



WEEK ONE - NOVEMBER 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

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

Bottom Line: *God wants us to do 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 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 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

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

What You Need: Plastic cups

What You Do:

- Greet kids as they arrive
- Invite kids to work together to construct towers and other structures with the cups. Praise them for their creativity, problem solving, and especially their cooperation. For older kids, ask prompting questions to spur critical thinking:
 - Is there a way that you could make your tower higher?
 - What would happen if your base were a different shape? What would happen if your base were a circle? a square? a triangle?
 - Is there a way that you could make your tower sturdier?

What You Say:

"This month we're going to be learning a lot about working together. [Transition] In Large Group, we will hear about some people who worked together so that they could do what God wanted them to do. Let's go learn more."

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: *God wants us to work together.* Sometimes we think it'd be better if we didn't have to rely on anyone else to get a job done, but this isn't how God created us. God created us for community, to work together, and do more than we can do on our own. We hope that kids see the value in cooperation because cooperation starts with God.

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

1. Cooperation Sandwich

[Application Activity]

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation & discovery

What You Need: “PB&J” Activity Pages

What You Do:

- Before kids join you, gather two bread cards and one each of the peanut butter and jelly cards for each kid. Shuffle the cards.
- Help kids get into groups of three or four.
- Give each group four cards per child. Task kids with making one peanut butter and jelly sandwich for each person in their group. They’ll quickly surmise that they don’t have all the cards they need.
- Encourage kids to problem solve on their own if they come to you for assistance. They’ll likely realize that if they trade with other groups they’ll be able to get the cards they need.
- Congratulate the kids on their cooperation when they successfully create one sandwich for each kid.

What You Say:

“Did your group have everything it needed to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for each person? No, you didn’t, did you? Some of you had jelly and peanut butter, but no bread. Some of you had bread and peanut butter, but no jelly. And some of you had just bread and jelly! But when you cooperated and worked together, you were able to make all the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches you needed. Way to go!

*“That reminds me of today’s Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** Why do you think God wants us to work together? (We can help each other; we can do more with each other than we can do on our own; etc.) Yes! **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together** because when we work together, we can love others, help others, and point people to Jesus in ways we can’t on our own.*

***[Make It Personal]** (Briefly tell kids about a time you worked with others and shared what you had to do God’s work. It may have been a mission trip, a service project, or something a group did for others. Tell how the work made an impact on those it helped.)*

“So remember: [Bottom Line] God wants us to work together, because when we work together, we can show others who God is in ways we can’t on our own.”

2. Memory Verse Mingle

[Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bibles; “Ecclesiastes 4:9” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Help kids look up the verse using the navigation tips below.
 - ***Finding verses with kindergartners:*** Guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word *Ecclesiastes* at the top of the page as you say “Ecclesiastes” aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 4 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 4 for the little 9; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.
 - ***Finding verses with 1st graders:*** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (*Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.*) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Ecclesiastes in the list under “Old Testament.” You can help by telling them that Ecclesiastes starts with the letters E-C. When the kids find Ecclesiastes, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Ecclesiastes. Help the kids find the page. When they find Ecclesiastes, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 9 in chapter 4.
- Next, teach kids motions for the verse using the Activity Page as a guide.
- Lead kids in the motions, calling out the verse phrase by phrase. Provide as much help as necessary.
- As kids begin to master the motions, gradually increase your speed to add challenge. If your group masters the motions and rhythm of the phrases, add variety by guiding them to move in different ways: tiptoe, sideways, slow-mo, etc.

What You Say:

“What do you think it means that ‘two are better than one’? (It’s better to work together; two people can help each other; you can do more with someone else than you can do by yourself; etc.) [Bottom Line] God wants us to work together not

*only because we can get more done, but also because when we work together we can love others, help others, and point people to Jesus in ways that we can't do on our own. So remember: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.**"*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: "PB&J" Sandwiches from earlier; hole punch; ribbon/yarn

What You Do:

- Help each child stack their PB&J cards into a sandwich and punch a hole at the top or along the side.
- Guide kids to thread a piece of ribbon through the hole and tie it. Provide help as necessary.
- As you and the kids work, use the conversation below as a guide to review the lesson.
- Encourage kids to take their PB&J sandwiches home as reminders that **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together**, because when we work together, we can love others and help others in ways we can't do on our own.

What You Say:

"Together, and with God's help, the Israelites did something that seemed impossible. They made a beautiful home for God to live among His people.

"Things work better when you work together, don't they? Just think about the tabernacle and how God used SO many different people with SO many unique abilities to work together to make something amazing. Could that have happened if everyone tried to do it on their own? No, it couldn't.

"That's because when you work with others, there's so much more you can do. The sooner you help your friend do their chores, the sooner you both can play. The more you cooperate with your brothers and sisters, the better your relationships will be. And the more you work together to help people, the more they can see God's love through you. And that's a great thing! Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You so much for helping Bezalel, Oholiab and all the Israelites work together to build an amazing home for You. Thank You for teaching us that when we work together we can show others who You are in ways that we can't on our own. Help us all to cooperate with others so that we can show people how much You love them. We love You, God. Amen."

*As adults arrive to pick up, guide kids to show parents their PB&J sandwiches and tell how the sandwiches are to remind them that [**Bottom Line**] God wants us to work together.*

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage them to ask kids what their "WATCH OUT" papers are all about.