



HOPE | WEEK 2 | MAY 11, 2025

Elementary Lesson

Make a Move

Monthly Virtue: Initiative—seeing what needs to be done and doing it

Bible Story: Make a Move (Miriam Takes Initiative) • *Exodus 2:1-10*

Key Question: Who do you see that needs your help?

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

Memory Verse: None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others. Philippians 2:4 (NIRV)

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Getting started can sometimes seem like the hardest part of meeting a need. But it actually starts before then. First we have to see the needs around us. Initiative isn't just some practical principle; it's really a spiritual principle that starts with God. God took initiative on our behalf by seeing that our relationship was broken and needed to be fixed. So God sent Jesus to make it right. And because we are made in God's image, we are wired to be able to take initiative and get things done too.

Key Question: Who do you see that needs your help?

Have you ever come across someone who looked super busy, was hurting, had questions, or seemed like they could use a little extra love and aid? What do you do in those moments? We hope this question gets preteens started thinking about the people in their lives—in any area—who they can help and how they can help them.

In week 2, we head to **Exodus 2:1-10** where we find the Israelites facing tragedy. They had begun to grow so large as a nation that the pharaoh of that time grew scared and ordered all the newborn baby boys to die. Miriam and her mother took matters into their own hand, saving Moses, which eventually led to the saving of the rest of God's people too.

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

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

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: 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 CLOSE-UP CLUE QUEST

(No Supplies)

“Let’s check out our virtue for the month.

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) Initiative—seeing what needs to be done and doing it

“Initiative is a big word so let’s say it and the definition together on the count of 3. Ready? 1, 2, 3...

“It can be easy to let others step up and take care of things. Think about it, you probably do that all the time! Your mom probably cooks dinner most nights. Your teacher probably cleans up the classroom at the end of the day. Your coach probably plans how each of your practices are going to run.

“But initiative is seeing what needs to be done and doing it without being asked and with the right attitude! And it’s not just with tasks. It can also be with how we treat others. Check out our verse for the month.

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others. Philippians 2:4 *(NirV)*

Take a minute to explain that ‘Philippians’ is a book in the New 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 CLOSE-UP CLUE QUEST TITLE SLIDE)

(SLIDES: BAG OF GROCERIES #1-4)

(SLIDES: DOG BED #1-4)

(SLIDES: FIREPLACE #1-4)

(SLIDES: PAIR OF SNEAKERS #1-4)

(SLIDES: BOX OF TISSUES #1-4)

HOW TO PLAY

- SAY: "Here's how it works. We've loaded up five sets of super zoomed-in photos, and your job is to figure out the item in the photos before the final slide when we reveal the final image."
- This is an all-play game. After each slide, allow kids to either raise their hands and try to guess what they think it is or turn to the person next to them and guess. There are 3 'zoomed-in' slides and then the 4th slide is the final image. Keep this game lighthearted! It is not a competition.

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

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: WAVEWALKER, GOD IS ON THE MOVE)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

"You all did such a great job with those image clues earlier, which got me thinking. . . all those items were something that could meet someone's needs. I bet that if I showed you a series of things, you all could come up with some way to use that thing to help others. But what if I held up a mirror and you saw YOURSELF as the thing to help others? You may wonder how YOU can be an answer to someone's need. You might feel like you're too young or don't know enough about what your friends are going through. Maybe you think you don't have the right words, the right tools, or even the skills to help them with what they need most.

"As we think about seeing the needs of others around us, sometimes we'll see problems that we know exactly how to solve, like offering a hungry friend some of our lunch. Other times, the problems might seem HUGE and overwhelming, like a friend going through a hard time at home or in a big argument with their brother or sister. What happens then? How should you respond? Do you just give up, or could there be a better way?

"These are some important questions for us to think about. Thankfully, when we have important questions, we have a great place to start to find some great answers. Remember, the Bible was written by all sorts of real people who experienced God in real life. God inspired them to write down what they learned so others could learn to trust God, too. Our story for today is no exception. Let's jump in!"

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 3 MIN)

"Throughout this story, we hear about all sorts of needs that needed someone to help solve them.



