

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

For the Sake of the Call
Calling of the Disciples
Luke 5:1-11, 27-32

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Include people who are left out.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Do to others as you want them to do to you."
Luke 6:31, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Respect—Showing others they are important by what you say and do

BASIC TRUTH

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

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Bingo Card" Activity Pages and pencils or pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a "Bingo Card" Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Instruct the kids to walk around the group and find kids who have one of the listed attributes.
- Direct the kids who have the attribute to sign the appropriate box.
- Set the rule that each kid is only allowed to sign one box.
 - If you have fewer than twelve kids, adjust the rules where kids can sign two or three boxes.
- Play until all of the kids have their card filled out.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"This was a fun game! Everyone had the opportunity to sign each other's cards because the card included things some of you have in common as well as some of your differences. **[Transition] Let's go to Large Group to find out how someone included everyone—even those who were different and overlooked.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MADE TO MOVE

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

**1. ONE FISH, TWO FISH**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible marked at Luke 5; floor tape, hula hoop(s), or other items to mark a "boat" on your floor; and color-coding labels

WHAT YOU DO:

- Mark a "boat" in the center of environment with floor tape, hula hoop(s), or other safe items. The boat should be JUST large enough for all kids to stand inside.
- Assign each "fish" (kid) a color with a color-coding label.
- Guide kids to swim (mingle) around your environment.
- At random times, call different colors of fish to jump in the boat like:
 - Red fish
 - Blue fish
 - Red fish, yellow fish
 - Green fish
 - Green fish, blue fish, yellow fish
- Add mayhem—and end the game—by calling "ALL FISH!"
- Keep interest high by varying your pace and timing throughout the game.
- Note: Give kids a couple seconds to get in the "boat," then have them get out and mingle before calling the next group of "fish".

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WHAT YOU SAY:

(Open the Bible to Luke 5.) "In our Bible story today, we learned that Jesus included EVERYONE. He chose Peter, James, John, and Matthew—people who other people left out—to be His followers. He even chose them to be His CLOSEST friends, the disciples! Jesus knew that EVERYONE is important because EVERYONE is made in God's image. That means that everyone YOU meet is important and worthy of love, too!

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time you included someone who was left out. You may have sat by a new kid at lunch, played with a kid who other kids ignored, or invited someone who was playing by themselves to join your group.)

"So, how can you **include people who are left out?** (play with them; choose them for a team or as your partner; sit by them; etc.) Great ideas! Just like Jesus, you can choose to **include people who are left out.** Because when you include EVERYONE, you show others Who God is and what God's like. And that's a GREAT thing!"

MADE TO CREATE

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

**3. YIELD SIGN**

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles; large posterboard; black permanent marker; markers; inkpads; and small cars

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Using the Bible navigation tips below, look up Luke 6:31 together and read it out loud.

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Finding verses with a multi-age group: Guide all kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, ask a middle elementary kid (2nd–3rd grade) to find "Luke" in the list under "New Testament." When the kid finds Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word and say it, explaining that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Ask older elementary kids (4th–5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their Bibles. When they all find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 6, and give time for all the kids to turn the pages to find it. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers and ask a middle elementary kid to find verse 31 in chapter 6. Then read the verse aloud slowly, especially for your pre-readers, or ask older elementary kids to read it to the group.

- Using the permanent marker, draw a large triangle on the non-glossy side of the posterboard. (This will keep marker colors from smearing during the activity.)
- Turn the triangle tip down and use the permanent marker to write "YIELD" in the center.
- Set out the markers.
- Invite kids to write the words to the verse on the sign.
- Set out the inkpads and the cars.
- Invite the kids to press the wheels of a car on an inkpad and roll the car along the sign to make tracks.
- Set aside the finished poster to hang in the Large Group area for this month.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Our verse reminds us to treat others the way we want to be treated, and that definitely means the way we **include people who are left out.**"

"When do kids usually feel left out? (Invite responses—at lunchtime, in class projects, in choosing teams at gym, when a sibling gets a lot of attention, when someone else wins big at something, when they're ignored, etc.) Do you think the adults around you ever feel left out? When? (Invite responses—when kids use slang they don't understand, when you don't want to spend time with them, when teachers are ignored, when a coach tries to help but you don't listen, etc.)"



WEEK
ONE
FEBRUARY 2023

SMALL GROUP
K-5
STARTER

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(3. YIELD SIGN, CONTINUED)

“We all know when we feel left out. When you’re in that type of situation, keep an eye out for kids—or even your grown-ups—who look lonely or like they don’t fit in.”

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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application

**4. PRAY AND DISMISS**
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]**WHAT YOU NEED:** Sign from “Yield Sign” activity**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Line the group up on the far side of the room, just like the Opening Activity, and stand across from them.
- Hold up the “Yield” sign.
- Ask kids, one by one, to think of a time they might need to “yield” their previous plans and include someone new.
- Say, “[Kid’s name], how can you yield and **include people who are left** out this week?”
- When a kid answers, instruct them to join you across the room.
- When everyone is together, close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“Dear God, thank You that Jesus gave us a great example of how to **include people who are left out**. You included us in Your plan, even when we were far from You. Please help us show others the kindness You have shown us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to show them the bus with Jesus driving. Encourage them to explain that Jesus included people who were left out—everyone is welcome on His bus.

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