



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to work together to serve Him.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will share something about themselves that makes them unique.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 10, Peter and Cornelius

MEMORY VERSE:

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

SUMMARY:

The Avengers show us that we can make friends and get along with others who are different. God made us all special, and He wants us to love everyone.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Bring us together to serve You.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

MEMORY VERSE

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

"Do everything else for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NirV)

LARGE GROUP:

Choose four kids who think they know the verse. Line them up on stage. Have the kids recite the memory verse, with each kid saying one word, starting left to right. When you get to the kid on the right, go back to the kid on the far left. Keep going until they get through the whole verse.

SMALL GROUP:

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to stand up and line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

SKIT

TIED UP

ITEMS NEEDED:

Superhero costumes for Morbidman and the Supreme Diva, lab coat for Dr. Insidious, rope

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 2M, 1F

CHARACTERS:

Morbidman - A sad superhero

The Supreme Diva - A teenage hero

Dr. Insidious - The bad guy

Morbidman and the Supreme Diva stand back to back at center stage. They are all tied up in a rope.

DIVA: Come on, Morbidman! You're not trying!

MORBIDMAN: I don't want to try.

DIVA: We need to work together!

MORBIDMAN: I don't want to work together.

DIVA: Morbidman, come on! This is a team building exercise. If we're going to be a superhero team, we have to learn to work together.

MORBIDMAN: How many times do I have to say this? I don't want to be a team! I want to fight crime by myself.

DIVA: But Morbidman, what are you going to do when someone really evil shows up?

MORBIDMAN: Run away.

DIVA: You know as well as I do that we work better together when we learn to function as a team. God made us all unique, and our differences can be our biggest strength!

SKIT

MORBIDMAN: That never works for superheroes!

DIVA: Did you see The Avengers?

MORBIDMAN: Did you see Civil War?

DIVA: What about the Justice League?

MORBIDMAN: What about Batman vs Superman?

DIVA: What about Guardians of the Galaxy?

MORBIDMAN: Didn't see it. I don't like space movies.

DIVA: You need me, Morbidman.

MORBIDMAN: Yeah, just like I need a stubbed toe!

DIVA: And I need you.

MORBIDMAN: Stop trying to cheer me up.

DIVA: If we learn to work together, we can defeat Dr. Insidious once and for all!

MORBIDMAN: Ha! That'll never happen!

Dr. Insidious enters.

DR. I: A ha! There you are, Morbidman! You're just in time to see my latest fiendish plan for taking over the—good heavens, are you all tied up?

MORBIDMAN: Yep.

DR. I: Who tied you up?

MORBIDMAN: She did. You remember the Supreme Diva.

DIVA: Hi, Dr. Insidious!

DR. I: You mean to say you tied yourselves together?

MORBIDMAN: Yes, she did.

SKIT

DIVA: It's a team building exercise, Doc. We're learning to be a crime fighting team.

DR. I: That's the weirdest... That's absolutely the strangest... I don't know what to... You know something? Forget it. I'm not in the mood to tell you my plot, or to pull it off. This is too weird, and I think instead of taking over the city, I'm just going home.

Dr. Insidious exits.

MORBIDMAN: Huh, how do you like that? We do make a pretty good team!

DIVA: I told you!

MORBIDMAN: Maybe this was a good idea after all. Now how do we get out of this?

DIVA: I don't know.

MORBIDMAN: Hey, Doc, you got a knife on you?

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A wiffle ball and bat

Have two adult leaders start this lesson. One will pitch, while the other tries to hit. (Note: don't actually swing to hit the ball; let them all go by. You can make up some banter about how all the pitches are bad.) Every time the ball is pitched, the pitcher has to go and fetch the ball. After a few pitches, ask the kids what might help to make the game go faster. Is there something they can do to keep the pitcher from having to walk over and get the ball every time? When someone suggests adding a catcher, pick a kid to be the catcher and throw a few more pitches.

Baseball is a better game when there's a team. It's not meant to be played one on one. You need several players, each with a unique set of skills, to field a team.

God made all of us unique, and it's His hope that we will learn to work together. God wants us to join our different talents, gifts, abilities, and interests and use them for His glory.

God made us all different, and He can unite us all through our faith. Let's not let differences divide us, but ask Jesus to unite us so we can serve Him together.

LARGE GROUP GAME

BACKBALL

ITEMS NEEDED:

Two large beach balls

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two teams of four. Mark a starting and finishing point in the room. Have the four teammates on each team stand back to back, and place the beach ball in between them held up by their collective backs. The teams must race from start to finish as a team without dropping their ball. They can lock arms or hold hands, but their arms and hands cannot touch the ball. First team to the finish (or the team that advances the farthest before time for the game runs out) is the winner.

VARIATION:

This can also be done with teams of two or three.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

God wants us to work together to serve Him.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to work together to serve Him.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will share something about themselves that makes them unique.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 10, Peter and Cornelius

INTRO:

One of the biggest, most anticipated movies of all time was the first Avengers movie. Not since the release of the first Batman movie in 1989 were fans so excited to see a movie hit the big screen. Avengers promised to be the biggest superhero movie of all time. At last, one of the greatest superhero teams would appear on screen together.

Marvel spent several years getting us ready for the Avengers. They introduced us to Ironman, Captain America, Thor, and the Hulk in separate movies. Each one of these movies had a scene at the end that teased us and told us that one day these four heroes would come together. It was an exciting story to watch unfold, but it was also an unlikely story. Why? Because the four heroes could not be any more different if they tried.

Ironman is a genius. He took a terrible tragedy that forced him to implant a tiny power plant in his chest, and he built a powerful suit of armor around it.

