

Peter and John show Kindness & Gentleness

Scripture Passage: Acts 3:1-10

Memory Verse: Colossians 3:12 (abbreviated NIV) So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't brag. 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.

Materials

male peg - Peter

male peg - John

grey felt rectangle - temple courtyard

rectangle wood block w/ 2 columns - temple

arched wood block - Beautiful gate

male peg - disabled man

2-3 small groups of people - single gender and ages, hot glued together (men from Jesus throughout Time - box 1)

small silver bowl - begging bowl

Large Group Worship - 15 minutes

Main Passage: 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.

Setting the Tone

Remind the children of the Fruit of the Spirit Tree by laying it on the floor in your story circle or setting your circle cushions out so that you are sitting next to where it hangs on the wall. Pass the bag containing the fruit pieces around the circle instructing each child to take one out and hold it.

- Say - In this unit we are going to be hearing true happenings from the Bible where God's people lived in a way that showed they loved him. We know this because they showed their God Fruit. Who knows what God Fruit is? accept answers
- Say - (open your bible to Galatians) In the book of Galatians Paul says this, "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."
- Say - Our God Fruit, or Spirit Fruit, is the kind of things we DO when we are letting the Holy Spirit be our Boss, helping us to live the way God wants us to live - the best way!
- Say - Let's go around the circle to see which characteristic of God's Fruit we're each holding.
- Do - go around the circle, reading each child's characteristic. Have the child stick it to the tree as theirs is read.
- Ask - Can anyone remember which characteristics of the Fruit of the Spirit the Macedonian church showed in our Bible Happening last week? joy, love
- Ask - Who would like to take Joy and Love from the tree and put them with the box? (do it)
- Say - Let's quickly remember last week's Bible Happening.

Review

Do - Lay out all the pieces for the final part of the story

Do - Indicate correct pieces where text is underlined and italicized

Say - Paul wrote a letter to the Christians of the churches in Corinth. Some of the letter was about how much joy and love the Christians of the churches in Macedonia had when they gave to support the missionaries even when they didn't have very much money.

Paul encouraged the Corinthians telling them they were doing so good at a lot of things like: faith, knowledge, and telling people about Jesus. He also said they had started off really well at collecting money to send to the missionaries, but then they stopped. Paul encouraged them to finish what they had started and to show love to others in that way trusting that the Holy Spirit would give them joy because of it. (pointing out the Macedonians had it)

Story Telling

• Do - Turn your bible to Acts 3:1-10

Say - Tonight we will hear about a Bible Happening with Peter and John from the book of Acts. This book in the bible is all about the years when new Christians were learning how to be Christians and have church after Jesus went back to Heaven and sent the Holy Spirit.

Ask & Do - Who would like to take Kindness and Gentleness off of our Fruit of the Spirit Tree and put them by my bible?

- Do - set up the scene: grey felt, temple blocks on one side, Beautiful Gate on another edge, people between the two

Say - One afternoon Peter and John were walking to the Temple to pray.

- Do - move Peter & John pieces from outside the grey felt to just outside the Beautiful Gate

Say - There was a man laying near the gate. Someone would carry him there every day because he had been born unable to walk. He went there for people to give him money so he could buy food.

- Do - place the man laying down on the outside of the gate with the small bowl

Say - The man saw Peter and John and asked them for money. Peter said to him, "Look at us."

The man did, expecting to get money. Peter said, "We don't have any money, but we'll give you what we do have. In the name of Jesus Christ get up and walk." Then he took the man's hand and helped him stand up!

- Do - stand the man up and jump

Say - The man's feet and legs became strong - perfect! He jumped up and started to walk with Peter and John into the Temple Courtyard.

- Do - walk the three pieces into the courtyard

Say - He walked and jumped and praised God!

- Do - move the man while telling

Say - All the people saw the man walking and jumping and praising God and they recognized him as the man who couldn't walk and begged for money every day. They were willed with wonder and were amazed!!

- Do - move the groups of people to notice the man

Say - You were great learners today. I love this Bible Happening when Peter and John showed kindness and gentleness to the man who couldn't walk. I wonder what they were thinking when they noticed the man? I wonder how they felt when they saw him dancing and praising God? I wonder what all the people watching were thinking?

Say - We're going to go to our Reflection Stations so you can keep thinking and the Holy Spirit can keep talking to you.

Reflection Activities - 30 minutes

- **listening station - bible passage, Fruit of the Spirit song**
- **pipe cleaners station**
- **missions station**
- **watercolor painting station**
- **fruit of the spirit tree**
- **prayer station**
- **bible station - marked full bible, marked children's bible**

Memory Verse - 5 minutes

- **Spend a few moments creating motions or a rhythm to go with the bible verse.**
 - Session Verse: Colossians 3:12 (abbreviated NIV)
So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don't brag. Be gentle and patient.
 - Unit Verse: Galatians 5:22-23 (abbreviated from NIV)
But the fruit the Holy Spirit makes is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having self-control.

Family Component

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Personal Study

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Related Sources: