

FOUR-FIVE CURRICULUM

SEPT 15

LIVE BRIGHT: Shine Jesus' Light

Today's Bible Story: Take Time (Jesus Heals Bartimaeus) • *Mark 10:46-52*

Today's Key Question: When has someone made time for you?

Today's Bottom Line: Make time to help others.

Monthly Memory Verse: *"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven."* Matthew 5:16 (NirV)

Monthly Virtue: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's needs

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

Just for Fun

What You Need: Offering container

What You Do:

- Welcome kids as they arrive.
- Invite anyone who has brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Choose two kids who don't mind being the center of attention to go first.
- Explain that they are going to work together to tell a story.
- Direct them to sit, facing each other, in front of the group.
 - They will tell a story by alternating single words to formulate sentences. For example:
 - Kid 1: *Once*
 - Kid 2: *Upon*
 - Kid 1: *A*
 - Kid 2: *Time*
 - They will continue to go back and forth until they have completed a short story.
- After they finish their story, invite two more kids to take a turn.
- Play again as time allows.

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: "Pick a Plot" Activity Page, miscellaneous props, glow sticks

What You Do:

- Create groups of two to four kids each.
- Give each group a card from the "Pick a Plot" Activity Page.
- Select a few of the miscellaneous props to give each group.
- Explain that each group will read their card then work together to create a short skit that shows how they would make time to help someone else in that scenario.
 - They can use the props they were given however they would like in their skit. Encourage them to be creative!
- After some practice time, give each group a turn to perform their skit in front of everyone.
 - Encourage those watching to clap after each performance.
- Invite the group to form a circle after each team has finished their skit.
- Give each kid a glowstick. Tell them not to bend them yet.
- Ask:
 - Why is it sometimes difficult to make time to help others?
 - Have you ever had to give up something to help someone else?
- Explain that sometimes making time to help others is a sacrifice. Jesus was a busy man on a mission, but He didn't let that stop Him from taking the detour to help Bartimaeus. Jesus knew it was worth it to show compassion.
- Tell kids to bend their glow sticks. Explain that their glow sticks would not illuminate if they didn't bend them first. Explain we have to first be willing to bend—or give something up. When we are willing to set ourselves aside and make time for others, we shine Jesus' light to those around us!

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2. Discussion Questions

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Ask:

- When has someone made time for you?
- How does it make you feel when someone makes time for you?
- Do you like receiving help from someone else? Why or why not?
- Why is time so valuable?
- What are some ways you can make time to help others?

3. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Prepared “Seek and Find” Activity Page, blindfold, envelope, Bibles

What You Do:

- Direct the kids to gather and form a wide circle.
- Choose a volunteer to stand up. Secure a blindfold over their eyes.
- Explain that you are going to place an envelope somewhere in your group space for them to find by slowly walking around and listening for guidance from the rest of the group.
- Explain the rest of the group will give clue words, like *Hot*, *Cold*, *Warm*, or *Cool* to let the blindfolded kid know whether they are getting closer or farther away from the envelope.
- Set out the envelope and invite the group to start calling out clue words until the blindfolded kid finds it.
- Once they do, help take off their blindfold. Direct them to take one card out of the envelope and hold on to it.
- Repeat with different kids until all the cards have been removed from the envelope.
 - If preferred, you can give each kid a turn even after all the cards have been removed.
- Give each kid who has a card a Bible and ask them to look up the verse reference written on it.
 - Allow kids to help each other with finding the verses if needed.

- Give each kid a turn to read their verse out loud for the entire group.
- After each verse, ask:
 - What stands out to you about this verse?
 - What does it have to do with helping others?

4. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: “Prayer Plan” Activity Page, pens or pencils

What You Do:

- Direct kids to spread out in your group space.
- Explain that when we pay more attention to others, we are more likely to notice what they need.
 - We may not be able to plan for those needs, but we can practice making ourselves aware and available.
 - One way we can help others is by spending time praying for them.
- Give each kid a copy of the “Prayer Plan” Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Direct kids to write their names at the top of their Activity Page.
- Give kids time to think of how they can make a plan to pray throughout the week.
 - They can take time to write in the space provided on their “Prayer Plan” Activity Page about how they plan to pray and who they plan to pray for.
- Offer suggestions if kids need prompting for ideas on when to pray, where to pray, etc.
- Ask for a volunteer to pray for the group before you dismiss.