

# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

#### All for You

Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites Exodus 17:8-13

### **TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

Work together to help someone succeed.

#### HOST SUPPLIES

- Variety of different colored construction paper (one sheet for each kid)
- Five sheets of shiny gold paper with one activity written on each:
  - Do the chicken dance
  - Yodel
  - Do five jumping jacks
  - Bark like a dog
  - Hop on one foot while saying "She sells seashells by the seashore"
- Masking or gaffer's tape
- Shepherd's staff from the Bible story

## **STORY SUPPLIES**

- Two Small Group Leaders (pre-selected, if possible)
- Three kid volunteers
- Bible
- Warrior helmet
- Horned helmet
- Two toy swords (foam)
- Shepherd's staff
- Small step stool
- Bean bag chair

## 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** 

## **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

Early Arriver Opening Activity

## **LARGE GROUP**

**35** 

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- HAPPY MARCH
- COOPERATION Challenge
  - All month long, it would be amazing to see our groups or kids and leaders work together
  - COOPERATION: Working together to do more than you can do alone
  - Challenge kids to look for ways to do this at home, in school, in their neighborhood, etc.
- 3rd graders Preteen Camp
  - Sign up SOON... you'll get a flier when you leave today

## **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**



SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

**GROUPS** 

HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

10 MINUTES

## **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

#### All for You

Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites Exodus 17:8-13

### **TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

Work together to help someone succeed.

#### **MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

Two people are better than one.

They can help each other in

everything they do.

Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIrV

## **MONTHLY LIFE APP**

Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

#### **BASIC TRUTH**

I can trust God no matter what.

## 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: There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do

AUDIO: Never Lost

Host enters.

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

**VERSION**)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

### **OPENER**

**HOST:** "Hello, friends! I just love being here at [your environment's name], and I'm so glad you're here, too. We always have so much fun together!

"This month, we're finding out what it means to 'jam out' with a little cooperation!

SLIDE: LIFE APP

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

"Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone.

**SLIDE: THEME** 

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

"If you're going to take on any big challenge, you don't have to do it by yourself. You can work together with other people and do WAY more than you could on your own! In fact, that's how God planned it. God made us to cooperate!

"We've got an AMAZING game today that will definitely help our cooperation skills. But before we play, we get to pick the background music—just like we did last week. What song do you want for our jam session?

SOCIAL

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**10 MINUTES** 

AUDIO: SONG CLIP #1 (CUED TO THE CHORUS)
AUDIO: SONG CLIP #2 (CUED TO THE CHORUS)
AUDIO: SONG CLIP #3 (CUED TO THE CHORUS)

Play clips of three different songs, then have the kids vote by applause to choose the song that will play during the game.

Save the one you think the kids will pick for the last choice.

"All right—excellent choice! Now, here's how we play the game. Could I have one Small Group Leader come up here to be our contestant?

Choose a leader to bring up front for the game.

"We've got to get [leader's name] from this side of the room to the other—just like [he/she] is part of a giant board game. And each of you can help! You will each get a sheet of paper. Leaders, go ahead and pass out one sheet to each person in your group.

Pass out stacks of multi-colored construction paper with the gold sheets randomly mixed in to the Small Group Leaders.

"When I tap you on the shoulder, you'll put your paper down as a stepping stone for [leader's name]. [Leader's name], you can only step on the stepping stones because—you know—the floor is lava! (Pause.) Oh! I almost forgot. When [leader's name] steps on a gold sheet of paper, [he/she] must stop and do a bonus activity—whatever it says on the sheet.

"Is everyone ready? (Pause for response.) Let's go! Music, please!

## AUDIO: SONG #1, #2, OR #3 (THE ONE THE KIDS VOTED FOR)

Tap kids on the shoulder to cue them to put their piece of paper down as the next "stepping stone" for the leader. Guide the kids to weave the path around, following the tape line. Have the kids space out the pieces of paper as needed. This way, everyone has a chance to put down their paper before the leader ends up at the opposite side of the room.

When the leader steps on a gold piece of paper, pick it up and announce the challenge that he/she must do before moving on.

(When the leader makes it to the end.) "You did it! Great job, everyone! What amazing cooperation! Could you please pick up all the pieces of paper and hand them to your leader?

Collect the stacks of paper from the leaders.

SOCIAL

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WORSHIP

**GROUPS** 

HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

## **BIBLE STORY**

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

#### **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, everybody! It's so great to be with all of you today as we look at another great story of cooperation from the Bible. (Hold up Bible.) We'll pick up the action with God's people, the Israelites, as they were traveling through the desert. God had freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, and now God was leading them to a new land of their own.

"Let's see . . . I need a brave Small Group Leader to come play Joshua. Joshua was a warrior who headed up the group of Israelites who went to battle.

Bring up a Small Group Leader. Give him the warrior helmet and a sword.

(to the leader) "Joshua, you're looking strong. Show me a warrior pose.

Leader poses.

"Wow! It seems like you and the other Israelites could take on any challenge.

(to audience) "The only problem was that the Israelites had no home of their own. They didn't have a city with strong walls. So that meant they were wide open to attack."

#### **JOSHUA VS. THE AMALEKITES**

**STORYTELLER:** "Soon enough, the Amalekites came after God's people.

"Let's bring up another leader to represent the Amalekites.

Bring up another Small Group Leader. Give her the horned helmet and a sword.

"[Leader's name], show me YOUR best warrior pose.

Leader poses.

"Oh, my! How fearsome!

"Moses, the leader of God's people, spoke to Joshua. Let's see . . . Moses, Moses . . . who wants to play Moses?

