

ALLEY SG - November 23 - 24, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Show Me How to Live (Love in Action) • 1 John 3:16-18

Today's Key Question: When has someone been generous to you?

Today's Bottom Line: Jesus showed us how to give.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Every good and perfect gift is from God.* James 1:17a (NIRV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Cross Cones" Cards (one set per group), "Cross Cones Leader Guide" Activity Page, flat cones (10 per group), ping pong ball (a few per bin)

What You Do:

- Set up the 10 cones in the middle of your group space in the shape of a cross.
 - Underneath each cone, place one of the Cross Cones cards.
- Divide the group into 2 teams and invite teams to sit together.
- Explain that teams will take turns sending teammates to toss a ping pong ball trying to hit one of the cones.
 - If they hit a cone, kids will remove that cone from the cross and read the question underneath it.
 - Teams can work together to answer.
 - If a team answers correctly, they will receive the number of points listed.
 - If a team answers incorrectly, the opposing team will have an opportunity to answer for 1 point.
 - If neither team answers correctly, provide the answer and proceed with the next team's turn.
 - Refer to the "Cross Cones Leader Guide" Activity Page for the correct answers.
- Choose one team to go first and direct them to send one kid to toss a ball.
- After that team's turn is over, direct the next team to send one kid to the middle to toss a ball.
- Continue playing until all the cones have been removed and all questions have been answered.
- Celebrate the team with the most points as the winning team.
- Ask the following questions for discussion:
 - Who has God put in your life that you could help?
 - How can you be sure to keep your eyes open for opportunities to help those around you?
 - How can you meet the needs of others?
- Remind kids that there are always needs around us. We can ask God to help us see them and follow Jesus' example to meet them.

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Plastic snack size zip top bags (2 per kid), assorted candy and small gifts, small note cards or strips of paper, pens, markers

What You Do:

- Ask kids the following questions:
 - Who are some people you will probably interact with this week?
 - Out of those people, who do you think could use a little gift to make them feel special?
- Explain that kids will be given the chance to show generosity (making someone's day by giving something away) by making goodie bags that they can give to some of the people they'll see.
- Set out the supplies for the goodie bags: bags, candy (or small prizes), small note cards, pens or pencils, and markers.
- Give kids time to create 1-2 bags using the supplies provided; encourage them to make 1-2 bags. (Not more than 2)
- Direct the kids to write notes to go inside each bag to let that person know how much they love them and are grateful for them.
- As kids are working, invite them to share who they will give their bags to and why.
- After everyone has finished making their goodie bags, remind kids that Jesus showed us how to give. He constantly put love into action, and we can do that, too—even when we are generous in the small things.

3. Discussion Questions

- When has someone been generous to you?
- When someone is generous to you, does it inspire you to be generous to others? Why or why not?
- What has Jesus given to us?
- How should our lives be affected by what Jesus gave?
- Is it easy to follow Jesus' example?

3. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, dry erase set

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - *Every good and perfect gift is from God. James 1:17a*
- Write the first letter of each word from the Memory Verse on a dry-erase board or poster board.
- Instruct the kids to close their Bibles.
- Invite kids to take turns recalling one word from the Memory Verse one word at a time by looking at the first letter of each word.
 - Go around the circle, prompting each kid to recite a word.
 - Repeat the verse several times to review it.

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 gift of Jesus so we can see how You want us to show compassion and generosity to everyone. Thank You for the greatest act of love ever when Jesus gave up His life. Help us pay attention to the people around us so we can love others and be generous. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to tell them a way that they can give to others.