

CITY SG – Jan 30th/31st

Bible Story: Flip This Church (Early Church works together) • Acts 2:42-47 (Supporting: John 13:35)

Bottom Line: Working together can point people to Jesus.

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.” 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. Pray that your kids would understand that their actions, as followers of Christ, point back to Jesus and His message. Pray that they would be encouraged to work together to point people back to Jesus. Ask God to give kids opportunities to show others God’s love and to do it together with their fellow believers!

Running Together (application activity / review the Bible story)

What You Need: Coffee filters (1 for each kid), washable markers, spray bottle of water, paper plates (one per kid)

What You Do:

- Give each child a paper plate. Set out a coffee filter for each kid on their plate.
- Then, give each kid a different color of washable marker and have them write their name on every coffee filter with that same marker.
- When all the names are on all the coffee filters, let kids spray a mist of water over the names so the ink from the markers spreads.
- Allow the coffee filters to dry so kids can bring them home. Throw away the paper plates

What You Say:

“The early church was made up of many different people who each were good at different things. Just like these pictures look better with all the different colors and names than they would look with just one color or one name, the church was better with all the people coming together as one group. Because God made each of us unique, we need to learn what we are good at and what others are good at so we can use our talents to help people know Jesus better. We can each use our talents to contribute to a project or task, because **[Bottom Line]** working together can point people to Jesus.”

Write Love with Your Hands (application activity)

What You Need: Piece of cardstock with the word LOVE on it

What You Do:

- Hold up the cardstock with the word LOVE written on it.
- Pair kids up and let them work with their partner to form those letters using their bodies.

What You Say:

“In the Bible, Jesus says people will know us by our love. We can’t walk around all week spelling the word ‘love,’ but we can show others our love for Jesus and for other people by the things we do. For instance, we might pick up a pen someone dropped or hold the door open for someone carrying a

heavy load. Or we might give someone a hug who had a hard day or make a card for someone who is having a birthday. Whenever someone thanks you this week for doing something kind, be sure to tell them that you did it because you love Jesus. Telling people the reason for doing nice things helps them to know that we are helping and cooperating with others because **[Bottom Line] working together can point people to Jesus.**"

Shout It Out (memory verse activity)

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Read the verse together.
- Then divide kids into two groups.
- Have each group stand on opposite sides of the room facing each other. Have the first group say the first sentence of the verse and the second group says the second sentence in response. When they say their sentence, the first group should start out whispering it as quietly as possible. Then, have the second group say their part a little louder. Keep repeating it back and forth, getting louder each time until the kids are shouting.
- When the volume in the room has gotten as loud as possible, start over by reversing which group is saying which part of the verse.
- *Note: If you have multiple groups in the room, you may want to do this activity as an environment-wide one, so one group isn't bothering another group doing a different activity.*

What You Say:

"You guys really seem to have this verse down pat! As you leave church and go about your week, keep thinking of this verse and what it means. The verse reminds us to work together, which is important because **[Bottom Line] working together can point people to Jesus.**"

Pray

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids to think about how they could work with one another to point others to Jesus.
- Have them brainstorm service-oriented tasks that could help people know Jesus better, such as: making care packages for homeless people, sitting with a new kid at school, or offering to help a neighbor with a chore.
- Pray that God will provide opportunities for working together to lead others to Jesus.

What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You for all the gifts and talents You have given each of us. Help us to see the opportunities we have this week to cooperate with others. Please show us how we can use the wonderful things You have given us to point people to Jesus. Amen."

PARENT CONNECTION AT PICK UP: Encourage parents to hang the coffee filters up at home so kids can remember to pray for everyone in their Small Group this week.