City LG—October 24th-25th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Right Now (Timothy) • 1 Timothy 4:12 (supporting: Acts 14–17; 1 Timothy 4:14; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 16:10)

Today's Bottom Line: You can make a difference right now.

Monthly Memory Verse: How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. Psalm 139:14 (NIrV)

NOTE: Groups kids together into their Small Groups to start your Service

WORSHIP: Undefeated and Give My All

"Hi, everyone! So glad to see you all here today. I love to see you all gathered together in your Small Groups. Today we are going to start with a question, and you will have 3 minutes to answer it together as a group. Here's the question...

SLIDE: Group Question Week 4

3 minutes on the clock! Here we go!

CG: Group Question Week 4 VIDEO (Runtime: 3:00)

"Great job, everyone! I'm so glad to be here with you today. Our story is about a young man named Timothy. (Hold up Bible.) To tell you his story, I thought we could play a fun game that I like to call 'Squat, Stand, or Jump!'

SLIDE: "Squat, Stand, or Jump!"

"This game is pretty simple. From time to time, I'll ask you a question, and I'll give you three possible answers. If you think it's the first answer, you squat. If you think it's the second answer, you stand. If you think it's the third answer, you jump. Sound like fun? Let's get started!

"First, let me give you a little background about Timothy. Timothy was from a town called Lystra. His mother and grandmother were Jewish, so they believed in the one true God. Timothy's father was Greek, and he most likely wasn't a believer.

"One day, a visitor came to the town of Lystra. Was it . . .

SLIDE: Game guestion #1a

"... Jesus ... Paul ... or Daniel Tiger?

"Remember, squat if you think it's the first answer, Jesus. (Demonstrate.) Stand if you think it's Paul. (Demonstrate.) Or jump if you think it's Daniel Tiger. (Demonstrate.)

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're standing, you're right. It was Paul!

SLIDE: Game question #1b

"You can all sit down. (Motion for the kids to sit down.)

"Paul and his friend Barnabas had come to Lystra to tell people the good news that Jesus is the Son of God who had come to save us from our sins."

"While Paul and Barnabas were there in Lystra, something amazing happened. Did Paul . . .

SLIDE: Game question #2a

"... pick a four-leaf clover ... pet a cute dog ... or heal a man who couldn't walk?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're jumping, you're correct. With God's power, Paul healed a man who had never been able to walk! (Motion for the kids to sit down.)

SLIDE: Game guestion #2b

"The people of Lystra were so amazed that they actually started worshipping Paul and Barnabas like they were gods. The people even wanted to bring sacrifices to them. But Paul said . . .

Open the Bible to Acts 14:15 (NIrV) and read.

"Friends, why are you doing this? We are only human, just like you. We are bringing you good news. . . Turn to the living God.

"Paul had done a good job of getting out of THAT situation! But then some people from nearby towns heard what was happening in Lystra, and they weren't too happy about it. They showed up and convinced the townspeople to throw stones at Paul. Yikes!

"The crowd dragged Paul outside of the city. But then, the other believers gathered around Paul. And Paul didn't give up. He got up and went right back into the city. Now remember, this was all happening in the town where Timothy lived. What do you think Timothy was doing while all this was going on? Was he . . .

SLIDE: Game guestion #3a

"... petting a cute dog ... cooking dinner for his mom and grandma ... or watching from a distance?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"Interesting! The truth is, we don't know what Timothy was up to while all this was happening to Paul.

SLIDE: Game question #3b

"But we DO know that he must have heard about all these big things that were going on in his town!" (Motion for the kids to sit down.)

"Paul and Barnabas then traveled to a place called Derbe, to tell the people there about Jesus. Later, they returned to Lystra. Timothy, his mother, and his grandmother had all listened to Paul's teachings . . . and at some point, all three of them decided something important. Did they decide to . . .

SLIDE: Game question #4a

"... believe in Jesus ... learn how to juggle ... or start a family band?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're squatting, you're right. Timothy, his mom, and his grandma all decided to believe in Jesus! (Motion for the kids to sit down.)

SLIDE: Game guestion #4b

"Paul continued on his journey to tell others about Jesus. But he left behind a new and growing church in Lystra. Years later, when Paul came back to Lystra, the other followers of Jesus had something to say about Timothy. Did they say Timothy was . . .

SLIDE: Game guestion #5a

"... a great beach volleyball player ... a faithful Jesus-follower ... or an amazing comedian?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're standing, you're correct. The other believers all spoke well of Timothy. They told Paul that Timothy was a faithful follower of Jesus. (Motion for the kids to sit down.)

SLIDE: Game guestion #5b

"Paul was looking for someone who could help him encourage the new churches he had started. Timothy knew God's Word, and he could speak to both Jewish and Greek people because of the way he had grown up. He would be the perfect person to help Paul! Let's stop there and find out more with the help of this week's video! Take a look!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 5:00)

I love that story! I also love that Paul wrote a letter to Timothy to encourage him. Here's what Paul wrote . . .

Open the Bible to 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIrV) and read.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say and in how you live. Also set an example in how you love and in what you believe. Show the believers how to be pure.

"Paul really believed that Timothy could lead the other believers by setting a great example right where he was! He didn't have to wait, and you don't have to wait to make a difference and show God's love to others.

CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 2:00)

[Bottom Line] "You can make a difference right now.

"Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

PRAY: "God, thank You for Timothy's incredible example. He didn't let the fact that he was young stop him for telling others about You. Help us all see how we can share Your love, regardless of how old we are. Help us make a difference right now, with the gifts and abilities You've given us. Show us how we can use our individuality to share Your love with the people You put in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

"Before we head to Small Group, let's say our memory verse for this month. These are David's words from Psalm 139:14."

SLIDE: Memory Verse

KIDS: "How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." (Psalm 139:14, NIrV)

"That's right. God made you with amazing individuality. He put you exactly where you are, in your family and in your school, so He can use you RIGHT NOW. And guess what? You get to talk more about that in Small Group. Before we head there, let's take our offering!"

OFFERING:

Here in Parkview Kids, we bring our offering each week to help support (your Campus Child) learn more about Jesus just like we do here in Parkview Kids. Here's a picture of (your Campus Child)! If you brought your offering, you can bring it up now!"

Orland Park: Michael and Valeri, New Lenox: Daniel, Homer Glen: Victor

Dismiss kids to their small groups.