



WEEK THREE – SEPTEMBER 2024 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Jesus Heals Bartimaeus | Mark 10:46-52*

Bottom Line: *Make time to help others*

Memory Verse: *“Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.”. – Matt. 5:14-16 (NIV)*

Virtue: *Compassion – Caring enough to do something about someone else’s needs*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated*

Series Overview: Think back to a time when someone made time for you. Maybe that looked like caring for you when you were sick, or teaching you how to tie your shoe, making food for you, or teaching you how to read or learn a new skill. No matter what it is, when people make time for us, it can bring us joy. It’s like a light shining on a dark day. Caring for one another isn’t always the easy thing to do, but it certainly is what Jesus asks of us. We are reflections of Who God is, and as we “Live Bright” this month, we’ll discover exactly how we can shine God’s light.

Bottom Line: Make time to help others. Think back to a moment when someone helped you learn a new skill or helped you with a school project. How did you feel in that moment? When we make time to help others, we reflect Who Jesus is to them. Not only can we make a lasting impact in their life, but the act of showing compassion changes us too.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Paper; Coloring Pencils

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a fist bump or high five
- Give each kid a piece of paper and a pencil.
- Demonstrate to the kids how to fold their paper in half (hamburger style) and then in half again.
- Set the timer for 30 seconds.
- Challenge kids to close their eyes and try to draw a house on one rectangle of the folded paper.
- Start the timer.
- Give the kids 30 seconds to draw.
- Once the timer is up, instruct the kids to open their eyes.
- Invite kids to compare their drawings.
- Instruct kids to flip over their folded paper.
- Set the timer for 30 seconds.
- Challenge the kids to close their eyes and draw a person on the other side of the folded piece of paper.
- Start the timer.
- Give the kids 30 seconds to draw.
- Once the time is up, instruct the kids to open their eyes.
- Invite kids to compare their drawings.
- Repeat in the same way, prompting the kids to refold and arrange their paper so they can draw on another section: a smiley face; a cloud; a flower; a tree; a star; a robot; as time and interest allow.

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Large Group Overview: In Week 3, we head to Mark 10:46-52. Jesus was headed out of the city with His disciples and a crowd in tow. Even though there were several people surrounding Jesus, one voice stood out above the others. A man named Bartimaeus, who was blind, sat on the side of the road begging for help. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he shouted to ask Jesus for mercy. The crowd tried to shush Bartimaeus, but Jesus brought him forward and made time for him, changing his life forever.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

Jesus Shows Compassion

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Jesus Heals Bartimaeus Story Images” Activity Pages, crayons or markers, scissors, zip-top sandwich bags, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Give each kid both pages from the “Jesus Heals Bartimaeus Story Images” Activity Pages.
- Set out the crayons or markers.
- Ask kids to color in the pictures from their “Jesus Heals Bartimaeus Story Images” Activity Pages.
- As kids are coloring, talk about what is happening in each one of their pictures. (See the Story Image Order below if needed.)
- Set out the scissors.

- As kids finish coloring, instruct the kids to use a pair of scissors to cut apart the cards their pictures are on.
 - Provide help as needed.
- Cut apart your own set of images and shuffle them to mix them up.
 - *NOTE: If needed, prompt kids when it's time to stop coloring and start cutting—share that they can finish coloring at home.*
- One at a time, lay out your images in order, inviting the kids to put their images in order as well.
- One image at a time, review the Bible Story using the Story Image Order below.
- Story Image Order:
 - *Jesus walking with His disciples:* “Jesus and His followers traveled through the city of Jericho. Large crowds of people followed them as they left the city.”
 - *Bartimaeus sits by the road:* “On the side of the road, a man named Bartimaeus, who couldn't see, began to shout, ‘Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!’” (Mark 10:47 NIV).
 - *Crowd admonishes Bartimaeus:* “The people nearby tried to keep him quiet.”
 - *Bartimaeus shouts even louder:* “Bartimaeus shouted even louder, ‘Son of David! Have mercy on me!’” (Mark 10:48 NIV).
 - *Jesus stops:* “Jesus stopped and called for Bartimaeus to come to Him.”
 - *Jesus heals:* “Jesus restored his sight! Jesus said to Bartimaeus, ‘Your faith has healed you’” (Mark 10:52 NIV).
 - *Bartimaeus joins the crowd:* “Bartimaeus was so joyful. He joined the crowd to follow Jesus.”
- Give each kid a zip-top bag to place their pictures in.
- Write their names on the bags with a permanent marker and set aside for pickup.

