

Bible Point ▶

We can help others learn about God with our kind actions.

Bible Verse

Tell everyone the good news about Jesus (adapted from Mark 16:15).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- do a kind action for another class,
 - sing a song about being kind,
 - find out that Naaman was healed because of others' kindness, and
 - affirm one another.

Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

■ Be kind.

**2 Kings
5:1-14**



Naaman was an army commander. When Naaman came down with leprosy, his wife's servant girl suggested that God's prophet Elisha could heal him. So Naaman went in search of Elisha, bearing very expensive gifts.

Naaman apparently didn't receive the special treatment he had expected. Instead, to his dismay, Naaman was told by a messenger to go wash seven times in a dirty, muddy river. God may have felt Naaman needed a bit of an attitude adjustment as well as a healing from leprosy. When Naaman finally humbled himself and obeyed, his leprosy disappeared.

This had a spiritual impact on Naaman. Later, in 2 Kings 5:17, Naaman vows to worship only the Lord, the God of Israel. Through the assistance of a kind servant girl, a kind prophet, and kind servants, Naaman became whole—both physically and spiritually!

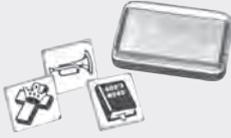
Prayer

- Read 1 Thessalonians 5:15.
- When do you find it difficult to be kind? When is it easy?
- In what areas of your life do you need to work on being more kind?
- Pray: Dear God, help my preschoolers learn to be kind through my teaching and through my...

Before the Lesson

- Collect the necessary items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed on the chart.
- Make photocopies of the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) to send home with your children.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God’s direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Welcome Time	Welcome! —Receive name tags and be greeted by the teacher.	Butterfly name tags from Lesson 1, washable markers, scissors, safety pins or tape	
Let’s Get Started Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Option 1: Kindness Practice —Practice being kind to stuffed animals.	Assorted stuffed animals	
	Option 2: Wash It Off —Wash off stamp marks, and learn that Naaman washed in the Jordan River.	Basins of warm soapy water and warm rinse water, washcloths, towels	
	Option 3: Rough and Smooth —Sort rough and smooth objects, and hear how Naaman’s skin changed from rough to smooth after he was healed.	Box, smooth items like fabric or plastic balls, rough items like sandpaper or pine cones	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they pick up toys and gather for Bible Story Time.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Setting the Stage —Play a game and do kind things for each other.	Index cards, pen, bag	
	Bible Song and Prayer Time —Sing a song, bring out the Bible, and pray together.	Bible, CD player	
	Hear and Tell the Bible Story —Listen to a servant girl tell how her small kindness led to Naaman’s healing.	Bible, CD player	
	Do the Bible Story —Wash toys for the nursery as a kind act.	Bible, plastic nursery toys, basins of warm soapy water and warm rinse water, washcloths, towels	
Closing 	Take a Bath, Whiskers! —Tell Whiskers about Naaman’s bath in the river.		
	Sharing Kindness —Sing a song about being kind.	CD player	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: butterfly name tags made in Lesson 1, washable markers, scissors, safety pins or tape

- Bend down and make eye contact with children as they arrive.
- Greet each child individually with an enthusiastic smile.
- Thank each child for coming to class today.
- As children arrive, ask them about last week's "Today I Learned..." discussion. Use questions such as "Who did you tell about God?" or "What did you tell people about God?"
- Say: **Today we're going to learn that ► we can help others learn about God with our kind actions.**
- Hand out the butterfly name tags children made during Lesson 1, and help children attach the name tags to their clothing. If some of the name tags were damaged or if children weren't in class that week, have them make new name tags using the photocopiable handout.
- Direct children to the Let's Get Started activities you've set up.

Let's Get Started

Set up one or more of the following activities for children to do as they arrive. After you greet each child, invite him or her to choose an activity.

Circulate among the children to offer help as needed and direct children's conversation toward today's lesson. Ask questions such as "What's the nicest thing anyone ever did for you?" or "When are you kind to others?"

■ Option 1: Kindness Practice

SUPPLIES: assorted stuffed animals

Set out several stuffed animals. Have children take turns doing kind things for the stuffed animals. They might want to hold the animals, gently scratch their ears, pet them, or tuck them into bed. As children play, encourage them to tell you about ways they've been kind to pets. Explain that today's Bible story is about a time a young girl was kind to someone. Remind them that ► we can help others learn about God with our kind actions.

