



Important Directions for Parents:

Below are the lesson notes and activities used by the teachers during the “Small Group” session of Kids Club. In your home, during this Covid-19 down time, you could adapt these activities to provide your children with additional, interactive things to do to reinforce the “Large Group” lesson materials provided on the webpage. The formatting and page breaks for these pages did not translate so well from their original electronic file, but you should be able to see how it works.

If you’d have questions, feel free to reach out. May the Lord guide your teaching. *Dr. Nelson*

LESSON: JESUS IS SELFLESS

Leader Guide for Grades 4K-2

 **Philippians 2:1-11**

05/17/2020

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Philippians 2:1-11
- In This Passage: In a letter to the church in Philippi, Paul advises the people to have a selfless attitude like Jesus. That means thinking of others as better than ourselves and looking out for the interests of others. Jesus was selfless when he came from heaven to earth and died for us.
- Bible Point: Jesus is selfless...
- Application: ...so we're selfless.
- Summary Verse: “A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power” (Ephesians 6:10).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *Jesus is selfless.* It's natural for people to be self-centered. That's especially true for kids! However, Jesus showed us a better way. He gave up his divine privileges and the glory of heaven so he could come to earth and die for us. That's the ultimate selfless act! Encourage kids to appreciate the selfless gift Jesus gave them and to reflect his selfless heart in how they live.
- Think About: What's the most selfless thing another person has ever done for you? How does that help you see Jesus' heart?

Dig In to Prayer

- Ask God to give you a selfless heart and elevate your kids above yourself.

Quick Tip

- Showing genuine humility is one of four radical ways to change the culture of your church...and it can impact the way you talk to kids. “Would you want to be invited to someone’s home only to have the host tell you that everything you think and do is wrong? We all have flaws and misdirected beliefs. We’re all sinners. But most of us don’t respond well when we’re impugned rather than loved. Instead, recognize that we’re all in this together. You’re on a journey full of flaws and mistakes, just as much as the kids are, so be honest with them and approach them with love more than criticism.” (Read the book this quote came from, *Why Nobody Wants to Go to Church Anymore*. You can order it [here](#).)

This Lesson at a Glance



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Kids try to give away all their beanbags.

Supplies

- beanbags (at least 1 per child)
- painter’s tape
- upbeat music
- music player

Easy Prep

- Use painter’s tape on the floor to divide the room in half. Put an equal number of beanbags on each side of the tape.



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Kids play a giving version of Hot Potato.

Supplies

- small toys (1 per child)
- upbeat music
- music player



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids pray for each other.

Supplies

- paper
- markers

**Marked supplies can be reused from Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

[10 min]

Empty Your Space

Supplies

- beanbags (at least 1 per child)
- painter's tape
- upbeat music
- music player

Easy Prep

- Use painter's tape on the floor to divide the room in half. Put an equal number of beanbags on each side of the tape.

Tips

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).
- If you prefer, soft balls can be used instead of beanbags.

Give It All Away

Say: **Today we learned that being *selfless* means thinking of others first. When we give to others, it is a way to think of them first. Let's play a game where we try to give everything away.**

- Divide kids into two teams. Have each team spread out on opposite sides of the tape.
- When you start the music, encourage kids to try to get all their beanbags over to the other side so their side is empty. Remind kids they may not cross the tape line.
- Stop the music, and help kids count the beanbags on their side.
- Redistribute the beanbags evenly, and start the music again.
- Continue playing as time allows, stopping periodically to count and redistribute beanbags.

Talk About It

Say: **It was fun to try to give away all our beanbags. Sometimes it's fun to give things away.** Tell about something *you* really enjoyed giving away. It could be a special Christmas or birthday present you gave someone or something special you gave just to show someone that you cared.

Ask: • **What was the best thing you ever gave someone?** Kids may talk about a birthday present they got for a friend, a special craft they made for Mom for Mother's Day, or a Christmas present they were excited to give to Dad.

Say: **It's fun to give things away when we know it will make someone we love happy. That's a way we can be selfless. Today we learned that Jesus is selfless, and he shows us how to be selfless, too.**



LOW-ENERGY GAME

[10 min]

Toy Giveaway

Supplies

- small toys (1 per child)
- upbeat music
- music player

Tips

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).
- For the first round, don't tell kids that the goal is to be the one without a toy.

Pass Toys Away

Say: **It's hard sometimes to be selfless. It takes practice to think of others first. Let's play a game to practice giving to others.**

- Allow each child to pick one toy from the toys available. Toys must be small enough to be held easily in kids' hands.
- Have kids sit down in a circle with the toys in their laps.
- Take the toy from one child to start the game. Explain that when you start the music, kids will pass their toys to the left. (Remind them which direction is left, if necessary.)
 - Kids will keep the toys moving around the circle while the music plays.
 - When you stop the music, there should be one child with no toy. Ask the child with no toy to stand up. Encourage all the kids to cheer and say: "Great job being selfless!"
 - Have the child sit back down. Start the music again, and let kids resume passing their toys.
 - Continue playing as time allows, stopping the music periodically to cheer for the child with no toy.

Talk About It

Say: **In our game, you had to pass the toy you wanted to a neighbor. Sometimes we have something we're really excited about and we don't want to share it. But the Bible tells us to think about others more than we think about ourselves. When we do, we make our friends and families happy. Jesus was selfless, and he helps us be selfless, too.**



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

[5 min]

See the Need

Supplies

- paper
- markers

Write and Pray

- Give each child a piece of paper and a marker.
- Have kids use big letters to write one or two words that describe something they need prayer for. For example, "aunt – cancer" or "math test." Have adult and teen helpers write for kids who need help.
- Have kids sit in a circle and hold their signs in front of them.

Say: **Jesus is selfless, so we're selfless. We're going to practice looking at other people and seeing their needs. It will be easy, since they're holding signs with their needs!** Invite each child to share his or her need.

Say: **Pick someone to pray silently for, but don't say who you pick. Just pray for that person. When you finish, look around and pray for someone else!** Allow about two minutes for silent prayer.

Wrap Up

Pray: **Jesus, thank you for showing us how to be selfless by putting *us* first! Help us be selfless this week. In your name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.