



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Let's Work Together
One Body but Many Parts
1 Corinthians 12:12-27

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What makes a great team?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

We can use our gifts together
to make a greater difference.

LARGE GROUP SUPPLIES

- Blindfolds
- Paper dixie cups filled with six pieces of assorted candy (see "What You Do")
- List of which cup has which kind and flavor of candy
- Answer sheet for each cup
- Paper and pen for each volunteer (to write their answers down)

STORY SUPPLIES

- Bible
- Whiteboard and markers

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **LOVE WORKS SERVE DAY - November 6th**

- **VIDEO ANNOUNCEMENT**
- Every month we help support local organizations to serve our community.
- **BUT TWICE A YEAR** we have a **HUGE SERVE DAY**
- Nov 6th
- **SIGN UP TODAY**

MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

- Week 1 – The Best Is Yet To Come & Who You Say I Am
- Week 2 – Might Get Loud & Graves Into Gardens
- **Week 3 – Real Love & Who You Say I Am**
- Week 4 – This Is Living & Holy Spirit Come
- **Week 5 – Might Get Loud & Way Maker**

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN



WEEK
FIVE
OCTOBER 2021

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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1 Corinthians 12:12-27

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

How you made me is amazing and
wonderful. I praise you for that.
What you have done is wonderful.
I know that very well.
Psalm 139:14, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Individuality—Discovering who
you're meant to be so you
can make a difference**

BASIC TRUTH

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

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.
SLIDE: THEME
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders

WORSHIP LEADER:

AUDIO: MIGHT GET LOUD

AUDIO: WAY MAKER

Host enters . . .

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: "Hey, everyone! Can you believe it? We are here, in church, on the very last day of October! I'm so glad you're here! I hope you are all ready for a fun day ahead! That day starts with our last custom creations challenge. I'm pretty sure that most of you are thinking about candy right about now. So how many of you would say you have a 'sweet tooth'?"



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Pause for response.

“Okay. I see you. Me TOO! But how well do you know your candy? Could you pick out a kind just seeing it without the wrapper? Or tasting its flavor? Even it’s all mixed up with other candies and flavors? What if you couldn’t see it? That is our challenge today. We call it the super original Blindfolded Candy Challenge.”

SLIDE: BLINDFOLDED CANDY CHALLENGE

“I need four [or however many cups you prepared] sweet tooth competitors!”

Host chooses four volunteers. Note: Be mindful of kids with allergies.

“We’ll get you blindfolded. Then when I say go, you’ll take one of these cups and pour all six pieces of candy into your mouth at once. Then it’s up to you to figure out what six pieces of candy you have in your mouth, both the type of candy and its flavor. After that, take your blindfold off and write your answers on your little paper. Yell ‘Done’ when you are finished. We will come and check how you did. The person with the most kinds AND flavors correct wins. Get it? Got it? AND GO!”

Afterwards, declare a winner. Give them the remainder of a bag of candy. Optional: Play several rounds with the same or different contestants.

“(After the game) I told you that game was sweet! Literally.”



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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, everyone! I’m so glad you’re here today. We’ve had such a great month talking about how we’re created in the image of God and how each of us gets to show God’s love to the world with our unique skills and personalities. We’ve spent a lot of time talking about what it means to discover what you’re meant to be so that you can make a difference. And I hope that you really will walk away from this month understanding just how significant each of you are. As we close out this month, though, I have a question for you: have you ever wished that you could do something that someone else could do but forgot about what you could actually do? Let me give you an example.”

Give a personal example similar to the example below about a time when you wished you could do what you were not able to do well. Maybe you wish you could play the guitar but you actually know how to play the piano really well. Maybe you wish you could speak really well in front of other people but you actually are very good in one-on-one conversations.

