



WEEK  
**THREE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### 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, NIV

### 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.

### PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

### SMALL GROUP

15  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Just for Fun  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

35  
MIN

#### STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

#### WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

Welcome/Opener  
Worship  
Bible Story (Communicator Script)  
Key Question  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

25  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot  
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and  
Discussion Questions  
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You  
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

### HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)  
Devotionals for Kids  
Parent Cue App



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



*Before kids arrive, pray that today your kids would be honest about how they spend their time and look for how God may be stirring in them to use their time to help others around them.*

### 1. JUST FOR FUN

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Take Time**

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**Make time to help others.**

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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### 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.**

**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.



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



## 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Masking tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Use the tape to create a “Start” and “Finish” line on opposite ends of your group space.
- Tell kids to form pairs. (Join one of the kids if there is an uneven number.)
- Line everyone up with their partners along the “Start” line.
- Explain that kids will be racing with their partner to get to the “Finish” line.
  - Direct one kid from each pair to walk on their hands while their partner walks behind them, holding their ankles. (i.e.: Wheelbarrow Race)
- Say, “Go!” when pairs are ready to begin the race. The first pair to the “Finish” line wins!
  - *NOTE: For smaller spaces, you can direct kids to travel to the “Finish” line, turn around, and then head back to the “Start” line to complete the race.*
- Play again but switch roles so the kid who was walking on their hands will now hold their partner’s ankles.

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Make time to help others.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“What amazing teamwork! In this game, you really had to help each other out! **[Transition]** In Large Group today, we’ll hear about how Jesus made time to help someone and how it changed that person’s life forever.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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Matthew 5:16, NIV

### 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.



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SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



## 1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**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!

**[Make it Personal]** Share about a time when you had to give something up to make time to help someone else. Discuss how it changed that person. Share how it impacted you.

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## 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.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



## 2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page, black posterboard, white chalk, flashlights

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Direct teams to gather on opposite sides of the group space and come up with a team name.
- Place a piece of black posterboard between the teams.
- Use chalk to draw a line through the center of the posterboard, dividing it in half.
- Write a team name on each half of the posterboard.
- Choose one kid from each team to go first and invite them to stand at the edge of the black posterboard, facing each other.
- Hand each volunteer a flashlight.
- Explain that you are going to ask a trivia question from today's Bible story using the "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page.
  - If they know the answer, they shine their flashlight onto the black posterboard.
  - Whoever flashes their light first gets to answer the question.
- If they answer the question correctly, use the chalk to draw two tally marks on their side of the posterboard.
- If they answer the question incorrectly, the other contestant will get a chance to answer. If correct, draw just one tally mark on their side of the posterboard.
- If neither contestant answers the question correctly, share the correct answer with everyone. No one gets a point.
- Repeat with a different kid from each team until all trivia questions from the "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page have been asked.
- Celebrate the team with the most points as the winning team.
- Ask:
  - How did being blind impact Bartimaeus? (*Kids will likely emphasize he couldn't see. Lead them to discover he was also likely cast out of society, left to beg on the streets, and not able to be in community with others. That must have been extremely lonely.*)
  - Other than the ability to see, what did Bartimaeus gain when Jesus healed him? (*Community with people and an even stronger faith in Jesus.*)
  - Did it show weakness or strength when Bartimaeus called out for help from Jesus? (*Strength because sometimes it takes courage to ask for help! Sometimes, we worry about what people might think about us if we need help. Bartimaeus' belief in Jesus' ability to help him shows us how strong his faith was.*)
- Remind kids that you never know how showing compassion might affect someone else. It's so important that we make time to help others!

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**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



### 3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] 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?

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



### 4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "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?

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**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



### 5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**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.

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

**(Choose one or both of these activities.)**

#### 1. JUST FOR FUN

*Made to Play:* an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Offering container

#### 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Masking tape, one roll for each Small Group

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

**(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)**

#### 1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

*Made to Imagine:* an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Pick a Plot" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one card for every two to four kids
- Glow sticks or necklaces, one for each kid
- Miscellaneous props, two for every two to four kids (see below for suggestions)
  - Foam noodles
  - Reusable grocery bag
  - Notebook
  - Assorted clothing/accessory items
  - Toy Phone

- Flashlight
- Anything you may have lying around!

#### 2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Play:* an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- Black posterboard, one piece for each Small Group
- White chalk, one piece for each Small Group
- Flashlights, two for each Small Group

#### 3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Connect:* an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- No supplies needed

#### 4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

*Made to Explore:* an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Seek and Find" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one for each Small Group
- Blindfold, one for each Small Group
- Envelope, one for each Small Group
- Bibles, six for each Small Group

#### 5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

*Made to Reflect:* an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Prayer Plan" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one for every kid
- Pens or pencils, one for each kid



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**THREE**  
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**PRELUDE**      **SOCIAL**      **STORY**      **WORSHIP**      **GROUPS**      **HOME**

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app**.