



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 6: 27-38

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount.

But love your enemies and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you."

Some things to think about...

Is there someone in your class or in your family that you have trouble getting along with? Is it as easy to show kindness to them as it is to show kindness to your friends?

As a Mini Vinnie, you promised to treat others the way you'd like to be treated. So how can you show kindness to others, even when they are not kind to you?

Activity:

Print off the **"Mini Vinnies' Week of Kindness"** from the Mini Vinnies' website. Focus on the Mini Vinnies' promise to "Treat others in the same way I'd like to be treated" and try to do this for everyone, not just your friends. For example, you can try extra hard to be patient, or talk to someone you don't normally hang out with. Record what you do each day on your Week of Kindness log.

Teacher's Notes

This week's Gospel is quite stern and seems to ask almost too much of us Love our enemies? How is that possible?

Jesus is the best example of loving those who despised him. He took everything the soldiers could throw at him and didn't once look angry, let alone fight back. The Gospel also speaks about giving without wanting something in return.

An important lesson for the children to learn from this Gospel is that we give each other little gifts all the time. We all do little things for others that brighten their days far more than a wonderful Christmas or Birthday present ever could. Invite the children to think specifically about people they know and what they seem to enjoy receiving from them (be it a hug a conversation or a flower from the garden).

Notes: