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IMPACT KIDS PRE-CAMP BIBLE STUDY

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#IMPACTBETTERTOGETHER



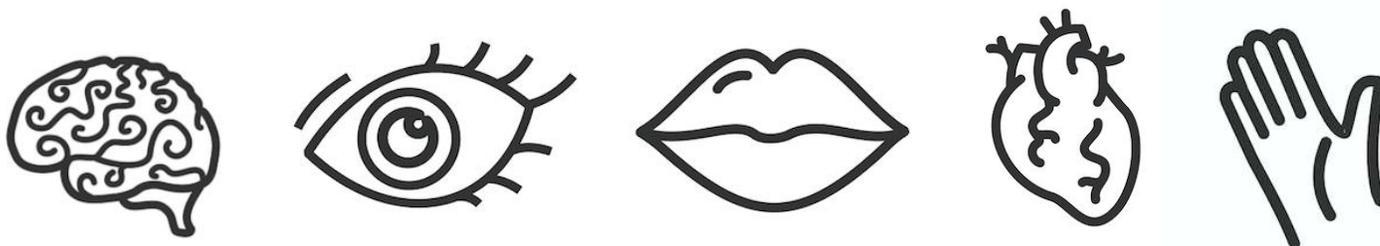
IMPACT
MISSION CAMPS



“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”

Ephesians 4:11-12

BEFORE YOU BEGIN



Like a baseball team consists of pitchers/catchers, in-fielders, outfielders, and batters or a choir is made up of sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses, God's team is comprised of members who have different roles and responsibilities. This year's theme at Impact Mission Camps is "Better Together." Using Ephesians 4 and the Five-Fold ministry model, campers will explore what it means to be a part of God's team. They will be encouraged to celebrate their individual identities and put into practice being a united team as they grow into who God has created them to be.

In Ephesians 4:11-12 it says, he gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. His purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ. It is from this text that the Five-Fold Ministry Model was formed. Campers will learn about each of these types of leaders and be challenged to discover how they can use their talents, personalities, and skills to serve on God's team in these roles. If you would like to learn more about the Five-Fold Ministry Model check out <https://5qcentral.com> .

One way you can help your camper prepare, is by completing this Pre-Camp bible study together. In studying how children best grow in and maintain their faith, parents/caregivers have been found to have the biggest influence. Use this time to talk with your camper about what you believe and tell them the stories from your life that have shaped your faith. There are no wrong answers here-just be present and honest with them.

Throughout the study you will be invited to learn about God's calling for Christians to be a team, to work together, to help one another, and to be united! Each session consists of 5 parts:

1. **Reading and exploring scripture:** If possible, challenge your camper to find the scripture verses by themselves. At camp they will be asked to look up and read scripture.
2. **Story:** Sharing stories can be one of the best teaching tools for children. In each session you have the options to read or watch a story that illustrates the importance of working together.
3. **Team building activities:** These fun activities will help you and your camper learn about the different roles on God's team and the Five-Fold Ministry Model. Each activity is set up for two people, but you are more than welcome to make more copies if your whole family is doing the bible study together.
4. **Reflection questions:** Take the time to both listen to your camper and share with them your answers. These questions are meant to further foster faith-focused conversations.
5. **Prayer:** Each session invites you to close in prayer together. Take turns praying and challenge everyone to pray at least once throughout the four sessions.

STUDY OVERVIEW

SESSION ONE

God Calls Us to be a Team

- Scripture: Ephesians 4:15-16
- Story: Impact Mission Camps' Team
- Team Building Activity: Stoplight Check-In
- Supplies Needed: Red, Yellow, and Green Marker/Crayon

SESSION TWO

God Calls Us to Work Together

- Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
- Story: The Blind men and the Elephant
- Team Building Activity: Team Matching
- Supplies Needed: Pen/Pencil

SESSION THREE

God Calls Us to Help One Another

- Scripture: Ecclesiastes 4:9-10
- Story: The Good Samaritan
- Team Building Activity: God's Team Questionnaire
- Supplies Needed: Pen/Pencil

SESSION FOUR

God Calls Us to be United

- Scripture: Romans 12:4-6a
- Story: Trevor and Melanie's Better Together Story
- Team Building Activity: God's Team Circle Art
- Supplies Needed: Pen/Pencil, Colored Pencils or Markers

SESSION ONE

GOD CALLS US TO BE A TEAM

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURES

Read Ephesians 4: 15-16

This summer and throughout this Bible Study, we are going to be focusing on Ephesians 4 as our guide in learning about our theme “Better Together.” The book of Ephesians is a series of letters written by Paul to the Christians in Ephesus. In these letters, Paul both teaches the Ephesians about Jesus and instructs them how to live as a Christian. Paul uses the image of a body to teach them about the church and how to be a loving community. The Ephesians are instructed to work together as a team (or a body), with each member doing their part to support one another and serve God.

