

HEY, HI, HELLO

God Gives Me Friends

November 10

I am Made for Community Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: Jesus Washed the Disciples Feet- John 13: 1-20

Bottom Line: I can help my friends.

Leader Context: In our Bible story this weekend, kids will learn that Jesus washed His disciples' feet. This was a gross job reserved for lowly servants, but Jesus wanted the disciples to know that being in community means helping and serving others. Kids will learn that they can help their friends, even when it is difficult or undesirable. When we help our friends, we share the love of Jesus and live the way God made us to live.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page 3-by-5-inch index cards (20 per group), Marker (1 per group) Write numbers 1-10 on two sets of index cards, creating matches for each card (two cards with 1, two with 2, and so forth.)

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

Jesus didn't *need* to wash His friends' feet, did He? (*No!*) But did Jesus *want* to wash His friends' feet? (*Yes!*) Jesus showed His friends that He cared for them by washing their feet. And He told them that they should do the same thing. They should love, care for, and help other people just like Jesus. We can also love and help like Jesus.

We are made to get connected with friends. When we do, we can help and serve them just like Jesus helped and served His friends. Say, "I am made for community!" (*I am made for community!*) We can help and serve in all kinds of ways. We think of what our friends need before we think about what we want. We can go out of our way to be kind and caring. We don't need to wait for our friends to help or care for us first—we can be first to help and serve them! Let me hear you say, "I can help my friends!" (*I can help my friends!*)

Let's pray together. Remember prayer is listening and talking to God.

God, Thank You for giving us friends and community. Help us live close to one another and to You, Jesus. Help us to follow Your example by helping our friends and caring for them, just like Jesus did with His friends. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Videos

We Like to Build It (20 minutes)

Big Goal: Practice helping our friends, even when it is difficult.

Supplies: “We Like To Build It” printable (1 per group), Plastic cups (14 per group), Craft sticks (6 per group), Tissues (2 per group), Timer or stopwatch (optional; 1 per group) Print one copy of the “We Like To Build It” printable. Lay out supplies in two groups so each group has 7 plastic cups, 3 craft sticks, and 1 tissue.

What To Do: We’re going to play a game called “We Like to Build It.” We will have two teams and each team will have a captain. The rest of the team will be builders. Captains will be the only ones who can look at the picture of what your team will be building. Captains, you will have to help your team build whatever is in the picture, but there is a twist! Everyone, say, “Ooo! A twist!” (*Ooo! A twist!*) Captains are not allowed to talk or touch any of the supplies! You will all have to help your teammates build these structures. Let’s see which team can build it the fastest!

(Assign kids to teams and select captains. Show one image for the first round. Select new captains and show the second image for the second round.)

Keep It Going: Invite kids to draw pictures of structures to use in additional rounds.

Leader Tip: Larger group option: Provide extra supplies to enable more teams to participate. Smaller group option: Play timed rounds with all kids on one team.

Loud And Clear: Great job helping each other build those structures! It isn’t always easy to help our friends. But we learned today that we can help and serve by following the example of Jesus in the Bible. We don’t just help and serve when it is easy. Helping and serving people in our community gives us a chance to live the way that God originally designed. So let’s find ways to help our friends this week!

Discussion Questions:

Let’s get connected as we talk about how God made us for community!

1. I will name some different places, and you tell me a way you can help and serve someone in that place (*list one by one with time for responses*): school, the grocery store, your home, church, the park. (*Consider inviting kids to come up with places they spend time.*)
2. The Bible tells us that we are made for community and that we can help our friends. Let’s open our Bibles to **John 13:12-15** 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.*) Why do you think it was such a big deal for Jesus to wash His disciples’ feet? What is something we can learn from Jesus’ example? (*It was a dirty job He didn’t need to do. He showed He was different than other powerful leaders by serving and loving in a selfless way. We can put others before ourselves by helping, even if we think it is below us.*)
3. What are some good things that can happen when you help your friends? (*They are thankful. We become better friends. I can tell them about Jesus.*)
4. What are some ways you can serve and help the people around you? (*Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.*)
5. The Bible tells us that we are made for community, and we can help our friends. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Or is there anything you have questions about? (*Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.*) Let’s pray and talk to God. (*Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.*)

God, thank You for teaching us that we are made for community. Thank You for showing us that we can help our friends. Help us to want to serve and help others like You did. Continue to teach us to think about others before we think about ourselves. We love You. Amen.

God made us for community, and we can help our friends. Let’s be like Jesus as we help and serve our friends.

Going Home

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.