



WEEK
ONE
MARCH 2025

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Come On, Let's Go

Jesus and His Followers
Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; 6:12-16; 8:1-3

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When have you seen
people work together?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus wants us to work together.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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

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.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Check out our Small Group Leader Conversation Guides to guide you through salvation conversations: <https://bit.ly/4daxSUg>

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to sit on the floor, leaving space at the front for your "stage."
- Call on two kids and invite them to stand on the stage as

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"Actors."

- Explain to kids that they will begin acting out a scene together.
 - This is an improv activity, so they will make the scene up as they go.
 - If the kids seem unsure how to start, suggest a scenario to help get them going, such as, "You're upset because they're out of your favorite candy at the movie theater."
- On your "Action!" give the kids a few moments to act out their scene.
- Then, call out "Freeze!" for the actors to stop moving and talking.
- Choose one kid from the seated group to replace one of the actors on stage.
- When the play resumes, direct the new actor to start a completely different scene.
- The two actors will continue acting out the new scene.
- Continue to call out "Freeze!" every minute or two, allowing more kids to take turns replacing the kids on stage, one at a time.
- Feel free to jump in and participate as well!
- Continue playing as time allows.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When have you seen people work together?

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Everyone did a fantastic job jumping in to make a super entertaining story! You all worked together to keep the show going. Only two of you got to act at the same time, but **[Transition] Today, we'll discover a story we all can play a part in together. Come with me!**

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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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 CONNECT

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



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Hula hoop

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to stand in a tight circle.
- Model for everyone how to extend their arms in front of them with their hands palm down.
- Then, direct the kids to extend both pointer fingers straight out.
- Gently lower the hula hoop into the circle, resting on the tops of everyone's pointer fingers.
- Explain that kids must work together to lower the hula hoop to the floor while following these rules:
 - Every pointer finger must touch the hula hoop the entire time. If anyone's fingers lose contact, the group must start over.
 - Hands must remain palms down.
 - The hula hoop should rest on the top of everyone's pointer fingers, and they cannot twist their wrists to cradle the hula hoop.
 - Encourage kids to communicate with each other to move the hula hoop together.
- Once the group successfully lowers the hula hoop to the floor, gather them together to discuss.
- Ask:
 - What was difficult about this challenge?
 - What would have been easier if you didn't have to work together?
 - What are the benefits of working together?
- Explain to kids that cooperation takes patience and challenges you to think about others. We can do so much more when we work together!
- **[Make it Personal] Share a time when you struggled with a project you had to work on with others. Explain what initially made it difficult and how you and the group collaborated to accomplish something.**

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3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:
Ask:

- When have you seen people work together?
- Why is it better to work together?
- How did Jesus cooperate with others?
- How does our uniqueness play a role in how we work together?
- What can be challenging about working together?

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Together Verse" Activity Page, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Provide each kid with a Bible.
- Use the Bible Navigation tips below to help the kids find

Ecclesiastes 4:9.

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Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Tell them to hold the Bible so that its spine is on the ground and the pages are facing upright. Explain that they can estimate where the halfway point is in the pages, and open up their Bible to that point. Ask them what book they are in. Explain that Ecclesiastes is close to the middle of the Bible, so they may have landed there. If they landed in Song of Solomon or Isaiah, they should flip slightly back towards the front of the Bible. If they landed in Psalm or Proverbs, they should flip forward. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When have you seen people work together?

- Once everyone has found the verse, select a kid to read it aloud to the group.
- Read the verse aloud together again.
- Divide kids into six groups.
 - If your group is smaller in size, form fewer groups.
- Invite kids to spread out and sit with their groups.
- Hand each group a card from the "Together Verse" Activity Page.
 - If your group is smaller, assign them more than one section of the verse.
- Invite each group to create motions for their section of Ecclesiastes 4:9.
- Once everyone has finished, call on groups in verse order to show the rest of the group what they came up with.
- Then, invite the kids to go through the entire verse together several times.
 - Allow each group to lead their portion with the motions they created.
 - Direct the entire group to perform all the motions together.
- Thank the group for working together to help each other learn Ecclesiastes 4:9.
- Explain that memorizing scripture can help us grow closer to God and guide us through life.

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Tongue depressor, fine tip markers or markers, jar or cup

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Hand every kid a tongue depressor and a fine-tip marker (regular markers will work, too).
- Explain that you will create a prayer jar that the group will use all month to help them talk to God through prayer.
- Share with the kids that prayer can be a great way to work together!
- Ask kids to think of something going on in their lives they would like to talk to God about.
- Encourage kids to think of something that doesn't directly involve them, like:
 - Praying for people who do not have enough food.
 - Praying for people in public office who make decisions for our country.
 - Praying for a family member who is sick.
 - Praying for a friend who is going through a tough time.
- Direct the kids to write the prayer down on their tongue depressor.
- Once everyone has written something down, pass the jar around and invite kids to place their tongue depressors in it.
- Shuffle the sticks around in the jar, and then pass them back around the circle.
- As the jar comes back around, instruct the kids to pick out a tongue depressor when it comes to them.
- Lead your group in prayer, then invite each kid to take turns reading what is on the tongue depressor they picked.
- Close out the prayer when they're done.

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