STORY

Impact Mission Camps’ Team [Watch Here!](#)

You may not know it, but Impact Mission Camps’ team consists of LOTS of people who work all year-round to prepare for camp. The team consists of the directors, summer staff, construction coordinators, churches, and many more individuals who volunteer their time so that you can come to camp. During the week of camp even more people join Impact’s team like the Preacher and Worship Leader, ministers, leaders, volunteers, and YOU! Together, as the Impact Team, we will serve our community, study the Bible, pray, worship together, and take care of one another. Everyone on the team is important and has a special job. By working together, we can make a bigger impact, we are better together!

TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY: SPOTLIGHT CHECK-IN

During this Bible Study and at Camp this summer we are going to explore God’s team. The five “team members” we are going to focus on are the Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd, and Teacher. On page 7, read the descriptions of the team members and color the spotlight either green (that is definitely me!), yellow (that sounds kind of like me), or red (I don’t think that sounds like me!). It is okay if you aren’t sure, just do the best that you can!

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What is your favorite team? This could be a professional sports team, a group you are a part of (Scouts, choir, a group of friends), or a fictional team like the Avengers.
- What are three good things about this team?
- What do you think some of your jobs will be at Impact Kids this summer?

PRAYER

Close in prayer together by each praying or designating one person to pray. Throughout this study challenge everyone to pray at least once. Thank God for the teams in your lives and their team members. Pray for the Impact team who is getting ready for camp, even now! Ask God for guidance as you explore what it means to be a part of God's team.

STOPLIGHT CHECK-IN

Green: Definitely me!

Yellow: Kind of sounds like me

Red: Definitely NOT me!

APOSTLE

A leader who is the brains behind the team. They challenge and coach everyone to explore God’s special instructions for their lives. They know a lot about the history of the church and use what they know to help the church grow in new ways. It is most important to them that the team continues to share God’s love and serve the world in ways that meet the needs of our ever-changing world.

PROPHET

A leader who can see God’s vision for the world and shares that with the team. They encourage people to reflect on their lives and make sure they are following God’s direction. They love to tell others about how special God is and how we have special callings to be like God. It is most important to them that the team follows God’s example to be just, holy, and righteous.

EVANGELIST

A leader who speaks the good news of Jesus’ ministry and God’s love with the whole team and throughout the world. They love to tell stories about how God is active today and invite people to get involved in the ministries of the church. It is most important to them that the team grows in spiritual understanding and size.

SHEPHERD

A leader who has a big heart and takes care of everyone on the team. They pray for people who are hurt, sick, or sad but also help people if they are angry, have big questions about God, or are in a fight. It is most important to them that the team is unified and healthy.

TEACHER

A leader who is very wise and hands down their knowledge to everyone on the team. They read their Bible and study a lot but also guide others to do the same. It is most important to them that the team is learning and preparing to share their knowledge with those in the future.

CAMPER

Definitely me!

Kind of sounds like me

Definitely NOT me!

ADULT

Definitely me!

Kind of sounds like me

Definitely NOT me!

Definitely me!

Kind of sounds like me

Definitely NOT me!

Definitely me!

Kind of sounds like me

Definitely NOT me!

Definitely me!

Kind of sounds like me

Definitely NOT me!

SESSION TWO

GOD CALLS US TO WORK TOGETHER

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURES

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

Similar to the book of Ephesians, in 1 Corinthians Paul is writing letters to another Christian community. Instead of Ephesus, this church is located in Corinth. In this letter, Paul is trying to help the Corinthians work through some big disagreements. One of the problems was that when they went to church, everyone thought they had all the answers and so they wouldn't listen to each other. Instead of worshipping together, they argued! Once again Paul uses the image of a body to encourage the people to work together. He says that the parts don't have to look the same and can function really differently, but still be united through the Spirit. Whether God's team is winning big or struggling to get along, we are called to work together.

