



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Anytime You Need a Friend
Jesus Heals Bartimaeus
Mark 10:46-52

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Make time to help others.

HOST SUPPLIES

- Two Small Group Leaders
- Four kid volunteers (two from each of the leaders' groups)
- Two XXL long-sleeve T-shirts for the leaders to wear (these should be oversized so that anyone can easily put them on and take them off)
- Four boxes of bandages with the bandages loose in two small containers
- Four doctor or lab coats for the kid volunteers (*optional*)
- Host's phone (if not using a countdown video)
- Broom and dustpan

HOST SUPPLIES

- Host
- Several kid volunteers
- Bible
- Two Biblical-style robes
- Plain dark sunglasses for the Host
- Fake beard for the Host (*optional*)

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
MIN

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
MIN



WEEK
FOUR
FEBRUARY 2022

LARGE GROUP
K-3

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

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Anytime You Need a Friend
Jesus Heals Bartimaeus
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TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Make time to help 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, NIV

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:

AUDIO: Might Get Loud

AUDIO: The Blessing

Host enters.

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

OPENER

HOST: "Hey, everybody! Today is a great day, and I'm so glad you're here! This month at [your environment's name], 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

"God can help us show compassion to our neighbors—the people on our block. Your neighbors could be the kids next door who you play football with after school. Or they could be the people who bring your mail . . . the people who work at the grocery store . . . or your teachers. They could be the other kids in your class, your best friends, or your best friends' brothers and sisters!



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“There are lots of people around you who could use your help—and you can show compassion by showing them God’s love. Every day, you can choose to **[Basic Truth] treat others the way you want to be treated.**”

“For our game today, I thought we could practice some compassion by pretending that we’re doctors and nurses. After all, our medical workers do an amazing job of caring and showing compassion to people in need. So let me have two leaders come up, and I’ll choose two kids from their small group to help them. First, let’s find our two leaders.

Choose two leaders and give each of them a long-sleeve T-shirt to put on.

“If you’re in [leader’s name] or [leader’s name]’s group and you want to play the game, raise your hand.

Quickly choose two kids from each of the two small groups. Have them stand next to their leaders. Give each pair of kids a container full of bandages and doctor or lab coats (optional).

“All right, here’s the situation. Our poor leaders, [leaders’ names], are injured.

Look over at the leaders to cue them to moan and groan.

“But don’t worry! Their friends are here to show some compassion and take care of them. We’ll put 60 seconds on the clock, and we’ll see how many bandages each team can put on their leader. That’s not as easy as it sounds, because you’ve got to take the wrapper off each bandage before you put it on! But I know our contestants are up for the challenge.

“We’ll all cheer you on, friends. Let’s get started. Ready, set, go!

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

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

If you’re not using a screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds.

Cheer for the teams and comment on the action. When time’s up, count the bandages on each leader. Congratulate the winning team and send everyone back to their seats.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

“Way to go! Both teams did a great job—and it looks like your leaders feel better already.

Host cleans up the paper scraps from the bandages before exiting.



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hello, friends! I’ve got another amazing story of compassion to share with you. *(Hold up Bible.)* This is another example of how Jesus cared enough to help someone in need.

“You see, when Jesus was on Earth, He spent time with lots of different people. He showed people how much He cared about them by the way He treated them. Jesus welcomed little children and He invited people to follow Him. When Jesus made His last journey to Jerusalem, He knew that He was about to die on the cross. But He still didn’t get distracted from the people He met along the way.

“As we tell today’s story, I thought we’d try something a little different. I thought we could all be the actors in the story. If you’re with me, give me a thumbs-up. *(Pause for response.)* Great!

“Okay—I know I’m not perfect like Him, but I’ll play the part of Jesus.

Put on the Biblical-style robe.

“And all of you can be the crowd.”

MEET BARTIMAEUS

STORYTELLER: “We pick up the story with Jesus and His friends, the disciples. Let’s see. Raise your hand if you want to play a disciple.

Choose a few kids and have them stand near you on stage.

“Jesus and the disciples were leaving the town of Jericho . . . and a large crowd was with them. *(Reference the audience.)* Ah, yes—that’s all of you!

Host enters, without drawing attention to him/herself. He/she also wears a Biblical-style robe and a fake beard (optional). He/she sits down on the side of the stage.

“A blind man named Bartimaeus was sitting by the side of the road, begging for money. *(Look at the Host.)* Ah, yes—I think I see Bartimaeus right now.

Storyteller points to the Host who is sitting on the side with his/her hands cupped together. (This should be serious, not silly.)

“Bartimaeus would have heard stories about Jesus—how Jesus had healed people who were sick. He must have thought to himself . . .

Host holds one finger above his/her head like he/she is getting an idea.



25 MINUTES

"I know—maybe Jesus will help ME!"

JESUS' COMPASSION

STORYTELLER: "Bartimaeus heard that Jesus and the disciples were passing by.

