

Fifth Sunday in Kingdomtide

Kindness as a Kingdom Value

Old Testament: Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

New Testament: 1Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all-this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Luke 10:25-37 (NRSV)

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.* 'Teacher,' he said, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' ²⁶He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' ²⁷He answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself.'

²⁸And he said to him, 'You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.'²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'

³⁰Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend."

³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' ³⁷He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

General Concept: The church is compassionate and sensitive to the needs of the people and acts to address their situation.

N/K/YE: It is good to be kind.

ME/OE: It is good to show kindness to everyone.

Y: Kindness is demonstrated by accepting everyone.

A: Kindness is manifested by responding to the needs of people.

Exegesis of the Biblical References

Micah 6:8 signifies God's sole demands on God's people: "to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God." The whole chapter 6 of Micah is actually

addressed to the ruling elite of Judah in the 8th century BCE, to those who are in the position to prevent and rectify acts of injustice and to maintain and preserve justice towards their own people. They are those who are in the position to spend so much lavish and generous amounts for sacrifices and offerings at the altar of Yahweh as their mode of expressing their worship and thanksgiving to God. Micah, however, witnessed the sad reality that the very class of people entrusted to lead justly in the name of the God of Israel had been corrupted by the ways of power. He witnessed the enormous amount of abuses done to the poor and powerless people of the land by those who have power and privilege (cf. Mi. 2:1-2; 3:1-3). The small landowners suffered massive and systematic confiscation of their lands due to indebtedness imposed by the usurers and heavy taxation coming from the state apparatuses of the king. Massive deprivation and impoverishment of the common people of the land became a widespread phenomenon in the time of Micah. At the same time, this class of the ruling elite would always try to delude themselves into thinking that things in the land remain well especially in their relationship with God by assuming that they can always win God's favor by making abundant offerings of the most expensive and numerous amount before the altar of the Lord. They had assumed that God's favor and God's blessings can be won or bought with expensive offerings intended to erase whatever wrongdoing or transgression that may have been committed by them (v.7). This is where Micah makes the crucial rebuttal of these people's distorted religious assumptions. The only thing God requires of his people is something very basic and fundamental in the building of a peaceful and prosperous community: the doing of justice always, the passion for kindness towards the people and the attitude of humility towards God. This is the non-negotiable requirement of God for the building of a true and alternative kingdom where the only Lord and king is the only God of justice.

Luke 10: 25-37 (the parable of the 'Good Samaritan') begins with a lawyer trying to put to test Jesus, asking him about how to inherit eternal life. Jesus replied by asking the lawyer with a very basic question: "Well, what is written in the Law?", to which the lawyer replied by reciting the great commandments based on Deut. 6:5 and Lev. 19:18: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind ; and your neighbor as yourself" to which Jesus replied: "Ok, good! Just do this and you will live. The lawyer however, pursued further, wanting to justify himself: "But who then is my neighbor?" Jesus answered by simply relating the story of the Samaritan who came to the rescue of a victimized and seriously wounded Jew. This Jew fell into the hands of robbers on the highway from Jerusalem to Jericho. After being bypassed by a priest and then a Levite, a Samaritan passed by and saw the victim. The Samaritan immediately had deep compassion on the person, treated his wounds and brought him to an inn. The deep historical animosity and hatred between the Jews and the Samaritans are well known already. They look at each other as enemies and people who cannot be trusted as a neighbor. Jesus however called the Samaritan, the one hated by the Jews, as the neighbor. The teaching on "loving one's neighbor" is actually reversed here by Jesus. The hated one, the one considered as the historical enemy can actually be the neighbor to us who consider ourselves as the good guys, being the people of God. We who consider ourselves as the good guys may become victims ourselves. And people who we hate, who we consider as enemies, can actually be a source of rescue, kindness and deep compassion, in acts that transcend political, racial and ideological boundaries. It is time to break the walls and the barriers that separate peoples into enemies and strangers. It is time to practice kindness and compassion even unto people we hate and consider as enemies for as Jesus himself said, they themselves are capable of becoming a compassionate

neighbor to us. This is the way to really live and enjoy the life in the kingdom of God being offered to us by God in and through Jesus. Kindness and compassion are very essential virtues of people who are to become citizens of the kingdom of God.

