

RAIN OR SHINE

Trusting God in Every Season



WEEK
ONE

JANUARY 2025

SMALL GROUP

PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Rainy Days
and Mondays**
Jesus Wept
John 11:1-45

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Who can you talk to
when you're sad?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you're sad, remember
you're not alone.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Be strong, all you who put your
hope in the LORD. Never give up.
Psalm 31:24, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Resilience—Getting back up when
something gets you down

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Check out our Small Group Leader Conversation Guides to guide you through salvation conversations: <https://bit.ly/4daxSUg>

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

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PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Weather Memory" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle in your group space.
- Place the cards from the "Weather Memory" Activity Page face down in a grid on the floor in the center of the circle.
- Explain to the kids that they will take turns searching for matching cards.
- Select a kid to go first and invite them to pick two cards to turn over. Make sure everyone is able to see the two cards they turned over.
- If those two cards are exactly the same, invite that kid to share something they enjoy doing in the type of weather indicated on the matching cards.
- Allow that kid to keep the matching pair and turn over two more cards.
- If those two cards don't match, have the kid place them face down again. The kid sitting on their left can take the next turn.
- Continue allowing kids to take turns until all the matches have been made. Each time, give kids a chance to share their weather-related activities.
- The kid with the most matches at the end is the winner!

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great game, everyone! *You know*, one thing that's true about weather is that it's always changing. **[Transition] Just like the weather, our feelings can change depending on what's happening around us. Come with me to discover how Jesus experienced emotions just like we do.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Do you ever feel alone? If so, what makes you feel that way?
- What makes you feel sad?
- Who can you talk to when you're sad?
- What helps you trust someone else?
- Does it take courage to talk about your feelings? Why or why not?

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PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: “Resilience Journal 1” Activity Pages, pens or pencils, coloring supplies, scissors, hole punch, yarn or string, completed Resilience Journal example; *Optional: stickers*

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WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle in your group space.
- Hand each kid a set of the “Resilience Journal 1” Activity Pages and a pen or pencil.
- Place the markers, scissors, hole punch, and yarn (or string) in the center of the circle.
- Explain to kids that they will be making a journal to help them organize their thoughts and prayers.
- Tell them that one way we can spend time praying is by writing to God about what we’re thinking and how we’re feeling.
- Be sure to have an example journal to show kids.
- Direct kids to cut out their pages and punch holes where indicated.
- Instruct them to cut a piece of yarn (or string) to thread through the holes and tie in a bow. This is how they will bind their pages together.
- Give kids time to use their coloring supplies (and optional stickers) to decorate their journals.
- During this time, assemble a few extra journals to keep on hand for kids that may come later in the month so they can have what they missed.
- Allow a few minutes of quiet time so that kids can write on the first page.
- Explain that the other page can be filled out another time. Each week of this month, they will have the chance to add more to their journal.
- *Based on the dynamics of your group, choose whether it would work best for kids to leave their journals at church throughout the month, as they add more pages, or for them to take their journals home this week.*
- Say a prayer for the entire group.