



COOPERATION | WEEK 3 | MARCH 16, 2025

Elementary Lesson

Up on the Roof

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

Bible Story: Up on the Roof (Four Friends Work Together) • *Luke 5:17-26*

Key Question: How can you work together to help someone?

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: How can you work together to help someone? Kids are more aware than you may think. They notice things around them and ask great questions. As kids recognize those who are in need around them, you can begin to have discussions with them about what it looks like to help someone else. We hope this question gets preteens thinking through ways they can help to meet someone else's needs with others' help.

For week 3 we head to *Luke 5:17-26*. Here we encounter four friends and their cooperation to help another friend see Jesus. Their friend was paralyzed and could not walk, so they did everything they could to get him to Jesus — even tear down a roof! Because of the four friends' faith and cooperation, Jesus did something incredible, changing the life of the man who was paralyzed, forever.

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

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: 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 FREEZE FRAME

(No Supplies)

“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 FREEZE FRAME)
(SLIDE: FUN MUSIC)

“I’ve got a game for everyone to play!

HOW TO PLAY

- **EXPLAIN:** Get kids into smaller groups of 4-5 and have them spread out a bit if possible. Explain that you will call out a scene or scenario – for example, ‘You’re at the zoo.’ The kids will act out things that you’d do at the zoo. Encourage them to be creative! Give an example of, ‘What would happen if a kid snuck in and rode a giraffe?’ After 10 seconds, you’ll yell out ‘Freeze Frame,’ and the kids will freeze in whatever pose. Tell kids to look around at the other groups.
- At the end of each scene, have the kids shake it out and reset like an etch-a-sketch
- **FREEZE FRAMES:** (Feel free to come up with your own [age appropriate] scenes!)
 - You’re at a concert with your parents
 - You’re taking the hardest test of your life for the strictest teacher ever
 - You’re on a rollercoaster but your nose starts running
 - You’re slowly being chased by a zombie horde
 - You’re on Mars when you encounter the cutest alien baby
 - You’ve all just been splashed with mud by a truck speeding by
 - You’re all monkeys in a tree

“That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let’s worship God!”

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)
(VIDEO: THAT’S WHO I PRAISE, BURN)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)
(No Supplies)

“There’s nothing like getting together with your friends, with people you know and like, and hanging out, is there? It’s how we were created—God didn’t make us to be alone, by ourselves, cut off from others. God made us to interact, to laugh, to play, and to work together to do more than we could do on our own!

“Find someone around you and tell them if you had unlimited money and you and your friends could go anywhere and do anything, what would it be? *(Pause)*

“I think all those suggestions are fantastic! Doing fun things with your friends is the best! But what are the other sorts of things you can do with your friends? Study for a test? Practice a sport you all like? Or how about this?

“Have you ever gotten together with your friends to take care of someone else’s needs? All the things you just talked about were about what you wanted . . . things you thought would be

amazing and fun. But what if you or one of your friends noticed a need that maybe you could help with? What might it look like for you and your friends to do something about someone else's needs instead of your own?

"This is probably something that we don't think about too much. Sure, there might be someone you know, maybe at school, who got hurt and you helped them out. I'm not talking about just being nice to someone once in a while. I'm talking about working and cooperating with people around you and your friends and looking to help someone who really needs it.

"Whenever we're faced with questions like these, I'm thankful we've got a great resource to help us find the answers. (*hold up the Bible*) This book right here is filled with all kinds of examples to help us understand and navigate the harder things in life . . . and today is no different!

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 4 MIN)

"This man, who was completely unable to walk, was miraculously healed by Jesus that day. And he wouldn't have even gotten to the building if it hadn't been for his amazing friends.

"The truth is that those guys who helped him could've said 'no.' Maybe, if the man who was unable to walk asked them to bring him, they could've ignored him or made up some excuse not to help.

"But they didn't.

"And on the way, when they were carrying him, they didn't give up halfway and say, 'Let's turn around, this is too hard.'

"And when they got there and saw that it was packed with no way in, they didn't turn around and go back home. Friends, they never gave up. They never quit until they found a way to help their friend.

"How could you and your friends be friends like that? What might that look like for you? What if you and your friends were so focused on helping someone else that you didn't give up until they experienced God's love and had their lives changed? How amazing would that be?

"There are so many ways and opportunities to help others and show God's love to them. Any time you step out, especially if it makes you feel a little uncomfortable, 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) "How can you work together to help someone?"

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: How can you work together to help someone?

(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: Luke 5:17-26

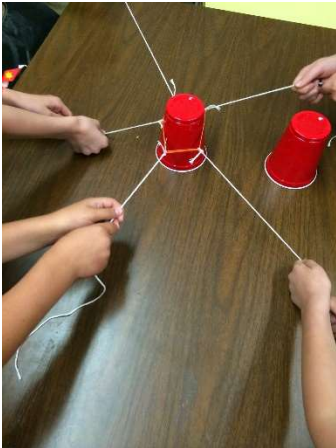
Say: “The book of Luke was written by a follower of Jesus. Many scholars think he was a doctor. ‘Luke’ is the third book of the New Testament.”

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(1 Hula Hoop per K-2nd grade small group, 3rd-5th Grade: two cups, two rubber bands, 10 pieces of string-18 to 24 inches long)

What You Do:

- Ask everyone to stand up and form a tight circle.
- Explain the rules:
 - *K-2nd*
 - Model for everyone how to extend their arms in front of them with their hands palm down.
 - Then, direct the kids to extend both pointer fingers straight out.
 - Gently lower the hula hoop into the circle, resting on the tops of everyone's pointer fingers.
 - Explain that kids must work together to lower the hula hoop to the floor while following these rules:
 - Every pointer finger must touch the hula hoop the entire time. If anyone's fingers lose contact, the group must start over.
 - Hands must remain palms down.
 - The hula hoop should rest on the top of everyone's pointer fingers, and they cannot twist their wrists to cradle the hula hoop.
 - Encourage kids to communicate with each other to move the hula hoop together.
 - *If this is too easy for your group, have them only use one finger each.*
 - Ask the questions at the end of this activity.
 - *3rd-5th*
 - Divide your group in half, create two starting points and ending points.



- The challenge is for each group to use the rubber band and strings to carry the cup from the starting point to the end.
 - *The rubber band should already be prepped with 4-5 strings tied to it.*
- Group members cannot touch the cups with their hands or any other part of their bodies, even if a cup falls over or on the floor.
- Each person holds onto one of the strings that are attached to the rubber band and they use this device to pick up the cups and carry them. (By pulling the rubber band apart and then bringing it back together over the cups).
- *If you have a smaller group, have the kids work together to see how fast they can*

move both cups from the starting to the end point.

- **K-5th:** Invite kids to sit around and ask these questions for discussion:
 - What made this challenge difficult?
 - How did you work together in this game?
 - Is it easier or more challenging to work together to help someone else?
- Share with kids that cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone. When we work together, we can do so much more!

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Supplies Vary)

What You Do:

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

PRAYER

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit with you in a circle.
- Encourage the kids to reflect on someone who might need help.
 - Some suggestions include—parents with chores, siblings with homework or chores, etc.
- Close the group time in the prayer below, pausing where indicated and prompting the kids to say the names of the people who need help **out loud** when you pause.

What You Say:

“God, thank You for always being with us.

“Today, we pray for (pause).

“Please be with (pause) today.

“Help (pause) with the needs they have.

“Please give us the opportunity and the courage to help (pause).

“In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen!”

As adults arrive to pick up, kids should stay in their small groups!