

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: God is compassionate and kind and we should be too.

Key Question: How can kids show compassion?

Memory Verse: *The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.* **Psalms 103:8**

Overview: This story is not as much about Naaman but about an unnamed girl in the story. Naaman was a commander of a powerful army, but he suffered from a terrible skin disease called leprosy. This disease was ugly to look at and very painful. The story has an interesting twist. Naaman's army invaded Israel and captured many Israelites and made them slaves. One slave in particular was a young girl assigned to Naaman's wife. This young girl was taken from her home, torn from her family, and thrust into slavery in an unknown land. She had no reason to be kind or compassionate toward her captors, but she was. She saw Naaman and felt bad about his pain. Instead of being mean to him, she told him about her God's power to heal. Naaman went to Israel and was healed by God's prophet Elisha. God showed great kindness toward him. The real nugget to the story, though, is the servant girl without a name who showed a compassionate and kind heart

CLASSROOM AGENDA

- 5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.
- 5 min **WARM UP:** Has anyone ever been mean to you at school? How did it make you feel? Did you ever try to be nice to them anyway?
- 5 min **PREVIEW:** Draw the bubbles on a whiteboard and fill in the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question. (If applicable, have kids fill in their bubbles on the Kids Activity Page.)
- 20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.
- 5 min **RECAP:** Read the Lesson Overview from the Teacher's Guide and then answer the KEY QUESTION.
- 5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [Matthew 5:47](#). Why does God want us to be nice to everyone, not just our friends? What happens when we're nice to others?
- 10 min **PLAY:** Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 5 min **CLOSE:**
 - Share something kind you can do for someone who isn't always nice to you.
 - Share prayer requests and pray as a class.

TEACHER TIPS

The point: get the kids thinking about times they had their feelings hurt and how that felt. They should never want to make someone else feel that way.

Answer: Compassion means being tender-hearted toward someone and choosing to see things from their point of view. Here is what you can do if someone is mean to you. Before you react, **1.** Put yourself in their shoes. They must be hurting on the inside for some reason. Their family may be broken or have parents that don't show them love. Maybe they've been bullied in the past so they are just trying to protect themselves by being mean first. Whatever the reason, you can choose to have compassion toward them. **2.** Be kind. You never know how your kindness may impact their life as was the case with Naaman. Remember, when we show compassion and kindness, we are pointing them toward God-the ultimate example of kindness and compassion.

Bonus Questions:

- K-st:** Have you ever been nice to someone who was not nice to you? What happened? Did you make a new friend?
- 2nd-5th:** Has anyone ever reached out to be nice to you when you were lonely? Have you ever done that for someone else?

These verses come from Jesus' Sermon on the Mt- teachings about the practical things of life like how to treat others. Jesus said that his followers should be different. He challenged them to see everyone through compassionate and caring eyes - even the people they didn't like. Being nice to your friends is easy; even people who don't love God can do that. But being compassionate toward your "enemy" takes some effort and help from God.

Option #1**Random Act of Kindness Relay**

This is a great game to get the wiggles out and test knowledge. Have kids line up in two lines at one end of the room. At the other, have two buckets, each with a set of memory verse words, one word per strip (see page 5). Have kids do 5 jumping jacks then jump on one foot to the bucket and pull out a strip of paper and place it on the floor next to bucket and run back to slap the hand of the next person. Do this until all the kids have gone. Then, have kids put the verse in the correct order. First to finish correctly wins!

Supplies needed

- buckets
- strips of paper with memory verse words (one word per strip) 2 sets (template 5A)

Bonus Activity:

Play the telephone game. (whisper the word in one kid's ear and have them tell their neighbor and so on. See if the message is right at the end.

Words:

Naaman, servant girl

Option #2**Remove The Spots Game**

Help heal Naaman's leprosy by removing his spots by answering correctly! Draw a head and shoulders on the whiteboard large enough to put brown circles all over them (represent Naaman's leprosy). Using masking tape, tape the circles (see page 5) all over the drawing. Then, ask the questions below to the class. If they get it right, pull off one of the circles. Hopefully, at the end of the game, all of Naaman's spots are gone.

Questions:

1. What is the Big Idea for today? (God is compassionate & kind and we should be too)
2. Who is the Bible hero we are learning about today? (Naaman)
3. Who is the story really about? (the servant girl)
4. Do we know her name? (no)
5. What did the servant girl teach us about? (kindness/compassion)
6. Was Naaman a king or a commander of an army? (commander)
7. What is the Key Question today? (How can kids show compassion?)
8. What book of the Bible is our memory verse from? (Psalms)
9. Is this story from the Old testament or New? (old)
10. Was Naaman an Israelite or from another country? (another country)

Supplies needed

- dry erase markers
- whiteboard
- brown paper circles, pre cut (Naaman's Spots template 6A)
- masking tape

Bonus Activity:

Play the telephone game. (whisper the word in one kid's ear and have them tell their neighbor and so on. See if the message is right at the end.

Words:

commander, leprosy

1 Discover Truth

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (see link above) and fill in the blanks.

