

We Could Be Heroes

Bible: We Could Be Heroes (Joshua Wins the Battle Over the Amalekites) * Exodus 17:8-13

Bottom Line: Work together to help someone succeed.

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.” *Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIV)*

Life App: Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

Balloon Races

- Balloons; one for every two kids

10:15

Riddle Me Do

- “Community Helpers” cards; one card for each kid
- “Riddle Me Do” Activity Page; one for each small group
- Masking tape

Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (9:40, 10:55, 12:10)

9:00 & 11:30

Crossing the Line

- A “staff” (such as a yardstick, broom handle, or pool noodle)

10:15

Heavy Lifting

- “Bible Story Script” Activity Page; one for each small group
- Scarves

Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)

- Dry erase board and marker

Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)

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Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s Bible Truth.

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Kids this age want to be recognized when they do something big. Ask God to help kids see the value in not just getting credit for a job well done, but also in helping someone else do something important, even if it means someone else gets the credit and recognition.

9:00 & 11:30

Balloon Races

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Balloons

What You Do:

- Divide the group into pairs and line all the pairs up along one side of your small group area.
- Place a balloon between the backs of each pair. They must keep the balloon between them during the whole game.
- Pairs must then run (or walk quickly) from one side of the small group area and back, while keeping the balloon between them.
- If their balloon falls, pairs must return to the beginning and start over.
- If there is a large gap in age between your youngest and oldest kids, pair up like ages/sizes, and then direct the older pairs to complete this game while kneeling/walking or scooting on their knees.

What You Say:

“This is a classic example of teamwork. **[Transition] Let’s go hear about another great team!**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

10:15**Riddle Me Do**

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Community Helpers” Activity Page, “Riddle Me Do” Activity Page, tape

What You Do:

- Lead kids to sit in a tight circle.
- Tape a “Community Helpers” card to each child’s back. Be sure the kids keep each other’s pictures a secret, and no peeking at their own!
- Guide kids to mingle around the room.
- Call out a riddle from the Activity Page, and lead kids to gather around the child whose picture answers the riddle.
- When all the kids are gathered around the correct child, let that child guess the identity of the figure on their back.
- Add variety by guiding kids to move in different ways for each round: tiptoe, on their heels, baby steps, like astronauts floating in space, like robots, etc.

What You Say:

“Wow! There are a lot of people who help us, aren’t there? Have any of these community helpers ever helped you? How? *(Pause.)* **[Transition] In our Bible Truth today, we’ll hear about a time when two people helped someone else in a big way. Let’s go learn more.”**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Historyteller
- Host
- Two kid volunteers
- Bible
- Moses costume for Host (beard, robe)
- Prop staff (or broom)
- Two oversized, blank T-shirts for the two kid volunteers
- Thick, black permanent marker
- Chair

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Power Praise Team

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- “I Trust in You”
- “This is Amazing Grace”
- “Close”

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

CG: Theme Loop Slide

CG: 10 Second Count Down

Host enters, welcoming the kids as they enter.

CG: Theme Video

HOST: “Hello, hello, friends! How are we doing today? *(Pause for response.)* Great! My name is [Host’s name], and I’m so glad you’re here at [your environment’s name]. If you’re glad you’re here, give yourself a high-five and say, ‘Thanks for showing up, self!’”

HOST and KIDS: *(Give yourself a high-five.)* “Thanks for showing up, self!”

HOST: “Yes! You SHOULD be glad you’re here, because we’re doing a ton of cool and fun stuff together starting with praise and worship. So, up on your feet and help me get the Power Praise team in here!”

Power Praise team enters as Host joins the audience.

Worship

SFX: “I Trust in You”

SFX: “This is Amazing Grace”

SFX: “Close”

Host retakes the stage as Power Praise exits.

HOST: “I love starting the morning off with praise and worship. It just does such good things to my heart. So, this month’s Life App is all about doing things together. We’re talking about cooperation!”

CG: Cooperation Slide

CG: Life App Video

“Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone. I’ll read it one more time. Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone. Let’s cooperate and read it together.”

