

Bringing justice



Bible verses:
Amos 5:24



Aim:

To recognise God's desire for justice and fairness in how we treat others, and to consider how we can bring justice and goodness to our communities



Today's fruit:
Goodness



Memory verse

'But God has told us what is good. This is what the Lord wants from us:

"You must be fair to other people," God says.

"You must want to be kind.

And you must be careful to do what I show you.'"

(Micah 6:8 *EASY*)

Or



Memory verse

'He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

**And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.'**

(Micah 6:8 *NIV*)



Start it

Today we are going to hear a special message from God about justice and fairness. This message was given to a man called Amos, to share with everyone.

Bring out three toys – eg one teddy and two dolls. Explain that they are going to have a picnic together, and one of the dolls brought the snacks – six cookies. Hand out the cookies so the teddy gets one, the doll that brought the snacks gets three and the other doll, their best friend, gets two.

Discuss with the group if this was fair. If not, why? What would make it fair? What would you say to the doll who brought the cookies, to explain why it should be fair?



Share it

Share a child-friendly version of Amos 5:24 (eg Biblegateway.com *ERV/EASY*).

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share together:

- How does it feel if someone won't let you play with a toy? Or you're given a smaller piece of chocolate than your brother or sister? Does that feel fair?
- What's it like when everyone gets the same-sized slice of pizza?
- What's it like to play a game where everyone is playing fair?
- What can we do to make sure everyone gets a chance to play?

A long time ago a man called Amos told people that God wants fairness for everyone. God wants to see justice and fairness and goodness all the time everywhere, never stopping, just like a river.

- How does it feel when people are fair, when people do what is right?
- What would the world be like if there was fairness everywhere - all the time?
- Why might God want us to show fairness to people?

Sing It

'Micah 6:8' (Preschool worship song) By KidSpring Children's Ministry (2:03)

'Justice' (Official lyric video) by Songs For School (3:36)

Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Create a group picture of a river, out of painted handprints. Put thin amounts of blue and white paints on trays for the children. Add to the picture words that the children have said about fairness, goodness and justice.
- **Play:** Provide the group with toy figurines, put the children into small groups and ask if they can think of and act out a scenario where their 'characters' (toys) show fairness.
- **Pray:** Use a water tray or water bowls. After a quick play/splash with the water, ask the children to take the water in their cupped hands and then to let it fall back into the bowl. As they do this, pray together that fairness flows like a river everywhere in our lives.
- **Try:** Doing an action and never stopping! (Till the leader shouts 'Amos!') Try moving like a river and never stopping!

Showing mercy



Bible verses:

Micah 6:8;
Zechariah 7:9-10



Aim:

To reflect on what the Bible can teach us about how we treat others, and think about how we can live it out



Today's fruit:

Kindness



Memory verse

'But God has told us what is good. This is what the Lord wants from us:

"You must be fair to other people," God says.

"You must want to be kind.

And you must be careful to do what I show you."

(Micah 6:8 *EASY*)

Or



Memory verse

'He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

**And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.'**

(Micah 6:8 *NIV*)



Start it

Today we are going to hear another special message from God, about kindness. This message was given to a man called Micah and to another called Zechariah, to share with everyone.

Bring out the three toys from last week – eg one teddy and two dolls. Explain that because one of the dolls had trouble sharing cookies last week, the other two were spending the day playing together. And every time the other doll asked to join in, they said no. (Depending on your group, you may wish to say that one of them said an unkind word too.)

Discuss with the group if this was kind of the teddy and the doll? If not, why? What would be a kind thing to do instead? What would you say to the teddy and doll to explain why they should be kind?



Share it

Share a child-friendly version of Micah 6:8 and Zechariah 7:9-10 (eg Biblegateway.com *ERV/EASY*).

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share together:

- Can you remember a time when someone did something kind for you?
- What does it feel like when someone is kind to you?
- Can you remember a time when you did something kind for others?

- How does it feel when you do something kind?
- What are some kind words we can say to others?
- Can we be kind when someone makes a mistake? Why is it important?

A long time ago a man called Micah and a man called Zechariah both told people that God wants everyone to be kind. God wants us to be kind with everything we say and think and do.

- We know lots of kind things we can say and do. Why do you think it is important to also think kind thoughts?
- What would the world be like if everyone was always kind to each other?
- Why do you think God wants us to be kind?



Sing It

'Micah 6:8' (Preschool worship song) By KidSpring Children's Ministry (2:03)

'Justice' (Official lyric video) by Songs For School (3:36)

Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Make little notes with hearts on them. Encourage the children to give them to family and friends when they see someone being kind.
- **Play:** Play 'Simon says'. Talk about what it means to follow God and do what he shows and tells us.
- **Pray:** Ask the children to practise drawing heart shapes with their finger. Pray together about kindness. As they trace a heart on their hand and arm, pray for kindness in the things that they do. Repeat with tracing hearts over their mouth (kindness in what they say), on their head (kindness in their thoughts) and over their own heart (kindness and love for everyone).
- **Try:** Support the group to help do a kind task at church, like helping tidy up, if you share refreshments together after the meeting.

Kingdom blessings



Bible verses:
Matthew 5:1-12, 43-48



Aim:
To see how Jesus teaches
about those who face
difficulties, recognising
that includes us



Today's fruit:
Love



Memory verse

**'But God has told us what is good. This is
what the Lord wants from us:**

**"You must be fair to other people," God
says.**

"You must want to be kind.

