



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Worship Leaders
- CDs; one for each small group (these will get fingerprints on them; you could use old CDs you no longer need, or just buy a cheap pack of blank CDs)
- Hula-hoops; one for each small group
- Host's phone (to set a timer)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Upbeat music for the game

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Cooperation Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Blank Memory Verse Slide
- Memory Verse Slide

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Supplies to create a large figure similar to Mr. Potato Head®:
 - Several large sheets of foam board
 - Brown butcher paper
 - X-ACTO® knife
 - Permanent marker
 - Double-sided tape (or other way to attach the “body” to the wall)
 - Push pins

Large Group Visuals:

- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Trace a large potato-shaped oval on the foam board for the body. Cut it out and cover it with brown butcher paper. On the foam board, trace, cut out, and draw these other shapes as well: eyes, ears, nose, mouth, arms, and legs. You'll use the push pins to attach the parts to the body.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Alive
- Never Gonna Stop Singing

All Together Now

Bible Story: All Together Now (One Body but Many Parts) • *1 Corinthians 12:12-27*

Bottom Line: Work together to point others to Jesus.

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 should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Theme Slide

Host is on stage, welcoming the kids as they enter.

Opener

HOST: “Hello, hello! How is everyone doing? *(Pause for response.)* My name is [Host’s name], and you’re hanging out at [your environment’s name]—the place to come for fun and friends. Raise your hand if you like fun and friends. *(Pause for response.)* Yep. Me too! Everybody give me two thumbs up and say, ‘I’m a fun friend!’”

HOST and KIDS: *(Thumbs up)* “I’m a fun friend!”

HOST: “Of course you are! Fun friends have fun together. They work well together, too. They cooperate. That’s what we’ve been talking about all month: cooperation.

CG: Cooperation Slide

“Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone. Let’s say that together.”

HOST and KIDS: **“Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone.”**

HOST: “One more time!”

HOST and KIDS: **“Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone.”**

HOST: “You’ve got it. Working together is WAY better than working alone. In fact, we know that God WANTS us to work together. It even says so in the Bible—in our memory verse, Ecclesiastes 4:9. Check it out!”

CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do (NirV).

“I think we can all agree that having help is way better than NOT having help. Right? Cooperating is a great way to **[Basic Truth] treat others the way you want to be treated.**

CG: Theme Slide

SFX: High-energy music

“Hey, hey! It’s one of the best parts of our time together: GAME TIME! Today’s game is full of high-flying fun AND cooperation.

Hold up a CD.

“Who knows what this is? *(Pause for response.)* Right. It’s a CD! Back before you were born, this was how everyone listened to music. Maybe you still listen to CDs sometimes in the car. Let me tell you, you can really jam to one of these.

“You know what else is fun to do with a CD? Throw it like a Frisbee! Let’s play ‘CD Frisbee Toss!’

“Let’s see. We’ve got a CD for each group and a hula-hoop for each Small Group Leader.

With help from the Worship Leaders, hand out the CDs— one per group (hand the CD to any kid in each group). Also hand out the hula-hoops—one for each Leader.

“Leaders, go ahead and walk 10 paces away from your small group. You’ll stay there and hold your hoop for them. Hold them vertical, so the bottom is touching the ground, like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Kids, when I tell you to, you can line up as a group. Whoever is holding the CD right now will be first in line.

“When I say, ‘Go,’ you’ll take turns trying to throw your CD like a Frisbee through your Leader’s hoop. *(Demonstrate.)* You get one throw per person, and after you throw, go grab the CD and give it to the next person in line, okay? Then go to the back of the line. Keep going through the line until time is up.

“I’ll give you one minute to play. If you get the CD through the hoop, that’s one point. Leaders, can you keep score for your group, please? *(Pause for response.)* Great!

Get the 60-second timer ready on your phone.

“All right, kids, go ahead and line up. Get ready, get set, and throw!

SFX: Bring up music

Start your phone timer. Walk around the room, giving commentary as you go. Encourage the kids to work together to earn the most points.

Keep an eye out to make sure most kids are getting to throw two or three times. If not, you can add another

minute to your timer. When you're ready to end the game, count down from 10 until your timer ends.

"Okay, time's up! Small Group Leaders, you can take your hula-hoops and CDs and put them (*tell them where you'd like them to place the items*). Good work!

"Now let's check the score. Leaders, hold up your hands and show me how many points your group got.

You don't need to make a big deal about the winner. Just acknowledge a couple of groups and congratulate them on their totals.

"Wow! ALL of you did a great job cooperating and earning points for your group! Oh, and by the way, don't try this with your CDs at home, okay? Fingerprints and scratches on CDs can be a bit of a problem.

"But hey, right now we've got another fun way to cooperate.

Announcements

Use this as an example of what to say. Make it your own and help the kids feel welcomed. Then take a moment to share any/all announcements.

HOST: "I'm so excited to be here with all of you today and get a little crazy! If it's your first time here, I want to welcome you and I would love to have a chance to meet you, get a high five and show you around. Here at Mission, we believe that this is a place for you and you belong here no matter who you are or what you believe. Mission is for YOU!

I have just a few announcements for you all today...

Share any/all announcements.

Now let's all stand up, get close, give someone a high five and let's sing and worship together!

Host exits and Worship Leader enters.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: "Thank you, [*Name of Host*]. Let's get up and get loud as we sing and dance for who God is and what he's done for us!

Alive

WORSHIP LEADER: "That was amazing! (*Take a moment to say something about the next song*). So let's give everything we have and worship God together!

