



Older Small Groups

Kids



I Am Designed for a Purpose – I Can Love Others

August 18, 2024


✔ This session has been customized by one of your church admins

Bible Story: Love One Another (1 Corinthians 13)

Theme Verse: Matthew 5:16

Agenda	30 Minutes
1 - Connection Questions Team Time Leader	0 Minutes
2 - Make the Discovery — Older Kids Team Time Leader	10 Minutes
3 - That's My Tissue! — Older Game Team Time Leader	5 Minutes
4 - Truth Toppers — Older Craft Team Time Leader	5 Minutes
5 - Toss Across — Theme Verse Activity Team Time Leader	5 Minutes
6 - Activity Page Team Time Leader	5 Minutes
7 - Pickup Time Team Time Leader	0 Minutes

1 - Connection Questions

 Team Time



Leader Tip

As kids arrive, assign them to a Color Team—Red, Yellow, Blue, or Green.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- What was the best part of your week?
- What are some things you like to do when you first wake up in the morning?
- If you could be *really* good at sports or *really* good at singing, which would you choose and why?
- If you could pick a new thing to learn how to do, which would you choose?
- If you could move like any animal, which would you choose and why?

2 - Make the Discovery — Older Kids

🕒 10 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Leader Tip



Use this time for side-by-side discovery-based questions. Kids are invited to participate and discuss, building relationships with each other and their leader. These questions are designed to help all kids—regardless of biblical knowledge or background—feel like they can contribute.

Make the Discovery — Older Kids Script



Team Time Leader

“ What To Do: Let’s talk about how God designed us for a purpose! ”

1. Who are the easiest people for you to be loving, patient, and kind toward? Why do you think that is? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
2. How do you respond when people are kind toward you? What about when they *aren't* kind? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
3. What's the purpose of a passport? *(Allow kids to answer.)* Yes, we use a passport when we travel to identify who we are and where we are from! When we love people, it allows us to identify that we belong to and follow God! What are some ways we can show others the love of God? *(Answers may include tell them the truth about who God is, be kind when they aren't kind to us, pray for them, help them, and so forth.)*
4. The Bible tells us we are designed for a purpose, and we can love others. Let's open our Bibles to 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open up their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* What do you think that passage is teaching us? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
5. Is it always easy to love others? *(No!)* No, not always. It's easy to love people who are nice to us or that we get along with, but it can be difficult to love those who aren't very nice or are very different from us. But we are called to love everyone! When we love others like how the Bible tells us to love them, our love can make them want to know more about God. Which one of the descriptions of love in 1 Corinthians 13 is the easiest for you? Which ones are the most difficult? *(Answers may include patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, not arrogant, not rude, not self-seeking, not irritable, not keeping record of wrongs, rejoices in truth, and so forth.)*
6. God designed us for a purpose, and part of that purpose is to love people in a way that points others to Him. When we struggle to love others, we can remember how much God loves us. He loved us so much; He sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins. When we trust and follow Jesus, He changes us into people who can show His love to others. Do you have any questions about following Jesus? Or do you have any stories you want to share about someone showing the love of God? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
7. How can the descriptions of love in 1 Corinthians 13 help us when we wonder how to *really* love those around us? *(Answers may include not getting angry, having a good attitude, not being rude, being gracious and kind, and so forth.)*
8. The Bible tells us we are designed for a purpose, and we can love others. God wants us to love others around us like how He loves us so much! *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

God, thank You for loving us! Thank You for showing us what real love is like—by sending Jesus to forgive our sins. Help us to remember how much You love and show Your love to others, even when it is hard. We love You! Amen.

3 - That's My Tissue! — Older Game

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will try and take tissues from each other's heads.

Big Goal: Know that showing love and kindness helps others.

Leader Prep: Set out the supplies.

Supplies

- Tissue
- Plastic cup
- Markers (several)



Team Time Leader

What To Do: We're going to play a game called "That's My Tissue!" That's my what? (*Tissue!*) First, write your name on your cup. Set your cup down on the table and put your tissue in your cup. Let it peek out the top a little. Now for the game! When I say, "Go!" you will try and take other people's tissues out of their cups and put them in your cup. You can only take one tissue at a time, and you need to put it in your cup before you take another one. You can't take a tissue from the same person two times in a row. And you can't block your own cup. You'll have 60 seconds to try and get as many tissues as possible. Ready? Let's go!

(Play a round or two of the game.)

Great job! But was that a very kind and loving game? (*No!*) No, not really. You were just looking out for yourself. Let's play again, but this time, you want to *put* your tissues in *other* people's cups! The same rules apply—you can only move one tissue at a time, you can't go to the same cup two times in a row, and you can't block your cup. You also can't put a tissue in the same person's cup two times in a row. You'll have 60 seconds again. Ready? Let's go!

