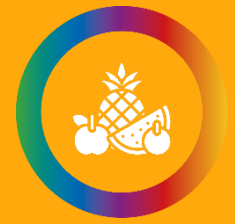


# Faith Adventures Youth Resource



Free to use – please acknowledge when using beyond local church children's and youth work so others can find and use the resource themselves.

*Embedded in Faith Adventures: Children Together, this youth resource is intergenerational in nature and designed to foster God-connection in church, home and beyond.*

For guidance on the purpose of the resource and how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link: [www.bit.ly/How-To-FAYR](http://www.bit.ly/How-To-FAYR)

## Title: Luke 17: 11 – 19

Theme: **Be kind to everyone**

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### Introduction: What would be helpful to know in my planning?

We continue to explore the Fruits of the Spirit together. In Galatians 5:22, we learn that when God's Spirit is at work in our lives, it produces beautiful qualities such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. One of these special fruits is kindness — a kindness that reflects the heart of Jesus.

Luke 17:11–19 isn't an obvious story about kindness, but we see kindness in action through the story of Jesus healing ten men with leprosy. In biblical times, leprosy was a terrible disease that meant people were exiled from their communities, leaving those affected lonely, rejected, and separated from their families. Yet when these men cried out for kindness, Jesus did not ignore them. He met them with compassion, care, and kindness, telling them to go to the priests, and as they obeyed, they were healed.

But the story does not end there. Although all ten men received healing, only one returned to thank Jesus. This reminds us that kindness and gratitude belong together. Jesus' kindness

transformed lives, and the grateful response of the Samaritan man showed a heart that truly recognised that kindness.

As we journey through this theme together, may we learn from Jesus' example — being kind to all.

Trigger to be aware of: We sometimes find in our churches that people whose physical symptoms after they have been prayed for do not change and there is sometimes a suggestion that their faith is not strong enough.

## Together – prayer and games

Let's start our time with God and each other well

Use this opening prayer or encourage young people to open the session with a prayer of their own.

*All mighty God,*

*Be with us as we learn more about you through stories and people in the Bible.*

*Help us to walk in your way and follow your path.*

*Be with us as we make decisions that affect our lives, and the lives of those around us.*

*Amen*

Alternatively, you may join with the widgeit prayer found in the Faith Adventures: Children Together, or else the Lord's Prayer found at the end of this session.

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### Active game – Stuck in the mud

A game that encourages the children to be kind and free each other. The children split into two groups (or you can play leaders against the children). The aim of the game is to look out for each other and help each other when you get 'stuck'. The first group run around and the other group try to tag them.

Once tagged you stand still with your arms outstretched, you are now stuck. Your team members free you by running under your arm

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### Quieter game Find it!

Play any card game that plays with the idea of finding something hidden. Can we be better at finding the kindness in the world.

**For example Dobble.**

**Or perhaps enjoy a game of Chase the Ace, see how to play it here**

<https://gathertogethergames.com/chase-the-ace/>

## Experience – Bible story and songs

Hear, watch and sing the Bible story

This link takes you to Luke 17: 11 – 19 in the Easy English Version

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%2017%3A%2011%20%E2%80%93%2019&version=EASY>

<sup>11</sup> On his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus was travelling along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> When he was going into a village, ten men came towards him. These men had a bad disease of the skin. They stopped and stood a long way away from Jesus. <sup>13</sup> They shouted, 'Jesus, Master, please be kind to us.'

<sup>14</sup> Jesus saw them and said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.'

While they were going on their way, they became well again. <sup>15</sup> One of these ten men saw that Jesus had made him well. He turned back and he praised God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He went down on his knees in front of Jesus and thanked him. This man was from Samaria.

<sup>17</sup> Then Jesus said, 'I made ten men well again, didn't I? There should be another nine men somewhere! <sup>18</sup> But only this one man came back to thank God. And he is a foreign man from Samaria!'

<sup>19</sup> Then Jesus spoke to the man. 'Stand up and go on your way. You believed in me, so now you are really well.'

You may wish to research different versions of this reading on [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)  
Recommended versions to try are NRSV, Easy-to-read, The Message, NIRV

**Watch:** Harry Styles - Treat people with kindness

<https://youtu.be/L0X03zR0rQk?si=3y08ImfbzvotiHtF>

### Questions for discussion

Look at the lyrics [Harry Styles - Treat People With Kindness Lyrics | AZLyrics.com](https://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/harrystyles/treatpeoplewithkindness.html)

- I wonder how you agree or disagree with the lyrics, would you change anything?

## Explore

Ideas and activities to explore this week's Bible passage together

### A new way to explore the theme

This is a new way to explore the Bible passage and the theme for this week.

Alternatively, you may wish to use the Explore section from this week's Faith Adventures: Children Together to guide your exploration of the theme this week.

### What is Hot Seating?

In hot seating, one person takes on the role of a character from the story and answers questions as that character. You could also invite other people from the church to take on the different roles.

### Characters for the Hot Seat

- Jesus
- The Thankful Leper
- One of the Other Nine Lepers
- A Priest

Recap the story: “Ten men with a skin disease called out to Jesus for help. Jesus told them to go to the priests, and as they went, they were healed. Only one man returned to thank Jesus—and he was a Samaritan.”