Companion Guide for the Teachers and other End-users

For people who are used to walking along the corridors of power, kindness is a mark of weakness. On the other hand, the gospel regards kindness as a trait of God. Nations that are constantly on a war path against their perceived enemies have no right to call upon God to prosper their march to war. Kindness is a non-negotiable condition in building up the kingdom of God.

Only those who “love kindness” (Micah 6:8) may be admitted citizens of God's kingdom. But how may people learn kindness in a world that lives by the rule of “survival of the fittest?” This Darwinian principle of evolution has been appropriated by establishment social thinkers to justify the evolution of a brutish human character. It stands in direct contradiction to the values of the kingdom.

The church has been called to be a school for making people kindly. Kindliness is learned not only by means of the church's formal instructions but even more effectively by example in the way the church conducts itself within and outside its walls. Church leadership, for example, follows Jesus' model of leadership by servanthood. Towards the outside, the church shows a kindly face that is inviting to people in need to come for help and succor. The church does not choose whom to be kind. Against its adversaries, the church seeks their redemption by transforming them from being enemies into friends.

Being kindly to all may not be possible or appropriate in the real world. This is a real challenge because educating the people according to the values of the kingdom is not backed by concrete realities. But the world may not learn it unless it is taught by those who actually practice this virtue, namely, the church.

Nursery/Kindergarten/Younger Elementary Levels

I. Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

1. observe church activities that develop kindness;
2. demonstrate acts of kindness; and
3. express one's appreciation for being recipients of kindness and for given chances to show kindness.

II. Concept: It is good to be kind.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably NRSV), worksheets, pictures, song charts

III. Learning Experiences

A. Opening Worship

1. Welcome time: Greet each child and lead them to their seats.
2. Opening prayer: "Compassionate and kind God, we acknowledge your presence with us today. We come to you asking you to teach us lessons and values that we can always remember in life. Help us to be kind in our words, in our thoughts, and in our deeds. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen."
3. Opening song: "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" (*Children Praise God, 36*)
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,
Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,
Washing tired feet, and saving those who fail;
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you;
Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do.
Let me watch you, Jesus till I'm gentle too,
Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

B. Getting Ready

1. Prepare the class to observe the activity Kind or Unkind Words. Get a small toothpaste and a small bowl. Call some children to squeeze the paste out of the tube and put it in a bowl until the toothpaste has been squeezed totally. Then let some try to put back the toothpaste inside the tube. Expect the difficulty in putting back the toothpaste into the tube and the failure to do so.
2. Discuss the activity. Ask the children why it is not possible to put the toothpaste back into its container. Tell them that the toothpaste is like words. When you say kind or unkind words to people, the words can no longer be taken back. The kind words can make others happy while the unkind words can hurt others. We can apologize to those we hurt but the damage has already been done.
3. Let the children decide which words they would like to use and have them explain their choice.

C. Learning Time

1. Recall the previous activity and find out from the children if kind or unkind deeds can also affect others.

2. Tell the story.

The Kind Man

(Adapted from Luke 10:25-37)

One day, a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. While on his way, a group of robbers stripped him, beat him, and left him half dead.

While on the road, people passed by him. The first was a priest. Upon seeing the dying man on the ground, the priest passed by on the other side of the road.

The second was a Levite. Likewise, when he saw the dying man, he passed by on the other side of the road.

The third was a Samaritan. Upon seeing the dying man, he was moved with pity and came near him. He poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them.

Then, he carried him and put him on his animal. He brought him to the nearest inn and took care of him. The next day, the Samaritan had to go. But before he left, he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, "Take care of him, and when I come back, I will repay you for whatever more you spent."

D. Deepening Activity/Sharing Time

1. What is the story about? Clap your hands if you agree with the sentences. (For the **N/K**, read the sentences, for the **YE**, ask the children to read them.)
 - a. It is about a man who was robbed.
 - b. It is about a man who failed to help the man who was robbed.
 - c. It is about a man who helped the man who was robbed.
 - d. It is about kindness of a person.
2. There are several characters in the story. Match the character with their description. (For the **N/K**, let them point to the character after listening, for the **YE**, ask the children to read the correct answers after the descriptions are read.)

Young man	Priest	Levite	Samaritan
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 - a. He was the first man to see the dying man.
 - b. He was robbed and left half dead by the robbers.
 - c. He was the third man to see the dying man
 - d. He was the second man to see the dying man.
3. Who is the kind man in the story, the priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan? Explain your choice.

E. Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask: As children of God, why is it good to be kind to others?

F. Applying the Biblical Truth

1. Teach the biblical verse "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27b)
2. For **N/K**: Tell the children to recall the activity on saying kind or unkind words. Let them go around and choose a classmate and think of a particular description about him or her. Then let them say it using kind words. After doing that, let them look for another classmate until all the classmates have been spoken to. Ask the children what kind words they have told to their classmates. Emphasize being truthful and being kind when talking about others. Let them complete the sentence: It is good to be kind to _____ because _____.

3. **For YE:** Let the children recall the activity on saying kind or unkind words. Challenge them on how they can show kind deeds. Let them complete the following table.

How do you show kindness?

In the Playground	At Home	In Church
Example: I will share the swing to someone who would like to play on it.	Example: I will help my mother prepare the table during mealtime.	Example: I will smile and say hello to everyone in our Sunday School class.

G. Closing Worship

1. Ask the children to recite the memory verse.
2. Offering
4. Closing song: "Be Kind"
 Words: Based from Eph.4:32/Music: Cecilia Williams
 Be kind, be kind, be kind to one another.
 Be kind, be kind, be kind to one another.

 Share toys, share toys, share toys with one another.
 Share toys, share toys, share toys with one another.

 Shake hands, shake hands, shake hands with one another.
 Shake hands, shake hands, shake hands with one another.
5. Closing prayer: "Kind-hearted God, we thank you for teaching us today on how to be kind. Help us to be kind always to every person we meet each day. As we do acts of kindness, may others see Jesus in us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen."

Middle and Older Elementary Levels

I. Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

1. observe church activities that develop kindness;
2. demonstrate acts of kindness; and
3. express one's appreciation for being recipients of kindness and for given chances to show kindness.

II. Concept: It is good to show kindness to everyone.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably NRSV), song charts, bond papers, coloring materials

III. Learning Experiences

A. Opening Worship

1. Welcome time: Smile and greet the children as they come. Check the attendance.
2. Opening prayer: Your ways, O God, are kind. It echoes in our hearts, always telling us to follow you. As we study your word today, may you prepare us to understand more about your ways. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.
3. Opening song: "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands"
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,
Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,
Washing tired feet, and saving those who fail;
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you;
Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do.
Let me watch you, Jesus till I'm gentle too,
Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

B. Getting Ready

1. Provide each child a cutout of a person. Tell them to write their names on the cutout.
2. Tell the class to form a big circle and let them sit. Ask each child to pass the cutout to the person seated to his or her right. On your count, tell the children to crumple the cutout. On your count again, ask the child to return the crumpled cutout to the owner.
3. Tell the owner to repair their own crumpled cutout by flattening it. Ask if they are able to return the cutout to its original look.
4. Tell the class that the activity of crumpling the cutout is similar to telling unkind words or deeds to a person. Once unkind words and deeds are said and done to a person, that person gets hurt and it would be difficult to erase that hurt even though we apologize for our mistake. Encourage the children to talk about the bad effects of saying unkind words or doing unkind deeds.

C. Learning Time

1. Discuss the background of the parable. Share the following points:
 - a. Jesus is talking to a Jewish teacher of the law.
 - b. The lawyer asked Jesus two questions.
 - c. At the time the parable was told, the Samaritans were the most hated persons in Israel.

