

Gifts That Keep on Giving





Group Time Guide

Supplies Needed: Green and red point cards, buckets.

1. Time to Talk

Look Up and Read: Luke 6:32-36. These verses are about showing mercy.

- What are some kind things Jesus said we could do in those verses? Can you think of a time you or someone you know did one of those things?
- What do you think the word “mercy” means?
- Why do you think Jesus says to show mercy to our “enemies”? How could that make a difference? (You could point out that fighting back usually makes people angrier but showing mercy might change their attitude.)

Ask: What is something going great right now? What is something that is difficult right now?

Pray: Talk to God, mentioning relevant things that came up in your discussion.

2. Activity

Do This: Split your group into two teams, the green team and the red team.

Say This: It’s not always easy to show mercy to someone. Sometimes we want to win so we act unkindly to others, or when others are unkind we want revenge. In this game, I’m going to throw a bunch of these point cards in the air. Your goal is to collect the most points possible. You can only hold one point at a time. You must carry your points to your team’s bucket and put them inside. If you pick up one of the other team’s points, you can either carry it to their bucket, or you can tear it up, and they won’t get that point.

Do This: Play the game! Throw the points up in the air. When they have collected all of them, see how many points each team has. Some will probably be torn up.

Discuss: There were 40 possible points, but we only collected __. Why is that?

Discuss: I didn’t say the goal was to get more points than the other team, just to get as many points as possible. If no one tore up any points, would the teams have done better, or worse? (Better.)

The Point: Showing mercy helps everyone. When we are kind, it’s easier for others to be kind. That’s the example Jesus shows us.