

“Be Different” - LESSON 5

“Work Together In Harmony”

Main Focus:

Christians must work together in harmony.



Power Verse:

“Live in harmony with each other.”
- Romans 12:16a



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Let’s Work Together In Harmony!”

LEADER’S INFO

Throughout the church’s history, Christians have struggled to work together. Individuals have strong feelings how we should go about accomplishing God’s work. Many times, those feelings and ideas differ from those of another Christian.

Too often, Christians begin to fight against one another rather than working together in harmony. Nothing causes more damage to the Kingdom of God than when the people of God begin to hurt and destroy each other.

God wants His people to work together in harmony. We won’t always agree, but when we disagree, we should do so in love, trying to compromise with one another.

In this lesson, the children will learn from the story of the early Church what it looks like to work in harmony.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“We Gotta Have Harmony”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Dylan teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Inspector Change-A-Lot”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“We CAN Work Together”



Bible Story

“The Church Works Together”



Power Verse Video

“Live in harmony with each other.”

- Romans 12:16a



Call To Action

“Work Together In Harmony”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

Christians must work together
in harmony.



Power Verse:

“Live in harmony with each other.”
- Romans 12:16a



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Let’s Work Together In Harmony!”

Lesson 5 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 5 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Inspector Change-A-Lot” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “We CAN Work Together” Graphic
- Two Empty Soda Cans
- Two Chairs

Bible Story

- “The Church Works Together” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 5 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Work Together In Harmony” Graphics
- An Orchestra Instrument
- An Offering Bag/Plate
- Microphone
- Bible
- A Picture Of Someone In The Church Involved In A Serving Ministry

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 5 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Pictures Print Piece
- Bible
- Smartphone With Playlist
- Speaker
- Work Together In Harmony Print Piece
- Crayons, Pencils, Or Markers

“The Spark” Intro Video

“We Gotta Have Harmony”

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Dylan teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”

Character Skit

“Inspector Change-A-Lot”

Offering Time

Game Time!

“We CAN Work Together”

Bible Story

“The Church Works Together”

Power Verse Video

“Live in harmony with each other.”
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Call To Action

“Work Together In Harmony”

Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! We are continuing our series learning from Romans chapter 12. We are learning the ways a Christian should “Be Different” from the rest of the world.

I have a question for you. Have you ever heard an orchestra play before? An orchestra is made up of all kinds of instruments—violins, trumpets, flutes, drums, and even a giant tuba. Each instrument sounds so different, doesn’t it? A trumpet is loud and bold, while a flute is soft and gentle. A drum keeps the beat, and the violins make beautiful melodies.

Now, imagine what it would sound like if all those instruments tried to play different songs at the same time. Yikes! It would sound terrible! But when the instruments work together in harmony, they create something amazing—music that’s beautiful and powerful.

Well, harmony is something that is required not only in music, but in life. To help you understand a little more about that, I want you to watch this video.

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 5”)

Leader: We are all supposed to work together in harmony. If we are going to “Be Different” from the world, we can’t fight against each other. We must appreciate our differences and work together in harmony to share the love of Jesus with others!

You’re going to learn a lot more about that in today’s lesson. Right now, it is time to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “**Inspector Change-A-Lot**” *(They are a wacky person who loves to invent things! Dressed like an old-timey detective, they should come in each week ready to feature their latest invention or tool that can be debunked with a simple solution.)*

Inspector: *(Enters with a toolbox)* Hello, friends. UGH! My, my, this thing is heavy.

Leader: Oh, hi, inspector. Why are you bringing in a toolbox? Are you going to fix something?

Inspector: Does something need to be repaired?

Leader: Well, there’s a light in the office that flickers sometimes. You could fix that.

Inspector: Oh, you don’t want me doing that! I’m an inspector, not a repairman.

Leader: Ok, thanks for the warning. So then, why the tools?

Inspector: Have you not learned by now that there is a reason for all I do?

Leader: You know, your reasons are usually quite strange.

Inspector: I will take that as a great compliment! My goal is always to be different than anyone else. It helps me investigate better.

Leader: So, what are you here to investigate today? It looks like you’re here to build something.

Inspector: Build something? I invent things!

Leader: Okay, so what’s in the toolbox? Is it some crazy new gadget?

Inspector: Nope! Inside this box is one of the great lessons in life. *(Opens the toolbox slowly and pulls out a hammer)* Inside this toolbox are simply just tools.

