

## Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2022, Week 3

*Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.*

**Today's Bible Story:** Do Something (Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Walk / Four Friends) • Luke 5:17-26

**Today's Bottom Line:** Work together to help someone in need.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.* Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIRV)

**Monthly Life App:** Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

**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.

### **SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)**

#### **SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction**

Early Arriver  
Opening Activity

### **LARGE GROUP (35 minutes)**

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

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

Welcome/Opener  
Worship ("Love Like You" from *Make a Move* and "Make a Move" from *Make a Move*)  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
Prayer  
Closer

### **SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)**

#### **GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect**

Bible Story Review: Participation Relay  
Application Activity: Human Dominoes  
Memory Verse Activity: Four Knees, Two Noses  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### **HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience**

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

## **LARGE GROUP: Story (25 minutes) • Worship (10 minutes)**

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

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## **OPENING TABLE ACTIVITY: CRAFT TO MAKE “SAD/HAPPY PARALYTIC MAN” FOR BIBLE STORY**

**Video (Media Package): Countdown (30- or 60-second version)**

*Leader enters, carrying a musical instrument.*

**Video (Media Package): Theme**

## **OPENER FANNY**

**LEADER:** “Hello! Do you think I can play this thing? Let's see. *(Play, however terribly, the instrument)* Hmm, yeah, don't think I'll quit my day job.

“Maybe if I was playing in an actual BAND, I'd sound better. Jam sessions tend to go a LOT better when there are other people involved. Everything is better with a little cooperation!

**Video (Media Package): Theme Transition to Life App**

**“Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone.**

**Video (Media Package): Life App Transition to Theme**

“I want to see how well you can cooperate to guess some different musical instruments. First, let's choose two contestants. Who thinks they can hear an instrument then name it?

*Bring up two older kids to be the contestants. Then divide the rest of the room in half and assign each half to a contestant.*

*(to the two contestants)* “Now that each of you has a team, here's how this will work. We'll take turns between the two of you. I'll play a clip of an instrument. These are NOT common instruments, so it'll be tough to know what they are!

“You’ll see some possible answers on the screen. You might have a guess of what you THINK it is. But you don’t have to guess on your own, because you can cooperate! You can phone a friend—in other words, ask your teammates. (*Reference the audience.*) They’ll hold up their fingers so you can see what THEY think the instrument is. Then you can make your guess, with a little help from your friends.

“Let’s play! [Contestant #1’s name], you’re up first. Listen to our first instrument.

### **NICK B TO PLAY AUDIO CLIPS**

**AUDIO:** *Instrument A (Contrabass Clarinet)*

**SLIDE:** *Instrument A1 Options*

“[Contestant #1’s name], that instrument was either 1) a bass flute, 2) a bassoon, 3) an oboe, or 4) a contrabass clarinet. You might already have a guess. But let’s phone a friend and see what the rest of your team thinks.

(*to audience*) “Everyone on [contestant #1’s name]’s team, hold up your fingers to show [him/her] what you think the answer is. (*Pause for response.*)

“[Contestant #1’s name], it looks like most of them say [number]. But the final guess is up to you. What do you think? What instrument made that sound?

*Allow contestant #1 to answer.*

“Okay—let’s see if you got it right. The correct answer is . . .

**SLIDE:** *Instrument A2 Answer*

“Four, a contrabass clarinet!

**AUDIO:** *Instrument A (Contrabass Clarinet)*

*If contestant #1 got it right, give their team a point. (Make sure you describe this in terms of teams, not individuals.) Keep score on the dry erase board.*

*Continue this same pattern, going back and forth between the teams, for instruments B through F. (Each contestant will get to guess three times.)*

**AUDIO:** *Instrument B (Alphorn)*

**SLIDE:** *Instrument B1 Options*

**SLIDE:** *Instrument B2 Answer*

**AUDIO:** *Instrument B (Alphorn)*

**SLIDE:** *Theme*

AUDIO: Instrument C (Glockenspiel)  
SLIDE: Instrument C1 Options  
SLIDE: Instrument C2 Answer  
AUDIO: Instrument C (Glockenspiel)  
SLIDE: Theme

AUDIO: Instrument D (Mandolin)  
SLIDE: Instrument D1 Options  
SLIDE: Instrument D2 Answer  
AUDIO: Instrument D (Mandolin)  
SLIDE: Theme