■ Option 2: Wash It Off

SUPPLIES: basins of warm soapy water and warm rinse water, washcloths, towels



Set up a basin of warm soapy water, a basin of warm rinse water, washcloths, and towels. Stamp each child's hand with the *cross and crown*, *trumpet*, or *Bible stamp*. Then show children the water, and help them wash off their stamps. Supervise children closely so they don't splash each other too much. As children wash

◀ BIBLE POINT



It's important to say the Bible Point just as it's written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help children remember it and apply it to their lives.



Preschool children love getting their hands stamped! Some children may not want to wash off their stamps. Encourage them to make their first stamps disappear, and then stamp their hands a second time with stamps they can keep. Or remind them they'll get another Bible stamp later in the lesson.

◀ BIBLE POINT



off their stamps, explain that today's Bible story is about a man who washed himself in a river.

■ **Option 3: Rough and Smooth**

SUPPLIES: box, smooth objects such as fabric or plastic balls, rough objects such as sandpaper or pine cones

Fill a box with a variety of smooth objects, such as pieces of soft fabric or round plastic balls, and rough objects, such as sandpaper or pine cones. Have children feel the objects inside the box and then sort them into "smooth" and "rough" piles. Explain that today's Bible story is about a man with a disease that made his skin rough and that after he was healed, his skin was smooth.

When everyone has arrived and you're ready to move on to Bible Story Time, encourage the children to finish what they're doing and get ready to clean up.

■ **Pick-Up Time**

SUPPLIES: CD player



Lead children in singing "Come Along With Me" with the CD (track 2) to the tune of "Come and Go With Me." Encourage children to sing along as they help clean up the room.



**Come along with me and pick up all our things,
Pick up all our things,
Pick up all our things.
Come along with me and pick up all our things
So our room will be clean.**

(Repeat 2x.)

Bible Story Time

■ **Setting the Stage**

SUPPLIES: bag or box, index cards, pen



Before class, make kindness cards by writing the following kind actions on index cards. Put the cards into a bag or box.

- Shake hands.
- Give a pat on the back.
- Give a hug.
- Say, "God loves you."
- Share a smile.

Tell children you'll shake the *clapper* to get their attention. Explain that when you shake it, the children are to stop what they're doing and raise their hands. Practice this signal a few times. Encourage children to respond quickly so you'll have time for all the fun activities you've planned.

Ask: • **What did you make or do when you came to class today?** (Played with stuffed animals; sorted rough and smooth things; washed my hands.)

Say: **Some of you washed stamp marks off your hands. Some of you sorted rough and smooth things. Some of you did kind things for stuffed animals. You were all learning important things about our Bible story. Today we're learning that ► we can help others learn about God with our kind actions. In a few minutes, we're going to hear about a girl and a prophet who were kind to a man named Naaman. To get ready for that story, let's be kind to one another.**

Have children sit in a circle. Choose one child to be in the middle. Hold up the bag of kindness cards. Say: **I've brought a bag of kindness cards that will help us practice being kind to one another. I'll ask [name of child in the middle] to pull a kindness card out of the bag. I'll read the kind action written on the card, and then [name] will spin our *mini groan tube* so it points to someone in the circle. [Name] will get to do the kind action on the card for the person the *mini groan tube* is pointing to. We'll play until everyone has had a turn in the middle.**

Help the child in the middle pull out a card and then spin the *mini groan tube*. Have the child in the middle do the kind action and then invite the child who received the kind action to come to the middle. Help the new child spin the *mini groan tube* and play again.

Play until everyone has been in the middle and has had a kind action done for them.

Then ask: • **How does it make you feel to be kind?** (Good; like I'm doing the right thing.)

• **How does it feel when others are kind to you?** (Good; like I'm special.)



Say: **Jesus is always kind to others. Jesus wants us to know his kindness in many ways. He will help us feel better. He will tell us he loves us. He can show kindness in many ways if you look for him. Try looking this week for the kindness he is showing you.**

Say: **Kindness makes everyone feel good. God is pleased when we're kind to one another. ► We can help others learn about God with our kind actions. Let's see how that happened in our Bible story.**



Children may need help spinning the *mini groan tube*. Let them try spinning it on their own first. If they need help, invite them to hold it with you as you spin it.

After children have given and received kind actions, you may want to have them scoot back from the circle a little bit so the *mini groan tube* won't point to them again.



