

# City SG—October 24th-25th, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** Right Now (Timothy) • 1 Timothy 4:12 (supporting: Acts 14–17; 1 Timothy 4:14; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 16:10)

**Today's Bottom Line:** You can make a difference right now.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.* Psalm 139:14 (NIRV)

## 1. True or False Relay

**Note:** This would best be played as a Large Group 🗨️

**What You Need:** Bucket with small prizes inside (2-4 per campus)

### What You Do:

- A few leaders should stand on one side of the room holding a bucket of small prizes.
- Instruct the kids to line up shoulder-to-shoulder on the other side of the room across from you.
- Explain that a leader will read some statements about the Bible story.
- Instruct the kids to decide if each statement is TRUE or FALSE.
  - If a kid thinks the statement is TRUE, they take two steps forward.
  - If a kid thinks the statement is FALSE, they take one step forward.
  - If a kid answers incorrectly, direct that kid to take three steps backward.
- Whenever a kid reaches you across the room, let them take a prize from the bucket.
- Read the statements below.
  - Both of Timothy's parents believed in Jesus. (*false*)
  - Timothy's mother and grandmother believed in Jesus, but his father was Greek and most likely did not. (*true*)
  - The people in Timothy's hometown didn't like Paul, stoned him, and Paul died. (*false*)
  - The people in Timothy's hometown didn't like Paul and stoned him, but he got back up and walked away. (*true*)
  - Paul returned to Timothy's hometown years after the people tried to hurt him and invited Timothy to join him in traveling and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. (*true*)
  - Timothy decided he was too young and didn't go with Paul. (*false*)
  - Timothy joined Paul even though he probably didn't feel old enough or wise enough. (*true*)
  - Paul trusted Timothy and loved him like a son. He even left him in charge of some of the churches they helped create so the believers there could have someone to help them as they learned how to follow Jesus. (*true*)
  - Paul thought Timothy was too young and couldn't do anything to make a difference until he was older. (*false*)
- If you read all the statements and some kids haven't made it across the room, reread a few statements and let them respond until they make it across.

### What You Say:

"Great job everyone! I hope you enjoy your prizes. I have a question. Have you ever thought you couldn't do something, but someone older believed in you and encouraged you, so you did it? (*Pause for responses.*) Maybe it was a parent, a grandparent, a teacher, a coach, or someone at church who believed in you and encouraged you. That's how Paul was for Timothy. It seems like Timothy didn't feel he could make a difference in helping people know Jesus because he was so young. But Paul saw that God had gifted Timothy as someone who could tell other people about Jesus and help them learn to follow Him. Paul knew Timothy didn't have to wait until he was older to make a difference.

“Sometimes making a difference can be scary, especially when you aren’t an adult. Why do you think Timothy may have been scared to leave with Paul? *(Pause for responses.)* What were some ways Timothy made a difference because he went with Paul? *(Pause for responses. He told people about Jesus who had never heard of Him before; He helped make new churches; He was a friend to Paul.)*

Because Timothy chose to go with Paul, God used Timothy in bigger ways than Timothy probably ever imagined. Just like Timothy, **[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.**”

## 2. Make a Difference

**What You Need:** “Make a Difference” Activity Pages (1 per kid, per service), pens

### What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Make a Difference” Activity Page and a pen.
- Ask for a volunteer to read the first sentence on the page: How can I make a difference?
- Prompt kids to share if anything immediately comes to mind. Ask if there’s a situation in their lives right now that they wish they could change.
- Tell kids that with every situation in which they could make a difference, there may be some challenges but there may also be simple solutions.
- Below are some prompts to get the kids thinking.
  - There is a new kid at school who doesn’t have many friends yet. How can you make a difference right now? What would make it easy for you to choose to make a difference in their life? What might make it hard for you to choose to make a difference?
  - Your mom (or adult in your life) is having a really hard day. How can you make a difference right now? What would make it easy for you to choose to make a difference in their life? What might make it hard for you to choose to make a difference?
  - Your friends at school are making fun of one of your other friends for going to church and believing in Jesus. How can you make a difference right now? What would make it easy for you to choose to make a difference in their life? What might make it hard for you to choose to make a difference?
  - An older lady lives next door to you. It’s hard for her to walk and go outside. How can you make a difference right now? What would make it easy for you to choose to make a difference in her life? What might make it hard for you to choose to make a difference?
- Give the kids time to think about a situation and write their responses to the questions on their Activity Pages.
- Provide help as needed; these are big questions they’re wrestling with! Make sure kids understand that sometimes making a difference can be as simple as being a good friend or doing a household chore (without complaining) for a parent.

### What You Say:

“Maybe you have experienced something similar to the situations I read, or maybe you wrote down other ways you can make a difference right now. Making a difference right now could mean calling your grandma, doing the dishes for your mom, or even inviting one of your friends to church with you. Whatever situation you find yourself in, there is always an opportunity where **[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.** You don’t have to be an adult to make a difference. Just like in our Bible story today, Timothy encouraged people and showed them what it looked like to love and live for Jesus even before he was an adult. You can do that, too. Just like we talked about last week, we all have gifts we can use to make a difference, and you can do that right now.”

**[Make it Personal] (Share about a time when you were younger and made a difference. It doesn’t have to be huge. It could be something small like helping your little sibling learn to ride their bike or helping someone with their homework. But the difference you made mattered.)**

### 3. Memory Verse Scramble

**What You Need:** Bibles, Memory Verse Sheets (2 sets per group/blue and red/from Oct. 10)

**What You Do:**

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Help kids look up Psalm 139:14 in their Bibles.
- Invite a volunteer to read the memory verse out loud.
  - If leading a 1st grade group, please read the verse aloud to your group.
- Guide kids to line up in 2 separate lines at one end of your area.
- Set the Memory Verse Sheets at the other end of your area, parallel to each team.
  - Scramble the Sheets up and place them face down.
- On your GO!, kids will race down to the sheets, flip one sheet over and place it in the correct place, then run back and tag the next person in line.
- The first team to put the Memory Verse in the correct order WINS! ***Play as many rounds as time allows.***
  - Some Variations could include: Walking Backwards, Skipping, Crab Walking, Bear Crawling, etc. Have FUN with this!
  - ***NOTE: For younger groups that may struggle with reading, the sheets have numbers on them as well.***

### 4. Pray and Dismiss

**What You Need:** Activity Pages from “Make a Difference” Activity

**What You Do:**

- Instruct the kids to hold their “Make a Difference” Activity Page.
- Invite kids to share what they wrote, if they want.
- Close your group time in prayer, asking God to help the kids make a difference even when it’s hard.

**What You Say:**

“You guys are difference makers—right now! Not in five years or once you have a full-time job or get to high school. Right now, as a second or third grader, you can make a difference in other people’s lives and in the world. You make a difference in my life every week just by being here with me and talking about following Jesus! Let’s pray together and ask God to help us remember this week, and for the rest of our lives, ***[Bottom Line] you can make a difference right now.***”

*(Close your group time in prayer.)*

“God, thank You for making each of us amazing and wonderful. Thank You that we can make a difference—right now as second and third graders. Please show us ways You want us to make a difference in the lives of the people around us and in the world. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”