STORY

The Blind men and the Elephant [Watch Here!](#)

This ancient, Indian parable shows us that we all experience things differently but when we combine our wisdom, we are able to know more. Each man had a different response when he reached out to touch the elephant. One thought an elephant was like a wall, the others thought a giant snake, a spear, a large cow, a magic carpet, and an old rope. None of those things sound like an elephant but when you put them all together, it begins to make more sense. Like the six men who were blind, as individuals we are limited by what we can know and do. God, like the Rajah wants us to put our wisdom and skills together and as a team, share God's love and care for the world.

TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY: MATCHING

Do you remember the five members on God's team? Write them here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

In 1 Corinthians you read about how Christians make up a body. We each have different parts but are called by God to be united. Match the body parts with God's team members (see page 10).

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Like the men who were blind, have you ever disagreed with your teammates? How did your team work through this?
- Why do you think it is important for a team to have members who have different jobs or who have different talents and abilities?
- Which part of Christ's body (head, eyes, mouth, heart, or hands) do you think best describes you?

PRAYER

Close in prayer together by each praying or designating one person to pray. Throughout this study challenge everyone to pray at least once. Thank God for all the gifts you have. Pray for a team (in your life or throughout the world) who isn't getting along, pray that they will find peace. Ask God for guidance as you explore your gifts and role on God's team.

MATCHING

Draw a line from the team leader to the body part that best represents their role on God's team.

APOSTLE

A leader who is the brains behind the team. They challenge and coach everyone to explore God's special instructions for their lives. They know a lot about the history of the church and use what they know to help the church grow in new ways. It is most important to them that the team continues to share God's love and serve the world in ways that meet the needs of our ever-changing world.



PROPHET

A leader who can see God's vision for the world and shares that with the team. They encourage people to reflect on their lives and make sure they are following God's direction. They love to tell others about how special God is and how we have special callings to be like God. It is most important to them that the team follows God's example to be just, holy, and righteous.



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A leader who is very wise and hands down their knowledge to everyone on the team. They read their Bible and study a lot but also guide others to do the same. It is most important to them that the team is learning and preparing to share their knowledge with those in the future.



SESSION THREE

GOD CALLS US TO HELP ONE ANOTHER

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURES

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

The book of Ecclesiastes might be new to you and hard to find. It is in the Old Testament and like the book of Proverbs, it is a book of lessons about life. These books teach us about wise ways we can live like God in the world. The lesson we read today teaches us that it is better to be together because when we are together, we have someone to celebrate with when we complete a difficult task. It also says that we are better together because then we have someone to help us when we fall down. The really good parts of life, like winning the championship game or getting an A+ on our science project are even better when we have a team to share it with. The really bad parts of life, like when we are hurt, sad, or embarrassed don't have to be as bad, if we have a team to pick us up and cheer us on.

STORY

The Good Samaritan- Luke 10:25-37 [Watch Here!](#)

This story begins with a follower of Jesus asking, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" In asking this, I think the man is trying to show off. Jesus liked to answer questions by either asking another question or telling a story. This time he does both! Jesus first asks the follower what the written law says. The follower responds, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself." And then Jesus tells a story that you have probably heard before. At the end of his story, Jesus asks, which one, the Priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan was a neighbor? The man realizes that following Jesus means that we must follow God's rules AND love everyone, even the people we don't like. God's team consists of people who look different, like different things, and are good at different things. What makes this team strong is that they love each other and they use their differences to work together.

TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY: GOD'S TEAM QUESTIONNAIRE

Fill out the questionnaire (see pages 13–14) to learn a little more about your role on God's team. Campers and adults are invited to each complete the questionnaire, but it might be best to read and talk about the questions together.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Share about a time when someone (maybe it was you!) needed help and a teammate offered help.
- Is it easy, kind of hard, or very difficult to help someone on your team? Why? What about someone who isn't on your team?
- Which role on God's team sounds the most like you? How can you be a helper in this role?

PRAYER

Close in prayer together by each praying or designating one person to pray. Throughout this study challenge everyone to pray at least once. Thank God for teammates who are helpers. Pray for people in our world today who need teammates to help them. Ask God to help you be a better teammate and helper.

