



NOVEMBER THEME

JAM SESSION

Build a Better Beat

BIBLE STORY

Luke 5:17-26

Stand By You | Jesus Heals the Paralytic

Spark Story Bible, pg. 348-353
Four Friends

BOTTOM LINE

Work together to help someone in need

MEMORY VERSE

“Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.”
Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIRV

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 do you know who needs help? In week three we head to a story found in **Luke 5:17-26**. We discover a paralyzed man who just happened to have some really good friends. When his friends heard that Jesus was in town, they tried everything to get their friend to Jesus. In fact, as friends, they cooperated, tore a hole in a roof, and dropped their friend down in front of Jesus while he was teaching. And as a result of their faith and cooperation a miracle happened.

Bottom Line: Work together to help someone in need. When we see others with needs that seem huge and overwhelming, we too often think they’re too big for us to help and end up doing nothing. However, if we cooperate with others to meet their need, we have a better chance of making a difference in their life and pointing them to God.

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. Pray that kids’ eyes would be open to the needs of those around them, and pray that they would recognize the opportunities they have to join forces with friends to help someone else. Ask God to show kids the value in working with friends to help meet someone else’s need.

•• JUST FOR FUN

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

What You Need: “Four Friends” coloring page, markers

What You Do:

- Hand out “Four Friends” coloring pages and markers. Encourage kids to color (*coloring is fun and relaxing at any age!*) as you engage them in the following conversation...
- Ask: How did everyone’s week go? Was it challenging remembering to pray for each other as we were challenged to do last week? What did you do to remind yourself to pray? Are there any updates to the prayer requests that we can be praying about throughout this week? How can we better remember to be consistent pray-ers for our friends in our small group?

•• GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

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



What You Need: Ball pit ball

What You Do:

- Find an open area to play the following game. You can get together with other groups if you want to.
- Select someone to be “It.”
- To play the game:
 - The kid who is “It” chases people and tries to tag them.
 - A kid is safe from being tagged if he or she is holding the ball pit ball.
 - Kids work together by passing the ball to each other to keep teammates from being tagged.
 - When a kid is tagged who isn’t holding the ball, he or she becomes “It” and the game continues.
 - Monitor the game. If kids excel at passing the ball, “It” may need someone else to work together with in order to tag people.

What You Say: “In this game, when did people need help? (*The kids about to be tagged, maybe the kid who was “It” needed help*) It was very important, if you wanted to help someone, to be watching what was going on with other people. **[Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we’ll hear/we heard a story about a group of friends who weren’t just focused on themselves. They were looking for opportunities to work together to help someone else.**

[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: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Establish teams. Teams do not have to be the same size, but each team needs at least two kids on it.
- Instruct teams to imagine they are at [fill in the blank with somewhere kids go] and encourage them to give examples of who might need help in that “place.”
- Examples of “places” could include:
 - School
 - The park or other gathering place in their neighborhood
 - Sports practice
 - Church
- Give teams time to brainstorm how they could work together to provide help to someone who needs it. Since teams are different sizes, how they can help may look different as well.
- Encourage teams to share their ideas with the group. If they want to, they can create a skit to show how they would work together to help.
- Switch up teams and play again using another location.

●● **BIBLE STORY EXTENSION** [Talk about God | Bible Story Review | Application Activity]



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

What You Need: Bibles, “Picture This” activity page, markers

What You Do:

- Ask: Who was in the Bible story we heard during CM Worship/WOW? (*Paralyzed man, friends, Jesus, Pharisees, bystanders, the owner of the house*)
- Read the Bible story (*Luke 5:17-26, NIRV*) and encourage kids to visualize that they are one of the people in the story as you read it.
- Review the Bible story from the perspective of the people in the story.
- Encourage kids to discuss how they would respond if they were part of the story. (*Use discussion points below to guide the conversation.*)
- Potential discussion ideas are:
 - Ask: You are a bystander in the crowd listening to Jesus as all of this goes down—how do you think you would respond? What stands out to you in the story? How do you relay the story to someone who wasn’t there? (*This would be a great way to review the story before digging deeper*)
 - Ask kids to imagine the conversation of the friends as they got close to the house and saw all the people. What do they imagine the friends said when they saw how difficult it was to get near Jesus?
 - Encourage kids to imagine they are the paralyzed man. Ask: What is going through your mind as your friends help you? What is going through your mind as Jesus tells you to stand up?
 - Encourage kids to imagine they are the owner of the house. Ask: What are you thinking as your house fills up with people and now there are people crashing through your roof?
- After talking, give kids time to create an Instagram post with their response to one of the above scenarios, using the “Picture This” activity page.

•• DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [Live for 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:

- Encourage kids to share a time they needed help and someone worked together with them to help them. Maybe someone helped them study for a test or helped them with their chores.
- Ask: Who do you know who needs help on a regular basis? How could you work together with your friends to help that person?
- Encourage kids to share a time they worked with others to help someone. Maybe a group of friends raised money for a local charity.
- **[Make it Personal]** (*Share about a time when a group of people worked together to help you. Maybe they did something to encourage you. Maybe you had surgery or were sick and friends took turns bringing you meals and taking care of you.*)

•• 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: Bible, “Paper Chain People Template” activity pages, scissors, markers

What You Do:

- As for a volunteer to look up Ecclesiastes 4:9 in the Bible and read the verse to the group.
- Ask: Why are two people better than one? (*They can help each other.*) What are some ways that people can help each other?”
- Give each child a prepared “Paper Chain People” template.
- Guide kids to cut out the figures in such a way that they stay together/conjoined.
- Encourage kids to color the figures to look like themselves and a friend.
- Guide kids to take their figures home as way to remind themselves of the verse and Bottom Line.

