

CITY LG – January 9th/10th

Bible Story: Extreme Makeover: Tabernacle Edition (Building the tabernacle) • *Exodus 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35: 21, 25, 34; 39:42-43*

Bottom Line: We can work together to get God's work done.

Memory Verse: "Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do." Ecclesiastes 4:9, *NIRV*

Life App: Cooperation—working together to do more than you can do alone.

SFX: Play high-energy heavy-metal-type music as kids enter (continue to play underneath the voiceover below).

Opener

Host is sitting on a chair on the stage and pretends to be Driving by turning a pretend steering wheel....

SFX: Crash

Host holds his hands up as if to say, "Sorry, my bad," and continues to "drive."

Host continues to drive again....

SFX: Crash

Host stands up out of the "car" looking embarrassed

"Welcome ... to HIGH GEAR!"

CG: High Gear Slide

SFX: Music swells

He/She removes his helmet and gives a smile, a wink, and a thumbs up as the music hits a final ending.

SFX: Cut/fade music (at a natural stopping point)

HOST: (Out of breath, as if he's done some huge workout) "Whew! Man! There is nothing like feeling the power of a ground-pounding, ear-shattering 8,000 horsepower 426 hemi extreme with quad overlays and a 4.5 inch stroke. I can go from 0-60 faster than a toupee in a hurricane! And you know what? I'm going to take a few of you along for the ride! Are you ready to start your engines?!"

SFX: Start music again

Host urges the kids to "make some noise."

"Today we start a whole month learning what God has to say about cooperation.

CG: Cooperation Slide

"Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone. And today, on High Gear, I need two teams to cooperate and build—from the ground up—your very own ... RACE CARS! I only have one question left for you kids. *(Pause.)* ARE YOU READY TO RACE?!"

Host asks two Small Group Leaders to choose two willing volunteers each. One volunteer will be building, and the other will be the "driver" around which the "car" will be built.

Each team, helped by a Small Group Leader, must assemble a car from nine pieces. The first one to finish the car wins! The pieces are oversized boxes. The boxes, will form a "car" around one of the volunteers, who will be kneeling on the floor.

Host explains the game: Each team must race to put the car together. The last piece that signifies the winner is the helmet—a box over the head of the "driving" volunteer.

"Now that we've got our teams set, let's get this race on! Who thinks that THIS team is going to win?"

Host holds his hand over one "team," encouraging the audience to cheer.

"What about THIS team?"

Host holds his hand over the other "team," encouraging the audience to cheer. He then pulls out a green flag (or something to signify the start of the race), and holds it up.

"Racers on the line ... and in three ... two ... one ... build!"

SFX: Increase music volume

Host encourages both teams, revving up the crowd. He declares a winner.

"We have a winner! Put your hands together for [winners' names]!"

Host high fives or fist bumps both teams.

Cut music

"How cool to work together with your leaders to build something awesome!"

SETTING UP THE STORY

CG: Cooperation Slide

STORYTELLER: “Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone! Think with me for a second here. How many of you know that things are easier with other people helping? Like ... chores? I know when my mom told me to clean my room it was a lot easier when my mom or dad or brother would help. Think of the tallest building you’ve ever seen. Did one person build that tall building all by himself? *(Pause for response.)* Nope. The buildings you live in, the roads you drive on, the playgrounds you swing at—they could never be built without help! When people work together, they can do WAY more than just one person working alone.

“In today’s story, we’re learning about a tent. Usually, when you go camping, tents are for one, two, or maybe even up to four or five people. But today’s tent? It’s WAY more than just a tent. This was a huge tent called the tabernacle. And the Israelites carried it and reassembled it wherever they went! Let me tell you how this tabernacle—this ‘dwelling place for God’—was planned.

*First though I need a small group leader’s help
(Choose a SGL to be Moses and have them put the Moses costume on.)*

“God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt and led them into the wilderness. Then God called to their leader, Moses. *(In a booming God-like voice)* ‘Moses, come up to Me on the mountain!’

“Ok Moses, start climbing the mountain....

STORYTELLER: “Moses climbed the mountain. Once he got up to the mountain, God spoke to him from inside a cloud that covered the whole mountain. God gave Moses instructions so the people would know the best ways to live, and God also told Moses about the special way He had designed for His people to get to be close to him.”

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TABERNACLE

STORYTELLER: *(In a booming God-like voice)* “‘Have the people make a sacred tent for me. Make it exactly like the pattern I will show you.’ *(Normal voice)* God gave Moses every detail for the tabernacle, a beautiful home for God that could be packed up and reassembled—exactly like a tent!”