GOD'S TEAM QUESTIONNAIRE

Fill out the questionnaire ranking them 1-5:



1. _____ I feel called to lead and guide others to be leaders in the church.
2. _____ I get distracted by other ideas and memories when I try to pray.
3. _____ I like to talk in front of lots people and tell them stories about my life and faith.
4. _____ I feel sad when someone else gets hurt. It is important to me to help them.
5. _____ I love to learn and am very curious about the world and how it works.
6. _____ I am an encourager. I listen to others and help them reach their hopes and dreams.
7. _____ It is important to me to help people who are hurt, sick, or bullied. I stand for justice.
8. _____ I love to celebrate when others accomplish their goals, I always tell everyone.
9. _____ When my siblings or friends don't get along, I often help them work things out.
10. _____ I am good at explaining hard things and helping others understand new ideas.
11. _____ I tend to say what I am thinking without filtering it first, I believe the truth is important, even if it is blunt.
12. _____ I frequently get a 'Gut Feeling' about things. I am usually right on my opinions.
13. _____ Life is short! I think we all need to be doing more to change the world.
14. _____ I worry about and want to help people who have big problems in their lives.
15. _____ I learn new things all the time and enjoy sharing it with everyone.

On the next page, calculate your answers!

GOD'S TEAM QUESTIONNAIRE: RESULTS

Write your numerical response (1-5) in the chart.
(Example: If you put a 3 for question #1, write "3" in the Q1 blank.)

Then add the blanks going across (Example Q1 + Q6 + Q11).

The team role that has the largest number is the one you are most like.

APOSTLE	Q1: _____	Q6: _____	Q11: _____	TOTAL:

PROPHET	Q2: _____	Q7: _____	Q12: _____	TOTAL:

EVANGELIST	Q3: _____	Q8: _____	Q13: _____	TOTAL:

SHEPHERD	Q4: _____	Q9: _____	Q14: _____	TOTAL:

TEACHER	Q5: _____	Q10: _____	Q15: _____	TOTAL:

TEAM ROLES:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

SESSION FOUR

GOD CALLS US TO BE UNITED

EXPLORING THE SCRIPTURES

Read Romans 12:4-6a

These verses from the Bible sound a lot like the ones you have read in Sessions 1 and 2. Like the previous passages, when exploring how we as Christians need to live, we are told that it is better to live together. Paul wrote many letters to early Christian churches with rules and instructions. In this letter, Paul is writing to the church in Rome. This church has members who were both Jews and Gentiles. Because they grew up differently, they didn't always get along. Paul is teaching them to use the ways they are different to strengthen their church as a whole. Just like our bodies have different parts (hands, eyes, mouths) they work best when they are unified as one body.

STORY

Trevor and Melanie's Better Together Story [Watch Here!](#)

Trevor and Melanie are a very special team in our world today. Trevor was born legally blind and Melanie was born with a condition called Spina Bifida. Melanie is not able to walk but instead uses a wheelchair. Both Trevor and Melanie like being outside and exploring nature. As they became friends, they realized that by working together they made a pretty good hiking team. Trevor carries Melanie in a backpack on his back and Melanie uses her sight to tell Trevor where to go and to keep him from tripping or bumping into things. I think God's team and the Body of Christ are a lot like Trevor and Melanie's team. We can learn about teamwork when we watch Trevor and Melanie climb mountains together. Instead of letting their limitations (the things they can't do) stop them from enjoying the things they love to do, they asked each other for help and worked together.

TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY: GOD'S TEAM CIRCLE ART

Look back at the Team Building Activity from Session 3. Using the graphic on page 17, write the roles in order of highest score to lowest in the circles (the biggest circle will be your highest score and the smallest circle will be your lowest score). Inside each circle draw pictures and write words that describe each of the roles on God's team. An example is provided here to inspire your group (larger version also available on page 18!)



