

M4 CAMPS 2011  
Small Group Bible Studies  
SOMETHING BIG

You will be leading 3 small group bible studies over the next few days. We are so excited about how God is going to use YOU to share with the kids in your group. You have been prayed for and we are praying for you as you lead. Thank you for investing in the lives of the children in your church. You are a blessing.

Now for a few instructions: We suggest that there be no more than 10 people in your group if at all possible. This will allow the children more opportunities to share in the discussion. All the supplies that are required for small group will be provided for you when you arrive at camp. You won't need to bring anything but this paper and your bible. And if you forget your paper don't worry, we'll have those ready for you too. Don't be afraid of silence when you are sharing with the children. It may take them a minute to warm up to sharing in a group. They will though. Allow them to talk and share. The bible study has been written where it can be read if you would like. The parts written in italics are your instructions. (So don't read that if you do choose to read it. ☺)

We know that your time with your group is going to be amazing. Thanks for sharing with these children and investing in their lives.

In Him,  
Mark and Melanie Williams  
And the M4 Crew

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Small Group Bible Study 1

Supplies: Piece of Paracord. A willing adult ☺ (These supplies will be in your bag at check in. We do not need the paracord back.)

Small Talk: (As kids are getting settled here are some things to talk about.)  
What was your favorite thing that you did yesterday? What about that activity did you like? What did we talk about last night in Worship?

Lesson: Ecclesiastes 4:9-13 *Open in prayer and then have the kids open their bibles to the passage.* “Is Ecclesiastes in the old or new testament? Great! Would anyone like to read it for us?” *Let one of the students that you know is comfortable read the passage.* “Does this passage remind you of anyone we’ve talked about while we have been at camp? That’s right Aaron and Hur. What do you think would have happened if Aaron and Hur had not helped Moses? Things may have turned out very differently. What are some things that are difficult for you to do alone? What are some things that this scripture says are benefits of working together? Hmmmm...I have something that I want you guys to try. *Pick a child in your group out that you know can not pick you up or another adult up in your group.* So \_\_\_\_\_ I want you to pick me up. I am sure you can....go ahead...pick me up. What’s wrong? I can’t believe you can’t pick me up. You can’t do it alone? Who wants to help him out? Wow! That was awesome! You guys did an amazing job! I am so proud of you. Well let’s sit back down. I want to show you something. *Pull out the paracord.* You know you guys are kind of like this cord. It’s called paracord. People use it for different things. How much weight do you think it can hold? Take guesses. Well those are all great guesses. It can hold up to 550 lbs of weight. But I want us to take it apart and see why? *Show them the white strands on the inside.* You see all these little pieces of rope on the inside? They can hold some weight and they are good for some things. I mean you could floss your teeth with it or maybe use it as a fishing line. But alone it can only do so much. But...when you put 7 of them together and bind them together so they can work towards the same goal they can do incredible things. Like...lift a lion

or 22 two year olds or 2 line backers or 16 cinder blocks and we can only imagine what else. We are like this cord. We can all do some pretty cool things alone, but when we come together and are bound together with Christ's love we can do some awesome things. What are some things that we as a group could do together to help others? When we work together God will use us to do Something Big. *They will come up with some great ideas. Encourage them as they do. Elaborate with their ideas. If time allows pick an idea and come up with a game plan. Close with a sentence prayer. Make sure you are sensitive to those who don't want to pray out loud. The main point is working together to voice our prayer to God. See you at the Friendship Center!*

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Small Group Bible Study 2

**Supplies Needed:** 10 Cups of one color and 1 of another color, markers and poster boards. (You will be able to pick these supplies up after supper tonight. There will be a box in the Friendship Center where you can return the markers and cups when you are finished. Please bring your finished posters with you. Thanks 😊)

Small Talk: What a great day we had today. What has been your favorite thing today? I am so glad you guys have had fun today. We still have a lot to do before lights out.

Lesson: So tell me...what did we talk about at morning celebration? Wow Joseph went through some pretty tough times. But he knew that God was faithful and would be with them. He knew that God had a BIG plan. Do you think Joseph ever got discouraged? Do you ever get discouraged? You know, we all get discouraged from time to time. There are lots of reasons we get discouraged. Maybe something doesn't go our way. Maybe we don't get something we really wanted. Maybe someone treated you badly. Now let me reverse that. Have you ever made someone else feel badly about something? I know I have.

I have a game for us to play. I have a stack of cups here. There is a pink one on the bottom and then 10 green ones above it. I want to see how long it will take someone to move the one pink cup on the bottom to the top. However, you have to start with the cup on the top and place it on the bottom of the stack until the pink one reaches the top. You may only move one cup at a time. *Let one or two play the game. If time allows you can do more or you can let*

*them play it at the end. We will also have cups out tonight after worship so they can play then as well.*

You know that it takes 10 encouraging words to build someone back up after they've heard one thing that discouraged them.

Think about how we talk to each other. Do we use words that encourage or discourage?

You know the bible tells us a lot about encouraging one another.

Let's look at two different sets of verses. First let's look up 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:10& 11. Is that in the old or new testament?

Great job. New. Who wants to read it for us?

<sup>10</sup> He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

These verses talk about how Christ died for us and that we need to encourage each other as we learn more about him and share his love with others. Ephesians 4:29 tells us not to let any unwholesome talk come out of our mouths but only to use words that would build others up. Philippians 4:8 gives us some great examples of things that will build others up.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things."

You know the words we use with our friends and family make a BIG difference. God's word tells us to encourage one another and then in these verses tells us the kinds of things we should think about. You know we are thinking about things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praise worthy guess what our words will be. That's right. I have a poster here and I want us to fill it up with words that would encourage others. When we build each other up with kind words and actions Something Big will happen. *After you finish the poster close in prayer. Please bring your supplies and poster to the Friendship Center tonight.*

*\*\*\*The plan of salvation will be presented tonight.*

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Small Group Bible Study 3

Supplies: Legos and Sharpies (Please return your sharpies to the M4 supply box when you head into worship. We will definitely need these for the other camps. Thanks!)

Small Talk: So are you guys ready to head home? What are you going to tell your families and friends about when you get home? I'm glad you've had a great time.

Lesson: We've learned all kinds of cool things while we have been here. Now it's time to take it home. We've talked about how God can work through you and your friends to do SOMETHING BIG. How we need to encourage one another with our words and our actions. We talked about how God wants to do SOMETHING BIG even through difficult times. We talked about giving God our all so that He can do SOMETHING BIG through us.

Our bible verse this week comes from Ephesians. Anybody know it yet? It tells us that God will do immeasurably more than we hoped for or imagined. Wow! What an amazing promise that is. How many of you think you have a BIG imagination. I know you do because I have seen some things you have done and heard some stories you've told me. You know our imaginations come from God. What are the coolest things you can think of that God has given us? Those are great answers. God is so creative and it says in Genesis that we were made in His image. God has given us creativity/imaginations so that we can do incredible things for Him and His glory. The verse in Ephesians says more than we can hope

for. What are things that you HOPE to see change because of what you've learned this week? God wants us all to work together to tell others about Him. How much He loves us. How much He cares for us. When we go into our last session in a minute or two we are going to get to be a part of SOMETHING BIG this summer. I have a lego for you. I want you to write a word that describes God on the lego. When we head in we are going to give the blocks to the M4 staff. They are constructing a lego tower. After camp is over all the legos will be donated. Pray for the children who will play with the lego in your hand. Pray that they will see God's love through this gift. You know when you Pray you are definitely doing SOMETHING BIG. *Give the students plenty of time to come up with their words for their blocks. Encourage them to write clearly. Close in prayer and head to Closing Celebration.*

*We sure are going to miss you guys. Thanks for letting us be a part of your summer. We will be posting the progression of the tower on our website at [www.m4camps.com](http://www.m4camps.com). I'm sure there will be plenty of pics up on Facebook and at [m4camps.smugmug.com](http://m4camps.smugmug.com) as well.*

*We'll want to hear from you guys. We know that God is going to do immeasurably more than we hoped for or imagined in your group!*