



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Up on the Roof
Four Friends Work Together
Luke 5:17-26

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Work together to help
someone in need.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Two people are better than
one. They can help each
other in everything they do.
Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIRV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Cooperation—Working together
to do more than you can do alone

BASIC TRUTH

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

PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

10
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction
Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

30
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways
WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God
Opener
Worship ("This is Amazing Grace" By Phil Whickham,
and "Our God" by Yancey)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
What's Our Part in the Story?
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect Bible
Story Review: Cooperation Transportation *grade*), A
Friend in Need (*2nd-3rd grade*) Application Activity:
Movin' with Cooperation Operation Cooperation
(*2nd-3rd grade*) Memory Verse Activity: Pieced
Together Cooperation *grade*), Verse Hum (*2nd-3rd*
grade) Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss



WEEK
FOUR
MARCH 2025

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES 10 MINUTES

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME INTRO

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

OPENER

HOST: "Hi, friends! It's great to be here with you at [name of your environment]. I really feel like we're part of a special kind of crew when we come together every week. It's cool how God made us to need each other, and to work together . . . because everyone has a part to play!

"That's true in our everyday life, just like it is for the cast and crew who make movies together. When you're making a movie, you have to pay really close attention to all the details. Imagine if you're filming a really great scene, and then suddenly you notice that there's a microphone hanging down too low in the corner. You'd have to redo the whole scene! You have to pay attention to the details to make sure that everything you're filming is exactly how it's supposed to be.

"Our game today will help you practice looking for that kind of detail. In just a moment, we'll put a scene of someone helping up on the screen . . . but you'll only be able to see one part of the scene at a time. As soon as you know what's happening in the picture, raise your hand. If I call on you, shout out your guess! "First, let's get some movie music going.

AUDIO: MOVIE SOUNDTRACK MUSIC, THROUGHOUT THE GAME (SUGGESTION: "ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE ADVENTURE" FROM THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA)

"Alright. Are you ready? Lights, camera, action!

Slowly reveal each scene on screen, one section at a time. (Wait about 4 or 5 seconds before you change to the next slide.) Watch for kids who raise their hand, and call on them to guess what's happening in the scene.



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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

If a kid guesses the action before the image is fully revealed, skip to the “f” slide so the audience can see the whole image. Comment on how the scene is a helping scene (“Yes—I can see how this boy is high-fiving his friend to encourage her and make her feel good.”) Then move on to the next one. Note: If you have a large group of kids, you could play the game by dividing the room in half and then letting the two sides alternate in guessing the scenes.

SLIDES: HELPING SCENE 1 A-F (CARRYING GROCERIES)

SLIDES: HELPING SCENE 2 A-F (SETTING THE TABLE)

SLIDES: HELPING SCENE 3 A-F (GIVING A HIGH FIVE)

SLIDES: HELPING SCENE 4 A-F (PLANTING FLOWERS)

SLIDES: HELPING SCENE 5 A-F (HELPING A YOUNGER SIBLING TIE THEIR SHOES)

SLIDES: HELPING SCENE 6 A-F (PICKING UP A FRIEND'S BOOKS)

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

“Great job, everyone! You really paid attention to the details so you could guess what was happening in those pictures. And you know what? Those scenes showed us some really great ways to cooperate with others and make their day better.

“In today’s Bible Story, we’ll get to hear about some men who helped their friend in a big way. But first, let’s all jump up on our feet so we can sing, dance, and worship God together.”



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10 MINUTES

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Alright, kids! Shake off your tiredness and let's stand tall! We're about to sing 'Alive,' a song all about how Jesus sets us free! When we believe in Him, we're not held back by anything anymore. Just like Galatians 5:1 says, 'It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.' So, let's jump, clap, and sing about being FREE!"

VIDEO: "THIS IS AMAZING GRACE" LIVE LYRICS VIDEO

"Wow, wasn't it incredible to sing about that amazing grace? You all sang 'This Is Amazing Grace' beautifully! Now, let's keep praising God by singing about His awesome power and greatness. Remember how we sang about Jesus being the King of Glory? Well, now we're going to sing about how He's also our strong and powerful God! Let's get ready to declare 'Our God' is greater than anything!"

