



WEEK THREE – JULY 2025 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *The Good Samaritan | Galatians 6:2 (suppt. Luke 10:25-37)*

Key Question: *How can you show someone you care?*

Memory Verse: *“As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did.”
Philippians 2:4 (NIV)*

Virtue: *Live It Out – Discover how to love like Jesus*

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

Series Overview: Jesus is the greatest example of what it looks like to value others. Through the way He lived His life, Jesus taught us how to value one another. And when we follow Jesus, God’s Spirit helps us to live like Jesus—transforming not only us but the world around us.

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: Game Room, Card Games + Art Room

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - Before kids arrive, take some time to pray and connect with God. Ask God for wisdom for how you lead your group today. Pray that your kids would grasp how amazing it is that God loves them and gave Jesus for 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.
 - 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

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

Opening Activity

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

What You Need: hula hoops or floor dots; a device for playing upbeat music

What You Do:

- Welcome kids with a smile as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Spread the hula hoops (one fewer than the number of kids you have) out across the play area.
- Ensuring that there's enough space for the kids to move around safely while the music plays.
- **Explain the game:**
 - When the music starts, kids move around—walking, dancing, or hopping.
 - When the music stops, everyone must find a hoop to stand in.
 - Instead of eliminating players, kids must work together to fit into the remaining hoops as the game progresses!
- Begin the game by playing upbeat music and encouraging the kids to move around the group area.
- Stop the music at random, signaling the kids to find a hoop to stand in.
- After each round, remove one hoop to increase the challenge.
- Encourage teamwork by reminding the kids to help each other fit into the remaining hoops.
- Use the challenges below to add some fun and more difficulty to the game.
- Celebrate the kids' for their teamwork after the final round, highlighting how they worked together to make sure everyone could stay in the game.
 - **Challenges**
 - Round 1: Everyone in the hoop must stand on one foot.

- Round 2: Only one person in the hoop can have their feet on the ground—others must be carried or balanced.
- Final Round: Everyone must fit into the last hoop and hold hands while staying balanced for 10 seconds.

What You Say:

“Great job, everyone! I loved watching how you all worked together to ensure everyone could stay in the game, even as the hoops got smaller. You included our friends in the circle so they wouldn't be eliminated, and that was so thoughtful! *[Transition] Caring for others and making room for them in our lives is so important. Today, we'll hear a story from Jesus about three people, and what one of them did to care for someone in need. Let's go!*

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

This whole summer you get to lead kids through nine amazing weeks of discovering what it looks like to love like Jesus. Each week will break down a “one another” statement from the Bible. God designed us to be in community with one another even when it's challenging, and we'll need God's Spirit to help guide us as we do. In these nine weeks, kids will learn about difficult concepts such as living in peace with one another or forgiving one another. Invite kids to bring open and honest conversation but be sure to create a safe space for them to process what makes some of those things challenging to do. Some kids may be in situations that make it hard for them to trust, forgive, be at peace with, or even pray for those who have mistreated or hurt them in some way. Be open to listening and hearing their needs and let them know you are here for them. Always be sure to bring the correct people into any conversation that involves the safety of a child.

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

Take a Snapshot

[Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: “Paper Heart” Activity page, pens or markers, and a basket

What You Do:

- Gather the kids together.
- Set a basket near the group.
- Give each kid a blank heart cutout from the “Paper Heart” Activity page and a pen or marker.
- Invite the kids to think about ways to care for people in their community, family, or other areas of their lives.
- Direct them to write their ideas on their heart cutout.
- Encourage the kids to be thoughtful and specific with their ideas.
- If the kids need help getting started, suggest the following:
 - Write an encouraging note to a friend who is going through a hard time.
 - Help my grown up with folding the clothes.
 - Invite a new kid at school to sit with me at lunch.
 - Donate old toys to younger kids who don’t have any.
- Give the kids enough time to think and write their responses on their heart cutouts.
- Once everyone is finished, invite the kids to share one or more of their ideas aloud.
- After each kid shares, invite them to place their heart into the basket.
- Share with kids that this shows us how many different ways there are to care for those around us. And there are even more!
- Encourage the kids to ask God to help them see how they can care for the people in their path.
- Discuss with the kids how small acts of care and kindness can make a big difference in the lives of others.

- *[Make It Personal] Share about an age-appropriate time you cared for someone in need. Was it a family member? Sibling, friends, or a stranger?*

Bible Story Extension

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: beads, string or thread, and scissors

What You Do:

- Gather the kids together in your group area.
- Make the beads, string, scissors, and *optional: charms or letter beads* available for the kids.
- Explain that they will be creating bracelets to give to someone this week as a way to show care!
- Allow the kids to begin crafting, offering assistance as needed.
- While the kids work, guide a discussion by asking Bible Story Review questions.
- Once the kids finish their bracelets, challenge them to think about someone they care about or someone who might need encouragement.
- Encourage them to give their bracelet to that person this week.
- Share with the kids that God took care of our greatest need by sending Jesus to rescue us. Jesus reminds us that we can care for people who are different from us.
- Remind them of the story of the Good Samaritan that Jesus told and how he went out of his way to show love and kindness, emphasizing how they can do the same in their daily lives.
- ***Bible Review Questions:***
 - What did the apostle Paul say we should do for one another in his letter to the Colossians?
 - *(Answer: "Carry one another's heavy loads.")*

- What did Paul say would happen if we carry one another's heavy loads?
 - *(Answer: We will fulfill the law of Christ.)*
- What happened to the man walking from Jerusalem to Jericho in the Parable Jesus told?
 - *(Answer: He was attacked by robbers, beaten, and left half-dead.)*
- Who was the first person to pass by the injured man in Jesus' story?
 - *(Answer: A priest.)*
- What did the priest do when he saw the injured man?
 - *(Answer: He passed by on the other side of the road.)*
- Who was the second person to pass by the injured man in Jesus' story?
 - *(Answer: A Levite, or worship leader.)*
- What did the Samaritan man do when he saw the injured traveler?
 - *(Answer: He bandaged his wounds, treated them with oil and wine, put him on his donkey, and took him to an inn to care for him.)*
- What lesson did Jesus teach the law expert at the end of the story?
 - *(Answer: To be a neighbor to others by showing love and care to everyone, like the Samaritan did.)*
- What did Jesus remind us about caring for others?
 - *(Answer: That we can care for people who are different from us.)*