



NOVEMBER THEME

**JAM SESSION**

**Build a Better Beat**

**BIBLE STORY**

**EXODUS 25:8-9; 28:1; 31:1-11; 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43 (Exodus 19, 25)**

Come Together | Building the Tabernacle

**BOTTOM LINE**

God wants us to work together

**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 can trust God no matter what

**FOR LEADERS ONLY**

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

**THIS WEEK—Key Question: Why would God want us to work together?** We kick off the month looking at how God’s people cooperated to build the tabernacle. We read in **Exodus 25:8-9; 28:1,3; 31:1-11; 35:21,25,34; 39:42-43** how God chose people to work together because of how God gifted them. They combined their skills to create a beautiful place to worship God.

**Bottom Line: God wants us to work together.** Sometimes we think it’d be better if we didn’t have to rely on anyone else to get a job done, but this isn’t how God created us. God created us for community, to work together, and do more than we can do on our own. We hope that families see the value in cooperation because cooperation starts with 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. Ask God to help kids see that God wants us to work together because things just work better when we work together. Pray that kids would be able to put aside their differences and their own desires in order to cooperate with their peers.

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

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

**What You Need:** Copy paper, markers

**What You Do:**

- Greet the kids as they arrive.
- Hand out copy paper and set out markers where everybody can share them.
- Read the list below and ask the kids to fill in the blank with an item that goes with the other item.
- Answers have been provided. However, kids may come up with other options that work, too.
- Pairs:
  - Peanut butter and \_\_\_\_\_ (jelly)
  - Cheese and \_\_\_\_\_ (crackers)
  - Me and \_\_\_\_\_ (you)
  - Salt and \_\_\_\_\_ (pepper)
  - Up and \_\_\_\_\_ (down)
  - Bacon and \_\_\_\_\_ (eggs)



- Hammer and \_\_\_\_\_ (nail)
- Shoes and \_\_\_\_\_ (socks)
- Hide and \_\_\_\_\_ (seek)
- Ask kids to think of, and then draw, another pair of things that go together.
- Go around the group and let kids guess what pair the drawings illustrate.

### •• HUMAN KNOT

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

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**NOTE:** If you have fewer than ten kids in your group, consider partnering with another small group to play.

**What You Do:**

- Instruct the kids to stand in a circle, reach across the circle with their RIGHT hand, and grab someone else's right hand. Kids may not grab the hand of someone standing next to them.
- Then, tell kids to reach out with their LEFT hand and grab someone else's left hand across the circle. Kids may not grab the hand of someone next to them or the hand of the same person holding their right hand.
- Let kids work together to untangle the knot they've made without letting go of one another's hands.
- They can go over or under each other's arms or legs.
- The goal is to get the group back into a circle and untangle the knot!

**What You Say:** "Excellent job, my friends. The hardest part of this game was that you had to work together without dropping your hands. [Transition] Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we'll hear/we heard about some people who worked together so that they could do what God wanted them to do."

*[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.

### •• BEZALEL AND OHOLIAB BUILD THE TABERNACLE [Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

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

**What You Need:** Bags filled with craft supplies

**What You Do:**

- Briefly review the following points of the Bible story:
  - God gave Moses instructions to build a special tent where God would live. God told Moses to speak to two workers, Bezalel [BEZ-uh-lel] and Oholiab [oh-HOH-lee-ab]. God had given them the skills they needed to do the work.
  - All the people brought supplies, and Bezalel and Oholiab guided the workers.
  - With God's help, the people built a beautiful home for God to live among God's people.
- Help kids get into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a bag. Tell them not to peek at what's inside. When every group has a bag, invite kids to open them, pull out the supplies, and then work together with the other groups to make something for God. Whatever they create, keep in mind that it's the process—not the product—that's important.



• As kids work, ask the following questions to further review today's story:

—Why did Moses go to the mountain? (*To talk to God*)

—What did God instruct Moses to do? (*To build a Tabernacle—a sacred tent—for God*)

—Name some of the things the skilled workers needed to do to build the tabernacle? (*Work with bronze, silver and gold; set the stones; work with wood; weave special cloth*)

—Where did the materials come from? (*People brought them as offerings*)

—Why do you think God called them to build a tent rather than a permanent building? (*Moses and the Israelites were traveling in the desert so they needed something that could be transported to travel with them*)

**What You Say:** “With God’s help, the Israelites did something that seemed impossible. They made a beautiful home for God to live among God’s people. They did it by trusting God and by working together. Building the tabernacle was a VERY big job. It was too big for anyone to complete alone. It took the entire Israelite community with everyone using his or her own talents and skills and offerings to complete the work. It required cooperation. **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** God knows that when we do, we can accomplish WAY more than we ever could alone!”

**[Make It Personal]** (*Tell your group about a time when you completed a BIG task with a group of people. Maybe you cleaned up trash at a local park or roadway or were a part of a group project at school or work. How did the job require cooperation? Why do you think God wants us to work together?*)

•• **CATCH THE BALL** [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:** Ball

**What You Do:**

• Guide the kids to circle up, and explain that you’re going to play “Pass the Ball.”

• For the first round:

—They must pass the ball ACROSS the circle to one another until everyone has touched the ball.

—No passing to the person sitting on either side of them.

—They may not pass to someone who has already had the ball.

—They cannot talk to each other.

—Explain that you will time them to see how fast they can complete the task.

—The last person to catch the ball must hold it up over his or her head to signify the end of the round.

• For round two, they are allowed to talk and to strategize to see if there is a quicker way to pass the ball to each person.

• Resume play once they’re ready and time them again.

**What You Say:** “You did a GREAT job at coming up with different strategies for passing the ball. Which round was the hardest? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes, the first round! It’s hard to cooperate when you can’t talk to each other or communicate. **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** And this isn’t just true for games like this. It’s true anytime any kind of cooperation is involved! It requires give and take, and sometimes there’s even a little debate about the best way to do something. Remember, the goal is to work together. Way to go, friends.”

•• **MEMORY VERSE MINGLE** [Hear from God | Memory Verse 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, “Ecclesiastes 4:9” activity page

**What You Do:**

• Help kids look up this month’s memory verse, found in Ecclesiastes 4:9, using the navigation tips below...

