions, big or small.

Scripture Focus:

- "The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!" (Ruth 2:12, *ESV*)
- "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32, *ESV*)

Connect

- **Connection Point:** Ask: "Can you think of a time when someone was kind to you and it made you feel special?"

Teach

- Read or retell the story of Boaz's Kindness to Ruth (Ruth 2 - 3).

Ruth and her mother-in-law Naomi had lost everything. While living in a foreign land called Moab, Naomi's husband died. Then her two sons died, leaving Naomi and her daughters-in-law with no one to care for them. In those days, widows had no way to earn money or own land, so they faced hunger and hardship. Naomi decided to return to her hometown of Bethlehem, and Ruth, her daughter-in-law, chose to go with her. Ruth told Naomi, "Where you go, I will go... your people shall be my people, and your God my God." (Ruth 1:16, *ESV*)



Church Lesson | The Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness

When they arrived in Bethlehem, they had little hope and no food. Ruth went to gather leftover grain in the fields so they could eat. The field she chose belonged to Boaz, a man who loved and honored God. When Boaz saw Ruth working, he noticed her hard work and faithfulness to Naomi. Instead of ignoring her or sending her away, Boaz chose kindness.

He told his workers to leave extra grain for Ruth to gather and invited her to eat with his servants so she wouldn't feel hungry or alone. In a world where many would have ignored Ruth because she was a foreigner, Boaz treated her with care and respect.

Later, Boaz became Ruth's family protector and married her. Their son, Obed, became the grandfather of King David and part of the family line of Jesus. Boaz's small acts of kindness became part of God's big plan to bring His love and salvation to the world.

Boaz's kindness reminds us that God sees every act of love, even the quiet ones. Through their faithfulness, Ruth and Boaz became part of God's story of hope. When we choose kindness, we reflect that same redeeming love to others.

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. What hard things happened to Ruth and Naomi before they met Boaz?
2. How did Boaz show kindness to Ruth, and how do you think that made her feel?
3. What can we learn about God from the way Boaz treated Ruth?

- **Explain:**

- God often shows His love through the kindness of His people.
- Even small acts of kindness can be part of God's big plan.

Model

- **Teacher Shares:** a time when someone's kindness made a big difference for you.
- **Student Activity:** Invite kids to act out short scenarios (role-play, charades, or Pictionary) that show kindness, like helping a new student, including someone who feels left out, or using gentle words when teased.

Pray

- *"God, thank You for showing us kindness first. Help us see people the way You do and choose kind words and actions every day. Let our kindness make Your love visible."*

Craft/Activity

- **Kindness Chain:** Give kids strips of colorful paper. Have them write or draw one kind act on each strip (e.g., *share, smile, help, include*). Connect the strips into a chain and hang it in the classroom or take it home. Remind them each act of kindness links us together in God's love.

Takeaway

- Kindness is love lived out as we show God's heart by doing good for others.