

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this resource.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 6 and distribute them to your students.



Topic: God is kind



Read the Bible References:

The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goal of Lesson:

• To explain the kindness of God to students.



Lesson Takeaway:

God is kind to everyone that He created.

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Date:



Topic:

God is kind

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Bible References:

Exodus 34:6; Jonah 3:8-10; Luke 6:35; Titus 3:4-6.



What does it mean to be kind?

To be kind is to show compassion, to be generous, and to consider others, looking for ways to help them. Kindness is an act of doing good, showing concern and care, and willingness to help people without expecting anything in return.

You cannot show kindness to people without first loving them. Kindness is the action that people see on the outside because of the love that you have on the inside.

When we talk about the kindness of God, it cannot be compared to the kindness that we show to one another. Sometimes, we are kind, other times, we are not kind. The kindness of God is constant. It does not change with circumstance or how God feels about you. That is because kindness is God's nature – that is How He is – He is kind!

Sometimes, we choose to be kind to a group of people, like our friends, and we do not show kindness to others, like strangers, because we don't know them. The kindness of God is different. God shows kindness to everyone. The kindness of God is for everyone whether they believe in God or do not believe in Him (Luke 6:35).

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How did God show His kindness in the Old Testament?

God's nature is to be kind. In the Old Testament, the kindness of God is often described with words like mercy, loving-kindness, and steadfast love. Let's look at some examples of how God showed kindness in the Old Testament.

- In Nehemiah 9:17 and throughout the Old Testament, the people of Israel continuously disobeyed the instructions of God for them on how to live and interact with the people from other nations. They easily turned back to idol worship, a sin against God. Despite Israel's repeated disobedience, God was always ready to forgive them, and He did not forsake them.
- In the book of Jonah, God originally said He was going to destroy the city of Nineveh because of their sin. But God gave them a chance to turn away from their sin by sending Jonah to warn them of the consequences of their sins.
 In Jonah 3:8-10, the people of Nineveh prayed to God and He forgave them.
 He no longer destroyed them.



How did God show His kindness in the New Testament?

In the New Testament, the kindness of God was clearly shown through the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the visible image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15 - 17).

Let's look at God's kindness in the New Testament:

 The salvation of God was given to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This salvation is free and was given to us because of God's mercy and kindness, not because of anything we did (Titus 3:4 – 6).

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How did God show His kindness in the New Testament? (contd.)

- In John 8:3 11, the scribes and Pharisees wanted to stone a woman who was caught in the sin of adultery. According to the law of Moses, it was the right thing to do. But through the compassion and kindness of Jesus, He saved the woman from being stoned to death.
- In Mark 6:30 44, a lot of people came to listen to Jesus. It was getting late, and they had not eaten since morning. They were tired and hungry. Jesus had compassion on them. He blessed five loaves of bread and two fish and there was more than enough to feed more than 5,000 people.



How has God been showing His kindness to us today?

From the Old Testament to the New Testament and until now, God continues to show His kindness to us every day.

- God continues to provide all that we need such as food and housing (Acts 14:17).
- God continues to give us life, to protect and watch over us (Job 10:12).
- Despite our weaknesses and failures, God continues to show us His kindness by giving us new beginnings (Lamentations 3:22 – 23).
- God gives us His Holy Spirit to guide us, comfort us when we are sad and depressed, and help us through the difficult times we face in life (Genesis 39:21, Ezra 9:9).

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How should you respond to the kindness of God?

God is good and kind to you. His kindness does not depend on what you do to Him. He will always be kind to you. Kindness is God's nature, and it cannot change.

As we live our lives each day, we are to recognize (search and know) the kindness of God every day. Stop and ask: how has God been kind to me today? Then, give thanks to Him for His kindness.

As God has been kind to you, give kindness to others too. Share God's kindness with the people you meet every day at school, in your neighbourhood, at the park, in the shopping mall, at church and anywhere you go.

If you find it difficult to be kind, remember you can talk to God about it. Ask God to help you to be kind just as He is kind to you. He will help you if you ask Him.



Memorize:

Lamentations 3:22 – Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not.

Questions:

- **1.** Mention three examples of how God has been kind to you and your family.
- 2. Mention three examples of how you can show kindness to others, just like God shows kindness to you.

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Remember: God is kind to everyone that He created.

Let us pray: Dear God, thank You for Your unfailing kindness that You have shown to people in the past and to us today. I praise You for Your kindness to me, my family and friends. You are so good, and kind and I adore You, in Jesus name I pray, amen.



Thank you for downloading this resource. Feel free to send us your comments, feedback or questions. We will like to hear from you. Contact us on our <u>Facebook page</u> or email us. God bless you!

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