



## WEEK ONE – NOVEMBER 2018 – PRETEEN (456)

**Bible Story:** *Come Together* ▪ Exodus 19; 25

**Key Question:** *Why would God want us to work together?*

**Memory Verse:** *“Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.” – Ecclesiastes 4:9 NIRV*

**Life App:** *Cooperation – Working together to do more than you can do alone*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what*

**Summary:** We kick off the month looking at how God’s people cooperated to build the tabernacle. We read throughout Exodus 28, 31, 35, and 39 how God chose people to work together because of how He gifted them. They combined their skills to create a beautiful place to worship God.

---

8:50–9:00 | 10:20–10:30 | 11:50–12:00 – FREE PLAY

---

---

9:00–9:10 | 10:30–10:40 | 12:00–12:10 – PRESERVICE ACTIVITY

---

## 1. Just for Fun

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** N/A

### What You Do:

- Sit in a circle and tell kids close their eyes.
- Explain that the group will create a mental picture with each person adding a detail to the picture.
- Start by giving the group an object to imagine, such as a cat.
- Ask someone to add a detail he or she is imagining about the cat, like a black cat.
- Continue taking turns to add details to create a bigger picture, such as “a black cat sitting on a chair.”
  - The object is not to tell a story but to share what you are “seeing.”
  - Make sure everyone adds a detail to the picture.
- Give kids an opportunity to discuss how their original mental picture changed as the group added details.

### What You Say:

*Teamwork is important for a lot of things we need to do. [Transition] Let’s head to Large Group to hear a story about a group of people who worked together to build something they couldn’t have built alone.”*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

---

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

---

## OVERVIEW:

**Key Question:** *Why would God want us to work together? Through school, sports, and activities, kids are learning how to work together. More often than not, they may not get to choose who they work with.*

*They may feel frustrated by or even dread the moments when they have to work with others, but we hope this story helps them realize that working together is part of God's plan for us.*

---

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

---

### 1. Take a Snapshot

#### [Application Activity]

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** index cards, pencils/markers

#### What You Do:

- Give kids a few index cards and pencils.
- Ask kids to write on the index cards one activity they did to get ready to come to church today.
  - For example: brush teeth, get dressed, eat breakfast, etc.
- Let kids share their examples with the group and work together to place the cards in chronological order, creating a timeline.
- If necessary, create additional index cards to fill in the gaps in the timeline.
- Select one of the activities on the timeline.
- As a group, brainstorm the group of people necessary for making the activity happen.
  - For example, where did you get the food for breakfast: someone bought the food, the employees at the store or market sold the food to your parents, the farmers grew the food, etc.
- Encourage kids to write on the index cards who worked together to accomplish the activity.
- If time allows, repeat creating lists of people for several of the activities in the timeline.
- Emphasize that people work together more than we realize.
- Discuss:
  - What if you didn't have a group of people and you had to do everything yourself?
  - What would it look like to get food for breakfast? Or what would you have to do to get clothes to wear?
  - What are some benefits of working together?

### 2. Bible Story Extension

#### [Bible Story Review]

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

**What You Need:** Large sheet of butcher paper, markers, Bibles, tape

### What You Do:

- Place a sheet of butcher paper on a flat surface or tape it to a wall.
- On the paper, write the heading, “TABERNACLE.”
- Ask:
  - What is a tabernacle? (A huge portable tent that could be taken down and set up as the Israelites moved from place to place)
  - Why was the tabernacle built? (Exodus 25:8—So God could come and live with them; it was a place set apart for God to meet with His people.)
- Explain that information about the tabernacle is found in the book of Exodus.
- Write Exodus 31:1–11 and Exodus 35:21, 25, 34 under “Tabernacle” on the butcher paper.
- Encourage kids to work together to look up the Bible verses and identify the people and skills required to build the tabernacle.
- As they identify people and skills, instruct them to write their answers on the butcher paper under the “Tabernacle” heading. Potential answers could include:
  - Exodus 31:1–11 (Bezalel, Oholiab, designers, stonecutters, wood workers, seamstresses, priests)
  - Exodus 35:21 (people to pay for the supplies and the construction)
  - Exodus 35:25 (weavers)
  - Exodus 35:34 (teachers)
- Review the list kids created.
- Emphasize that God asked the Israelites to build the tabernacle, and it took a lot of people working together to complete it.
- Ask:
  - Why do you think it took so many people to build the tabernacle? (It was a big job; one person couldn’t have had all the skills needed to complete it, so everyone felt a part of the community—the tabernacle was for all the Israelites)
  - As part of the church, why do you think God wants us to work together?
  - What about our time together today? Who worked together to provide us with our time together? (Be sure to include the people who are working behind the scenes, e.g. the people who clean the environment, people who decorate the room, people who give money to the church for the programs, etc.)

### 3. Discussion Questions

#### [Application Activity]

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

**What You Need:** N/A

**What You Do:**

- ASK
  - Why does God want us to work together?
  - What could happen if we don't work together?
  - What are some reasons that keep us from working with others? (We want the praise, we don't value others input, they can't do it as well as we could, it is faster if I just do it alone, etc.)
  - What are some reasons why we should work with others? (God asks us to, we should treat others the way we want to be treated, God gave us unique skills so we could work together just like in our story today when the Israelites were building the tabernacle, etc.)
  - Can you think of a time in history when a group of people worked together to show the world God's love?

#### **4. Make It Personal with Prayer**

##### **[Application Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** N/A

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

- Ask each kid to pray a silent short prayer thanking God for a person in their group
- Encourage them to include in their prayers why they are thankful for the person
- Close in prayer

##### **What You Say:**

*“God, we are so thankful for Your Word and the stories You share with us to guide how we live. We know You want us to work together, and when we do it well, it is an opportunity for us to show the world Your love. Thank You, God, for the talents and gifts You have uniquely given each of us. Please guide us to see opportunities we can work together to get Your work done. Amen.”*