



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

What You Need: “Cooperation” coloring page, crayons

What You Do:

- Hand out coloring pages and crayons. As kids color ask:
 - Do you like to build with blocks?
 - What other activities do you like to do with friends?
 - If you were trying to build the biggest tower possible in 10 minutes, would it be better to work alone or with friends?

•• MINGLE, MINGLE...MOO?

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

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:



- Direct the group to walk around the environment, giving high fives as they say or sing, “Mingle, mingle, mingle.”
- When you call out a number, help kids get into a group of that number, and wait for their designated action. *(Be sure to join the game as necessary to balance the numbers.)* Below are some suggestions, but you can make up your own. Just make sure they rhyme!
 - Groups of two...*(pause to help kids pair up)*...cows that moo; penguins in a zoo; monkeys saying, “Ooh, ooh, ooh!”
 - Groups of three: squirrels in a tree; dolphins in the sea; kittens playing happily.
 - Groups of four: birds that soar; lions that roar.
 - Groups of five: bees in a hive.
- When you call “Mingle, mingle, mingle,” again, kids resume walking around the environment, chanting, “Mingle, mingle, mingle,” until you give the next command.
- Play as time remains.
- Throughout the game, be quick to praise kids for showing cooperation.

What You Say: “You guys did a great job working together to get into your groups. **[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 [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.
- Praise kids for showing cooperation as they work together to accomplish their task.

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. What are some ways that you can work together with others? *(I can let my friends choose first; I can help my teacher; I can help my mom and dad with jobs at home; etc.)*

“Things work better when you work together, don’t they? When you work together with others, there’s SO much more you can do. The sooner you help your class pick up, the sooner you can play outside. The more you listen to your coach, the better your team will be. The more you cooperate with your friends, the better your friendships will be.



“So remember that **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** Because when we work together, we can do more than we can do alone. And you know what else? When we work together, we can show others how amazing God is! So this week, remember: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.**”

●● **COOPERATION SANDWICH** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Explore | An activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: “PB&J” activity cards

What You Do:

- Take as many sets of cards as you have kids in your group today. Shuffle the cards.
- Help kids get into groups of two or three.
- Give each group four cards per child. Task kids with making one peanut butter and jelly sandwich for each person in their group. They’ll quickly figure out that they don’t have all the cards they need.
- Help kids see that if they cooperate with each other and trade with other groups, they’ll be able to get the cards they need.
- Congratulate the kids on their cooperation when they successfully create one sandwich for each kid.

What You Say: “Did your group have everything it needed to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for each person? No, you didn’t, did you? Some of you had jelly and peanut butter, but no bread. Some of you had bread and peanut butter, but no jelly. And some of you had just bread and jelly! But when you cooperated and worked together, you were able to make all the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches you needed. Way to go!”

“That reminds me of today’s Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together.** Why do you think God wants us to work together? (*We can help each other; we can do more with each other than we can do on our own; etc.*) Yes! **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together** because when we work together, we can love others, help others, and point people to Jesus in ways we can’t on our own.

[Make It Personal] (*Briefly tell kids about a time you worked with others and shared what you had to do God’s work. It may have been a mission trip, a service project, or something a group did for others. Tell how the work made an impact on those it helped.*)

“So remember: **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together,** because when we work together, we can show others who God is in ways we can’t on our own.”

●● **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: “Ecclesiastes 4:9” activity page

What You Do:

- Read this month’s memory verse, found on the left column of page one of this leader guide, a few times to your group.
- Next, teach kids motions for the verse using the “Ecclesiastes 4:9” activity page as a guide.
- Lead kids in the motions, calling out the verse phrase by phrase. Provide as much help as necessary.
- NOTE: The last motion is American Sign Language for “help.” It is made by closing your left hand into a fist. Place the outstretched palm of your right hand under the left fist and raise both hands.
- As kids begin to master the motions, gradually increase your speed to add challenge. If your group masters the motions and rhythm of the phrases, add variety by guiding them to move in different ways: tiptoe, slow-mo, crawling, etc.

What You Say: “What do you think it means that ‘two are better than one’? (*It’s better to work together; two people can help each other; you can do more with someone else than you can do by yourself; etc.*) **[Bottom Line] God wants us to work together** not only

