

# Someone Like You

**Bible:** Someone Like You (Gabriel Appears to Mary) • *Luke 1:26-56 (Supporting: Luke 1:5-25)*

**Bottom Line:** God can use anyone to meet others' needs.

**Memory Verse:** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in hi shall not perish but have eternal life." *John 3:16 (NIV)*

**Life App:** Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

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

## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)**

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Just For Fun**

- No supplies needed

**10:15**

### **Compassion Profiles**

- "Compassion Profile" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Markers

## **Bible: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (9:10, 10:25, 11:40)**

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

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

**9:00 & 11:30**

### **Bible Story Extension**

- Bible
- Basket
- "Descriptions" Activity Page cut apart and place cards in the basket

**10:15**

### **Discussion Questions**

- No supplied needed

## **Prayer: Making it Personal (9:55, 11:10, 12:25)**

- Bible

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

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## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 10 minutes)**

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

*Before kids arrive, ask God to reveal to you the special gifts and abilities that each of your students has so that you can encourage them in specific ways to be used by God to care about and meet the needs of those around them.*

**9:00 & 11:30**

**Just for Fun**

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

### **What You Do:**

- **Invite** students to **Form** a circle.
- **Ask** one person to stand in the middle.
  - **Randomly assign** each student (including the person in the middle) one of the following Christmas items: tree, wreath, tinsel
  - **Ask** the circle to rearrange so that everyone except the person in the middle is in a different spot.
  - **Explain** that when the player in the middle calls out one of the Christmas items, those who are assigned that item must switch places with each other, at which point the student in the middle will try to steal an empty spot.
  - Whoever is left without a spot comes to the middle and repeats the process.
  - **Tell** the group that if the person in the middle calls out "Blizzard!" the whole group must switch spots.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

**10:15****Compassion Profiles****What You Need:** “Compassion Profile” Activity Pages, markers**What You Do:**

- Hand out the Activity Pages and explain that kids are going to create a “compassion profile” of themselves, similar to a character profile an author might create.
- Instruct kids to make the person look like they do and write down personal traits for each of the four categories listed in the box.
- Collect kids’ papers to use again after Large Group.

**What You Say:**

“Those are some great traits you listed on your compassion profiles. I like how there’s such a variety of talents, strengths, and likes within our group. I bet those things that describe you could be important in some way. **[Transition] Let’s go to Large Group to find out more about that.**”

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## **Bible: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 30 minutes)**

### GETTING READY

#### 1. Opener/Closer

##### What You Need:

- Host
- Sturdy white paper plates (enough for everyone)
- Pens (enough for everyone)
- Package of candy for winner (to share with small group)

#### 2. Bible Truth

##### What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- 252 Movie (4:01-8:29)

#### 3. Worship

##### What You Need:

- "Better Than the Best Thing"
- "Look At Me"
- "Sons and Daughters"

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## **Bible: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 30 minutes)**

CG: Theme Loop Slide

CG: Countdown Video

CG: Theme Video

*Host enters.*

### **Welcome**

*Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening (*Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*), or a viral video on YouTube, etc. Christmas is coming up, so obviously there is much to talk about there. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.*

*Host transitions to Worship.*

### **Worship**

**HOST:** "Let's start this morning with some praise and worship. Who can help me out? Everybody up on your feet."

CG: "Better Than the Best Thing"

"John 13:35 tells us that Jesus said: *"If you love one another, everyone will know you are my disciples"* (NIV). I think it's so amazing that because of how we live and show love, others can know that we love Jesus. God has freely given us His love. Let's spread that love to everyone we know. Sing this with me."

CG: "Look At Me"

"Here's another great song that reminds us that we are not in this alone and that God's love is for ALL people. It's called Sons and Daughters. By the way, if you have any prayer requests we would love to pray with you during this song. Here we go."

CG: "Sons and Daughters"

### **Opener**

**HOST:** "Hey everybody! So good to see you today! Christmas is only (*insert number of days until Christmas*) days away, and I've got a game to get us into the Christmas spirit. I need everyone for this

game that will test your artistic ability. Now don't worry—there is a bit of a twist that will level the playing field. If you win, you have the potential to meet the *candy* needs of your entire small group.”

“We have some volunteers coming around with paper plates and pens. Everybody, make sure you have one plate and one pen.”

*Pass out the supplies.*

“Alright, we are going to see who can follow my instructions and draw a beautiful Christmas scene on his or her plate. Ready? Oh wait, I forgot to tell you. Please put the plate on top of your head (*upside down so the bottom side of the plate faces upward*). I will give you a series of instructions. At **NO POINT** may you look at the plate until you are done. All the drawing needs to be done with the plate on top of your head. Ready? Plates on heads!”

“First, draw a line for a floor.”

“Second, draw a Christmas tree on the floor. Add decorations if you're feeling festive.”

“Third, draw a star on top of your tree.”

“Forth, draw a fireplace with a mantel next to the tree.”

“Fifth, draw a stocking hanging from the mantel of your fireplace.”

“Sixth, draw a present below the tree.”

“Finally, draw a gift tag on the present and write the name of who the present is for on the tag.”

