



COOPERATION | WEEK 2 | MARCH 9, 2025

Elementary Lesson

You Raise Me Up

Monthly Virtue: Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

Bible Story: You Raise Me Up (Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites) • *Exodus 17:8-13*

Key Question: In what situations can you work together to help someone else succeed?

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

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

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Cooperation isn't always something that may happen naturally, but it is something that is near and dear to God's heart. Since the beginning of creation we see how God created us to be in community with one another. Cooperation is a spiritual concept that originates with God, and throughout the Bible, we see how God brought people together to accomplish God's plan for the world. When we work together, we reflect Jesus to others, and our love for one another can point people to Him as we explore what God wants us to do together.

Key Question: Who do you work well with? A big part of what makes cooperation easier to achieve is when you connect with others who have the same goals as you. When kids find connections with others, it can excite them to create and do things together. We hope as preteens think about this question, they will begin to see people God has already put in their lives to help someone else.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → • You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → • A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors Open
9:15/11:00

Large Group Starts
9:35/11:20

Small Group Starts
10:05/11:50

In week 2, we head to *Exodus 17:8-13* where Joshua and the Israelites were facing the Amalekites in battle. Anytime Moses held up his staff, the Israelites did well, and when he dropped them, they would start to lose. So Aaron and Hur came up with a plan to help Moses succeed. Moses needed people to literally hold him up in order for Joshua to lead the Israelites to victory.

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: WATOTO) “There is something special coming to Hope TONIGHT! At 4PM at the Apex campus, come and see the Watoto children’s choir perform. Watoto is a community in Africa that helps orphans and widows and gives them a safe place to learn and grow. Their choir is AWESOME, and you saw some of their songs when you came in this morning AND you will have a chance to learn one of the dances during worship today!”

(SLIDE: 5th SUNDAY FUNDAY) “Once in a while there are 5 weeks in a month instead of 4 – and that’s awesome! It’s worth celebrating. The next 5th Sunday is at the end of this month and we want you to come and bring your friends!”

(SLIDE: BAPTISM) *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

THE CAST AND CREW GREAT BALLOON FLOAT

(Balloons)

“Let’s take a look at our monthly virtue.

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone.

“We have opportunities every week to work together with people around us. Biblical cooperation is more focused on working together to help people know God, grow in their faith, and to be encouraged. Check out our verse for the month!

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) “Two people are better than one. They can help each

other in everything they do. *Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NirV)*

Take a minute to explain that 'Ecclesiastes' is a book in the Old Testament, and that the first number means 'chapter' and the second one means 'verse'. 'NirV' is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn't originally written in English! There are different translations.

"You'll have more time to practice this month's verse, but for now let's play a game!"

(SLIDE: THE CAST AND CREW GREAT BALLOON RELAY)
(SLIDE: FUN MUSIC)

"Do you know what is better than one balloon? LOTS of balloons! Let's play a cooperative game with balloons.

HOW TO PLAY

- **PREP.** Blow up as many balloons as you want pairs of kids to compete.
- **EXPLAIN.** Pick same gender pairs of kids to compete - as many as your space/balloons allow. Have the pairs stand back to back and lock arms from behind. Put a balloon between them. Explain that they will have to work together to run from point A to point B (You decide if you want pairs to go to one wall and back or in a circle around your space.) If their balloon drops then they have to go back to the start and try again. If their balloon pops then they are out.
- **GO!** Line the pairs up with a balloon and say GO!

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: WE WILL GO TUTORIAL, WE WILL GO)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

"Let's think about the stories in the Bible. Some of them can be pretty sad, hard to understand, or maybe even scary sometimes. Others are triumphant, exciting, and hopeful! They are stories of real life people like you and I, and when you read the stories you see the main characters in them either experiencing high or lows - good and bad. Our own lives are like that.

"Being the one in front, the lead, the captain, the person in charge . . . it's not bad. In fact, it can be great! But what happens when you've experienced that feeling, only to be demoted to second tier the next time? What happens when you're in a support role and you're not the star?"

"I know you all want to get picked. You all want to be the one chosen. You all want the chance to shine. But what happens when you've done your best, but you're still third place? How do you handle supporting the lead and not *being* the lead? How can you still show up and cooperate with others?"

