

CITY SG – 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.

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 why He wants us to cooperate with others and that He made us to live in community with other believers. Pray that God would give your kids opportunities to work together with others to get His work done, whether it's as big as a service project or as "small" as showing kindness to someone who needs it.

Shape It (Review the story)

What You Need: Pieces of yarn; 5-foot length for every 3 kids (SGL's: Please put yarn back in bin to be used again)

What You Do:

- Ask kids to briefly retell the Bible story. Here are some highlights to make sure they include:
 - Moses went up on the mountain, and God told him to tell the people to build a tabernacle.
 - God's people worked together to build the tabernacle. It was a tent they carried with them and rebuilt wherever they went.
 - They used their various skills to create something better than they could have done separately.
 - Incredibly skilled builders, artists, people who could sew, people who could craft all worked together, and with everyone's help, through cooperation, the tabernacle was built.

What You Do:

- Divide kids into teams of three or four.
- Tell each team to sit in a circle, facing each other.
- Give each team a length of string. Put the string in the center of the circle. Tell kids to reach into the circle and hold onto string. Instruct them to close their eyes to keep them from peeking.
- Call out a shape, and tell the kids to work together to make their string into that shape without looking. Start out easy, with a circle, and get harder with a square, rectangle, and a triangle. End with a car shape. (They can look at their string to make the car shape.)

What You Say:

"That was a tricky activity, but it would have been even harder if you'd had to do it alone. Working together made it easier. Just like the Israelites did in today's story, you all worked together, using your various skills, to make and use the shapes. Cooperation is about working together and sharing what we

have to do God's work. **[Bottom Line] We can work together to get God's work done.** What you did wasn't necessarily 'God's work,' but it was a great example of how when we work together, we can get more done than when we work separately."

Popcorn Talents (*application activity*)

What You Need: "Popcorn Talents" Activity Page; 1 for each Small Group

What You Do:

- Talk to kids about how the people who built the tabernacle each used their unique set of talents to make it as good as it could be.
- Have kids sit in a circle and then read off the list of talents and abilities from the Activity Page. When kids hear a talent or ability they have, have them jump up from their seated position like popcorn. They should sit down quickly after jumping up to be ready for the next talent to be read.
- When you reach the end of the list, talk to kids about how we don't all have the same talents, so we need to cooperate with one another.
- Read off the situations from the Activity Page one at a time and have kids brainstorm how they could work together with other people in that situation.
- Ask kids what other ways they can think of in which they could use their talents to work together.

What You Say:

"No one is good at everything, but everyone is good at something. (*Name a few kids and their talents, based on their responses in the activity or what you already know about them.*) God gave each of us different talents and abilities and when we use those things to work together we can make things better for everyone. Sometimes a task can seem overwhelming alone, but that's why we have each other.

[Bottom Line] We can work together to get God's work done."

1ST GRADE ACTIVITY:

ABC Verses (*memory verse activity*)

What You Need: "ABC Verses" Activity Page; (1 per child), alphabet stickers (1 set per child)

What You Do:

- First, hold up the Memory Verse Sheet and read the verse to the kids (NOTE many first graders are not good readers yet, so please read the verse To them)
- Read the verse a few times together
 - Divide kids into pairs.
 - Give each pair a set of alphabet stickers and each kid an Activity Page. Let them work together to match letter stickers and place a sticker on the first letter of each word.

What You Say:

"This verse tells us that we were not meant to do things on our own. Two people are better than one because they can help each other. It's important to remember to ask for help when you need it because sometimes more people can do a job better together than they could alone. We want to make sure we

are doing our best in everything we try to do. **[Bottom Line]** We can work together to get God's work done."

2ND- 3RD GRADE ACTIVITY:

Do It Together (*memory verse activity*)

What You Need: "Memory Verse Phrases" Activity Pages, Bibles, pullback cars -1 for every 2 kids (SGL's: Please put cars back in bin to be used again)

What You Do:

- Help kids look up Ecclesiastes 4:9 in their Bibles. Use the following tips if needed.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3^d graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (*Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.*) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Ecclesiastes in the list under "Old Testament." When the kids find Ecclesiastes, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Ecclesiastes. Help the kids find the page. When they find Ecclesiastes, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 9 in chapter 4.

- Divide the kids into pairs. Give each pair a set of "Memory Verse Phrases" and hand out the pullback cars.
- Instruct each pair to mix up their phrases and lay them out on the floor several feet away from their team.
- Each pair will use their pullback cars to "win" a phrase. When a car lands on a phrase, the pair can pick up the phrase. When all phrases have been won and put in order, the pair should say the Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line]** we can work together to get God's work done.
- Explain that you will also be playing the game, but you will be playing by yourself. (Make sure you end up being the last one finished.)
- After the game, collect the pullback cars to be used the rest of the month.

What You Say:

"You guys just lived out the memory verse. Since you were working together in pairs, you beat me, because I was just working alone. Two people really were better than one! Can you think of some other times when two people are better than one? (*Pause for responses.*) Sometimes, when we have a task that seems overwhelming, we need to let others help us. It also means that we need to be on the lookout for ways that we can help other people with the job they are trying to accomplish. Because when we team up and work together, we can accomplish much more than we ever could alone."

Pray

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Let a few volunteers take turns praying for the people they cooperate with every day.
- Encourage them to ask for God's help cooperating with parents, teachers, siblings, and friends.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for all the people You’ve put in our lives every day. We thank You for the parents who take care of us, the teachers who teach us, and for our pastor(s) and Small Group Leaders who teach us about You. Please give us cooperative attitudes so we can work together with others to get Your work done. Amen.”

PARENT CONNECTION AT PICK UP

Tell parents/adults who pick up to ask their kids what they think God’s work is. Also, remind kids to hang up the Activity Page from “ABC Verses” with the verse printed on it at home so they can remember to review it this week.