“Okay pens down and . . . look at your masterpiece! Now, please trade plates with someone else. We are going to give out points for your work. Tally the points right on the side of the plate.”

“Give the drawing two points if the tree touches the floor. Give it two points if the stocking is touching the mantel. Give one point if the star touches the tree. Give one point if the star is above the tree. Give one point if the fireplace doesn't touch the tree (that is a fire hazard!). Give out two points if the present is under the tree. Give one point if the tag is touching the present. Give out one point if there is a name on the tag.”

“That is a total of 11 possible points! Now . . . let's see how everyone did!”

*Find the person with the most points and display his/her work for everyone; giving him/her a prize to share with his/her small group.*

**HOST:** “That was a blast! Now let's welcome [Communicator's Name] with today's Bible Truth.”

*Host exits as Communicator enters.*

**COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT****INTRODUCTION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey everyone! That art game was so fun . . . I think I’ll use that again in just a moment. I’m so glad you are here, especially as we inch closer and closer to Christmas.”

“I have a question to start us off today: have you ever heard of or watched a story about a kid who did something significant or extraordinary? I love those stories. Some of you might be familiar with Alexandra Scott. *(Pause)* No? Well, let me tell you more about her story. Alexandra was diagnosed with cancer before her first birthday. When she was four years old, she set up a front yard lemonade stand and planned to give the money to the doctors to help find a cure . . . and that was the beginning of ‘Alex’s Lemonade Stand.’ That first day she raised \$2,000! While fighting her own cancer, she continued to set up stands every year so she could help other sick kids. She lost her battle at the age of eight, but by the time she passed away, she had raised more than one million dollars toward finding a cure. Her parents continued the work their daughter started and to this day have raised over \$150 million! And all from a little girl starting a lemonade stand. That’s incredible, right?!”

**TENSION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Most of the stories you hear about people doing incredible things like that are not kids. They’re maybe teenagers or adults. Sometimes even adults think they don’t have what it takes to do something that significant.

Has that happened to you? Have you ever had a moment when you felt too young to do anything that mattered? Or maybe it wasn’t your age. Maybe you felt too shy, or too small, or too distracted, or too clumsy . . . too whatever. What is it for you that makes you believe you can’t do anything that will make a difference? For me it might be ***[Share an age-appropriate reason they might feel like they couldn’t make a difference]***. But I wonder if those are the sorts of things we should be worrying about when it comes to doing things that matter.”

“Those are big things to think about. And when we have big questions or big thoughts about life, the first place we should look is God’s word. Let’s head there now and check out a person who probably felt the same way and asked how she could be a part of something HUGE that God wanted to do through her. Have a look.”

**CG: 252 Movie (4:01-8:29)**

**APPLICATION**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “For Mary, she was amazed by the fact that God would want to use her. She had a ‘why me’ moment. ‘Why me? Who am I that God would use me?’ I’m sure she wondered why God would want to use an ordinary girl from a small town to do something so extraordinary. Maybe she thought she was too young, too shy, too small, too . . . whatever. And yet, God worked through her in a big way . . . maybe the biggest way!”

“Maybe you feel like that, too. Now, I’m not saying God is going to work through you to bring the Messiah into the world, but maybe there is something big that God wants to do through you, but it is easy to think like Mary, ‘Why me? Who am I that God would use me?’”

“Now there’s another piece to this, too. What God was doing through Mary would meet the need of the

world. The need for a Rescuer. The need for a Savior. But meeting this need would cost Mary. This could potentially cost her her reputation. It would cost her her plans. And yet, God would use her in a powerful way to meet the needs of the whole world.”

“Sometimes God’s plans for us can be uncomfortable. Sometimes they can be inconvenient. But if God is in them, we can trust that He’s good and He’ll be with us through it all.”

### **LANDING**

**COMMUNICATOR:** “As you go to small group today, brainstorm some ways that God might want to work through you for the sake of others. As you head to Small Group, think about how you’d answer this question:

**CG: Key Question Slide**

**“What are you willing to do to meet others’ needs?”**

“God invites each one of us to help others and show them how much He loves them. Even if it might cost you something, what are some ways you can help others and meet their needs? But before you head to Small Group, let’s take a moment to pray.”

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard then dismisses them to small group.*

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



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**Life App:** Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

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

## Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 15 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**

