The Bible tells us to not speak evil about others. Grown-ups call this "gossip" or "slander." Even if our words about someone are true, they should not be said if they are meant to hurt that person. The next time you're with your friends and they start saying bad things about someone else, politely ask them to stop. Our words should not hurt people...

...our words should help people, encourage them, build them up. Our words should be truthful, but kind.

Below, list three people in your life who you think need to be cheered up. Beside their name, write down what you can say to them to encourage them:

PERSON'S NAME	WHAT I CAN SAY TO ENCOURAGE THEM

Review
1 Timothy 4:12 – "Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity."
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"ROAR" (that's lion for "Well done!")
Leader Signature

Name .....



# ONE ANOTHER



When we talk about trusting God, about putting our faith in God, about following God, we're talking about a friendship. We can know God! Isn't that amazing?

But, that isn't the only friendship that matters in life. Eight billion people live on earth, and we get to be friends with more than a few of them. Let's talk about friendship. Let's talk about how to treat one another.

# LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Nearly a dozen times in the Bible, God tells us to "love one another." Likely, the most well-known time was just after Jesus showed us how to love one another. It was the day before He would die on the cross for the sins of the world. He was in a room with His followers, about to have supper with them. In those days, it was common for the host to have his servant wash the feet of his guests. Remember, they wore sandals and the roads were dusty. On this night, though, Jesus – their master – was also their servant. He humbly washed His followers' feet! Imagine a king or a queen doing this. It's hard to imagine, isn't it? But Jesus did it, showing His followers how to love one another.



#### MEMORIZE

John 13:34-35 – "So now, I (Jesus) am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples."

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Love serves others! Not just when we feel like loving others, but always.

# BE KIND & FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER

Being kind is hard! Especially when you're tired, hungry, not feeling well, if you're having a bad day, or if others are unkind

to you. But, God calls us to be kind to one another, even if we're not feeling well, or if others have been unkind to us. And connected to this is forgiveness.

When was the last time someone hurt you or wronged you in some way? What happened?



Be Kind

## MEMORIZE

Ephesians 4:31-32 – "Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behaviour. Instead, be kind to each other, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you."

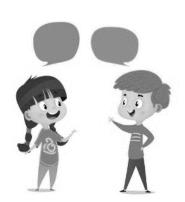
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Not only does God tell us to be kind to others, even to those who are unkind to us, but He also tells us to forgive others who hurt us. This can be hard to do, especially if they hurt us badly. Sometimes, we choose not to forgive because we think that it will hurt the person that hurt us. But actually, when we don't forgive, it hurts us. Not forgiving others is like drinking poison. It hurts us more and more, and eventually destroys us.

When we forgive others, we say, "God, that person hurt me, but I forgive them. Help me to forgive them. And I trust You to do what You need to do in their life."

## **ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER**



In the past, people would say, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." That saying is wrong! Words hurt, perhaps doing greater damage than sticks and stones. God wants us to use our words to not hurt others, but to help one another.

#### MEMORIZE

James 4:11a – "Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters."

1 Thessalonians 5:11- "So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing."

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