

ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY GUIDE

CHARACTER TRAIT: **Gentleness**

FINISH LINE: We can respond gently when people are in tough circumstances

SCRIPTURE: John 11:1-44

ACTIVITY 1: MEMORY VERSE GAME

OPTIONAL SUPPLIES: Dry erase board, mirror, dry erase marker, post it notes, memory verse cards from week one

DIRECTIONS: Write out the entire verse someplace everyone can see it. You could use the cards you made week one, write out the verse on post it notes, or use a dry erase board or mirror. After you have written it out, say the verse all together. Then start removing words from the verse. After you have removed 1-2 words, say it again. Keep repeating until all the words are gone but you can still say the verse from memory!

MEMORY VERSE: "Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowances for each other's faults because of your love." **EPHESIANS 4:2**

ACTIVITY 2: LESSON REVIEW

SUPPLIES: Bible and toilet paper (you can grab additional props around the house, too)

DIRECTIONS: Put on a play about Lazarus! Grab a roll of toilet paper and a Bible. If you have a kids storybook Bible with this story in it, such as *The Gospel Story Bible* by Marty Machowski, feel free to read through it and use it as your acting script. Otherwise, summarize and/or read through John 11:1-44 while everyone else acts it out.

Assign each person a different role to play including Jesus, Lazarus, Mary, Martha, the disciples, and the mourners. Depending on the number of people you have, some may get to play more than one role. You can use the toilet paper (or other props you find) in whatever creative ways you want (i.e. wrap up whoever is playing the Lazarus character, use it as handkerchiefs as you cry over Lazarus' death, or even create other simple costumes, etc.).

WRAP UP: Talk about how Jesus showed gentleness to His friends who were in a tough circumstance. Then think of someone you know who is going through a hard time right now and brainstorm ways you can respond in a kind and careful way to them this week.