

## Peter and John show Kindness & Gentleness

Scripture Passage: Acts 3:1-10

Memory Verse: Colossians 3:12 You are God's chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't be proud. Be gentle and patient.

Beliefs: The Holy Spirit helps me to be kind and gentle with my words and actions.

Actions: I am gentle and kind to others with the help of the Holy Spirit.

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### Materials

*additional passage versions & reference passages are included at the end of the lesson plan	2 apples per group mural paper per group Spoons Shaving cream
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### Large Group Worship - 15 minutes

2 songs as closely related in theme as possible

- This Little Light of Mine
- Family Service Project Info
- Small Group Challenge: Raise your hand if you worked on your verse this week and you know it in your heart!!
  - Awesome! I'm excited to find out how many people learned it this week!!! Be sure to update the graph in your room.
- Review Fruit of the Spirit
- Dismiss to small groups.

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### Main Teaching Passage:

Acts 3:1-10 (NIRV)

1 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple. It was three o'clock in the afternoon. It was the time for prayer. 2 A man unable to walk was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful. He had been that way since he was born. Every day someone put him near the gate. There he would beg from people going into the temple courtyards. 3 He saw that Peter and John were about to enter. So he asked them for money. 4 Peter looked straight at him, and so did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 So the man watched them closely. He expected to get something from them.

6 Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold. But I'll give you what I do have. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk." 7 Then Peter took him by the right hand and helped him up. At once the man's feet and ankles became strong. 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. He went with Peter and John into the temple courtyards. He walked and jumped and praised God. 9 All the people saw him walking and praising God. 10 They recognized him as the same man who used to sit and beg at the temple gate called Beautiful. They were filled with wonder. They were amazed at what had happened to him.

### Act 3:1-10 (MSG)

1-5 One day at three o'clock in the afternoon, Peter and John were on their way into the Temple for prayer meeting. At the same time there was a man crippled from birth being carried up. Every day he was set down at the Temple gate, the one named Beautiful, to beg from those going into the Temple. When he saw Peter and John about to enter the Temple, he asked for a handout. Peter, with John at his side, looked him straight in the eye and said, "Look here." He looked up, expecting to get something from them.

6-8 Peter said, "I don't have a nickel to my name, but what I do have, I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk!" He grabbed him by the right hand and pulled him up. In an instant his feet and ankles became firm. He jumped to his feet and walked.

8-10 The man went into the Temple with them, walking back and forth, dancing and praising God. Everybody there saw him walking around and praising God. They recognized him as the one who sat begging at the Temple's Gate Beautiful and rubbed their eyes, astonished, scarcely believing what they were seeing.

### Opening Illustration - 5 minutes:

#### A Tale of 2 Apples

<https://www.danoah.com/2013/11/the-bruised-and-the-beautiful-apple-a-lesson-in-bullying.html>

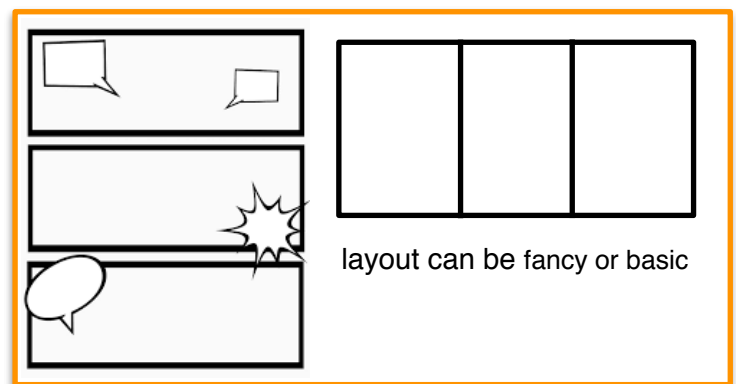
### Teaching

- Review last week's lesson:
  - Say - The church in Macedonia gave with love and received joy! Paul encouraged the Corinthian church to finish what they had started so they could have the same joy.
  - Ask - Do you remember what was even more special about the Macedonian church? Were they rich and gave a lot or poor and gave a lot? poor
  - Ask - What does this remind us? The Spirit can give us love and joy even when things are hard

- Say - Tonight we are going to look at a time when Peter and John were kind and gentle. Open your bibles to John 3. After we read the passage we're going to create a comic strip to tell the story so let's listen really well.

