



WEEK TWO – MARCH 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *You Raise Me Up* | Exodus 17:8-13

Bottom Line: *Work together to help someone succeed*

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.” - Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NirV)

Virtue: *Cooperation – Working together to do more than you can do alone*

Series Overview: Cooperation isn’t always something that may happen naturally, but it is something that is near and dear to God’s heart. Since the beginning of creation we see how God created us to be in community with one another. Cooperation is a spiritual concept that originates with God, and throughout the Bible, we see how God brought people together to accomplish God’s plan for the world. When we work together, we reflect Jesus to others, and our love for one another can point people to Him as we explore what God wants us to do together.

Bottom Line: **Work together to help someone succeed.** Just as Aaron and Hur created a plan together to help Moses succeed, kids can learn how working together doesn’t just impact themselves but it impacts those around them as well. Together, you can work with others to help those around you accomplish something no matter how big or small it is.

8:45 - 9:00 | 10:45 – 11:00 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the kids' opportunities to support and celebrate one another. Ask God to guide the kids to see how they can work together to encourage and help someone succeed.
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
 - “What’s something nice you did for someone this past week?”
 - “What’s something that made you happy this week?”
 - “Can you tell me about something you are thankful for?”
 - “What’s your favorite thing to do with your family?”
 - “What’s the best part of your day when you are at school?”
 - “Who do you like to play with at home or school?”
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*

- *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
- Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 – 11:15 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

Opening Activity

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Timer

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to stand in a circle.
- Explain the challenge to the kids:
 - The goal is to see who can keep both arms raised the longest.
- Emphasize to the group that they can't bend their arms at the elbows.
- Start a timer and monitor the kids as they participate.
- When a kid bends their elbows or lowers their arms, look at the timer and let them know how long they kept their arms up.
- Pair the kids up with a partner.
- Explain the new goal to the group:
 - The goal is to help each other keep their arms up longer than in the first round.
 - Explain that they will take turns helping each other keep their arms up.
- Set the timer again and start monitoring the second round.
- After the second round, celebrate how well they worked together to keep their arms raised.

What You Say:

“In this game, your job was to help your partner succeed, and you did it! Was it easier to hold your arms up when you had help? (*Invite responses.*) **[Transition]** *Let’s go hear a story about a group of people who needed help and how that help came in a very unusual way.*”

9:15 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Large Group Overview: In Week 2, we head to Exodus 17:8-13 where Joshua and the Israelites were facing the Amalekites in battle. Anytime Moses held up his staff, the Israelites did well, and when he dropped them, they would start to lose. So Aaron and Hur came up with a plan to help Moses succeed. Moses needed people to literally hold him up in order for Joshua to lead the Israelites to victory.

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

Cooperate or Sabotage

[Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Large trash bag(s) filled with inflated balloons

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to get into pairs.
- Give each pair of kids an inflated balloon.
- Explain the first round of the game:
 - Encourage the pairs to select one kid to keep the balloon in the air as long as possible.
 - Instruct the second kid in each pair to try to interfere and make the balloon touch the floor.

- On your “Go!” instruct the pairs to begin the first round.
- After a few minutes, direct the kids to hold the balloons.
- Explain the second round of the game:
 - Direct the kids to switch roles so the other kid has a turn keeping the balloon up.
 - This time, instruct the second kid to try to help keep the balloon in the air as long as possible.
- If time allows, play again, but add a fun challenge this time!
- Challenge the kids to keep the balloon in the air using only specific body parts like their heads, feet, or elbows.

What You Say:

“You all did a fantastic job! What made the first round difficult? (Invite responses.) That’s right! When you were working against each other, it made it hard to keep the balloon in the air! What changed in the second round that helped you keep the balloon up? (Invite responses.) Exactly! You were cooperating, and that made it much easier to keep the balloon up.

*“We were made to work together. When we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live with us. That means you can also ask God to help you see all your chances to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** Maybe you and your friends can work together to put away all the toys quickly. Or, in a relay game or race, you can work together by taking turns and cheering each other on. Every day, let’s look for ways to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.**”*

Roll-a-Verse

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bibles, “Memory Verse Sign” Activity Page, “Roll Directives” Activity Page, and die

What You Do:

- Divide kids into groups of three.
- Give each trio a Bible.
- Guide them to look up Ecclesiastes 4:9 together using the Bible Navigation Tips below.
 - ***Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders:*** Guide them 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, lead them to find Ecclesiastes in the list under “Old Testament.” When the kids find Ecclesiastes, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Ecclesiastes. Help the kids find the page. When they find Ecclesiastes, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 9 in chapter 4.
- Once they’ve found the verse, select a kid to read it aloud.
- Collect the Bibles.
- Invite your group to form a circle.
- Explain to the kids that they will work to memorize the Memory Verse in a fun way.
- Place the “Memory Verse Sign” Activity Page in the middle of the circle.
- Practice saying the verse together several times as a group.
 - Make it fun by using hand motions or a clapping rhythm!
- Turn the sign over so the kids can no longer see the verse.
- Select a kid to start by rolling the die.
- Depending on the number the kid rolls, instruct the entire group to say the verse in a fun way, as listed on the “Roll Directives” Activity Page. For example:
 - Roll 1: Say the verse in a whisper.
- Continue passing the die around the circle so each kid can roll and lead the verse.
- Keep going until every kid has a turn or as long as interest allows.

What You Say:

“That was so silly and fun! All of you are memorizing this verse so well! When we remember what the Bible says, it can guide us, give us strength, and help us live more like Jesus.

*“What do you think this verse means? (Invite responses.) Those are great answers! Knowing verses like this one helps us remember that God wants us to cooperate and help others succeed. We are better when we work together. We don’t have to do things alone—God made us to work together! So this week, remember to look for ways to **[Bottom Line]** work together to make someone succeed.”*

Pray + Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Index cards, and pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid an index card and a pen (or a pencil).
- Instruct the kids to write their names in the center on ONE side of the card.
 - For early writers, encourage them to draw a picture of themselves or be prepared to help them write their names if needed.
- On the back of the card, direct the kids to write or draw a personal prayer request for themselves or someone in their home.
- Then, direct the kids to pair up and exchange cards.
- Explain that one way to help others succeed is by praying for them.
- Give the kids a moment to pray for each other’s prayer requests silently.
- Close the group in a prayer, asking God to help each kid support a friend through prayer this week.
- Instruct the kids to take the cards home and place them somewhere they’ll see them, reminding them to pray for their friends throughout the week.

What You Say:

*“Dear God, thank You for loving us and creating each of my friends here uniquely! Getting things done by ourselves can feel easier, but we know You created us to work together. Please give each of us the patience to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** Open our eyes to see how we can cooperate with others daily. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

*As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share the **[Bottom Line]** “work together to help someone succeed.”*