1. Naaman was a great warrior _____, but he was a _____.
2. The girl with no name is a hero because she chose to show _____ to someone who was not nice to her.
3. Compassion means to be _____ to someone and see things from their _____ of _____.

2 Talk about it

Answer these questions together as a family.

1. Has anyone ever been mean to you at school? How did it make you feel? Did you ever try to be nice to them anyway?
2. How do you feel when someone is nice to you?
3. How can you be nice and show compassion to others?
4. Read [Matthew 5:47](#). Why does God want us to be nice to everyone, not just our friends? What happens when we're nice to others?

3 Live it out

Memorize this week's Bible verse:

The Lord is compassionate and merciful,
slow to get angry and filled
with unfailing love.

Psalms 103:8

Learn the 3 basic truths of the Christian faith @ pursueGOD.org/foundations-kids



NAME: _____

ACTIVITY PAGE #1

K-1ST GRADE

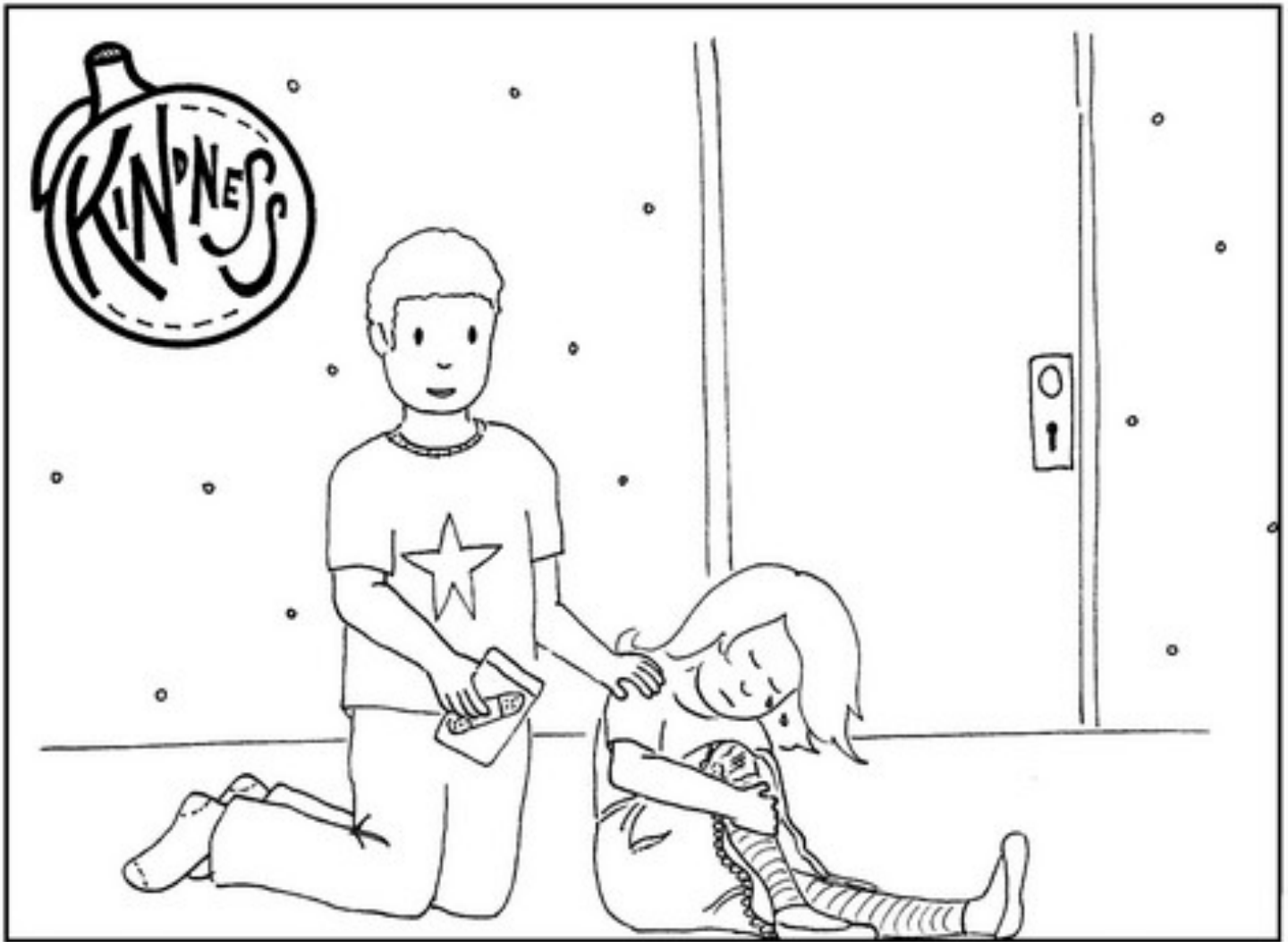
BIG IDEA:

God is compassionate and kind
and we should be too.

MEMORY VERSE:

The Lord is compassionate and merciful.
Slow to get angry and filled
with unfailing love.
Psalms 103:8

Instructions: color the picture.



Mandy Groce '11

ministry-to-children.com



MEMORY VERSE WORDS

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NAAMAN'S SPOTS