HOST and KIDS: “Cooperation is working together to do more than you can do alone.”

CG : Theme Back Video

HOST: “That’s it! Last week we said that God loves it when we work together. That’s because we can do so much more together than we can do alone!

“Think about it. Would you rather clean your entire house by yourself or COOPERATE by dividing up the chores with your other family members? Or how about this: would you rather play a game of kickball by yourself or cooperate and make teams to play with a bunch of your friends? Think about music. Would you rather hear one person playing a maraca all by themselves? Or would you prefer to hear the cooperation of an entire band with guitars, pianos, violins, and voices?

“Cooperation makes our lives so much easier and better. It makes the lives of the people around us easier and better, too.

CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide

“That’s what our Memory Verse is all about. It’s Ecclesiastes 4:9.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“Two people are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor (NIV).”

SFX: High-energy music

“I hear the music. That means it’s game time! Have you ever heard of a jam session? I’ll give you a hint: it’s not about grape jelly. It’s when people cooperate together to make music. In today’s game, every small group gets to play!

“Here’s how it works. Each small group will stand up, one at a time, and hear a snippet of a song. Then that group will work together to figure out the next line of lyrics and sing it together.

“Let’s start with this small group here. *(Choose a small group.)* Go ahead and stand up, friends. *(Pause for them to stand.)* DJ, will you play the first track?

SFX: “You Are My Sunshine”; cut after second “sunshine”

“Okay, [Leader’s name]’s group. Can you cooperate to come up with the next line and sing it together?

Wait for the group to sing the correct line. If the group answers correctly, give them a round of applause. If they

answer incorrectly, affirm them and ask the audience to sing the correct lyrics.

“Okay, let’s move to our next small group. (*Choose a small group.*) Stand on up! DJ, play that track, please.

SFX: “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”; cut after “stream”

“[Leader’s name]’s group, what’s that missing lyric?”

Wait for the group to sing the correct line. If the group answers correctly, give them a round of applause. If they answer incorrectly, affirm them and ask the audience to sing the correct lyrics.

“[Leader’s name]’s group, it’s your turn. Stand up and see if you can cooperate to find that missing line! DJ, what song do you have next?”

SFX: “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes”; cut after fourth “toes”

“[Leader’s name]’s group, this is a tough one. Can you work together to figure out the missing lyric?”

Wait for the group to sing the correct line. If the group answers correctly, give them a round of applause. If they answer incorrectly, affirm them and ask the audience to sing the correct lyrics.

“Next group, on your feet!”

Continue in this pattern until each group gets a chance to cooperate to fill in some missing lyrics.

“See? Isn’t cooperation fun? Let’s give everybody a huge round of applause! You all just cooperated again and again and again. Now, let’s show [Historyteller’s Name] the same kind of cooperation with today’s Bible Truth

Host exits. Historyteller enters.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Hey, hey, friends! It’s me, [Historyteller’s name], and we have a pretty epic story from the Bible to discover today. (*Hold up Bible.*) Raise your hand if you like movies and shows with lots of action. (*Pause for response.*) Awesome! You will LOVE today’s Bible Truth.

“First, let’s talk about what was going on at the time our Bible Truth takes place. We talked about these people last week—God’s chosen people. They were called the Israelites. The Israelites had been through a LOT. Probably the worst of which was being slaves in a country far from their home. But finally, God set the Israelites free by dividing a sea so they could get away safely. Amazing, right?”

“The Israelites had escaped from Egypt, but they still hadn’t reached their home—the land God promised to give them. They traveled a long, long, long time and a long, long, long way. One night, while they were still traveling through the wilderness to get to their new home, something happened. That something is what we’re going to talk about today.”

THE AMALEKITES ATTACK

HISTORYTELLER: “The man who led the Israelites was Moses.”

Host, dressed as Moses, bursts onto the stage.

HOST: “Never fear, Moses is here!”

Host stands in a superhero pose.