**And you must be careful to do what I
show you."**

(Micah 6:8 *EASY*)

Or



Memory verse

**'He has shown you, O mortal, what is
good.**

**And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.'**

(Micah 6:8 *NIV*)



Start it

Today we are going to hear about a special
message from Jesus, about loving everyone.

Bring out the three toys from the previous
weeks – eg one teddy and two dolls. Explain
that they went to the park together, but they

didn't have a great time. The teddy got to the
swing first but wouldn't let anyone else on
for ages. One doll fell and hurt their knee but
was grumpy and didn't say thank you when
the other doll helped them. So later on, the
other doll wouldn't let the doll with the sore
knee on the slide.

Discuss with the children what would have
been a more loving thing for the teddy and
dolls to have done. What would you say to
them to explain why they should show love
to each other.



Share it

Share a child-friendly version of Matthew
5:1-12, 43-48 (eg Biblegateway.com *ERV/*
EASY) or watch the following clip.

***The Story of Sermon on the Mount (Bible
stories for Kids)*** by Minno – Bible Stories for
Kids (6:31)

Watch 0:00 –2:59 'It sure makes me feel
special.' 'And that's the point.'

Explain that Jesus said lots more 'upside-
down' rules.

Watch 3:59 –4:26 'The law says to love
your neighbours.' to 'The forever kind of
life, right?' 'Right.'

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share together:

- Do you feel you are always last for something? Like being picked for a game? Running? Or getting a snack?
- How does it feel?
- What would it be like if you were suddenly first?
- Jesus told us some 'upside-down' rules – like people who are sad will be happy, and people who are weak will be strong. Why do you think it's important to have these rules?
- What could you do if someone is unkind to you?
- What could you say to someone who is being unkind?
- Should you be unkind in return?
- Why do you think God wants us to have 'upside-down' rules?

Jesus wants us to be kind and loving to others. When someone is being unkind to us, we don't need to be unkind back. But remember, Jesus wants fairness for all, so it's important to tell someone when someone is being unkind to you.

(Please refer to The Salvation Army's *Safe & Sound* handbook for further guidance.)

Sing It

'Micah 6:8' (Preschool worship song) By KidSpring Children's Ministry (2:03)

'Justice' (Official lyric video) by Songs For School (3:36)

Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Create and decorate little badges with hearts on them, to remind the children to be loving to others. (Use sticky tape to stick them on.)
- **Play:** Let the children play with the toys and role play them being loving and kind to each other.
- **Pray:** Hold out one hand and pray together to be kind to others. Hold out the other hand and pray for people who are unkind to us. Bring both hands together to make a heart and pray to be more like Jesus, by being kind and loving everyone – even when it's hard.
- **Try:** Can you walk like you are very sad? Can you walk like you're very happy? Repeat with other opposites, eg angry and peaceful, weak and strong, unkind/mean and loving.

A picture of Heaven



Bible verses:
Revelation 4:1-3; 21:1-4



Aim:
To learn about John's vision,
explore what some of the
pictures mean and think
about what it means for us to
have hope in what is to come



Today's fruit:
Patience



Memory verse

**'But God has told us what is good. This is
what the Lord wants from us:**

**"You must be fair to other people," God
says.**

"You must want to be kind.

**And you must be careful to do what I
show you."**

(Micah 6:8 *EASY*)

Or



Memory verse

**'He has shown you, O mortal, what is
good.**

**And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.'**

(Micah 6:8 *NIV*)



Start it

Today we are going to hear about
something that happened to John, a
disciple of Jesus.

Play a game of *Traffic lights*. Players walk
or run depending on your space when the
leader calls 'green light' and freeze when
they call 'red light'. Some groups may know
the version with 'amber' ... running on the
spot. Ask them how it feels to be patient.
What is something they are looking forward
to and have to be patient for?



Share it

Share a child-friendly version of Revelation
4:1-3, 21:1-4 (eg Biblegateway.com *ERV/EASY*)
or watch the following clip.

***John saw new Heaven and new Earth: A
Forever Promise (The Bible for kids Story
21)*** by Kids of JESUS (2:42)

Alternatively, you could use 'The Bible App
for Kids' downloaded on to a tablet for an
interactive way to enjoy the Bible story.

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share
together:

- What are you looking forward to? Do you
have to wait a long time for it or a short
time?
- Do you find it easy to wait for something?

- Being patient isn't always easy. Why is it important to try being patient?

John was shown an amazing new world. There would be no more pain. No one would be sad. No one would be hungry or thirsty. No one would die.

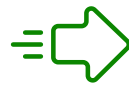
- This hasn't happened yet, so John is waiting a very long time! Why do you think God showed it to him?
- Who do you think was on the throne?
- What do you think it would be like to live there?
- Why do you think God wants to make a new world?



Sing It

'Micah 6:8' (Preschool worship song) By KidSpring Children's Ministry (2:03)

'Justice' (Official lyric video) by Songs For School (3:36)



Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- **Make:** Paint or make a beautiful city or the 'world made new'.
- **Play:** Decorate a large cardboard box that children can enter, or make a tent with sheets. Decorate the space with ribbons, fairy lights or flowers, to represent the new city.
- **Pray:** Give each child a tissue. Pray together that God has promised to wipe away every tear. Children can mime wiping away tears as they pray.
- **Try:** Putting on some quiet music. As they close their eyes, ask them to imagine being with God in the new earth. Ask: What might it look, sound, feel like? You may like to read out a child-friendly version of the Bible passage to help them.