Leader: Tools...? What’s the catch?

Inspector: No catch here. Unless you’re playing baseball.

Leader: I love baseball! Who loves baseball? *(Allow kids to respond)*

Inspector: Me too! I was a pitcher when I played. They called me “Inspector Change-Up” back then!

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CHARACTER SKIT *(Continued)*

Leader: That's quite the title! Anyway, what about all these tools?

Inspector: Oh, yes, the tools. These tools are made for a specific reason to do specific things. Take this hammer, for instance. This hammer can pop down some nails! *(Pulls out a screwdriver)* This screwdriver makes things secure! A hammer could not make sure screws hold things together!

Leader: That is true. But what's the point of this lesson?

Inspector: Could you imagine putting together a piece of furniture with only a hammer? You would break it or it would fall apart before you got to use it! But could you ever build a house with just a screwdriver? Never! You **NEED** specific tools with specific jobs to accomplish each task! And I've learned it's the same way with God's family.

Leader: So, you are telling us that God needs special tools with special jobs?

Inspector: Exactly! We are those tools! *(Pulls out a flashlight)* This creates light! This is something we are all supposed to do. Some of you are hammers and screwdrivers, but we are all made to be the light of Jesus! Use the special tool God gave you for His glory and His light will shine through you!

Leader: Wow, Inspector, you really meant it when you said this box held one of the greatest lessons in life!

Inspector: The church is God's giant toolbox to help this world. He needs us all to be busy doing what He has called and equipped us to do!

Leader: That's right! Today, we are going to learn that God has given us all gifts and talents to use for His glory. When we accept Jesus as our Lord, the Holy Spirit comes in and gives those special gifts to us.

Inspector: Yep! As long as we live on this earth, we are to use these gifts to bring others to Christ and build God's Kingdom!

Leader: Inspector, I thought you were going to show us a new gadget today. Instead, you helped teach part of our lesson!

Inspector: Oh, just wait, my friend! What I am working on next will knock your socks off... literally! I'm Inspector Change-A-Lot, and I'll be back to inspect your transformation, so be ready! *(Picks up the toolbox to leave)* Why did I bring so many tools? This thing is heavy!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“We CAN Work Together”

Items Needed For Game:

Two empty soda cans; two chairs

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Preparation:

Choose an even number of players per team to play in this relay game. Place the two chairs several feet apart from one another on the other side of the room.

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How To Play:

The players from each team need to pair up. Each pair will race against a pair from the other team, placing one can between their heads (*foreheads to can, not touching the can with their hands at all*) and walking together from the starting point to the chair, around the chair, and back to the starting point. Then, the next pair goes, and so on.

The first team to work together as a team and have ALL their players make it back to the starting point will be declared the winning team!



Bible Story

“The Church Works Together”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 5; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the passage in Acts 6:1-7; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

In today’s Bible Story, we are going all the way back to the very beginning of what we call “The Church.”

After Jesus went to Heaven, He left the disciples in charge of spreading the news of God’s love throughout the world. They started having regular meetings together along with all of the people who believed in Jesus. We call this “The Church.” The Church isn’t a building; it is people - those who belong to Jesus. The disciples were in charge of teaching the people about God and His love.



As the church grew, it got involved in many things. (*show pic*) The disciples would feed the poor, help the hurting, preach the gospel, and much more. They were doing it all themselves while the church was full of people who weren’t doing anything. The disciples knew this wasn’t right, so they called a special meeting of the church.



(*show pic*) The disciples told the people, “We apostles can’t do everything by ourselves.” The disciples understood that the church was full of many Christians who were gifted and talented. They knew that it was important they use their gifts and talents to work together in harmony and help do the work of God. So they made a plan.



(*show pic*) They chose many people from the congregation to be appointed leaders. The disciples laid hands on these people and prayed for them. They put them in charge of some of the work such as feeding the poor and helping the hurting. Do you know what happened?



(*show pic*) The church grew. As these other leaders used their talents and gifts to do a lot of the work of ministering to others, it allowed the disciples to devote themselves to doing what they did best - preaching and teaching. What a blessing it is when people in the church work together in harmony, using their talents and gifts to build God’s Kingdom. They didn’t fight. They didn’t argue. They just worked together in harmony.