### Questions for Jesus

- Why did you heal the lepers?
- Why did you tell them to go to the priests first?
- How did you feel when only one person came back?
- Why was it important to help people others avoided?
- How can kindness change someone's day?

### Questions for the Thankful Leper

- What was it like to be excluded because of your disease?
- Were you surprised that Jesus helped you?
- How did you feel when the others kept going?
- How did Jesus' kindness change your life?
- Why is kindness important, even when no one notices?

### Questions for One of the Other Nine

- Why didn't you go back to thank Jesus?
- Do you regret that choice now?
- Did you notice Jesus' kindness, or only the miracle?
- Is showing kindness sometimes difficult?
- How can people show appreciation for kindness today?

### Questions for a Priest

- What was your role in society?
- Why did healed people need to go to the priests?
- How might people react to these men returning healed?
- What does this miracle show about Jesus?

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### Modern parables

This section includes references to TV programmes, films, books, TED talks, TikTok etc aimed at this age group that will have been widely seen, or where a clip is available to use as a stimulus for discussion. You may also enjoy the picture book recommended for Faith Adventures: Children Together and explore the relevance of the story to the theme of the

session in more depth – young people and adults are often well tuned in to the deeper meanings in materials aimed at younger people and the authors are often very aware of the adults reading the books to or with younger ones.



### Evan Almighty

Evan Almighty is about a man who wants to change the world and God asks him to build an Ark. He does build it and ends up saving the town from disaster, BUT has he missed the point?

Watch this clip from the end of the film.

<https://youtu.be/nzWKUnpFi6s?si=OEUVBRfyEQaGxxJ>

- What small things do you believe God is asking you to do, to make a difference?

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### Group discussion

- In v19, what wellness is Jesus talking about? Is it physical or something else?
- Who are the lepers in our communities?

### Personal reflection

- Is your relationship with God characterised by thanksgiving or entitlement?
- How does this passage affect your understanding of God's blessing or kindness in your life?

## Express – prayer and creative activities

Praying together: enabling your group to respond spiritually

### Praying together

**Prayers** Respond to the theme by writing or saying a short prayer. Alternatively, use the creative prayer from Faith Adventures: Children Together for this session, or use the prayer activity below. Alternatively, light a candle and play some music while you listen and talk to God together.

### Creative prayer

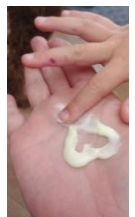
#### Hand cream Prayer

Using hand cream, make a heart shape on your own or someone else's hands with the cream. As the cream is being rubbed in say this short prayer.

“Dear God, be kind to us, and help us be kind to others.”

#### Spoken Prayer

Dear God,



Help us to show kindness to those around us, even when we are tired or irritable. Remind us to treat everyone the way Jesus treated those he met. Put kindness in our hearts, reflected through our actions. Amen

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## Responding together

This is an opportunity for a social justice challenge, some research, craftivism, or a craft or STEM activity. You may have a specific activity chosen but free choice is also an option. Here are some suggestions for this week's theme. Choose whatever will work best for your group.

### The Kindness Test

In August 2021 BBC Radio 4 launched **The Kindness Test**. It was an online study created by a team at the **University of Sussex** led by psychologist Prof Robin Banerjee. People could choose whether to take part, and more than 60,000 did, this was the world's largest in-depth study on kindness.



Check out the research here and consider the 10 top things they highlighted from the project.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2zcD7zvfknj6MKDgfhYTCBT/ten-things-we-learned-from-the-world-s-largest-study-of-kindness>

How kind do you think you are? Could you be kinder?

### Random acts of kindness jar

*You will need:*

- a jar
- some paper
- some card strips or lollipop sticks

*What you do:*



Label the jar with the word 'Kindness' and decorate it if you wish.

Brainstorm for ideas and make a list of different deeds and acts of kindness that anyone can do to serve others – big or small. They can be acts of kindness to family, friends, neighbours and strangers. On the strips of card or the lollipop sticks write down the acts of kindness, writing one per stick. Once done, place the sticks into the decorated jar.

Take the jar home and each day pull one out and do an act of kindness

### Challenge

Discipleship doesn't stop when you walk out of the church door – it is a part of everyday life. Take a challenge with you and try to make it part of your week.

You may think of your own suggestion of what you as an individual or a group might do in the coming week in response to what you have explored today. If not here are some suggestions:

- Use one of the "conversation starter" questions or the question below to talk with someone of a different generation or from a different setting and share your questions, thoughts, insights together. **How could you show kindness to another person?**

- Research something suggested by JPIT Resources ([jpit.uk](http://jpit.uk)) *Commitment for Life* ([cforl.co.uk](http://cforl.co.uk))
- Look around your community is there something you could do to show kindness, litter picking or helping the elderly clear weeds.

Thank you for exploring the **Luke** passage with us.

Please let us know what you liked or what you would find useful by emailing [sharon.lloyd@urc.org.uk](mailto:sharon.lloyd@urc.org.uk) or by sharing it on [www.bit.ly/FACT\\_FB](http://www.bit.ly/FACT_FB)

   
The Lord's Prayer

        
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

       
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done

     
on earth as it is in heaven.

     
Give us this day our daily bread

           
and forgive us our sins As we forgive those who sin against us

          
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

      
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory





     
For ever and ever . Amen

Illustration from My Bible story colouring book Zonderkidz

