

Lesson: The Golden Rule

 ministry-to-children.com/lesson-the-golden-rule

May 1, 2020

Use this children's Sunday School on the Golden Rule to teach kids to treat others how they want to be treated.

Needed: Bibles, something golden, masking tape

Intro Game: Treasure Hunt

Hide something golden in your room and tells students that you've hidden golden treasure. When you say, "Go!" students look for it. The first one to find it gets to re-hide it while the others close their eyes and count to 10. Play until each student has had a chance to hide the golden object.

At the end, explain that you're lesson today is on the Golden Rule.

Lesson

Ask students, What would you do if I came up to you and smacked you across the face?

You probably wouldn't like it, would you?

Would you want to smack me back?

What if I just called you a bad name? What would you do then?

Would you want to me call me something back?

Well, what if I came up to you and told you how much I liked you? Would that be better?

What would you do or say if I told you I liked you?

When people do bad things to you, like hitting you or calling you a name, it makes you want to do bad things back to them. But when people do or say nice things to you, it makes you want to do or say nice things to them.

That's because everyone wants to be treated nice. But you know, Jesus said that we're supposed to be nice to everyone, even if they're mean to us.

(Read [Matthew 7:12](#).)

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

That means that we should treat everyone, even the mean people, the way we want to be treated.

I want us to read something else from the Bible.

(Read Luke 23:33-34.)

“When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.’”

When the people were hurting Jesus and killing Him on the cross, what did He do? (He prayed that God would forgive them.)

Jesus was being nice to them, even though they were killing Him!

And that’s what God and Jesus want us to do – to be nice to everyone, all the time, even if they’re doing bad things to us or being mean to us. We should always treat other people the way we want to be treated.

Game: Forward March!

Lay masking tape in lines across the floor. You’ll need as many lines as you have questions. You’ll ask a question and give students the option to answer by a raised or lowered hand. Anyone who gives the correct response moves forward one line. Have students start by standing behind the last line.

Questions:

1. There is only one cookie left in the cupboard. You and your brother or sister both want it. What should you do? Raise your hand if you think you should give the cookie to your brother or sister. Keep your hands down if you think you should keep the cookie for yourself. (Tell everyone who raised their hands to move one line forward. Explain that if we would want our brother or sister to give us the cookie, we should give them the cookie first. That’s treating other people the way we want to be treated.)

2. Someone cuts in front of you in line. What should you do? Raise your hand if you think you should yell at them, and keep your hands down if you think you should not yell at them. (Tell everyone who kept their hands down to move forward one line. Explain that if we wouldn’t want someone to yell at us, we shouldn’t yell at them. We can ask them nicely not to cut, and we can tell the teacher, but we shouldn’t yell at them because that is not treating other people the way we want to be treated.)

3. Someone you don't like very much asks you to be their partner for a game at school. What should you do? Raise your hand if you think you should tell them that you will not be their partner, and keep your hands down if you think you should be their partner. (Tell everyone who kept their hands down to move forward one line. Explain that being nice to someone we don't like is treating other people the way we would want to be treated because we would want someone to be our partner if we asked them to be.)

4. A friend gets mad at you and calls you a name. What should you do? Raise your hand if you think you should not call them a name back, and keep your hands down if you think you should call them a name. (Tell everyone who raised their hands to move forward one line. Explain that if we don't want people to call us names, then we shouldn't call other people names, even if they called us a name first. Not calling people names is treating others the way we would want to be treated.)

Activity: Build 'em UP!

Have students sit in a circle. Tell them that you're all going to practice treating people the way you want to be treated. One way we want to be treated is for people to be nice to us and tell us nice things. Pick one student in the circle and have everyone else in the circle, including yourself, say one nice thing about that student. Then, go to the next person in the circle and do the same until everyone has heard some nice things about themselves. Remind students that we all want to hear nice things about us, so we should remember to say nice things to other people.

Closing Prayer

Jesus, we pray that You'll help us to remember Your Golden Rule – to treat everyone the way we want to be treated. Help us to treat even mean people the way we want them to treat us. Amen.

You can also find this lesson for Kindle or in print in my book, [Jesus Teaches on the Mountain](#).

New Sunday School Curriculum: Our Bible lessons are designed to keep the kids' attention and show how God's Word makes a difference. Every series is flexible enough for a wide-age group and affordable enough for small churches. Download a [free Bible lesson in pdf](#) or view our latest [Sunday School curriculum for kids](#).

Do Unto Others

Sunday School Craft Ideas on the Golden Rule from Luke 6:27-38



Do Unto Others... Craft Ideas for The Golden Rule. The laws of Christlike love often defy what we might expect. Jesus calls us to love not only those who return kindness, but also people who might not be too friendly with us. However, we know that we are to treat others as we would hope they treat us. It's important to remind children of this "golden rule", as it has come to be known. We can communicate to kids how to love others and treat them well. These two crafts serve as decorative reminders of those principles. A "love others wreath" considers people to think of and pray for, friends as well as tougher individuals. A "Golden ruler" is a glittering ornament that recounts how valuable that principle is.

