



WEEK
FIVE
APRIL 2023

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

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- How do you benefit by being the first one to step out and make things right with others?
- If God wants us to make things right with others, what does that tell you about how much God values relationships? What else has God done that shows us how incredibly important it is for relationships to be restored?
- Why do we sometimes choose to not make things right after something has happened between us and a friend or a family member? Is there ever a good reason to avoid making things right?
- Can our motives ever be selfish even when we're doing something to make things right? Explain.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Mercy's Shore

Jesus Restores Peter
John 21:1-19 (John 18:1-27)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When is it hard to make things right?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Put others first by making things right.

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.



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SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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MADE TO MOVE

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



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4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, plastic flower pot

WHAT YOU DO:

- Stand in a circle with one kid in the center.
- Give the flower pot to one of the kids around the circle.
- Explain that the kid in the middle will call out one of two signals.
 1. "Plant it!" which means the person holding the flower pot must tap the bottom of it.
 2. "Pick it!" which means to pass the flower pot to someone on their left or the right.
- Tell kids that the trick is that whoever is holding the flower pot must do the OPPOSITE of the command. (If they are told to "Plant It," they must pass it. If they are told to "Pick It," they must tap it.)
- If they make a mistake, they switch places with the kid in the middle.
- Build momentum as you play by increasing the speed of how quickly the commands are given.
- After the game, gather kids together.
- Ask kids to look up Colossians 3:13. Use the tip below if kids need help locating the verse.

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.

- Read the verse together then give kids a few minutes to try and memorize it.
- Practice saying Colossians 3:13 as a group without looking at it in the Bible.
- Discuss the verse by first reminding kids that sometimes God asks us to do the opposite of what we might FEEL like doing.
- What can you do when something needs to be made right but no one is willing to take the first step?
- What would happen if God was not willing to make things right with us?
- What would it look like for you to take the first step in making things right if you need to this week?
- What's the difference between just letting something go and actually making things right with the person who has wronged you?
- Close by saying Colossians 3:13 together one more time reminding kids that living out this verse today might mean letting someone off the hook and letting go of a grudge. It might mean taking the first step toward someone to make things right even if they think they don't deserve it. If they feel like doing the right thing, take a beat and talk to God, the master of making things right.



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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: Play-Doh

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a container of Play-Doh from earlier.
- Ask them to create a shape that represents a relationship that needs to be made right.
- Invite kids to pray for those they may need to make the first move with and show humility in making things right.
- Ask kids to reshape the dough into something that represents a relationship that has been made right.
- Invite them to thank God for sending Jesus to die for us so that we could be made right.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for not leaving us without a way to make things right and be in a forever friendship with You. Give us a heart of humility that is willing to take the first step in making things right with those we have hurt or who have hurt us. Since this is usually the opposite of what we feel like doing, give us the courage to step up and do what we know is right even if it's hard. In Jesus' name, amen."

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