**Upper Elementary Day 3**

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**Today’s Story:** Jesus Feeds the 5,000 (Matthew 14:13-21)

**Bottom Line:** Do Compassion

**Life App:** Compassion- Caring about others and helping people in need.”

**Camp Verse:** “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Matthew 7:12 NIV

**Leader’s Note:**

Matthew 14:14 is a powerful verse! It tells us that Jesus saw the crowds and had compassion. The following verses then show us compassion in action. Matthew tells us that Jesus healed the sick and then fed over 5,000 people. Compassion is not a feeling; compassion is a feeling combined with action. Jesus provides an incredible example of compassion, and it is this example that we want to teach our campers today. What does it look like for us to move from a place of feeling to a place of action. Nearly the entire population can feel bad about a situation, but the real challenge is taking that feeling and doing something to make the situation better. That is what Jesus is calling us to do. Take action; make a difference; people will know we are followers of Jesus by the love we show, not the feelings we have. God bless your day with your campers as we all strive to be people of compassion!

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As campers arrive, they will check in at the front table and a volunteer will take them through the dinner line and to their class table(s). Make sure all of your campers sit at your table(s). If you have 2 tables, have one leader at each table. Make sure to introduce yourselves, discuss the theme for the day and to help the campers get to know each other. You will also have a card game that is similar to apples to apples that you can play.

Make sure to have your class binder at the table with you so you can check kids off as they come in. Make sure to give each camper a nametag either at the dinner table or when you get into the classroom.

If your whole group finishes before 6:00, you can take them to your small group space to start your activities.

\*\*\*Make sure to encourage manners, have them clean up their plates, drinks and any mess they made at the table.

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**Welcome Your Kids:**

Be A Leader with TUMS

**T-Touch (High fives and fist bumps)**

**U-Use their name in a positive way**

**M-Make Eye Contact**

**S-Smile**

**Getting Started:**

As you kids arrive take attendance and ask this question of the day:

Would you rather skip lunch or skip dinner?

**Remind your group of the 3 rules of the Jesus Tour this week:**

* **Treat others the way you want to be treated. (The Golden Rule)**
* **Take Part in Camp**
* **Have Fun**

**Say:** Camp has been so much fun so far! Let’s make day 3 the best day yet! That starts with following those 3 rules of camp.

**Opening Game: Impossible Challenges!**

**What you need**: Impossible challenge cards, paper bag, 1 balloon for every team

**What you do:**

* Divide your group into 2 or 3 teams.
* Invite groups to select 1 member of their team to compete in a challenge.
* Once each team has a member selected, choose one of the impossible challenge cards from the bag.
* Read the task to the campers and give them 30 seconds to complete the challenge.
* If they complete the challenge their team gets a point.
* Each task is pretty much impossible but don’t tell the campers yet. Let them struggle for 30 seconds and continue playing.
* After all cards have been selected bring all the group together and see which team has the most points.

**After the game ask:**

Did anyone feel bad for the volunteers as they were trying to complete the challenge?

Did anyone come up and help their teammate?

**Say:** This game helps us think about what our Jesus Tour theme is for today. Our theme is compassion. Compassion is caring about others and helping people in need. Compassion is not just feeling bad for people like some of you did in the game; compassion is all about acting on those feelings and helping others.

**Intro The Bible Story: Best Meal Ever**

**What you Need:** 1 individual whiteboard, 1 whiteboard marker, 1 whiteboard eraser. stickers

**What you do:**

* One leader will need the whiteboard and marker.
* Instruct the campers that you will say a popular meal from the list below.
* The leader with the whiteboard will grade the meal on how well they like it. They have 3 choices for an answer, 1-they don’t like the meal, 5-the meal is ok/mid, or 10 they love the meal.
* The campers will then predict what their leader will say by holding up the number of fingers to try and match the leaders answer.
* Reveal the leader’s answer. Whoever predicted correctly gets a sticker.
* Repeat using the meal list below. You can: change leaders at anytime; have a kid take the whiteboard; or have the same leader run the game and write on the whiteboard at the same time.
* At the end of the game whoever has the most stickers is the winner.
* If no one has more than 2 stickers, then the leaders are the winner.

***Meal List: (All meals are homemade)***

*Tacos*

*Pizza*

*Soup*

*Mac and Cheese*

*Salad*

*Tuna Melts*

*Chicken Nuggets*

*Chicken and Rice*

*Egg Salad Sandwiches*

*Meatloaf*

*Turkey and green beans*

**After the game ask:**

When you are hungry what is one thing you always like to eat?

