

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

The Way

Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
Matthew 26:36-56
(Supporting: Luke 22:39-46)



PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

MEMORY VERSE

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.
Philippians 2:3, NIV

LIFE APP

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

BOTTOM LINE

Put others first.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Hey parents! We've created this special document just for you! With some fun low tech, high impact activities for you and your kids to do together as you disciple them at home. You could either do them all at once or one a day throughout the week. If you have any questions at all... don't hesitate to reach out. Our team is here to assist you as you have these conversations with your families at home!

Before beginning, take a few moments to pray for your kids. Ask for God's guidance as you begin to talk about humility and how to put others first. Thank God for the opportunity you have to lead them. Pray that you would be able to model what it looks like to put others ahead of yourself.

1. OPENING IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: Three plastic Easter egg halves, small individually wrapped candies or stickers, piece of paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask:
 - How do we typically celebrate Easter?
 - What's your favorite thing about Easter?
- Use the plastic egg halves and candies or stickers to lead kids in a "Shell Game."
 - Set the three egg halves face down on a table and slip a piece of candy or sticker underneath one.
 - Quickly slide the eggs around while kids try to track the egg that has the candy underneath it.
 - Choose one kid to guess, and give him the candy if he's right!
 - *HINT: Set the eggs on a piece of paper. They'll slide much more easily!*
- Play again, and try to give each family member a chance to win.
- Say: "Sometimes the candy was in the third egg (*point to the third egg from your right*), sometimes it was in the second egg (*point to the second egg from your right*), and sometimes it was in the first egg. In Large Group we'll hear about who we should always put first."

If you haven't watched Northeast Kids Online yet this week, go do that at <https://www.youtube.com/c/northeastnextgen> now!

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25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD**
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY



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2. NOT MY WILL

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Play a version of "Simon Says."
 - Start as the first leader.
 - Give the kids a simple direction: Put your hands on your head.
 - They should all obey and say, "Not my will, but yours."
 - Play a few more rounds, telling them to do various simple actions: hop on one foot, flap like a chicken, sit down, twirl around, etc.
 - Let kids take turns being the leader.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"In this game, you put me first by doing what WE asked, not what you wanted. What does that look like in real life? (*Invite responses: by obeying or by letting their sibling/friend choose an activity or meal instead of insisting on their own way.*)

"There are a lot of opportunities in life to **put others first**. We don't always see those opportunities because we get focused only on what we want."

[Make It Personal] (Share a time when you could have put someone else first but you chose to focus on what you wanted instead. What happened as a result? How did you feel? How did the other person feel?)

Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids

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

- What does it feel like to always focus on what you want, no matter what?
- How have you put someone else first recently?
- How does it feel to focus on someone else and make an effort to put THEM first?
- Who is someone specific you can put first this week, and what could you do to put them first and yourself second?

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HEAR FROM GOD

MEMORY VERSE
ACTIVITY



MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and
taps into the energy in the body

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3. NEW FIRSTS

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Look up this month's memory verse, Philippians 2:3.
- Assign a word or phrase from the verse to each family member.
- The person who has the first word or phrase should line up first and then everyone else behind them, in verse order.
- For the first round, say the entire verse in order.
- On the next round, when the verse gets about halfway down the line, call out the name of a DIFFERENT family member to be first.
- That person should run to the front of the line, and everyone behind him should follow. (In other words, keep the verse in verse order.)
- The new first person will say their original word and then the next person says their word, and so on.
- Keep changing who's first, allowing the verse to get to the end at least once.
- Say the whole verse together once before settling in for discussion.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"That was a lot of work to keep up with! It's hard, but this verse makes it clear that we should **put others first**. One way to do that is NOT to do something just to get ahead. Have you ever seen a line forming for a ride at an amusement park or maybe for your favorite swing on the playground? Did it make you want to run to the line to make sure you got a good spot? Well, this verse basically tells us not to do that! God certainly doesn't want us to miss out on fun things, but He does want us to think about others and how we can put them first.

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TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW



IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

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4. IN THE GARDEN

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, a variety of props, robes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Open the Bible to Matthew 26. Ask leading questions to help kids recall the story.
- Choose family members to play the different parts: Jesus, three disciples, Judas, and the soldiers.
- Come up with fun costume / prop ideas from things you have around the house, robes, sheets, etc.
- Lead family to act out the story, reenacting the following key points:
 - After a special Passover meal, Jesus led the disciples out of the city toward the Mount of Olives.
 - When they reached the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus told them to sit there while He went to pray. He took Peter, James, and John with Him.
 - Jesus went a little farther and prayed. He begged for God to take away what was coming, and yet He trusted God's plan.
 - He returned to His friends and found them sleeping.
 - Jesus went to pray a second time, but again, He came back and found the disciples sleeping.
 - He left them and went away to pray again.
 - For the third time, He prayed the same thing—begging for God to take away what was coming but trusting God's plan.
 - Jesus returned to the disciples, who were still asleep.
 - Judas arrived with a large crowd that was carrying swords and clubs. The Jewish religious leaders had sent the mob.
 - The mob arrested Jesus and led Him away. His friends, who had promised to stay with Him through anything, ran away. Jesus had chosen the path that would bring life for everyone, but it would cost Him everything.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Jesus being taken away? (*Scared, sad, confused*) The disciples thought that Jesus was going to become a king right away. They didn't know that God had a different plan—a plan that seemed upside down from what everyone thought was going to happen. And because they were sad and confused and scared, they missed a chance to put Jesus first. Instead, they ran away when Jesus needed them most. "There might be times when you're sad or confused, too. But even then, God can help you put others first."

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PRAY TO GOD PRAYER ACTIVITY



REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

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KEY QUESTION

How do you put others first?

BASIC TRUTH

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Ask** if they can think of someone in your lives who is in the middle of a big situation.
- **Remind** kids that one of the best ways we can put others first and value them is by praying for them.
- **Pass** out paper and markers and let them spread out on the floor and write out a prayer for someone who is in the middle of a tough situation.
- **Let** kids share their prayers if they would like to.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You for hearing our prayers and knowing our hearts and all the hard things in our lives. Please show our friends and family and US that You are with us and that You care. Thank You for Jesus. We ask that You make us more like Him and help us to put others first and value others more than ourselves. Amen!"