HISTORYTELLER: *(To Host)* “Great! Hold on with the fear part, though. We’ll get to that in a minute. *(To audience)* I just need two more volunteers to play a part in our Bible Truth. Let’s see . . .

Choose two kids and bring them on stage.

(To kids) “[Kid’s name] and [kid’s name], you’re going to play two very important people today. Their names were Aaron and Hur. You can go ahead and put these shirts on.

Hand the “Aaron” and “Hur” T-shirts to the two kids.

(To kids) “You two can have a seat right over here until it’s your turn. But, when I say your character’s name, you’ll stand up and act out what they did. Cool? *(Pause for response.)*

(To audience) “Before we get to Aaron and Hur, let me explain why [Host’s name]—I mean MOSES—was talking about fear. See, one day, a messenger came to Moses to tell him some very bad news.”

Tap Host on the back.

HOST: *(Jumping)* “Ahh!”

HISTORYTELLER: “I have some bad news, Moses.”

HOST: “Is it that you’re going to creep up behind me and scare the living daylights out of me? Because—spoiler alert—you’ve already done that.”

HISTORYTELLER: “Nope. It’s way worse than that. There is an army attacking your people. They’re called the Amalekites, and they’re very, very dangerous.”

HOST: *(Pacing)* “You’re right. That’s way worse than being startled.”

HISTORYTELLER: “Moses told Joshua, who was a soldier and a leader among the Israelites, to go choose some men to go and fight the Amalekites the following morning.”

HOST: *(Raising his staff)* “While Joshua fights, I’ll go to the top of the hill to watch. I’ll take my trusty

staff with me. You know, the staff God gave me.”

HISTORYTELLER: “Right. Good idea.”

MOSES RAISES HIS HANDS

HISTORYTELLER: *(To audience)* “Here’s what happened the next morning.

Open the Bible to Exodus 17:10 (NIRV) and read.

“Joshua fought against the Amalekites, just as Moses had ordered. Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill.

Clear your throat. Repeat the line to cue the Host and two kids to move.

“Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill.”

Host gets the two kids to walk with him. He acts like he’s climbing a hill by taking huge fake steps.

HOST: “Here we are, my buddies and I, climbing this hill to watch Joshua fight off the Amalekites.”

Host puts his hands over his eyes as if looking far off, motioning for the two kids to do the same.

HISTORYTELLER: “Then the Bible tells us that something pretty interesting happened. Check it out.

Open the Bible to Exodus 17:11 (NIRV) and read.

“As long as Moses held up his hand, the Israelites were winning. But every time he lowered his hands, the Amalekites began to win.”

HOST: *(Put arms and staff up.)* “Winning, winning, winning. *(Lower arms.)* Aaaaand now we’re losing, losing, losing. *(Put arms and staff up.)* Winning again. *(Lower arms.)* Aaaaand now we’re losing again. *(Arms up.)* Winning. *(Arms down.)* Losing. *(Arms up.)* Winning. *(Arms down.)* Losing. *(Arms up.)* Winning. *(Arms down.)* Losing.”

HISTORYTELLER: *(Interrupting)* “We get the idea.”

AARON AND HUR HELP

HISTORYTELLER: “When Moses’ arms got tired, Aaron and Hur put a stone *(point to the chair)* beneath him.”

Motion to the two kids to put the chair beneath Host.

HOST: *(Acting overly exhausted)* “Thank you. I could use a rest.”

HISTORYTELLER: “Listen to what Aaron and Hur did next. Each of them held up one of Moses’ arms so he could raise the staff high.

Motion to the two kids to hold up Host's arms.

"The two men held up Moses' arms until sunset, and Joshua and the Israelites won the battle!"

HOST: *(Still with his arms up)* "YES! *(Sigh of relief.)* It's not easy winning wars alone."

HISTORYTELLER: "Ummm, did you say 'alone'?"

Host looks at the two kids like he just remembered they were there.

HOST: "Oh, yeah! You're SO right. Thanks for your help, Aaron and Hur."