Is there one thing you would never eat no matter how hungry you are?

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*Take your group to the sanctuary.*

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Check your schedule to see which rotation you have today.

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**Explore The Bible Story: Lunch bag Review**

**What You Need:** 5 Prepared Paper Lunch Bags (write point values on bag), Marker, Ping Pong ball, Bible Story Print-Out, masking tape, Jesus tour map

**What you do:**

* Show campers where on the map today’s story took place.
* Review The Bible Story by reading Matthew 14:13-21 or hit on the key points of the story yourself in 2 minutes.
* Divide into 2 or 3 teams.
* Place a masking tape line for the teams to line up behind.
* About 7 feet away place the paper lunch bags. They may need to be folded so they stay open.
* Write the following point values on each bag (10, 100, 1,000, 10,000, 100,000) Be sure the bags with the higher point value are further away than the bags with the lower point value.
* Ask the following questions to each team. If they get it right they get 3 tosses of a ping pong ball into the bag. If any of the ping pong balls go in the bag they get the points associated with the bag.
* Have a score keeper during the game.

Note: You might need to use the masking tape to tape down the bags so they don’t fall over and are easier to get ping pong balls into.

Questions:

1. What book of the Bible is today’s story from? (Matthew)
2. Where were Jesus and the crowd? (Wilderness; deserted place)
3. When Jesus saw the crowds what did he have? (compassion)
4. How did Jesus show compassion? (Healed the sick, fed the hungry)
5. How many people were there to see Jesus? (Over 5,000)
6. What was the disciples plan to get these people food? (Send them away to find it themselves)
7. How many loaves of bread did the disciples have? (5)
8. Have many small fish did the disciples find? (2)
9. What did Jesus do before feeding the people? (Prayed or blessed the food)
10. How many baskets of leftovers were there? (12)
11. What does compassion mean? (Caring about others and helping people in need)
12. How can we show compassion at camp? (use your best judgement for these answers)
13. How could we show compassion on our sports teams? (use your best judgement for these answers)
14. How could we show compassion at school? (use your best judgement for these answers)

**Say:** Jesus showed us an amazing example of what compassion looks like. Compassion is not just feeling bad for someone it is feeling bad but then doing something about it! Sometimes it is hard to help others. Can anyone give me some reasons why it might be hard to show compassion? (Allow responses) Thanks for sharing. It definitely can be hard to help others but on the Jesus tour compassion is something we must try and work on.

**Bible Story Wrap-Up**

**What you need:** Index Cards and Pens

**What you do:**

* Hand out 1 index card and 1 pen to each camper.
* Have them divide the card into 4 sections with the pen.
* Have them number each section “1,2,3,4”
* In box 1 have them write the name of someone they could show more compassion to?
* In box 2 have them write where they see this person
* In box 3 have them write one way they are going to show compassion.
* In box 4 have them write “The Golden Rule”

**Closing Activities: DUO Card Game**

**What you need:** Do Unto Others Playing Cards

**What you do:**

* Note: Each day you will be adding in new cards that connect with the daily theme of camp.
* Play a game similar to *“Apples and to Apples.”* Directions are below.
* Divide into groups of 6 or less.
* Each player needs 5 or 6 red playing cards.
* Pick a judge for the first round.
* The judge picks one green card for the middle/category card and lays it in the middle of the group.
* The judge closes his/her eyes.
* Everyone else in the group lays down one red card face down that they think matches the category the best.
* Once all the players have laid down 1 card the judge can open their eyes.
* The judge reads all the submissions and selects his/her favorite.
* The card that the judge picks get a point for that round.
* Play 3-4 more rounds with different judges as time allows.
* As you play work in some intentional conversations about our theme for the week.

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**Prayer and Take-Home Challenge**

**Supplies Needed:** Daily Challenge Cards

**What you do:**

* Hand out daily challenge cards.
* Encourage kids to do the challenge of the day at home tonight.
* Close in prayer. You can pray, have a camper pray, or read the prayer below.

Dear Jesus,

We are so excited to be on the Jesus Tour this week! Help us to be people who don’t only feel bad for people, but also help them. Thank you for your amazing example of compassion in our story today. Amen.

*If you have extra time review the verse of the week:*

*“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Matthew 7:12*