

**Need to Know:**

I Can Be a Leader Who Includes Others!

Bible Story:

Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall

Nehemiah 1-3, 4:1-6,
6:15-16, 12:27&43

Materials:

- Bible Story Cards
- Hand Sanitizer
- Marshmallows
- Filler Guide

Get Their Attention! (3 minutes)

Materials: None

INTRODUCE yourself by saying:

Hey! My name is _____, and I'm so glad all of you are here today! We get to hang out at Camp Wannastay and learn how we can be leaders who set the example for others!

One way we can set a good example is by including others! Let's go around the circle. When it's your turn, tell us your name and what YOU would rather be included in, a giant food fight or tug-of-war?

After each kid has had a turn, **SAY**:

It wouldn't be any fun to be left out of those things! No one likes being left out. One person who was always including others is Jesus! When we follow His example, we can be leaders who include others, too!

That's what we need to know today! Say this after me!

I Can Be a Leader Who Includes Others!

Bible Story (6 minutes)

Materials: Bible Story Cards

READ the Bible Story from the **Bible Story Cards**.

After the story, **ASK**:

1. **What was Nehemiah the leader of?** (Rebuilding the wall in Jerusalem)
2. **When Nehemiah decided to rebuild the wall, did he leave others out or include them?** (He included them!)
3. **Leaders set the example for others by doing the right thing. If you see someone being left out, how can you be a leader?** (Include him!)

Right! We can all be leaders who include others! That's what we need to know today. Say it with me!

I Can Be a Leader Who Includes Others!

ASK kids to close their eyes & bow their heads. Have them repeat after you as you **PRAY**:

Dear Jesus, thank you for setting the PERFECT example of including others! Make us more like you so we can be leaders who include others, too! We love you! Amen.

Application Activity Summary:

Kids will play a game involving a "secret" that only one third of the group will know. After the whole group is included on the secret, they will see that everyone likes to be included and that they can be leaders who include others!

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Memory Verse:

"Don't let anyone make fun of you, just because you are young. Set an example for other followers by what you say and do."

1 Timothy 4:12a

Review Questions:

1. ***What did Sponge learn in Large Group today?*** (That it's better to include others!)
2. ***What do we need to know today?*** (I Can Be a Leader Who Includes Others!)

Application Activity (8 minutes)

Materials: Hand Sanitizer, Marshmallows

1. Explain to your group that they are going to go around the circle and say things that they would bring to camp. Tell them that you will let them know whether or not they can bring each thing they suggest.
2. Before you start, select about one third of your group. They will be the "included" ones who will know "The Secret" to the game. While the rest of the group is thinking of ideas, pull the selected kids aside and whisper to them "The Secret":

"The Secret"

- They can only "bring" things that start with the letters "S" or "T".
 - The things they "bring" can, but do not have to relate to camp. (Examples: sleeping bag, snake, tent, tractor)
3. Allow kids to go around the circle and start saying things they would bring to camp.
 - Whenever a kid says they would bring something that starts with an "S" or a "T", say **"You can bring that."**
 - Whenever a kid says they would bring something that doesn't start with an "S" or a "T", say **"Sorry, you can't bring that."**
 4. Play for a few minutes. A few kids might figure out "The Secret", but most probably won't.
 5. Afterwards, explain "The Secret" to the rest of your group.
 6. **Sanitize** hands and reward kids with SIX Marshmallows each for participating. While kids are eating, **ASK:**

- ***For those of you who DID NOT know the secret at first, were you happy when you were included on it? (Allow responses) I'm sure you were! Everyone wants to be included!***
- ***For those of you who knew the secret the whole time, would it have set a good example if you rubbed it in that you knew the secret and others didn't? (No!) Right! We should never be happy when others are left out.***

Just like we ended up including everyone on the secret of our game, we can all be leaders who include others in real life, too! And that's what we need to know today! Say it with me!

I Can Be a Leader Who Includes Others!

Wrap It Up (3 minutes)

Materials: Filler Guide

REVIEW the Memory Verse (on left) with your group by saying it together. Allow them to make up motions to the verse if they want and if time allows.

ASK the Review Questions on the left.

USE Filler Guide to keep kids engaged in small group.