



WEEK
FOUR
MARCH 2025

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Up on the Roof

Four Friends Work Together
Luke 5:17-26

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How can you work together to help someone?

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, 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 MOVE

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



Before kids arrive, pray that you will have fruitful conversations with them, even if it's only for a couple of minutes. Pray that God will use your conversation and the relationship you've developed with your preteens to help them move more deeply into their relationships with Jesus as they take steps to work with others to make a difference in others' lives.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Smile and greet each kid as they arrive.
- Welcome kids as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- When enough kids arrive, direct them to stand in a circle.
- Explain that you're going to play a theater warm-up game called "Pass the Noise."
 - Watch this video if you need help understanding how to play: <https://bit.ly/4enKAPr>



- Begin by making a noise and/or a movement.
- Then, instruct the person to your left to mimic the exact noise and/or movement.
- The next kid will imitate your noise or movement, and it will continue around the circle until each kid has a turn and it returns to you.
- Perform the noise and/or movement one more time.
- Then, tell the person to your left to create a new noise/movement to send around the circle.
- Encourage kids to go around the circle as fast as they can. The goal is to make it feel seamless.
- Explain that when it's their turn to think of a noise/movement, they shouldn't spend a lot of time thinking about it, just perform whatever comes out in the moment.
- Continue playing until every kid has a turn to create a noise and/or movement.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Blindfolds, yarn

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to gather and sit in your group space.
- Ask the following questions to review the Bible story:
 - Why was word spreading about Jesus and what He was doing? (*Jesus had been traveling and teaching and healing people and performing miracles. Everyone was talking about it!*)
 - When the man who was unable to walk realized Jesus was coming to his town, how do you think he must have felt? (*Some answers could look like: he had hope, he was excited, he was nervous, etc. Talk about why he may have felt that way.*)
 - Who helped the man get to Jesus? (*His four friends.*)
 - What was the problem when they arrived at the house? (*The crowd was SO big there was no way to get him into the house.*)
 - What plan did the friends come up with next? (*They carried their friend up onto the roof. They made a hole in the roof and lowered him right in front of Jesus!*)
 - How did Jesus respond? (*"Friend, your sins are forgiven." Luke 5:20*)
- After the review, ask everyone to stand up and form a tight circle.
- Explain the rules:
 - While blindfolded, the group must work together to shape a large piece of yarn into a square.
 - Explain to kids that they will be working together to create a mat for a friend, just like in today's Bible story.
- Hand each kid a blindfold (or eye mask) and direct them to secure it around their eyes.
- If needed, assist with securing the blindfolds.
- Place the yarn in the center of the circle.
- Encourage the kids to communicate as they figure out how to hold and shape the yarn into a square.
- Once the group completes the challenge, invite them to remove their blindfolds to see their "mat."
- Invite kids to sit around the "mat" and ask these questions for discussion:
 - What made this challenge difficult?
 - Do you think it would have been easier to make the mat alone?
- Share with kids that cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone. When we work together, we can do so much more!

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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:

- Why should we help others?
- Have you seen people working together to help someone else?
- How can you work together to help someone?
- Is it easier or more challenging to work together to help someone else?

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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: Prepared tongue depressors, markers, Prayer Jar from Week 1

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Place the prepared tongue depressors, color-side down, in the Prayer Jar.
- Explain that you will pass the jar around the circle, and each kid will take turns drawing sticks.
- The dots on the sticks will tell them what to do:
 - If a kid picks a stick with a green dot on it, they will keep that stick and choose another.
 - If a kid picks a stick with a red dot on it, they will put the stick back in the jar, color side down, and pass the jar to the next kid.
 - If a kid picks a stick with no dot, they keep it and pass the jar along to the next kid.
- Begin passing the jar around the circle.
- Let the jar make several rounds, seeing who can collect the most sticks. Keep it light and fun!
- After playing the game, pass the jar around again.
- This time, instruct each kid to take just one stick, regardless of the dot color, and keep it.
 - Provide extra tongue depressors if needed.
- Give each kid a marker and invite them to think of someone who is in need of something.
 - If your group did the Verses to Take with You Activity, kids can pick the same person and pray for them.
- Instruct the kids to write that person's name on the stick or a brief description if they don't know their name.
 - For example, "the family at the end of the street."
- Share with kids that there are times in life when everything feels like it's going smoothly, like we're hitting all the green lights. But other times, we get stuck at a red light, where things aren't going the way we want.
- Pass the jar around again and collect the sticks in the Prayer Jar.
- Lead the group in prayer, specifically mentioning the people written on the sticks.

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