AUDIO: Instrument E (Ophicleide)  
SLIDE: Instrument E1 Options  
SLIDE: Instrument E2 Answer  
AUDIO: Instrument E (Ophicleide)  
SLIDE: Theme

AUDIO: Instrument F (Castanets)  
SLIDE: Instrument F1 Options  
SLIDE: Instrument F2 Answer  
AUDIO: Instrument F (Castanets)

Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

*At the end, announce the winning team, but congratulate both teams on their effort and cooperation. Dismiss the two contestants to their seats.*

“Great job of working together, everyone! It’s kind of amazing how many instruments there are in the world. I wish I could hear a jam session with ALL of them. How about you?”

“Everyone up on your feet. Let’s keep the music going as we worship God together!”

### **Participation Relay - FANNY (THIS IS THE PART WHERE KIDS HOLD THE PARALYTIC PAPER DOLL ON THE TOWEL/BLANKET)**

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

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

**What You Need:** “Jesus Figure” Activity Page, towels, pillowcases or small blankets, baby doll or action figure, shovel, trowel or large spoon, masking tape, (optional) timer

**What You Do:**

Tape an “X” in each corner of your room.  
Tape a rectangle on the floor in the center of the room. This will be your “house.”  
Place the “Jesus Figure” in the “house.”  
Direct the kids to get in pairs.  
Give each pair a towel, blanket, or pillowcase.  
Direct the pairs to stand on the four different X’s and hold their towel stretched out between them.  
If you have more than eight kids, instruct more than one pair to stand near each “X.”  
Explain that the goal is to get the “friend” (baby doll or action figure) to the “house” to meet Jesus.  
Choose one pair on an “X” to be the first team.  
Put the doll and the shovel on their towel.  
Direct that team to carry the doll and shovel between them, walk to the next “X,” and transfer the doll and shovel to the towel held by the next pair.  
Direct the first pair to run to the “house” after they have transferred the baby doll and shovel.  
Instruct the other pairs to transfer the friend and shovel to each other from “X” to “X,” until the last pair of kids has the doll and the shovel.  
Direct that team to run with the towel and contents to the house.  
Instruct the pair to lay the towel down near the house.  
Direct all of the kids to “shovel” once around the “house.”  
Instruct the kids to hold the towel and move the friend close to Jesus.  
Once the kids do this successfully, invite the kids to do it again. Time them for speed.

### What You Say:

“There was a lot involved in getting this friend to see Jesus! These four people could have just waited and hoped for Jesus to come to their friend, or even just told their friend about Jesus without physically taking him there. They could have given up and decided to just have lunch along the way! But these friends committed to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone in need.** The only person who could help their friend was Jesus, so they stopped at nothing to get him to Jesus.

“We all know things we can do by ourselves to help others, but what could we do to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone in need?**” (*Invite responses—throw a party for someone who needs cheering up, clean a yard for an elderly person, form a buddy club for lonely kids at school, cook a meal at a soup kitchen, start an online petition to change an unfair rule, raise money together to sponsor a child, etc.*)

**[Make It Personal]** (*Share about a time you worked with a group to help someone in need. How did it feel to be part of a team like that? How did your part help the group? Share the outcome of the project as well. If your church is participating in any type of group service project, now is a great time to brainstorm how your small group can get involved!*)

## WORSHIP JAMES

**LEADER:** “Before we sing, let’s watch this.

**Video (Media Package):** *Live Loud Video from Get Reel*

“It’s true—when we cooperate, God works through us in big ways! It’s like we read in our memory verse, Ecclesiastes 4:9.

**SLIDE: Memory Verse**

*“Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do. (Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIV)”*

“One of my favorite ways to cooperate is when we sing and praise God here at [your environment’s name]. When our voices come together to worship God, we sound better, we sing louder, and we remind each other of the truth of what we’re singing. So, let’s sing out and tell the world about God’s perfect love!

**Video (Media Package):** *“Love Like Jesus” Dance Moves Music Video*

“When we work together, we can do SO much more than we could do alone. We can make a move, together, and show God’s love to the people around us. Sing this with me.

**Video:** *“Make a Move”*

**SLIDE: Theme Background**

“God has given us a job to love others—and it’s always better when we work together! Thanks for singing, everyone. You can have a seat.”

