

# CITY LG – Nov 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>

**Bible Story:** All Hands on Deck (Attitude of Giving to the Poor) • *Deuteronomy 15:7-8, 10*

**Bottom Line:** Have a good attitude when you 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.

**SFX:** *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

**WORSHIP:**

Better Than The Best Thing  
This Little Light of Mine  
This is Amazing Grace

**CG:** All Hands on Deck

*LG Leader enters in the “astronaut” outfit from last week.*

**Opener**

**STORYTELLER:** “Greetings, earthlings! (*Salute.*) Captain [Host’s name], here, reporting to you from the observation deck. What is an observation deck, you ask? Well, it’s a deck ... that you observe from. ‘Observe’ is just a fancy word for ‘watch.’ I’ve been observing YOU this morning, and I gotta say, you are one good-looking group of aliens. Oh, wait. What’s that? You’re not aliens? In that case ... you look outta this world! Look at your neighbor and say, ‘You look outta this world!’ (*Pause for response.*) Yeah!

“We’re going to have an awesome time together here in the CITY! Today we’re going to keep talking about the Life App of service. Do you guys remember what the word ‘service’ means?

**CG:** *Service Slide*

“Service is lending a hand to help someone else. Let’s practice saying that together. Repeat it after me. Service is lending a hand ...”

**ST and KIDS:** “Service is lending a hand ...”

**ST:** “... to help someone else.”

**ST and KIDS:** “... to help someone else.”

**STORYTELLER:** “That’s right! When it comes to service, we need to be ‘all hands on deck.’ That means we always need to be ready to help others. Personally, I love helping others. That’s part of my job here at the observation deck (*stand proudly*)—to observe, to advise, to defend.

“See this envelope? *(Hold up envelope.)* It has my orders in it for this morning—my orders to SERVE. Let’s open it. *(Open it.)* Like so. And I read what it says to do. *(Clear throat.)* Ahem. ‘Captain [Host’s name],’ that’s me, ‘today you have a new job.’ *(To audience)* I LOVE new jobs! *(Reading)* ‘Today we would like you to serve others by mopping the observation deck.’ *(Pause; to audience)* Wait a minute. That can’t be right. That’s someone else’s job. *(Reading)* ‘The person that normally does that is out sick this week, so we need you to mop today.’ *(To audience)* Oh, no. Oh, nonono.

*Host looks over at the bucket and mop pre-set on stage and groans.*

“Don’t they know?! Captains don’t MOP. I don’t MOP. Let’s see what other orders I have for the day. *(Pick letter back up.)* ‘Those are your only orders for the day.’ *(To audience)* Oh, great. Just ... great. *(Yell offstage)* Thanks for being sick, Mr. Mop-man. Pssssh. I bet he’s not even sick. I bet he stuck the thermometer in a pot of boiling water! I bet he’s using fake snot, too! And fake sneezes. And fake coughs.

*Walk over to the mop and bucket.*

“Well, I am NOT mopping! I mean it’s someone else’s job! It’s not my fault that he is sick ”

**STORYTELLER:** “You know what? I am here to teach you a story anyway. I don’t have time to mop. I have a super great story for you today.

*ST can take off helmet if needed☺*

Let’s start with our memory verse for this month.

**CG: Memory Verse Slide**

“If you remember, our memory verse says, ‘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. *(NirV)* That’s what service is all about—shining a light to others so they can know more about Jesus. That has a lot to do with what our story is about today. It’s based on a verse in Deuteronomy. Listen to this.”

## **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**(LARGE GROUP LEADER: AS YOU TELL THIS STORY, USE LOTS OF EXPRESSION AND ANIMATION TO MAKE IT INTERESTING FOR THE KIDS☺)**

**CG: Disappointed Drew**

**STORYTELLER:** “One time there was a boy named Drew. He was supposed to go on a hayride and marshmallow roast with his friends, but it was raining and the whole thing was cancelled.

“Because he was now free for the evening, Drew’s mom asked him to go with her to a fall festival at the

rec center where she was going to help lead a bunch of fun activities for some little kids who live with foster families.

“But Drew wasn’t so happy about it. He rolled his eyes and crossed his arms, but he said he’d help. After all, it was raining outside. What else was he going to do?”

## **DREW HELPS WITH A BAD ATTITUDE**

*CG: Drew helping his mom*

**STORYTELLER:** “He got to work helping his mom by putting all the food and supplies into the car. But no matter what, he seemed to complain.

“‘Candy corn? Candy corn is disgusting!’

“‘These look like baby crafts. This won’t be any fun at all!’

“On the way to the rec center Drew’s mom spoke up, ‘This isn’t about you, Drew. These kids don’t have families of their own to take care of them, but some special families have volunteered to help out and care for these kids in the meantime. We’re giving those foster moms and dads a break.’