More Lesson Ideas on the Golden Rule "Do Unto Others"

- Watch the video demonstration of this [children's sermon lesson](#) and [Sunday School craft ideas](#)
- Compare our full [Luke 6:27-38 Sunday School Lesson on Loving Your Enemies](#)
- Compare another [Kids Bible lesson on the Golden Rule](#)
- Don't miss our [Bible Trivia Questions & Answers for children](#)
- [Kids 4 Kindness is a 4-part Sunday School lesson curriculum](#) that shows children what it means to be kind and live out the golden rule in real life.
- Learn more about the [Golden Rule for Christians](#) on [MinistryAnswers.com](#)
- See our [children's sermon Bible Object lesson on the Golden Rule](#)

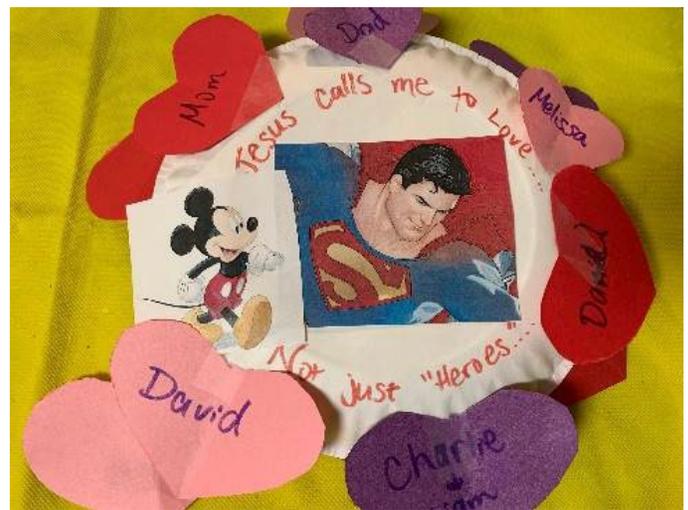
Craft one: "Love Others Wreath"

You will need:

- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Paper Plates
- Markers or decorating materials
- Glue or tape
- Pictures of villains and heroes (optional)

Procedure:

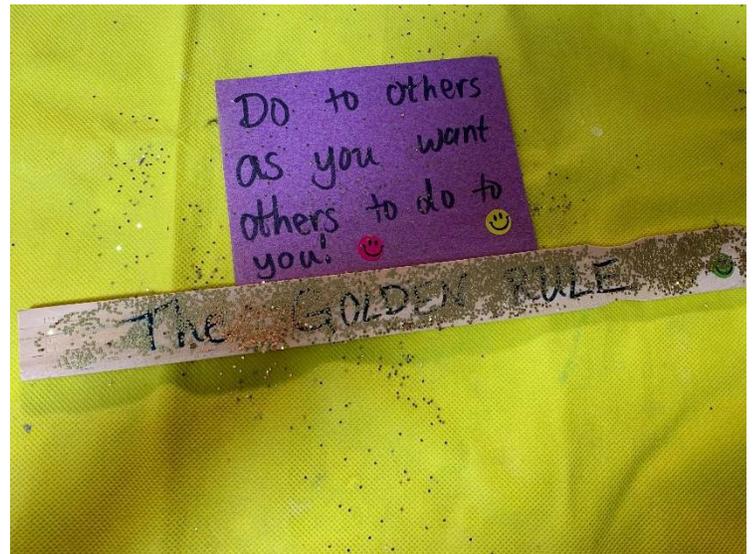
1. Cut out several hearts from paper, in varying sizes and colors.
2. On the hearts, write names of people who need prayer, both friends and people who are harder to love.
3. Decorate the plate with verses and captions, highlighting the "heroes/friends" on one side and the "villains/enemies" on the other side. Place pictures if desired.
4. Glue the hearts onto the corresponding sides of the plate "wreath." If desired, attach a hanger to display the "love wreath."



Craft Two: "Golden Ruler"

You will need:

- Scissors
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Glue and/or tape
- Decorative materials (markers, crayons, stickers)
- String, pipe cleaner, etc. (optional)
- Ruler or stick
- Glitter (optional)



Procedure:

1. Decorate the ruler or stick, indicating it as "the golden rule" (or ruler).
2. Add decorations such as stickers and sequins.
3. Attach verses or captions to the ruler.
4. Add glitter to make the "golden ruler" sparkly and shiny. Display in a prominent place to remember the important "rule of gold" that Jesus taught!

Bible Verses or Sunday School Craft Captions to Consider...

(Main Text: Luke 6:27-38)

And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. -Luke 6:31

But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. -Luke 6:35-36

The Golden Rule... Do Unto Others!

Jesus calls me to love...not just those who love me!

Love enemies as well as friends!

Do to others as you want them to do to you!

Bible Verses/story to Reference:

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 29 To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. 30 Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. 31 And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. 32 "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. 33 And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. 35 But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. 36 Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. 37 "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; 38 give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." -[Luke 6:27-38 ESV](#)



Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#) (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Every week she writes new [Sunday School lessons](#), [Bible crafts](#), and [children's sermons](#).

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader. In addition to children's curriculum, she shares her student ministry ideas on [YouthGroupMinistry.com](#)

My name is Tony Kummer (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Children.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. It is my personal honor to share these resources with churches around the world.



[Reader donations](#) and your support at [The Sunday School Store](#) fund these free materials. Please keep us in mind when you are choosing your next children's ministry curriculum.

If you enjoy our material, be sure to [sign-up for my free email newsletter](#) called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy.

May God continue to bless your ministry!

Tony Kummer