



WEEK THREE

LUKE 5:17-26

Jesus Heals the Paralytic / Four Friends

SAY
THIS

Work together to help someone in need.

DO
THIS



BED TIME

Read Luke 5:17-26. Share about the needs you see in your family, school, neighborhood, or even something you've heard about on the other side of the world. Is there one thing that makes you sad and moves you to want to do something? Talk about things your family could do together to meet that need. Pray for that situation and then choose a time for your family to work together to help meet that person's need.

REMEMBER THIS

"Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do." Ecclesiastes 4:9, NIV

LIFE
APP

COOPERATION—Working together to do more than you can do alone

COOPERATION MAKES IT HAPPEN

By Jenna Scott

As a mom of four, I can attest that chaos reigns when no one is getting along and everyone is trying to do their own thing. On the flip side, it knocks my socks off to see what can be achieved when everyone focuses on cooperating. Here are a few practical tips for parents to help their kids start combining forces to do great things together.

1. Practice working together before you are in a "real" situation where cooperation is required. That way when it actually comes time for all hands on deck, they'll be trained professionals. Make it fun by playing board games, take turns doing something, or tag-team read a book. For older kids, specific challenges that reward teamwork (such as working together to follow a recipe) helps teach that everyone has to do their part, or it won't turn out.

2. Explain the rules. Better yet, have your kids be a part of creating the rules. They can only do their part if they know what they are expected to do. They'll have more buy-in if they've been a part of the process.

3. Ask questions, and LISTEN. Your child might have an incredibly out-of-the box way of doing something that achieves the end you had in mind, but by a much more fun, exciting, creative

route. This also shows you're willing to cooperate and models compromise for the sake of teamwork.

4. Problem solve/brainstorm together. Instead of simply giving them your solution to the problem, let them come up with their own. Put on your coach's hat and polyester shorts if you must in order to play the role of facilitator rather than the referee.

5. Praise positive behavior. When you see cooperation, make a BIG DEAL of it so that they'll keep on doing it. And when the bickering escalates, remind everyone of the time they got along and worked together to accomplish something amazing. Encourage and cheerlead, being careful not to exclude or isolate anyone—the goal is to make everyone feel needed and wanted.

6. Inspire them to greatness by helping them look outside of themselves and see the bigger picture. Who doesn't want to win or play a small role in something bigger than themselves? How about encouraging everyone to collectively give to a cause? When everyone gives a little, it adds up to a lot!

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