“I grew up in a very musical family. My dad sang and played several instruments. My mom sang at church in the choir—yeah, we had a choir at church back in the day. My sister sang in the school choir. I sang a little bit and took piano lessons—years and years and years of piano lessons to the point where I was pretty good and considered studying piano in college. But as good as I was on the piano, I REALLY wanted to play the guitar—acoustic, electric, didn’t matter. I watched these people shred on the guitar, and I wanted nothing else then to be like them, record albums, and tour the world as a rock star. One Christmas my wish came true. I got a guitar. I picked it up, started figuring out where to put my fingers and strum the chords. I learned soon enough that playing the guitar is REALLY hard. And as I kept practicing thinking I’d get better and better, I soon learned . . . I am not at all coordinated enough to play the guitar like the rock stars I saw in music videos. I was so bummed and down on myself for weeks and weeks. I completely forgot about music and the fact that I could literally play anything I wanted to play on the piano. I kept focusing on the gift I wish I had instead of using the gift I did have that could already bring others and myself joy.”

TENSION:

COMMUNICATOR: “Have you ever found yourself in a situation like that? With talents that you wish you had while forgetting the ones that you do? It could be you’re a dancer who has wished you could be more of an actor or a soccer player who also wants to excel on the basketball court. Maybe you’re a good writer but you wish you could have the courage to speak in front of others. Most of us will face a time when we’ll play a comparison game with those around us. We’ll see someone else succeed and receive praise for something they do and we’ll want to be able to do the same. But is that really the best way to live? And when you do feel this way, how should we respond? What’s a step we can take to remember that God has created us for a purpose, just as we are? Those are some important questions to ask as we finish up our series on discovering more about our individuality. These are also questions that people have been asking for a really long time, even way back in the Bible, which is a great place to start when questions like this come our way. Let’s head there now.”

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “Now, you might remember that the last couple weeks we’ve seen Paul traveling throughout the known world at the time on what have come to be known as his missionary journeys. Paul went from city to city



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around the Mediterranean Sea carrying the message of Jesus. During his travels, Paul visited a place called Corinth. He eventually wrote a letter to the new believers in that city. These letters turned into First and Second Corinthians, books we find in the New Testament of the Bible.”

“In one of these letters Paul emphasized the importance of their spiritual gifts, gifts that God’s Holy Spirit gives when we put our faith in Jesus. Paul also wanted them to understand the proper way to think about their own gifts compared to other people’s gifts. You see, even though the same Spirit, God’s Spirit, was the one who had uniquely given them their gifts, they were having a little trouble because some were wishing they had the gifts that other people had and vice versa. To explain this further, he uses an analogy. I’m going to ask [Host’s name] to help us out for this.”

Communicator calls Host out. They wheel out a whiteboard with dry-erase markers.

“(Communicator to Host) Okay, first things first, just draw a person for us.”

Host begins to draw a person, but every appendage is an arm. Start with the arms, but then the head is also an arm, the legs are arms. The Communicator is confused.

COMMUNICATOR: “Umm . . .what? Why is it all arms? Can you draw a person? Like a normal person?”

HOST: “Okay, got it!”

Host begins drawing a leg, but then gets to where they arm goes and draws another leg, and then a leg for the head, etc.

COMMUNICATOR: “I’m not sure you’ve got it. And as strange as this is, this is actually not too far off from what Paul said to the followers of Jesus in Corinth. Hard to believe? Let’s check this out together. [Host’s name], you can pause your drawing for a moment here.”

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIRV) and read

“‘There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ.’”

“(To Host) Okay, let’s start back over . . .”

Communicator writes “Christ” in the drawing of the person.

COMMUNICATOR: “Paul wrote that Christ is like a body. Not quite this body, though. How is this different than what Paul said?”

Reread 1 Corinthians 12:12 if necessary. Pause for responses.

“That’s right. Paul specifically said the body has MANY parts. THIS body (point to the drawing) is just a bunch of legs. And that is exactly what he wrote next.”

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:14 (NIRV) and read.



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“So the body is not made up of just one part. It has many parts.”

“Exactly, right!? Legs are cool and all, but you can’t be all legs! I mean, serious cartwheels for days, but that’s about it! Paul explained this idea more as he continued.”

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:15-16 (NirV) and read.

“Suppose the foot says, ‘I am not a hand. So I don’t belong to the body.’ By saying this, it cannot stop being part of the body. And suppose the ear says, ‘I am not an eye. So I don’t belong to the body.’ By saying this, it cannot stop being part of the body.”

“(To Host) Okay let’s draw a new person . . .”

Host draws a new, normal person and writes “Christ” in the head again.

“(Pointing from the leg to the hand) It would be strange for the leg to say, ‘Since I’m not the hand, I guess I’m not a part of the body.’ Clearly we can see that the leg is part of the body. An important part! Or if the (points) ear said ‘Since I’m not the eye I’m not a part of the body.’ Again, it is obvious to us. But remember, Paul was not talking about body parts. He was talking about gifts. And the body is Christ’s body . . . the church. Look at what he also says.”

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:17-18 NirV and read.

“If the whole body were an eye, how could it hear? If the whole body were an ear, how could it smell? God has placed each part in the body just as he wanted it to be.”

“(Pointing at the drawing) If this WHOLE body were eyes, what would you be missing? (Pause for responses.) Yeah, a lot! Hearing. Tasting. Walking. BREATHING! But as Paul said, God has placed the parts . . . different parts . . . just where He wanted them. And each one has a unique purpose. If the whole body were just a bunch of ears, you know what you don’t have?”

HOST: “A hearing problem?”

COMMUNICATOR: “No, a body! You can’t be a body if you are all the same part. Look at this.

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:19-20 (NirV) and read.

“If all the parts were the same, how could there be a body? As it is, there are many parts. But there is only one body.”

“So what does this have to do with gifts? Well, Paul was explaining to the Corinthians that God’s Spirit had given each believer spiritual gifts, and each part of the body needed the gifts of the other parts. All of the believers were needed!”

“The same principle applies to us today. God has made us all uniquely, and we all need the unique way God made each of us. We need all of us working together to do something better than we could do apart or if we were all the same!”



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“Maybe you are a good communicator (*Host writes communicator on one of the body parts of the whiteboard person.*) and you can teach people about Jesus through stories, talking in front of others, designs. That is a cool ability that God can use for everyone’s benefit. Or maybe you are musical (*Host writes musical*) and can help others know God through music. That is a skill that God can use for everyone! Or maybe you are really compassionate toward others (*Host writes compassion*) and like to care for people who are really hurting. You find yourself moving toward the people that others often move away from. That is an ability that God can surely use for the benefit of everyone.”

“There are SO MANY abilities—different abilities—that God can use for everyone. And there is one last thing we need to remember. It’s something that Paul wrote to the Corinthians about their spiritual gifts.”

Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:26-27 (NirV) and read.

“*If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honored, every part shares in its joy. You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it.*”

“We don’t need to be jealous when someone else is recognized or noticed. We are in this together! We are part of ONE body. We WANT others to use their gifts well because ultimately, it’s Jesus who gets the glory for that. We are HIS body.”

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “It is really easy just to focus on our own skills and talents, especially when we’re just worried about things like athletic ability, academics, and so on. But it is so important for us to remember that God uniquely gives us abilities not just to make us so amazing but to help His body, His church, work the best it possibly can. Just like a body of all legs would be pretty clumsy and severely limited, we need different skills and talents to be the body of Jesus in this world and serve others.

“For some of you just starting your relationship with Jesus, this maybe a lot to take in and may even sound confusing. But don’t worry, as you grow, God’s Spirit will help you discover your gifts. After all, you might be thinking, ‘I have no idea what part I bring to the body.’ This is where God can use your leaders, parents, pastors, and friends to help you! They can start to help you identify the unique way that God has shaped you and what part you are in the body of Christ as you love God and serve others.”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “Today as you go to groups, think about this question:”

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

“**What makes a great team?** In other words, why is it important to have different roles and positions on a team? Think about the best teams you’ve seen or maybe even have been a part of. Why were they successful? What made them great? As you think about that, consider how thinking about teamwork helps us understand the picture of our gifts and the body of Christ. If you’re not sure, that’s ok. You’ll talk all about it in Small Group. Before we head out, let’s pray and thank God for giving us gifts that can make a difference in the world around us. Let’s pray.”

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

AUDIO: HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP