

# All the Small Things

**Bible:** All the Small Things (The Least of These) • *Matthew 25:35-40*

**Bottom Line:** Be kind to people who are overlooked.

**Memory Verse:** “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” *Luke 6:31, NIV*

**Life App:** Kindness—Showing others they are valuable by how you treat them

**Basic Truth:** I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

## **Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)**

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Early Arriver**

- No supplies needed

**10:15**

### **Overlooked Items**

- Serving tray
- Cloth to cover tray
- 15+ different small items to place in one layer on tray
- 1 piece of paper
- Pencil

## **Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)**

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

## **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (9:40, 10:55, 12:10)**

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Give It Away**

- Bible
- Cups; 1 for every 4 kids
- Food (can be fake); 1 piece for every 4 kids
- Pieces of clothing; 1 for every 4 kids

**10:15**

### **No Hands**

- Precut “Memory Verse Words” Activity Page; 1 set for each group

## **Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)**

- Precut Challenge Cards; 1 set for each child
- Parent Note; 1 per child
- Ziploc bag

## **Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)**

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## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)**

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s Bible Truth.

*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Thank God for His eternal kindness. Ask Him to forgive you and to forgive your few for the times you’ve overlooked someone and, as a result, were unkind to them. Pray that kids would seek out those who are typically overlooked and purposefully seek to be kind to those people.*

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Early Arriver Idea**

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Offering container

### **What You Do:**

- Welcome kids warmly to Small Group.
- Ask a few questions about their favorite foods, drinks, clothes, etc.
- Play “Four Corners.”
- For each of these following categories, indicate a corner of your Small Group area that kids can run toward to indicate their choice.
  - Favorite restaurant foods: pizza, tacos, chicken, subs
  - Favorite breakfast foods: cereal, donuts, eggs, waffles
  - Favorite drinks: sodas, milk, fruit juice, water
  - Favorite special treat drinks: iced tea, hot chocolate, milkshakes, soda
  - Favorite clothes: sweatshirt, sneakers, jeans, T-shirt
- Talk about how they decided what they liked. Do they share favorites or tend to keep them to themselves? Why?

### **What You Say:**

Sometimes it’s hard to share the things that we really, really like. Let’s head to Large Group and hear what Jesus has to say about sharing and caring.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

**10:15****Overlooked Items****What You Need:** Serving tray covered with small items, cloth, paper, pencil**What You Do:**

- Place the uncovered tray in the middle of your group. Tell kids to look at it closely because in a minute you will cover the tray, and they will need to try to remember what was on it.
- Give kids 30-60 seconds to look. Then cover the tray.
- Ask kids to call out the items they can remember. Write them down on the paper.
- Uncover the tray, and ask kids to see if there was anything they overlooked.

**What You Say:**

“There were so many items on our tray, it was easy to overlook some of them. It’s also sometimes easy to overlook people, because there are just so many people in this world. **[Transition] Let’s go to Large Group, where we’ll hear about how we should treat people who are overlooked.**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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## **Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)**

### GETTING READY

#### 1. Opener/Closer

**What You Need:**

- Leader
- Remote control prop
- Small prize for winner

#### 2. Bible Truth

**What You Need:**

- Historyteller
- 252 Story

#### 3. Worship

**What You Need:**

- Power Praise Team

*Music and Sound Effects (SFX):*

- “Rock This Planet”
- “Live Loud”
- “Forever Reign”

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## **Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)**

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

**CG: 10 Second Count Down**

**CG: Rewind Theme Slide**

*Leader enters.*

### **Opener**

**LEADER:** “Everyone, hey! Today faces your of all see to glad so I’m! (*Pause.*) What, you didn’t catch that? Let me try that again! Everyone, hey! Today faces your of all see to glad so I’m! (*Pause.*) Nothing? Okay, do any of you have any idea for what I just said? (*Pause to see if anyone gets it.*) I was saying, ‘Hey, everyone! I’m so glad to see all of your faces today.’ But I said it in reverse, because this month is all about the rewind, especially when it comes to kindness. Be kind, rewind. So I’m practicing my rewind skills! And I don’t mean to brag, but I think I’m getting pretty good at it. Although, I’m not sure how helpful it is to speak in rewind. Ooh, try this one. Team Praise Power the welcome, Please! Any guesses?”

“Yeah! Please welcome the Power Praise Team!”

