

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Jeremiah 31:31-34

March 18, 2018



Jeremiah 31:31-34 • illustratedchildrensministry.com

INTRO

Tell the children of a time when someone showed you love and kindness. Perhaps it was unexpected, or maybe it taught you how to love others and show kindness in the world.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How can you bring kindness and love to those around you and to the whole world?
- How do you imagine we learn how to live with kindness and love? How do we learn how to live in ways that are best for us and for others and even for the Earth?
- In what ways might God be involved with us while we're learning how we can live in the best ways possible, showing love and kindness to ourselves, others and the Earth?

WRAP-UP

Tell the children that these are all great ideas. Show them this morning's illustration and tell them that God says, "I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Wonder with the children about what this might mean. Then, describe to the children how God has given us our feelings to guide us toward the best ways to live our lives. Go ahead and discuss with the children how we can pay attention to our hearts, our emotions, to know what God might have us do. For example, talk with them about the sadness that comes when they're alone at school and how they can use that feeling to motivate them to be a good friend to others, so they don't feel what they have felt. Or how angry they might feel when their brother or sister takes something that belongs to them and how it can help them be understanding of someone else's feelings when they don't want to share. Share that as we learn from our families, teachers, coaches, and friends what is right and wrong, God continues to teach us the best ways to live through our feelings. Tell the children that that's what the scripture means when it says God writes the law on our hearts; God is teaching and guiding us toward things that will give the world its best life. As you close, tell the kids if they're ever unsure of what to do, they can ask themselves, "What would bring the most kindness, respect, and love to the situation?" and they'll probably know what God's law would encourage them to do.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for your law that you have written on our hearts. Thank you that your law leads us to more kindness, respect, and love. Help us to pay attention to our feelings and treat others the ways we want to be treated, so we can all live our best lives together. **Amen.**