



Helping Kids Grow in Kindness God's Way

When Small Acts Make a Big Difference

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Retell the story of Boaz showing kindness to Ruth.
2. Explain how kindness reflects God's heart and His love for others.
3. Identify one way they can show kindness in their daily life.

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*)

Lesson Flow (25 min)

1. Connect (3 min)

- **Opening Thought:** Ask: "What's one kind thing someone has done for you recently? How did it make you feel?"
- **Assessment:** Teacher observes student attentiveness and willingness to share.

2. Teach (7 min)

- 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 Moab, Naomi's husband and two sons died, leaving them 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 chose to go with her to care for her.

When they arrived in Bethlehem, they had little food. Ruth went to gather leftover grain in the fields. The field she chose belonged to Boaz, a man who loved and honored God. When Boaz saw how hard Ruth worked and how kindly she treated Naomi, he wanted to help. He invited her to eat with his workers, protected her from harm, and told his harvesters to leave extra grain for her.

Boaz's kindness may have seemed small—just food and friendship—but God used it in a big way. Later, Boaz married Ruth and became her family protector. Their family line led to King David and, generations later, to Jesus.

Boaz's story shows that every act of kindness matters to God. When we care for others, we reflect His love and take part in His good work in the world.

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. What simple things did Boaz do to show kindness?
2. How do small acts of kindness show God's love to others?

- **Explain:**

- Kindness makes God's love visible.
- True kindness is love expressed through care and courage.

- **Assessment:** Teacher listens for students connecting kindness with God's love.

3. Model (7 min)

- **Teacher shares:** a time when someone's kindness made you feel cared for or noticed.
- **Student activity:** Act out in role-play or Charades, or draw in Pictionary scenarios that show kindness, like helping a classmate, including someone who feels left out, or speaking kindly when you're frustrated.
- **Assessment:** Teacher notes engagement and ability to apply kindness to real-life examples.

4. Pray (2-3 min)

- *"Jesus, thank You for being so kind to us. Help us see people the way You do, and give us courage to show kindness every day."*
- **Assessment:** Teacher observes participation and reverence during prayer.

5. Closing/Reflection (5 min)

- **Key Takeaway:** Kindness is love lived out as we show God's heart by doing good for others.
- **Student Reflection:** Ask, "Who is one person you could show kindness to this week, and how?"
- **Teacher Closes:** Remind students that God sees and values every kind act, even the ones no one else notices.
- **Assessment:** Teacher notes thoughtful and practical responses.

Optional Extension: Independent Practice

- **"Kindness Journal":** Have students write or draw one kind act they did or saw each day for a week. At the end of the week, reflect on how kindness changed their classroom or friendships.