2. Tell the class to read Luke 10:25-37.

D. Deepening Activity/Sharing Time

1. What did the Jewish lawyer ask Jesus the first time? (Read the verse in Luke 10:25)
2. What did Jesus answer him? (Read the verse in Luke 10:26)
3. What was written in the law? (Read the verse in Luke 10:27)
4. According to Jesus, how can we inherit eternal life? (Read the verse in Luke 10:28)
5. Luke 10:28 is considered the foundation of our genuine commitment to serve? Do you agree? Why or why not? (Loving and serving God cannot be separated from loving and serving others.)
6. What did the Jewish lawyer ask Jesus the second time? (Read the verse in Luke 10:29)
7. How did Jesus answer the lawyer? (Through the Parable of the Good Samaritan)
8. Who acted as the real neighbor to the man who was robbed, the priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan?
9. Why do you think Jesus chose the Samaritan to show kindness to the man who was robbed and become his neighbor? (Jesus is stressing the fact that loving others cannot be based on the racial, economic, and cultural laws or from exclusion of other people who may be different from us or who are not lovable.)
10. What is a better way of defining who is our neighbor? (A neighbor is not necessarily one who is living closely with us, but should be considered as a ministry opportunity to serve other human beings who are really in need.)
11. How did Jesus live his life as a kind neighbor? Direct the class to the opening song and let them underline the ways Jesus did to show kind hands. (Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small, washing tired feet, and saving those who fail).

E. Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask: What are the programs of the church that teach kindness? (Churches may have different programs to teach the real meaning of kindness among her members.)

F. Applying the Biblical Truth

1. Teach the biblical verse "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27b)
2. **For ME:** Through role playing, let the children solve the following situations by showing act of kindness.
 - a. Group 1: You have seen some of your classmates throwing trash anywhere in your classroom.
 - b. Group 2: Your little brother asked you to help him do his homework.
 - c. Group 3: Your Sunday School teacher asked you to return the toys and books after class.

3. **For OE:** Hand at Work! Draw or trace your hand on a bond paper. On each finger, label them by answering the following questions. They can use coloring materials to color each finger. Encourage the class to present their work in the class.
 - a. Thumb: What act of kindness can you do with your friends?
 - b. Point finger: What act of kindness can you do with your parents?
 - c. Middle finger: What act of kindness can you do with your classmates?
 - d. Ring finger: What act of kindness can you do with your neighbors?
 - e. Pinky: What act of kindness can you do with your teachers/pastors?
 - f. Palm: Do you think God will be happy if you will do act of kindness? Why?

G. Closing Worship

1. Memory verse: Teach the biblical verse, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." -Luke 10:27
2. Offering
3. Closing song: "The Good Samaritan"
Words and Music: Laila Fuertes/ Cebuano Translation.: Esther F. Camino
There was a man from Jerusalem who was robbed on his way to Jericho.
Nobody came to help him except the good Samaritan.

Dunay tawo gikan sa Jerusalem gitulis paingon sa Jericho.
Walay nitabang kaniya gawas sa maayong Samaritano.

4. Closing prayer: "Your kind deeds, O God, are our examples, inspiring us to follow your ways even at hard times. We pray that you will help us to always choose to do the right thing – to be kind to everyone at all times. This we ask and pray in Jesus' name. Amen."

Youth Level

I. Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

1. define and compare kindness and acceptance of others;
2. observe church activities that develop kindness;
2. demonstrate acts of kindness as young people of the church; and
3. express one's appreciation for being recipients of kindness and for given chances to show kindness.

II. Concept: Kindness is demonstrated by accepting everyone.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably NRSV), worksheets, song charts, compliments box, a small bulletin board for kindness wall

III. Learning Experiences

A. Opening Worship

1. Welcome time
2. Opening prayer: "Nurturing God, we lift our hearts to you as we acknowledge your presence with us today. Teach us with the wisdom of your Word that we may walk humbly with your people. This is our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen."
3. Opening song: "When We're Kind"
Words and Music: MRD Garingalao

When we're kind to others, we speak words of kindness
Then we show how loving is our God.

Let's be kind and care for others, day by day, in work or play
Altogether, gladly sharing singing praise to God always.

B. Getting Ready

1. Tell the class to play the compliment game. Provide each student a card and let them choose a classmate. Let them write the name of their choice and list five good characteristics of that person. Encourage the class to list behavior and traits rather than physical characteristics.
2. Have the class put their compliment cards in a bowl. Call a student to get a card and read the compliments given to the student. The student being described will thank the one who wrote the compliments and the one who wrote them will accept the thanks.
3. Discuss the effects of saying kind compliments to other persons.

C. Learning Time

1. Divide the class into two groups. Assign the first group to read Micah 6:8 and the second group, Luke 10:25-37.
2. Provide the following outline for each group.
 - a. Micah 6:8. What does God require of us?
 - 1) To do justice (Do what is right.)
 - 2) To love kindness (Be merciful and compassionate to others.)
 - 3) To walk humbly with God (Do everything according to God's will.)

- b. Luke 10:25-37
 - 1) Question # 1: What must I do to inherit eternal life?
Answer: Refer to Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18
 - 2) Question # 2: Who is my neighbor?
Answer: Anyone whom I can help.
- 3. After the group work, tell the class to read the biblical texts in unison. Then let each small group share their insights to the big group.

D. Deepening Activity/Sharing Time

- 1. Doing justice means being fair to everyone. Does this mean helping others to have enough to live well? How can the church help those who are unjustly treated? (The church will make sure that what they do is fair to everyone.)
- 2. To love kindness and mercy is to help others be well cared for by their families in our communities. Can mission work help those who are not well cared for? How? (Being compassionate to others even though we do not know them is made possible by helping mission work.)
- 3. How can we walk humbly with God? (Study God's word in the Scriptures. Live a prayerful life. Do what God wants us to do and is pleasing in the sight of God.)
- 4. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, why do you think the Samaritan was the one who did what Micah said?
- 5. Can kindness and acceptance of others be compatible with each other? Why? As young people, how do you demonstrate kindness on the issues of bullying, peer pressure, labeling and LGBT?
- 6. Read the following poem and choose the lines that you like best and explain why.

SMILING

Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the flu.
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.
I passed around a corner and someone saw my grin.
When he smiled, I realized I had passed it on to him.
I thought about that smile and then I realized its worth.
A single smile, just like mine, could travel around the earth.
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick and get the world infected.

Author Unknown

E. Discovering the Biblical Truth

Say: As members of the church, we are called to be kind to all and not to choose whom to be kind. Ask: How can the church through young people demonstrate kindness by accepting everyone?

F. Applying the Biblical Truth

- 1. Recall the first activity. Paste the compliment cards on the kindness wall or kindness zone in the classroom. Tell the class to continue posting messages about kindness.
- 2. Ask the class to create kindness slogans or posters that they can share with others. Here are sample slogans.
 - a. Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see. Mark Twain
 - b. Be kind to unkind people - they need it the most. Ashleigh Brilliantc.

- c. To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children...to leave the world a better place...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. Ralph Waldo Emerson
- d. Forget injuries, never forget kindnesses. Confucius
- 3. Tell the students to complete the table.
As young people, how do you do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with:

Peers	Parents	Elderly	God

G. Closing Worship

- 1. Memory Verse: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)
- 2. Offering
- 3. Closing song: "Give of Your Best to The Master"
Give of your best to the Master
Give of the strength of your youth
Throw your soul's fresh, glowing ardor
Into the battle for truth

Jesus has set the example
Fearless was He, young and brave
Give Him your loyal devotion
Give Him the best that you have.

Refrain: Give of your best to the Master
Give of the strength of your youth
Clad in salvation's full armor
Join in the battle for truth.
- 4. Closing prayer: "We give to you our best, dear God, our strength and our devotion. Make us brave and loyal to do your will. Remind us always to be kind to everyone we meet. Make us instruments of your will - to be bearers of kindness especially to the weak, marginalized, poor and powerless in our society. In the Mighty name of Jesus, we pray. Amen."

Adult Level

I. Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

1. explain the Micah imperative;
2. observe church activities that develop kindness;
3. demonstrate acts of kindness; and
4. express one's appreciation for being recipients of kindness and for given chances to show kindness.

II. Concept: Kindness is manifested by responding to the needs of people.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably NRSV), worksheets, song/verse charts, kindness Ideas chart

III. Learning Experiences

A. Opening Worship

1. Welcome time
2. Opening prayer: "Dear God, we lift our hearts to you in thanksgiving. Grant us listening ears to welcome and understand your Word. May your presence guide us in our gathering today. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen."
3. Opening song: "When We're Kind"
Words and Music: MRD Garingalao

When we're kind to others, we speak words of kindness
Then we show how loving is our God.

