

## **BANANA NEWS**



## **GO DEEPER**

### **SPECIAL WORDS**

GOD

(POINT UP WITH BOTH HANDS)
GIVES GRACE

(MAKE A HEART WITH HANDS)
AND I CAN TOO!

(POINT BOTH THUMBS TO SELF)

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. **Romans 12:2 (NLT)** 

#### **BIBLE PASSAGES**

#### **DAY 1:** Read - Matthew 20:8-14

Jesus told a story to teach people about God. Everyone sins, or disobeys God, and because of sin everyone deserves to be punished. But God gives us grace, forgiveness and love we don't deserve. He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins. God offers His grace to everyone, just like everyone in the parable received the same money no matter how long they worked!

#### DAY 2: Read - Psalm 86:5, 1 Peter 4:10

Grace is when you get something even when you don't deserve it. Is it easy to love when someone doesn't love you back? God gives us grace by loving us; even when we are not being loving to others. Is it easy to forgive after someone has hurt you? God gives us grace by forgiving us; even when we don't deserve it. Is it easy to be kind when someone is being unkind? God gives us grace by being kind to us; even when we are unkind. God gives us grace. He wants us to give grace to others too!

#### **DAY 3:** Read - 1 John 4:11

God wants us to love everyone. When can it be hard to love someone? Let your child share their thoughts. God created us to show love! Let's think about how we can use our bodies to show God's love to others. Here are a few examples to get you started. See how many ideas you and your child can come up with! (ears: listening, eyes: seeing others needs, mouth: saying kind words, hands: helping, feet: walking with a friend, etc.)

#### DAY 4: Read - Colossians 3:11

What things make you feel sad? Sometimes we are sad when people hurt us or are not kind. Do you think these things make God sad? Yes, it does make God sad, but God always chooses to forgive. Cut out some paper hearts and write, "I forgive you" on them. Allow your child to decorate the hearts. Tell your child to give them to someone the next time they hurt their feelings. God wants us to always be ready to forgive!

#### DAY 5: Read - Micah 6:8

What does it mean to "love being kind to others?" When someone is not being kind and you choose to be kind to them, God is happy. God shows us kindness and He wants us to share kindness with others. How can you show kindness when someone is not being nice to you? What are some ways you can be kind today?



# **MEMORY IN MOTION**

Materials: None

Create or learn motions to go along with the memory verse. You can use the American Sign Language Online Dictionary to look up signs for different words in the verse, or create your own motions that use your whole body, including movements like stomping, turning, crouching, etc. Get creative and get memorizing!



# **FOUNTAIN OF GRACE**

Materials: Bottle of Coke, 3 Mentos, Paper Rolled into a Quarter-Sized Tube

## WARNING: You will want to do this activity outside!!!

Open your mentos candies, and drop them in the paper tube. Then, open your bottle of coke. Remember God pours His grace into our lives, and we give grace because we have received it from God. Drop the mentos, all at once, into the open soda bottle, and step back as it erupts into the air. God's grace is a powerful thing and it can flow out of us onto everyone around us!



# **CUDDLE CLOSE**

Materials: None

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "God gives us grace when we don't deserve it!" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Love One Another Lullaby" (www.tinyurl.com/be-kind-love). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

#### Dear God.

Thank you for giving me grace. Thank you for loving me always. Thank you for your kindness. Please help me to be loving, kind, and to always give grace to others.

In Jesus' name, Amen.