*Power Praise team enters as Host joins the audience.*

### **Worship**

**SFX: “Rock this Planet”**

**SFX: “Live Loud”**

**SFX: “Forever Reign”**

*Host retakes the stage as Power Praise exits.*

“I wonder how fun it would be to sing and dance those songs in rewind mode? Hmm. Maybe some other day.”

“When it comes to kindness, rewinding is super helpful! And practicing those kindness rewind skills is important because we think kindness deserves a replay! And what is kindness? Does anyone remember?”

**CG: Kindness Slide**

“Kindness is showing others they are valuable by how you treat them. Showing kindness to others is something that you can do over and over and over again. Be kind, rewind, and then be kind again!

“If you’ve ever been watching a movie and you missed a part or couldn’t understand something, you know how important rewinding can be and how valuable a remote is. Has anyone here ever lost a remote? *(Pause for response.)* Yeah, me too!

“Today our remote has gone missing. Well, it’s more like I’ve hidden the remote somewhere in this room. Your job is to find it! I’ll help you out by telling you if you’re getting hot or cold or, in this case, play or rewind. If you’re getting close to the remote, I’ll call out your name and say, ‘Play.’ I’ll keep saying it the closer you get to the remote. But if you start moving away from the hidden remote, I’ll say, ‘Rewind,’ and then you’ll know you need to go in another direction.

“The first one to find the remote wins! Everyone understand? Any questions? Great! Let’s play. On your marks, get set, go!

*While the kids look for the remote, notice when some are moving closer to the remote. Call those kids by name and say, “Play,” the closer they get. Also pay attention to those who are moving in the wrong direction, and call them by name and say, “Rewind.” Continue until the remote is found, and celebrate the winner*

“Wow! I know who to call the next time I lose my remote at home. Now, please welcome [Historyteller’s Name].”

*Host exits. Historyteller enters.*

**SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH**

**HISTORYTELLER:** “Hello, hello. How’s everyone feeling today?”

*Hold hand beside ear and nod.*

“That’s great! I’m feeling good, too. You know why? Well, it’s because I love getting to talk with you about something important from God’s Word. This month we’ve been talking about kindness—showing others they are valuable by what we say and do. But here’s the thing; we shouldn’t be kind because we’re supposed to be kind. Instead, we should show kindness because we think being kind to people will make a difference in their lives. That what’s happened when God was kind and loving when He sent Jesus. It made a HUGE difference in our lives. We can do the same for others.

“Being kind to people who might be famous, like a football player or rock star, do you think that would be easy? *(Pause for response.)* Yeah, me too! If we saw someone like that, we’d probably do whatever it took to make sure they felt valuable by what we said to them.

“But do we treat everyone like that? How about our teachers or kids who seem to keep to themselves? What about kids who are just different than us?”

“That’s a great question. And when we have a great question like that, the first place we should look is the Bible, God’s Word to us. How about we do that right now in a unique way? We’re going to watch our Bible Truth today. Play close attention. Here we go.”

**CG: 252 Story**

**HISTORYTELLER:** “Kindness is powerful. When we see a need and do something about it, that’s kindness. Let’s look at the one thing to remember for today.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line]** “**Be kind to people who are overlooked.** When we give food or water or clothes or friendship to people who need it, we show them they are important to us. We treat them the way Jesus taught us to so they feel like they really matter. Hmm. ‘Treat them’ is another way of saying ‘Do to others,’ like from our memory verse. I say we take a look at it real quick.”

**CG: Memory Verse Slide**

*‘Do to others as you would have them do to you.’ Luke 6:31, NIV.*

“Say that with me.”

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us discover ways we can **[Bottom Line] be kind to people who are overlooked.** Let’s pray together.”

**Pray**

**HISTORYTELLER:** “Dear God, You are such a big, awesome, and loving Father. You’re always kind to us, even when we don’t deserve it. Please help us to be kind to others, especially to the people who get ignored, who are lonely, or who feel forgotten. When we’re kind to them, help them see how much You love them. We pray this in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you have an offering with you today, raise your hand and we will bring the bucket over to you.”

*Historyteller exits as Host enters.*

**Closer**

**HOST:** “Hey, everyone! What an important lesson from Jesus today. You know, I’ve never thought that being kind to others was like we’re being kind to Jesus. It’s so awesome that God uses people like us to show others how much He loves them.

