

City SG - November 3-4, 2018

Bible Story: Come Together (Building the Tabernacle) • *Exodus 25:8-9; 28:1, 3; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43 (Exodus 19, 25)*

Bottom Line: God wants us to work together.

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.” *Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIRV)*

1. Cooperation Sandwich

What You Need: “PB&J” Activity Page (one per kid), scissors (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “PB&J” Activity Page and a Pair of Scissors.
- Instruct children to cut out their cards (2 bread, one peanut butter, and one jelly), and to place them in the middle of your rug.
- Scramble the cards into one pile, face down.
- Allow each child to select 4 cards at random.
- Help kids get into groups of three or four.
- Task kids with making one peanut butter and jelly sandwich for each person in their group. They’ll quickly surmise that they don’t have all the cards they need.
- Encourage kids to problem solve on their own if they come to you for assistance. They’ll likely realize that if they trade with other groups they’ll be able to get the cards they need.
- Congratulate the kids on their cooperation when they successfully create one sandwich for each kid.

What You Say:

“Did your group have everything it needed to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for each person? No, you didn’t, did you? Some of you had jelly and peanut butter, but no bread. Some of you had bread and peanut butter, but no jelly. And some of you had just bread and jelly! But when you cooperated and worked together, you were able to make all the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches you needed. Way to go!

“That reminds me of today’s Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** Why do you think God wants us to work together? (*We can help each other; we can do more with each other than we can do on our own; etc.*) Yes! **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together** because when we work together, we can love others, help others, and point people to Jesus in ways we can’t on our own.

[Make It Personal] (Briefly tell kids about a time you worked with others and shared what you had to do God’s work. It may have been a mission trip, a service project, or something a group did for others. Tell how the work made an impact on those it helped.)

“So remember: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together**, because when we work together, we can show others who God is in ways we can’t on our own.”

2. Catch the Ball

What You Need: Ball (one per group)

What You Do:

- Guide the kids to circle up, and explain that you're going to play "Pass the Ball."
- For the first round:
 - They must pass the ball **ACROSS** the circle to one another until everyone has touched the ball.
 - No passing to the person sitting on either side of them.
 - They may not pass to someone who has already had the ball.
 - They cannot talk to each other.
 - Explain that you will time them to see how fast they can complete the task.
 - The last person to catch the ball must hold it up over his or her head to signify the end of the round.
- For round two, they are allowed to talk and to strategize to see if there is a quicker way to pass the ball to each person.
- Resume play once they're ready and time them again.
- After comparing the times below, let them strategize again to come up with an even faster way to pass the ball.
- You can remove the "staying in a circle" parameter but keep the "everyone must catch the ball in each round" rule.
 - Some options: everyone says the name of the person they're throwing to first; kids stand in a line and pass the ball down the row; kids stand in two lines facing each other and pass the ball back and forth.

What You Say:

"You did a GREAT job at coming up with different strategies for passing the ball. Which round was the hardest? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes, the first round! It's hard to cooperate when you can't talk to each other or communicate. **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** And this isn't just true for games like this. It's true anytime any kind of cooperation is involved! It requires give and take, and sometimes there's even a little debate about the best way to do something. Remember, the goal is to work together. Way to go, friends."

3. Partner Racing

What You Need: “Memory Verse Cards” Activity Page (one set per group), Bibles

What You Do:

- Pass out the Bibles and encourage the kids to use the navigation tips below to look up Ecclesiastes 4:9. Once they’ve found the verse, select a volunteer to read it aloud.

Finding verses with 1st 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 “Old 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. Help the kids find the page. When they 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.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd 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 “Old Testament.” 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. Help the kids find the page. When they 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.

- Encourage the kids to find a partner and form a line.
- Shuffle the “Memory Verse Cards” and place the cards several feet away from the line of kids.
- Encourage each set of partners to link arms, race down to the cards, reach down and pick up the top card, and run back while BOTH kids are holding the card.
- They should go to the back of the line when they return.
- Repeat with remaining pairs of kids until all cards have been retrieved.
- Depending on the size of your group, some pairs will need to run twice.
- Encourage the kids to work together to put the verse in order and read it aloud.

What You Say:

“Way to cooperate! I love this verse. Two people ARE better than one. A friend can help you but they also make things way more fun. **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together** because He made us for relationships! He gave us our families and friends because He loves us. And when we cooperate and work together, we’re doing something He created us to do.”

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: Ball

What You Do:

- Tell the kids to circle up.
- Pass the ball to the person on your left and say the following prayer: “God, please help [child’s name] to cooperate with others this week.”
- Encourage the kids to pass the ball around the circle and pray the same one sentence prayer for the friend on their left. They may also add their own prayers as well.
- If they don’t want to pray out loud, just encourage them to pray silently and pass the ball along.
- Close out the time with your own prayer that kids would choose to cooperate and work together this week.

What You Say:

[Bottom Line] “God wants us to work together, but He also knows that sometimes this isn’t easy. I’m so glad that God hears us when we pray and that He is willing to help us when we need it. Thanks for praying for each other today. I hope you have a GREAT week working together!”

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!