



SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS...MATTHEW 6:33

## The Body of Christ

"So it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and all belong to each other."

Romans 12:5

### Circle Time

Can anyone think of some sports that have teams? There are several team sports such as soccer, basketball, and baseball. Each of these sports cannot be done alone with only one person trying to play all of the positions. These teams are made up of many different people with different positions and different skills. For example, a goalie or midfielder in soccer have different jobs on the field but both are important and necessary to win the game.

The Bible says we are all different parts of one body – the body of Christ. "Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." Romans 12:4-5. (Go over the verse a few times.) Each part of the body is needed for the entire body to work in great ways.

Something cool about the body of Christ is that we each have different skills and abilities and when we all use them for the same goal, great things happen. As we look to God and let Him show us how we can participate in His work, God's glory is on display to the world around us. We show others that God is loving, kind and patient by treating them with love, kindness and patience.

It is through Jesus that we are one as the body of Christ. We are joined by the gospel and are to work together and be devoted to one another in love. Because of all that God has done for us, we want to offer our lives to be used for His glory. Our goal is not to win a gold medal like Olympians or to win a game like a soccer team does. Our goal is to know personally and share the Good News of the Gospel with the people around us. We get the amazing job of showing and telling other people about God's amazing love. We get to tell people how He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sin and punishment of death. He loved us so much that He came and took our punishment for us by dying on a cross and was raised from death to life so we can live in a relationship with Him forever. Our punishment for sin has already been paid and we just need to receive it by turning from our sinful ways and follow what God has for us.

## Prayer Time

## Activity Time

The goal of this time is to utilize a variety of engaging activities –passive and active play, crafts, application, and more –to reinforce what was taught in the lesson. While you may not get to every activity, we encourage you to complete the “Take-Home” activity so children leave with a tangible reminder of what was discussed today.

If numbers are high and/or time and space allow, you may want to use a center format: divide the class into groups (one for each activity) and rotate through the centers after an allotted time.

### Center 1 – Dress Up Relay

Supplies: basket of dress-up clothes, 4 cones

Split the kids into 2 teams and set up cones to mark a relay race course. Place a pile of dress-up clothes on the other side for each team. Have the teams stand in a single file line on the starting line. Have one child run down, put on a piece of clothing, and run back to pass off that piece of clothing to the next person in line. The next person is not allowed to start running until they have put on the item of clothing. This repeats until there are no more dress-up clothes left.

### Center 2 – Hula Wave

Supplies: 2 hula-hoops

The children will remain in the same groups for this activity. Have the teammates hold hands to form a circle – one for each team. The leader then places the hula-hoop on one child’s arm. The goal is for each team member to step through the hula-hoop so it passes through each player and makes it all the way around the circle.

### Center 3 – Trash Can Basketball

Supplies: 2 trashcans/baskets/large bowls, foam ball

The children can stay in their 2 teams and use the traditional rules of basketball but the kids must play on their knees and they can carry the ball instead of dribbling. Use trashcans/baskets/large bowls for the goals and the foam ball for the basketball.

### Center 4 – Not a One Man Band

Supplies: variety of musical instruments and/or noisemakers

Give each child a musical instrument or noisemaker to “play.” Have them show that each thing is different to play, but still a part of the band. Have the children play their instruments together to make up a song.



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