### **Bible Story Extension**

**What You Need:** Bibles, "Descriptions" Activity Page, basket

### **What You Do:**

- **Ask** the students to share highlights of what they remember from Large Group.
  - What did they find unique about Mary's life?
  - In what ways was Mary just an ordinary young girl?
  - In what ways was Mary extraordinary?
- After this brief review, **give** each student an adhesive bow.
- **Ask** them to attach it to themselves anywhere on their head or face, knee, elbow, hand, or foot.
- **Sit** in a circle.
- **Set out** the basket containing the folded "Descriptions" cards from the Activity Page.
- **Invite** one of the students to take out a card and read it to him or herself.
  - If the word on the card *does not* describe Mary, he/she can show it to everyone and explain why he/she feels it's not true about her.
  - If the card *does* describe Mary, instead of showing the others, the student must "write" the word in the air or on the floor using the bow on his/her body as the tip of a pen to spell the word. He/she may not talk or give hints.
  - The remaining team members must try to guess the specified word.
  - When a word is guessed correctly, pause and let students share ways in which Mary displayed the characteristic written on the card.
- **Continue** until everyone has had a turn.
- **Remind** students that God used Mary, an *ordinary* girl from Nazareth, in an *extraordinary* way to bring the Savior into the world to rescue us.
- **Go deeper.** If time allows, invite the students to look up Luke 1:38 then discuss Mary's willing response to God's plan as seen in this verse. Ask:
  - When the angel first appeared to Mary, she could not have known all that God was going to do through her to meet the needs of so many people. What can you learn from the way Mary's response?
  - What are some ways you can be a servant of God and meet the needs of others?

**10:15****Discussion Questions****What You Need:** No supplies needed**What You Do:****Ask:**

- What are some reasons we have for not being willing to meet others' needs?
- What would help us be more willing to meet someone else's need?
- What is the greatest need at your school? What can be done?
- What are you willing to do to meet others' needs?
- Is there ever a time when you might have to say "no" to meeting someone's need? Explain why or why not.

**All Service Times****Pray and Dismiss (5 minutes)****What You Need:** Bible**What You Do:**

- **Sit** quietly for a minute or two and let students think through the things they heard about compassion in Large Group and during their Small Group time.
- **Ask** them to consider how God might be challenging them to be more willing to meet others' needs. *(If applicable: Have them reference their Compassion Profiles.)*
- If they're willing, let them **share** what came to mind as they thought back over their experiences today.
- **Read 1 Peter 4:10** and Invite them to talk to God about ways they can serve others this week.

**What You Say:**

*"Dear God, thank You for giving us all that we need to serve You. We don't all have the same skills or ways of serving You, but each of us has opportunities to meet the needs of others in some way. Help us to be faithful servants who live out compassion for others. In Jesus' name, amen."*

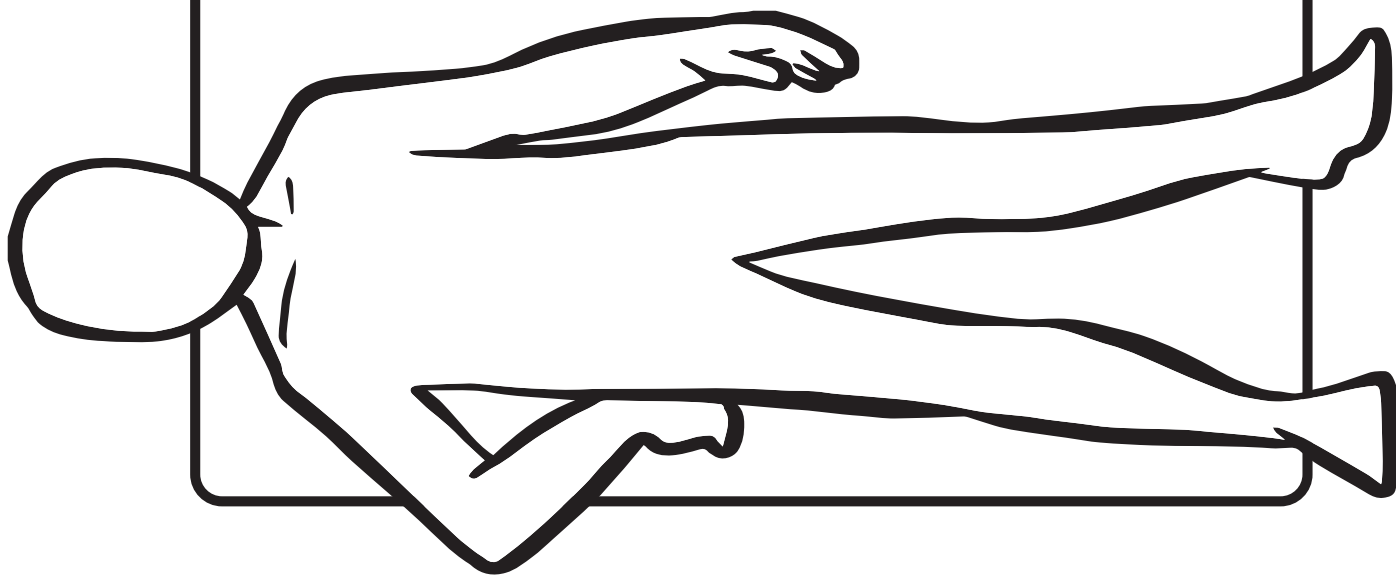
# Compassion Profile

Talents:

Strengths:

Likes:

Dislikes:



**What to Do:**  
Print one for each kid.

**AFRAID**

**BRAVE**

**WEAK**

**SELFISH**

**GRUMPY**

**GODLY**

**FAVORED**

**ORDINARY**

**OBEDIENT**

**YOUNG**

**What to Do:**

Print one for each small group. Cut apart and fold in half.

**Descriptions**

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