

ALLEY LG – Jan 23rd/24th

Bible Story: Yes, I Think I Can Dance! (Jesus heals a paralyzed man) • *Luke 5:17-26*

Bottom Line: We can work together to change someone's life.

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.

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

Host enters wearing mechanic shirt and hat, carrying a wrench

Opener

HOST: “Hey, everybody. Glad you made it today! This whole month we have been talking about cars. Man, I love cars! The power ... the precision ... it is beautiful! More than just cars, though, we are also talking about what it means to go faster, further, and be better together.

CG: *Cooperation Slide*

“That is cooperation—working together to do more than you can do alone. We have another High Gear game for you all that is going to take a bit of cooperation. I need all the Small Group Leaders to stand up!

Direct SGLs to stand up and spread out.

“Congratulations, leaders! You are going to have the privilege of becoming a car today. In just a moment, each Small Group will get supplies to turn you into a car. Kids, you will have everything you need to decorate them. We will then vote on the best-decorated leader. Then we have one last matter to settle. Let's get the supplies!

Direct kids to join their SGLs. Give each group a pile of supplies. Give them a time limit.

“Ready? Go!

SFX: *Play Born to Be Wild during game.*

After time is up, direct each SGL to parade across the stage. Have the judges declare a winner.

“That was amazing! You all did a great job. Well, as I mentioned, we have one more matter to settle. These cars look nice, but what good is a car that just looks nice if it can't run? We need to have a race!

Announce a racecourse to the SGLs and have them race. Commentate the race. Afterward the leaders can be seated.

“What a race! Well done, leaders.

SETTING UP THE STORY

Host: “To get us started this morning, check out this verse from the book of John. This is Jesus talking in John 13:35, and He says (*read directly from the Bible*), ‘If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples.’ In other words, Jesus was saying that people will know Christians by the way they treat each other, the way they love each other, and the way they cooperate with each other.

“When Jesus went back to heaven, He didn’t leave behind any churches—at least no church buildings. Instead, He left His friends—the people who had followed Him and listened to His teachings. They met every day in the temple courtyards to remind each other about the things He taught them, and they met together in their homes too. You can imagine Peter and John and the other disciples talking about what Jesus said and what Jesus taught them.”

Check this out....

Bible Story Video: 252 Story Week 3

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

HOST: “You know, it’s pretty amazing to see how those friends worked together. They could have given up when they saw the crowds. Or maybe they had something better they could have been doing that day. But instead they worked together to help in a huge way and bring their paralyzed friend to Jesus. They changed his life forever.

“And you may not realize this, but you and your friends can help change people’s lives. It could be something big, like what if your group of friends put some of your allowance money together every month to give to a family or child in need somewhere? That could really change their lives.

“Or what if you and your friends decided to go together to a nursing home and play board games with somebody who might be feeling lonely? How amazing would that be?!

“Just think, you and your friends could possibly even change someone’s life simply by inviting someone into your group who maybe doesn’t have many friends or has just moved to town. You can help them know that they matter ... and that changes everything!

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“The one thing to remember today is this: **[Bottom Line] We can work together to change someone’s life.**”

“Ask God to help you think of ways you can love and help others. Because when you’re working together with your friends and you’re working together with God, that’s when lives really start to change.

Pray

STORYTELLER: “Let’s pray. God, thank You for this great example of cooperation that we find in the pages of Your Word. Thank You for Jesus, and how He really was who He claimed to be.

Thank You that He cares so much about each one of us, and that He has the power to forgive us just like the man in the story was forgiven. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name, amen."

Dismiss to small groups