



NOVEMBER THEME

JAM SESSION

Build a Better Beat

BIBLE STORY

Exodus 17:8-13

We Could Be Heroes | Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites

BOTTOM LINE

Work together to help someone succeed

MEMORY VERSE

“Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIV

LIFE APP

Cooperation | Working together to do more than you can do alone

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated...and with God’s help I can!

FOR LEADERS ONLY

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

THIS WEEK—Key Question: Who could you work with to help someone succeed?

Next, we look at **Exodus 17:8-13**, at a time where Joshua was leading the Israelites in a fierce battle against the Amalekites. When Moses held up his staff, the Israelites were able to win the battle. When Moses got tired, Aaron and Hur came to the rescue and helped hold up his arms. The Israelites win the battle because of how they all cooperated together.

Bottom Line: Work together to help someone succeed. Just like Hur and Aaron, it’s important for a child to realize that working together isn’t just about doing something for yourself. You can work with other people to help them win at life, too.

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 kids see the value in helping someone else do something important, even if it means someone else gets the credit and recognition.

•• EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

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

What You Need: “Community Helpers” activity pages, crayons, scissors

What You Do:

- Involve kids in helping you prepare for the following activity.
- Set out “Community Helpers” activity pages and crayons. Allow kids to help you prepare for the following activity by cutting out the cards along the dotted lines and coloring them.
- Commend kids for helping, and encourage them to share ways they help others at home, school, or elsewhere.

•• RIDDLE ME DO

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

What You Need: “Community Helpers” cards (from previous activity), “Riddle Me Do” activity page, tape

What You Do:

- Tape a “Community Helpers” card to each child’s back. Be sure the kids keep each



other's pictures a secret, and no peeking at their own!

- Guide kids to mingle around the room.
- Call out a riddle from the "Riddle Me Do" activity page, and lead kids to gather around the child whose picture answers the riddle.
- When all the kids are gathered around the correct child, let that child guess the identity of the figure on their back.
- Add variety by guiding kids to move in different ways for each round: tiptoe, on their heels, baby steps, like astronauts floating in space, like robots, etc.

What You Say: "Wow! There are a lot of people who help us, aren't there? Have any of these community helpers ever helped you? How? (*Pause.*) [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we'll hear/we heard about a time when two people helped someone else in a big way."

[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.

- **ARMS UP, ARMS DOWN** [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: Pool noodle (*by leader bin cabinets for groups to share*)

What You Do:

- Briefly help kids review the following points of the Bible story:
 - The Amalekites attacked the Israelites. Moses told Joshua to pick some men and go to battle.
 - The next morning, Joshua marched out with the best Israelite fighters. Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up a hill.
 - Moses raised the walking stick God gave him as a sign that God was with the people.
 - As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning. But when he got tired and lowered his hands, the Amalekites began to win.
 - When Moses got tired, Aaron and Hur put a stone under him.
 - They each held up one of Moses's arms so that he could raise the staff high. They did this all day, and the Israelites won the battle.
- Guide your kids to line up at one end of your small group space. Tell them that they are playing Joshua and the Israelites.
- Position yourself at the other end of your space. Tell the group that you are playing Moses.
- Next, lead kids in a "Red Light, Green Light"-esque Bible story re-enactment:
 - When you hold up the pool noodle, Joshua and the Israelites slowly move toward you.
 - When you drop your arms, Joshua and the Israelites retreat to the starting line.
- Throughout the game, be sure to ham up your role as Moses to help keep the kids' interest. (*"Oh, my arms are soooooo tired. Can't... hold...them...up!"*)
- At the end of the game, choose two players to be "Aaron" and "Hur." Encourage Aaron and Hur to help you hold up your arms so the rest of the players can "win" the game and reach the finish line.

What You Say: "Aaron and Hur worked together to help Moses keep his arms in the air. And the three of them worked together to help Joshua and the Israelites win the battle. They each did what our Bottom Line for today says: **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.**

"What does it mean to help someone succeed? (*to help someone do well, to help someone do their best*)"



[Make It Personal] *(Tell kids about a time when you worked with others to help someone succeed. If possible, share an example from your childhood. Tell how the experience affected both you and the person you helped.)*

“Each of YOU can **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone succeed, too. You can work together to help a friend learn their spelling words, you can work together to help a friend with their flashcards, you can work together to encourage your teammate, and you and your family can work together to pray for someone who needs help.

“How else could you **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone succeed? *(Pause.)* Great ideas! So, this week, remember to **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone succeed. When you do, you’ll be showing them what God is like, and that’s a great thing.”

●● **TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bible, “Biblical Helpers” cards, tape, chairs, pool noodle *(by leader bin cabinet for groups to share)*

What You Do:

- Lead kids in a “Musical Chairs” style game
- Look up Ecclesiastes 4:9 in the Bible and read the verse to the group. *(It can also be found on page one of your leader guide.)*
- Encourage kids to talk about how Moses, Aaron, and Hur were good examples of this verse. *(Aaron and Hur helped Moses. When Moses got tired and couldn’t hold his arms up, the Israelites would lose the battle, but when Aaron and Hur helped him hold up his arms the Israelites won.)*
- Take away any extra chairs from around your small group table. Tape the “Moses,” “Aaron” and “Hur” cards to three chairs in a row, with “Moses” being in the center. Set a pool noodle on the table in front of the “Moses” spot.
- Tell kids that when you say, “Go!” they should start walking around the table. When you say “Stop!” they should sit down in the chair they are at.
- Lead the child on the “Moses” space to hold up the pool noodle “staff” with both hands while “Aaron” and “Hur” help hold up his arms.
- As the three kids pose, recite the verse.
—Gesture to “Aaron” and “Hur” when you say “two” and to “Moses” when you say “one.”
—Encourage kids to join in saying the verse as they learn it.
- Keep interest high by varying the time between “stops.”
- Be sure to give each child a turn to be at least one of the people from the story today.

What You Say: “Aaron and Hur worked together to help Moses keep his arms in the air. And the three of them worked together to help Joshua and the Israelites win the battle. And you know what? God used all of them to do something miraculous. So, this week, remember to **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone succeed. Because: Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do” *(Ecclesiastes 4:9 NIRV).*

●● **SUCCEED!** [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: “Help Others!” game board, “Help Others!” cards, dice, game pawns

What You Do:

- Play a reverse “Sorry!” game, where the goal is to send the other players HOME instead of back to START.
- Set out the game board, cards, and die. Give each player one game pawn and have them set it on the START square.
- Tell kids that the object of the game they’re about to play is the opposite of most. In this game, their goal is to help OTHERS succeed and win first!

