

# CITY SG – March 22 - 23, 2025

**Today's Bible Story:** Up on the Roof (Four Friends Work Together) • Luke 5:17-26

**Today's Bottom Line:** Work together to help someone in need.

**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:** Legos, building blocks, dominoes (any kind of building materials in campus supplies)

**What You Do:**

- Greet the kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Ask, "Did anyone work together with someone to help anyone else this past week?"
- Set out the building materials.
- Encourage the kids to get with a partner.
- Invite the kids to work together to build something.
- Before you go to large group, say "**Today, we'll hear about someone who needed friends to help in a big way!**"

## SMALL GROUP TIME

### 1. Roll the Dice Story Review

*Bible Story Review*

**What You Need:** Dice (2 per group)

**What You Do:**

- Have the kids take turns rolling both dice.
- Encourage them to answer the review question that corresponds with the number they rolled.
- If someone rolls a number already called, move onto someone else until all questions are answered.

**Review Questions:**

2. True or false? Jesus was teaching and performing miracles, and many people traveled to hear Him. *(Answer: true)*
3. Why did the main man in the story want to see Jesus? *(Answer: He couldn't walk.)*
4. How many friends helped the man who couldn't walk? *(Answer: four)*
5. How did the friends get their friend to Jesus? *(Answer: They carried him on a mat.)*
6. When they arrived at the house, what BIG problem did they find? *(Answer: The house was packed, and they couldn't get through the crowd.)*
7. What creative solution did the friends come up with when they saw how crowded it was? *(Answer: They took their friend to the roof, dug a hole, and lowered him to Jesus.)*
8. What did Jesus say to the man when he saw him? *(Answer: "Friend, your sins are forgiven." —Luke 5:20, NIRV)*
9. How did the religious leaders feel about what Jesus said? *(Answer: They were shocked because only God could forgive sins.)*
10. What happened next? Did Jesus help the man walk? *(Answer: Yes, He healed the man so he could walk.)*
11. Who were the helpers in today's story? *(Answer: The four friends who took the man to Jesus, and Jesus helped the man by forgiving his sins and healing him.)*
12. What is today's bottom line? *(Answer: Work together to help someone in need.)*

- Ask, “In today’s Bible Story, a man couldn’t walk until his friends helped him get to Jesus. How do you think he felt when his friends carried him to the roof? (*Invite responses.*)
- Ask, “What did Jesus say to the man when he was healed? (*“I tell you . . . get up. Take your mat and go home.”*) Even small acts of kindness can make a big difference!

## 2. Cooperation Collage

### *Application Activity*

**What You Need:** Butcher paper, markers

#### **What You Do:**

- Place the butcher paper in the middle of your space.
- Encourage the kids to reflect on someone who might need help.
  - *Some suggestions include—parents with chores, siblings with homework, a friend learning something new, a teacher handing out papers, a neighbor with yardwork, etc.*
- Have each kid find a spot on the paper and draw a scenario where they are helping Someone with something.
- Have each child explain how they are helping the person in need in their drawing.
- Ask, “What if you saw a problem that seemed too big to fix alone? Could you ask for help? (*Invite responses.*)
- Say, “Sometimes, when we see a need, it seems impossible to help. While we may not be able to physically carry people to Jesus like the friends in our story, we can still ask Jesus to help them. Getting together with friends to pray for someone who is hurting or going through a hard time still makes a big difference!

## 3. Hum Verse

### *Memory Verse Activity*

**What You Need:** “Memory Verse Sign” (one per group), and blue wall tape

#### **What You Do:**

- Use wall tape to display the “Memory Verse Sign” so the kids can see it (or have a leader hold it).
- Direct the kids to sit facing the sign with the Memory Verse on it.
- Recite the verse together a few times.
- Choose a kid to be the “guesser.”
- Instruct the “guesser” to stand with their back to the verse.
- Pick another kid to stand and touch one word from the verse.
- Instruct the rest of the group to recite the verse, but to hum the word the kid is pointing to instead of saying it.
- Direct the “guesser” to try to figure out which word is missing.
- If the “guesser” needs help, encourage them to say, “I need help.”
- Instruct the first kid to stand up when the “guesser” asks for help to whisper the missing word in the “guesser’s” ear.
- Continue until everyone gets a turn to guess.

## 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 loving us and for giving us each other. We see lots of needs around us—some are big, and some are small. Please help us to work together to help those in need. 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.