HISTORYTELLER: *(To the two kids)* "You two can give a seat. *(To Host)* And Moses, your work here is done. Thank you all for cooperating to help me tell our Bible Truth. Let's give all of them a big hand!"

Kids head back to their seats. Host exits.

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: "The Bible says that Moses, Aaron, and Hur went back down the hill. They were so grateful that God had brought them together to save His people.

"If you think about it, there was LOTS of cooperation in today's Bible Truth. First, let's not forget that Joshua obeyed Moses right away and took an army out to fight the Amalekites. That took a lot of trust AND a lot of cooperation. Then Aaron and Hur worked together with Moses to keep the staff God had given him raised high in the air. That helped God's people win the battle.

"They understood something important that we should remember, too.

CG: *Bottom Line Slide*

"We should [**Bottom Line**] **work together to help someone succeed.**

"We can cooperate to help someone else win just like Aaron and Hur did for Moses. God can do big things through us when we work together.

"Let's pray and ask Him to help us do that."

Pray

HISTORYTELLER: "God, thank You so much for teaching us about cooperation. It's something that helps us and helps others. Thank You for friends who cooperate with us to help us succeed just like Aaron and Hur did for Moses. Help us to be willing to step in whenever we can to help the people around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name, amen."

"If you have an offering with you today, raise your hand and we will bring the bucket over to you."

Historyteller exits as Host enters.

Closer

HOST: “You know, a lot of times we cooperate so that we can get something done. You might work together with your brother or sister to get your chores done around the house. You might cooperate with your classmates when you’re playing basketball at recess. That kind of cooperation is great! After all, when we work together, we can do more than we can do alone.

“But there’s another kind of cooperation that’s super important, too—when you cooperate to help OTHERS succeed. That’s what Aaron and Hur did for Moses. They saw that he needed some help. They held up his arms so he wouldn’t get tired, and that’s how Joshua and the Israelites won the battle! Aaron and Hur weren’t on the battlefield. They probably didn’t get as much credit for the victory as Joshua did. But their part was just as important!

“We can cooperate to help others like they did.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“We can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed.**

“This week, look for small ways to help your friends and family succeed. Make posters for your friend’s soccer match. Offer to help your little brother put away his laundry. Remember, when it comes to cooperation—when it comes to helping others succeed—there is no part that’s too large or too small.

“So what does that look like for you? How can YOU **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed?** That’s a good question! You’ll get to cooperate and talk about it some more in your small groups. In fact, you can head that way right now. Have fun!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

CG: Theme Loop Video

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Life App: Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (10 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible Truth applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

9:00 & 11:30

Crossing the Line

What You Need: A staff

What You Do:

- Gather the group on one side of your small group area, and sit across from them as far away as you can, holding the staff.
- When you hold the staff up above your head, kids can move towards you, but when the staff is down, they have to freeze. The goal is to get all the kids across the room.
- Instruct kids to move slowly (so the game isn't over in five seconds!). You can instruct them to walk by literally putting one foot in front of the other (where as each step is taken, the heel of one foot touches the toe of the other).
- Move the staff several times as kids cross the small group area, making the “up” intervals rather short.
- When the first kids join you after crossing the floor, ask for some cooperation, like in our Bible Truth. They will hold onto your hands, or you can let them hold the ends of the staff to keep it above your head.
- When you have kids to help you, make the up intervals longer so that more kids get across the room.
- The game ends when everyone is across.
- You can repeat this game with a kid as the staff holder, if time allows.

What You Say:

“In our Bible Truth today, Aaron and Hur cooperated to help Moses hold up his staff so the Israelites could win the battle, just like you guys cooperated to keep my arms up so everyone could cross the room. You cooperated even when you were already on this side, just so that everyone else could win, too. You all really showed how we can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed**. We live in a time when many people only work hard for themselves. Aaron and Hur didn't get any fancy medals for helping Moses, and they didn't go down in history as the awesome guys who won the whole battle. They helped Moses even when they didn't get anything out of it.