We will learn all about this in our lesson today. Each of us have different gifts, personalities, and talents. We should use those gifts, personalities, and talents to serve in ministry. We must “Work Together In Harmony” in order to build God’s Church and do what He has called us to do.



Call To Action

“Work Together In Harmony”

Materials Needed:

The “Work Together In Harmony” graphics; an orchestra instrument (eg. a violin or flute); An offering bag/plate; Microphone; Bible; A picture of someone in the church who is involved in a “serving” ministry (feeding homeless, building things, etc.)

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Work Together In Harmony”



The Message: (title slide)

We are talking about how important it is for us to “Work Together in Harmony.” Remember earlier when we talked about listening to an orchestra and how important it is for the instruments to work together in harmony to create music? That’s just like us as Christians. God has given each of us different gifts, like the instruments in the orchestra, and He wants us to work together in harmony to make something beautiful for Him. Today, we’re going to learn three important truths about how we can work together in harmony so we can “Be Different.”

The first thing we must understand is...



We All Have Different Gifts (slide)

(hold up the orchestra instrument) An orchestra is made of all kinds of different instruments that make different sounds. This _____ makes a very specific sound. It doesn’t try to sound like the tuba or the cello or the bass drum. It sounds like itself - AND it works together in harmony with the other instruments to create beautiful music!

The Church is made up of a lot of different people with a lot of different personalities. Just like snowflakes, no two people are exactly alike. Every one of us has different gifts and talents that God has given us.

Some people have been given the gift of serving (hold up the picture). They want to serve others and assist others. They are very good at that because that is a gift that God has given them. Other people have the gift of singing (hold up the microphone). They can lead worship, sing in the choir, or sing “specials” at church. Still others have the gift of teaching (hold up the Bible). They are able to teach classes for people to learn more about the Bible. Many people have other gifts. These people have an amazing ability to just fit right in and help with whatever needs to be done. (hold up the offering plate/bag) They can help take up the offering, greet people at the door, whatever.

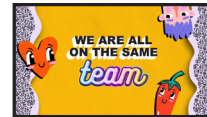
It’s important to remember that everyone is different. We shouldn’t think less of others just because they have different talents, gifts, and personalities than we do. God made us all different for a reason. But...

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Call To Action *(Continued)*

We Are All On The Same Team *(slide)*

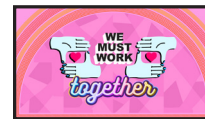


We are all different, but we are all on the same team! Sadly, some people allow their differences to get in the way of doing what God has called us to do. The reason there is sometimes fighting and arguing among Christians is because people don't always remember that we are all on the same team. We can't fight against each other. We must work together in harmony.

Just like a football team is made up of many different players and positions (quarterback, running back, receiver, etc.) that all work together to win the game, Christians are made up of many different people that all work together to accomplish God's plans. It is so important that we all work together in harmony.

Now, notice that I said we must **ALL** work together. It's important that everyone does their part. God has not called us to just sit in the crowd and cheer everyone who is serving. No, instead...

We Must Work Together *(slide)*



We must all use our gifts, talents, and abilities to build God's Kingdom. As we work together, we create harmony. Whether you sing, play an instrument, teach, cook, whatever - if you use that talent to serve God and others, you will “Be Different” and show the world what it looks like to “Work Together In Harmony.”

We must not think of ourselves as better than others. We should never let others do all the work while we sit and watch. We must **ALL** work together in harmony in order to accomplish God's purpose for the world. If we will do this, then we will definitely “Be Different” and show the world God's love.

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray with the children that God would help them honor and respect each other's differences. Pray they will work together in harmony with every other Christian. Rather than sitting in the crowd, pray they will “Work Together In Harmony” and build God's Kingdom.



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 5 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “Let’s Work Together In Harmony!”

2. True or False: God wants us to just sit and not serve.

Answer: False

3. Who came up with the plan in today’s Bible Story?

Answer: The Disciples

4. Does God want us to be jealous of other people’s talents?

Answer: No

5. When the church used their gifts, the disciples could focus on _____. ”

Answer: Preaching/Teaching

6. Did this new plan the disciples came up with work?

Answer: Yes

7. According to our lesson today, “We All Have Different _____. ”

Answer: Gifts

8. According to our lesson today, “We Are All On The Same _____. ”

Answer: Team

9. According to our lesson today, “We Must _____ Together.”

Answer: Work

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Romans 12:16a