“If we think about it hard enough, I bet we could think of people in our life who feel overlooked. These could be kids in our class who always seem to get picked last in P.E. or at recess. Or maybe they’re people in our neighborhood who might not have enough to eat or could use a warm winter coat. We could be kind to others who just look like they’re a bit lonely.

“When you see kids like that at school, think about how you would want someone to show kindness to you and think about our Bottom Line for today.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line]** “Be kind to people who are overlooked. Can you say that with me?”

**KIDS and HOST:** **[Bottom Line]** “Be kind to people who are overlooked.”

**HOST:** “Now, I know what you’re wondering: How do I know WHO is overlooked? How can I even show them kindness? I’m just a kid!”

“It starts with being on the lookout for people who are overlooked. You can ask someone at home about people they know who could use some kindness in their life. You might find kids at school, someone on your basketball team, or maybe even your brother or sister. Sometimes WE can feel overlooked. But when we’re kind to these people, it can make a huge difference in their lives.

“In Small Group, you’ll talk more about HOW you can show kindness to people who are overlooked. I bet you’ll think of some awesome ways to make them feel like they matter to you and to God! Have fun doing that. We’ll see you next time!”

*Dismiss children to their Small Groups.*

**CG: Small Group Slide**



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## **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (10 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible Truth applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

**9:00 & 11:30**

**Give It Away**

**What You Need:** Cups, food, clothing, Bible

### **What You Do:**

- Divide kids into four groups and number the groups.
- Give a piece of food to each kid in Group 1, a cup to each kid in Group 2, and a piece of clothing to each kid in Group 4. (Group 3 doesn't get an item.)
- Tell kids to sit down in their groups and put their items on the floor or table until you tell them to pick them up.
- Open your Bible to Matthew 25.
- Guide the kids in Group 1 to give their food to the kids in Group 2. Read Matthew 25:35a.
- Instruct the kids in Group 2 to give their cups to the kids in Group 3. Read Matthew 25:35b.
- Tell the kids in Group 3 to shake the hands of the kids in Group 4 and say, “Welcome.” Read Matthew 25:35c.
- Guide the kids in Group 4 to give their pieces of clothing to the kids in Group 1. Read Matthew 25:36a.
- Read Matthew 25:40b.
- Explain that kids will do this again with the items they now have, but they will each say one real way they can give that item this week.
  - For instance, they could share their dessert with a friend, give a bottle of water to someone who looks thirsty, say something kind to someone who is sad, or donate their outgrown clothes to a shelter.
- Guide kids to give their gifts (or words) away again. Give help with ideas as needed.

### **What You Say:**

“You came up with some great ideas to show kindness. When we do kind things for others, it's like we're doing them for God. We can be kind to the people we know and love, but God also wants us to keep an eye out for people who are overlooked and do kind things for them too. **[Make It Personal]** (Tell kids about a way you recently showed kindness to someone who was overlooked.) **[Bottom Line]** Be kind to people who are overlooked.”

**10:15****No Hands****[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]***Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group***What You Need:** “Memory Verse Words” Activity Pages**What You Do:**

- Scatter the Activity Pages on the floor around your space.
- Instruct the kids to work together to put the verse in order, but they can’t use their hands.
- Remind kids to live out the verse as they work together and to be kind to one another.
- When the verse is in order, say it together several times.

**What You Say:**

“You did such a great job doing to the others as you would want them to do to you while doing this activity. I’m very proud of you for showing kindness to your friends. Today, who are we learning we should be kind to? *(Pause.)* Yes, to people who are overlooked. **[Bottom Line] Be kind to people who are overlooked.**”

**All Service Times****Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)****[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]***Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application***What You Need:** Baggies containing “Challenge Cards” and “Parent Note”; 1 set for each child**What You Do:**

- Hand out kids’ baggies of “Challenge Cards.” Tell them what each card is for.
- Tell kids to pray silently, asking God to give them opportunities to do each of the four things this month.
- Close with the prayer below.

**What You Say:**

“Dear God, you are so amazing for being kind to everyone—even those who are overlooked. Help us to remember that when we’re kind to others, it’s like we’re being kind to You. Help us to do all of the things on our Challenge Cards this month. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids about their Challenge Cards and what they’re supposed to do. Tell parents there is a note in the baggie to help explain the challenge