## BIBLE VIDEO - PLAY HERE

**Video:** *Bible Story* (play on leader's cue)

## BIBLE STORY LINDA

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**LEADER:** “Imagine what it would be like if you lived in Judea, 2,000 years ago. If you got sick, there were very few doctors. If you couldn’t walk, see, hear, there was no one you could turn to for help.

“But that all changed when Jesus came. Jesus began to travel and teach and heal people. Suddenly, there was hope! People wanted to be near Jesus. They wanted to hear what Jesus had to say. Some people hoped that Jesus might heal them, too.

### FINDING A WAY

**LEADER:** “During this time, there was a man in the town of Capernaum who couldn’t walk. He and his friends must have heard the stories about Jesus and how He was healing sick people.

“Actually, I could use some of you to help me tell this story. I’ve got this guy (*hold up the plush character*) to play the man who couldn’t walk. You’ll see why later. But I’d love for four of you to come play his friends.

*Bring up four kids. Place the blanket on the floor and have the kids stand behind it. (Make sure they don’t block anyone’s view.)*

“All right, we’ve got the man who couldn’t walk, and we’ve got his friends. (*Reference the ‘man.’*) The man must have dreamed about possibly getting to see Jesus . . . but at the same time, he probably tried not to get his hopes up. I mean, it seemed like EVERYONE wanted to see Jesus—whether they believed He was the Son of God or not. Crowds would gather just to hear from Jesus and see what He would do next.

“Sure enough, when Jesus came to Capernaum, He was teaching in a house . . .

*Set out the play tent.*

“. . . and the place was PACKED with people!

*Place the other stuffed animals or characters around the tent.*

“There were religious leaders, teachers, poor people, and rich people all crammed into the house and pouring out of it.

(*Reference the four kids.*) “The man’s four friends REALLY wanted to get him to Jesus. They picked up a mat to carry him.

*Place the “man” in the center of the blanket. Prompt the kids to pick up the blanket by the four corners.*

“But then they saw the crowd. *(Reference the tent and the other stuffed characters.)*

“Still, these men didn’t give up! They came up with a plan, together. They carried their friend onto the roof of the house.”

*Set out two step stools in front of the kids. Prompt two of them to step up on the stools while the other two remain on the ground, all still holding the corners of the blanket.*

## UP ON THE ROOF

**LEADER:** “Listen to what these men did next!

*Open the Bible to Luke 5:19 (NIRV) and read.*

*“They lowered the man on his mat through the opening in the roof tiles. They lowered him into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.*

*(to the four kids)* “Okay, friends, did you hear that? I need you to put your ‘friend’ into the house.

*Help the kids gather up the four corners of the blanket around the plush character and stuff it all through the opening of the tent.*

“Nice job. *(to audience)* All of the sudden, the man was lying right there in front of Jesus!”

## JESUS HEALS AND FORGIVES

**LEADER:** “Jesus saw what the four men had done for their friend. He saw how much faith they had—to believe that He had the power to make their friend walk.

“Listen to what happened next.

*Open the Bible to Luke 5:20 (NIRV) and read.*

*“When Jesus saw that they had faith, he spoke to the man. He said, ‘Friend, your sins are forgiven.’*

“WHOA! Isn’t that interesting? Jesus FORGAVE the man for the wrong things he had done.

*(Reference the other stuffed characters.)* “The Pharisees and teachers who were listening were really upset that Jesus had said this. They thought, ‘Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ (Luke 5:21 NIRV) They didn’t believe that Jesus was the Son of God.

“Of course, Jesus knew exactly what the Pharisees and teachers were thinking. He told them . . .

*Open the Bible to Luke 5:22-24 (NIRV) and read.*

*“Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? Is it easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’? Or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.*

“Jesus had power from God to meet the man’s GREATEST need by forgiving his sins. But that wasn’t



something the religious leaders could see. So, Jesus gave them something they COULD see. He turned to the man and said . . .

*Open the Bible to Luke 5:24 (NIRV) and read.*

*"I tell you . . . get up. Take your mat and go home.*

*Reach into the tent and pull out the "man."*

"Sure enough, the man got up. He could walk! He went home, praising God all the way. Through the power of God and the help of a few friends, the man's life was changed forever! And not only that, Jesus had shown everyone that He really is the Son of God.

(to the four kids) "Good job, friends. You did an awesome job of cooperating to get your buddy to Jesus!"

*Make the "man" fist-bump the four kids. Then dismiss the kids to their seats. Set the "man" back in front of the tent.*

### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**LEADER:** "It's pretty cool how the men did whatever it took to get their friend to Jesus. They knew that their friend had a need, and they believed that Jesus had the power to heal him. So, they worked together and did something to help.

"We can do the same thing those men did.

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

"We can **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone in need.

"Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

**SLIDE: Theme Background**

**Video: Bible Story (play on leader's cue)**

### PRAY FANNY

**LEADER:** "Dear God, thank You for this amazing example of friends who worked together to help someone in need. We want to follow their example and cooperate to help others. Help us this week to look for ways we can do that. Please give us the courage, creativity, and compassion to **[Bottom Line]** work together to help someone in need. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

## **CLOSER FANNY**

**LEADER:** “What a great story, right? The man who couldn’t walk needed help to get to Jesus. And his friends went above and beyond to make that happen. They saw a need, and they worked together to do something about it!

“There are people who need help all around us, in our homes, our schools, from everywhere here in [your town’s name] . . . and even right here in [your environment’s name] . . . to places all over the world! Sometimes, those needs seem too big for us to tackle alone. But we don’t have to do it alone. God made us to work together!

### **SLIDE: Bottom Line**

**[Bottom Line]** “Work together to help someone in need. Say that with me.”

**LEADER and KIDS:** **[Bottom Line]** “Work together to help someone in need.”

**LEADER:** “That’s right! Maybe you could form a team to help clean up a park or help out in your neighborhood. Maybe you and your friends or siblings could put on a show to raise money for people in need either here in town or another part of the world. We’ve all had times when someone helped US. We know how important it is—and how good it feels—when people take the time to care about what’s happening in our lives. So, let’s work together and **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated!**

“And don’t miss this. In the story, Jesus knew that the man wanted to walk. But Jesus also knew that the man had a DIFFERENT kind of need. It’s the same need that all of us have. The man needed to be forgiven of his sins. He got the miraculous healing he was looking for . . . PLUS, Jesus forgave him completely of everything he had done wrong! You and I can have that same forgiveness because of what Jesus did on the cross.

“God can help us notice when the people around us are going through something tough or when there’s something they need. Not only that, God can help us see what we can do to help. Let’s keep talking about that in Small Group!”

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

### **SLIDE: Theme**

**APPLICATION GAME:** Pastor Tom, CAN YOU PLEASE PRINT FROM SMALL GROUP ASSETS, PAGES 2 - 12

## **Human Dominoes - FANNY, LINDA, JAMES**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** “Human Dominoes” Activity Pages, tape

### **What You Do:**

Give each kid a “Human Domino” Activity Page.

Instruct each kid to tape the piece of paper to their shirt lengthwise.  
Direct the kids to figure out how to line up like a game of dominoes—with the top half of their domino as a “need” that matches up with someone else’s bottom half “solution.”  
If your space allows, instruct the kids to lie on the floor head to toe.  
Once they’re all in position, this would be a fun picture to take for your children’s ministry social media page!  
If you have more kids than domino pieces, ask for some to volunteer to sit out the first round.  
When the first group has gotten in “domino order,” instruct them to take off their dominoes and switch with someone else.  
Rotate in the kids who had to sit out the first round, and ask another set to sit out this round.  
If you have more dominos than kids, simply put the extra dominos in place next to kids as they get themselves into position.

### **What You Say:**

“We often have solutions or gifts that match up with other people’s needs. How do we find out what we have and what others need in real life? (*Invite answers.*)

“Sometimes, we can just ask others what they need, but sometimes people help us see the needs around us. Maybe your mom asks you to help your younger sibling reach something because you’re taller or your school counselor asks you and your friends to help a new student because your group is really friendly. Whether you see a need around you and gather resources to help or someone asks you to help another friend, you’re showing how to **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone in need.**”

### *Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids*

If you lead 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or 6<sup>th</sup> graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

It’s easy to miss opportunities to work together to help someone in need. What can help us recognize when someone needs help?

Sometimes we see a need, but we don’t know what our part is in helping them. What can you do to figure out how to work with others to help?

Have you ever worked on a big service project with a group? What was that like? How did you feel before and after?