The Israelites were enslaved. Families were being impacted by the Pharaoh. Jochebed and Miriam needed a plan to rescue their baby boy. Even Pharaoh's daughter needed help taking care of the baby once she found him. Thankfully, all those needs were met . . .

"Jochebed came up with a plan to save her son's life.

"Miriam quickly ran to the princess to ensure her brother's safety.

"The princess allowed Miriam to get Jochebed to take care of the baby.

"And eventually, through this baby, who the princess named Moses, God rescued the Israelites from their enslavement in Egypt.

"Each time there was a need, someone saw the need and chose to do something about it. That's what we've been talking about this month, Initiative.

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) Initiative—seeing what needs to be done and doing it

"Remember, initiative is seeing what needs to be done and doing it. Just like Jochebed and Miriam, one of the best ways to practice initiative is to start with the people close to you—like your family and friends. Maybe you see how your mom could use some help cleaning up around your home, so you grab a broom and start sweeping the kitchen floor. Or maybe a friend is struggling in math class, and because math is your best subject, you reach out and ask if you can help them start to understand. There are all sorts of ways you can take initiative to help people in your life.

"And, of course, be sure to pray and ask God to help you keep your eyes open for the needs of those around you. . . just like Jesus did.

"Check out our Basic Truth for this week...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

"We love others by showing initiative in helping others. As we head to Small Groups, we want you to consider this question:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) 'Who do you see that needs your help?'

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 these kids come to have a growing, right relationship with you and learn to fix their eyes on you always! 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: Who do you see that needs your help?
(Answers will vary.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

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

Look Up: *Exodus 2:1-10*

Say: “The book of Exodus is found in the Old Testament. It is one of the books of “The Law” - Moses wrote the books of the Law.”

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(“Puzzle Piece” Activity Page – 1 per group [K-1st Only])

What You Do:

- Ask: Have you ever made an excuse to avoid doing something?
- Share with kids that we can sometimes make excuses for not taking initiative. Excuses can keep us from doing what needs to be done and from how God wants us to live.
- Explain to your kids that you will read a scenario, they need to raise their hand, and you can call on someone to share an excuse they might say to avoid doing what’s right, then you can call on someone to share an example of how someone can take initiative. (repeat scenarios if necessary)
- Scenarios:
 - You wake up and notice your room is messy.
 - You get your tests back from school—you got an A, but your classmate didn’t do so well.
 - You come home and see your grown-up carrying heavy grocery bags into the house.
 - You notice your dog’s empty water bowl, and she looks thirsty.
 - You’re running late for school, and your grown-up hasn’t made your lunch yet.
 - Your teacher introduces a new kid to your class.
 - You’re grouped with other kids in your class for a team project.
 - Your family is trying to leave the house to go to the movies, and your sibling is

struggling to put on their shoes.

- The wind blew your neighbor's garbage can and trash is everywhere.
- There are a lot of dirty dishes in the kitchen sink.
- You look outside and see your grandma in the yard gardening alone.
- You're watching your friend play in their soccer game on a hot, sunny day.

What You Say:

"You all came up with some fantastic ways to take initiative in each scenario! Great job, friends! Remember, initiative is seeing what needs to be done and doing it—and one of the best ways to practice initiative is to start with the people close to you, like your family and friends. That's what Miriam did. Let's think about the story. **(K-1st Leaders hold up the story image as a reminder for your kids. Discuss the questions that are on the back.)**

"Ask God to help you look for ways to help the people you love. Friends, we don't have to worry about helping everyone, but we should start with the people God's placed right in front of us. The good news is that when we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in us, so we don't have to do it alone! The Holy Spirit can help us point out a need and take the initiative to do something about it."

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Supplies Vary)

What You Do:

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

PRAYER

"Prayer is a conversation we get to have with God anytime, anywhere! This month, we will pray using the word "TACO".

- T = Thanks
- **A = Adoration**
- C = Choices
- O = Others

"Each letter reminds us of things to talk to God about. This week we will focus on adoration for God. Adoration is praising God for who God is and what God has done!

"God, you are SO amazing! You made everything in this world—including me and all my friends here today. You love us so much and have been so good to us. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us and for giving us the Holy Spirit to help us be more like Your Son Jesus.

"Help us see how wonderful You are in everything around us and show us how we can love others the way You love us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."