

WORSHIP

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Praise God for showing compassion to us by sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank God for being compassionate toward your few and equipping all of us with the ability to show compassion. Ask God to help kids see that following Jesus means caring for others enough to do something about their needs.

GROUPS

HOME

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

BASIC TRUTH

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

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, "What's Wrong in the Neighborhood?" Activity Page, "What's Wrong in the Neighborhood? Key" Activity Page, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Encourage those who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Pass out an Activity Page and pencil to each kid.
- Explain that there are ten things wrong in the neighborhood on their page.
- Encourage them to find and circle the wrong things.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

GROUPS

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Reasons Why

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

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STORY

FOLLOWING JESUS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible marked at Isaiah 61:1-2 and Luke 4:18-21

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather your few to sit on the floor.
- Open the Bible to Isaiah 61:1-2 then read it aloud to your group.
- Explain that these words were spoken by Isaiah, a prophet, hundreds of years BEFORE Jesus came to earth.
- Hold up the Bible and gather the pages of the Old Testament in one hand.
- Explain to kids that this prophecy is part of the Old Testament, the first section of the Bible which has one BIG message: Jesus is coming!
- Open the Bible to Luke 4:18-19 then read it aloud to your group.
- Explain that these words were read by Jesus in the temple hundreds of years after Isaiah.
- Hold up the Bible again and gather the pages of the New Testament in one hand.
- Explain that we are now in the New Testament, or second part of the Bible, which has one BIG message: Jesus is here!
- Then read Luke 4:20-21 aloud to the group.
- Explain that Jesus read these words from Isaiah about Himself.
 - Jesus, the promised one, is here.
 - That's what it means in Luke 4:21 when Jesus says, "Today, this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." In other words, "I'm it, the Savior you've been waiting for!"
- Remind kids that the people in Jesus' hometown didn't recognize him. They had a hard time believing that He was the Son of God, the promised Messiah. Jesus said, "I've come to tell people about God, to help the poor, those in need." Jesus came to show compassion by caring for those who needed help and ultimately, to give His life for the WHOLE world.
- Play a game of charades with the scenarios listed below.
- Call on a volunteer and whisper one of the scenarios for them to act-out for the group to guess.
- Volunteers are welcome to use other kids in the group to help them; they just can't tell the helpers the answer.
 - Helping to clean up in your classroom.
 - Encouraging a friend to join your group.
 - Helping someone who is hurt.
 - Giving a friend who is sad a hug or pat on the back.
 - Giving away your coat or shoes to someone in need.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus came to show compassion for people. He cared for those who were hurting. He fed those who were hungry. He healed those who were sick. He



(FOLLOWING JESUS, CONTINUED)

DIED on the cross so that all could be saved and have a relationship with God, forever. Jesus was the ultimate example of compassion. When we choose to follow Jesus, it means we pay attention to how He lived. We look at how He treated others and we follow His example. We show compassion like Jesus did by caring enough to do something about someone else's need. Because **following Jesus means caring about others**."

[Make it Personal] (Tell your few about a time someone showed compassion to YOU and helped you learn about Jesus. What did that person specifically do to help? How did you know that they showed compassion because of their relationship with Jesus? Remember, K/1st graders are concrete thinkers. Help them see that it's not just about helping others in our own strength, it's about helping because we follow Jesus and love others as He loves us.)



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

25 MINUTES

GROUPS

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

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STORY

* CR AFT STICK PEOPLE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Jumbo craft sticks, markers, scraps of construction paper, glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a jumbo craft stick.
- Invite the kids to think about someone they see almost every day (outside of their family) and decorate their craft stick to look like that person.
- They can draw in facial features and glue the scraps of construction paper to create clothing or hair, etc.
- As they work on their craft sticks, encourage them to brainstorm ways they could care for or help the people they're "crafting."
- Lay the piece of butcher paper in the center of your small group area and write down the examples they share.
- Set the craft sticks aside to use during "Pray and Dismiss."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Your craft stick people look AWESOME! These are people you see almost every day. And every day, you have opportunities to show compassion to them by helping. You gave some great examples of how to do that. This craft stick person can serve as a reminder to pay attention to the people around you and look for ways to help, because **following Jesus means caring about others.**"



PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Crafts from "Craft Stick People" Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Encourage the kids to hold their craft stick people.
- Lead the kids in prayer, asking God to help them show compassion this week because **following Jesus means caring about others.**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You so much for sending Your Son, Jesus! Jesus showed compassion and we can, too. Will you help us care for others this week? We want to follow Jesus and care for the people around us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their craft stick people. Have them share who the person is and one way they can help or care for that person this week because **following Jesus means caring about others.**

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