



# FAMILY MINISTRIES: OCTOBER

THE TABLE: A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

## The Fruit of The Spirit



This month we are focusing on kindness. Our story tells about David and his exceptional kindness to his best friend's son. David was king and Mephibosheth was from the previous monarchy. The two weren't supposed to mix, but David had made a promise to Mephibosheth's father, Jonathan, and he was determined to follow through on it. David summoned Mephibosheth to the palace and provided food, land, servants, and a place in David's family.

**MEMORY VERSE**  
*"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other just as ours does for you."*  
 I Thessalonians 3:12

David showed kindness to Mephibosheth by providing for him without expecting anything in return. Often, it is easy to be nice to others knowing we will receive a thanks or something in return. God calls us to a life where love overflows out of us. When love pours from our hearts, kindness naturally follows.

As a family, talk about ways to be kind to others every day of our lives. It is easy to talk about being kind, but how do we live so kindness isn't something we have to think about, but rather part of who we are? Talk about people you have trouble being kind to. Ask God to give you the fruit of kindness in your relationship with them. Make this an ongoing conversation about how the Holy Spirit is producing kindness in your life.

### OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

- † What happened in the story?
- † How did Mephibosheth get hurt?
- † What did David do?
- † How did things turn out for Mephibosheth?



### INTERPRETATION QUESTIONS:

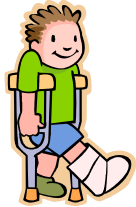
- † How do you think Mephibosheth felt when he was first called before David?
- † How do you think Mephibosheth felt by David's kind offer?
- † Describe David. Why do you think he acted the way he did?

### APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

- † What does this story tell us about God's character?
- † What are some examples of times you have experienced kindness from other?
- † Who are some people that you could display kindness towards?
- † How can you make kindness overflow out of you?

### PRAY WITH YOUR CHILD:

- † Thank God for His kindness towards us.
- † Ask God for names of people that you can be kind to as a family or individual.
- † Ask Him to help you display more kindness towards others.
- † Ask the Holy Spirit to grow the fruit of kindness in your life.
- † If your child has not received Christ, give them the opportunity.



## HOME IDEAS

- ✿ Read and talk about 2 Kings 4:8-17 & 37 (Elisha), book of Ruth, men who lowered friend, Acts 9:23-30 (Paul).
- ✿ Make a kindness tree. Draw a tree on poster board or large butcher paper. Trace your child's hand on green construction paper and add a "leaf" every time you see them doing something kind.
- ✿ Have a kindness jar. Write down lots of acts of kindness and place them in the jar. Each morning everyone picks out a piece of paper telling them which act of kindness they are to complete. Don't tell anyone and then talk about it at dinner as a family.
- ✿ Make a card or draw a picture for someone just to say you're thinking of them. Talk about what it feels like to do something kind for someone else, knowing they aren't expecting anything. Try not signing your name and talk about how it feels knowing it is completely a surprise for the person.
- ✿ Cook a meal as a family for a neighbor or friend who has been really busy lately. If it works out, invite them over to share the meal with you.

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### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

JOINT SERVICE @ NORTH CAMPUS - NOVEMBER 1

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Contact Calyn Hauck, Director of Family Ministries for further information or to sign-up to help with Children's Ministries: calyn@haucks.us or 503-247-8447.

[www.thetabledx.com](http://www.thetabledx.com)



## SONGS TO SING

As you sing with your child, talk about how drawing close to Jesus helps us to grow in His image, allowing the fruits of the spirit to grow in us.



CCLI #658877

### The Lord is Gracious and Compassionate

*(Pre Chorus)*

And the Lord is good to all  
And He has compassion  
On all that He has made

*Chorus 1*

As far as the east is from the west  
That's how far He has removed  
Our transgressions from us  
(Repeat)

*Verse 1*

The Lord is gracious and compassionate  
Slow to anger and rich in love  
(2 x's)

*Pre Chorus)*

Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, praise the Lord  
Praise the Lord, Oh my soul, praise the Lord  
By Graham Ord, Copyright 1998 Vineyard Songs

### Kindness

*Chorus 1*

And it's Your kindness Lord  
That leads us to repentance  
Your favor Lord is our desire  
And it's Your beauty Lord  
That makes us stand in silence  
And Your love  
Your love is better than life

*Verse 1*

Open up the skies of mercy  
And rain down the cleansing flood  
Healing waters rise around us  
And hear our cries Lord  
Let 'em rise

*Verse 2*

We can feel Your mercy falling  
You are turning our hearts back again  
Hear our praises rise to heaven  
And draw us near Lord  
Meet us here

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