Captain America is a hero lost in time. He became a hero decades ago during World War II, but he was frozen and later unfrozen in our time to resume his heroic deeds.

Thor isn't even from Earth. He's a powerful being from the realm of Asgard who controls the thunder and lightning. He's super-strong, and thanks to his hammer, he has the ability to fly.

And then there's the Hulk. Hulk is big, mean, and green, and he loves to smash things!

These four guys don't always get along. In fact in a recent film we saw Captain America and Ironman get into a real civil war with one another.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

Yet when we see them on screen or read their exploits in the comics, it's undeniable: these guys can do greater things when they join together.

God made all of us unique as well. No two people on this planet are exactly alike. But in today's scripture, the Apostle Peter gets an important message from Jesus. He loves everyone, and He wants us all to come together as one.

READ ACTS 10

MAIN POINT:

The story of Acts 10 unfolds like the Marvel movies. First we meet Cornelius, a Roman soldier who wants to know Jesus. Second, we meet Peter, a Jew and an apostle who walked with Jesus. God tells Cornelius to send for Peter, and God sends Peter a message in a vision. God wants Peter to see that the gospel of Jesus is not just for the Jews, but for everyone.

Finally, the two men meet, and God sends His Holy Spirit on Cornelius and his family. There's no doubt in anyone's mind what has happened. God has shown that He truly did send Jesus to die for everyone. God wants all of us - all races, all creeds, all types of people - to unite in His name!

DRIVE IT HOME:

Before this moment happened, Peter genuinely believed Jesus had come only to save the Jews. The Jews were God's chosen people. Since the time of Abraham, the Jews had been waiting for a Messiah to come and save them. They were surprised to see that the Messiah was not a conquering king, but a humble Savior who would die for their sins.

God had one more surprise in store for Peter, one that would change his ministry and the growth of the church. Jesus had come to die for the whole world. He died for the Jews, and for the hated Romans. He died for the Greeks, the Samaritans, and every other race of people on the planet.

God is not a divider of people. He doesn't want to sort the righteous and the saved from the rest of the world. God wants to unite us all! God wants us to love and welcome those who are different than us. He wants us to share our resources. He wants us to pool our talents. He wants us to embrace people who are different yet share our same belief in Jesus.

God's hope, in this story and in the whole Bible, is that the world will fall to its knees and call Him Lord. When we are willing to welcome those who are different, we become greater together than we could ever be apart. Like the Avengers, we are no longer separate, unique believers following Christ. We are the church.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

We are God's people, united to do great things.

Don't let anyone convince you that you have to be a certain type of person to follow Christ. There is room for everyone here in God's family. Just like the Avengers, we can all come together, as different as we are, and be united by our common faith in Jesus.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Bring us together to serve You.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

If you were a superhero, would you wear a cape?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to stand up and line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Put all your body parts to work together and play the Hokey Pokey.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Acts 10

What does God tell Cornelius to do?

What happens in Peter's dream?

What message did God want to give Peter about people who are different?

What happened when Peter met Cornelius?

What is one thing about you that makes you unique?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for loving us all the way we are.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

If you were a superhero, would you wear a cape?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to stand up and line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Put all your body parts to work together and play the Hokey Pokey.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Acts 10

What was the meaning of Peter's dream?

What happened at Cornelius' house?

What did Peter think after he saw Cornelius' family receive the Holy Spirit?

Why does God want us all to get along in spite of our differences?

What is one thing about you that makes you unique?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for loving us all the way we are.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

TRUE OR FALSE

God told Cornelius to stay away from Peter.

FALSE

Peter's vision told him to eat all kinds of animals he thought were unclean.

TRUE

Peter's vision was a warning not to eat unclean animals.

FALSE

God wanted Peter to see that He loves everyone, not just certain people.

TRUE

God wants to make us all the same.

FALSE

MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: TEAM WORK



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

The Avengers show us that we can make friends and get along with others who are different. God made us all special, and He wants us to love everyone. Acts 10, Peter and Cornelius



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Do a project around the house as a team. How does working together make the project faster or easier?



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What did God teach Peter when he visited Cornelius?
- What are some things that make you unique?
- Why does God want us all to get along and work together?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

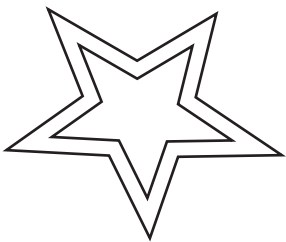
"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)



PARENT TIME:

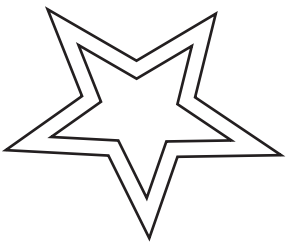
What you need to know:

God wants us to be welcoming of all people into His church. He wants us to love others in spite of our differences and backgrounds. Pray that God will unite all believers in His name to grow His kingdom on Earth.



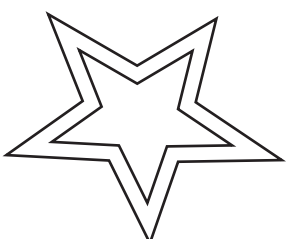
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- 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)



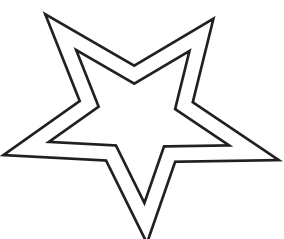
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HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids create a logo for their own superhero team like the Avengers. Have them list out the names of the superheroes on the team and what their special, unique abilities are.