

# VBS AT THE DOJO

## **SESSION 1: CHOOSE KINDNESS**

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

## **SESSION 2: CHOOSE THANKFULNESS**

Jesus Heals 10 Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)

## **SESSION 3: CHOOSE TRUST**

Jesus Is the Good Shepherd (John 10, Psalm 23)

## **SESSION 4: CHOOSE FORGIVENESS**

Jesus Forgives Me (John 20-21, 1 John 1:9)

## **SESSION 5: CHOOSE JOY**

Paul and Silas in Prison (Acts 16)

### **MEMORY VERSE: JOHN 3:16**

**"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."**



# SESSION 1: CHOOSE KINDNESS

## THE GOOD SAMARITAN [LUKE 10:30-37]

### MEMORY VERSE: JOHN 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."



# DAILY DEVOTION: LUKE 10:30-37

The lawyer's answer to his own question in verse 27 sums up the Ten Commandments perfectly. The first four commandments focus on loving God, and the last six focus on loving others. The lawyer must have known this, so he asked Jesus for clarification. After all, the Jews had enemies and surely would not be asked to love their enemies by the Messiah, the promised King of the Jews. Had Jesus answered the way the lawyer anticipated, He surely would have been accused of preaching anarchy against Rome.

Instead, Jesus told a story that blew away many Jewish stereotypes. Priests were held in high esteem by the Jews. They were set apart from the community to perform acts of worship in the temple as outlined in the Books of Law (Genesis – Deuteronomy). Over time, priests were also seen as prominent political leaders in the community. Known for their piety, it was difficult to imagine a priest, who would ignore someone in need. Levites were also known for their piety and involvement in the temple. Yet when faced with a messy problem, both the priest and the Levite passed by on the opposite side of the road. After all, no one was watching to witness their act of kindness, so why bother?

Samaritans, however, were largely hated by the Jews. Jews would often travel the long way around Samaria just to avoid going through their country. The Samaritan people came from those left behind after the Jewish exile to Babylon. The Jews left behind intermarried with neighboring ethnic groups and began to worship the idols of those groups, designating new places of worship. Therefore, the Jews thought of Samaritans disparagingly. In addition, Samaritans were the people responsible for the attacks on Nehemiah, as he rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem, when the Jews returned home from exile. But when asked whom God expects us to love, Jesus starred a loving Samaritan as His shining example of godly love.

Prejudice has no place in the Kingdom of God. God created us all and loves us all. Like the Samaritans, we have all sinned and all need a Savior who loves us enough to take the punishment we deserve. Perhaps you have trouble showing kindness to some of the more “trying” people around you.

Commit to pray each day for those hard-to-love people. Ask God to teach you each day how to truly love Him and love others the way He intended.



# SESSION 1:

## CHOOSE KINDNESS

### INDOOR ACTIVITY: PLACE THE BANDAGE

**Materials:** Sad Face Poster and Bandages (pg. 11-13), Tape, Blindfold

**Directions:** Play this game like Pin the Tail on the Donkey. Kids take turns trying to place the bandages on the injured man, while blindfolded. To make the game more difficult, print multiple sad faces. Place them in different spots on the wall. Have kids try to place bandages on each.

### MAKE THE CONNECTION:

In Luke 10, Jesus told a story about an injured man who needed help. After many “good” people ignored the man, one man chose to show kindness to a stranger. God loves everyone very much. He wants us to choose kindness in the way we speak and act toward other people.

- How can you show kindness to the people around you?

### INDOOR ACTIVITY: LIFT THEM UP

**Materials:** Balloons

**Directions:** Kids work together to keep balloons in the air for as long as possible.

### MAKE THE CONNECTION:

There are many ways we can lift people up with kindness.

- How can kind words lift someone up? Give examples.
- What kind of actions can lift someone up?



# SESSION 1:

# CHOOSE KINDNESS

## CRAFT: PAPER DOLL

**Materials:** Paper Doll (pg. 23), Various art supplies

**Directions:** Let kids decorate and cut out their own paper dolls. Encourage kids to name the dolls and give them specific personality traits, likes, and dislikes.

## MAKE THE CONNECTION:

How would you feel if I made fun of the person you just created? Not good, right? Today we are going to learn about a parable Jesus told to teach us about God's love. He loves everyone - no exceptions - and wants us to love everyone as well. God made each person and loves each person very much. We should always choose kindness in our words and our actions, because God made everyone.

# SESSION 1:

## CHOOSE KINDNESS

### OUTDOOR ACTIVITY: SAVE THE TOY

**Materials:** Stuffed animal or doll, Towel, Various obstacles

**Directions:** Use chairs, jump ropes, and whatever else you have on hand to create an outdoor obstacle course. One at a time, kids race through the obstacle course to get the “injured” toy and wrap it in a towel. Then kids must run back through the course with the toy. How quickly can you bring the toy to safety?

### MAKE THE CONNECTION:

In Luke 10, Jesus told a story about an injured man who needed help. A Samaritan man chose to show kindness to a stranger, even though it was not an easy thing to do. God loves everyone very much. He wants us to choose kindness, even when it is not easy or convenient for us to help.

- Everyone needs help sometimes. How can you help the people you see everyday?
- How can you help people you don't know?



# SESSION 1:

## CHOOSE KINDNESS

### MEMORY VERSE: BANDAGED

**Materials:** Memory Verse Bandages (pg. 15-21)

**Directions:** Cut out the Memory Verse Bandages and shuffle them. Challenge kids to put the bandages in the correct order. After kids have the verse in the correct order, make the connection.

### MAKE THE CONNECTION:

John 3:16 tells us God loves everyone in the world very much.

- According to John 3:16, how did God show kindness to everyone in the world?

### MEMORY VERSE: JOHN 3:16

**"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."**

# SESSION 1: TALK ABOUT IT

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Why do you think Jesus chose a Samaritan man as the hero of His story in Luke 10?
2. What is the kindest thing anyone has ever done for you? Said to you?
3. How does God show kindness to us?

## WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

1. **Titus 3:3–5, 8** says, “Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient ... Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other. <sup>4</sup> But – When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit ... <sup>8</sup> This is a trustworthy saying, and I want you to insist on these teachings so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good. These teachings are good and beneficial for everyone.”
  - How does God show kindness? How should we act?
2. **Read Luke 10:27.** Who deserves our kindness?
3. **Read Hebrews 3:13.** When should we show kindness?

## WHAT CAN I DO?

1. How can you show kindness to the people in your home?
2. How can you show kindness to people you do not know very well?
3. Choosing kindness is not always easy. Sometimes you will have to give up what you want in order to help someone else. Give an example of this in real life.
4. Choosing kindness is especially difficult when someone is being unkind to you. What (or Who) can help you choose kindness, when the people around you are being mean or thoughtless?











**"For God**

**so loved**

**the world**

**that He**

**gave**



**His only**

**begotten**

**Son, that**

**whoever**

**believes**



**in Him**

**shall not**

**perish,**

**but have**

**eternal**