Bring up an older kid. Give him the shepherd's staff. Have him stand a short distance away from the adult leaders.

(to the kid volunteer) "There you go, Moses. There's your special walking stick. (to audience) Here's what Moses said to Joshua. (Point to the actors as you say their names so the kids can keep them straight.)





PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

Open the Bible to Exodus 17:9 (NIrV) and read.

"Choose some of our men. Then go out and fight against the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill. I'll stand there holding the walking stick God gave me.

(to audience) "The next day, the Israelites went to battle against the Amalekites. (to leaders) Joshua . . . Amalekites . . . let's see you two do a little sword fighting. (to audience) When you see the Amalekites start to win, I want you to yell, 'Oh, no!' And when you see Joshua and the Israelites start to win, I want you to yell 'Oh, yeah!' Okay? (to leaders) Ready, go!

The two leaders pretend to sword fight. The audience reacts ("Oh, no!" "Oh, yeah!").

"What a battle! Who will win? The Israelites? (Pause for 'Joshua' to advance.) Or the Amalekites?" (Pause for the 'Amalekites' to advance.)

#### HANDS UP!

**STORYTELLER:** "As Joshua fought the Amalekites, Moses went on top of the hill along with his brother Aaron and another man named Hur.

(to the kid playing Moses) "Here you go, Moses. You can step up on this 'hill.'

Set out the step stool. Get the kid playing Moses to step up on it.

(to Moses) "Go ahead and raise the walking stick high above your head. (Pause while the kid does so.) Good.

(to audience) "Who wants to join Moses up here and play Aaron and Hur?

Bring up two more kid volunteers. Have them stand on either side of Moses. (They don't have to be on the stool.)

(to audience) "Now listen close, because this is the really incredible part. As long as Moses held up his hands (motion for 'Moses' to lift both arms while holding the stick), the Israelites were winning the battle.

Look at the leader playing Joshua to cue him to advance against the other leader. If needed, cue the audience to react ("Oh, yeah!").

"But when Moses lowered his hands (motion for Moses' to lower his arms), the Amalekites started to win."

Look at the leader playing the Amalekites to cue her to advance against "Joshua." If needed, cue the audience to react ("Oh, no!").

Motion to "Moses" to raise and lower his arms. Direct "Joshua" and the "Amalekites" to follow his lead as they battle. Have some fun with this!



SOCIAL

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**25 MINUTES** 

#### TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

**STORYTELLER:** "The only way Joshua and the Israelites could win was if Moses held his arms up. But poor Moses got tired! Aaron and Hur knew they needed to help. Listen to what Aaron and Hur did.

Open the Bible to Exodus 17:12 (NIrV) and read.

"When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it.

Give the bean bag chair to the kids playing Aaron and Hur. Have them set it on the floor behind "Moses" and cue "Moses" to step down from the stool and sit in it.

"Aaron and Hur held [Moses'] hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset.

(to the kid actors) "Did you hear that Aaron and Hur? Each of you grab one of Moses' arms and hold it up so he can keep that walking stick in the air!

(to audience) "Moses' hands stayed steady until sunset . . . and Joshua and the Israelites won the battle!

Look at the leader playing Joshua to cue him to advance against the other leader. If needed, cue the audience to react ("Oh, yeah!").

"Let's give all of our volunteers a big hand for helping out today."

Cheer for the kids and leaders and collect the props as you send them back to their seats.

## **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** The Israelites had defeated the Amalekites together, through God's power. For them to win, Moses needed his walking stick lifted high in the air. So when Moses got tired, Aaron and Hur were there to help him out. They cooperated—and that's how God's people won the battle!

"They worked together to help someone succeed. That's something we can do, too.

### **SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

"Work together to help someone succeed.

"With God's help, we can support each other and be there for each other, just like Aaron and Hur were there for Moses. Let's pray about that."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND





PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

## **PRAY**

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You for this amazing story of cooperation! Sometimes it can be hard for us to notice other people and think about what THEY need. But we know that we can work together to lend a hand, just like Aaron and Hur did for Moses. We can come together to help someone succeed. We can encourage our friends and make things better for them with the way we treat them. Please show us how to do that, God. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

**GROUPS** 

HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

## **CLOSER**

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** I love that story so much!

Pick up the staff from the Bible story and hold it above your head. Act like it's really heavy and you're getting tired.

"It was clear that Moses was tired from holding up his walking stick . . . so Aaron and Hur stepped up to help! The three of them worked together to help Joshua and the Israelites win the battle. And God worked through ALL of them to do something miraculous. Each person helped someone else succeed!

"That's a great way we can cooperate.

#### **SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

"We can work together to help someone succeed.

"Imagine if you were like Moses, trying to do a big job by yourself. You'd want someone to help you, right? Of course! It feels so good when someone notices what you need then steps in to help you out. So we need to work together to do that for other people. That's a great way to [Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated!

"It's like Jesus once said . . .

Open the Bible to Matthew 7:12 (NIrV) and read.

"In everything, do to others what you would want them to do to you.

"Maybe you could draw a picture to brighten someone's day—like if they've been sick or going through a tough time or just started at a new school or a new job. You could even cooperate by making a card for them with your brother or sister!

"If one of your friends at school has trouble learning spelling words, maybe a few of you could take some time to practice them together. Or maybe you could tell your mom 'thank you' when you sit down to eat the dinner she just cooked for everyone. That might be just the kind of encouragement she needs, because every day, she works so hard to get everything done for your family!

"There are lots of ways that we can **work together to help someone succeed.** You can head to Small Group and talk about that some more."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP