

17/20

# **GRADE 4-5**

**SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE** 

### **MARCH THEME**

## **MADE**

Discover Who You're
Meant to Be

### **BIBLE STORY**

1 Timothy 4:12 (Acts 14—17; 1 Timothy 4:14; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Corinthians 16:10)

Dare You to Move | Timothy

### **BOTTOM LINE**

God made me to make a difference

### **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

### **LIFE APP**

**Individuality** | Discovering who you are meant to be

### **BASIC TRUTH**

I should treat others the way I want to be treated

### FOR LEADERS ONLY

**GOD VIEW:** the connection between **INDIVIDUALITY** and God's character, as shown through God's big story.

**Key Question: How can you make a difference right now?** As families are learning more about themselves and how God created them with gifts, skills, and talents, they may wonder how they can use those to make an impact in their world. We hope families will understand that they can make a huge difference right now.

In week three, we look at some of what Paul wrote to Timothy in **1 Timothy 4:12.** Although Timothy was a gifted leader, he was young. Paul reminds Timothy that he should stay faithful to the task God gave him. Even in his youth, Timothy was able to lead the church and point people to Jesus.

**Bottom Line: God made me to make a difference.** As we discover more about our individuality, we can begin to realize that God created us for a purpose. God can use our strengths to help others and show them what it means to follow Jesus. Through Timothy's story, we hope that families start to understand the purpose God has for them.

### SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for each group member by name. Ask God to help you show the kids that they can serve others. Pray that God will lay it on their hearts to serve the people in their lives with the tools they already have been given. Help them to see that they don't have to wait until they are adults to make a difference in someone else's life. They can start today!

### •• JUST FOR FUN

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Dice

#### What You Do:

- Welcome the kids as they arrive.
- This week you'll lead a new "get to know you game" to discover the things that make each of us individuals.
- Let kids take turns rolling the die and then answering the question that corresponds to the number they roll from the list below.
- —One | Favorite animal
- —Two | Favorite book
- —Three | Favorite color
- —Four | Favorite candy







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- -Five | Favorite movie or TV show
- —Six | Favorite season
- Let each child share why that choice is their favorite!
- If time allows let everyone roll again. If they roll the same number as before, they should list their 2nd favorite of that thing.

### •• GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: "How Old?" activity page

#### What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle to play a guessing game.
- To play:
- —Pair kids with a partner.
- —Read one of the examples from the "How Old?" activity page.
- —Read the multiple-choice answers and ask kids to discuss them with their partners and select an answer by holding up fingers for the answer they choose: A = one finger, B = two fingers, C = three fingers, D = four fingers.
- —Award points to each pair for correct answers.
- —Declare the pair with the most points as the winner.

What You Say: "There are times we can't do things because we aren't old enough, like drive a car or work at Starbucks. Restrictions on what we can do can sometimes be very frustrating. [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WoW family worship, we'll hear/we heard about something you can do at any age."

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Children's Ministry worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

### •• TAKE A SNAPSHOT [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Imagine | An activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Markers, 3 sheets of copy paper

### What You Do:

- Pair kids into teams.
- Give each team a different color marker.
- Set the three sheets of paper on your small group table and write the following headings on the papers: "At School," "At Home," and "In My Community."
- Encourage teams to brainstorm one or two ways they could make a difference at school, at home, and in their community, and ask them to write their answers on the appropriate pieces of paper.
- Discuss the examples. Potential discussion topics could be:
- —What does it look like to make a difference? Discuss how the examples listed could make a difference.
- —List the skills or talents God gives for us to make a difference. What skills or talents would you use in the examples listed?
- —Give examples of when you have seen kids making a difference.
- Take some time to allow the kids to imagine themselves actually doing one of these things this week. Ask for volunteers to role-play







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one of the scenarios that was written on the papers.

### •• BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]

Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bible

#### What You Do:

- Review the Bible story with the kids by asking the following questions... (Answers could include: he was young (1 Timothy 4:12); his mother was Jewish and a Christ-follower; people liked Timothy (Acts 16:1-2); he was faithful in serving the Lord; he was like a son to Paul (1 Corinthians 4:17); he served with Paul spreading the Gospel, he cared about others, and desired to follow Christ (Philippians 2:20-22)
- -How would you describe Timothy?
- -What did Timothy do?
- —How do you think Timothy made a difference?
- Ask kids to find a partner. If you have an odd number of kids in your group, participate in this activity with the kids.
- Read the first sample question below and give time for the partners to answer it to one another.
- Ask kids to find a new partner and continue with the second question.
- Continue for several rounds.
- Feel free to use the questions more than once to give kids an opportunity to hear different responses or to add other questions, especially if they tie in with your previous discussions.
- Sample questions...
- —What are two words to describe you?
- —How could you make a difference by asking the new kid at school to sit with you at lunch?
- —How could you make a difference by reading the Bible?
- —How could you make a difference by walking away from a fight?
- —How could you make a difference with your words?
- —How could you make a difference by reading to your younger brother?
- —Name one thing you enjoy doing and think of a way you could make a difference doing it.
- Wrap up the activity by reading Paul's encouragement to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:12.

### •• **DISCUSSION QUESTION** [Talk about God | Application Activity]

Made to Connect | An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

#### What You Do:

- Ask the following questions...
- —What are obstacles that keep kids from believing they can make a difference right now? What are ways to overcome these obstacles?
- —If you struggle with knowing what your "gifts" or "talents" are, what can you do? Who can you ask to help you discover the gifts God gave you?
- -Paul asks Timothy to set an example. How can we set an example to make a difference right now?

### •• VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Create | An activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Bibles, large craft sticks, markers, pens

### What You Do:

• Read Ephesians 2:10.





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- Ask:
- —What does Ephesians 2:10 say we were created to do?
- —What do you think "good works" means? (This is an opportunity to talk about "good works" and how they tie into being created by God to make a difference.)
- Explain to kids that they are going to create a bookmark using Ephesians 2:10 as inspiration. To create the bookmark:
- —Hand out a large craft stick to each group member. Set out markers and pens where everybody can share them.
- —Encourage kids to write out Ephesians 2:10 in their own words. (For example: I am God's masterpiece. I am made to make a difference.)
- —Give time for kids to decorate their bookmarks creatively.
- Encourage kids to use their bookmarks as reminders that they were created in God's image and that, with God's help, they can discover what "good works" God has planned for them to make a difference.

## PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Bible, mobile device (optional), God Time Cards

#### What You Do:

- Encourage kids to share examples of kids who have made a difference. Perhaps it is someone they know who made a difference in their lives. Maybe it is someone they read about who made a difference in their community or school. (Optional: For deeper discussion, go to: http://www.kidsareheroes.org/ and read about kids who are making a difference. Depending on your group, you may want to consider selecting a couple of examples of kids making a difference tailored to your group dynamics.)
- Read 1 Timothy 4:12.
- Close in prayer...

What You Say: "Let's pray. Dear God, you are amazing! And we are amazing because you loved us so much that you created us in your image. We are your masterpieces created to make a difference. Our age doesn't matter to you. You can use us, even now, to make a difference in the lives of people around us and in your creation. God, open our eyes to discover the plans you have for us, plans to make a difference. And, God, we know that whether our good deeds make a difference in the life of the new kid in the lunchroom or make a difference to a group of people across the world, whatever it is, we know our good deeds honor you! Thank you for blessing us with gifts to serve you and to serve others. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen!"

Give each child a **GodTime Card** as adults arrive to pick up. Sunday leaders, hand out **Parent Cue Cards** (in your small bin) to any family who has not yet received one this month.

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