VIDEO: "OUR GOD" LIVE LYRICS

WORSHIP LEADER: Amazing! Let's pray.



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PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hi, friends! I’ve got a fantastic story to share with you about some guys who cooperated in a big way. We can find this story here in the book of Luke. *(Hold up Bible.)* Luke, the man who wrote this book, wrote down the things Jesus did and said, and that’s how we can learn about Jesus today.

(Flip back to the beginning of the Bible.) “We can go back to the very beginning and see how God created the world . . . but people turned away from God. Still, God loved us and had a plan to rescue us. At the perfect time, God sent Jesus to live among us. As Jesus grew up, He became wiser and stronger, and more and more pleasing to God and to other people.

“When Jesus was about 30, He was baptized by His cousin John the Baptist. When this happened, God’s voice spoke from heaven, saying:

Open the Bible to Luke 3:22 (NirV) and read.

“You are my Son, and I love you. I am very pleased with you.” (NirV)

“Soon after this, Jesus began traveling, teaching, and healing people who were sick.

“As I tell you what happened in this story, I thought it would be fun if we played ‘What Happened Next?’

SLIDE: “WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?”

“At different times during the story, I’ll ask you. ‘What Happened Next?’ You’ll choose between two possible answers by turning your body toward the answer you think is correct. Sound good? *(Pause for responses.)* Great! Go ahead and stand up, and we’ll get started!

A MAN NEEDS HELP

STORYTELLER: “All right! So . . . as we pick up the story, people started to hear about Jesus’ amazing miracles, and word about Jesus began to spread. Even important religious leaders were hearing about Jesus and getting very curious about Him. So what do you think they did? What happened next?” *(Reference the screen.)*

“Did the religious leaders . . . do some jumping jacks?

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 1A (RELIGIOUS LEADERS DOING JUMPING JACKS)

“If you think that’s the answer, turn this way. *(Turn one way.)*

“Or do you think the religious leaders went to see Jesus for themselves?

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 1B (RELIGIOUS LEADERS GO TO SEE JESUS)



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“If you think that’s the answer, turn this way. *(Turn the opposite way.)*”

“Okay, everyone cast your vote—one way or another. Great! If you’re facing this way, you’re right. The religious leaders went to see Jesus for themselves.

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

“Now, we read in the book of Luke that there was a man who couldn’t walk. He heard that Jesus was teaching in his town, and he knew that Jesus had the power to heal him. But because he couldn’t walk, the man couldn’t get to Jesus on his own. So . . . what happened next?

SLIDE: “WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?”

“Turn this way if you think the man missed his chance to meet Jesus. *(Turn one way.)*”

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 2A (MAN WAITING)

“Turn this way if you think some of his friends carried him to meet Jesus. *(Turn the opposite way.)*”

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 2B (FOUR FRIENDS CARRYING THE MAN)

“That’s right. The man had four friends who made sure to get him to Jesus!

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

COMING DOWN FROM ABOVE

STORYTELLER: “The man and his friends made their way to the house where Jesus was teaching. But when they got there, there was a problem. The crowd was SO big that there was no way to get their friend anywhere near Jesus. Can you imagine how disappointing that would have been? So, let me ask you . . . what do you think the friends did about it? What happened next?

SLIDE: “WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?”

“Did they . . . climb onto the roof of the house, make a hole in the roof, and lower their friend down to Jesus? If you think that’s right, turn this way. *(Turn one way.)*”

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 3A (FRIENDS LOWERING THE MAN DOWN)

“Or . . . did they make a paper airplane asking Jesus for help and fly it over to Him? If you think THAT’S right, turn this way. *(Turn the opposite way.)*”

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 3B (FRIENDS FLYING PAPER AIRPLANE)

“Well, what actually happened is that the men brought their friend up onto the roof, made a hole, and then carefully lowered him down to Jesus.

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 3A (FRIENDS LOWERING THE MAN DOWN)



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“Wow! Those are some really great friends!

“Imagine what this was like for Jesus—to see this man being lowered down in front of Him. What a wild scene! What do you think Jesus did? What happened next?

SLIDE: “WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?”

“Turn this way if you think Jesus forgave the man. *(Turn one way.)*

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 4A (JESUS FORGIVING THE MAN)

“Turn this way if you think Jesus healed the man. *(Turn the opposite way.)*

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 4B (JESUS HEALING THE MAN)

“Okay, that one was a little tricky, because BOTH answers are correct! First, Jesus forgave the man.

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 4A (JESUS FORGIVING THE MAN)

“Jesus was super-impressed by the faith the four friends showed in getting the man to Jesus. Here’s what we read in the book of Luke.

Open the Bible to Luke 5:20 (NirV) and read.

When Jesus saw that they had faith, he spoke to the man. He said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.” (NirV)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

SHOCKED AND AMAZED

STORYTELLER: “When this happened, the religious leaders were shocked! They couldn’t believe that Jesus would say He could forgive someone’s sins. They thought that was something only God could do.

“Jesus knew what these leaders were thinking. He asked them:

Open the Bible to Luke 5:22-24 (NirV) and read.

“Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? Is it easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’? Or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” (NirV)

“Then Jesus turned to the man who couldn’t walk. He told the man to get up, pick up his mat, and go home.

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 4B (JESUS HEALING THE MAN)

“Can I hear all of you gasp?

Gasp along with the kids.



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“That’s probably how the people reacted! After all, they knew that this man had been carried to Jesus by his friends because he couldn’t walk. And now Jesus was telling the man to walk home!

“What do you think the man did after that? What happened next?”

SLIDE: “WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?”

“Did the man suddenly start playing bagpipes? *(Turn one way.)*

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 5A (MAN PLAYING BAGPIPES)

“Or did he do what Jesus said? Did he get up on his feet, pick up his mat, and go home? *(Turn the opposite way.)*

SLIDE: STORY SLIDE 5B (MAN GETS UP AND CELEBRATES)

“What do you think? *(Look at which way the kids are facing.)* You’re so smart. Yes, the man did what Jesus told him to do. He got up and immediately started praising God . . . and he kept praising God all the way home.

“In fact, everyone who was there that day was amazed by what Jesus had done. As we read here:

Open the Bible to Luke 5:26 (NirV) and read.

Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with wonder. They said, “We have seen unusual things today.” (NirV)

“Thanks for playing ‘What Happened Next?’ everyone. You can have a seat.

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “This man who hadn’t been able to walk was now completely healed! Because of Jesus, his life was changed forever. But he never would have made it to Jesus without the help of his friends.

“You and I can look for ways to help others, together . . . just like the four men did for their friend.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Work together to help someone in need. Say that with me.”

STORYTELLER AND KIDS: “Work together to help someone in need.”

Host enters.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP



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25 MINUTES

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

HOST: "I love this story! The man in the story knew he needed to get to Jesus, but it wouldn't be easy. And he had some really great friends—friends who didn't give up until they found a way to help him."

STORYTELLER: "That's right. The four friends did whatever it took to get the man to Jesus. They showed a really amazing example of cooperation."

SLIDE: VIRTUE

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE

HOST: "Cooperation is about working together to do more than you can do alone."

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"With God's help, we can cooperate to help people in need. We can start by asking God to help us look around and pay attention to the needs of others."

STORYTELLER: "You might not feel like you can do much about those needs on your own. But when you get other people involved and cooperate, God can work through you in really big ways."

HOST: "And then you can make a BIG difference!"

Optional: Explain some ways that your church comes together to help people in need in your local community.

STORYTELLER: "You can probably think of some times when people came together to help you or your family when you were going through a tough time. We can help by providing the things people need, or even just being there to show we care. When we cooperate like that, it's a great way that we can *[Basic Truth]* treat others the way we want to be treated."

HOST: "Let's pray and ask God to show us how we can step up and help our friends in need."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER OR HOST: "Dear God, thank You for the incredible story we heard today. The four friends came together to get their friend to Jesus—and then, Jesus healed him! God, it's amazing what You can do through us when we cooperate and work together with others. Help us to see the needs of the people around us, and to work together to help whenever we can. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP