LARGE GROUP

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Reasons Why

Jesus' Mission Statement Luke 4:14-24, 28-30

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Following Jesus means caring about others.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. You must act with justice. You must love to show mercy. And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God."

Micah 6:8. NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

HOST SUPPLIES

- Host
- Printed script

STORY SUPPLIES

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Small table, such as a TV tray
- Game show push button or tap light (without batteries), attached to the small table

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**

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- HAPPY FEBRUARY
- COMPASSION Challenge
 - This month we are focused on being good neighbors and showing compassion to those around us.
 - Our challenge is for you to come back each week and share a story of COMPASSION with your leaders.
 - If we hear a great story of COMPASSION, we will share it from stage during the service.

MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

Week 1 - This Is Living & Way Maker

Week 2 - There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do & Never Lost

Week 3 - The Best Is Yet To Come & Graves Into Gardens

Week 4 - Might Get Loud & The Blessing

SMALL GROUP

25

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Reasons Why

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Micah 6:8, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

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 KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER: "We are here today to let our lives bring praise to our amazing, wonderful God.

AUDIO: THIS IS LIVING

AUDIO: WAY MAKER

Host enters.

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

VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hey, everybody! It's great to see all of you! This month, we're talking about compassion.

SLIDE: LIFE APP

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

"Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's need.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"You can show compassion by caring for the people 'on your block'—the people in your neighborhood! Your neighborhood might look like this.

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

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

SLIDE: NEIGHBORHOOD SLIDE #1 (TOWNHOUSES)

"Or this.

SLIDE: NEIGHBORHOOD SLIDE #2 (HOUSES IN THE SUBURBS)

"Or this.

SLIDE: NEIGHBORHOOD SLIDE #3 (CITY A PARTMENTS)

"Or maybe your neighborhood looks different from any of those. Really, your neighborhood just means the PEOPLE around you—whether you see them at home, school, the park—anywhere! We can show compassion to our neighbors by caring enough to show love and kindness. We can see what people need and do something about it.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"This month, we'll see lots of amazing ways that Jesus showed compassion. It's important that WE learn to show compassion as we choose to follow Him!

"I was thinking . . . if we want to love our neighbors then first, we've got to get to know them. I thought we could start by getting to know our neighbors right here in this room! I bet there are lots of things we can learn about each other that we didn't know before. Let's give it a try with a really fun game, 'Know Your Neighbor'!

"It's easy to play. If I call out something that's true about you, stand up. Take a look at the people around you and see who's standing. Then, if you're standing, sit back down so you can be ready for the next one. Cool? Cool. Let's get started!

AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Read the statements from the printed script. CREATE SLIDES

<mark>"Stand up if . . . you can ride a bike!</mark> (*Pause.*) Wow, look at all of you bike riders! Okay, you can sit back down.

Do the same thing for each statement. Give the kids (and leaders) a chance to stand. Make a quick comment to interact with those who are standing (e.g. "You had cereal? What kind?"), then motion for everyone to sit down.

Go through as many statements as time allows, saving "like to sing" for last. Have fun with it and move quickly to keep the energy high.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

Stand up if . . . you're wearing red.

Stand up if . . . you have short hair.

Stand up if . . . you had eggs for breakfast.

Stand up if . . . you had cereal for breakfast.

Stand up if . . . you can speak another language.

Stand up if . . . you like to watch football. Stand

Stand up if . . . you can throw a football.

Stand up if . . . you can braid hair.

Stand up if . . . you like to read.

Stand up if . . . you can write your name.

Stand up if . . . you like to dance.

Stand up if . . . you have a brother.

Stand up if . . . you have a sister.

Stand up if . . . you like candy.

Stand up if . . . you can do a push up. (Have them show you.)

Stand up if . . . you've ever eaten popcorn.

"Stand up if . . . you like to sing. (Pause for response.) Oh, good! Me, too! That's great news, because it's time for all of us to sing, dance, and worship God. Let's all get on our feet!

"I feel like I know all of you so much better already. It's easier to show compassion when you KNOW people. That's how you know what they need—and how you can care for them.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm excited to tell you today's story. (Hold up Bible.) We're about to see why compassion is so important to Jesus!

Walk to the button on the table.

"Just for fun, we'll use this super-cool sound effect button as I tell you what happened in the story. When you press the button, it makes a sound. Let me make sure this thing is cued up to the right spot.

> Press the button seven times to cue the following seven sound effects. It's okay if the timing isn't perfect; have fun with it and act like you're getting the button to the right spot for the story.

AUDIO: SOUND #1 (PICCOLO SOLO)

AUDIO: SOUND #2 (BIKE HORN)

AUDIO: SOUND #3 (TELEPHONE RING) AUDIO: SOUND #4 (DONKEY HEE-HAW)

AUDIO: SOUND #5 (THUNDER) AUDIO: SOUND #6 (FROG RIBBIT) AUDIO: SOUND #7 (FESTIVAL MUSIC)

"As I tell the story, every now and then I'll raise my hand like this. (Raise your hand.) If you want to come up and press the button, raise your hand. I'll pick one person to come up and press it, then sit right back down. Sound good? Okay, let's begin.

"We know that Jesus spent 33 years living here on Earth. We know a lot about the last three years of His life and we know a few things about the first 30. For example, we know Jesus traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast with His family.

> Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #7 (FESTIVAL MUSIC)

"We know that Jesus' father, Joseph, was a carpenter, so Jesus learned to be a carpenter, too.

