ELEMENTARY ACTIVITY GUIDE

CHARACTER TRAIT: INITIATIVE

SCRIPTURE: Nehemiah 1:1-6,11; 2:1-6

FINISH LINE: Follow God's lead and step up

ACTIVITY 1: MEMORY VERSE GAME

SUPPLIES: 10-15 index cards or pieces of paper, a pen or marker

SET UP: Write 2-3 words from this month's memory verse, Matthew 5:16, on each index card. Hide the cards around the room before starting the game.

DIRECTIONS: Tell your kids that the words to this month's memory verse are hidden all around the room, like hidden treasure. Challenge them to see how quickly they can find the cards. Once they have found them, bring them together and unscramble them. After you have laid them out in order, read the verse all together. You can keep practicing by scrambling the words a few times and see if they can put the verse in order faster each time! Save these cards and use them to practice all month long.

MEMORY VERSE: "In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." **Matthew 5:16**

ACTIVITY 2: LESSON REVIEW

SUPPLIES: Pieces of paper, a writing utensil, Legos (optional)

SET UP: Make sure everyone has a piece of paper and something to write with. Draw a handful of "bricks" on each page or cut the pages in half and make each half-sheet a "brick."

DIRECTIONS: Brainstorm some ways to take wise action without being told this week. (Examples: Help clear the table after a meal, make a card for a friend, pick up trash without being told, etc.) Write one idea on each brick. Then, you can "build" a wall by stacking people's pages on top of each other while they share their ideas of how to show initiative.

ALTERNATE DIRECTIONS: Instead of using paper, grab some Legos. Have each person share one idea at a time and stack up Lego bricks to build your wall.

WRAP UP: After you have shared some ideas of how people can show initiative individually, talk about ways you might be able to show initiative together as a group. Challenge each other to do at least one of these things this week.