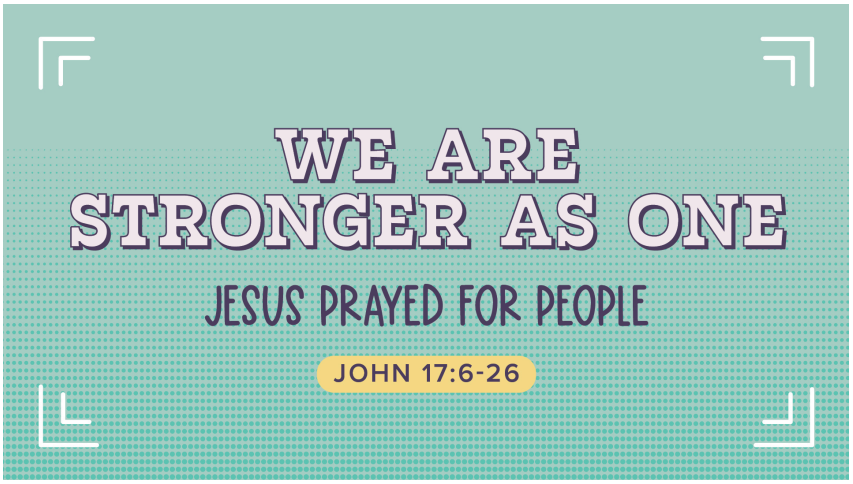
I Am Made For Community — We Are Stronger as One

5th Grade • All Leaders

11/22/2026

Mt Pleasant Church



Bible Story: Jesus Prayed for People (John 17:6-26)
Theme Verse: "Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, according to Christ Jesus, so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one voice." (Romans 15:5-6)

Large Group

1. Welcome / Large Group Leader

2 minutes

Leader Tip

Move to the front during the last 15 seconds of the timer to get the kids excited and lead them to count down the last 10 seconds.

Script

Hey there! I'm ____, and I'm so glad you are here today! We get to take some time today to talk about what it means to live side by side with each other because God made us for community. When we are in community, we are with a group of people who has something in common. Find a friend here in our community, link arms, and say, "Side by side!" *(Side by side!)* Let's get started!



2. Main Idea Video / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Script

One of the best parts of being made for community and living side by side is having fun with friends! Today, we get to check out a video of a girl named Kenzie who loves having fun with her friends, Elsie and Levi. However, their fun today seems to get interrupted when something *pops* up. You'll know what I mean in a moment. Get our video started by saying, "Press play!" in 3-2-1! *(Press play!)*



Presentation

Play Nov2026_S4_MainIdeaVideo_Kids





Script

That popcorn problem was easily solved by Kenzie, Elsie, and Levi working together. Say, “Great popping!” *(Great popping!)* That would have been very challenging if Kenzie had been by herself. But, working together with friends, they all discovered they are stronger as one. The same is true for us! God made us for community, which means we are made for friendships. Because we are made for community, we can know that we are stronger when we are unified and help each other. So many things are better, more fun, and make a big difference when we go through them together. Say, **“We are stronger as one!”** ***(We are stronger as one!)***

3. Video-Led Bible Story (Option 1) / Large Group Leader

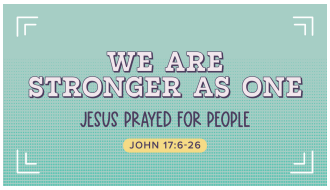
8 minutes

Supplies

- [ ] “Session 4 Bible Story” printable — 1 per group (optional)

Script

(Open the Bible.) Let’s look at what the Bible has to say about being stronger as one. The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. Today we will look at a book in the Bible called John to see what the Bible says about living life side by side. Tap elbows with a friend and say, “Side by side!” *(Side by side!)*



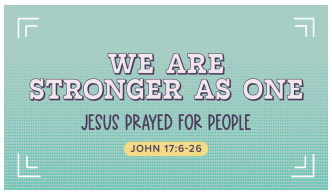
Presentation

Play Nov2026_S4_BibleStoryVideo_Kids



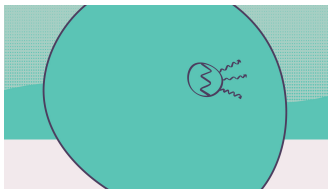
Script

Jesus prayed for all His followers. First, He prayed for His followers who were right there with Him, called the *disciples*. Second, He also prayed for His followers in the future. This includes everyone who will trust and follow Him in the future. This means that even back then, Jesus prayed for all of us who trust and follow Jesus right now! Jesus prayed that His followers would be one—that they would be united. Being united means coming together and helping each other reach a common goal. So when people who follow Jesus are united, it means coming together and helping each other with the goal of loving God and loving people. Jesus knows that we are stronger as one because that is how God designed it. Jesus knew when He prayed that hard times were going to come. Ask, "Why?" *(Why?)*



Script

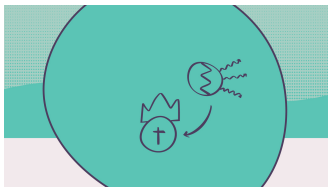
(Circle 2) Difficult and hard times happen because of *sin*, which is doing what *we* think is best instead of following what *God* says is best. Every person who has ever lived on earth except Jesus has sinned, and we cannot fix our sin problem on our own. Our sin deserves punishment because it breaks God's perfect design. When Jesus prayed this prayer, He knew that sin would cause difficult and hard times for His followers.



Script

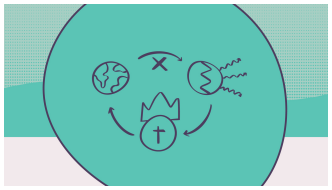
(Circle 3) Jesus also knew how He would rescue us from our sin because He loves us. Say, "Who, me?" *(Who, me?)* Yes, you! All of you! Not long after Jesus prayed this prayer, He died on the cross. Jesus died to take the punishment we deserved for our sin. He knew that was the only way to rescue us. Jesus also knew that He would not stay dead. He rose again on the third day, defeating both sin and death. Since Jesus died on the cross and rose again, God now forgives every person who trusts in Jesus, asks for forgiveness, turns away from sin, and follows Him.

In today's Bible story, Jesus prayed for every person who ever has or ever will decide to respond by turning from sin to trust and follow Him. One day, He will put an end to the hard and difficult times for every person who follows Him.



Script

(Circle 1) Before sin, the world was perfect. There was no sadness, suffering, or death. Jesus promised to return someday and make everything perfect again. Everyone who believes and follows Him will get to live without any sadness, suffering, hard times, or death forever! For how long? *(Forever!)* While we wait for His return, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us live as one community because **we are stronger as one!** It is not easy to live in this broken world and try to follow Jesus. The good news is that we have a community of people who can help and encourage us as we follow Jesus together. All the people who love and follow Him and are part of God's family.



If you would like to talk more about asking for forgiveness and following Jesus, please talk to me or your Team Leader. We would love to talk with you about how much God loves you and how you can have life with Him forever!

Everyone, say, “I am made for community!” *(I am made for community!)* We are made for community, and Jesus prayed for unity between His followers because **we are stronger as one.** Hard times will come for those who follow Jesus, but God does not want us to go through those hard times alone. We can do a lot on our own, but we can stand stronger when we are one with others in God’s family. When we live united, we show others that we follow God and bring Him glory and honor. **We are stronger as one,** and part of being stronger as one means that we can help each other follow Jesus. Say, “**We are stronger as one**!” ***(We are stronger as one!)***

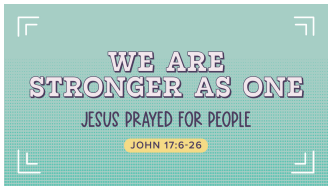
5. Closing / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Script

Remember, God made us for community, and **we are stronger as one.** Turn to a friend, give an arm muscle flex, and say**, “We are stronger as one**!” ***(We are stronger as one!)*** Being stronger as one means that we can help each other out during the hard times that will come. We can do some things on our own, but we can do so much more together. Let’s pray and thank God for making us stronger as one.

God, thank You for making us one in Jesus. Thank You for knowing that we will have hard times in our lives. You made us to be stronger as one as we help and encourage each other. Thank You for sending Jesus to make the way for us to be one and to make the way for us to have life with You forever. We love You so much. Amen.



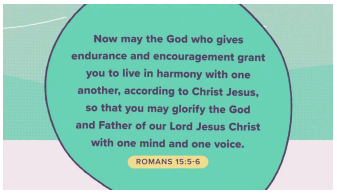
Script

I’ve had a great time learning with you about what it means to be stronger as one. As you head to Team Time, pretend to be enjoying something that is better together. Red Team, pretend like you’re swimming in a pool on a sunny day. Green Team, act like you’re making a snowman in a field full of snow. Blue Team, pretend like you’re playing in fall leaves. Yellow Team, pretend like you’re kicking a soccer ball back and forth with a friend. Orange Team, act like you’re playing pickleball. Purple Team, pretend like you’re eating popcorn and watching a movie with a friend.



Presentation

Play Nov2026_ThemeLoopVideo_Kids



6. Make The Discovery — Older Questions / Small Group Leader

10 minutes

Leader Tip

Use this time for side-by-side discovery-based learning. Kids are invited to participate and discuss, building relationships with each other and their leader. These questions are designed to help all kids—regardless of biblical knowledge or background—feel like they can contribute.

Supplies

- [ ] "Session 4 Bible Story" printable — 1 per group (optional)



Script

What To Do: Now we have some more time to talk more about living side by side.

1. Think of activities that are stronger as one: football games as a team, concerts with a choir or band, or group assignments for homework. What have you enjoyed with friends that was made stronger by people being together? *(Allow kids to answer and share your answer.)*
2. The Bible tells us that we are made for community because **we are stronger as one.** Let's open our Bibles to **John 17:20-21** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verses aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verses aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* Jesus prayed that His followers would be one like He and God the Father are One. Jesus also said that the world would believe in Him when His followers live united. What do you think people learn about God when they see His followers living with unity, helping each other, and caring for each other? *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that people see that God is kind and caring and that He helps people love Him and love each other.)*
3. How can everyone in God's family help each other follow Him? *(Allow kids to answer. Tell kids that we can remind each other that God loves us, that we can always be part of His family, and that He forgives our sin forever. We can also pray for each other and encourage each other to live like the Bible tells us to live.)*
4. Jesus prayed for His people to live as one by loving each other and helping each other. What can you do when you think you can do things better by yourself? *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that we can remind ourselves that we are stronger together and that God uses us to help others like He uses others to help us. We can help everyone be stronger when we do things as one.)*
5. The Bible tells us Jesus prayed for His people, and that His people are all part of one community. Jesus prayed for His people to live side by side and be as one. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)* Let's pray and talk with God. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

*God, thank You for making us stronger as one. You knew we would need You to help us live united, and You made us to help each other. Help us remember that **we are stronger as one** and know that we don't have to go through anything alone. Show us how to help each other and show love and kindness to one another. We love You. Amen.*