

Alley SG—February 27th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: Anytime You Need a Friend (Jesus Heals Bartimaeus) • *Mark 10:46-52*

Today's Key Question: When has someone made time for you?

Today's Bottom Line: Make time to help others.

Monthly Memory Verse: He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8 NIV)

1. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Bibles, "Clock" Activity Page (1 per kid), "Verse" Activity Page (1 per kid), scissors, mobile device or timer

What You Do:

- Look up Micah 6:8 together as a group, and read it together several times.
- Ask if anyone has the memory verse, Micah 6:8, memorized. Challenge kids to recite the verse from memory.
- Kids who don't want to try to recite the verse can follow along in the Bible.
- Give each kid a "Clock" Activity Page and a "Verse" Activity Page.
- Provide scissors and tell kids to cut out the verse pieces.
- As kids are cutting out their activity page, engage them in conversation.
 - What is one of your favorite things to spend time doing?
 - Give an example of when you saw someone caring enough to help someone else.
 - How have you tried to show compassion this past month?
 - What's something you've learned about compassion that you feel confident enough to put into practice?
- Tell kids to put their "Verse Pieces" face down on the floor and mix them up.
- Challenge kids to race to see who can be the first to put their verse pieces on the "Clock" Activity Page in the correct order.
- For an additional challenge, set a random timer and challenge kids to see how many verse pieces they can place in order on their clock before time runs out.
- The kid with the most consecutive pieces in order wins the round.
- Say: Micah 6:8 starts by saying, *The Lord has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. (NIV)*
- Ask:
 - What good thing did Jesus show you today?
 - What is something you could spend less time on so you could spend more time helping others?

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: "Action Cards" (1 set per Group)

What You Do:

- Play a game of "Slow Motion Charades."
 - Select a kid to be the first actor.
 - Fan out the "Action Cards" and let them select a card.
 - Tell the actor to silently act out the action on the card, while moving in super slow motion.
 - The first kid to guess correctly what the action is gets to be the next actor.
 - Play several rounds. Be sure everyone gets an opportunity to be an actor.

- If time, allow kids to come up with actions for the group to guess.
- Play several rounds before gathering the group together for discussion.
- To review the Bible story, encourage the group to help each other retell the story. For further discussion, ask:
 - Think about the stories you've heard about Jesus this month. Who did Jesus make time for? What did you learn from Jesus about what it looks like to show compassion?
 - When we are busy, it is hard to remember to make time for others. What can help us to remember to slow down and notice the people around us?
 - Think of a time you needed help and no one made time to listen to you. How did you feel?
 - Think of a time someone took the time to help you. How did it make you feel?
 - How do you think it affects other people when we slow down to make time for them?

3. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Floor Tape

What You Do:

- Tape two lines on the floor.
- Identify one line as "MORE" and one line as "LESS."
- Ask kids to stand in the middle of the two lines.
- Read one of the statements below and tell kids run to the line that best describes them.
 - Do you spend MORE or LESS than one hour a day on an electronic device?
 - Do you spend MORE or LESS than 15 minutes a day brushing your teeth?
 - Do you spend MORE or LESS than 15 minutes a day waiting for you parents stop talking to friends after church?
 - Do you spend MORE or LESS than one hour a day being outside?
 - Do you spend MORE or LESS than 30 minutes a day talking to friends?
 - Do you spend MORE or LESS than 15 minutes a day being nice to your siblings?
- After the activity, gather kids together and ask:
 - When has someone made time to help you? Encourage kids to share stories. ***[Make it Personal] (Share a time someone made time to help you with something.)***
 - When have you made time to help someone? ***[Make it Personal] (Share a time you didn't do something you wanted to do to make time to help someone else.)***

What You Say:

"This Activity helped us to see the value that we place on certain things. It's ok to spend time doing these things. God wants us to spend time helping and valuing others. He has given you all great gifts you can use to help others. Let's spend time this week valuing and helping others around us!"

4. Just for Fun

What You Need: Ball pit balls (10 per Group), (optional) mobile device timer

What You Do:

- Say, “We’ve been learning the importance of God wanting us to work together. We’re going to play a simple game that reinforces the importance of teamwork.”
- Pair kids up and instruct them to stand back-to-back.
- Give each team a ball.
- Challenge teams to throw the ball to their partner while still standing back-to-back.
- *(Optional)* Give the group a time limit and see which team can catch the ball the most often in the allotted time.

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Say:

“God, You are never too busy for us! You are always there, ready to listen to us, ready to help and guide us. We are so thankful for the stories we read about Jesus in the Bible. Jesus shows us what is good. We know caring enough to help others is important to Him and; therefore, it is important to us. Help us slow down and notice the people around us; help us to see opportunities to make time to help others. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”