

Golden Rule – Bible Story

1a

Reader 1: What is the Golden Rule?

Reader 2: It's a verse in the Bible. Treat others the way you want to be treated. Matthew 7:12

Reader 1: But what does it mean to us?

Reader 2: Jesus preached a sermon to his followers telling them and us how to live like God wants us to. He said we should love and care for each other and always treat others the way we want to be treated.

Reader 1: But what if someone pushes me?

Reader 2: Do you like being pushed around?

Reader 1: No. So if I follow the Golden Rule, I won't push back.

Reader 2: That's right, but it's more than that. We should do good to others because that's what Jesus would do, and we want to follow his example. Sometimes it feels like we're not being treated right, so why should we bother being nice?

Reader 1: If I start being nice first, maybe it will make a difference.

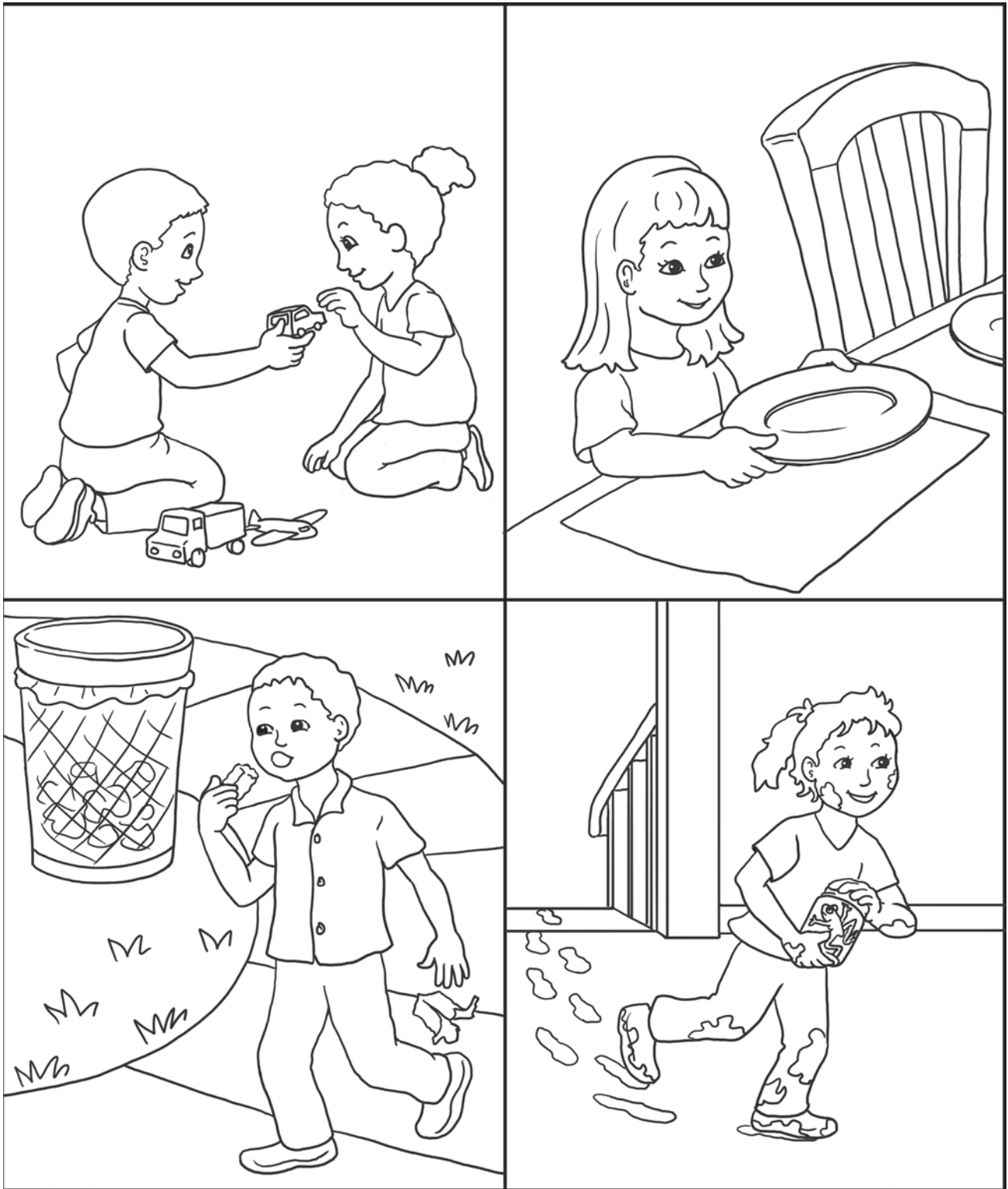
Reader 2: And every time you follow the Golden Rule, you'll feel better and you'll show others what God is like.

(Based on Matthew 7:12)



1b Who Is Showing Kindness? – Puzzle (Preschool)

Circle the drawings that show children being kind.



Cryptogram – Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

1c

Your message is written in a code. Fill in the letters that you've been given. Then see if you can decode the rest of the letters.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
R			O	N		L					G		E	D									U		

L D G O N E A X G N

T D X Z K D X G O Y A N R Y

C N D C G N J E Y K N Z R F N

V R T Y K R Y T D X V R E Y

C N D C G N Y D Y A N R Y

T D X .

F R Y Y K N V 7 : 1 2



1d Word Search – Puzzle (Older Elementary)

Search for words in the puzzle that are ways to show the Golden Rule.

F	F	W	R	B	H	K	E	U	E	A	H	S	O	R
Y	R	T	C	H	U	H	E	K	Z	Z	N	A	L	E
T	I	H	G	Y	M	S	C	I	B	P	S	R	A	F
S	E	A	F	T	B	S	N	N	V	J	J	O	L	A
E	N	N	O	I	L	E	A	D	R	N	T	N	O	I
N	D	K	R	S	E	N	R	N	E	O	C	Y	Y	R
O	L	F	G	O	N	L	E	E	S	I	V	T	A	N
H	I	U	I	R	E	U	L	S	P	S	A	I	L	E
A	N	L	V	E	S	F	O	S	E	S	G	R	T	S
C	E	N	E	N	S	P	T	N	C	A	N	E	Y	S
M	S	E	N	E	J	L	P	I	T	P	I	C	Y	D
U	S	S	E	G	B	E	U	Q	V	M	R	N	B	O
C	I	S	S	I	E	H	L	R	R	O	A	I	R	V
S	Y	Q	S	Y	J	O	W	C	M	C	C	S	B	R
M	Q	C	O	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	V	E	I	Q

CARING

HONESTY

COMPASSION

HUMBLENESS

COOPERATIVE

KINDNESS

FAIRNESS

LOYALTY

FORGIVENESS

RESPECT

FRIENDLINESS

SINCERITY

GENEROSITY

THANKFULNESS

HELPFULNESS

TOLERANCE

The Greatest of These Is Love – Song

Love is patient; love is kind—
not with envy, never with pride.
Love’s forgiving, a meeting of minds,
and forever grateful.

Love never ends, faithful and pure.
Love believes in all things; love will endure.

**Faith, hope, and love abide.
You can feel it deep inside.
Faith, hope, and love abide.
But the greatest of these,
the greatest of these is love, is love.**

Words were written so long ago.
They lift us up and help us to know—
doing good, rejoicing in truth, and never
hateful.

I could be wise or powerful,
but I know without love,
I have nothing at all.

**Faith, hope, and love abide.
You can feel it deep inside.
Faith, hope, and love abide.
But the greatest of these,
the greatest of these is love, is love.**

I could be strong,
move mountains tall.
But I know without love inside,
I’d have nothing at all.

**Faith, hope, and love abide.
You can feel it deep inside.
Faith, hope, and love abide.
But the greatest of these,
the greatest of these is love.**

**Faith, hope, and love abide.
You can feel it deep inside.
Faith, hope, and love abide.
But the greatest of these,
the greatest of these is love.**



MUSIC: Dennis Scott
WORDS: Dennis Scott
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Living Together: Choose Your Mission

Therefore, you should treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you; this is the Law and the Prophets. Matthew 7:12

Jesus' words are inspiring. Today, many communities are working hard to love their neighbors and to follow Jesus' teachings. There are lots of organizations serving others by feeding people who are hungry, housing people who are homeless, providing medical care to those who are sick, helping people access clean water, and more.

This month, your group has the opportunity to explore many different mission organizations and then choose one to support. With so many great organizations out there, it can be a challenge to figure out where to start. But don't worry! Just follow these steps to find an inspiring mission you are excited to support. All you need is a device that can access the internet.

1. Decide whether you want to support a local organization or an organization elsewhere in the world. If you want to support a local organization, ask your church community for ideas.
2. If you want to support an organization anywhere in the world, start by visiting www.umcmision.org/give-to-mission. Click on the blue DONATE button at top right. There, you'll find several options. You can give to the organization that has the greatest need at the moment. Or, you can explore organizations based on your group's area of interest. Are you interested in supporting education? Do you want to support groups working to end hunger and poverty? Are you interested in organizations that help care for the earth?
3. Click on the topic that interests you, and the website will teach you a little more about that topic. You'll find out what organizations are doing work on that issue and how you can support them.
4. Once you've chosen an organization, explore that organization's website. Find out more about what the organization does and the community it supports.
5. After you have done your research, decide how you want to support your cause. You might choose to raise money. You might collect supplies and donate them to the organization. You might send letters or cards of encouragement. You might teach others about the organization and the issue it addresses. You might do all of these things!
6. Once you've decided how to support your chosen organization, get to work!

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." Luke 10:37b

Golden Rule

Matthew 7:12

Early in Jesus' ministry, he sat on the top of a mountain and taught his disciples and followers how to live like God wanted them to live. One rule he taught them is called the Golden Rule. Jesus said we should treat others the way we want to be treated. This rule is the foundation for all good relationships. Jesus was teaching us how to have a good life. When we follow the Golden Rule, we show others God's special love.

Verse of the Month

Now faith, hope, and love remain—these three things—and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

What Do You Think?

What are some ways we can show the Golden Rule to others?

Why do you think this rule has been called the Golden Rule?

Family Activity

Have all of your family members talk about how they want others to treat them.

Discuss some ways you can show the Golden Rule at church, in your community, at school, and at work.

Decide on a specific way you can show God's love to someone in your community today.

Prayer

Dear God, show us how to treat others like you would treat them; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.