What You Say:

*“Bartimaeus believed Jesus could heal him! And guess what? Jesus did! Jesus stopped what He was doing and made time for Bartimaeus. Even though Jesus was important and had big things to do, Jesus still stopped to help. Jesus showed compassion over and over again. We can ask Jesus to help us show compassion too. We need to look and listen to the people around us and **[Bottom Line] make time to help others.**”*

[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about a time when you needed help and someone took the time to show compassion by helping you out. If possible, share an example of a time when this happened as a kid.)

Way To Help

[Live For God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: *“Items of Day” Activity Pages*

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Inform kids that sometimes when we see someone who needs help, we don’t make time to help because we may feel busy with something else.
- Explain that you will take turns showing kids an item (or picture) and invite them to share how they could use that item to make time to help.
- One by one, hold up an item (or show a picture) and ask the kids how they can use that item to make time to help.
 - Feel free to prompt kids with the specific scenarios below if they’re needed, but encourage creativity!
- **Scenarios:**
 - **Cereal box:** You’re trying to eat breakfast, and your parent asks you to feed the dog. How could you make time to help?

- o **Toothbrush:** Your little brother can't find his toothpaste, and you're busy brushing your teeth. How could you make time to help?
- o **Blanket/pillow:** You're cuddled up to watch a movie, and your little sister is crying. How could you make time to help?
- o **Backpack:** You're on your way to the school bus, and your friend trips and falls. How could you make time to help?
- o **Shoes:** You're at team practice, and your friend needs help with their shoes. How could you make time to help?
- o **Flashlight:** You're going for a walk at night with your adult, and your sister wants to hold the flashlight. How could you make time to help?
- o **Pencil or marker:** You're working on your letters, and a friend asks you to borrow your pencil. How could you make time to help?
- o **Bible:** You're looking at your picture Bible and your brother wants to see. How could you make time to help?
- o **Remote control:** You're watching a show, but your cousin really wants to watch something else. How could you make time to help?
- o **Piece of paper:** You're coloring at the table, and your friend is sad. How can you make time to help?
- o **Towel or washcloth:** It's time for a bath and bedtime, and your parent asks you to put your dirty clothes in the basket. How can you make time to help?
- o **Sunglasses:** You're going outside to play, and your grownup asks you to help carry the groceries. How can you make time to help?

What You Say:

*“Wow! You came up with some great answers and ways to help. We may not always see a need or feel like helping. But Jesus showed us what it's like to show compassion to others! Jesus stopped when He heard Bartimaeus calling for help. He took the time to find out what he needed and then did something to help! We have opportunities every day to meet needs around us. But it's not enough just to see a need. We need to actually stop and **[Bottom Line] make time to help others.**”*

Pray + Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in a close circle.
- Remind them to look for people who need help this week and then ***[Bottom Line]*** make time to help others.
- Say the rhyming prayer below to close out your time together.

What You Say:

*“When we wake up to a brand-new day
Let us choose to help with the kind words we say.*

*“When we’re at school with kids in class
Let us choose to help and not rush too fast.*

*“When we’re back at home, with our families close,
Let us choose to help those we love the most.*

*“We want to show compassion just like You
By making time for others all day long.*

“In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to take home their zip-top bags to retell the story of Jesus healing Bartimaeus using the pictures.