

CITY SG – March 1- 2, 2025

Today's Bible Story: Come On, Let's Go (Jesus and His Followers) • *Luke 5:1-11, 27-32; 6:12-16; 8:1-3*

Today's Bottom Line: Jesus wants us to work together.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.* Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NirV)

Monthly Virtue: Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: Nothing

What You Do:

- Greet each kid as they arrive and help them feel welcome!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Inform your group that they are going to play a game called "Director Says."
- Start by telling the kids that one person (you for now) will be the "Director" and give fun commands.
- Assume the role of the "Director" and explain how the game works:
 - The Director gives commands that start with "Director says," and the kids are to follow them.
 - If the command doesn't start with "Director says," the kids are to stay still.
- Begin the game by giving kids a few examples:
 - "Director says: act like a superhero!"
 - "Director says: dance like you're in a musical!"
 - "Director says: strike a pose!"
 - Then, try one without saying "Director says" to see if the kids catch on: "Jump up high!"
- After a few rounds, choose a kid to become the next "Director."
- Encourage the "Director" to come up with their own fun actions for the group to do.
- Keep playing, rotating "Directors" so each kid has a chance to lead the group with their own commands.
- Before you go to Large Group say, **"Now, let's go dive into a story from the Bible that helps us learn more about who we are, who God is, and who God created us to be."**

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. True or False Story Review

Bible Story Review

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Explain that you're going to review today's Bible Story by asking True or False questions.
- Show the kids what a "thumbs-up" looks like for "True."
- Show the kids what a "thumbs-down" looks like for "False."
- Read the following questions one at a time, pausing for kids to show their "thumbs-up" for "true" and "thumbs-down" for false.
- If the answer is false, help the kids to talk through what would make the answer true.

- Jesus could have done everything on His own without help. True or false? (*True! Jesus is God's Son, but He chose to work with a group of people.*)
- Jesus' followers were called "disciples." True or false? (*True!*)
- Jesus didn't pay His disciples to work for Him. True or false? (*True! Jesus wanted them to follow Him and work together because they chose to, not for money.*)
- Jesus chose people who were exactly alike. True or false? (*False! Jesus chose people from different backgrounds who didn't always get along.*)
- Jesus chose 12 men, including some women, to be His disciples and follow Him. True or false? (*True!*)
- Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John were tax collectors. True or false? (*False! They were fishermen.*)
- Jesus chose Matthew to follow Him, and everyone loved Matthew. True or false? (*False! Matthew was a tax collector, and people didn't like him at first.*)
- Only men followed Jesus. True or false? (*False! Women followed Jesus too—like Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna.*)
- Jesus wanted His followers to work together and share God's love. True or false? (*True!*)
- Jesus wants us to work together too. True or false? (*True!*)
- Ask, "Why do you think Jesus brought the disciples together?" (*Invite responses.*)
- Say, "They worked together to share Jesus with everyone. That's what Jesus wants us to do too! We can tell more people about Jesus when we work together! Remember, **Jesus wants us to work together.**"

2. Linked Arm Race

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, "Memory Verse Cards" (2 sets per group), and floor tape

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.
 - Read the memory verse from a Bible aloud to your group.
 - *Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIRV)*
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Find an open space in the room
- Mark a starting point on the floor using floor tape.
- Divide kids into pairs.
- Mix up the cards from the "Memory Verse Cards" and place them a distance away from the starting line.
- Direct the pairs/trios to form a line behind the starting point.
- One at a time, instruct each pair to link arms, race to the cards, pick up the top card and run back while both are holding the card.
- After returning, direct the pair to go to the back of the line.
- Repeat until all the cards are picked up.
 - *Note: Some pairs might need to run twice if you have a small group.*
- Once all the cards are collected, instruct the kids to work together to put the verse in order.
 - Help the kids as needed by encouraging them to repeat the verse aloud.
- Once the verse is assembled, encourage the kids to read it out loud a few times.
- Say, "Great job working together! I love this verse. It reminds us that two people really are better than one!"

3. Together We Act

Application Activity

What You Need: “Acting Scenarios” Cards (one set per group)

What You Do:

- Divide kids into pairs.
- Give one pair a card from the “Acting Scenarios”.
- Give them a few moments to read their scenario and discuss how they will act it out together.
**You may need to help the younger kids*
- Have that pair perform their scene at the front of the group space.
- Have the rest of the kids guess what they are acting out.
- Compliment the kids on their teamwork and creativity.
- Give another pair a scenario to act out and continue with the rest of the pairs.
- Say “Cooperation is about working together to do more than you can do alone. You couldn’t have acted these scenarios out alone!
- Say, “Remember Jesus wants us to work together. When we work together, we can do so much more!:

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 sending Jesus. We want to follow Him like the disciples did. Help us to work together and show others Your love. 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, encourage kids to say one thing they learned in today’s Bible story.