

Say It Anyway

By Erin Davis Gibbons

Bullying is an issue that lots of kids are dealing with every day at school. Encourage teens to reach out to kids at school who might just need a friend.

For

Teen Family

Season

Winter

Needed

Scraps of paper, Bible, pen or pencil, Say It Anyway worksheet



Activity Plan

1. Say this prayer aloud to begin.

God our everlasting parent, you are with us every day. When we are sad, you are there. When we need someone, you are there. Help us see who needs us and help us be brave enough to reach out and offer friendship. Amen.

2. Sit down together and give each person a few scraps of paper and something to write with. Take time to brainstorm names of people you know who might not have a lot of friends, who are struggling with tough life stuff, or who are not treated very well by people. Write those names down on your scraps of paper.
3. From your Bible read the parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37 (or see text on last page). Talk about these questions together:
 - What would you have done if you'd seen the injured man?
 - Jewish people, like the man who was hurt, and Samaritans really didn't like each other. How does that make this story even more amazing?
 - Who are some of the people you named who might need your help or friendship?
4. Copy and cut apart blank cards from the Say It Anyway worksheet. In each card, write some kind words, a Bible verse, a quote, or just an encouraging statement. See examples.
5. Each day in the coming week, choose one of your paper scraps and give a card to the person whose name is on it. If you're feeling brave, ask how that person is doing and take time to listen. Make sure they know you were thinking about them. If nothing else, remember to be kind.
6. Afterward, talk as a family about the experience.
 - What was it like talking to someone you usually don't talk to?
 - How did they react?
 - Why is it hard to talk to some kids at school?
 - Why do you think it's important to talk to them anyway?
7. Post some of your cards to [Vibrant Faith @ Home!](https://www.vibrantfaithathome.org)

Say It Anyway Template

<p>I just wanted to say I hope you have a great day today!</p>	<p>I may not say it very often, but I wanted you to know that I think you're really great.</p>
<p>“Breathe. Let go. And remind yourself that this very moment is the only one you know you have for sure.” -Oprah Winfrey</p>	<p>“The greatest act of faith some days is to simply get up and face another day.” -Amy Gatliff</p>



The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