“We can do that too! We can work together with our teammates to show our coach that we appreciate her, even if we don't win every game. We can do the laundry with our brother or sister just to make life a little easier for our parents, even if we don't get extra allowance or ice cream out of the deal. Be the first to come up with a plan to help someone else succeed this week.”

10:15**Heavy Lifting****What You Need:** “Bible Story Script” Activity Page, scarves**What You Do:**

- Assign the following parts from the Bible Truth to different kids: a messenger, Joshua, Moses, Hur, Aaron, Israelite army, Amalekite army, Narrator (select a kid who’s comfortable reading aloud).
- Let the kids use the scarves/bandanas any way they choose in order to re-enact the Bible Truth.
- They can use one color to designate the Israelite army and one to designate the Amalekite army.
- Encourage the kids to act out their parts as the Narrator reads the “Bible Story Script” Activity Page.

What You Say:

“You are such great actors! Way to get into character. I’m not sure there is any better example of cooperation than this true account of that day when Joshua and the Israelites fought the Amalekites. Not only did the army of soldiers have to work together, but Aaron and Hur had to work together to help Moses too. They learned firsthand that you can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed**. Cooperation isn’t just about you. It’s about what you can do with and FOR others! And sometimes your willingness to cooperate can lead to someone else’s success. How cool is that?”

[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about a time when you worked to helped someone else win. Maybe you raised money for a worthy cause or ran in a 5K to help a charitable organization or sorted food at a food bank. How did it feel to know that your hard work and willingness to cooperate ultimately helped someone else succeed?)

All Service Times**Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)****What You Need:** Small whiteboard, dry-erase marker**What You Do:**

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

What You Say:

“Today we learned that God wants us to work together to help someone succeed. Praying together is a GREAT way that we can **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed**. Because when we pray, you know who we’re working together with? *(Pause.)* Yes! We’re working together with God. Wow!

“So, who do you know that we can pray for?” *(Write the kids’ prayer ideas on the board.)*

Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help each person succeed in God’s best for them. After the prayer, praise kids for cooperating with God to help others succeed.

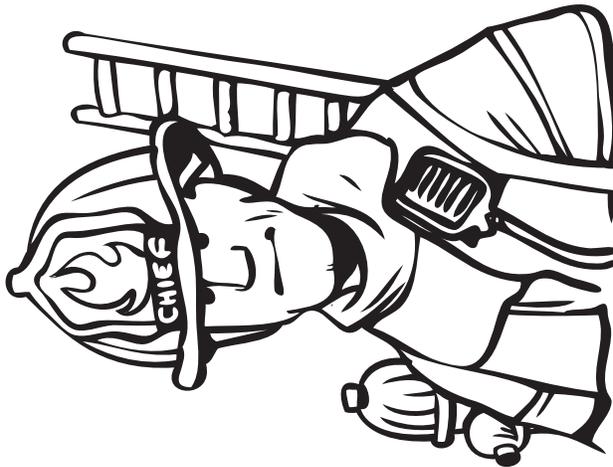
As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell them today’s Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] work together to help someone succeed**.



Vet



Doctor



Firefighter

What to Do:

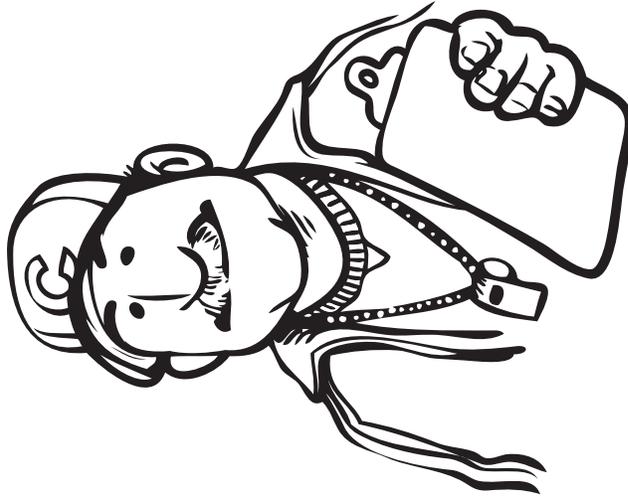
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one card for each kid.

