

CITY SG – Jan 16th/17th

Bible Story: The Biggest Losers (People help Moses) • *Exodus 17:8-13*

Bottom Line: We can work together to help someone else succeed.

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one because they have a good return for their labor.” Ecclesiastes 4:9, *NiV*

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

Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Kids are often competing with each other, so today’s Bottom Line might be a bit counterintuitive for some. Pray that God would break through these barriers and soften kids’ hearts to see that He wants us to cooperate with our peers to contribute to the success of someone else.

Help a Friend Out (*application activity*)

What You Need: Balls; 10 for each Small Group, bin or box large enough to hold the balls

What You Do:

- Place the balls down in front of the kids. Then place the bin a few feet away so the kids can walk over to the bin.)
- Pair kids up and have them stand side-by-side and link their arms.
- Tell kids to use their outside (free) arms to pick up a ball off the ground and carry it over their heads to put in the bin or box placed a couple of feet away.
- For an added challenge, have them bunny hop to get the balloon to the bin or box instead of walking.

What You Say:

“You guys did great with that challenge! What if I had told you to hold the ball over your head by yourself, without holding the tie? That would have been a lot harder, huh? You needed each other to complete the task. Sometimes there are things we just can’t do by ourselves. We need each other to be able to do what we’ve been asked to do. When things come up that seem like too much to do alone, **[Bottom Line] we can work together to help someone else succeed.**”

Show Your Appreciation

What You Need: Piece of white poster board (one per small group); red, white, and pink paper or cardstock; markers; scissors; glue sticks; Heart stickers

What You Do:

- Ask kids to work together to think of someone who works or volunteers in the CITY or in our church who they think could use some encouragement.
- Tell kids to use the provided supplies to make one giant card for that person. Make sure they each write something in it, saying what they appreciate about that person.

What You Say:

"I like the way you cooperated to make this card for [person's name]. I'm sure she (*or he*) will really love getting this card. I bet it will encourage her (*or him*) and help her to work even harder than she (*or he*) already does. I appreciated the way you worked together to help someone else!

In Motion (*memory verse activity*)

What You Need: Memory verse card

What You Do:

- Hold up the memory verse card and read the verse TO the kids (for 1st grade)
- You can use the card or look up the verse in the Bible for 2nd-3rd
- Say the verse together a few times
- Look up the verse as a group and say it together.
- Work together to come up with motions for the verse. Kids are free to think of motions on their own, with your help. But here are a few to help get started:
 - "Two are": hold up two fingers
 - "Better than": give thumbs up
 - "One because": hold up 1 finger
 - "They have a good return for": put your arm around someone else's shoulder
 - "their labor": move hands (palms up) in circle motion from center of body to outside of body
- Say the verse again with the motions.
- Guide the kids to say it faster and faster while doing the motions. See how fast they can go!

What You Say:

"Whew! Those were some fast motions! This is an important verse because it reminds us that we need each other, even when we think we can do everything ourselves. No matter what, we need to work with others because **[Bottom Line] we can work together to help someone else succeed.**"

Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Have kids sit in a circle.
- Pray, thanking God for all the people in our lives who work together to help us and take care of us.
- Instruct kids to think of one person in their lives who helps them, such as a teacher, parent, coach, etc.
- Ask one kid to stand up and name someone who helps him. Ask that kid to then reach out his hand and help up the person next to him in the circle, who will then stand up and say his person, and so on.

What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You for giving us people in our lives to help us. Thank You that we don't have to do everything by ourselves and thank You that we can help each other. We pray that You will show us how to help one another every day. Amen."