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

[&]quot;Ah, yes! That's the right one! Okay, we're ready.

HOME

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

25 MINUTES

AUDIO: SOUND #8 (HAMMERING)

"We know that when Jesus was around 30 years old, He went to the Jordan River. He asked His cousin, John the Baptist, to baptize Him in the water.

> Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #9 (WATER SPLASHING)

"Then, Jesus spent 40 days alone in the desert with God.

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #10 (CRICKETS)

"After those 40 days, Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the power of God's Holy Spirit."

TEACHING THE PEOPLE

STORYTELLER: "Anytime Jesus entered a town, He went to the synagogue and taught the people. Everyone was amazed at His teaching.

> Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #11 (OOH/AAH)

"Jesus came to Nazareth, the town where He grew up. Jesus went into the synagogue and stood up to read. An attendant handed Him a scroll with the words of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus opened the scroll to read it out loud to the people.

> Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #12 (UNROLLING PAPER)

"Now, you should know that Isaiah lived hundreds of years before Jesus was born. Isaiah was a prophet who wrote about God's promise to send a Messiah who would rescue God's people.

> Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #13 (PEN WRITING)

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

IT'S ME

STORYTELLER: "Jesus read Isaiah's words to the people. Let's listen carefully to what He said.

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #14 (LUKE 4:18-19 VOICEOVER)

VOICEOVER: The Spirit of the Lord is on me. He has anointed me to announce the good news to poor people. He has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners. He has sent me so that the blind will see again. He wants me to set free those who are treated badly. And he has sent me to announce the year when he will set his people free. (Luke 4:18-19, NIrV)

STORYTELLER: "Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it to the attendant, and sat down. Everyone was looking at Him. Then He said this.

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #15 (LUKE 4:21 VOICEOVER)

VOICEOVER: Today this passage of Scripture is coming true as you listen. (Luke 4:21, NIrV)

STORYTELLER: "Whoa. Jesus was declaring that HE was the One Isaiah wrote about. HE was the Messiah God had promised! HE was the One who had come to announce good news to poor people . . . healing for people who were sick . . . and freedom for people who were being treated badly.

HOMETOWN HERO?

STORYTELLER: "At first, the people were impressed. But then Jesus said this.

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #16 (LUKE 4:24 VOICEOVER)

VOICEOVER: A prophet is not accepted in his hometown. (Luke 4:24, NIrV)

STORYTELLER: "That made people angry. They had known Jesus when He was growing up . . . but they weren't willing to accept that He could be the Savior. They couldn't accept that Jesus had come to include everyone, everywhere. So, unfortunately, the people ran Jesus out of town. They took Him to the edge of a cliff, and they planned to throw Him off!

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

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

25 MINUTES

AUDIO: SOUND #17 (ANGRY CROWD)

"But don't worry—Jesus didn't let that happen. He walked through the crowd and left.

Raise your hand and quickly pick a kid to come up and press the button. Then dismiss him/her to his/her seat.

AUDIO: SOUND #18 (FOOTSTEPS WALKING AWAY)

"Jesus left Nazareth and went to Capernaum, where He continued to carry out His mission.

Walk to the front of the stage as you wrap up.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Sadly, the people in Nazareth had missed the whole point of why Jesus had come. Jesus was using Isaiah's words to announce what was most important to Him. He had come to show compassion! He had come to save the world by dying on the cross for our sins. He had come to make things right for those who were hurting and overlooked. He had come to CARE for people . . . and the people in His hometown just didn't see it.

"The truth is, Jesus lived a LIFE of compassion. He saw people who were normally overlooked, and He helped people who were hurting. When we follow Jesus, He teaches us to live that way, too.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"You see, following Jesus means caring about others.

"Let's ask God to help us live with compassion and show people how much we care.

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for this reminder of why compassion is so important to You. Jesus said that He had come to show compassion . . . to bring hope and healing . . . and to show love to people who were in need. We want to follow Jesus, and we know that means we should show compassion, too. Help us care about others and be ready to act when we see someone who needs our help. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "Jesus loves us SO much! He loves each and every person. In fact, He gave us the very best example of compassion!

"You see that day in Nazareth, Jesus was announcing what He had come to do. He had come to care for people and bring them hope, healing, and freedom. And eventually, Jesus did something about what ALL of us need most of all. He died on a cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. That's how much compassion He has. That's how much He cares for us!

"So if we want to follow Jesus, then the things that are important to Jesus will be important to us, too. Jesus showed compassion, and so should we. And we don't have to do it alone! When we put our trust in Jesus, we have His Spirit to help us.

"Remember . . .

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Following Jesus means caring about others.

"That could mean that you draw a picture or write a note to encourage someone who's sick. Or maybe you take time to listen and be a friend to someone who's sad or lonely. All of us have times when we feel overlooked or left out. We know how important it is to show compassion and [Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.

"If you ever feel like YOU need some compassion, I want you to remember how much God loves you. God knows about the tough things you might go through. God is with you through it all. God has also put amazing friends and leaders in your life, like the people right here in this room. We all think you're awesome. You ALWAYS belong here!

"Our memory verse for this month is Micah 6:8. It reminds us what true compassion looks like. Here it is.

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

"The LORD has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. You must act with justice. You must love to show mercy. And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God. (Micah 6:8, NIrV)

"That's compassion! That's how you care for people like Jesus did. You can head to Small Group now and talk about how you can follow Jesus by caring about others."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP