Lesson Plan

November 1st, 2026

This Month's Truth: I Am Made for Community
Bible Story: Aaron and Hur Helped Moses (Exodus 17:8-15)
Theme Verse: "Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, according to Christ Jesus, so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one voice." (Romans 15:5-6)

Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive: Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day. Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus.

Share: As we serve side by side, we get to teach kids this month that God made us to have encouraging relationships through community, rather than trying to do life alone. Our Bible story today tells about a time when two men (Aaron and Hur) helped and literally supported their leader Moses, which led to an Israelite victory. (Read Exodus 17:11-13.) Let's help kids see that, like Aaron, Hur, and Moses, we are better together.
Pray: Lead the group in prayer, asking God to help kids understand the value of being part of a community.

Pre Service

Arrival time, please use this time to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.

Service

What To Do:

- **Teacher** Start 5-minute countdown **5 minutes prior to service start time.**

Teacher Opener: Hey, everyone! My name is ____, and it is so great that you are here today! Tap a friend on the shoulder and say, "I am happy to see you!" (I am happy to see you!) Today we get to learn that God made us to enjoy life in community. Everyone, say, "Community!"

(Community!) When we talk about community, we mean a group of people coming together for a purpose—which is why our Theme is Side-by-Side. Kind of like how macaroni and cheese go together, we get to go together and live side by side with friends. Everyone, say, “Side by side!” (Side by side!)

Balloon Keepy Uppy

What You Need: Balloons

The goal is for your team to keep the balloon in the air the longest.

What You Say: We’re going to play a game that I think most of you know how to play. It’s “Balloon Keepy Uppy”, I want you and your team to try and keep your balloon in the air. This will be a challenge to try and see who can keep their balloon in the air the longest.
Who’s ready to see who will win? Let’s go!

Leader Tip: Split your class in two. So, they can compete against one another. You can either use the 5 minute or 1 minute timer on the playlist to time the game or use the small timer provided.

What You Say: Great job! You can go back to your seats. (Allow time.) It was so fun working together and trying to keep the balloon in the air. But the amazing thing is that we all got to play together. We can remember that God made us for community. God made us for what? (Community!) He made us to make friends, build connections, and live our lives side by side with other people who know and love Him. Give someone a high ten and say, “You are made for community!” (You are made for community!)

Transition Script to go into the Intro Video: What is something fun you like to do with friends? Think about it for just a moment. (Pause.) Now tell me what that thing is in 3-2-1! (Allow time.) Those all sound fun! Today we get to hear from a girl named Kenzie who also loves having fun and making memories with friends. Let’s get our video started by saying, “Side by side!” in 3-2-1! (Side by side!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: Mini golf is fun, but mini golf with friends is so much better! Elsie was not feeling very confident. But Kenzie and Levi helped her, and she got a hole in one! Say, “Way to go, Elsie!” (Way to go, Elsie!) The encouragement and help from her friends made a difference for

all of them—not just Elsie. What a great reminder that being made for community means we are better together. We are better what? (Together!) In community, we get to encourage and help one another through the good times, the hard times, and all the times in between. We are better together because God made us for community! Let me hear you say, “We are better together!” (We are better together!)

Worship

What You Say: Worship is telling and showing God how great, special, and wonderful He is. It means giving God the highest worth because of who He is and what He has done. Think of it as a giant "thank you" and a celebration party for God. So, let’s all come together and worship God this morning.

What To Do:

- Turn lights off
- 2 songs of worship
- **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**
- Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

What To Do:

- Have the kids **open up** a physical Bible and find the Bible story for that day.
- Use the Bibles provided in the classroom if a kid does not have their own Bible with them.

Transition Script to go into the Bible Story Video: (Open the Bible to Exodus 17:8-15.) Now we are going to look at how we are better together by learning from the Bible. Everybody, say, “The Bible!” (The Bible!) The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. It is 1 big book that is broken up into 66 smaller books. Our Bible story today comes from the book of Exodus in the Old Testament, which is the first part of the Bible. Let’s hear from a woman named Kai who will teach us what the Bible says about living life side by side. Everyone, say, “Side by side!” (Side by side!)

Play Bible Story Video

Questions to consider asking after the video:

- What is something that you learned about God from the video?
- What is something that you learned about people?
- What can you take away from the video?
    - How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

Making The Connection Script: What a great example of being better together! When Moses held up his hand with his staff, the Israelites started winning the battle. But when Moses put his hands down, because he was tired, Amalek (AM uh lek) and his army started winning. What do you think it would be like if you had to do what Moses did? (Allow kids to answer.) That was a lot of pressure for Moses! Real battles usually take a long time, so it is no wonder that Moses got tired. Thankfully, Aaron and Hur helped Moses by supporting his hands, helping him hold up his arms, and giving him a stone to sit on. Aaron and Hur not only helped Moses, but they also helped all the Israelites by making sure Moses could hold up his staff throughout the battle. This story from the Bible is a great example of how God wants us to live side by side. Moses, Aaron, Hur, and the Israelites were all better together because they helped one another. We are all better together too. Everyone, say, "We are better together!" (We are better together!)

God gives us community by giving us people who help us grow in our relationship with Him. Say, "I am made for community!" (I am made for community!) Moses was surrounded by people who helped him. Things could have been different if he was surrounded by people who didn't help and simply let him stand there getting more tired. Like Moses, we also need community. We can choose to hang out with people who help us grow closer to God and follow Him. We can also help the people we hang out with grow closer to God and follow Him. Like Moses, Aaron, and Hur, we are better together.

Use the Three Circle Graphics on the Playlist

(Circle 1) When God created the world, there were no battles. There was no fighting, like there was between the Israelites and Amalek. But do you know what was there? Ask, "What?" (What?) There was community! God created the first two people—Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve had an amazing and perfect community with each other and with God.

(Circle 2) However, that perfect community was broken when Adam and Eve chose to do what they thought was best rather than follow what God said was best. That is called sin. Ever since then, all of us struggle with sin. Our sin leads to broken relationships with God, with other people, and even with how we think about ourselves. Sin can confuse us and trick us into thinking we can live life on our own instead of living life as the people God made us to be. And

the problem with our sin is that we cannot fix it on our own. Sin deserves to be punished, and we need Someone to help us.

(Circle 3) God not only made us for community, but He also always had a perfect plan for how to rescue us from our sin and brokenness. God sent His only Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, die on a cross to take the punishment we deserve for our sin, and rise again from the dead. Jesus showed that He is more powerful than both sin and death, and He made the way for us to have a relationship with God and be who God made us to be. When we respond to God by asking Him to forgive our sin and trusting in Jesus, God gives us a new identity! He invites us into His family—His community of people who love and follow Him. We will still struggle sometimes with sin and brokenness, but God gives us a community of people to help us grow in our relationship with Him. He allows us to help each other, like Aaron and Hur helped Moses. Side by side, we can help each other grow closer to God.

Whenever we wonder if it matters who we hang out with, we can remember this story of Moses, Aaron, and Hur. They were better together, and we are better together when we hang out with people who help and encourage us—and we can help and encourage them too. Friends who follow God together are better together. Let me hear you say, “We are better together!” (We are better together!)

Come talk with me or your Small Group Leader if you have any questions about what it means to have a relationship with God by following Jesus. We would love to talk with you about how you can have a relationship with Him. We are made for community, and part of being in community means helping other people have a relationship with God.

Theme Verse Review:

Theme Verse Motions:
Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement (Bring both arms up, palms facing in, then make muscles with your arms by your head. Bring your right arm down and out with a thumbs-up.)
grant you to live in harmony with one another, (Clasp both hands together in front of your chest, then point out to the side with your right arm, then left.)
according to Christ Jesus, (Keep your arms where they are, but flip your right hand, then left, so that your palms are facing up.)
so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Bring both arms all the way up with your palms facing in, then bring your right arm down, then left, with palms facing up.)

with one mind and one voice. (Bring both hands with palms facing down to your temples, then down with palms facing out around your mouth.)
Romans 15:5-6 (Hold hands out like a book.)

What You Say: We have been talking about what it looks like to live side by side. Everyone, link arms with a friend and say, “Side by side!” (Side by side!) Let’s learn our Theme verse along with Kenzie from our Main Idea video!

Play Theme Verse Video

What You Say: When this Bible verse says we are “to live in harmony,” it means bringing things that make us the same and different together for one great purpose. When we are in God’s community, we agree that God loves us and sent Jesus to rescue us from sin. And having “one mind and one voice,” does not mean that we always think or sound the same. Instead, it means that we bring God honor by living for Him and pointing others to Him together, founded on the truth of the Bible. And the best part is that God is the One who helps us live this way, and when we do, we honor Him and point others to Him. Living in harmony is not always easy, but God helps us. That is why we can trust Him when He shows that we are better together. Say, “We can live in harmony!” (We can live in harmony!)

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: Remember, we are better together. Look a friend in the eye and tell your friend, “We are better together!” (We are better together!) We are made for community, and part of being in community means helping each other grow closer to God. Closer to who? (God!) Yes! When we hang out with other friends who love and follow God, we get to encourage each other as we love God together. Let’s take some time to pray and thank God for making us better together and allowing us to live side by side. Pray with me in 3-2-1.

Closing Prayer: God, thank You for making us for community. Thank You for making us better together and allowing us to help each other grow in our relationships with You. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to make the way for us to have a relationship with You and be better together. Amen.

Transition to Small Group Time: Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

Small Group Time:

Option #1: Connection Questions

What To Do: We have been talking about what it means to live side by side. Part of living side by side is taking the time to talk and share ideas.

1. What kinds of activities do you like to do with a group of people instead of on your own? (Allow kids to answer and share your answer.)
2. The Bible tells us that we are made for community and we are better together. Let's open our Bibles to Exodus 17:11-13 and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) Moses, Aaron, and Hur were better together because they helped each other. How does it encourage you to know that God made us to be better together? (Allow kids to answer. Point out that we can be encouraged to know that we do not have to live our lives on our own, and that others can help us grow in our relationships with God.)
3. Moses allowed Aaron and Hur to help him when he was tired. How can we help others grow in their relationships with God, and how can they help us? (Allow kids to answer. Point out that we can pray for each other, talk about what we are learning in the Bible, and encourage friends who are struggling. We can also trust our friends, learn from their examples, and share with them when we are struggling.)
4. How can who you hang out with make a difference in your life? (Allow kids to answer. People who follow God help us grow in our relationships with Him because we can point each other to God and learn more about Him together.)
5. We are better together because God made us for community with others who love and follow Him. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Picture of Help

Leader Prep:

1. Color the pictures of Aaron, Hur, and Moses.
2. Glue "Moses" to the paper.

3. Glue the stone so “Moses” is sitting on it and “Aaron” and “Hur” at his right and left sides.
4. Glue the staff in one of Moses’s hands.
5. Glue the Bible story title to the scene.

What To Do: Today we learned that Aaron and Hur helped Moses by holding up his hands during a battle and bringing a stone for Moses to sit on. Now we are going to set up that scene!

First, color the pictures of Moses, Aaron, and Hur. (Allow time.)

Now, glue “Moses” on your paper and then glue the stone so Moses is sitting on the stone. After that, glue “Aaron” on one side of Moses and “Hur” on the other side. Then you can glue the staff on one of Moses’s hands. (Allow time.)

Finally, glue the Bible story rectangle so that you can remember where to find this story in the Bible. (Allow time.)

Keep It Going: Allow kids to draw other scenery on their papers, such as trees, flowers, birds, and so forth.

Loud And Clear: We see how community helps us be better together when we learn about Aaron and Hur helping Moses. God worked through Moses in incredible ways, but this Bible story specifically shows that even Moses needed community. Moses needed what? (Community!) When we look at this craft, we can know that we also need community. Point to yourself and say, “Who, me?” (Who, me?) Yes, you! As you learn more from the Bible, look for ways that God’s people help and encourage in community. When we allow others to help us grow in our relationships with God, we enjoy a community just like they did! Say, “We are better together!” (We are better together!)

Option #3: Activity Page

What To Do: This activity page helps us remember some big things we have learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

Leader Tip: Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story or remind them that we are better together because we can help each other, like Aaron and Hur helped Moses. We get to live side by side because we are made for community.

Loud And Clear: We are made for community, and we can help each other follow God like Aaron, Moses, and Hur did. God made the way for us to be better together by providing for our biggest need—rescue from our sin through Jesus. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, die on a cross, and rise again so that we can have a relationship with Him. When we follow Jesus, we get to follow Him with others because we are better together.

Close out in prayer:

What To Do:

- Ask for any specific prayer requests
- Pray with the group
- Lead the group in the prayer below.

What You Say: God, thank You for allowing other people to help us grow in our relationships with You and for allowing us to help others grow too. Help us remember that we are made for community. You give us relationships with other people, and You give us the way to have a relationship with You forever. Thank You! Amen.

Dismissal:

Leader Tip: Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.