

BIG AND SMALL

WEEK 5

BIG IDEA

We can be a big help in small ways.

BIBLE

Job 2:11-13

FREE TIME

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with games and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know some kids and work on building relationships.*

POLL | Have You Ever?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This poll will be written on the board as a discussion starter while kids arrive.-*
- **Have you ever...**
 - **helped someone cross the street?**
 - **helped a parent wash the dishes.**
 - **helped a friend find a toy.**
 - **helped someone you have never met before.**
 - **helped a neighbor or someone in your community.**

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play a selection of worship music videos during free time. Some may choose to dance along while it may be background*

music for others.

- *Alternatively, learn a few of the motions yourself, introduce them to the class and dance along together to kick things off!*

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT?

ACTIVITY | Big and Small Picture Match

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the images from the printable, which contains a large and small copy of the same image. Flip over the images and play a matching game where the kids turn over two cards at a time to try to find the matching images.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Print enough sets of cards to play this matching game in teams. Give all the teams one minute and see which team can make the most matches.*
- Okay, friends! We're going to play a matching game! I have five pictures, but each picture has a big image and a small image. Let's look at these pictures together.
- Now, it's time to turn them over and mix them around. Let's see if we can match the pictures with each other.
- **Big or small, it's the same picture, right?** The size doesn't change what it's a picture of.

SO WHAT?

BIBLE STORY | Job's Friends

- We've been hearing quite a bit about Job during the last several weeks,

but today, we are going to talk about Job's friends.

- **Who can tell me what a friend is?**
- Yes! A friend is someone who loves and cares for you and is there for you through the good and the bad times.
- **Have you helped a friend in the past or has a friend ever helped you?**
- Yes! Me, too! Job had friends who saw he was going through a tough time and they came to be with him.
- **What do you think Job's friends did when they heard about all the bad stuff that was happening to him?**
- Those are all good guesses! Let's read and find out what they did.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Open your Bible to today's passage, Job 2:11-13, and encourage the kids to follow along in their Bibles as you read.*
- **Those are some cool names, right?**
- **What did Job's friends do to help?**
- That's right. They sat with Job and were sad right along with him.
- Most of our friends mean well and want to help whenever we have trouble. But sometimes, their help can make us feel worse.
 - **Has a friend ever told you that what you're going through is nothing compared to something they've experienced?**
 - **Has a friend ever tried to fix your problem without really listening to you?**
 - **Has a friend ever dismissed your problem as no big deal?**
- Job's friends tried to help him later on by the things they said, but the greatest help they offered was simply being with him while he was hurting and sad.
- Sometimes, the biggest help we can offer comes in the simplest actions.

BIG IDEA | We can be a big help in small ways.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Write the Big Idea in a really small font on a huge piece of paper. Choose a kid to come up to the front and choose a really big magnifying glass or a small one to read the Big Idea with. Have the rest of the kids repeat the Big Idea after you.*
- By now, we know that this really small writing is going to reveal a really

big truth!

- **Who can come up here and read what this says?**
- Let's say it together: **We can be a big help in small ways!**
- Even if we don't have the right answer or can't fix a problem, God wants us to be there for each other and help each other.

(OPTIONAL) VIDEO | Big and Small, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).*

NOW WHAT?

STORY | I Can Be Helpful

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Choose a few kids to come up and share a time that they helped a friend. Share your own example of a time you were helpful to someone to help the kids think about their stories. Once they share, ask the kids one or all of the questions below.
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** Provide each preteen with a sheet of paper and have them write a letter (not a text!) to one of their friends and thank them for helping them in a difficult situation. If they can't think of a time someone helped them, they can thank their friend for being there for them. Encourage them to deliver that letter in person or by mail and pray for them!
- We all have moments in our lives when people around us have needed help. Sometimes, we were even able to help them during those times!
Can some of you volunteer to share about a time you helped someone?
I'll share my own story first!
- Now, you get to share your stories. When you are finished telling your story, I'm going to ask you a couple of questions about helping.
- **How did you know your friend needed help?**
- **How did helping your friend make you feel?**
- No matter the situation, **we can be a big help in small ways!**

REFLECTION | Can I Help?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids divide into groups and brainstorm a list of ways they can help others. On a piece of butcher paper or poster board, have the kids make two columns. On one column, ask the kids to list some small ways they can help, and on the other column, tell them to list some big ways they can be helpful.
- We just heard about some ways that God is helpful. Now, we're going to work together to create some lists of ways we can be helpful, too!
- We're going to split into two groups and work together to come up with both big and small ways we can be helpful to others. Then, we will come back together to share.
- **What are some big ways we can be helpful to others?**
- **What are some small ways we can be helpful to others?**
- Big or small, God wants us to be helpful to each other!

- **We can be a big help in small ways.**

MEMORY VERSE | Mystery Box

- Let's practice our memory verse together! All month we're memorizing these words from the Bible that reminds us of how BIG God is.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids choose between the small box or the big box. In each box, will be a different way the kids can recite the memory verse.*
 - **"God's voice is glorious in the thunder. We can't even imagine the greatness of his power."**

PRAYER

- Dear God, we know you are big and we are small. Even though we are small, I know that we can still help in big ways. Please help us to help others. Thank you for all of the ways that you help us. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What did Job's friends do to help him?**
- **How do you think Job felt when his friends did that?**
- **In what ways was this the most helpful thing Job's friends could have done?**
- **Does helping others always have to be a big gesture?**
- **Think of one small way someone has comforted you or cheered you up in the past.**
- **What are some small or simple ways we can help our friends?**

MEMORY VERSE | Job 37:5 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice this month's memory verse together.*
- *Award tokens to any kid that can say the verse from memory.*
- Let's practice this month's memory verse together!
 - **"God's voice is glorious in the thunder. We can't even imagine the greatness of his power."**