



WEEK FOUR – MARCH 2025 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Up on the Roof* | Luke 5:17-26

Bottom Line: *Work together to help someone in need*

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 in need. Some needs may seem intimidating or too big for you to truly make a difference — and they very well could be if you tackle it alone. However, when you cooperate with others and work together, you have a better chance of making a lasting impact on someone else's life.

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 compassion and kindness that the kids are developing through their relationship with God. Ask God to open their eyes to see how they can work together to make a difference in the lives of those in need around them.
- *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

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

What You Need: Ball pit balls, paper, and floor tape

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to find a partner. Assist as needed.
- Give each pair one piece of paper and one ball pit ball.
- Use the tape to mark a start and finish line.
- Explain to the pairs that they will work together to carry the ball pit ball on the paper from the start to the finish line.
- Pick one of the following ways to play the game:
 - Pairs can compete against other pairs.
 - Pairs can take turns starting at the starting line and walking to the finish line.
- If the pairs take turns walking to the finish line, encourage the rest of the group to cheer them on!
- If a pair drops their ball, encourage them to pick it up and keep going.
- Remind the kids to work together and encourage each other.
- Leave the tape lines on the floor for the Cooperation Transportation Activity later.

What You Say:

“You all did a great job working together carrying the ball with your friend!
[Transition] In our Bible Story today, we’ll hear about some friends who worked together to help someone important to them. Let’s go!”

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

Large Group Overview: For Week 4, we head to Luke 5:17-26. Here we encounter four friends and their cooperation to help another friend see Jesus. Their friend was paralyzed and could not walk, so they did everything they could to get him to Jesus — even tear down a roof! Because of the four friends’ faith and cooperation, Jesus did something incredible, changing the life of the man who was paralyzed, forever.

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

Cooperation Transportation
[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Beach towel, a stuffed animal, and floor tape

What You Do:

- Help the kids find a new partner (different from the Opening Activity if you did it).
 - If you did the Opening Activity, feel free to use the start and finish line from that activity.
- Direct the pairs to sit behind the start line.
- Choose a pair to go first.

- Instruct the pair to hold each end of the beach towel and place the stuffed animal in the center.
- Direct the kids to carry the towel from the start line to the finish line.
- Once a pair reaches the other side, ask them one of the Bible Story Review questions below.
 - If the pair struggles to figure out the answer, encourage them to ask their friends for help!
- Encourage the pair to return to the group and hand off the beach towel and stuffed animal to the next pair.
- Repeat the process until every pair has had a turn and all questions have been answered.
 - **Bible Story Review Questions**
 - True or false? Jesus was teaching and performing miracles, and many people traveled to hear Him. (*Answer: true*)
 - Why did the main man in the story want to see Jesus? (*Answer: He couldn't walk.*)
 - How many friends helped the man who couldn't walk? (*Answer: four*)
 - How did the friends get their friend to Jesus? (*Answer: They carried him on a mat.*)
 - When they arrived at the house, what BIG problem did they find? (*Answer: The house was packed, and they couldn't get through the crowd.*)
 - What creative solution did the friends come up with when they saw how crowded it was? (*Answer: They took their friend to the roof, dug a hole, and lowered him to Jesus.*)
 - What did Jesus say to the man when he saw him? (*Answer: "Friend, your sins are forgiven." —Luke 5:20, NIV*)
 - How did the religious leaders feel about what Jesus said? (*Answer: They were shocked because only God could forgive sins.*)
 - What happened next? Did Jesus help the man walk? (*Answer: Yes, He healed the man so he could walk.*)

- Who were the helpers in today’s story? (*Answer: The four friends who took the man to Jesus, and Jesus helped the man by forgiving his sins and healing him.*)

What You Say:

*“Wow! There are so many helpers in our story! Jesus forgave the man’s sins and helped him walk. Who helped the man get to Jesus? (Invite responses.) That’s right, his friends! They made sure their friend got to Jesus. When they saw the crowd, they didn’t give up—they found a way! We can do that too. When we see a need, we can cooperate with others and do something to help! We can **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone in need.” **[Make It Personal]** (Tell your few about a time you saw a big need and did something to help by working with others. How did cooperation play a role in helping to meet that need?)*

Pieced Together Cooperation

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bible marked at Ecclesiastes 4:9, permanent marker, and prepared “Ecclesiastes 4:9 Puzzle” Activity Page in individual zip-top bags

What You Do:

- Select a volunteer to open the marked Bible to Ecclesiastes 4:9.
- Read the verse aloud to your group. Then, invite the kids to repeat the verse together.
- Divide your group into pairs.
 - A group of three is just fine!
- Provide each kid with a zip-top bag containing the puzzle from the “Ecclesiastes 4:9 Puzzle” Activity Page.
- Encourage the kids to work together to complete both puzzles.
 - *NOTE: They are the same puzzle. Pairs are getting a chance to put the puzzle together twice.*

- Once each pair has finished, encourage them to read the verse together. (Be prepared to help as needed.)
- Use the permanent marker to help kids write their names on the zip-top bags.
- Direct the kids to place their puzzles back in the zip-top bag with their name on it to take home.

What You Say:

*“Great job working together to complete your puzzles! When you did, it showed us this month’s Memory Verse. When we remember Scripture, God’s Word, it helps us learn how to live and make good choices every day. This verse tells us that two people are better than one! That means we can do great things when we work together! So, let’s remember to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone in need.**”*

Pray + Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Ask:
 - “What are some needs you see around you?”
- If kids need help getting started, share a few examples:
 - A sibling who needs help building a block tower.
 - A busy teacher who needs a hand.
 - A friend who needs prayer while going through a hard time.
 - A grown-up who is cleaning up the kitchen.
- Give kids a moment to share the needs they came up with.

- Lead the kids in prayer, asking God to help them ***[Bottom Line]*** work together to help someone in need.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for loving us and for giving us each other. We see lots of needs around us—some are big, and some are small. Please help us to work together to help those in need. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

*As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their Ecclesiastes 4:9 puzzles as they share that we can ***[Bottom Line]*** work together to help someone in need.*