*CG: Molly at the car*

“Just then an energetic woman with bright red hair and a huge umbrella popped out a side door. Her name was Molly. Before Drew’s mother could say anything, Molly spoke up.

“‘Jess, I’m so glad you’re here! I’m not even halfway set up and the kids get here in like 20 minutes and ... hey, you brought help!’

“The girl stuck out her hand to Drew. Her fingernails were bright orange. Drew shrugged, but Molly just handed him the umbrella and asked, ‘Why don’t you give me and your mom some cover so we can get all this stuff inside?’

*CG: Drew, Molly, and Mom working in the rain*

“Drew shuttled back and forth in the cold rain, trying to cover his mom and Molly with the umbrella. By the time they were done, everyone was pretty wet. Molly didn’t seem to mind at all.

“Then Molly asked Drew to help her. ‘Drew, can you help me while your mom does snacks? You can set out the stuff for making marshmallow launchers. Cups, balloons ... we’ll do fun designs to decorate them.’”

## **MOLLY AND DREW TALK**

*CG: Drew and Molly talking*

**STORYTELLER:** “Without a word, Drew started tugging supplies out of a tub and tossing them onto a paper-covered table. Molly set out paints and markers, whistling as she worked. Finally Drew blurted out, ‘Why are you so, like, excited about watching a lot of little kids?’

"Molly thought for a bit and then answered, 'I don't know. I guess if I'm going to help out, I'd rather enjoy it than make myself miserable ... and everyone else. In fact, I found this Bible verse about it the other day about helping people who need it.'

**CG: Molly holding smart phone**

"Molly fished out her phone and scrolled through her Bible app and read Deuteronomy 15:8 and 10 out loud.

""Open your hands and lend them what they need. Do it freely." Oh, and, "Give freely to needy people. Let your heart be tender toward them." (NirV) See, it's not just WHAT you do. It's HOW you do it, too.'

"Drew didn't say anything as Molly cut the top off a cup, stretched a balloon across it, and sketched a silly face on the front. Molly kept talking about how the kids that were coming to the party were having a really rough time. She mentioned how they didn't have many people to trust BUT that she thought Drew would be a great role model for them to look up to."

### **DREW'S ATTITUDE CHANGES**

**CG: Drew drawing super heroes**

**STORYTELLER:** "Drew just nodded. He fiddled with a tube of paint, and then he grabbed a pencil. He started drawing super heroes on the cups and the marshmallow launchers. Just then two little boys came into the rec center. Drew's mom was talking to their parents. The boys looked around, uncertain.

"Drew suddenly found himself a bit nervous. But he grabbed a handful of marshmallows and his launcher, and he headed over to the little kids, anyway.

**CG: Drew with the boys**

"He called out, 'Hey. You guys want to make marshmallow launchers? You could do Iron Man, like this one. Check this out.'

"Drew dropped a marshmallow into the launcher and released it. The marshmallow hurled through the air and hit the opposite wall. The older brother cracked the tiniest hint of a smile, and Drew grinned back at him. Suddenly Drew realized that they were gonna have a blast.

**CG: Drew smiling**

"Before he knew it, Drew was having fun sketching super hero faces on launchers for half a dozen kids. It wasn't even that bad helping his mom clean up at the end of the evening. Just changing his attitude had made the difference between a miserable night and a really fun time for him ... and a bunch of little kids, too. The end."

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** *(To kids)* "So, what did you think of my story?"

*Let kids answer*

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

SO, our bottom line today is **“Have a good attitude when you lend a hand.** Let’s say that together. I will say, “Have a good attitude and YOU say, When you lend a hand”

**STORYTELLER: “Have a good attitude”**

**Kids: “When you lend a hand”**

**STORYTELLER: “Let’s try that again, Have a good.....(Pauses). “Wait a minute.....I didn’t have a very good attitude earlier did I?”** (Go over and pick up mop)

“What do you guys think I should do with this” (Let kids answer)

I think you are right. I will mop up this observation deck while you guys are watching this video...

**Video: One thing**

That’s what the verses in Deuteronomy are talking about. ‘Open your hands and lend them what they need. Do it freely. ... Give freely to needy people. Let your heart be tender toward them.’

We can serve people all the time, but if we do it with a bad attitude, it’s not really serving at all. Doing the work freely means we should give to others and serve with a good attitude. It’s not always easy, so why don’t we all pray about it?”

**Pray**

**STORYTELLER:** “God, thank You for all You’ve done for us. You served us by sending us your Son, Jesus, and You did that with a happy heart. Help us to lend a hand to others with a happy heart, too. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

*Dismiss children to their Small Groups.*