■ Bible Song and Prayer Time

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Say: **Now it's time to choose a Bible person to bring me the Bible marked with today's Bible story. As we sing our Bible song, we'll pass around our special Bible. The person who's holding the Bible when the music stops will be our Bible person today.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad for the Bible" with the CD (track 3) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp." As you sing, pass around the special Bible.




teacher tips

If the *ink pad* is dry, moisten it with three to five drops of water.


teacher tips

Make sure to return Learning Lab items back to the box when you're done using them so they can be used in future lessons!


teacher tips

Three- and four-year-olds listen to and enjoy Bible stories. They also are beginning to understand that prayer is talking to God. Their prayers often consist of short, spontaneous, and simple statements.

**SING**

**I'm so glad for the Bible.
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
I'm so glad for God's book today.
I'm so glad for the Bible.
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'—
Keep me learnin' all about his way.**

**Let me hear 'bout God's love—
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
Let me hear 'bout God's love for me.
Let me hear 'bout God's love—
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
Let's shine the light for all to see.**

(Repeat first verse.)

When the music stops, invite the child who's holding the Bible to bring it to you. Stamp the child's hand with the *Bible stamp*, and thank the child for bringing you the Bible. Then stamp the other children's hands. As they come up to you to get their hands stamped, take time to show them the Bible and explain to them that the Bible is God's Word for them.

Say: **I'm thankful for** [name of child who brought the Bible], **and I'm thankful for everyone in our class today. Let's thank God together for all our friends in this class.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad We're Together" with the *CD* (track 4) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp."

**SING**

**I'm so glad we're together.
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'.
I'm so glad we're all here today.
I'm so glad we're together.
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'—
Prayin' for each other every day.**

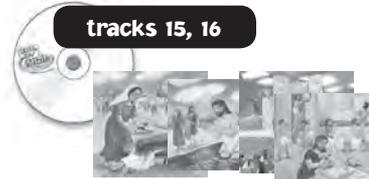
Lead children in folding their hands and bowing their heads as you continue to sing.

**Thank you, Lord, for each one.
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful.
Thank you for everyone who's here.
Thank you, Lord, for each one.
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful—
Thankful for our friends both far and near.**

■ Hear and Tell the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player

tracks 15, 16



Before class, take out the two posters related to the story of Naaman from the *Poster Pack*. You will use the posters "Naaman's Wife" and "Naaman at the River" as you tell the story.

Bring out both posters, and have the children gather around you. Open your Bible to **2 Kings 5**, and show it to the children. Say: **Our Bible story comes from the book of 2 Kings in the Bible. These posters show us pictures of our Bible story.**

Hold up the “Naaman’s Wife” poster. Say: **We learned about the little girl (point out the girl on the poster) in this picture last week.**

Ask: • **What do you remember about this little girl?** (She worked for Naaman; she told Naaman to go see Elisha; she was a servant.)

Say: **This little girl served Naaman’s wife. Naaman (hold up the “Naaman at the River” poster and point to Naaman) was a powerful army commander. He had a big house and lots of nice things, but he was very sad.**

Ask: • **Can you tell me why he was sad?** (Because he was sick; he had a disease.)

Say: **Naaman had a very bad skin disease. But the little girl (hold up the “Naaman’s Wife” poster) helped Naaman learn about a man named Elisha, who could make him better. Today we’re going to listen to our story on the CD as the little girl tells us how that happened. Every time you hear the name Naaman, I want you to scratch your arms and look sad. But after you hear that Naaman washed in the river, I want you to rub your smooth arms and look happy when you hear Naaman. Are you ready? Let’s practice.** Help the children practice these actions a few times before beginning the story. As you play “Naaman’s Servant, Part 1” (track 15) on the CD and follow along in the script printed below, show the children the two posters.

Naaman’s Servant

Hello, my name is Rachel. I’m a servant girl. I want to tell you about the wonderful thing that happened to my master, Naaman. Naaman is a brave and powerful commander in the army. He won a big battle for his king. But Naaman had a terrible skin disease. His skin was rough, and it hurt! I felt sorry for my master, and I wanted him to get better.

I remembered that there was a prophet in the country where I came from who had the power to heal people. So I told my mistress about Elisha, the prophet, and she told Naaman! The king gave Naaman permission to visit Elisha. So Naaman and some other servants packed up his things and set off on a long trip.

When Naaman and his servants got to Elisha’s house, Elisha’s servant came out. The servant gave Naaman a message from Elisha: “Go and wash seven times in the Jordan River.” Naaman didn’t want to wash in that river—he thought it was too dirty. He got angry and stomped away from Elisha’s house. But then some of Naaman’s servants said, “Why not do what Elisha says? We’ve come a long way to see him. Maybe if you wash in this river, you’ll get better.”

Stop the CD, and show the children the picture of Naaman dipping into the Jordan River. Then play “Naaman’s Servant, Part 2” (track 16).

Did you see what happened?

Naaman washed in the river one, two, three, four, five, six times. Then when Naaman came out of the river the seventh time, his skin was smooth and clean. The disease and all the sores were gone. When Naaman saw his smooth, clean skin, he knew that God had healed him. He told Elisha that from now on he’d worship the one true God.

When Naaman returned from his journey, my mistress ran out to meet him. We were so happy to see that he was healed! I'm glad I told my mistress about Elisha. Elisha's kind actions helped Naaman learn about God!

After the story, stop the *CD* and ask: • **What would have happened if the servant girl hadn't told Naaman about Elisha?** (Naaman wouldn't have gone to see Elisha; Naaman wouldn't have been healed.)

• **What would have happened if Elisha decided not to help Naaman?** (Naaman would have gone home; he wouldn't have been healed.)

• **What would have happened if Naaman's servants hadn't encouraged him to do what Elisha told him?** (Naaman would have washed himself in a different river; he wouldn't have been healed.)

Say: **At least three people were kind to Naaman—the servant girl, Elisha, and Naaman's other servants. Because they were kind, Naaman was healed, and he believed in God. ► We can help others learn about God with our kind actions, too. Let's practice some kind actions now.**



BIBLE POINT ►

■ Do the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, plastic nursery toys, basins of warm soapy water and warm rinse water, washcloths, towels

Before class, gather several plastic toys from your church's nursery.

Say: **It's good to be kind. ► We can help others learn about God with our kind actions. Let's do something kind for the babies in our church.**

Set out basins of warm soapy water, basins of warm rinse water, washcloths, and drying towels. Have children wash the toys, rinse them, and dry them. For fun, have children dip the toys in the water seven times. As they're washing the toys, ask:

• **What kind things have others done for you?** (My mom makes my breakfast; my dad hugs me at night; my teachers teach me.)

• **Why is it good to be kind?** (It makes people feel good; it helps people learn about God.)

Say: **The babies in our church and their parents will be very glad to have nice, clean toys to play with. God is pleased, too, because we just did something kind for others. Doing kind things can help us ► tell everyone the good news about Jesus, like it says to do in the Bible.** Show children **Mark 16:15** in your Bible, and have them repeat the Bible verse with you. **Let's tell our friend Whiskers about the people who were kind in our Bible story.**



BIBLE POINT ►



Be sure to supervise the children while they're playing with or are near the water.

BIBLE VERSE ►

Closing

■ Take a Bath, Whiskers!

SUPPLIES: none

Bring out Whiskers the Mouse, and go through the following puppet script. When you finish the script, put Whiskers away and out of sight.





Whiskers: Help! Help! You've got to hide me!

Teacher: My goodness, Whiskers! What's going on? Why do you have to hide?

Whiskers: I'm hiding from my mom. Quick, where can I go before she gets here?

Teacher: Whiskers, we can't hide you from your mother. Why are you running away from her?

Whiskers: She wants to give me a bath. She says that I'm too dirty.

Teacher: (*Brushing Whiskers off*) Well, you do look like you've had a full day. You have dirt in your ears, your paws are muddy, and your nose is all smudged. What did you do to get so messy?

Whiskers: My cousin Joey and I have been playing all day. First we crawled around in his back yard. We were pretending to be caterpillars. Then it rained a little, so we splashed in the puddles and made mud pies.

Teacher: I think you do need to wash, Whiskers. Looking at you reminds me of our Bible story today. A man had to take a bath, and he wasn't too happy about it at first. Would you like to hear what happened?

Whiskers: A Bible story about taking a bath? Yes, tell me about it.

(Lead children in telling Whiskers about Naaman's bath. Be sure to point out that Naaman was healed of a skin disease and was glad he took the bath.)

Teacher: Because the servant girl, Elisha, and the other servants were kind to Naaman, he learned to believe in God. And he was healed from his sickness. We've been learning that ► *we can help others learn about God with our kind actions*, too.

