

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Wednesday



## A Good Friend Puts Others First

### Bible Story:

Naomi & Ruth

Ruth 1 & 2

**Memory Verse:** Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God.

**1 John 4:7**

12:30 - 1:10

Welcome and Opening

1:15 - 2:00

Drama/Missions/Music  
Sanctuary

2:05 - 2:30

Groups 1-16 Small Group  
Groups 17-32 Inflatables!

2:30-2:55

Groups 1-16 Inflatables!  
Groups 17- 32 Small Group

3:00-3:15

Story Telling Large Group

3:15-3:30

Closing

### Provided Materials for Small Groups:

- Bibles
- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Markers
- Journals
- Lollipops
- Bread Rolls
- A penny
- Ruth 1:16 printouts
- 2 index cards per person

# SMALL GROUP TIME!

## Getting Started Part 1

**Supplies Needed:** Lollipops

**Instructions:**

- Ask who would like a lollipop for small group time today.
- Begin passing them out but intentionally leaving 1-2 behind so that not everyone in your group can get one. (Hint: when passing the suckers out instruct the kids not to start eating them until everyone has gotten one)
- Play out the part a bit where you are struggling to find more pops and see what your group does. See if anyone gives their pop to someone else.
- After a minute or 2 pull out the lollipops and make sure everyone has one.

**Say:** It's not always easy to put others first is it? Even when it comes to something small like candy. (If someone did share their pop ask them why they shared?) There is something in us that wants us to be selfish and think only of ourselves. Which is why this idea of putting others first is so important and why Ruth is so cool!

## Getting Started Part 12

**Supplies Needed:** 2 bread rolls (purchased at discount or leftover racks), 1 penny

**Instructions:**

- Divide your group into 2 straight even lines. Have everyone in the line hold hands. Everyone has their eyes closed except of the first person in line.
- Place one bread roll at the end of each line
- Have one leader at the front of the line with a penny and the second leader at the back of the line watching who grabs the bread roll first.
- Leader will secretly flip penny and show the front two people in the line at the same time.
- If it lands on heads nothing happens. If it lands on tails the first person in line squeezes the hand of the 2<sup>nd</sup> person who in turn squeezes the hand of the 3<sup>rd</sup> person and so forth all the way down the line. Once the last person in line feels the squeeze they grab the bread roll. First team to grab the bread roll wins.
- If a team grabs the bread roll by mistake they lose 1 point.
- Play to 5.

**Say:** When Ruth went to pick wheat for Naomi, wheat that they would eventually use to make bread, it went something like this. Rich farmers would not harvest their entire fields; instead they would leave the edges alone for people who could not afford to buy bread; kind of like leftovers at Wal-Mart. You know the "oops we baked too much section." Naomi was out in the heat grabbing as many of these leftovers as she could. By the way, these rolls came from the "Oops we baked too much" shelf.

## Explore the Bible Story

**Supplies Needed:** Ruth 1:16 handout, Markers

**Say:** The most popular verse in the book of Ruth is Ruth 1:16. (Show handout & read verse to group). Here we see how devoted Ruth was to her Naomi and how she put Naomi first above everything else.

# SMALL GROUP TIME!

## **Instructions:**

- Hand out a Ruth 1:16 handout to every person in your group. Place a pile of markers where everyone can reach them.
- Instruct the kids they will have 4 minutes to illustrate this verse on the back page.
- However, they can only use their weak hand. If they normally write with their left hand, they must use their right hand.
- Give them 4-5 minutes and give out a 1-minute warning.
- Call time and allow everyone to show off their artwork.

## **Ask These Questions:**

- 1-What was it like to draw with your weak hand? (Allow responses then say: Often it is hard to put others first; it's not natural for us; just like it is not natural for us to write with our weak hand)
- 2-What do you think was hardest for Ruth to give up?
- 3-Why is it so hard to put others first?

## **Apply It:**

**Supplies Needed:** Pens, 2 index cards per person

## **Instructions:**

- Give everyone 2 index cards and a pen
- Give them 2 minutes to write/draw an example of how we can put other's first this summer. On the back of the card write "Easy" or "Hard" depending on whether they think this will be easy or hard to do.
- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> card write the name of someone they want to put first this summer.
- Call time and ask for a few people to share their cards.

## **Ask These Questions:**

1. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the best, how good are you at putting others first?
2. Who is someone that always put you first?

**Say:** It's hard to put others first. For some reason we default to caring about only ourselves. Did you know that Jesus showed us the ultimate example of putting us first? When Jesus came to this earth; he was born in a barn; lived a fairly poor life, then died for us. Talk about putting us first!

## **Final Challenge & Prayer**

*Take a moment and pray together before finishing up. You can say a prayer yourself, ask a student to pray, or if there is time, see if anyone has a prayer request before praying together.*

*Dear Lord,*

*Help us to think of others before ourselves. Whether it's an old friend or a new friend or someone in our family. Help us to be like Ruth and think of others before ourselves. Amen*

## **Extra Time Do This!**

Pull out your journal books and work on the day three section!