Always Open: Service with a smile

WEEK
THREE
FEBRUARY 2019

GRADES
4–5
SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE | SOCIAL | STORY | WORSHIP | GROUPS | HOME

252 PRETEEN

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PRELUDE | SOCIAL | STORY | WORSHIP | GROUPS | HOME

BIBLE STORY

Give a Little Bit
Feeding 5,000
John 6:1-13

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus sat down and called for the 12 disciples to come to him. Then he said, 'Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone.'"
Mark 9:35, NIrV

LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

What do you have that you can use to serve others?

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience
For Leaders Only
Create the Environment
Monthly Overview

15 MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction
Just For Fun
Get Your Head in the Game

25 MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
Welcome/Opener
Worship
Communication
Prayer

10 MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God
"Go" from *Alive*
"One Heartbeat" from *Every Beat*
"I Trust in You" from *Every Beat*

25 MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Extension
Discussion Questions
Verses to Take with You
Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience
GodTime
Parent Cue

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GETTING READY

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

1. JUST FOR FUN

Made to Move: *an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Several fish-shaped crackers for each student

Note: Be aware of any food allergies.

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

Made to Explore: *an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Explore: *an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Popcorn kernels (un-popped)
- Bowl of prepared popcorn containing 20 or more pieces plus extra in another container for snacking
- Small paper plates
- Before students arrive, count the number of pieces of popcorn in the bowl and write the amount on a sticky note or note card.
- *Optional:* electric air popper

Note: Be aware of any food allergies.

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: *n activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Serving tray or cookie sheet with four different snack items such as fruit or packaged snacks.
- Provide enough for each student to have one item only. Modify food items as needed to avoid allergies.
  - M&M'S® or Skittles®
  - Fish-shaped crackers
  - Fruit snacks
  - Cluster of grapes

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Connect: *an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: *an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Paper
- Scissors

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: *an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Note cards
- Pens

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app.**

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PRELUDE | **SOCIAL** | STORY | WORSHIP | GROUPS | HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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LIFE APP

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BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, pray that your group of kids would catch God's heart for serving those around them. Pray that they would begin to see how God could use them and what they have to meet really big needs around them, asking him for wisdom in how to point kids toward creativity and courage.

1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, fish-shaped crackers (several per student)

WHAT YOU DO:

- As kids arrive, **encourage** them to place their offering in the container.
- **Give** each person one fish-shaped cracker then ask them to lean their heads back and balance the cracker on their chins.
- **Challenge** the group to try and knock a cracker off the chin of another student without dropping his or her own.

Note: Be aware of any food allergies.

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BIBLE STORY

Give a Little Bit
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MADE TO EXPLORE

EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Invite** the students to each create a distinct and unique sound of a stomach growling.
- **Ask** them to demonstrate their stomach grumbles for one another.
- **Choose** someone to turn around.
- **Ask** the remaining students to rearrange.
- **Point** to someone in the group then have him make his unique stomach growl as the person whose eyes are closed guesses who it is.
- **Repeat** until everyone has had a chance to guess.
- **For variety** or if you have only a few students, create a pattern of stomach growls then see how fast the group can repeat the sequence of sounds without getting mixed up.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"We've all heard our stomachs growl when we're hungry. Can you imagine what it would sound like if all of our stomachs growled at the same time? Let's try it. *(Pause and let everyone make his or her stomach sounds at the same time.)* Now, imagine if our whole church was in this room and EVERYONE'S stomachs were growling at once. That would be an interesting sound. Let's go to Large Group and hear about a time when stomachs stopped growling because someone like you was willing to serve others."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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TALK
ABOUT GOD
BIBLE STORY REVIEW

BIBLE STORY

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EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

WHAT YOU NEED: Popcorn kernels, bowl of prepared popcorn, paper plates, *Optional:* air popper

