



## WEEK TWO – MARCH 2025 – PRETEEN

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

**Key Question:** *Who do you work well with?*

**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.

**Key Question: Who do you work well with?** A big part of what makes cooperation easier to achieve is when you connect with others who have the same goals as you. When kids find connections with others, it can excite them to create and do things together. We hope as preteens think about this question, they will begin to see people God has already put in their lives to help someone else.

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

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**Connection Centers**

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

**What You Need:** Game Room, Card Games + Art Room

**What You Do:**

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
  - Before kids arrive, pray for your group and each member individually by name. Pray for grace, mercy, and wisdom as you seek to lead your kids in conversations that are engaging, to the point, and helps them grasp the bottom line of the content for the week.
- *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.
  - Interact with preteens in their respective spaces (Game Room/Art Room/Board Games, etc.)
  - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them
- *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

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

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## Opening Activity

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

**What You Need:** Sticky notepads, pens or pencils, a timer

### What You Do:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle in your group space.
- Ask for a volunteer to stand up in the center of the circle.
- Give everyone a pen or pencil and a small stack of sticky notes from a sticky notepad.
- Explain that you will give them one minute to write as many encouraging notes as possible to the kid standing in the center.
  - For example, “Great job!” or “I believe in you!”
- Start the timer on your “Go!” and direct kids to begin writing their notes and sticking them on the arms of the kid standing in the center.
- When time is up, signal the kids to stop writing.
- Invite the kid to count how many sticky notes they received.
- Give that kid a moment to read them out loud for the group.
- Play another round, choosing a different kid to stand in the center of the circle.
- Challenge the group to beat the number of notes written in the first round.
- Continue until each kid gets a turn to receive encouraging notes.

### What You Say:

“How did it feel to receive all those encouraging notes? (*Invite responses.*) There’s nothing like an encouraging note to help us feel like we can succeed and do anything! **[Transition] Today, we’ll hear about a few people who worked together to help their friend succeed in a huge way!**”

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

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**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.

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

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### **Take A Snapshot**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** “Story Showcase” Activity Page

### **What You Do:**

- Invite kids to gather together in your group space.
- Choose one kid to sit in the front of the group, facing the rest of the kids. This kid will be the guesser.
- Stand behind the guesser so they cannot see you.
- Pick one of the cards from the “Story Showcase” Activity Page.
- Hold it behind the guesser so they cannot see it, but show it to the rest of the group.
- Direct the kids to take turns giving clues to the guesser who can’t see the card.
  - The clues should not include any part of the story’s title in them.
- Once the guesser guesses correctly, choose another kid to go next.
- Continue until every kid gets a turn to guess or the cards run out.
- Ask the following questions for discussion:
  - How did you work together in this game?
  - How would the game have changed if you had to guess the story without any help from the group?

- Do you know someone who needs help succeeding? If yes, how can you work together with someone else to help them?
- ***[Make it Personal] Share a story about a time when people worked together to help you succeed. Explain how it made you feel and why it left an impact.***

## **Verses to Take With You**

### **[Hear From God | Memory Verse Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Paper; Bibles; pens/pencils

### **What You Do:**

- Divide kids into four groups.
  - *(If your group has fewer than 8 kids, divide them in half and assign each group 2 verses.)*
- Hand each group a Bible, a piece of paper, and a pen or pencil.
- Assign each group one of the following Bible verses.
  - 1 Thessalonians 5:11
  - Proverbs 27:17
  - Romans 12:4-5
  - Ecclesiastes 4:9
- Instruct the groups to write the verse reference on their piece of paper.
- Direct the kids to find their verse and read it aloud as a group.
- Then, as a group, encourage them to come up with a tip for finding that Bible verse.
  - Groups must create a tip that doesn't include using the Table of Contents.
- Instruct the groups to add instructions for their tip on the paper.
- Once everyone is finished, invite them to swap papers with another group.
- Then, give the groups time to look up the new verse using the tips and read it out loud together.
- Continue the process until each group has read all 4 Bible verses.

- Explain to kids that the Bible can sometimes feel overwhelming or confusing, especially when they don't know how to find what they're looking for.
- Share how incredible it is that your Small Group gets to gather each week. It's an opportunity to uplift and encourage each other as we learn about God's Word!