



WEEK

ONE

FEBRUARY 2022

SMALL GROUP

PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



Before kids arrive, pray for each of your kids by name. Ask God to give you wisdom and insight into their hearts like you've never had before so that you could grow in compassion for them as you seek to help them grow in compassion for others around them.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Reasons Why

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

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What's your purpose in life?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Following Jesus means caring about others.

JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, clothespins, ping pong balls, cups

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to put their offering in the container as they arrive.
- Pair kids up.
- Tell teams to stand about 10 feet apart from each other. If necessary, adjust the distance so kids are challenged.
- Give one kid from each team a cup and a clothespin. Tell kids to attach the cup to their shirt using the clothespin.
- Give the other kid from each team five ping pong balls.
- Challenge teams to help each other land as many ping pong balls in the cup as they can.
- Declare the team that catches the most ping pong balls the winner.
- Allow kids to switch roles.

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

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

BASIC TRUTH

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



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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



BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, paper, markers, tape, cardboard tubes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a Bible.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Reasons Why

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

- Ask:
 - Who wrote the passage Jesus was reading in today's story?
 - Who was Isaiah?
 - What does it mean to be a prophet?
- Tell kids that hundreds of years before Jesus was born, Isaiah wrote about a Messiah who would rescue God's people, a Messiah who would show compassion to God's people.
- Tell kids to look up Luke 4:18-19 and ask for a volunteer to read it out loud.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What's your purpose in life?

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Following Jesus means caring about others.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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

- Ask:
 - What did Isaiah say would be Jesus' purpose?
 - According to this passage, what does compassion look like?
 - Think of the stories you have read in the Bible about Jesus. What are some examples of how Jesus cared for someone else's needs?
 - What does compassion look like for us? Encourage kids to give ways we can care for the needs of others.
- Give kids a piece of paper and a cardboard tube.
- Set out the markers and tape where everyone can reach them.
- Guide kids through the steps to make a Compassion Scroll.
 - Ask kids to write what compassion looks like for us today on their papers. (What are some ways we can care for others?)
 - Allow kids to be creative—they can use words, pictures, etc.
 - Tell kids to tape one end of their paper to each of the tubes and to roll the paper onto the tubes.
- When everyone is finished, encourage kids to volunteer to read their scrolls to the group.
- As kids share, allow the rest of the group to add those ideas to their own scrolls.
- Encourage kids to read their scrolls each morning as they start their day to remind them to look for opportunities to show compassion.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- How does Jesus show compassion to you?
- What are some things we can do to show compassion to others?
- When have you seen someone caring for some else's needs?
- When is it hard to show compassion?
- What if you notice someone needs something but you aren't sure what to do? For example, you notice your friend seems sad but you don't know why or what to do?

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper, pencils or markers, (optional)
Compassion Scrolls from the Bible Story Extension Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Challenge kids to create an acrostic prayer using the word "COMPASSION" (an example is below.)
- Encourage them to include ways they might show compassion.
 - **C**ompassion is so important to you God.
 - **O**ne thing I can do this week is to
 - **M**ow the lawn to help my parents
 - **P**erhaps I can help my brother with his homework
 - **A**nd walk the dog.
 - **S**ometimes it is hard to see how I can help others
 - **S**o I need You God to help me
 - **I**nstead of focusing on what I want
 - **O**pen my eyes to see where I can help others
 - **N**ever forgetting the ways Jesus cared for my needs.
- *Optional:* Kids can write the prayer on the back of their Compassion Scroll they made in the Bible Story Extension Activity.
- Encourage kids to share their prayers with the group.
- Close with prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are compassionate! You care enough about us to provide for us, to help us, and to guide us. Even when we don't know what to do, You are always there to help us. Thank You for caring enough about us to send Jesus to rescue us so we can be with You now and forever. Help us to follow Jesus' example and show compassion to others. Amen!"

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

BASIC TRUTH

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