



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 1: Commended

Suggested Week of Use: March 6, 2022

Core Passage: 1 Thess. 1:1-10

News Story Summary

Howard Kitchen, a seventeen-year-old student, credits Laney Rogers, a former teacher, for loving him and supporting him when he was a troubled elementary student at Union City Schools in Tennessee. As an elementary student, Kitchen was known for his tantrums and destructive behavior. Rogers and the school staff often took turns managing his negative behavior; however, they never gave up on Kitchen. Rogers states that love ultimately “fixed” him. Currently, Kitchen mentors “little Howards” at his former elementary school. He hopes to eventually become a preacher.

For more about this story, search “Laney Rogers Howard Kitchen.”

Focus Attention

To supplement the Ask idea under Focus Attention, share a summary of the story about Howard Kitchen. Lead the group to discuss the role that Laney Rogers and other teachers played in the life of Howard Kitchen. Note that Rogers credits the love shown to Kitchen as the main influencer.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Reinforce idea under Summarize and Challenge, begin by reminding the group of the news article about Howard Kitchen and Laney Rogers. Discuss Kitchen’s current role as a mentor at his former elementary school and his future aspirations. Guide the group to discuss the impact Rogers may have had on the decisions that Kitchen is making in his life currently. Complete the step as written.