



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Letter Template" Activity Page, small box, heart or dot stickers, and markers or crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask: "Have you ever received a letter or written a letter to someone before and it has traveled through the mail?"
- Give each kid a "Letter Template" Activity Page.
- Set out the markers or crayons.
- Point out the top of the "Letter Template" Activity Page that says: "Dear _____,".
- Encourage kids to think of a friend they'd like to write a letter to.
- Help them write that person's name in the blank.
- Direct kids to fill the open space of the letter by drawing a picture or writing a few words.
 - Give kids a few ideas of what they could write or draw about: they can write or draw about what they've been learning, something that happened at school or in their family, something funny their pet did, etc.
- Help with writing, or captioning their pictures, as needed.
- Point out the bottom of the "Letter Template" Activity Page that says: "From, _____".
- Ask kids to write their name in the blank so the friend knows who the letter is from.
 - Be prepared to help as needed.
- Show the kids how to fold the letter into thirds.
- Demonstrate how to place a heart or dot sticker on the flap to seal the letter.
- Write each kid's name somewhere inconspicuously on the outside so you can easily hand the "letters" back out later.
- Talk about how we mail letters by placing them in our mailbox for the letter carrier to pick up.
- Set out the small box.
- Encourage the kids to place their letters into the box provided.
- Explain that you are pretending to send them by placing them in the box, and that you'll give them back later if they would like to take their letters home and deliver them to their friends.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Carry You

Sharing God's Comfort
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Comfort others the way
God comforts you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:16, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You are all really great letter writers! Before emails, text messages, and phone calls, people would send letters to each other in the mail all the time! **[Transition]** Today, we'll hear some words from a letter written by Paul to a group of people in a town called Corinth. Let's find out the message Paul wanted them to know!"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

NOTE: If today is promotion week and you have a new group of kindergartners, take a moment to explain what is about to happen. They will handle change better if they know what's coming. For instance, you might say, "Friends, we're going to walk together as a group to our Large Group room. Once we arrive, we will sit together with all the other small groups to sing in worship and listen to our Bible Story. Then we'll travel together right back here to our Small Group spot."



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



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2 Corinthians 1:3-4

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

2. SHARING COMFORT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Pillow or stuffed animal

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Invite kids to share what brings them comfort when they are feeling upset or lonely.
- Remind kids that Paul wrote in his letter about how God comforts us in all our troubles and that all comfort comes from God.
- If it hasn't already been mentioned, talk about how some people might find comfort from a warm blanket, a soft pillow, or a cuddly stuffed animal.
- Invite kids to stand up.
- Give one kid the pillow or stuffed animal to hold.
- Instruct the kid who has the pillow or stuffed animal to squeeze it, say the **comfort others the way God comforts you**, and pass it around the circle.
- When the pillow or stuffed animal has gone around the circle, ask the kid holding the pillow or stuffed animal one of the questions below.
- Invite the rest of the kids to contribute additional ideas.
- Questions:
 - What words could you say to someone feeling sad?
 - What words could you say to someone feeling lonely?
 - How could you help a kid who is missing their parent?
 - How could you help a kid who got hurt on the playground?
 - Can you think of a time you had to do something hard? What helped you?
- As the kids respond, be sure to remind them that God is always with them, that they can be present with someone, and they can get an adult to help.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Do you know that God is always with you? (Yes!) Can you trust God no matter what? (Yes!) Will God take care of us? (Yes!) When we face hard things, we aren't alone. God's Word reminds us that God is with us, ready to show us compassion and love. And because God comforts us in our troubles, we can comfort others. So this week, when you feel sad about something, talk to God. Remember that God is with you. And if you see someone who is sad, remind them that God is with them too. Ask God to help you **comfort others the way God comforts you.**"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Carry You

Sharing God's Comfort
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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God comforts you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Flashlights and tap lights

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a close circle.
- Encourage kids to think of a friend who was sad, lonely, frustrated, or worried recently.
- Remind kids that one big way they can **comfort others the way God comforts you** is by praying for their friends!
- Give each kid a flashlight or a tap light to place on the floor in front of them.
- Encourage the kids to bow their heads and pray for the person they thought of.
- As the kids finish praying, instruct them to turn on the flashlight or tap on the tap light to indicate they're done praying.
- Once all the lights are "on," close the group in prayer, asking God to help the kids look for ways to comfort others and show compassion this week.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for loving us and showing us compassion every day. When we face situations that make us sad, or unsure, or fearful, or frustrated, help us trust You and remember that You are with us. Thank You for the friends we've prayed for today. Help us to shine Your light and show compassion by comforting our friends. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, send kids home with their "Letter Template" Activity Pages. Encourage kids to talk about ways we can shine God's light to **comfort others the way God comforts you**.