





#### **CONNECT TIME**

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids: What activities or sports have you joined? How did it feel to join those groups?



## **JOIN IN TAG**

**Start by 9:20/10:45** 

Choose one kid to be It and tell him that he will try to tag the other kids. Explain to the kids that when they are tagged by It, they must stay near him and try to tag other kids as well. As time passes and more kids are tagged, the group will grow until no more kids are left to tag. Play again as time allows, choosing different kids to be It each time.

As a church body, we are united in Jesus and work together to share the gospel. When God uses us to share the gospel, the body of Christ grows. The gospel is for everyone! Today, we will learn how that as the church grew, Gentiles—or non-Jewish people—became part of the church.

**START BY** 

REVIEW 3 BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



**LARGE GROUP** 

9:30/10:55

# **SMALL GROUP**



#### **DISCUSSION**

- **How were the Gentiles saved?** Gentiles were saved just like the Jewish believers were: by faith in Jesus. The Bible records how the Gentiles repented of sin, turned to Jesus, and were given the Holy Spirit.
- **Do you rejoice when others trust in Jesus? Why?** The greatest event that can happen in anyone's life is to trust in Jesus as his or her Savior. Salvation is more special than birthdays, vacations, getting new toys, etc. Encourage kids to celebrate and praise God when they hear about someone trusting in Jesus.
- The church in Antioch grew after Barnabas arrived and encouraged the believers there. Why do you think the church grew after Barnabas encouraged the believers in Antioch? Barnabas encouraged the believers to remain true to the Lord with devoted hearts. One way we can show we are devoted to God is by being obedient to His command to share the good news of Jesus with others. Sharing the gospel is how the church grows as others hear and believe the good news.



#### **KEY PASSAGE**

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27 together. The Bible reminds us that the church is one body in Jesus. He is who we worship, and the reason we serve together.

Prompt the kids to sit in a circle. Provide one kid with a ball of yarn. Lead him to say the first word of the key passage. Then direct him to toss the ball of yarn to another kid while hold the end of the yarn. Lead the kid now holding the yarn to say the next word of the key passage and then toss the yarn to another kid while also holding onto the string of yarn. Repeat until the entire key passage is said aloud. At this point, all kids should be holding the yarn. Discuss how this is a picture of how they are unified in Jesus.



### MANY HANDS, ONE IMAGE

Provide each kid with a piece of construction paper in a variety of colors, a pencil, and scissors. Lead kids to trace one of their hands on the piece of paper. Then, direct kids to cut out the hands. (Assist with kids who have a hard time using scissors or ask older kids in the classroom to help the younger kids.) Give kids time to decorate their hands. Ask kids to gather together as one large group and use their hands to make a cross on the wall. Assist with taping the hands to the wall.

Each hand on this cross represents a unique kid. The hand sizes are all different but when they came together, they formed one image. This is like the church. We are many parts but one body united in Jesus. The church is all Christians everywhere, who gather together in their communities to worship and serve God.



**Key Passage:** Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ...Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27



**Big Picture Question:** What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere, who gather together in their communities to worship and serve God.



As time allows, pass out crayons and pencils for kids to work on the activity sheet.



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers. Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.