- Ask a student to read the passage or have them take turns reading.  
Acts 3:1-10 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple. It was three

o'clock in the afternoon. It was the time for prayer. 2 A man unable to walk was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful. He had been that way since he was born. Every day someone put him near the gate. There he would beg from people going into the temple courtyards. 3 He saw that Peter and John were about to enter. So he asked them for money. 4 Peter looked straight at him, and so did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 So the man watched them closely. He expected to get something from them.



6 Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold. But I'll give you what I do have. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk." 7 Then Peter took him by the right hand and helped him up. At once the man's feet and ankles became strong. 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. He went with Peter and John into the temple courtyards. He walked and jumped and praised God. 9 All the people saw him walking and praising God. 10 They recognized him as the same man who used to sit and beg at the temple gate called Beautiful. They were filled with wonder. They were amazed at what had happened to him.

- Say - Let's think about the W's to decide what should go in the first box.
  - Who: Peter, John, man who couldn't walk, person carrying him, other people walking
  - What: Peter & John walking into courtyard, man sitting
  - When: 3pm
  - Where: gate called Beautiful outside the Temple courtyard
- Ask - Who would like to quickly draw this into the first box?
- Say - Ok, what goes in box 2? Who wants to draw for us?
  - Who: Peter, John, man
  - What: conversation
  - When: same
  - Where: same
- Say - What's next?
  - Who: same
  - What: Peter says, "Look at us!" and man does.
  - When: same
  - Where: same
- Say - Box 4
  - Who: same
  - What: Peter says doesn't have money but will give what he has and holds out his hand, confessing the name of Jesus to walk
  - When: same
  - Where: same
- Say - Almost done!
  - Who: same
  - What: the man takes Peter's hand, his feet and ankles become strong
  - When: same
  - Where: same
- Say -
  - Who: same
  - What: man jumps up and starts to walk!
  - When: immediately!
  - Where: same and walks into the courtyard with Peter and John
- Say - last box!
  - Who: same, plus others in the courtyard

- What: man is jumping, walking, and praising God! Others are amazed!
- When: right after he's healed
- Where: INSIDE the courtyard
- Say - So where do we see Peter and John showing kindness and gentleness? accept answers
  - How do you think the man felt when Peter said, "Look at me."? What was he expecting?
  - Do you think the man was happier that he was healed or would have preferred money? Which would impact his life more?
- Ask - What are ways in which you can be gentle and kind?

### Scripture Memory Verse

- Spend a few moments creating motions or a rhythm to go with the bible verse.
  - **Session Verse: Colossians 3:12**  
You are God's chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't be proud. Be gentle and patient.
  - **Unit Verse: Galatians 5:22-23**  
But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.

### Application Activities - 20 minutes:

Game: Shaving Cream Relay Race

Split into equal teams. Have one person from each team racing with a spoonful of shaving cream to the finish line. The one who does not drop any shaving cream from their spoon wins.

Project: Painted Hands on yardstick with a textured frame

### Wrap Up

- Say - So far we've learned about love, joy, gentleness, and kindness.
- Say - Next week we will learn 3 more characteristics of the Fruit of the Spirit. I'm excited to hear how the Spirit helps you this week.
- Be sure to send home their Family Page and Personal Study materials.

