

Always Open: Service with a smile

WEEK
FOUR

FEBRUARY 2019

GRADES
4-5

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

252 PRETEEN

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WEEK
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SMALL GROUP

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HOME

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4

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, NIV

LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

What would happen if you never got credit for serving?

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

"Every Beat" from *Every Beat*
"Everywhere I Go" from *Every Beat*
"One Heartbeat" 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

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

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

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Box of dominoes
- Large serving tray or cookie sheet

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- One coin for each person
- Blindfold

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Crayons in a variety of colors
- Bible

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Markers
- "Service with a Smile" Activity Page, cut the cards apart; two to five for each student

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**.

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4



MOVE

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

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, NIV

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

Take some time to pray for your students before they arrive today. Pray that they would begin to see serving and volunteering (putting others first) as valuable on its own without the need to get value from their peers and others. Ask God to give them hearts and vision to serve others regardless of the earthly rewards they may receive.

LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Guide** kids to place their offering in the container.
- **Begin** by explaining the following motions:
 - Tornado—spin around and make the sound of howling wind.
 - Flood—hold nose and pretend to be going under water and say, "Glug, Glug, Glug!"
 - Blizzard—pretend to shovel snow and say, "Brrrrr!"
- **Ask** everyone to find a partner then stand back to back.
- **Explain** that they are going to try to match motions with their partners without speaking or knowing ahead of time which action their partners will choose. Tell them you will count to three then say, "Go!" Both partners should then turn and face each other and *immediately* make one of the motions.
- **Try** it again with the same partner or have everyone switch partners and see if a match can be created with someone new.
- **Announce** a winner based on the first person to get five matches.

KEY QUESTION

What would happen if you never got credit for serving?

BASIC TRUTH

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

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4



PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

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, NIV

LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

What would happen if you never got credit for serving?

BASIC TRUTH

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

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Ask** everyone to form a circle, kneel, and place both of their hands on the floor in front of them (or sit around a table).
- **Tell** each person to cross his or her left hand over the right hand of the person next sitting to the left of him or her.
- **Explain** that you will designate a direction (left or right) then you'll slap the floor with one of your hands. The hand closest to your slapping hand must then slap his or her hand, then the next closest, and so on.
- **Rules** are as follows:
 - A single slap keeps the slaps going in the correct direction.
 - A double slap sends the slap in the opposite direction.
 - If someone slaps the floor out of turn, he/she must remove that hand. All other hands stay where they are.
 - When both of someone's hands are out, that person is out of the game.
- **Play** with increasing speed until there are only two people left.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You should give yourselves a round of applause for that game. No, wait. That's probably not a good idea. Hold the applause until after Large Group then you'll understand why."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LIVE FOR GOD APPLICATION ACTIVITY



EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand
to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

What would happen if you never got credit for serving?

BASIC TRUTH

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

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

WHAT YOU NEED: Dominoes, serving tray or cookie sheet

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Sit** in a circle and set the serving tray on the floor in the middle.
- **Spread** out the dominoes so that each person can reach them.
- **Invite** students to take turns describing an act of kindness or service. It can be something they did or that was done for them.
- For each example, let them place a domino on the serving tray in an upright position and less than an inch away from the previous piece. The dominoes should "snake" around the serving tray in a curved row as students continue to share.
- **Prompt** ideas by suggesting they think of acts of service that happen in various places such as at a restaurant, dentist office, stoplight, or park. Suggest that they include "behind the scenes" situations in which a kindness is often unseen or taken for granted.
- When finished, **let** someone tap the first domino and watch the remaining ones fall.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW



PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

What would happen if you never got credit for serving?

BASIC TRUTH

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

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

WHAT YOU NEED: Coins, blindfold, Bible

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Sit** in a circle.
- **Give** each student a coin.
- **Choose** one person to sit in the middle of the circle and put on a blindfold.
- **Let** the students take turns silently placing their coins on the floor near the person in the center. If the blindfolded student thinks he hears someone and points in the right direction, that person is caught.
- **Switch** places and **repeat** several times.
- When finished, **talk** about the game while directing students back to the principles found in today's lesson: serve without looking for applause.
 - How did it feel to go unnoticed in the game?
 - When do you like to be noticed? Why?
 - Why do we get upset when no one notices something good we've done? Is that okay? Why or why not?
- **Invite** one or two students to read Matthew 6:1-4 aloud to review the lesson.
 - What can you do to watch out for your motives and attitude when serving others?
 - What does it mean to not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing?
 - Based on what Jesus said in these verses, is it wrong to serve when you just want credit for doing something nice? Explain.
 - If you are applauded and recognized for something you did, what is the best way to respond? What should your response be if your good work goes completely unnoticed?
- **Challenge** the students to think of ways they can serve others this week and do so as quietly and unnoticed as they were when they moved the coins earlier in the game.

LIVE FOR GOD APPLICATION ACTIVITY



CONNECT

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

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

What would happen if you never got credit for serving?

BASIC TRUTH

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

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What is an example of someone doing something just to get a pat on the back or a round of applause? It can be a true story (no names) or one you come up with.
- On the other hand, what is an example of someone doing something but not getting attention or praise for it? Again, it can be a true or imaginary story.
- Why do you think we enjoy applause so much?
- Why is receiving applause and recognition a bad motive for doing anything?
- What are some fun ways you can serve others without them ever knowing it?

HEAR FROM GOD MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY



REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service
Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

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LIFE APP

Service—Lending a hand to help someone else

KEY QUESTION

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BASIC TRUTH

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

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Sit** in a circle then **spread** the crayons across the floor within everyone's reach.
- **Talk** about the way colors often express a mood or feeling. Dark colors generally represent a more serious mood than lighter colors.
- **Explain** that you will read a verse then you'll ask them to choose a crayon color that represents how they feel about it. They can choose their colors based on an attitude they have, a memory of a situation that comes to mind, a person who did or didn't live out the verse, or a way the verse challenges them in some way.
- **Allow** each person time to select a color after you read each verse, then **ask** them to share why they chose the colors they did.
- **Include** yourself in the activity by choosing a crayon and using it to open further discussion about the meaning of the verse and how to apply it.
- **Read aloud:**
 - Ephesians 6:7
 - Romans 12:3
 - Matthew 25:23
 - Colossians 3:23a
- **Use** the following questions as needed to open up discussion and help students understand how to live out the principles in each verse.
 - What type of situation would be a good time to remember this verse?
 - What do you find encouraging about this verse?
 - How can you overcome the challenges that make this verse hard to live out?
 - What are some benefits of living out this verse?

PRAY TO GOD PRAYER ACTIVITY



CREATE

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

BIBLE STORY

Secret Service

Give in Secret
Matthew 6:1-4

MEMORY VERSE

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: "Service with a Smile" Activity Page, markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Give** each student some of the "Service with a Smile" cards and set out the markers.
- **Explain** that the cards are for them to take with them as a reminder of the things they learned this month.
- **Encourage** them to do an act of service for someone without being noticed then leave the card behind for that person to pass along with another act of kindness.
- **Invite** them to color the cards if they would like and share some ideas they have for ways they will use the cards this week.
- **Pray** over the "Service with a Smile" cards, asking God to use their service to encourage others and not for applause.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, help us to serve You with all that we have—not so people will compliment or applaud us but because we just want to show our love to You and to others. You have shown us by Your example how to serve unselfishly. Open our eyes to the gifts You've given us and help us use them to meet the needs of others wherever we can. In Jesus' name, amen."