

City SG - November 10-11, 2018

Bible Story: We Could Be Heroes (Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites) *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)*

1. Minefield

What You Need: Colored Card Stock Paper (5 sheets per group, per color, multicolored), blindfolds (1 per pair of kids), white floor tape (one roll per group – campus supply)

What You Do:

- Divide group into two teams and instruct the kids to pair up within their teams.
- Use the tape to mark off a square playing area.
- Scatter the colored paper within the playing area. Assign each team a color.
- Explain that the colored papers assigned to each team are their "mines" and they must stay away from them.
- Line up the teams on opposite sides of the playing area. Remind kids to stay in their pairs.
- Pass out the blindfolds to one member of each pair to wear.
- Explain that the blindfolded partner must walk from one side of the playing area to the other while blindfolded WITHOUT stepping on their team's "mines."
- Partners may guide from outside the playing area using only their voices.
- Encourage kids to walk slowly, to give their partner a chance to call out instructions.
- Let only one kid from each team walk across the playing area at a time.
- Once one kid makes it across the playing area, the next kid can start moving.
- The team to get all their blindfolded players across the playing area first wins!
- Blindfold the other partners and play another round.

What You Say:

"You did a great job working together to help your teammate successfully cross the playing area! How did it feel to be the blindfolded player? (*Pause for responses.*) How did it feel to be the one guiding your blindfolded partner? (*Pause for responses.*) I think sometimes we get so focused on being first or getting what we want or think we deserve that we forget to pay attention to the people around us. But God wants us to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** Part of cooperation requires us to take a back seat to others who might need our help in order to succeed."

2. Riddle Me Do

What You Need: “Community Helpers” Activity Page (one set per group, printed on durable paper), “Riddle Me Do” Activity Page (one per group), tape (one roll per group)

What You Do:

- Lead kids to sit in a tight circle.
- Tape a “Community Helpers” card to each child’s back. Be sure the kids keep each other’s pictures a secret, and no peeking at their own!
- Guide kids to mingle around the room.
- Call out a riddle from the Activity Page, and lead kids to gather around the child whose picture answers the riddle.
- When all the kids are gathered around the correct child, let that child guess the identity of the figure on their back.
- Add variety by guiding kids to move in different ways for each round: tiptoe, on their heels, baby steps, like astronauts floating in space, like robots, etc.

What You Say:

“Wow! There are a lot of people who help us, aren’t there? Have any of these community helpers ever helped you? How? (Pause.) **[Transition] In our Bible story today, we heard about a time when two people helped someone else in a big way.**”

3. Arms Up, Arms Down

What You Need: Swim noodle or other “staff” (one per group)

What You Do:

- Ask prompting questions to briefly help kids review the following points of the Bible story:
 - The Amalekites attacked the Israelites. Moses told Joshua to pick some men and go to battle.
 - The next morning, Joshua marched out with the best Israelite fighters. Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up a hill.
 - Moses raised the walking stick God gave him as a sign that God was with the people.
 - As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning. But when he got tired and lowered his hands, the Amalekites began to win.
 - When Moses got tired, Aaron and Hur put a stone under him.
 - They each held up one of Moses’s arms so that he could raise the staff high. They did this all day, and the Israelites won the battle.
- Choose two volunteers to be Aaron and Hur. Direct them to stand at one end of your environment.
- Guide the remaining kids to line up at the opposite end. These kids will be Joshua and the Israelites.
- Position yourself between Aaron and Hur. (You’re Moses.) *NOTE: If you provided costumes, help Aaron and Hur put them on.*
- Next, lead kids in a “Red Light, Green Light”-esque Bible story re-enactment:
 - When you hold up your arms, Joshua and the Israelites slowly move toward you.
 - When you drop your arms, Joshua and the Israelites retreat to the starting line.

- At various times, encourage Aaron and Hur to help you hold up your arms.
- Throughout the game, be sure to ham up your role as Moses to help keep the kids' interest. ("Oh, my arms are soooooo tired. Can't . . . hold . . . them . . . up!")
- As time allows, choose other volunteers to play the roles of Aaron and Hur.

What You Say:

"Aaron and Hur worked together to help Moses keep his arms in the air. And the three of them worked together to help Joshua and the Israelites win the battle. They each did what our Bottom Line for today says: **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** What does it mean to help someone succeed?" (to help someone do well, to help someone do their best) **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you worked with others to help someone succeed. If possible, share an example from your childhood. Tell how the experience affected both you and the person you helped.)**

"Each of YOU can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed**, too. You can work together to help a friend learn their spelling words, you can work together to help a friend with their flashcards, you can work together to encourage your teammate, and you and your family can work together to pray for someone who needs help. How else could you **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed?** (Pause.) Great ideas! So, this week, remember to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** When you do, you'll be showing them what God is like, and that's a great thing."

4. SUCCEED!

What You Need: Buttons (or other game pieces, 2 per kid), "Help Others!" and "Help Others! Cards" Activity Pages (3 sets per group); dice (three per bin)

What You Do:

- Play a reverse "Sorry!" game, where the goal is to send the other players HOME instead of back to START.
- Guide kids to get into groups of three or four. Give each group a board game, cards, a die, and one game piece per player.
- *HINT: Group younger kids with older ones who can help them succeed at the game.*
- Tell kids that the object of the game they're about to play is the opposite of most. In this game, their goal is to help OTHERS succeed and win first!
- Lead kids to put the cards face down in the center of the game board and then set their piece in the START zone.
- Kids roll the die to determine playing order. The player who rolls the lowest number goes first.
- Kids take turns rolling the die and moving around the board.
- The goal is for kids to move their piece from START and around the board to HOME.
- If a player lands on a "draw a card" space, that player draws a card, reads it aloud, and does what it says.
- *NOTE: Players only draw a card if they roll the die and land on a "draw a card" space, not if another player moves them to that space.*
- If you run out of "Help Others! Cards," reshuffle the original stack and place it in the designated spot on the game board.
- The game ends when every child has both pawns HOME.

What You Say:

"We live in a world that's all about putting ourselves first: WE want to win the game, WE want to be first in line, WE want to be the best. But God wants us to think and act differently. He wants us to think of others first and work together to help them succeed.

"What are some ways you can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed?** (*My friend and I can help another friend learn their spelling words; my brother and I can help cheer up my baby sister when she's crying; everybody on my basketball team can encourage each other when we're practicing or during games; me and my family can pray for someone who's not feeling well.*) Great ideas! So, remember: **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** It's not always easy, but when you help others succeed, you'll be doing what God wants you to do, and that's a great thing!"

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: White board (one per group), dry erase marker (one per group)

What You Do:

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

What You Say:

"Today we learned that God wants us to work together to help someone succeed. Praying together is a GREAT way that we can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.** Because when we pray, you know who we're working together with? (*Pause.*) Yes! We're working together with God. Wow!

"So, who do you know that we can pray for?" (*Write the kids' prayer ideas on the board.*)

Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help each person succeed in God's best for them. After the prayer, praise kids for cooperating with God to help others succeed.

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"

HAND OUT "GOD TIME" SHEETS TO EACH CHILD AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!