

UNIT VERSE

Do what is right and good
Deuteronomy 6:18

THE KIND MAN



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story on the following pages.)

LIFE POINT

People can choose to help.

**LEVEL OF
BIBLICAL
LEARNING**

God created me to make choices.

**SCRIPTURE
REFERENCE**

Luke 10:25-37

WEEKLY VERSE

Do what is right and good.
Deuteronomy 6:18

Jesus had an uncanny way of turning people's questions around on them and, in just a few words, tackling the deep struggle within their hearts. In the story of the rich young ruler in Mark 10 and Luke 18, a man who asked, "How can I get?" was given the response, "What are you willing to give?" Leading into the parable of the good Samaritan, Jesus responded to an expert in the law by turning the question from obligation to one's own heart.

The expert was asking, essentially, "Who am I required to love? If I have to love my neighbor as much as I love myself, then who qualifies for that kind of treatment?" Jesus' answer, a beautiful parable about someone who chose to sacrificially love his enemy, even when absolutely nothing was required of him, switched the question. Instead of answering, "Who am I commanded to love?" Jesus challenged His listeners to identify what it looks like to behave like a true neighbor, loving others unselfishly and as much as they loved themselves.

When you have the opportunity to give to someone in need, do you ever silently make a judgment call about whether that person deserves your generosity? In other words, do you ever wonder, Is this person really my neighbor? Can you think of any recent situations in which you withheld generosity, whether financial help, physical help, or another kind of help, because you justified to yourself that this person was not really deserving of your love and generosity?

What would change if you reworded the question to, What will it look like for me to behave like a neighbor? Regardless of whether the other person

"deserves" your help, will you choose to behave like a neighbor to them, even when it is not required or expected of you?

As you pray this week, ask God to show you situations in which you are expecting the other person to meet the qualifications of being your neighbor.

Ask Him to help you become the neighbor whose unreserved kindness points others to God.



TELL THE STORY

Jesus told a story about a man who traveled down a road.
Some people stopped him. They hurt him, tore his clothes, and took his money. They left him on the side of the road.
Two men saw the hurt man, but they did not stop to help him.
Finally, one man stopped.
This man was from the country of Samaria.
He was kind and good to the hurt man and helped him.

Sing the Bible verse to “Here we go round the Mulberry Bush”, including the scripture reference.



BIBLE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

ART

Provide, q-tips and cotton balls and a paper cutting tub. Allow preschoolers to use the items to create art on a large sheet of paper. As they create say, “The kind man used his supplies to care for the hurt man. He chose to care for others! You can choose to help others.

BLOCKS

Large soft blocks, stuffed animals; Place a stuffed animal “hurt” on the floor and let children choose to either build around or go help it by bringing blocks, covering it, or gently caring for it while the teacher models “I choose to help.” Children experience choice, helping or ignoring, while practicing kindness through simple, caring actions.

HOMELIVING

Doctor kit (toy), dolls or stuffed animals, small blankets; Let children use the doctor kit to “check,” “help,” and care for dolls or stuffed animals that are “hurt,” guiding them to use gentle actions while the teacher models and repeats “I choose to help.”

BOOKS

Books about helping or kindness; Read and pause to ask children to act (hug, help, give), not just listen. Children connect stories with real actions.

MUSIC

Play music and let children move, then pause and say “Go help!” guiding them to go to a doll or friend and do a kind action (hug, pat, give object). Children connect movement with intentional helping actions.