

A Willing Heart



BIG IDEA

God can do amazing things through a willing heart.



LEADER GOAL

Help students understand that God isn't looking for perfect people - He's looking for people who are willing to trust and follow Him. Encourage students to see community as one of God's gifts, where we encourage, support, and help one another grow. This reflects K2K's commitment to helping every student discover who they are, where they belong, and their purpose through meaningful relationships.



BEFORE STUDENTS ARRIVE

- Review Matthew 17:20 and Genesis 2:18.
- Prepare to lead discussion about a willing heart and community.



WELCOME + CONNECT

Reconnect and invite students to share about last week's prayer challenge.

LEADER SAYS

"Welcome back, everyone!"

Last week, your challenge was to pray for someone else during the week. Did anyone have the chance to do that? What was it like praying for another person?"

(Allow students to share. Celebrate every effort, whether they prayed once or made it a regular habit.)

"It's amazing that God invites us to care for other people through prayer. Today we're going to meet another important character from The Wizard of Oz and discover that God doesn't need us to be perfect - He simply asks us to trust Him."



LIVE SPARK

A WILLING HEART

GRAB

A tiny mustard seed inside an oversized box, case, or container.

IDEA

Something does not have to look big or impressive to matter. God is not waiting for us to be perfect - He invites us to trust Him and begin with a willing heart.

SPARK

God can do amazing things through a willing heart.



DO / SAY

[Hold up the oversized container carefully.]

"Okay. Whatever is inside this must be extremely important."

[Open it slowly and look inside.]

"Wait... that's it?"

[Hold up the tiny mustard seed.]

"This little thing? I was expecting something much bigger. Something more impressive."

[Pause and look at the seed.]

"Sometimes we think we have to be impressive before we can really matter. Maybe smarter. More talented. More confident. Better at something."

"The Scarecrow feels a little like that. He thinks he needs a brain before he can really be useful. But all along the journey, he keeps caring, helping, thinking, and taking the next step."

"Jesus once used a mustard seed - something this small - to talk about faith. The point was not that our faith has to look huge. The greatness is in God."

"And sometimes a willing heart starts with one small step: encourage someone, include someone, try again, ask for help, or apologize when you need to."

"That is our Spark this week: **GOD CAN DO AMAZING THINGS THROUGH A WILLING HEART.**"

"You do not have to be perfect to begin."

"So here is something to think about: What is one small step a willing heart could take today? Let's get started."

THEN

Move directly into "The Scarecrow - A Willing Heart."



STORY CONNECTION

THE SCARECROW — A WILLING HEART

LEADER SAYS

“As Dorothy begins her journey along the Yellow Brick Road, who’s the first person she meets?

The Scarecrow!

The Scarecrow believes there’s something wrong with him because he doesn’t have a brain.

He thinks, ‘If I were smarter, then I’d matter.’ ‘If I had a brain, then I’d be enough.’

Have you ever had thoughts like that?”

Maybe you’ve thought, ‘If I were better at sports...’ ‘If I got better grades...’ ‘If I were funnier...’ ‘If I didn’t make so many mistakes...’ ‘If I were more talented...’

Sometimes we believe that we have to become ‘better’ before we’re valuable.

But that’s not what God says. God doesn’t wait until we’re perfect before He loves us. He doesn’t only use the smartest, strongest, funniest, or most talented people.

Throughout the Bible, God works through ordinary people who simply trust Him.

MATTHEW 17:20

‘I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed... nothing would be impossible.’



STORY CONNECTION

A mustard seed is one of the smallest seeds people in Jesus' day would have known about. Jesus wasn't saying we need giant faith. He was teaching that even small faith becomes powerful when it's placed in a big God.

God isn't asking you to have everything figured out. He's inviting you to trust Him one step at a time.

The Scarecrow thought he wasn't enough. But the truth is, God already knew his value. The same is true for us.

You don't have to earn God's love. You don't have to become someone else before God can use you.

