Hang on for the Loop

Your Turn
Week 3 / Your Turn to Build

Emcee Leads Small Group Leaders Lead

Small Group Icebreaker (8 min.)

- **Introduce** yourself. **Welcome** students by name. **Check in** with them to see how they're doing.
- **Ask:** If you had to give your past week a compliment on something it did well, what would you say?
- Icebreaker: **If you had a professional cheerleading squad that followed you around all day, when would you need them the most?**

Welcome (30 sec.)

- Welcome everyone and say our three simple Loop rules: **Respect your leaders. Respect each other. Respect the room.**
- **Invite** everyone to stand for worship.

Transition to Episode (30 sec.)

- Get students excited for this week's episode of *The Loop Show*!

  Today, we're talking about encouraging one another. And Ricky & Jayme are in a cardboard box fort! Let's see what that's all about right now!

Offering and Announcements (2 min.)

- **Recap** teaching in one sentence.
- **Celebrate** hands raised during the salvation video.
- **Show** the spot where students can give their tithes and offerings.
- **Pray** for tithes and offerings.
- **Say:** When you follow Jesus, you'll probably have some questions like, "*Who is God? What is the Bible? Is all of this real?"* Those are great questions, and we have a great book for you! It's called ***The Ultimate Guide to Your Greatest Adventure.*** If you want one, let us know, and we'll get it in your hands today!
- **Transition** to Activity.

Activity (10 min.)

Game Objective

Take a serious moment to write a life-giving card of encouragement for someone who needs it.

You'll Need

Encouragement Card activity sheet (1 per student)

Set of markers (1 per group)

Set of scissors (1 per group)

Set Up

1. **Give** students an Encouragement Card activity sheet and **place** markers and scissors where they can reach them.
2. **Encourage** them to spread out a bit so they can focus while they do today's more heart-felt activity.

How to Play

Say: Today we're learning that encouraging one another is life-giving! It can truly help someone more than you can imagine. So, let's get serious about it today and create a card for someone who might need that help more than you even know. We'll use this activity sheet to help!

1. **Pray out loud** for students that God would make this a special moment and would bring someone to their mind who needs encouragement today.
2. **Read** the top of the Encouragement Card activity sheet aloud to students. Focus on the fill-in-the-blank prompts to **help students think of specific encouragement** they can give.
3. Students **cut** the bottom half of their activity sheet and **fold** it to create a card. *(The "Encouragement for You" words will be the front of the card.)*
4. Students **write** an encouraging message to their person inside the card.
5. Continue to **help** students with this portion. It's your turn to **encourage** them that they can do this and that their words will be used by God to bring life. If they're struggling to choose someone, offer ideas like a parent, another relative, a teacher, etc.
6. Students **color** the front of the card and decorate the rest of it however they choose with remaining time.

Main Goal for Leaders Today

You're winning today if your students understand part of following Jesus and living like Him means building others up.

Start Your Conversation Here

- What's one good way you can encourage someone who's struggling?

Take Your Conversation Deeper

Ask Today's Big Question

Has anyone ever encouraged you at a moment when you really needed it? What did they do or say?

Read Today's Verse From In-Room Bible

John 15:12-13 NIV *"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."*

- What do you feel God wants you to learn from this verse today?
- Would anyone like to share who they're giving their encouragement card to and what they said to encourage them? *No pressure!*
- Where do you think students your age need the most encouragement, even if they don't ask for it?
- What would you tell a friend if they said, "I tried to encourage someone, but they didn't seem to care or even believe me"?
- Why do you think words can stick with someone for a long time—both encouraging ones and hurtful ones?

Put It Into Practice

- Today, we wrote one encouragement card. Is there anyone else you can think of at home, at school, or somewhere else who could use encouragement?
- **Challenge:** This week, try to write or say one encouraging thing to at least one person every day. See if it changes you in any way. Make a plan to talk about it next time you see one another again.

Pray Together

Check in with your group. How are they doing? Anything they want to ask or thank God for? Pray together!