

Week of:
January 29, 2023

Who's Counting?

Elementary

Today's Bible Story: Family Ties (Ruth and Boaz) • Ruth

Today's Bottom Line: Your relationships matter to God.

Memory Verse: "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." Colossians 3:2 NIV

Virtue: Counting - we count what really matters

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

Activity: Kindness Paperchain

What you need: Colored construction paper (or white paper) cut into four strips and coloring supplies

(After the video) What You Do:

- Give your child four paper strips and something to write with.
- Encourage your child to write down a way they could show kindness to a friend or family member this week—one example per strip.
- Ask your child to read what they wrote.
- Use the tape to connect each paper strip to create a kindness paper chain.

What You Say:

You came up with some great ideas! This week, I want you to go out of your way to be kind to your family and friends. We should be kind to our family and friends because God wants us to be thankful whether we have a lot or a little. The people we have in our lives will always be enough to help us. Think about Ruth and Boaz and how kind they were—even when it wasn't easy. When you find yourself getting annoyed or frustrated or impatient with your mom or sister or best friend, stop and think, 'How can I choose kindness right now?' Maybe that will lead you to do exactly what you wrote on your paper strip. Maybe choosing kindness will be something completely different that you haven't thought about, yet. But you can ask God to help you show your family and friends how valuable they are. ***[Bottom Line] Your relationships matter to God.***

PRAYER:

"God, thank You for this great reminder that we should be kind to our family and friends. Please help us show kindness to the people who are closest to us—like Ruth did for Naomi, and like Boaz did for Ruth. Give us patience and help us choose to be kind with our words and our actions. Thank You for being so kind to us that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