Whiskers: Hey! That's a great idea. Maybe next time I go over to play at Joey's house, I can help him learn about God. Can you help me think of some kind actions to do for him?

(Help children suggest kind actions such as sharing toys, taking turns, and giving hugs.)

Whiskers: Those are great ideas! I'm going to go over there right now! (*Starts running away.*)

Teacher: (*Gently grabbing Whiskers by the back of his neck*) Oh, no you don't. Before you go back to Joey's, you need to take your bath.

Whiskers: OK. I guess I'll go find my mom and get ready for my bath. But I sure am glad that I'm not Naaman.

Teacher: Why's that, Whiskers?

Whiskers: I have the neatest submarine to play with in the bathtub, and I don't think Naaman had any toys at all. I'm going to hurry home and take my bath so I can go back to my cousin Joey's. Goodbye, everyone!

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■ Sharing Kindness

SUPPLIES: CD player



Gather children in a circle. Say: ► ***We can help others learn about God with our kind actions. Sharing is one kind action we can do every day. We can share with our friends at church or with our families at home. Let's sing a song that will help us remember to show kindness by sharing this week.***

Lead children in singing “I Will Share” to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me” with the CD (track 17).



**I will share a smile with you.
I will share a hug with you.
I will share my love with you.
That is what a friend can do.**

**Yes, I will share.
Yes, I will share.
Yes, I will share.
That's what a friend can do.**

(Repeat.)

After the song, pray: **God, thank you for loving us. We want to share your love with others. We know that we can help others learn about you with our kind actions. Help us to be kind every day. In Jesus' name, amen.**



Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.

Photocopy the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) for this week, and send it home with the children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this week's topic.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ **Lively Learning: Tell About Jesus**



track 14

Have children stand. Explain that you're going to teach them a song about telling others about Jesus. Sing "Tell About Jesus" (adapted from Mark 16:15) to the tune of "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy." Teach children the motions found in Lesson 13 as you sing the song together with the CD (track 14).

■ **Make to Take: Kindness Sponges**



Before class, cut different-colored sponges into ½-inch strips. You'll need four strips for each child. You may want to dampen the strips ahead of time so they'll be easier for children to handle.

Set out the sponge strips and 8-inch lengths of string. Let children choose four colored strips, and then help them tie their strips together with string. Tie the ends of the string together so children can slip the sponges onto their hands. As children work, review how people were kind to Naaman in today's Bible story. Remind them that ► we can help others learn about God with our kind actions.

Show children how to use their completed kindness sponges to wipe off the tables in your classroom. Encourage children to take their sponges home and use them to help wash dishes or wipe off table tops.

■ **Treat to Eat: Dip It!**

Set out a container of caramel fruit dip (available in the produce section of most grocery stores) and a plate of apple slices. Pass the dip around, and let children take turns dipping their apples. (You may need to remind them to show kindness by sharing and waiting their turn!)

As children enjoy their snacks, review how Naaman dipped in the Jordan River seven times before he was healed.



■ **Story Picture: Naaman Is Healed**

Before class, mix white glue with a few drops of blue food coloring and set out the glue in small containers. Give each child a copy of the "Today I Learned..." handout. Set out crayons or washable markers, and have children color the picture. Then have children use craft sticks to spread the blue glue onto the river in the picture. As children work, talk about what it might have felt like for Naaman to wash in the river. Set the pictures aside to dry. The glue will dry clear and look like clear blue water.

Today I learned...

We can help others learn about God with our kind actions.

Lesson 11

Today your child learned that **WE CAN HELP OTHERS LEARN ABOUT GOD WITH OUR KIND ACTIONS.** Children heard how

Naaman was healed when he followed the advice of kind friends and servants. Children discovered that they can be kind to others every day.

Help me learn this:

Tell everyone the good news about Jesus (adapted from Mark 16:15).

Ask me:

- How did Naaman's friends help him?
- What happened to Naaman when he went to see Elisha?
- What kind actions can our family do this week?

Family Fun

- Each day this week, have your child choose someone to be kind to. For example, your child might give a flower to a neighbor or call up a friend to say, "God loves you."
- Sing "I Will Share" together to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me":

I will share a smile with you.

I will share a hug with you.

I will share my love with you.

That is what a friend can do.

Yes, I will share.

Yes, I will share.

Yes, I will share.

That's what a friend can do.

Naaman Is Healed (2 Kings 5:1-14)

