



Jesus Wants Us To Work Together

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • March 1/2/3

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Prayer is a concept that can be uncomfortable for some kids and adults. When challenging your group, don't force a kid to pray if they are not ready. Instead, pray for them and then share with them the different forms prayer can have: praying aloud, praying with your eyes shut, prayer by writing in a journal, and more.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- Have you ever been to a play, concert, or live performance?
- Last week you were challenged to share our Memory Verse with someone. How did that go?



PRAY

Use your Bean Bag for this prayer. Kids will take turns passing the Bean Bag, and whoever has the Bean Bag should pray for the person to their left by saying something simple like: *Dear God, please help (name) have peace and patience this week as they work with others.*

You can help your Group by starting and wrapping up the prayer.

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- Awesome job praying for each other. Praying together is something Jesus did with his besties. Another name for them is disciples.
- Jesus showed us that living at peace in a community with others is very important.
- Let's check out our Memory Verse for this month.

Read:

- Ecclesiastes 4:9

Review:

- What do you think this Verse means when it says "Two are better than one"?
- Why do you think God wants us to help each other?
- Can you think of a time you worked with a friend or family member to finish something? Was it easier or more fun? Why?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



BIBLE

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Ecclesiastes 4:9



Jesus Wants Us To Work Together

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • March 1/2/3

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Invite kids to sit on the floor, leaving space at the front for your Stage.

- Call on two kids and invite them to stand on the stage as Actors. Explain to kids that they will begin acting out a scene together.
- This is an improv activity, so they will make the scene up as they go.
- If the kids seem unsure how to start, suggest a scenario to help get them going, such as, "You're upset because they're out of your favorite candy at the movie theater."
- On your "Action!" give the kids a few moments to act out their scene.
- Then, call out "Freeze!" for the actors to stop moving and talking.
- Choose one kid from the seated group to replace one of the actors on stage.
- When the play resumes, direct the new actor to start a completely different scene.
- The two actors will continue acting out the new scene.
- Continue to call out "Freeze!" every minute or two, allowing more kids to take turns replacing the kids on stage, one at a time.
- Feel free to jump in and participate as well!



CHALLENGE

I was super proud of all of you for praying for the person sitting next to you today. Praying for someone can be simple. You just think about them and start talking to God, telling him how you feel about that person, and asking him for good things on their behalf. Maybe your neighbor is sad because a pet died or maybe your friend is frustrated with their schoolwork. Your challenge this week is to pray for someone. This is a two part challenge because you need to look for someone to pray for and then you need to pray. So be on the lookout and then put it into action. You've got this!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share with your Group about a time you completed a big task with a group of people. Maybe you volunteered for a church event, a local organization, or you had a big group project at school or work. Share the ways the task required cooperation and how you all felt when the job was accomplished.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

As kids are getting picked up, prompt them to share with their families about their weekly challenge.



Work Together To Help Someone Succeed

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • March 8/9/10

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

When it is time to break your group into partners for the activity, be mindful of who may work best together. Provide each kid with an opportunity to have fun, grow in their relationships, and be authentic by pairing kids together intentionally. If a new kid is in your group, partner them with a friendly and outgoing kid. If one is competitive, partner them with someone who can meet their energy.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- If you could go to a live performance of your favorite movie, what movie would you pick?
- Last week you were challenged to pray for someone. Who did you pray for?



PRAY

Say: Today, I am going to stretch you one step beyond praying for someone at home. We are going to pray for each other here in our Group.

- Discern which is best for your Group- either kids can pick their own partner, or you can assign partners. If there is an odd number, have one Group of three.

If you have something you would like your partner to pray for, let them know! Maybe you have a sporting event coming up or a spring concert. Maybe you are struggling with math at school. Or, you can simply ask them to pray that you have a great week! As kids pray, be present and available for support and guidance.

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- Great job praying for each other. There will be so many times in our life that we are just going to need help from a friend. Praying is a powerful way to help others and ask for help ourselves.
- Today's Bible story is about someone who needed help in a unique way, let's check it out.

Read:

- Exodus 17:8-13

Review:

- What was Moses doing that helped the Israelites win the battle?
- Why do you think it was important that Moses kept his hands up?
- Have you ever helped a friend or family member when they were tired and needed help? What did you do?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



BIBLE



Work Together To Help Someone Succeed

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • March 8/9/10

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Divide kids into groups of two. A group of three is fine.

