



WEEK THREE - SEPTEMBER 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

Bible Story: *Won't You Please Help Me?* • Nehemiah 5:1-12

Bottom Line: *Don't wait for someone else to help in need.*

Memory Verse: *"Work at everything you do with all your heart. Work as if you were working for the Lord." Colossians 3:23a NIrV*

Life App: *Initiative - Seeing what needs to be done and doing it.*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated.*

Summary: In week three, we see a different part of Nehemiah's story. In Nehemiah 5:1-12, we discover that while everyone was building the wall, an issue arose. Some of the Israelites were severely mistreating each other. Even though Nehemiah was in charge of rebuilding the wall, he stopped the building of the wall to confront the issue. He cared enough about the people to help them figure out a solution.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others & build on their understanding

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- ASK:
 - What are some ways you showed initiative this past week?
 - What problem did you see and what did you do about it?
 - What task did you complete BEFORE an adult had to ask you?

2. Cheer Up

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: Construction paper; markers; stickers

What You Do:

- ASK:
 - Set out the materials and encourage kids to make "cheer you up" cards with fun pictures and friendly notes.
 - Encourage kids to take the cards with them this week and hand them out around school or home.

What You Say

"Those are some really great cards! I think the people you give those to this week are going to be really happy to get them. [Transition] Today in Large Group, we are going to hear about someone who helped people who needed it."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Don't wait for someone else to help people in need. When kids see people in need, we pray that they take initiative to help instead of thinking it is someone else's problem. God can use them along with the trusted adults in their life to make an impact in the lives of others.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Help on Wheels

[Bible Story Review]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: Paper plates; markers; brads; rulers

What You Do:

- Give each kid two paper plates.
- Show kids how to divide the front of one of the plates into eight quadrants by drawing four lines.
- Brainstorm ideas of ways they can help others in need (give food to a food bank, volunteer to serve at a shelter for people in need, comfort a friend who's sad or upset, share some lunch with someone who forgot theirs, ask someone who looks lonely to play with your group at recess, read to a younger sibling, donate clothes and toys, raise money for an organization, etc.).
- Instruct kids to write eight ways to help people in need—one in each of the slices.
- Then tell them to draw eight quadrants on the back of the other plate by drawing four more lines.
- Instruct them to cut out one of the quadrants on the second plate BUT to not quite cut all the way in to the point, as a brad will need to go there.
- Show them how to use a brad to connect the two plates in the middle.
- Talk to kids about using these wheels to select different ways to help people in need

What You Say:

*"You guys did a great job brainstorming ways to help people! I hope you will use these wheels this week to help you think of a way to help someone. There are a lot of ways we can help out, and not all of them involve lots of money or time. There are many ways we can help the people around us or the people we live with. For instance, you could help your grandma learn how to do something new on her computer. Or you could help your neighbor rake leaves. Helping someone in need doesn't always have to be a huge project. **[Make It Personal]** (Tell kids about a way you've helped someone, such as helping an elderly neighbor or babysitting a friend's kids.) Whatever you decide to do this week, I hope you **[Bottom Line]** don't wait for someone else to help people in need."*

2. Clap It Out

[Memory Verse Activity]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain & taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Say the verse as a group while simultaneously clapping out the rhythm of the verse.
- Then see if they can say the words while you clap the rhythm without saying the words.
- Try one more time as a group while clapping on every other word instead of saying it aloud.
- Then, sitting in a circle, guide the group to "pass the verse around the circle."
- Choose one kid to start by clapping and saying the first word.
- The next kid follows with the next word, and so on until the entire verse has been said.
- Challenge kids to try to get faster and faster without messing up a clap or a word.

What You Say:

*"When we are working for people in need, we should still give our best. Just because someone isn't paying us to do a job, that doesn't mean we shouldn't do good work. That means if you decide to help your little brother learn to tie his shoes, you should put just as much effort into it as you would if your mom or dad were paying you ten dollars to do it. This verse tells us to act like we are working for God, and so we should remember: **[Bottom Line] Don't wait for someone else to help people in need.**"*

3. Pray & Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Direct kids to sit on the floor in a circle.
- Go around the circle and encourage kids to name things people might need such as food, water, a home, a smile, a kind word, a Bible, socks, help with chores, etc.
- When everyone has had a turn to say something, pray together.

What You Say:

"God, You know all the needs of the people in the world. Sometimes the needs seem too big for us, but we also know there are things we can do to help. Please remind us this week:

[Bottom Line] Don't wait for someone else to help people in need. We pray that we would be the ones to step forward and help someone this week. Amen."