Community Helpers

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Teacher



Coach



Sitter

What to Do:

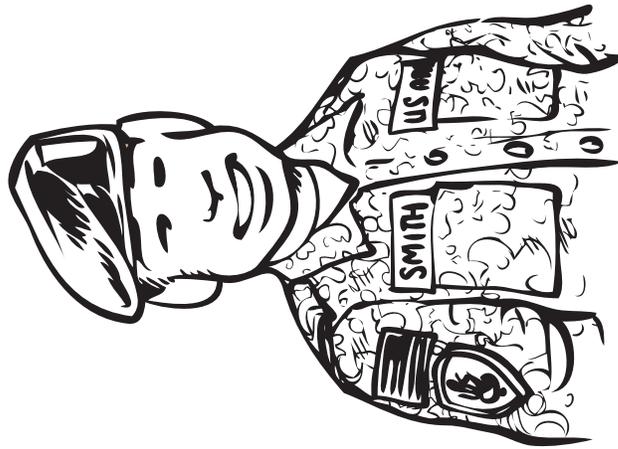
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one card for each kid.

Community Helpers

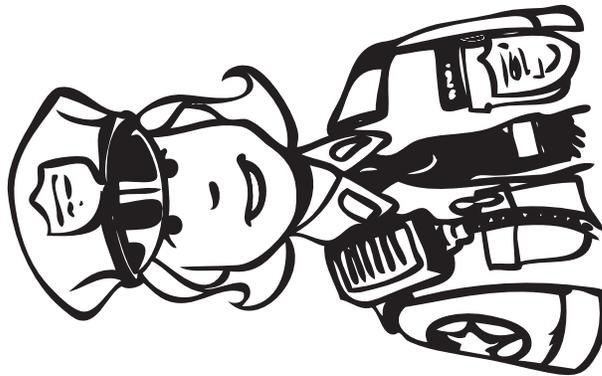
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Librarian



Soldier



**Police
Officer**

What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut apart. Provide one card for each kid.

? ? ? RIDDLE ME DO ? ? ?

I wear a uniform. I help keep people safe. I help make sure people obey the law.
(Police officer)

I wear a uniform. I go through long hard training. Sometimes I have to be away from home for a long time. I help keep our country safe. (Soldier)

I help people at a special place. You can find this place at school or in town. It's a place with many books. (Librarian)

I'm older than you are. When your mom and dad leave the house I take care of you. (Sitter)

I'm the leader of a team. I help you know how to play the game. (Coach)

I want you to do your best. You'll find me in a place where you go to learn. I help you learn how to read. (Teacher)

I wear special clothes. I come to help when you have trouble. You might see me at the top of a ladder or holding a large hose. (Firefighter)

Sometimes I wear a coat. I help people of all ages. You can find me in a doctor's office or in a hospital. I help people get well and stay well. (Doctor)

Sometimes I wear a coat. I do surgeries and give shots. I help all kinds of animals get well and stay well. (Veterinarian)

What to Do:

Print one for each small group.

Riddle Me Do

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The Israelites were camped in the wilderness when a messenger came with some bad news for Moses. The Amalekites were coming. They were about to be attacked! Moses told Joshua to gather some men to prepare to fight the next morning. Moses told Joshua that he would climb to the top of the hill and hold his walking stick God had given him over His head to help them have success. After choosing the best men from among the Israelites, Joshua and his army marched out to the battlefield. Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed up to the top of the hill. Moses raised his staff with both hands over his head as a sign to show that God was with them. The two armies started to battle. As long as Moses' staff was raised above his head, the Israelites were winning. But if Moses lowered his arms the Amalekites started winning. When Moses couldn't hold up his arms any longer, Aaron and Hur stood on either side, each holding up one of his arms so he could raise the staff up high. They did this until the sun began to set and the Israelites finally won!

WHAT TO DO:

Print one for each small group.

Bible Story Script

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