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Family Component

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Personal Study

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Related Sources:

## Additional Passages

Main Teaching Passage: James 2 (NIV)

**My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. 2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?**

**5 Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? 6 But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?**

**8 If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. 9 But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. 11 For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.**

**12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.**

**14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.**

**18 But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."**

**Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. 19 You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.**

**20 You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? 21 Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? 22 You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. 23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,"[e] and he was called God's friend. 24 You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.**

**25 In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? 26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

Main Teaching Passage: James 2 (MSG)

**My dear friends, don't let public opinion influence how you live out our glorious, Christ-originated faith. If a man enters your church wearing an expensive suit, and a street person wearing rags comes**

**in right after him, and you say to the man in the suit, “Sit here, sir; this is the best seat in the house!” and either ignore the street person or say, “Better sit here in the back row,” haven’t you segregated God’s children and proved that you are judges who can’t be trusted?**

**5-7 Listen, dear friends. Isn’t it clear by now that God operates quite differently? He chose the world’s down-and-out as the kingdom’s first citizens, with full rights and privileges. This kingdom is promised to anyone who loves God. And here you are abusing these same citizens! Isn’t it the high and mighty who exploit you, who use the courts to rob you blind? Aren’t they the ones who scorn the new name —“Christian”—used in your baptisms?**

**8-11 You do well when you complete the Royal Rule of the Scriptures: “Love others as you love yourself.” But if you play up to these so-called important people, you go against the Rule and stand convicted by it. You can’t pick and choose in these things, specializing in keeping one or two things in God’s law and ignoring others. The same God who said, “Don’t commit adultery,” also said, “Don’t murder.” If you don’t commit adultery but go ahead and murder, do you think your non-adultery will cancel out your murder? No, you’re a murderer, period.**

**12-13 Talk and act like a person expecting to be judged by the Rule that sets us free. For if you refuse to act kindly, you can hardly expect to be treated kindly. Kind mercy wins over harsh judgment every time.**

**14-17 Dear friends, do you think you’ll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? For instance, you come upon an old friend dressed in rags and half-starved and say, “Good morning, friend! Be clothed in Christ! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!” and walk off without providing so much as a coat or a cup of soup—where does that get you? Isn’t it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?**

**18 I can already hear one of you agreeing by saying, “Sounds good. You take care of the faith department, I’ll handle the works department.”**

**Not so fast. You can no more show me your works apart from your faith than I can show you my faith apart from my works. Faith and works, works and faith, fit together hand in glove.**

**19-20 Do I hear you professing to believe in the one and only God, but then observe you complacently sitting back as if you had done something wonderful? That’s just great. Demons do that, but what good does it do them? Use your heads! Do you suppose for a minute that you can cut faith and works in two and not end up with a corpse on your hands?**

**21-24 Wasn’t our ancestor Abraham “made right with God by works” when he placed his son Isaac on the sacrificial altar? Isn’t it obvious that faith and works are yoked partners, that faith expresses itself in works? That the works are “works of faith”? The full meaning of “believe” in the Scripture sentence, “Abraham believed God and was set right with God,” includes his action. It’s that mesh of believing and acting that got Abraham named “God’s friend.” Is it not evident that a person is made right with God not by a barren faith but by faith fruitful in works?**

**25-26 The same with Rahab, the Jericho harlot. Wasn’t her action in hiding God’s spies and helping them escape—that seamless unity of believing and doing—what counted with God? The very moment you separate body and spirit, you end up with a corpse. Separate faith and works and you get the same thing: a corpse.**

Meta-Narrative Link: Genesis 22:1-18 (NIRV)

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," Abraham replied.

2 Then God said, "Take your son, your only son. He is the one you love. Take Isaac. Go to the place called Moriah. Give your son to me there as a burnt offering. Sacrifice him on the mountain I will show you."

3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took two of his servants and his son Isaac with him. He cut enough wood for the burnt offering. Then he started out for the place God had shown him. 4 On the third day Abraham saw the place a long way off. 5 He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. I and the boy will go over there and worship. Then we'll come back to you."

6 Abraham had his son Isaac carry the wood for the burnt offering. He himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. 7 Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said. "But where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

8 Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together.

9 They reached the place God had shown Abraham. There Abraham built an altar. He arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son Isaac. Abraham placed him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand. He picked up the knife to kill his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven. He said, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," Abraham replied.

12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not harm him. Now I know that you would do anything for God. You have not held back from me your son, your only son."

13 Abraham looked around. There in a bush he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram. He sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham named that place The Lord Will Provide. To this day people say, "It will be provided on the mountain of the Lord."

15 The angel of the Lord called out to Abraham from heaven a second time. 16 He said, "I am giving you my word that I will bless you. I will bless you because of what you have done," announces the Lord. "You have not held back your son, your only son. 17 So I will certainly bless you. I will make the children born into your family as many as the stars in the sky. I will make them as many as the grains of sand on the seashore. They will take over the cities of their enemies. 18 All nations on earth will be blessed because of your children. All these things will happen because you have obeyed me."

Meta-Narrative Link: Joshua 2:1-21, 6:16-17, 22-23 (NIRV)



**2:1** Joshua, the son of Nun, sent two spies from Shittim. He sent them in secret. He said to them, “Go and look over the land. Most of all, check out Jericho.” So they went to Jericho. They stayed at the house of a prostitute. Her name was Rahab.

**2** The king of Jericho was told, “Look! Some of the Israelites have come here tonight. They’ve come to check out the land.” **3** So the king sent a message to Rahab. It said, “Bring out the men who came into your house. They’ve come to check out the whole land.”

**4** But the woman had hidden the two men. She said, “It’s true that the men came here. But I didn’t know where they had come from. **5** They left at sunset, when it was time to close the city gate. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You might catch up with them.” **6** But in fact she had taken them up on the roof. There she had hidden them under some flax she had piled up. **7** The king’s men left to hunt down the spies. They took the road that leads to where the Jordan River can be crossed. As soon as they had gone out of the city, the gate was shut.

**8** Rahab went up on the roof before the spies settled down for the night. **9** She said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you this land. We are very much afraid of you. Everyone who lives in this country is weak with fear because of you. **10** We’ve heard how the Lord dried up the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt. We’ve heard what you did to Sihon and Og, the two Amorite kings. They ruled east of the Jordan River. You completely destroyed them. **11** When we heard about it, we were terrified. Because of you, we aren’t brave anymore. The Lord your God is the God who rules in heaven above and on the earth below.

**12** “Now then, please give me your word. Promise me in the name of the Lord that you will be kind to my family. I’ve been kind to you. Promise me **13** that you will spare the lives of my father and mother. Spare my brothers and sisters. Also spare everyone in their families. Promise that you won’t put any of us to death.”

**14** So the men made a promise to her. “If you save our lives, we’ll save yours,” they said. “Just don’t tell anyone what we’re doing. Then we’ll be kind and faithful to you when the Lord gives us the land.”

**15** The house Rahab lived in was part of the city wall. So she let the spies down by a rope through the window. **16** She said to them, “Go up into the hills. The men chasing you won’t be able to find you. Hide yourselves there for three days until they return. Then you can go on your way.”

**17** The spies had said to her, “You made us give our word. But we won’t keep our promise **18** unless you do what we say. When we enter the land, you must tie this bright red rope in the window. Tie it in the window you let us down through. Bring your father and mother into your house. Also bring in your brothers and everyone else in your family. **19** None of you must go out into the street. If you do, anything that happens to you will be your own fault. We won’t be responsible. But if anyone hurts someone who is inside the house with you, it will be our fault. We will be responsible. **20** Don’t tell anyone what we’re doing. If you do, we won’t have to keep the promise you asked us to make.”

**21** “I agree,” Rahab replied. “I’ll do as you say.”

**6:16** On the seventh time around, the priests blew a long blast on the trumpets. Then Joshua gave a command to the army. He said, “Shout! The Lord has given you the city! **17** The city and everything in it must be set apart to the Lord to be destroyed. But the prostitute Rahab and all those with her in her house must be spared. That’s because she hid the spies we sent.

**22 Then Joshua spoke to the two men who had gone in to check out the land. He said, “Go into the prostitute’s house. Bring her out. Also bring out everyone with her. That’s what you promised her you would do.” 23 So the young men who had checked out the land went into Rahab’s house. They brought her out along with her parents and brothers and sisters. They brought out everyone else there with her. They put them in a place outside the camp of Israel.**