**2 and 3 year old Lesson Plan**

**Bottom Line -** Do Kindness!

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**Bible Story -** The Golden Rule | *Matthew 7:12*

Jesus Blesses the children. (Jesus shows kindness by taking time to interact with kids when no one else did)

**Kindness - Showing others they are important by treating them the same way you want to be treated.**

**Leader Note**

Even if you haven’t spent much time reading the Bible you have no doubt heard the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Jesus shared this golden rule as part of a long message he gave to his followers called the Sermon on the Mount. The golden rule seems like such a simple guideline, yet we often fall short and think of ourselves way more than we think of others. This week at camp we’ll focus on 4 specific character qualities that will help us do unto others. We begin by exploring kindness, we’ll see the kindness of Jesus in action and challenge the campers to leave camp today “doing” more kindness. You’ll notice there is not one specific Bible story focusing on Kindness, instead you’ll have to the chance to briefly explore a few times Jesus showed kindness during his ministry on earth.

**Friendship Circle**

**What to do:** *Gather the kids on the floor in a circle.**Welcome the kids to camp and then**sing the following chant. Have each child stand up when you say their name.*

**What to say:** Hello friends and welcome to Vacation Bible Camp! My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am here with my other amazing leader \_introduce other leaders . We are so excited to have you in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ room this week. Let’s get started with our Friendship Song. I am going to sing a song and when you hear your name I want you to stand up. Here we go!

**I know a girl/boy whose name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Stand up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Say “Hi” to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Because Jesus loves you!**

We are going to have so much fun this week on the Jesus Tour learning that we should treat each other with love and kindness. If you are ready to have some fun learning from Jesus say, “I love Jesus!” Can you say that in your quiet voice? *(I love Jesus!)* How about your fast voice?  *(I love Jesus!)* One more time! *(I love Jesus)*

**Praise & Worship Time**

**What to say:**Here’s our first stop on our bus tour today. It’s time to sing, dance and worship God.

**What to do***: Line the kids up at the door and move to worship space. Be sure to talk about the expectations as you walk through the hallways and participate in worship.*

**Exploring the Bible Story**

**Supplies** –The Rhyme Bible Story book

**What to do***: Have the children sit inside their pretend “bus” or have them gather on the floor. Pretend to start driving and talk about your next stop – the mountains. While you drive to the mountains, teach the kids the word of the day “Kindness” and the “Do Unto Others” Chant. Finish by reading the Bible story.*

**What to say:**Everyone take a seat, it’s time to continue our “Do Unto Others” bus tour. Our next stop will be in the mountains where Jesus is preaching and teaching about KINDNESS. Being kind means treating people the same way that you want to be treated.

While we drive, I want to teach you a special chant that we will say, every day at Vacation Bible Camp. Are you ready?

Leader says: I say Do, You say **Kindness**

Leader says: Do

Kids say:  **Kindness**

Leader says: Do

Kids say: **Kindness**

*Repeat*

*Everyone says this together getting louder each time*

Love everyone, love everyone, love everyone! (*Make a heart with your hands)*

Here we are at our next stop – the mountains where Jesus is talking to some people on the mountain. Let’s see what Jesus wants to teach us today.

**What to read:** Jesus Shows Kindness to the Children – pages 300-307 in The Rhyme Bible Storybook

**What to say:**Jesus showed **Kindness** to the kids. He knew that talking and playing with them would make them happy. **Kindness** is showing others they are important by treating others the way you want to be treated.

Just like Jesus showed **kindness** to the children, he wants us to show **kindness** to everyone we meet. If you can do that let’s stand up.

If you can be **kind**—turn around in a circle.

If you can be **kind**—clap 3 times.

If you can be **kind**—count to 10.

If you can be **kind**—jump up and down 2 times.

Continue with other actions.

***What to pray:***  *Ask if anyone wants to pray and if not lead them in this echo prayer,*

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for teaching me,

To love everyone.

And DO KINDNESS

I love you! Amen.

**Small Group Explorations (Bus stops)**

**#1 – Pet Adoption**

**Supplies *–*** stuffed animals

**What to do:** *Set the stuffed animals out in the room. Make sure there is one for every child. One at a time ask each child to go and pick out one of the pets to be their special pal and bring it back to the circle. Be sure to keep track of which pet belongs to each child. This will be their pet every day at camp and they will take it home at the end of the week. Once all of the pets have been adopted teach the pets the “Do Unto Others” Chant.*

**What to say:** Look at those puppies over there *(point to pets)* they look sad. Show me your sad face. *(sad face)* How could we show them **kindness**? *(Discuss)* I think that we should show **kindness** by adopting one of the pets to be our friend this week. If you think you can show kindness to these pets wave your hands in the air.  *(wave hands)*

*Send children off to adopt their pet one at a time as you say this chant.*

*(name of child), (name of child)* **will you be,**

**Kind to everyone you see?**

**#2 - Pet Home**

**Supplies —** Box (box bus/shoebox/paper home\*), crayons and stickers

**What to do:**  *Set the crayons and stickers out on the tables. Encourage each child to decorate their box home for their pet. When they are done put their pets in their box home to see how they like it.*

**What to say:** Let’s show **kindness** to our new pet by making them a special home to stay in during camp week.

**What to talk about:***What are some kind things that you can do with your pet? What is your pet’s name? What does your pet need in their new home?*

**#3 - Pet Celebration**

**Supplies —** music, box buses (if you have them)

**What to say:** You have been so kind to your pets, and they look so happy. Let’s go for a bus ride. Everyone hop in your bus with your pet friend.

***What to do:*** *Have the children sit in their buses with their pets or gather on the floor. Sing the Wheels on the Bus song as you do the actions. Pretend to arrive back at church. Have the children get out of their buses, turn on the music and let the children dance with their pets.*

**What you sing:** The Wheels on the bus go round and round *(move your hands around in a circle)* Round and round. Round and round. The wheels on the bus go round and round. All through the town.

* The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish *(move arms back and forth)*
* The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep *(press imaginary horn)*
* The kids on the bus say, “Jesus loves you!” *(say Jesus loves you! As you wave)*

**#4 - Roll the ball**

**Supplies** — Ball

**What to say:** Jesus loves each and every one of you. He loves name of each child. Let’s roll the ball to all our friends.

**What to do:** *Roll the ball to a child and say,* **Jesus loves name of child** *then have them roll the ball back to you. Roll the ball to a different child and say* **Jesus loves name of child.** *Continue letting each child have a turn. Then switch over to saying,* ***\_name of child\_ will be kind****. As you roll the ball from child to child.*

**Take Home Challenge**

**Supplies —** challenge cards & daily sticker

**What to do:** *Have the children gather on the floor and bring the challenge cards and daily stickers with you. Talk about the day and then challenge the kids to complete the challenge at home.*

**What to say:** Great job friends! Today we went to the mountains to learn that Jesus wants us to treat others how we want to be treated and DO KINDNESS. Now it’s time to continue the fun at home. Each day during class, we will have a challenge that you will get to do with the people in your home! Today’s challenge is to do something at your house to help out. You might help feed your pet or help set the table. The key is to do it without being asked and with a smile.

Raise your hand if you accept the challenge to help out at home without being asked. I cannot wait to hear all about it tomorrow as we continue to learn more about how to treat others on the Jesus Tour!

**What to do:** *Send the challenge card and the daily sticker home with each child.*