

# CITY SG September 14 - 15, 2024

**Today's Bible Story:** Take Time (Jesus Heals Bartimaeus) • *Mark 10:46-52*

**Today's Bottom Line:** Make time to help others.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** "Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)

**Monthly Virtue:** Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

## 1. Match and Tell

*Bible Story Review*

**What You Need:** "Story Sequence" Cards (one set in a bag per group)

**What You Do:**

- Shuffle the "Story Sequence" cards and lay them out facedown, in a grid pattern.
- Instruct the kids to pair up.
- Direct each pair to take turns flipping over two cards, trying to find a match.
- When a pair finds a match, instruct the pair of kids to try to retell that part of the story to the rest of the group.
- Choose a pair of kids to begin the game.
- Continue playing until all the pairs have been found and the story has been reviewed.
- Challenge the kids to arrange the cards in story order and review the story one more time.
- Ask, "How did Jesus show compassion to Bartimaeus? (*Invite responses, like: Jesus stopped to talk to and heal Bartimaeus.*)
- Say, "Even, though Jesus was very busy, He stopped to help Bartimaeus. When Jesus stopped to show compassion to Bartimaeus, it changed his life forever! Jesus showed us what a difference we can make when we **make time to help others.**"

## 2. Eye Heart

*Application Activity*

**What You Need:** Paper plates (1 per kid), markers, and completed example (one per group)

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid a paper plate and a marker.
- Instruct the kids to write their names on the back of their plate.
- Direct the kids to place the plate on top of their heads.
- Explain that you will give them directions on what to draw while holding the plate on their head.
- Encourage kids to do their best to follow your directions even though they can't see what they're drawing.
- Share the following instructions:
  - Step 1: Draw a large heart, taking up as much of the plate as you can.
  - Step 2: Draw an oval in the middle of the heart.
  - Step 3: Draw a small circle inside the oval.
  - Step 4: Draw an even smaller circle in the middle of that circle, and color that small circle in.
- Invite kids to take their plates off their heads and look at their pictures.
- Reveal your example during the conversation below.
  - "Great job on your drawings! What do you think it resembles? (*Invite responses. Show the kids your example if they're not able to tell what they've illustrated. It's an eye inside a heart.*) Does it look *exactly* like an eye with a heart around it? Maybe not. It's so much easier to draw when we can look at the paper to see what we're doing.

- “Sometimes, we need help to see who Jesus is. What are some things we can do to learn more about Jesus? *(Invite responses, like: going to Small Group, reading the Bible, praying, asking questions, etc.)*

### 3. Hide It

#### Memory Verse Activity

**What You Need:** Bible marked at Matthew 5:16, marker, butcher paper and sticky notes

#### What You Do:

- Place a piece of butcher paper (or poster board) in the center of the group.
- Open the Bible to Matthew 5:16 and read it out loud to the group.
- Write the verse in big letters on the paper.
- Invite anyone else who would also like to read the verse out loud or invite the entire group to recite the verse together.
- Give each kid a sticky note.
- Share that the goal is to cover the verse with their sticky notes—but with a twist!
- Instruct the kids to close their eyes and then blindly place their sticky note on the butcher paper to read the verse despite it being covered and invite the kids to join you.
- Share that a sticky note must be touching the verse to count.
  - If a kid’s note isn’t touching any part of the verse, instruct them to remove it and try again.
- Pause between each round to read the verse.
- Continue with additional sticky notes until most or all of the verse is covered, and the kids can recite the verse from memory.

## AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

### PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

*“Dear God, thank You for the reminder that sometimes we may not see the needs of others unless we stop and look closely. Please help us have compassion so we can recognize and respond to the needs of those around us. Help us to be mindful of the people we see every day and give us the courage to reach out and help them in any way we can. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

- If there is still time, pass out the Parent Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home and bring back next week for a prize.

**PARENT PICK UP POINT:** As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them their paper plate and explain what an eye and heart had to do with today’s story.