

# WEEK FIVE – MARCH 2025 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: One Body, Many Parts | 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
Bottom Line: Work together to point people to Jesus
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 point people to Jesus.** When we work together, many people will have a chance to see Jesus' love in action. Accomplishing Jesus' mission for the world is a HUGE undertaking. However, when we practice working together, we can help others and show them Jesus along the way.

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

#### **Connection Centers**

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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)

- 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 gifts and abilities that have been given to each child. Thank God for creating us to all work together. Ask God to help your few learn what their gifts are, see opportunities to use them, and encourage others to use their gifts to show the world God's goodness and love.
- 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

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o Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

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

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# **Opening Activity**

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

**What You Need:** "Many Parts Bingo Cards" Activity Page, "Many Parts Bingo Images" Activity Page, small paper square

- Explain to the kids how to play Bingo.
  - Model what it looks like to get five across, down, and diagonal in a row.
  - The first kid to get five in a row (across, down, or diagonally) should shout, "BINGO!"
- Give each kid a card from the "Many Parts Bingo Cards" Activity Page and about 15 Bingo chips (or paper squares).
- Shuffle the cards from the "Many Parts Bingo Images" Activity Page and lay them in a stack face down.
- Encourage each kid to cover their "free space" with a chip (or a paper square).
- Draw a card from the "Many Parts Bingo Images" Activity Page and display it for the kids to see.
- Then, direct the kids to cover that body part on their card.
- Continue drawing cards and directing the kids to cover the matching images.
- Declare the first kid to shout "BINGO!" as the winner.
- If time allows, play another round.

• Collect all Bingo cards to use for the One Body, Many Parts Activity later.

### What You Say:

"That was so fun! I love playing Bingo with all of you. Look at all these different parts of our bodies! All of them work together to do the things that we do. *[Transition]* Let's go hear about something else made of many parts. Come with me!"

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

Large Group Overview: We end the month in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 with the early church. Arguments had broken out and sides were taken as the believers struggled to come together. Paul wrote to them, encouraging them to use their differences as they work together to tell others about Jesus because their gifts work best together.

# 9:50 - 10:10 | 11:50 - 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

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# **One Body, Many Parts**

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

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

**What You Need:** Cards from the "Many Parts Bingo Cards" Activity Page from the Opening Activity, and Bible marked at 1 Corinthians 12:27

- Invite the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Give each kid a Bingo card from the "Many Parts Bingo Cards" Activity Page.

- Ask each kid to point to one body part on their card (encourage them to all pick a different one).
- Go around the circle and have each kid name the body part they chose and say what it can do.
- After everyone shares, ask:
  - "Is the eye more important than the hand? What about the mouth and the ear?"
  - "What if you were only made up of that one part? Like if your whole body was just a mouth?"
- Call out a few more body parts from the kids' cards and discuss what it would be like if your whole body was just one part.
- Share with the kids that each part of our physical bodies that God has given us, work together so we can do the things we need to do.
- Invite a kid to open the marked Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:27.
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:27 out loud to the kids.
- Ask the kids: "What do you think this verse means?"
- Explain to your few that each of us has a part to play in God's story.

# What You Say:

"God made each of us with unique gifts only we can share. And when we use our gifts together, we can make a big difference! Our bodies are made up of many parts, like the body of Christ, which is made up of many unique people. And when we work together, we can show a clear picture of Jesus to the world around us. Just like we need all the parts of our body working together, we can [Bottom Line] work together to point people to Jesus."

[Make It Personal] (Talk to your few about your role as a Small Group Leader and how you work alongside all the other volunteers—Bible storytellers, worship leaders, tech volunteers, greeters, SGLs, team leaders, etc.—to create an awesome environment for kids to learn about following Jesus every week. It takes all of you working together to point kids to Jesus!)

# Duck, Duck Memory Verse

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bibles marked at Ecclesiastes 4:9 (for kindergartners)

- Direct the kids to get into pairs.
- Make sure each pair has a Bible.
- Direct the kids to find Ecclesiastes 4:9 using the Bible Navigation Tips below:
  - *Finding verses with kindergartners:* Guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word *Ecclesiastes* at the top of the page as you say "Ecclesiastes" aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 4 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 4 for the little 9; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.
  - *Finding verses with 1<sup>st</sup> 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 "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Ecclesiastes starts with the letters E-C. 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, 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.
- Repeat the verse together two or three times.
- Collect the Bibles, leaving one open for you, and direct the kids to sit in a circle.

- Explain that you're going to play a game called "Duck, Duck, Memory Verse."
- Share the rules:
  - You will select a kid to be the "tapper."
  - The group will say the words of the verse as the "tapper" taps each kid on the head.
  - When the group gets to the verse reference ("Ecclesiastes 4:9"), the kid whose head is tapped will jump up and chase the "tapper" around the circle.
  - If the tapper returns to the other kid's open spot without being tagged, that kid becomes the "tapper."
  - If the "tapper" gets tagged, they stay as the "tapper" for the next round.
- Refer to your open Bible to prompt the kids with the words of the verse if needed.
- Continue playing as long as time allows so that as many kids as possible get to be the tapper.

# What You Say:

"That was so much fun! I loved playing 'Duck, Duck, Memory Verse!' with each of you. Why are two people better than one? (Invite responses.) That's right! This verse reminds us that God wants us to work together because we can help each other. We can do amazing things to point people to Jesus when we cooperate. So we should always [Bottom Line] work together to point people to Jesus."

Pray + Dismiss [Pray to God | Prayer Activity] Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

- Encourage the kids to think of a friend they know who doesn't attend church or know Jesus.
- Direct the kids to form groups of three or four.
  - You can either assign groups or let the kids form their own.
- In their groups, invite kids to share the names of the friends they thought of (first name only).
- Encourage the kids to pray together for those friends, asking God to help them show them the love of Jesus.
- Once the groups finish, close the group time in prayer.

### What You Say:

"God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how much You love us. Today we pray for everyone we mentioned who doesn't know Jesus yet. Help us to work together and show Your love to them through our words and actions. We want to **[Bottom Line] work together to point people to Jesus** through our words and actions this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, give each kid a "Many Parts Bingo Card" and encourage them to share how each part of the body of Christ is important. Also, encourage the kids to share who they prayed for today.