He simply asks for a willing heart - a heart that's open to trusting Him, learning, growing, and following where He leads.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 Why do you think the Scarecrow believed he needed a brain to be enough?
- 2 Have you ever felt like you weren't good enough at something?
- 3 What do you think it means to have a willing heart?
- 4 Why do you think God doesn't expect us to be perfect?
- 5 Why do you think God gives us friends, family, and communities like K2K to encourage us?



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

COMMUNITY — THE GIFT OF COMMUNITY

“For the past few weeks, we’ve been talking about prayer. Today we’re beginning a brand-new spiritual practice called community.

When you hear the word community, what comes to mind?”

(Allow students to answer.)

“What are some communities you’re already part of?”

(Possible answers: school, sports teams, neighbourhoods, church, K2K, clubs, family.)

“A community is a group of people who support one another, help one another, and grow together. God didn’t create us to go through life alone.

Right near the beginning of the Bible, after creating Adam, God said:

GENESIS 2:18

‘It is not good for the man to be alone.’

From the very beginning, God’s plan has been for people to live in relationship with one another.

We all need people who will encourage us, help us, celebrate with us, and walk alongside us when life is difficult.

Community is one of God’s gifts. But here’s something important: community isn’t just about receiving. It’s also about participating.

Each of us has something to contribute.

We help create a healthy community when we encourage others, include people who feel left out, show kindness, listen well, celebrate each other’s successes, help when someone is struggling, and choose forgiveness when mistakes happen.

That’s one of the things that makes K2K so special. This isn’t just a place where we rehearse a musical. It’s a place where we get to know one another, encourage one another, and remind each other that we belong.

Every student matters. Every person has something valuable to bring.

When we care for one another, we’re reflecting God’s love to the people around us.”



STUDENT REFLECTION

PROMPT What are some ways people in a community help each other?



THIS WEEK - YOUR CHALLENGE!

"This week, your challenge is to intentionally encourage someone in your community. It could be someone at school, someone at home, someone at K2K, or someone in your neighbourhood. Remember, building a strong community often starts with one simple act of kindness."



CLOSING PRAYER

"Let's pray together.

Dear God,

Thank You for another wonderful day at K2K.

Thank You that You don't ask us to be perfect before You love us or before You can use us. Thank You for inviting us to follow You with willing hearts.

Help us remember that our value comes from You, not from how talented, smart, or successful we are.

Thank You for the gift of community. Thank You for our families, friends, leaders, and everyone here at K2K. Help us encourage one another, include others, and build a community where every person feels welcomed, valued, and loved.

Please continue helping us grow together as we learn more about You and about the gifts You've placed in each of us.

Amen."

Connection Activities



ACTIVITY 1 | PASS THE HOOP

Supplies

- hula hoop

Instructions

1. Have students stand in a large circle and hold hands.
2. Place a hula hoop over the arms of two students before they join hands.
3. Explain that the goal is to move the hula hoop all the way around the circle without anyone letting go of each other's hands.
4. Students must work together by stepping through the hoop, ducking, twisting, and helping one another move it around the circle.
5. Once the hoop makes it back to the starting point, celebrate and move on to a new challenge!

Challenge Round 1: Beat Your Time

Time how long it takes the group to complete one lap around the circle. Encourage them to communicate and work together to beat their own time on the next attempt.

Challenge Round 2: Silent Round

This time, no one is allowed to talk.

Students must work together using only gestures, eye contact, and encouragement through smiles and body language.

Challenge Round 3: Back-to-Back

Split into two teams and see which team can complete the challenge first.

Afterward, remind students that although competition can be fun, God's family isn't about racing

each other-it's about helping one another.



ACTIVITY 2 | WISE ADVICE CHALLENGE

Instructions:

Split students into small groups.

Give each group a scenario.

Examples:

- You're deciding whether to switch schools.

- Your friend is being excluded from a group.
- You're offered a leadership position.
- You have two activities scheduled at the same time.
- Someone asks you to keep a secret that feels wrong.

The group has 2 minutes to come up with:

1. What they would do.
2. Who they would ask for advice.
3. What questions they would ask.

Then share.