

SECTION
4.6 | **Fellowship**



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Family Titles

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Give your kids a challenge to see if they can come up with the correct names we often give to the following relationships. The answers are in parenthesis.

Names to Guess:

- Female sibling (sister)
- Male sibling (brother)
- Mom's sister (aunt)
- Dad's brother (uncle)
- Aunt's children (cousins)
- Your mom's cousin's kids (second cousins)
- Your second cousin's kid (second cousin once removed)

STEP 2: After kids have tried to figure out the relationship names, ask the following questions:

- How do you define family?
- What is the most important thing about family to you?
- What is the hardest thing about being in a family?
- What is the best thing about your family?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are adopted into God's forever family.
- God expects those in His family to love one another, share the good news, and glorify Him.
- Fellowship is our relationships with believers.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of fellowship in the family of God.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Caricatures

Notes:

What You'll Need: Paper, pencils, crayons or markers

STEP 1: Distribute paper and drawing utensils to kids. Instruct them to draw a caricature of their immediate family (those who live in their home). Explain that a caricature is a funny drawing that exaggerates noticeable differences (e.g., glasses, round nose, curly hair).

STEP 2: After three minutes, ask kids to share their caricatures. Then ask the following questions:

- Why did you highlight those qualities in your caricatures?
- If your siblings or parents were drawing this caricature, which of your features would they have highlighted?
- What is the best thing that stands out in your family?

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are adopted into God's forever family.
- Each person in God's family has noticeable differences in their looks, personalities, likes and dislikes, and opinions.
- Even though each member in God's family is unique, God expects those in His family to work together, love one another, share the good news, and glorify Him.
- Fellowship is our relationships with believers.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of fellowship in the family of God.

SECTION 4.6 Fellowship



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Manners, Please!

What You'll Need: Bibles, two pieces of paper, marker, tape

PREP: Write an A on one piece of paper, and a B on another piece of paper. Tape papers to the wall.

STEP 1: Tell the kids that today's lesson is about fellowship.

Share these key concepts:

- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted in to God's family (Romans 8:16).
- Just as human parents want their children to get along and live happily with one another, God desires us to have good relationships with other believers — our siblings in Christ (1 John 4:7-8).
- God has given us some rules and manners that will help us get along with our brothers and sisters in Christ

STEP 2: Explain that you will be playing a game of choosing between two options. Have your whole group go to the middle of your space, and tell them that their challenge is to each choose the answer they think is most true, and to go to the paper with A or B on it.

Ask for volunteers to read each of the verses out loud. Then ask: "What does the Bible tell us to do to help have good fellowship?"

- Proverbs 19:11
 - A. Overlook offenses; be slow to anger.
 - B. Get really upset whenever anyone does something wrong.
- Romans 12:18
 - A. Give out free gummy bears.
 - B. Live at peace with others.

- Ephesians 4:32
 - A. Be kind and tenderhearted/compassionate.
 - B. Act like a chicken.
- Ephesians 4:3
 - A. Strive for unity.
 - B. Don't really care if people don't get along — you can always give them gummy bears.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- In order for our relationship with believers to grow, we must display love, gentleness, and humility toward them. As we seek to serve them, our relationship is strengthened and our fellowship is deepened (Philippians 2:3-4, Ephesians 4:2-3). We will get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ better, and we will be able to recognize when they are struggling and need comfort. And because we have grown in our love for them, we will willingly reach out to them when they need us to comfort and encourage them (Galatians 6:2).
- We need to strive for unity. We cannot allow sin or personal preferences to come between us and other believers (Ephesians 4:3).
- God is glorified and pleased when we experience fellowship with believers that is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness, and love. Fellowship with other believers is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

Notes:

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Fellowship of Faith

What You'll Need: Bible, a ball of string, hole punch, Fellowship of Faith Handout, marker

PREP: Print and cut apart the handout, and punch holes in each slip of paper

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that this week's lesson is on fellowship.

Share these key concepts:

- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted in to God's family (Romans 8:16).
- Just as human parents want their children to get along and live happily with one another, God desires us to have good relationships with other believers — our siblings in Christ (1 John 4:7-8).

STEP 2: Have the kids stand in a circle (or if your group is large, get a group of volunteers together on the stage).

STEP 3: Hold your ball of string, and explain that for today's lesson the group will be coming up with words that show evidence of fellowship from Scripture.

- Have a volunteer read Acts 2:42-47. Ask: "What displays of fellowship do you see in these verses?" Write down each answer the kids give, and tie it onto the string, and have the kid holding the ball of string throw it to someone across the circle. As the answers are given, the string should make a web-type pattern. (Answers could include: love, compassion.)
- Ask a volunteer to read Hebrews 10:24-25. Ask: "What displays of fellowship do you see in these verses?" Continue to write down each answer the kids give, and tie it onto the string, and have the kid holding the ball of string throw it to someone across the circle. As the answers are given, the string should make

a web-type pattern. (Answers could include: getting to know one another; encouraging one another.)

- Ask for other examples of evidence of fellowship that kids have seen, and add these to your web of string.

STEP 4: Thank your kids for participating in the activity, and ask them to continue holding the web of string as you share some last thoughts with the group.

Share these key concepts:

- Hebrews 10:24-25 offers an example of faithful fellowship. In this example, fellowship was centered around faith in Christ and a mutual desire grow closer together and glorify God.
- In order for our relationship with believers to grow, we must display the kinds of evidence of fellowship that this web of string shows us are in Scripture.
- God is glorified and pleased when we experience fellowship with believers that is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness, and love (1 John 4:7-8). Fellowship with other believers is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

STEP 5: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Fellowship of Faith



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship: