# Week 3

### Sunday, May 18, 2025 Supplies:

3-6 pieces of yarn/string (~24 inches long) to attach to each index card 3-6 index cards with "things that make cooperation easier" written on them Tape

Scissors (to cut yarn)

Broom with "Cooperation" written on a piece of tape and stuck to it Calm Activity: solo cup, 30 or more toothpicks, a rubber band Active Game: cut up words to Bible verse

Cooperation Activity Sheet

### **Suggested Schedule:**

5 minutes - Pick up kids/kids arrive - bathroom, wash hands, water break 20 minutes - Snack, Games, Prayer/Devotion, Quality Time, Clean-up 30-40 minutes - RBKids Prayer, Weekly Verse, Mission, Discussion, Activity 10-15 minutes - Free time, Clean-up and Dismissal

## Today's Focus: When we COOPERATE and are in UNITY, we can do BIG THINGS!

Weekly Verse: Philippians 2:2-4

### **Rock Bridge Mission:**

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges. Be a bridge builder!

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, Please unite us and help us better understand why you want us to COOPERATE and be UNITED. I pray that the Holy

Spirit will join us and help us quiet our minds so we can listen, learn and put to practice why YOU SAY it is important for us to work together.

Help us be bridge builders that connect others to Jesus.

In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN.

If your kids like these, watch **Douglas Talk: Cooperation** video and then discuss together, then choose one or more activities in the lesson.

Watch this: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zm070kRXDjM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zm070kRXDjM</a> or <a href="https://vimeo.com/399734380">https://vimeo.com/399734380</a>

#### **COOPERATION DISCUSSION / ACTIVITY**

**Prepare This**: For LESSON> You will need yarn/string, scissors, a broom--write "COOPERATION" on a piece of tape and put it on broom, 3-6 index cards written with "Things that make cooperation easier" (examples: listening, patience, kindness, share, acceptance, support, same goal, friendship, nice). Attach each card to a 24 inch section of yarn.

Leader Tip: Mark these verses - Gen 2:2; Eccl 4:9; Phil 2:2-4.

\*Either pre-write words on index cards, or let kids brainstorm and write their words on cards before "Pulling Together" broomstick activity.

TIE STRINGS ON BROOM AS YOU TALK.

Say this: What is COOPERATION?.....Yes! It is working together with the same goal in mind. To be united, like a team, right? Some people think, "I love to do things with others" and some people say, "I prefer to do things on my own." We have talked about the creation story in Genesis before. God made light, and the planets, and then all the things on our earth, and it was good... including animals-good, plants-good, fish-good, oceans-good, mountains-good-and then he made man, Adam, remember? But then,hear what is said in Genesis 2:2 (read). And later listen to what God revealed to Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, in Ecclesiastes 4:9 (read). In fact, in our Bible verse today, Paul shares how much God REALLY wants us to work together and cooperate in Philippians 2:2-4 (read). I know that when I was little, whenever me and my little sister/brother/friends played

nicely together, it made my parents SO HAPPY! God is the same way! When we work and play together, everyone wins and it is so pleasant. BUT WAIT...! Sometimes people fight, and are selfish or bossy, and that makes it DIFFICULT to COOPERATE, right? What makes it EASY to COOPERATE and work together? (\*Either hold up words and tie string to broom as you discuss, or write words/phrases kids say on cards and then tie string to broom as you discuss). So ALL of these help with cooperation, right? Do you think one person could use a string and hold up this cooperation broom and make it stand up straight? (try it). So doing things on your own is ok, but not great. Solomon said two people are better than one, so let's try two people. (try it) Ok, so 2 is definitely better, but what if there were more people to help and work together? (try it, keep adding people for each card). WOW! When everyone works together, it works WAY BETTER, doesn't it? People with one purpose can do more than one person alone (helpers sit down). \*Share a short, age-appropriate personal story of cooperation.

### **Activity:**

Calm activity> solo cup, 30 or more toothpicks, a rubber band.

Active> kids take off shoes, cut up words to Bible verse

Memory Verse Calm > Cooperation Activity Page

Calm: Give every child 1 toothpick. Let's pretend you are a toothpick. You are alone. You can do some things alone just fine, no problem. You are smart, resourceful, creative, strong...(do things with toothpick and encourage kids to experiment) but if the goal was to hold up this cup, could one do it alone? No. In fact, if there is a lot of pressure, stress, problems, it is difficult to handle that alone. It might even feel like you could be broken. Can you break one toothpick? (let them break them; pick up 8+ new ones as you say the next part). God's word tells us to love each other, be humble, listen to other people's ideas, be kind, patient, share, accept and support each other--but even this many people and good ideas won't achieve goals if they don't WORK TOGETHER (show how several still can't hold it up). We need to work together and look for things that unite us--let's let this rubber band be God (wrap it around the toothpick bundle). When a bunch of people are united to do something and they all depend on God,

they are SO STRONG. They can even do things that seem impossible! (Balance cup on toothpicks).

Active> Memory Verse Activity: Have kids take off shoes and put them in pairs in a row. Put one word from Bible verse cut outs in order into each shoe (the other should be empty). Keep the empty shoes in a row and put all the shoes with words all around the room. Use a fun way for kids to collect shoes. Examples: If you are wearing red, go get your shoe and come back (use other colors or qualities until everyone has their shoe); Link arms with a partner and go get your shoes and come back; Crawl to your shoe, take out paper, put on shoe and come back hopping on that foot. Let kids put the memory verse together correctly as they pull out their strips of verses.

Calm>Memory Verse Activity: Cooperation Activity Page