



## WEEK THREE – APRIL 2020 – PRETEEN

**Bible Story:** *Lean on Me (Servant Principle) • Philippians 2:3-8*

**Key Question:** *What keeps you from putting others first?*

**Memory Verse:** *“Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. Philippians 2:3 (NirV)*

**Life App:** *Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve*

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

**Summary:** In Philippians 2:3–8, Paul explains how Jesus is the ultimate example of humility. As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did . . . He was humble and obeyed God completely. He did this even though it led to his death, (NirV). As God’s Son, Jesus was equal with God, but instead of using that to His advantage, Jesus put us first and made a way for us to have a relationship with God.

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## OPENING DISCUSSION

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### 1. Icebreakers / Zoom SetUp

#### What to ask:

- 2 people share: What has been the best thing you have done this week?
- 2 people share: What’s one thing you miss being able to do right now?
- Leader share: What is one thing you look forward to during this Zoom call?
- Fun Activity
  - Challenge kids to come up with ways to “be upside-down.”
    - This could be upside down on a chair, doing a headstand, doing a handstand with a friend holding their feet, leaning over a table . . .
    - Any method goes, as long as they can stay safe while doing it!
  - Let kids have a few minutes to practice their methods of being upside down, then let everyone take turns showing off their methods.
  - Lead the group to vote on which method was the most creative, funniest, weirdest, etc. (Enlist kids’ help in coming up with categories, too!)
    - The only rule with voting is that kids can’t vote for their own methods.

#### What to expect:

- Leader: Set healthy standards for what this group time will look like, how much time you’ll spend just catching up, and how much time you’ll be engaged with the discussion questions -- NOTE: you want to prompt them to watch the weekend message BEFORE this call so they understand what is being talked about.

#### Recap the Weekend:

- Leader: Recap the story
- \*\*\*Consider having one of your the kids retell the story, then you can fill in the gaps

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## WEEKLY OVERVIEW

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#### OVERVIEW:

**Bottom Line:** *What keeps you from putting others first? If we’re honest, I think we’d all say that putting others first can be difficult sometimes. One of the best ways to figure out how to put others first is to think about the reasons you might not show humility in the first place. Small group leaders will guide preteens through conversations that we pray will allow them to consider how they can show humility even in those situations where it’s most difficult.*

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## SMALL GROUP

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### 1. 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:
  - How do you know that Jesus put you first?
  - Why does Jesus putting us first mean that we need to put others first?
  - What keeps you from putting others first? What can you do to get rid of those barriers and put others first more often?

### 2. Make it Personal with Prayer

#### [Prayer Activity]

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

**What You Need:** Index Card, pencils

#### What You Do:

- Remind the kids that using scripture verses as prayers is a great way to pray, and if they ever don't know what to pray, they can literally use verses from the Bible.
- Explain that today we're going to pray the memory verse for the month and insert ourselves into it.
- Ask everyone to use an index card and write out the following phrases, inserting their own words to personalize the verse.
  - Dear God, help me not to \_\_\_\_ only to get ahead.
  - Help me to value \_\_\_\_\_ [insert two or three names] more than myself.
  - Thank you, Jesus, for your example of humility!
- Allow everyone a few minutes to spread out and pray this prayer silently.
- Encourage kids to choose something specific they're going to do to put someone else first and to ask for God's help to do that.