(Looks at Moses.....) “Now Moses you are probably thinking, ‘Whoa, that’s a BIG job for my to do all by myself!’”

STORYTELLER: “But God had everything worked out. *(In a booming God-like voice)* ‘I have given many people the ability to do all this work. They can make everything I have commanded.’”

But, First, we’re going to need a plan. *(To the audience)* And God gave Moses a great plan for getting it all done. God wanted Moses to gather all of the people together.”

“So, Moses...get all of these people (points to the kids) together in one big group.”

Moses gets down into the crowd and asks all the kids to scoot in to create one tight group.

STORYTELLER: “Then, Moses told the group all about God's plan.”

Hand Moses a piece of paper to read with the plan

MOSES reading from paper: “God wants us to take up an offering. He wants everybody to chip in what they can. He wants us to give gold, silver, bronze, beautiful yarn, fabrics, olive oil, and spices. We're going to be building something awesome—a tabernacle! It's like a huge, beautiful tent that He will dwell in, to meet with us and speak to us. It's going to be magnificent!”

STORYTELLER: “Moses went on to talk about the tabernacle, what it would look like, what kinds of things would be in it, but the people—that's YOU, kids—were wondering how in the world they were going to build all of this stuff.”

BUILDING THE TABERNACLE

STORYTELLER: “But remember, God said that among the people—that's YOU, kids—He had given gifts, talents, and abilities. So there were people who were good builders, artists, people who could sew, people who could craft, and with everyone's help, through cooperation, the tabernacle would be built. And not only that, but God also asked Moses to find a man named Bezalel, because God had made Bezalel a talented craftsman, and Bezalel would oversee the construction.”

“God knew that He had gifted certain people with specific skills. He knew that among the people, there were people who could do great work. And just like with the Israelites, God has given abilities to people here, too! There are kids here with some mad skills, too! I'm guessing there are more than a few master LEGO® builders in here—or kids who love constructing on Minecraft—or kids who love making jewelry, paintings, or inventions!”

“SO, Moses, let's build this tabernacle...go into the crowd and pick out a few kids to help us...”

*Moses goes into the crowd and picks 3 or 4 kids to help.
He shows the kids the baskets of supplies in the baskets in the back of the room.*

TABERNACLE GETS FINISHED

STORYTELLER: “The people who were with Moses began to bring supplies.

Moses and kids bring up baskets of supplies

Some people brought pieces of gold and silver and bronze. Some brought spices and olive oil. Some brought fabric to make the walls.”

HOST: “So let's get to it! People, bring the supplies!”

Host instructs some kids to bring up the blanket fort supplies and lay them out so everyone can see on the stage.

STORYTELLER: “Moses instructed Bezalel to begin construction. Bezalel did begin the construction, but even more than that, Bezalel was a great teacher—he taught others how to build things really well too. So let’s build us a tabernacle!”

With Moses’ help, have the kids fashion the biggest blanket fort ever! Use chairs to form walls, tunnels, and an entrance.

As kids are building, Storyteller is vocally pointing out when kids are working together—one is holding a chair as the other drapes the sheet, and so on. When the group is finished, Storyteller continues.

STORYTELLER: “God’s people came together, offering their skills and their possessions. They did the work, just as God had commanded. When it was finished, Moses put the final touches on it by placing the furniture as God had instructed. Then he took the grand tour.”

HOST: “It’s perfect! Down to the smallest golden almond blossom on the lamp stand. Let’s pretend we’re Moses and go inside and take the tour!”

Moses and the kids go into the blanket fort—and if possible, Storyteller finishes the rest while they are inside the fort.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “The tabernacle was complete. Once Moses was done setting it up, God Himself came inside to live among His people. With God’s guidance, His people had created an amazing place to draw closer to Him.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“When God gives you a big job to do, He’ll also help you find people to help you finish the job. It’s like our Bottom Line says: **[Bottom Line] We can work together to get God’s work done.** Who knows what God might ask you to do for Him? But remember, when God gives you that job to do, you can find people around you and work together to get it done! Let’s pray.”

Pray

STORYTELLER: “God, You didn’t create us to be alone. You didn’t create us to be a solo act, a single rider, or a party of one. You created us to love You and to love the people around us—and I thank You for the spirit of cooperation in this room right now. I pray that You will help all these kids and adults find ways to cooperate with each other—and I thank You that Your Word taught us about the tabernacle and how it was built. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”