



GET READY!

Close your eyes and think of one person that is hard to love. Why is it hard to love and be kind to them? Is it because they are not kind to you? Is it because they are different looking than you? Or live and dress different than you? Maybe it's because they believe different things and have different values than you? Let's read a story about how Jesus went to a place, on purpose to show his love to someone who was completely different than him.

READ:
John 4:1-42

Parent Tip: This is a long text, but important for the entire story context. You can take turns reading, or make it a game and every time you hear 'women' OR 'Samaria' you have to stand up and do a jumping jack (or something else fun).

Talk:

Who is the verse speaking to? Jesus is speaking to the Samaritan women, but using this to teach his disciples and others in Samaria. **What is the verse saying?** It doesn't matter if you are from a different town with a bad reputation, if you are a boy or girl, have sin in your life, no one else likes you, have a bad job, NOTHING matters and can STOP Jesus from loving you. **Does it apply to me?** Do you have others in your life, in your neighborhood, in your school that are completely different than you? Are there kids that no one likes to hang out with? Are there kids sitting alone at lunch time? Or not playing at recess? How can you love them 1 way, like Jesus loved the Samaritan women at the well?

Live:

How can we live out what the verse is saying? Maybe it's time to live and love more like Jesus. Even if they believe different politics. Or they don't believe in God at all. Even if they look and act different than you. They matter to God and should matter to us too. Close your eyes again and think of that one person you thought of in the beginning. What's ONE way you can tangibly love them this week?

Pray:

Lord, thank you for loving us even though we are so different than you, and have sin in our life. Thank you for not allowing our differences get in the way of your goodness. Please help us to follow through and love this person you brought to our mind, this week. Thank you again for Jesus and his perfect example of loving us and others. Amen

When we are thankful for what God has done for us, we are giving to others to show our appreciation.

1 John 4:19 We love each other because he loved us first.