Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



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Day 1

Visit the Parent Cue app (available for iOS and Android) to watch this week's Bible story.

Download it for free at parentcue.org/app.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

1. You liked:

2. You learned:

3. You'd like to know:

A Devotional on Cooperation.

FOR AN everyday faith.

Day 2

Read Luke 5:17-26

Get a sheet of paper and fold it in half lengthwise. Then fold it in half the other way, and again once more. When you open up the paper, you should have eight equal-sized squares. Number the top row 1-4 and the bottom row 5-8. Then illustrate the following scenes, comic-style. (Stick figures are just fine!)

- Jesus inside a house teaching crowds that are surrounding the house.
- 2. A man on a mat, being carried by four friends.
- 3. The friends climbing up the stairs to get to the flat roof of the house carrying their friend on the mat.
- 4. The friends making a hole in the roof.
- 5. The friends lowering the man on the mat in front of Jesus.
- 6. Jesus speaking to the man: "Friend, your sins are forgiven."
- Jesus speaking again to the man: "Get up. Take your mat and go home."
- 8. The man standing up, holding his mat (try to make the man appear to be jumping for joy)

Thank goodness for those four friends—if they hadn't helped their friend (see squares 2–5), the man never would have met Jesus (see 6–7), and he wouldn't have been healed (see 8)!



Day 3

Sometimes we are so consumed by our own needs and wants that we miss the people around us who really need our help.

And sometimes those needs seem too big for us to help on our own. But there's good news! You can ask God for help to see the needs and ask for wisdom to find friends who can help you meet those needs. Pray the prayer below or say your own prayer, asking for guidance.

"Dear God, please show me someone in need around me. Open my eyes to people at school, in our neighborhood, even in my family who may need my help. Then please give me wisdom to know how I can help them, and who can work together with me to help them. I know if I work with others, I will be able to do so much more, so please help me to cooperate with others to help someone in need. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen."

Day 4

There's a saying "Two heads are better than one," meaning two brains thinking about the same thing can come up with a lot more ideas

Invite a friend to hang out, have a snack, play some video games. . . whatever you think is fun (and your grown-up approves!). While you're hanging out, ask them this question:

How can you work together to help someone?

Together, think about some ways you could cooperate to help someone. Jot down some notes or commit to memory some of the best ideas so you can use them tomorrow!



Day 5

Work together to help someone in need.

It's time to meet with your cooperation team again and figure out the next phase of your Cooperation Challenge. This time, think of ways you can work together to help someone in need. The first step is to think of people around you who are in need. . . such as in need of food or clothing, in need of a place to stay, in need of help with their yard work, or in need of a babysitter for a muchneeded night off. Then come up with ideas of how you might work together to meet that need. (Hint: think back to some of the ideas you talked about with your friend!)

Here is an example:

Need: One of your older neighbors who lives alone struggles to keep their lawn mown and is uncomfortable driving even to places like church and the grocery store. They also just seem very lonely since their spouse passed away last year.

Cooperation Solution: Look around the group at who is there and what kinds of abilities and resources you bring to the table. Figure out a plan for who can help with the lawn mowing, who can drive the neighbor to the store, church, and other appointments, and who can spend time with the neighbor, playing games or just talking.

Try to come up with at least three needs you can meet by working together. And don't forget to add all your ideas to the Cooperation Challenge master plan!