



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2023

SMALL GROUP
2-3

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, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for each kid specifically by name. Ask God to give them the desire to put others first and the courage to be humble with those who are hard to put first, then trust God with the rest. Thank God for your church and the opportunity to help the kids learn to put others ahead of themselves.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Brother

Being Humble Like Jesus
Philippians 2:3-8

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, "Leaf" Activity Pages, markers, tape, Tree Mural, *Optional: mobile device or timer*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Point out where you've hung the Tree Mural from the previous weeks.
- Give each kid a leaf and a marker.
- Ask kids to think about a time this week when someone put them first.
 - Maybe a teacher or a coach spent extra time helping them.
 - Maybe a friend encouraged them when they were having a rough day.
- Encourage kids to write a way someone put others first on their leaf.
- Give each kid a piece of tape.
- Direct the kids to add their leaf to the Tree Mural.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Put others first because Jesus put you first.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves."
Philippians 2:3, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

BASIC TRUTH

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

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



* 1. AT THE CROSS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: prepared coffee filter crosses; water-based markers, tray, spray bottles of water, wax paper, paper towels; *Optional: cardstock and scrap paper*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a cross.
- Set out the markers and encourage kids to fill their crosses with only three or four different colors. (You may need to put paper under their crosses, depending on how much color they use.)
- As they work, unpack the truths of today's story.
- When each kid finishes, have them lay their cross on the tray and press it flat.
- Show them how to spray their cross with two or three spritzes of water. Be prepared for "oohs" and "aahs" as they watch the colors bleed and blend!
- *Option: Kids can make prints by putting cardstock under their crosses before they spray them. They can either let the filter and paper dry in place or pull the filter from the paper when it's still wet. Either way, there will be color transferred to the cardstock in the general shape of a cross.*
- Guide kids to set their creations on wax paper to dry.
- Dry the tray between each kid.
- If time and supplies allow, invite kids to create additional crosses.

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BASIC TRUTH

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

The STEAM behind the activity:

SCIENCE

Solubility is the ability of a substance to be dissolved. Ink is soluble depending on the liquid that dissolves it. This liquid is called the solvent. Since washable markers use water, water acts as a solvent when sprayed on it.

Diffusion is the movement of particles from an area of higher concentration to an area of lower concentration. When kids spray the water-based ink with water, the color **diffuses** across the filter.

ART

Limiting the colors kids use makes this activity a hands-on way for them to observe color mixing. As the ink dissolves and the colors blend, kids see the science of color in action! They can also discover that the more colors they use, the more the colors mix together to make a brownish black.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus gave us the BEST example of humility ever. He obeyed God completely, and He put others FIRST! Every day, you can look for ways to put others first, too. You can look for someone who might need a friend. You can let someone go ahead of you in the bathroom when they really need to go. When your guardian asks you to pick up your room, you can pick up your toys from the living room, too! How else can you put others first? (share snack, let others go first, etc.) Great ideas! It's not always easy to put others first, but God's Spirit can help you. You can **put others first because JESUS put YOU first!**"

PRELUDE

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

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



3. CONNECTED

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, green construction paper, Pre cut and tape & Glue and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up Philippians 2:3 with the navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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Philippians 2:3-8

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

BASIC TRUTH

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

Finding verses with a multi-age group: Guide 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 "Philippians" in the list under "New Testament." When the kid finds Philippians, 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 Philippians. Ask older elementary kids (4th–5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their Bibles. When they all find Philippians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 2, and give time for all 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 3 in chapter 2. Then, read the verse aloud slowly, especially for your pre-readers; or ask older elementary kids to read it to the group.

- Read the verse out loud.
- Assign words or phrases from the verse to each kid.
- Precut or tape/ Glue and markers.
- Invite the kids to cut thin strips of green paper for each word or phrase that they're assigned and write that word or phrase on it.
- Direct the kids to tape the papers together in a chain.
 - First, instruct the kid with the first part of the verse to form a circle with their strip and tape or staple the ends together.
 - Then direct the kid with the next words or phrase to thread their strip of paper through that circle and tape or staple its ends together.
 - Direct the kids to continue putting verse strips together in verse order until the whole verse is connected in a long chain.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"This verse is all about putting others first. But who put someone else first, FIRST? God loved us and sent Jesus, who put us first by dying to rescue us from sin so we could live with God forever. That's why **you can put others first because Jesus put you first.** Jesus started this whole chain of putting others first, and we continue that chain every time we put someone else first.

"Jesus showed the ultimate example of humility, and when we put others first, we're part of a link of serving others that goes back from person to person to person, all the way to Jesus."

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: Artwork from "At the Cross" activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to bring their crosses from the "At the Cross" activity and sit in a circle.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead them in prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Brother

Being Humble Like Jesus
Philippians 2:3-8

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus put others first in EVERYTHING He did. Did you know that He even put YOU first? He did! John writes, 'God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. ANYONE who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life.' (John 3:16, NIV) That anyone means YOU! Because Jesus put YOU first, you can live forever with God! WOW!

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Put others first because Jesus put you first.

"Some of you believe in Jesus, and some of you still have questions about who He is. That's okay. If you have questions, you can talk to your parents, me, or any of the other leaders. We'll be happy to help you understand as much as you can! Let's pray.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves."
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"Dear God, thank You that You love us more than we could EVER imagine. You love (name each kid) SO much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Help us be humble and put others first, too. We love You, Lord. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

(Depending on what you know about your kids, it might be a good idea to simply "plant the seeds" and have a conversation about salvation without explicitly leading kids to take the step of faith. If a kid's parents are already believers, they may want to be present for this eternally important moment. Use your judgment and your knowledge of your kids' home lives when having this conversation.)

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show their colorful crosses and say today's Bottom Line. **Put others first because Jesus put YOU first.**

BASIC TRUTH

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