

CITY SG Guide – Nov 21st-22nd

Bible Story: That's So Ravens (Widow of Zarephath) • 1 Kings 17:1-16

Bottom Line: Ask God for what you need to lend a hand.

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*

Life App: Service—lending a hand to help someone else.

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. In the spirit of today's Bottom Line, ask God to give you the words to say to your few as you encourage them to rely on Him when they serve. Pray that you would be able to assure them that when they feel like they don't have what they need to lend a hand, they can ask God to provide or to show them the way forward.

Play-Doh[®] Review (*application activity / review the Bible story*)

What You Need: Play-Doh[®] : (8 cans of 4 different colors per bin {so 2 cans per color} Lockport will need play doh), paper plates

What You Do:

- Divide the group into four teams.
- Give each team two or three lumps of the same color of Play-Doh[®] and give each child a paper plate.
- Assign each team a different part of the story to illustrate by using their Play-Doh[®]:
 - No rain: Kids could make individual rain drops and clouds and then a big "X" to place over it.
 - God sends Elijah to the Kerith Ravine: Create a river scene with waves of water, riverbank, rocks or lily pads, etc.
 - God sends birds to bring Elijah food: Shape Play-Doh[®] into meat or bread.
 - Widow gives Elijah water and bread: Shape Play-Doh[®] into a cup of water and small loaf of bread.

What You Say:

"God told Elijah to let King Ahab know that a drought was coming. What's a drought? (*Pause as kids respond.*) That's right! A drought means NO rain. Let's see what Group 1 created to show the drought. (*Pause as Group 1 shares.*) Great job! After Elijah told King Ahab the bad news about the drought, God told him to head to the Kerith Ravine and drink from the water there. Let's see your creations, Group 2. (*Pause as Group 2 shares.*) Awesome! Then God sent the ravens to bring Elijah food to eat! Let's see what you've got, Group 3. (*Pause as Group 3 shares.*) Way to go! When the river dried up, God told Elijah to head to a women's house where she would give him food. Let's see what you created, Group 4. (*Pause as Group 4 shares.*) I love it!

"Elijah wasn't afraid to ask God for what he needed. And the lady in our story had to trust that God would give her what she needed to lend a hand and help Elijah. Let me ask you a question: Did God provide for Elijah and the widow? (*Pause.*) Yes, He did! Will God provide what YOU need when you

ask? (Pause.) You can always **[Bottom Line]** ask God for what you need to lend a hand. He always provides a way for us to serve. Great job!"

Prayer Hands (application activity)

What You Need: "Prayer Hands" Activity Pages, markers or crayons, scissors (maybe 10-15 pairs per bin- Lockport has these)

What You Do:

- Pass out the "Prayer Hands" Activity Pages.
- Point out the line down the center of the page. Quickly review which side is the left side and which is the right side.
- Ask kids to place their hands on the page so that their left hand is on the left side and their right hand is on the right, with the line going down the center.
- Ask the kids to partner up and trace each other's hands on the page. (Give assistance as needed.) Make sure kids' hands are right next to each other with their thumbs almost touching.
- Switch partners and let them trace the other child's hands.
- Talk about how God has given us hands to help and serve.
- Then help them fold the page in half along the line.
- Show the kids how their hands are now folded in prayer.
- Allow kids to cut around their handprints. They don't have to cut around each individual finger, just cut around the outside edge, but make sure they include the Bottom Line!

What You Say:

"We've been learning all month long about serving others and lending a hand. God has given you these hands to serve. Sometimes when we see or hear about a need, we aren't sure what to do. Maybe your friend's dad lost his job or your grandmother is in the hospital and you're unsure how you can lend a hand to help. Remember: You can always pray. You can always ask God for help when you need it. Do you see the words along the bottom of your page? Let's read them together. **[Bottom Line] Ask God for what you need to lend a hand.** When you aren't sure how to help, when you feel like you don't have what you need to lend a hand, the best thing you can do is to pray and ask God to show you what to do."

[Make It Personal] (Tell your kids about a time when you wanted to lend a hand to help but you didn't know what to do, so you prayed and asked God to direct you. What happened? How did God provide a way for you to serve?)

Ping-Pong Pass (memory verse activity)

What You Need: Ping-pong ball or some plastic ball (one per bin) (Lockport has this)

What You Do:

3rd Grade:

- Look up Matthew 5:16 and review this month's memory verse.
- Talk about "good works." What are some good works kids can do?
- After you review the verse, pass the ball around the circle as each kid says one word of the verse. Repeat two or three times.

- To make it more interesting, pass the ball “popcorn” style. Kids can pass the ball to whomever they choose. It can be the person right next to them or someone across the circle. But that person must say the next word of the verse. If they get stuck, they can ask others to “lend a hand” and help them out.

1st-2nd Grades

- Pull out the memory verse cards and read the 3 parts of the verse TO the kids. Go through them together.
- Talk about “good works.” What are some good works kids can do?
- After you review the verse, pass the ball around the circle as each kid says one word of the verse. Repeat two or three times. (If they cannot do the whole verse just do one part at a time)
- To make it more interesting, pass the ball “popcorn” style. Kids can pass the ball to whomever they choose. It can be the person right next to them or someone across the circle. But that person must say the next word of the verse. If they get stuck, they can ask others to “lend a hand” and help them out.

What You Say:

“You are doing a great job learning the verse! I love how you were willing to ask for help if you needed it to remember the next word of the verse. You can ALWAYS ask God to help you when you are trying to serve others. He is always listening and always willing to help. So remember, **[Bottom Line] ask God for what you need to lend a hand.**”

Pray

What You Need: Prayer hands from “Prayer Hands” activity

What You Do:

- Ask the kids to hold up their prayer hands.
- Tell them to think of a situation where they want to help but they aren’t sure what to do.
- Have them hold up their prayer hands as you pray for them.

What You Say:

“I’m so glad that God has given us hands to serve others. I know there are times when we hear about a need and we just don’t know how to help. I’m thankful that we can **[Bottom Line] ask God for what we need to lend a hand.** Let’s hold up our prayer hands and do that right now.

“God, you are an awesome, BIG, and powerful God. You can do anything! And we know You hear us when we pray. Please show us how we can lend a hand and give us the things we need to serve others this week. We love You. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

PARENT CONNECTION AT PICK UP

Ask the kids to show their prayers hands to the adults who pick them up. Remind them to place their hands in their room somewhere that they can see them this week.