



## **BIG IDEA**

We can show God's love with gentle words.

## **GOD STORY**

Gentleness (Proverbs 15:1–4)

## **KEY VERSES**

The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22–23a, NLT)

## **1 | Conversation Starter**

### **SUPPLIES**

- None

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- Chat with the kids about what they think the word “gentle” means.
- Explain that it describes things that have a calming or soothing effect. Words that are gentle are kind, thoughtful, and loving.
- Ask:
  - In which sorts of situations do people use gentle words?
  - What might you be aiming to do when you speak gently and with care?
  - Do you change the way you speak when you're being gentle? For example, would you shout?
- Clarify that gentle words show love. They are especially helpful when people are upset or disagree with each other.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **We can show God's love with gentle words.**

## **2 | Watch**

### **SUPPLIES**

- Media player

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- Watch this week's video from the Now Playing Kids playlist on the One Story YouTube channel.

## **3 | Discuss**

### **SUPPLIES**

- None

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- Review and discuss the video teaching:
  - What are the Key Verses for The Look of Love series? (Galatians 5:22–23a)
  - What stood out to you in today's Life Story? How about the God Story?
  - Why is it loving to be gentle?
  - Why do you think it's sometimes difficult to be gentle?
  - Which do you use most often: gentle and kind words or harsh and inconsiderate words? Why do you think that is?
  - What could help us remember to speak gently to one another?
  - Is there anyone you've spoken harshly to recently who you need to ask for forgiveness?



## 4 | Activity

### SUPPLIES

- Bible
- Show Me How It's Done cards

### TIPS

- Guide the kids to come up with solutions that show God's love. Prompt them to picture what Jesus might do in the situation.
- Get creative! Your family members could participate by narrating, directing, or making props or costumes.

### INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Show the kids how to find Proverbs 15:1–4.
- b. Read the passage aloud.
- c. Discuss: What do you think verses 1 and 4 mean?
- d. Invite your family to reflect this idea by acting out some scenarios together. Take turns being the main character in the scenarios outlined on the cards. Give the main character a card and help them review the scenario. Figure out how many people are needed to act it out and invite others to join in as needed.
- e. Act out each scenario two times. First, react like most people would. Then do it again in a way that highlights today's Big Idea (**We can show God's love with gentle words**).

## 5 | Pray

### SUPPLIES

- (Optional) Egg
- (Optional) Garbage bag
- Egg Prayer activity pages
- Writing supplies

### INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Point out that eggs are fragile, so we must hold them very gently. This is also true for how we use our words. **We can show God's love with gentle words.** When our words aren't gentle, we can seriously hurt people—just like a smashed egg!
- b. (Optional) Drop an egg over a garbage bag to show what happens when it isn't handled gently.
- c. Highlight that, unlike with a cracked egg, it's never too late to ask others for forgiveness and repair a relationship!
- d. Give an activity page and something to write with to each of the kids.
- e. Read aloud the text on the page.
- f. Write prayers to God asking him to help the kids use gentle words to show others his love.