“These are tough questions. You might feel like you’ve failed in some way. You might feel like quitting because you’re not the best and you’re not starting. You’re working really hard, but it feels like someone else always gets the glory. These are honest feelings.

“Thankfully, we’re not alone in our questions and our feelings. We have each other, but more than that, God is with us and wants to hear what’s on our minds. We also have the stories written for us in the Bible. Remember, the Bible was written by all sorts of people who had real experiences with God. Then God inspired them to write about those so others could learn from them and experience God’s goodness and love for themselves. Let’s check out one of those experiences right now.”

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 3 MIN)

“People who weren’t the main characters in the story . . . people who were just there to help . . . ended up turning the tide and winning the battle—Aaron and Hur.

“They saw that Moses needed help, and they jumped right in. They didn’t care that they weren’t the leaders, or in charge, or even the most important ones there. They saw what needed to be done, and they did it.

“Finding ways to work well with others, regardless of where you are on the team, is sometimes the key needed for a breakthrough.

“For us, friends, it can be the same. Yes, it’s nice to be the one in charge and get all the glory—but even those who are in the wings, or second in command, or even in the background, *they* can be just as important in accomplishing something as the guy who’s center stage. Any time that you look to put others first instead of yourself, it’s a big deal! Any time we talk about doing big things in KidCity we remind ourselves of this Basic Truth..

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) “I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

“As we head to Small Groups, we want you to consider this question:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) “In what situations can you work together to help someone else succeed?”

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don’t try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1....

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let’s pray.



“Dear God, I pray that we are faithful with the gifts and talents you’ve given us and use them to bring people to you. I pray that we look at the things that make us different and appreciate those differences. Amen.”

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: In what situations can you work together to help someone else succeed?

(Answers will vary: pray together for a friend to come know Jesus, work with a classmate to tidy up the classroom in order to help your teacher, etc.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: ***Exodus 17:8-13***

Say: “The book of Exodus is the second book in the Old Testament, and it was most likely written by Moses. A lot of the history that we know in the first 5 books of the Bible are from stories that were passed down through generations. It was so important to God’s people to get it exactly right, that every Israelite boy had to memorize all 5 books word for word by the time they were 13!

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(1 -3 Balloons per small group)

What You Do:

- Have kids to get into a circle and pick one child to be in the center.
- Instruct kids to stay in their spaces. They are just using their hands and are not moving

- around.
- Explain the game:
 - Each kid on the outside of the circle is going to keep the balloon in the air as long as possible.
 - Instruct the kid in the middle will try to interfere and make the balloon touch the floor.
- On your “Go!” instruct the group to begin the first round.
 - After a few minutes, direct the kids to hold the balloon.
- Explain the second round of the game:
 - Direct the kids to switch roles so the kid in the middle is trying to keep the balloon up and the others are trying to hit it down.
- *If this game is too easy for your group, add in a balloon or two.*

What You Say:

- Ask:
 - “How does this activity remind you of our Bible story today?” (Moses depended on Aaron and Hur to help by holding up his arms, just like one kid could use their arms, but the other could not.)
 - “Why did Moses need Aaron and Hur?” (Moses held up his arms with his staff, and the Israelites fought well. When his arms lowered, they didn’t fight as well. Aaron and Hur helped hold his arms up so the Israelites could win.
 - “When have you needed help?”
- Explain to kids that we often think we can do things on our own—but we will all find ourselves in situations where we just need help. This Bible Story reminds us that amazing things can happen when we work together to help someone succeed!
- We were made to work together. When we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live with us. That means you can also ask God to help you see all your chances to work together to help someone succeed. Maybe you and your friends can work together to put away all the toys quickly. Or, in a relay game or race, you can work together by taking turns and cheering each other on. Every day, let’s look for ways to work together to help someone succeed.”

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Supplies Vary)

What You Do:

- Follow the instructions for the “Bible Literacy” activity that is in your bin.

PRAYER

“Dear God, thank You for loving us and creating each of my friends here uniquely! Getting things done by ourselves can feel easier, but we know You created us to work together. Please give each of us the patience to work together to help someone succeed. Open our eyes to see how we can cooperate with others daily. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