(example)

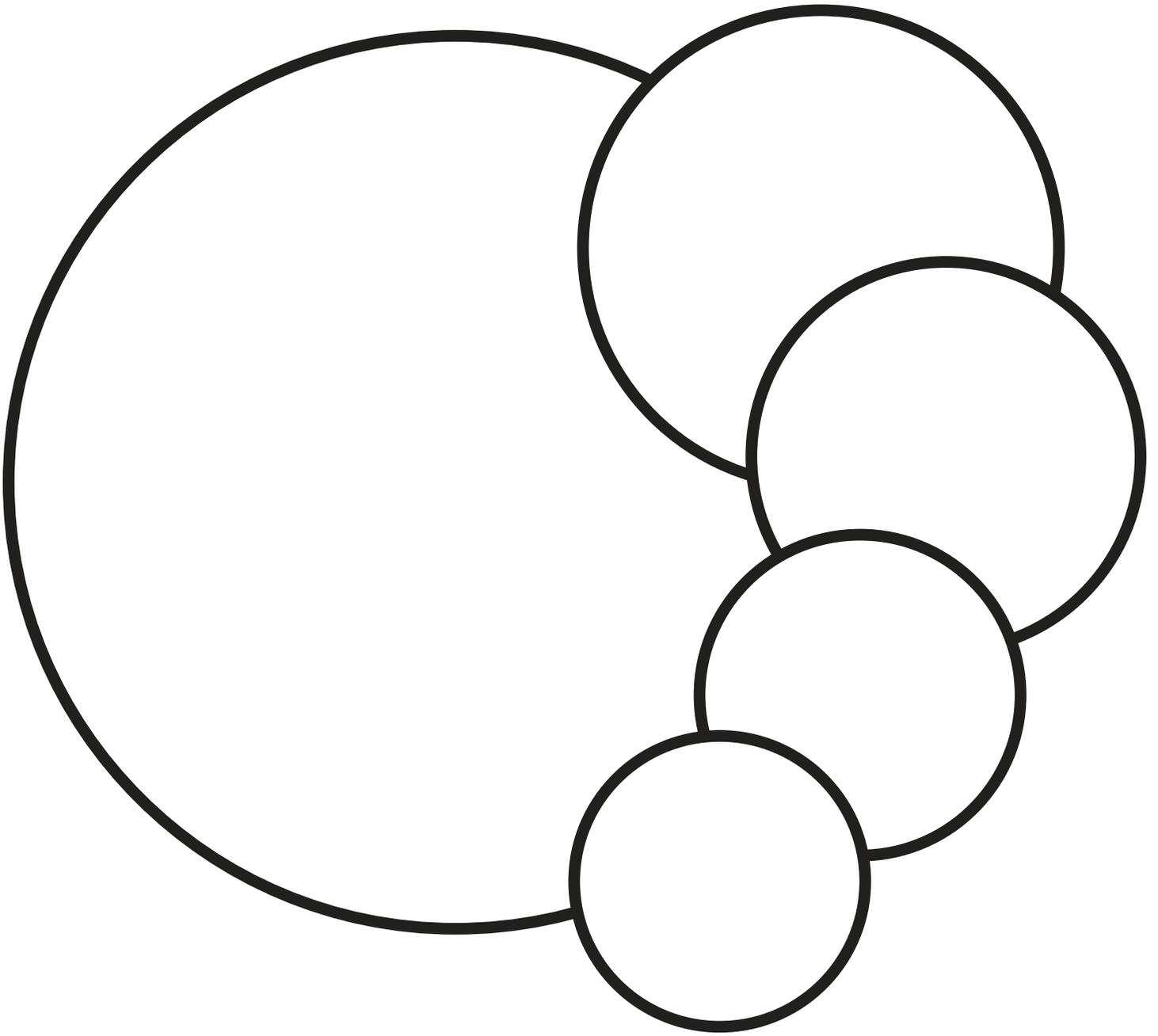
REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Have you ever teamed up with others like Trevor and Melanie? What did you do?
- Learning about God's team gives me hope. When we work together, we can help fix BIG problems in our world. What is one hope you have for God's Team and our world?
- What are three things you have learned from this Bible Study? What is one thing you will take away from it?

PRAYER

Close in prayer together by each praying or designating one person to pray. Throughout this study challenge everyone to pray at least once. Thank God for the ability to work together-we ARE better together. Pray for the unity, strength, and health of God's team. Ask God to guide you as you grow into and discover your role within God's team.

GOD'S TEAM CIRCLE ART



GOD'S TEAM CIRCLE ART

SAMPLE



CITED RESOURCES

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"Hiking Duo Don't Let Disabilities Stop Them from Climbing Mountains." *ABC News*, ABC News Network, 9 July 2019, abcnews.go.com/WNT/video/hiking-duo-disabilities-stop-climbing-mountains-64229134.

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