



WEEK  
**THREE**  
MARCH 2025

SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Won't You Please,  
Please Help Me?**  
Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls  
Nehemiah 1-4; 6:15

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How has someone helped  
you solve problems?

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Work together to solve problems.

### 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 need to make the wise choice.

### 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 MOVE**

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



*Before kids arrive, take some time to pray for your kids and for the time you'll spend together. Take a couple of minutes to be silent and still and allow Jesus to speak to you and give you vision for how to best lead your kids today.*

**1. JUST FOR FUN**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Smile and greet each kid as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Direct the kids to form a circle. Make sure there is plenty of space in between each kid.
- Explain the goal of the game: "Jump Over the Imaginary Ball."
  - Kids will pretend to jump over different imaginary balls based on the type you or another kid call out.
- To start, try a tennis ball, a soccer ball, a yoga ball, or a beach ball.
  - For example, a tennis ball would need a small jump, while a yoga ball would need a bigger jump.
- Start by pretending to roll an imaginary ball of your choice at the feet of the kid standing to your left.
- That kid should pretend to jump over the ball, making their jump bigger or smaller based on the size of the ball.
- After the first kid jumps, the kid next to them should pretend to jump over the same ball.
- Keep going around the circle until the jump comes back to you.
- End the round with your jump.
- The kid to your left will start the next round, choosing a different kind of imaginary ball.
- Continue until each kid in the circle has had a turn to call out a ball and lead a round.

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**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

**Cooperation—Working together  
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**BASIC TRUTH**

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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

**MADE TO PLAY**

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



**2. OPENING ACTIVITY**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Prepared "Character Match" Activity Page, tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Let the kids know that you will assign each kid a character from a TV show or movie.
- Explain the game:
  - Each character is part of a duo, and the kids must work together to help everyone in the group pair up with their duo correctly.
- Invite kids to stand in a line with their backs facing you.
- Use tape to attach a card from the "Character Match" Activity Page to each kid's back.
- Make sure each character has a match.
  - If there's an uneven number of kids, grab a card and play along to make it even!
- On your "Go," direct the kids to walk around and look at the cards on other kids' backs.
- Encourage kids to give hints to help others figure out their characters and find their match, but they cannot reveal the exact name.
- Play until all matches are found.

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**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Great job, everyone! You all worked together to solve the challenge of finding your matches. **[Transition]** Today, we're going to hear about a different character—not from TV or movies, but someone who actually lived a long time ago and worked with people to solve a big problem! Come with me!"

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



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

#### WHAT YOU DO:

##### Ask:

- What's a problem you've had to solve recently?
- How has someone helped you solve problems?
- What challenges do you face when working together?
- Why do you think God planned for us to work together?

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### MADE TO PLAY

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Cooperation Riddle" Activity Page, "Cooperation Riddle Answer Key" Activity Page, pens or pencils, Bibles

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Split your group into two teams and instruct each team to gather with their group.
- Hand each team a "Cooperation Riddle" Activity Page, a pen or pencil, and a Bible.
- Explain to the kids that they will work together to solve a riddle.
- Direct kids to read the first question, using the Bible to look up the verse referenced.
- After each group locates the verse, encourage them to read it aloud in their groups.
- Then, direct them to fill in the blank for that question on the activity page.
- Explain to the kids that the final part of the page contains a riddle.
  - They need to use the letters they've filled in to solve the riddle.
- Once a team solves the riddle, direct them to stand up together without shouting out the answer.
- Once both teams are standing, ask them to shout out the answer at the same time.
  - (Answer: "TEAMWORK")
  - NOTE: Each line of the poem begins with the letters that spell "TEAMWORK."
- Gather together and read the questions from the activity page, allowing the kids to answer:
  - How many are better than one? Two
  - How can we help each other? Carry each other's heavy loads.
  - If someone isn't listening to you when you try to make things right, what should you do? Bring someone else with you.
  - How can we agree with one another? Be one in spirit.
- Tell the kids they showed excellent cooperation as they worked to solve the riddle.
- Explain to kids that God's Word reminds us that we need each other for so many reasons!

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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



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

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Tongue depressors, fine tip markers or markers, prayer jar from Weeks 1-2

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Explain the prayer jar to your group.
- Place the tongue depressors in the jar and set the jar in the middle of the circle.
- Hand every kid a fine-tip marker (or regular marker).
- Ask kids to think of problems they know about that affect them or the people around them.
- Share examples, big and small—like lack of housing or personal challenges like being late to the bus all the time.
- Explain to kids that God cares about every problem, whether big or small, because it matters to them.
- Encourage kids to take as many tongue depressors as they would like.
- Invite them to write the problems they thought of on them.
- Participate by writing a few as well.
- Explain that you will open up a time of prayer.
- As you pray for each problem you wrote on your tongue depressors, lay them on the floor side by side.
- Invite the kids to do the same as they pray for the problems they wrote.
- Once all the prayers have been said, a row of tongue depressors should be on the floor.
- Close the group in prayer.
- After closing your group prayer, explain that the tongue depressors on the floor look like a bridge.
- Share with kids that one way we can work together to solve problems is by praying about them.
- When we do that, we are building bridges, helping each other move from one side of a problem to the other.
- Invite the kids to grab one or two tongue depressors to take home as a reminder to pray about those problems throughout the week.

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