Storyteller walks in place and makes eye contact with the kid volunteers (disciples) to get them to do the same.

"Bartimaeus shouted to try to get Jesus' attention."

Again, the Host should say these lines normally, not in a silly way.

HOST: "Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!" (Mark 10:47, NIV)

Storyteller stops walking in place, and cues the "disciples" to stop as well.

STORYTELLER: "Some of the people told Bartimaeus to be quiet. But he shouted even louder!"

HOST: "Son of David! Have mercy on me!" (Mark 10:48, NIV)

STORYTELLER: "If you think about it, it would have been pretty easy for Jesus to just keep walking. But Jesus had compassion! He knew that Bartimaeus was in need, and He took the time to help. Jesus called for Bartimaeus.

(toward the Host) "Bartimaeus! Bartimaeus!"

(to audience) "The crowd told him, 'Jesus is calling for you!'" (Mark 10:49, NIV)

Nod to the audience to get them to repeat the line.

AUDIENCE: "Jesus is calling for you!" (Mark 10:49, NIV)

STORYTELLER: "Bartimaeus was so excited that he threw his coat to the side.

Host takes off the robe and tosses it to the side.

"He JUMPED to his feet.

Host jumps up.

"And he walked over to Jesus!"

Host walks toward Storyteller. (Host: Act like you're following the Storyteller's voice; but again, this shouldn't be played for laughs.)



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JESUS HEALS BARTIMAEUS

STORYTELLER: "Jesus said to Bartimaeus . . .

Open the Bible to Mark 10:51 (NirV) and read.

"What do you want me to do for you?"

"Bartimaeus replied . . ."

HOST: "Rabbi, I want to be able to see." (Mark 10:51, NirV)

Open the Bible to Mark 10:52 (NirV) and read.

STORYTELLER: "'Go,' said Jesus. 'Your faith has healed you.'

"Suddenly, Bartimaeus could SEE!

Host takes off the sunglasses.

Jesus had healed him! (to Host) Let's see you do a happy dance, Bartimaeus.

Host does a little dance. (THIS can be silly!)

"I bet the disciples cheered like crazy when they saw what Jesus had done. (to the kid volunteers) Let's hear you cheer, disciples!

Kid volunteers cheer.

"Great job! (to audience) Bartimaeus was so excited that he followed Jesus along the road.

Storyteller starts walking in place and cues the Host and the "disciples" to do so as well.

"He was overjoyed that Jesus had performed such an amazing miracle. Jesus had completely changed his life!

(to Host) "Thanks, Bartimaeus, for your great acting. (to disciples and audience) And thank YOU, disciples and townspeople! You can all head back to your seats."

Host exits. Kids go back to their seats. Storyteller takes off the robe and puts it away.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Isn't it amazing how Jesus healed Bartimaeus? Jesus saw what Bartimaeus needed . . . and He took the time to stop and help.

"That wasn't exactly easy for Jesus to do, because He was busy! There were all kinds of people following Jesus and wanting to hear what He had to say. But Jesus wasn't too busy to show compassion. He MADE time to help Bartimaeus.



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"We can do that, too.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"We can **make time to help others.**

"Of course, that's not easy for us either. We all have a lot going on, and we tend to think about what's happening right around us. It can be difficult to notice what other people need. It can be tough sometimes to know how to help. But we know that God can show us how to **make time to help others.**

"Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for this amazing example of Jesus' compassion. Jesus was never too busy to help someone in need. We want to love people the very same way. We want to show other people how much they matter. Please help us remember to make time for others. Help us see people the way YOU see people. And please give us the courage to do something to help. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



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CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: “Can you imagine how amazing that must have been for Bartimaeus? I mean, Jesus—the Son of God—HEALED him! Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was coming by . . . and he believed that Jesus could help him see. Sure enough, Jesus stopped what He was doing and made time to help Bartimaeus.

“If we want to live like Jesus, we should be ready to help other people, too. That means we need to be ready to make TIME for people—even if we’re busy.

“Remember . . .

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Make time to help others.

“Of course, the first thing we need to do is actually see what people need. We can’t show compassion if we’re only thinking about what’s going on in our own lives.

Put your hand above your eyes and look around.

“We need to look around and see when someone feels sad or lonely. We need to look around so that we see when a friend is having trouble with spelling or math at school. We need to notice when the living room is messy or when we could bring our dishes to the sink to help our mom or dad after dinner.

“Then . . . once we’ve seen what people need . . . we can do something to help. That’s not always easy—especially when we have to give up what WE want to do so we can do what someone else needs. But that’s what true compassion is all about!

“Our memory verse for this month is Micah 6:8. Let’s say it together.”

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

HOST AND KIDS: “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, NIV)

HOST: “Great job, everyone! In Small Group you’ll get to talk more about how you can **make time to help others**. Are you ready? Are you excited? Well then, you can head that way right now!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP