

OUR ROLE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

SERIES OVERVIEW

Bible Zoo 8-Week Children's Ministry Curriculum

Tagline: Unity and Diversity in the Body of Christ

Idea: Just as a zoo is made up of many different types of animals but is one zoo, the body of Christ is made up of many different members but is called to live together as one body. In this series, kids will learn their place in the body of Christ, and how we are called to live with its other members.

Memory Verses:

Weeks 1-4: "There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ." – 1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIRV)

Weeks 5-8: "Each of us has one body with many parts. And the parts do not all have the same purpose. So also we are many persons. But in Christ we are one body. And each part of the body belongs to all the other parts." – Romans 12:4-5 (NIRV)

Lessons:

Welcome to the Zoo

Scripture: Romans 12:3-8, One Body, Many Members

Here there are many different animals, but they all come together to form one zoo. Those in the body of Christ have different gifts and strengths, but in Jesus, we come together as one.

Objective: Kids will say "The body of Christ is made up of many different members."

Elephants

Scripture: Galatians 6:2-6, Carry Each Other's Burdens

Thanks to their size, elephants can carry a pretty heavy load. Sometimes, people get overwhelmed by the burdens of this life. Those in the body of Christ help to carry each other's burdens, and help the other members.

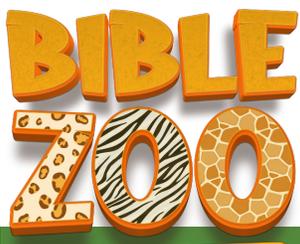
Objective: Kids will say "Those in the body of Christ carry each other's burdens."

Rabbit

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11, Build Each Other Up

Rabbits live in burrows, a series of underground tunnels that they dig. A warren is a group of burrows that rabbits build up together so that they can live in unity and support each other. Those in the body of Christ do not want to tear each other down, but want to support each other and build each other up.

Objective: Kids will say "Those in the body of Christ build each other up."



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Lions

Scripture: John 13:33-38, Love Each Another

Lions are the only cats that live together in groups, called prides. When Jesus shared one final meal with his disciples, he instructed them to live together in love. We are not meant to live in isolation, but rather in community with other believers to love and support each other.

Objective: Kids will learn “Those in the body of Christ respect and love each other.”

Zebras

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Unity and Diversity

Zebras stick together in herds, called dazzles, because they know they are stronger together. Those in the body of Christ know that we can't do life without the rest of the body. Each of us has an important part to play.

Objective: Kids will say “Those in the body of Christ stick together.”

Sloth

Scripture: James 5:13-16, Pray for Each Other

Sloths are slow, moving through life at their own pace. Those in the body of Christ have been called to take time to slow down and support each other through prayer.

Objective: Kids will say “Those in the body of Christ pray for each other.”

Fox

Scripture: Colossians 3:15-17, Admonish Each Other

Foxes are known for their adaptability, being able to change their behavior depending on the setting and circumstances. Those in the body of Christ know that they need to be open to correction from other members, so that we can change for the better.

Objective: Kids will say “Those in the body of Christ correct each other.”

Snake

Scripture: Ephesians 4:29-32, Forgive Each Other

Snakes have a reputation – not always earned – of misbehaving. Those in the body of Christ know that no one is perfect, so we must offer forgiveness to each other in love.

Objective: Kids will say “Those in the body of Christ forgive each other.”