

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.

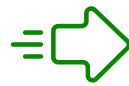
- We know lots of kind things we can say and do. Why do you think it is important to also think kind thoughts?
- What would the world be like if everyone was always kind to each other?
- Why do you think God wants us to be kind?



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.