Keep It Going: Play again but instruct kids to only use one hand. Another option is to allow the kids to spread their cups throughout the room. ”



Leader Tip

Use chairs to keep the cups off the floor if a table isn't available.



Team Time Leader

“ Loud And Clear: Great job, ____ Team! When you were only trying to get tissues for yourself, it could have been kind of stressful and you might have felt upset with other people for taking your tissues. But when you gave them away, it felt a lot better! It's the same way with love. When we are only looking out for ourselves or just focused on getting what we want, it doesn't help others feel good, which can leave us feeling not so good. But when we share, are kind, and help others, it fills us with joy! That's because God designed us for a purpose—to show love to others. This week, think about ways you can say *no* to selfishness and say *yes* to loving others the way God loves us. **”**

4 - Truth Toppers — Older Craft

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will make hearts that top pencils or straws.

Big Goal: Know that we can love others because God loves us.

Leader Prep: Set out the supplies.

Supplies

- Colored paper
- Markers or crayons (several)
- Child-safe scissors
- Glue sticks
- Pencils

Truth Toppers — Older Craft Script



Team Time Leader

“ **What To Do:** We’re going to make Truth Toppers that can slide onto straws or pencils. These Truth Toppers will help us remember our Bible story. First, draw a heart and cut it out. Then, use that heart to trace an identical heart and cut that one out as well. On one heart, write *God loves me*. On the other heart, write *I can love others*. Cut out the hearts. Make sure that you have two, since one will be the front and one will be the back. Lay your pencil on one heart. Then, put glue on that heart so your other heart will stick everywhere except where the pencil is. After you stick on the other heart, pick up your truth topper on the pencil and see how quickly you can spin it!

Keep It Going: Invite kids to make multiple toppers for friends and family. Allow kids to decorate their toppers. ”



Leader Tip

Consider allowing kids to take the pencils home.

Truth Toppers — Older Craft Script



Team Time Leader

“ **Loud And Clear:** In today’s Bible story, we saw how we can love others. Is it easy to love everyone in these ways—being patient, kind, and not jealous? (*No!*) When it’s difficult, we can remember how much God loves us, and ask Him to help us love others. When we follow God, we are called to love others! These actions show others that we love because God loves us in these ways! ”

5 - Toss Across — Theme Verse Activity

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will toss a ball back and forth with a partner while saying one word of the verse.

Big Goal: Learn the Theme verse and the truth that our loving actions point others to God.

Leader Prep: Display the Theme Verse Poster, Theme Verse Slide, or write the Theme verse in a visible location for kids to see: *“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)*

Supplies

- Soft playground ball

Toss Across — Theme Verse Activity Script



Team Time Leader

🗨️ **What To Do:** We are going to learn our Theme verse together with a fun game! I will put you on two teams, and your teams will line up facing each other. The first person on the first team will say the first word of our Theme verse, then toss the ball across to the first person on the second team. That person will say the next word of the verse before tossing the ball across again. But here’s the thing: as soon as you toss the ball, you need to hurry to the back of your team’s line so the next person will be in place to catch. Ready? Let’s go!

Keep It Going: Play multiple times, switching up the teams and changing how far apart the teams are standing. ”



Leader Tip

Be sensitive to those who may drop the ball. Keep the game fun and encouraging. Laugh and make sure kids know the point isn't the ball; it's learning the Bible verse, and this is a fun way to do it.

Toss Across — Theme Verse Activity Script



Team Time Leader

“**Loud And Clear:** In today's Bible story, we learned what love really looks like. When we love each other in these ways, we can show others the difference Jesus makes in our lives. The “good works” our Theme verse talks about are things we can do to show love to others. We are designed for a purpose! Say, “I am designed for a purpose!” (*I am designed for a purpose!*)”

6 - Activity Page

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Big Goal: Point to the Simple Truth and provide an opportunity for connection.

Leader Prep: Print copies of the Activity page for each child. Set out the supplies.

Supplies

- Activity page
- Markers or crayons (several)

Activity Page Script



Team Time Leader

🗨️ **What To Do:** This Activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together. 🗨️



Leader Tip

This is a great time to get to know the kids better. You can ask them what they remember about the Bible story. Remind them that God designed us for a purpose, and we can love others in the ways Paul wrote about in 1 Corinthians.

Activity Page Script



Team Time Leader

“ **Loud And Clear:** God loved us so much; He sent His Son, Jesus, so we could have a relationship with Him. God showed us great love, so we can love others too. God designed us for a purpose, and we can love others through how we talk and treat others. ”

7 - Pickup Time



Team Time



Leader Tip

As kids leave, make sure they have their crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.