Let's be kind and care for others, day by day, in work or play
Altogether, gladly sharing singing praise to God always.

B. Getting Ready

1. Tell the adults to think of ten good things to say to a chosen person at home, in church or in the community. Let them consider this activity as "Say Something Kind to Someone Today".
2. After the activity, let the adults share how they feel when they say something to someone or when they are recipients of kind thoughts.

C. Learning Time

1. Divide the class into two groups. Assign the first group to read Micah 6:8 and the second group, Luke 10:25-37.
2. Have each group reflect on their respective texts. Provide the following outline for each group.
 - a. Micah 6:8. What does God require of us?
 - 1) To do justice (Do what is right.)
 - 2) To love kindness (Be merciful and compassionate to others.)
 - 3) To walk humbly with God (Do everything according to God's will.)
 - b. Luke 10:25-37
 - 1) Question # 1: What must I do to inherit eternal life?
Answer: Refer to Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18

- 2) Question # 2: Who is my neighbor?
Answer: Anyone whom I can help.
3. After the group work, tell the class to read the biblical texts in unison. Then let each small group share their insights to the big group.

D. Deepening Activity/ Sharing Time

1. Doing justice means being fair to everyone. Does this mean helping others to have enough to live well? How can the church help those who are unjustly treated? (The church will make sure that what they do is fair to everyone.)
2. To love kindness and mercy is to help others be well cared for by their families in our communities. Can mission work help those who are not well cared for? How? (Being compassionate to others even though we do not know them is made possible by helping mission work.)
3. How can we walk humbly with God? (Study God's Word in the Scriptures. Live a prayerful life. Do what God wants us to do and is pleasing in the sight of God.)
4. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, why do you think the Samaritan was the one who did what Micah said?
5. How can adults link the love for God as love for others through committed service? How can they consider showing kindness as an opportunity for ministry to others who need help? (Loving and serving God cannot be separated from loving and serving others.)
6. How important are the values of justice, kindness, compassion, mercy, and humility in order for our church to grow?
7. What are the possible ways in which we can strengthen and promote kindness in our church and even to the wider community?
8. Read the following poem and choose the lines that you like best and explain why.

SMILING

Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the flu.
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.
I passed around a corner and someone saw my grin.
When he smiled, I realized I had passed it on to him.
I thought about that smile and then I realized its worth.
A single smile, just like mine, could travel around the earth.
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick and get the world infected.

Author Unknown

E. Discovering the Biblical Truth

Say: As a church, we are called to do acts of kindness by responding to the needs of our people. Ask: How can we respond to the needs of the people through our acts of kindness?

F. Applying the Biblical Truth

Tell the adults to choose which of the following acts of kindness they can do to demonstrate generosity, kindness, good deeds, and acts of service.

1. Start giving positive comments when someone starts saying negative comments against somebody.

2. Build bird feeders for migrating birds.
3. Listen to someone who needs to talk. Just listen to them.
4. Do something nice for someone who is ill by cooking meals for him or her and his or her family.
5. Do errands for elderly persons.
6. Locate a family that is struggling financially and share your blessings.
7. Give way to shoppers who are disabled, pregnant, or elderly.
8. Make it a habit to smile or to compliment someone who is having a bad day.

G. Closing Worship

11. Memory Verse: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8)

2. Offering

3. Closing song: "Give of Your Best to The Master"

Give of your best to the Master
Give of the strength of your youth
Throw your soul's fresh, glowing ardor
Into the battle for truth

Jesus has set the example
Fearless was He, young and brave
Give Him your loyal devotion
Give Him the best that you have.

Refrain: Give of your best to the Master
Give of the strength of your youth
Clad in salvation's full armor
Join in the battle for truth.

4. Closing prayer: "We bring to you ourselves, O God, rejoicing! Through our acts of kindness, may we be able to help your people and bring them in to you rejoicing. Grant us the courage to sow seeds of kindness as we labor and toil each day. We offer to you our lives, O God. Use us to glorify your name. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.