

KIND WORDS, BIG HEARTS:

Learning Manners in Preschool

Our Busy Bees are buzzing with excitement! Today's lesson was all about kindness, respect, and the little words that make a big difference—please and thank you. With paint brushes and a rainbow of colors set out on the tables, the children were eager to dive into their artwork. But first, we introduced an important goal for the day: practicing good manners while sharing materials with friends.



The teacher gathered everyone around and explained that one way we can show God's love to our friends is by using kind words when we ask for something. "When we say please and thank you, we're showing kindness and respect, just like Jesus," Mrs. Eli and Mrs. Tania said with a smile. This approach helped introduce the Christian value of kindness, showing children that manners aren't just about being polite—they're about honoring others with our words.



The children then got busy with their painting, but with one small twist: they were encouraged to ask their friends for colors they needed by saying, "May I please have the blue paint?" or "Could I use the yellow, please?" As they practiced asking and responding politely, they strengthened their communication and social skills. For many preschoolers, learning to verbalize a polite request is a big developmental milestone, helping them grow more confident in expressing themselves in a way that fosters positive relationships.

Each time a child handed over a color, they were encouraged to say “thank you.” The teacher praised them, reminding them how happy it makes us feel when others say thank you. Through this repetition, they began to understand that gratitude isn’t just something we feel; it’s something we express outwardly as a gift to others. “When we say thank you, we’re sharing joy, and that’s a way of showing love, too,” the teacher explained, reinforcing the Christian value of thankfulness.

As they took turns with the paints, the children also learned about sharing and cooperation. Waiting for a turn or handing over a paint color they weren’t finished with required patience and an understanding that sometimes we make small sacrifices for others’ happiness. This lesson in self-control is one of the first steps in helping young children develop empathy, teaching them that what’s fair and kind isn’t always what feels easiest.



Bringing It All Together

In the end, each child had a beautiful painting to take home, but more than that, they took away the understanding that words have power—the power to show respect, kindness, and gratitude. They learned that, just as Jesus used kind words, we can also build friendships, show appreciation, and create joy with the words we choose. Through the simple act of saying please and thank you, these preschoolers practiced values that will help them become thoughtful, kind-hearted people.