

SECTION
4.6 | **Grace in Action**



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Construction Helpers

What You'll Need: Spaghetti noodles, miniature marshmallows, paper plates, yardstick, individually wrapped candy

PREP: Purchase two boxes of dry spaghetti noodles, two bags of miniature marshmallows, paper plates, and individually wrapped candy. Divide the two boxes of spaghetti noodles evenly onto four paper plates. Divide the two bags of marshmallows evenly onto the paper plates.

STEP 1: Divide kids into four groups. Give each group a plate of dry spaghetti noodles and a plate of marshmallows.

STEP 2: At your signal, have groups work together to build a tower, using only the spaghetti noodles and the marshmallows.

After two minutes, have kids stop building. Use the yardstick to measure the height of each tower, and give candy to each member of the group that built the tallest tower.

Ask the following questions:

- How did having other group members make building the tower easier?
- Why do you think it's important to help others?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God offers us grace through Jesus Christ, and when we trust Jesus as Savior, we become a member of God's family.
- God wants us to help and encourage others.
- As a part of God's family, we can learn to show grace to others and help them grow in grace too.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of grace in action.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Helpless Baby

What You'll Need: Pictures or video of a newborn baby (optional: computer and digital projector)

PREP: Gather pictures or video of a newborn baby from your family albums or from a friend with young children. Or, search online for pictures and videos of newborns. (Optional: Project the pictures and video on a wall in the classroom.)

STEP 1: Present the pictures or video of a newborn baby. Ask any kids who have younger siblings or younger relatives to describe a newborn baby.

Ask the following questions:

- What are some of the needs of a young infant?
- Who are often the ones responsible to care for a baby?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- A helpless baby needs family who will love and care for it.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we become a member of God's family.
- As a part of God's family, we can learn to show grace to others and help them grow in grace too.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of grace in action.

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Unique Helpers

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, index cards, whiteboard and markers *(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to the following passages.

2 Samuel 23:13-16

2 Kings 4:8-10

2 Kings 5:2-5

Acts 11:27-30

Write the following questions on the board:

1. What was the need in these verses?
2. Who was the helper or helpers?
3. How did that person or (people) help meet the need?

STEP 1: Give each kid a pen or pencil. Divide kids into pairs or groups, and give groups a marked Bible. Give kids three minutes to study their verses and answer the questions on the board or on their papers.

STEP 2: Have each group present their findings. Encourage other kids to fill in the information on their handouts as they listen to the other groups.

Share these key concepts:

- Because God helped us and gave us so much grace, we need to be willing to help others and give them grace (John 15:12).
- People have many different needs, but God can use ANYONE as a helper. You are never too young or too old to help meet the needs of others.

- All those who have trusted Christ as Savior become part of one big family. We should take care of those in our Christian family first, so every part of God's family can work at its best. We should also help those outside of our Christian family, which is a way to share the gospel (Galatians 6:9-10).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Galatians 6:9-10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We are encouraged to continue doing good, even when it would be easy to grow weary of it.
- When we continue to do good, even when it is hard, we will reap blessings.
- God wants us to help others, especially those who are a part of His family.

STEP 4: Explain to kids that God wants to use THEM to be helpers in God's family. Give each kid an index card, and encourage them to write a simple note to a pastor, youth leader, Sunday School worker, or Awana leader to encourage that person. Then, challenge them to pray and ask God to show them one way they can help that person.

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

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Service Charades

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, scissors, pens or pencils, small container (optional: props and costumes, large container) *(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)*

PREP: Cut paper into squares. (Optional: Gather various props and costumes [e.g., backpack, Bible, phone, wrapped snack, coats, pretend or real money, hats, purses, clip-on ties, canned goods and a grocery bag, cane or walker, wigs, rake]).

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Galatians 6:9-10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We are encouraged to continue doing good, even when it would be easy to grow weary of it.
- When we continue to do good, even when it is hard, we will reap blessings.
- God wants us to help others, especially those who are a part of His family.

STEP 2: Briefly share with kids a time when someone from church helped you.

Share these key concepts:

- Because God helped us and gave us so much grace, we need to be willing to help others and give them grace (John 15:12).
- People have many different needs, but God can use ANYONE as a helper. You are never too young or too old to help meet the needs of others.
- All those who have trusted Christ as Savior

become part of one big family. We should take care of those in our Christian family first, so every part of God's family can work at its best. We should also help those outside of our Christian family, which is a way to share the gospel (Galatians 6:9-10).

STEP 3: Give each kid a square of paper and a pen or pencil. Ask kids to write on it one way they could be a help to someone this week. Collect their responses, and place them in a container.

STEP 4: Choose two or three volunteers to draw a slip of paper from the container. Give them one minute to come up with a charade depicting that service opportunity. (Be ready to offer help as necessary.)

STEP 5: After a minute, have the volunteers act out their charade, and encourage the rest of the kids to try to guess it.

As time allows, continue the activity with different kids.

Step 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

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