

ALLEY SG Guide – Oct 24th/25th

Bible Story: Timothy of Lystra, Can You Please Lead Now (Timothy as a young leader) •
1 Timothy 4:12

Bottom Line: You can make a difference right now.

Memory Verse: “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say and in how you live.” 1 Timothy 4:12a, NIV

Life App: Individuality—discovering who you are meant to be so you can make a difference.

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Ask God to help kids understand that they don’t have to wait until they’re “grown up” to make a difference—they can do that right now! Pray that God would give you some ideas to pass along to your kids for ways they can make a difference in someone’s life right now. Ask God to reveal the same for you.

Follow the Fold (*application activity / review the Bible story*)

What You Need: lots of blank paper (enough for each child to have 2 sheets, pencils, markers, paper Basic Dart paper airplane sheet (two copies on cardstock per bin)

What You Do:

- Tell the kids that you are going to give them an example to follow in making a paper airplane.
- Have them follow along with you, step by step.
- Make any type of plane you wish. A normal/standard plane is just fine. If you want to make other, special types of planes, look for instruction videos online and practice ahead of time.
- Once the planes are done, read 1 Timothy 4:12 with the kids.
- Tell them to write the verse reference and parts of the verse all over their planes as decoration.
- Then let them decorate their planes as much as they wish.

What You Say:

“You did a great job following my example to make your planes today. You also did a great job decorating them with our Bible story verse, 1 Timothy 4:12. There is a reason that I made a plane with you today. Paul and Timothy were committed to using their gifts and their example to share God’s message. They traveled by walking and taking ships all over the world telling people about Jesus.

“You might not be able to travel on a plane right now and go across the world to tell others about Jesus. But you can take your paper plane across the room, across the street, or across the playground and encourage someone by showing them God’s love. You can share with them and show them what God’s love is like. That’s being an example, just like our verse says. **[Make it Personal] (Talk about a person who was an example to you of the love of Jesus.)** Even as young as you are, you can accomplish a lot and make a big difference just by living out this verse and being an example to others

of God's love for them. That's how Timothy started, and God certainly used him to do great things. You can follow Timothy's example and **[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.**"

Who's the Example (application activity)

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Have the kids stand in a circle facing the inside.
- Choose one kid to be the "Finder."
- Have the Finder turn and face outside the circle and put his hands over his eyes.
- Explain to the group that you will silently point to another child to be the Leader.
- Once everyone knows who the Leader is, the Finder uncovers his eyes and comes into the center of the circle.
- The Leader's job is to move her head, hands, and upper body in slow, steady movements so that the other kids in the circle can follow her.
- The Finder's job is to find who the leader is by carefully watching everyone's movements and trying to figure out who is moving first or who everyone is staring at.
- The closer and more accurately the kids in the circle can follow the Leader's movements, the harder the Finder's job is.
- Have the Leader start with slow movements, gradually getting faster and faster.
- Once the Finder correctly identifies the Leader, choose a new Finder and a new Leader and start again.
- Continue playing, giving each child who wishes a turn as Finder and/or Leader.

What You Say:

"In this game it wasn't always easy to find the person who was leading the motions. But in life, if we are following God, like Timothy and Paul did, we will stand out from the crowd and there will be no doubt that there is something different about us. When that happens, we have the chance to show people God's love and teach them what we have learned from following the example of Jesus. Being an example to others in this way is a big part of how **[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.**"

If you lead mostly older kids, consider asking these discussion questions:

- Small things can make a big difference. What is a small thing that someone did for you that made a big difference? How is your life different because of this small thing?
- The Bible teaches us not to be ashamed of starting small. What small thing could you start doing for others that might make a big difference to them?

Draw from Memory (memory verse activity)

What You Need: "Memory Verse Cards" Activity Pages (may use cards from week 1's activity)

What You Do:

- Ask someone to look the verse up in their Bible, if needed. (Or let the kids recite the verse from memory if they all have it memorized.)
- Get two kids to volunteer to face off as if in a quick draw.
- They will face each other and you will read a randomly selected “Memory Verse Card.”
- As soon as you read it, the first competitor to shout out the correct next word will be the winner of that round.
- Set up your competition in any way that you want. Have a competition between teams, boys versus girls, or in a tournament or round-robin style with everyone competing individually.

What You Say:

“You did a great job remembering our Memory Verse. We have been working together all month in different ways to help you learn this verse because it is so important for you to remember not just the verse, but also what the verse means. You are unique. God made you that way. God wants to use you to do amazing things. Some of those things you are just preparing and training for right now. But there are so many things that you can do right now to be an example to other believers in how to live and what to say. You might be worried, you might doubt yourself, or you might have problems along the way, but God made you so that you could make a difference, and **[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.**”

Pray

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Tell your kids that today’s prayer posture will be standing in a circle as a group, holding hands.
- Tell your kids that today’s prayer method will be “popcorn” prayer. Anyone who wants to can pray a short prayer and then pause to allow for other people to pop up and pray.
- Before your group starts praying, ask the kids to think of someone in their lives who is a good example of a follower of Christ.
- Encourage kids to pray for two main things:
 - Thank God for the example of the person they thought of and ask for help to follow that person’s example.
 - Pray for themselves to be able to be a good example like Timothy in our Bible story.
- Don’t force anyone to pray who doesn’t want to. But do encourage your kids that praying aloud is important because prayer is powerful and praying together with friends can be especially powerful in bringing people closer together.
- When everyone is finished, close in prayer and thank God for the difference your kids can make by being an example of God’s love.

What You Say:

“It is no small thing to be an example to others. That is how Jesus taught His disciples, that is how Paul taught Timothy, that is how we try to teach you, and it is how you can make a huge difference right now, no matter where, who, or how old you are. Remember, **[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.**”