Never Gonna Stop Singing

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hey, friends! I’m [Storyteller’s name], and I’ve got a question for you. Raise your hand if you’ve ever had a Mr. or Mrs. Potato Head. Maybe you have one now? Raise your hand if you’ve ever SEEN one. If so, you will love our story today!

“There was this guy named Paul who lived a long time ago. Paul was really important because he was one of the first Jesus followers to start churches and help them grow. Paul spent a lot of time writing letters with all sorts of advice for these churches. Today we’ll look at one of Paul’s letters that he wrote to a church in the city of Corinth. In your Bible, this letter is called First Corinthians. *(Hold up Bible.)* Paul was trying to teach the people of Corinth about cooperation.

“Here’s what Paul said to them.

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:12, 18, 27 (NIRV) and read.

“There is one body, but it has many parts. . . . It is the same with Christ. . . . God has placed each part in the body just as he wanted it to be. . . . You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of it.

“Now, Paul wasn’t talking about the human body. He was talking about US—about everyone who follows Jesus. He’s saying we’re all different with different strengths and talents and spiritual gifts, but we all make up one group of people who should work together. When we cooperate, it’s like we’re one body.

“Let me show you what I mean with our own potato head right here. There’s not much to him yet. But just wait. We’re about to make things more interesting.”

Attach the potato “body” to the wall.

WHAT ARE YOU GOOD AT?

STORYTELLER: “I want to ask you a question. You don’t have to answer out loud, but just think about it. What are you good at? What are you good at that maybe other people aren’t as good at? Maybe it’s cooking. Maybe it’s math. Maybe it’s piano.

“Maybe you’re good at seeing things other people don’t see. Like when a friend is sad or angry.

Using a push pin, attach the eyes to the body.

“Maybe you’re a good listener.

Attach the ears to the body.

“Maybe you’re a good talker.

Attach the mouth to the body.

“Would any of you like to share what you’re good at? Raise your hand.

Choose a few kids to share what they’re good at.

“That’s awesome! The truth is, we are ALL good at something. God made us that way.”

WHAT ARE OTHERS GOOD AT?

STORYTELLER: “What about the people around you? What are THEY good at?”

Attach the arms to the body.

“Do you have a friend who is incredible at drawing? Does your mom give the best hugs? Do you know someone who’s super generous—someone who would give away ANYTHING to anyone who needed it?”

Attach the legs to the body.

“Do you have a friend who is always there when you need them? Is there someone in your family who would travel any number of miles to help a person in need? Have you ever met someone who loved to serve—to volunteer at church or at a shelter where people can get food or a place to stay?”

Attach the nose to the body.

ONE BODY

STORYTELLER: “Remember, Paul was writing to the Corinthians to encourage them to work together as one body. (*Point to the completed body.*) When you believe in Jesus, God gives you the ability to put the things YOU’RE good at together with the things OTHERS are good at in order to make a big difference in people’s lives. When we do that, we can show Jesus’ love to others. We can cooperate to point others to Jesus.

“Think about it. How could you use your skills and the skills of those around you to point people to Jesus?”

“Could you come up with some funny sayings to go in a card? Could your friend draw an illustration on the outside of the card? Could you make a lot of those cards to brighten someone’s day? Could your mom drive you to a nursing home where older people live to hand out the cards you’ve made?”

“Let’s say your dad knows how to make the BEST muffins. Could you help him make a batch? Could you think of a way to sell them? Could you and your friend who LOVES to shop use that money to buy items that people need at a shelter—like toothpaste, shampoo, or new socks?”

“Maybe you have some clothes and toys that are still in great shape, but you’ve just outgrown them. Could you and your friends gather some of them and ask your parents to drop them off at a charity, so other people could use them?”

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “You can find ways to work with the people around you to show love to others. When you do that, a really cool thing happens. You get to show them how much JESUS loves them, too.

(Point to the body.) “In Paul’s letter, he says that no part of the body is more or less important. He says ALL parts are needed. Sometimes you might wish you had your best friend’s brains or your dad’s joke-telling skills or the ability to breakdance like that guy on TV. But Paul was saying that God made you who YOU are on purpose. He wants you to use what you’re good at along with what I’m good at along with what ALL of us are good at in order to point people to Him.

“That’s what we can do together!

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“We can **[Bottom Line]** work together to point others to Jesus.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us do that.”

Pray

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for giving each of us different talents and gifts. Thank You for making each of so special with so many different ways we can show Your love to other people. We know we can do that so much better when we do it together. Please help us to look for ways to cooperate so we can point others to You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “You might be asking yourself an important question: Am I part of this BODY thing Paul was talking about? The answer is this: Everyone who believes in Jesus is part of the body of Christ. If you are part of the body, you have a role to play. That’s what Paul was saying in his letter. You have a responsibility to use what you’re good at (*point to a leg on the potato body*), combine that with what your family is good at (*point to an arm*), and combine that with what your friends are good at (*point to the eyes and ears and mouth*) to point others to Jesus.

“Every part is needed for the entire body to work like it should. YOU are needed. YOUR gifts are needed. When we come together like we’re supposed to, we can show love and point others to Jesus.

“That’s our challenge. That’s what we get to do together.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Work together to point others to Jesus.

“When we work together, people notice. It makes them wonder who we’re working for. And that’s Jesus! Our cooperation could be what makes someone want to know Jesus better. And there’s nothing better than that!

“Now it’s time to head to Small Group, where you’ll get to talk about this some more with your friends. Have fun!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional CG (Media Package): Theme Loop Video