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Show** kids the bowl of popped corn.
- **Pass** the container of corn kernels around and ask each person to take out the number of pieces they think it took to make the bowl of popped corn then place them on their plate.
- **Announce** the number of popcorn pieces by showing students the note card on which you wrote the amount then find out which student came the closest to that number.
- **Hold up** a kernel of corn and a piece of popped corn.
- **Remind** the group of the way Jesus multiplied one small lunch to provide food for over 5,000 people.
- **Invite** students to clean their hands with wet wipes or hand sanitizer.
- **Encourage** each person to take turns sharing a way he or she can use something they have (possessions, skills, time, money) to serve others.
- **Invite** them to take a piece of popcorn for each idea shared.

NOTE: Be aware of any food allergies your students may have.

Optional: Instead of supplying the popped corn, let students place a dried kernel into an air popper for every idea they share of ways to serve others using what we have. When finished, add more kernels if needed then turn on the air popper and pop the corn for the group to share as a snack.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"One little kid gave what he had and Jesus used it to meet the needs of thousands of people. Everyone has something to offer. So, don't hold back—offer it no matter how small it appears. Then watch what God will do after that."

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BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, food items on a serving tray or cookie sheet (modify food items as needed to avoid food allergies or choices your students would prefer)

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Hold out** the tray of food items and let students pick one.
- **Ask** them to share what they remember about one of the characters from the lesson based on the food item they chose and the list below.
  - Jesus: *package of M&M'S® or Skittles®*
  - Boy: *package of fish-shaped crackers*
  - Disciples: *package of fruit snacks*
  - Crowd: *cluster of grapes*
- **Read aloud,** if needed, John 6:1-13 to review the story.
- **Let** the students eat their snack as they discuss ways to apply the lesson.

Note: Be aware of any food allergies.

- **Ask:**
  - What stood out to you the most in this story?
  - What are some small, everyday needs that any of us can help meet?
  - What needs do people have that seem impossible for us to meet? How does this story help you see those situations in a different way?
  - What do you have right now that can be used in some way to serve others?

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LIVE FOR GOD APPLICATION ACTIVITY

BIBLE STORY

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What do you have that you can use to serve others?

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Do you know anyone who reminds you of the boy who shared his meal in today's Bible story? In what ways has that person shared what they have with others?
- What can sharing what you have to meet the needs of others do for you and your attitude?
- What gets in the way of you serving God with all you have?
- It's easy to share with others if you have a lot. Agree or disagree? Explain.

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HEAR FROM GOD

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

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CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, paper, scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Give** each person a piece of paper and a pair of scissors.
- **Point out** that the paper has four corners.
- **Cut off** a corner of the paper then point out that there are now five corners.
- **Challenge** the group to see how many corners they can make with just one paper in 30 seconds.
- **When the time is up,** ask students to add up all the corners of all the pieces to see who has the most. Include the corners of all the pieces that were trimmed off the original sheet of paper.
- **Remind** the students that the more times Jesus divided the bread and fish, the more he had to give away.
- **Invite** someone to read aloud Luke 16:10a.
- **Discuss:**
  - What do you think this verse means when it comes to serving others?
  - What are some small things God has entrusted you with that might be multiply to help others?
  - What would change in your family if everyone used what he or she had to serve others? How about at school?

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PRAY TO GOD

PRAYER ACTIVITY

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MADE TO REFLECT

REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: Note cards, pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Pass** around the note cards and pens.
- **Ask** students to think of something small they can do to serve others this week then write it in tiny print on their note cards. They are the only ones who need to know what it says.
- **Ask** them to think of something big they hope to someday do to serve others then write that in the biggest print possible on the other side of their notecard.
- **Allow** students to choose whether or not to share what they wrote.
- **Provide** a few minutes to pray, either silently or aloud then send students off with the following prayer:

WHAT YOU SAY:
"Dear God, we know that You can take small things and do great and amazing miracles with them. Help us to use what we have—whether great or small—to serve others this week. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

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