- Instruct the pairs to sit on the ground with their backs to each other.
- Direct the kids to reach behind their backs and link arms with each other. If you have a group of three, direct all three kids to link their arms behind their backs in a circle.
- Explain to the kids that when you say 'go' each group must attempt to stand up without separating or unlinking their arms.
- Encourage kids to work together to figure out how to overcome the challenge of standing up without unlinking arms.
- Say, "Go!" and begin the challenge. Offer tips or demonstrations as needed if kids are struggling, but let the kids try to solve the challenge on their own first. Mix up the groups if time allows. Invite the kids to try again.



CHALLENGE

Say: *Your challenge this week is to pray for your partner you prayed with earlier. I want you to pray for them every morning this week. You can pray by asking God to help them succeed, you can ask God to give them peace, or you can ask God to help them help others!*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share with your Group about a time you worked to help someone else. Maybe you collected food for a pantry, raised money for a good cause, or ran a race to help a charitable organization. Share how your willingness to cooperate helped someone else succeed.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

As kids get picked up remind them of their weekly challenge.

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Ecclesiastes 4:9



Work Together To Solve Problems

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 3 • March 15/16/17

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Elementary Schoolers are at the perfect age to encourage serving others. Talk with your group about the unique opportunities they have to serve. Whether it is walking their family pet, collecting and donating canned food, serving as a door greeter at church, or leading others as a kidWorship kid, encourage them to help others and serve.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *If you had to be a part of a play or performance, what part would you want to play? Lead actor/actress, director, maybe behind the scenes building the set or in the sound booth?*
- *Last week your challenge was to pray for your partner. How did it go?*



PRAY

Say: *Praying is a great way to support a friend, family member, or anyone who might need prayer. Asking God for help is the most powerful thing you can do. Does anyone know someone who serves here at LCBC outside of kidMinistry? Maybe you see the same guy in the parking lot waving when you pull in, or maybe you always get a big smile from the person holding the doors when you walk in. Have kids share those people who they recognize and pray as a Group for those people.*

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- *God designed us to help each other in everything that we do. Like the people who serve here at LCBC, a friend who cheers you up or listens when you need to talk about something, and a sports team who works together.*
- *Cooperation is all about doing more together than we can alone. Let's read today's story about working together and accomplishing more than we can alone.*

Read:

- *Look up Nehemiah Chapter 3. Start reading it out loud and have your Group skim through all the people, all the names, all the things they helped build!*
- *Skip to Nehemiah 4:6 and read that Verse out loud.*

Review:

- *Wow, so many people helped to build this wall around Jerusalem! Walls were super important back in the time this was written.*
 - *Walls served as protection and helped their military.*
 - *Walls had only one point of entry and exit so the city could monitor who and what was coming in and out.*
 - *Walls were a symbol of power.*
 - *Walls contained the spread of disease.*
- *What things do we have today that serve us like the wall did in Nehemiah's time? (Internet security and social media filters, fences, surveillance cameras, modern buildings)*



BIBLE

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Work Together To Solve Problems

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 3 • March 15/16/17

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Break your Group up into teams of 2-4 people depending on size.

- Give them each an equal amount of the objects in your bag.
- Instruct them to build a tower. They will be tested on height, strength, and creativity.
- Encourage cooperation on each team, making sure one kid isn't the only one building, and there is cooperation happening.
- Judge each Group and determine the best tower.
- Mix up the teams and have them try again!



CHALLENGE

Say: *There are people all around church who are volunteering and working together to serve you and your family. Your challenge is today, as you are leaving, pick someone to either pray for this week, or you can give them a high five and say, 'thanks for serving at LCBC'.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share with your Group about a time you worked with a team to help solve a problem. Maybe you were working on a church or home project and ran into some big challenges. Share how cooperation made solving problems much easier than working alone.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

As kids get picked up, remind them of their challenge.

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Ecclesiastes 4:9



Work Together To Help Someone

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • March 22/23/24

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Elementary schoolers are still learning about friendship and authentic relationships. As you read the Bible story and discuss the friends working together, talk about other qualities of good friends (kind, encouraging, patient, etc.) Talk with kids about the people in their lives that have those qualities and encourage those friendships.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- What is your favorite thing to do with your friends?
- Last week, your challenge was to either pray for someone who serves at LCBC or give them a high five and thank them for serving. Who did you pick? How did it go?



PRAY

Share with your Group what it is like working together with your team at kidVenture Island to serve them and their families! Then, pray for your team asking God to continue to help everyone who serves set an example for all to see what good cooperation looks like! If you have kids in your Group who enjoy praying out loud you can ask them to join you in taking turns to pray for the leaders at LCBC.

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- Our Bible story today is all about friends working together to help someone!

Read:

- Luke 5:17-26

Review:

- Wow! A lot just happened there! Let's go back over that. What was the crowd doing when the paralyzed man arrived?
- How did Jesus respond when he saw the faith of the paralyzed man?
- How did Jesus prove his power in this story?
- What do you think Jesus wanted the people to understand when he healed the man?



BIBLE

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Work Together To Help Someone

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • March 22/23/24

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Invite the kids to find a partner. Assist as needed.

- Give each pair one piece of Paper and one Snowball.
- Determine the Start and Finish lines.
- Explain to the pairs that they will work together to carry the snowball on the paper from the Start to the Finish line.
- Pick one of the following ways to play the game:
 - Pairs can compete against other pairs.
 - Pairs can take turns starting at the starting line and walking to the finish line.
- Encourage the rest of the Group to cheer them on while waiting for their turn.
- If a pair drops their ball, encourage them to pick it up and keep going.
- Remind the kids to work together and encourage each other.



CHALLENGE

Say: *Easter is coming so let's start thinking about who we know that we could invite to church with us for Easter at LCBC. Your challenge is to start thinking about who you might invite. Raise your hand if you have never invited anyone to LCBC before. Raise your hand if you have invited before.*

Facilitate a conversation, prompting the people who have invited to share tips and tricks with the people who haven't invited. You could end this conversation in a prayer asking God to give your Group the eyes to see those around them who might need church!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share with your Group about a time you saw a need and did something to help by working with others. Share how cooperation played a role in meeting that need.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

- Remind kids to think about people they could invite to Easter at LCBC.

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Ecclesiastes 4:9



Work Together To Point People To Jesus

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 5 • March 29/30/31

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

As a Small Group Leader, you have the opportunity to call kids into bigger things that develop their faith and leadership. If you notice a kid who is ready for more, talk to them and their parents about serving opportunities. Whether it is serving as a First Time Friend, being an Apprentice alongside a parent, greeting as part of the Guest Experience team, or leading in kidWorship, encourage kids to serve at LCBC.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *If you could meet one movie star or singer, who would it be?*
- *Last week you were challenged to start thinking about people to invite to LCBC. Who did you think of?*

If you have anyone in your Group for the first time, ask them to share what brought them to LCBC!



PRAY

Pray: *I am going to pray for our Group as we look to invite others to LCBC next week. Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to show us how much you love us. Today, we pray for everyone who was mentioned and will be invited to LCBC this Easter. Help us work together to show your love to them through words and actions. We want to work together to point people to you. If you have first time kids in your Group, pray saying thank you for them. Amen.*

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- *Church is super important and valuable especially when it is full of lots of people who are all different.*
- *Let's see what I mean in our Bible story today.*

Read:

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Review:

- *What does the Bible mean when it says the church is like a body?*
- *What would happen if one part of your body didn't work?*
- *Why is it important that everyone works together in the church?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



BIBLE



Work Together To Point People To Jesus

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 5 • March 29/30/31

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Lay the Butcher Block Paper in the center of your Group.

- Select a kid whose whole body fits on the paper to lay on the paper as you trace them.
- Split the body up into parts like head, arms, hands, stomach/torso, legs, feet.
- Split kids up into Groups assigning them each body parts.
- Ask them to work together to think of how those parts are important, and how they might use those different parts to do different jobs.
- They can draw pictures or write lists on the butcher block paper.
- Once everyone has a list, have them share with the Group.



CHALLENGE

Give everyone Easter Invites.

Say: *Let's start filling out some invites for the people you thought of last week! Your challenge this week is to invite these people.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share stories with your Group about times you have invited people to LCBC. Maybe the people you invited came, or maybe they never came. There is wisdom in every story and an example to set for your Group that you can still invite even if you are disappointed the people you invited didn't come.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

- Easter Invites

Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. Ecclesiastes 4:9