



WEEK  
**FOUR**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**2-3**

**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

**PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES**

### MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the comfort and compassion you have experienced lately in your life. Ask God to help you show the kids Jesus' example of comforting words and presence that they can extend to others.*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Carry You

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

### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container, "Questions for Friends" Activity Page, and device for playing upbeat music

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Comfort others the way  
God comforts you.**

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids and greet them by name as they arrive.
- Encourage kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- As kids arrive, ask: "What was the brightest part of your week?"
- When enough kids have arrived, give each one a card from the "Questions for Friends" Activity Page.
- Start the music.
- Instruct the kids to get up and walk/dance around.
- Stop the music.
- Direct the kids to find a partner and to ask the questions on their cards to each other.
- After enough time to ask and answer their questions, direct the kids to switch question cards with someone who isn't their partner.
- Once the kids have switched cards, start the music and encourage the kids to walk/dance around.
- Stop the music.
- Direct the kids to find a new partner to ask the questions on their cards to.
- After enough time to ask and answer their questions, direct the kids to switch question cards with someone who isn't their partner.
- Play as many rounds as time and interest allow.

### 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.**



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



### 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Strips of paper, markers, and stapler

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Ask: "What are some ways people can experience comfort when they feel sad, afraid, or worried?"
- Some ideas might include:
  - getting help from a friend or family member
  - receiving a treat
  - giving someone a hug
  - someone listening, etc.
- Give each kid a strip of paper and a marker.
- Direct the kids to write down or draw one way of experiencing comfort on their strip of paper.
- Once everyone has finished, invite kids to take turns standing in front of the group to act out the comfort action.
- Instruct the rest of the group to try to guess what the kid is acting out.
- After each round, staple each strip of paper into a circle, linking them together to create a "comfort chain."

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### BASIC TRUTH

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"I love your ideas on how you can comfort others. Next time we come across someone who is sad, afraid, or worried, we can think of the ideas on our 'comfort chain' to offer compassion to them. We can also think about which of these things would help us feel better next time we need to experience comfort. **[Transition]** Today we're going to discover where all comfort truly comes from!"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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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



## \*2. COMFORTING OTHERS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Comfort Challenge" Activity Page, and "Comfort Scenarios" Activity Page

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Set out the cards from the "Comfort Challenge" Activity Page, face down in the middle of the circle.
- Give each kid a card from the "Comfort Scenarios" Activity Page.
- One at a time, go around the circle and invite the kids to take turns turning over a card from the "Comfort Challenge" Activity Page in the middle of the circle.
  - If the kid thinks the card they turned over is a way to show comfort that matches their card from the "Comfort Scenarios" Activity Page, direct them to keep the card and explain to the group why it's a match.
  - If the kid does not think the card is a match, direct the kid to return the card to the middle, facedown, and take another turn after the rest of the kids have gone.
- Repeat until kids have found and discussed a match for their card from the "Comfort Scenarios" Activity Page.
- Collect the cards from the "Comfort Challenge" Activity Page to be used again during the Pray and Dismiss Activity.

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### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Those are all wonderful ideas to comfort someone. Did you know that Jesus showed us what it looks like when God comforts people? Today, we heard that all comfort comes from God. Can you think of times when God has comforted you? (*Invite responses.*)

"We can ask God for comfort when we're feeling sad or scared. God can work through other people to comfort us, and God can use us to comfort others! So, what are some ways you can comfort those who are feeling down and sad? (*Invite responses.*) Maybe you can offer to play a game with them or just listen to them. Or maybe you can ask an adult to help. We can show compassion to someone who needs it. **Comfort others the way God comforts you.**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



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## 4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Comfort Challenge" Activity Page from Comforting Others Activity

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a card from the "Comfort Challenge" Activity Page.
- Invite the kids to take a few minutes to think of someone they know who needs comfort in a similar situation to the one on their card, or in any situation they can think of.
- Encourage the kids to pray for that person, and give kids a moment to do so.
- Close the group time in prayer.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, thank You for comforting us when we need it most. Help us to be a source of comfort to others, just as You comfort us. Help us to remember to show compassion to those in need. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to share today's [Bottom Line] "comfort others the way God comforts you."