



WEEK  
**ONE**  
APRIL 2025

SMALL GROUP  
**2-3**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Look Up Child

Keep Looking to Jesus  
Hebrews 12:1-3

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Whatever happens,  
keep looking to Jesus.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"In this world you will have  
trouble. But, be encouraged!  
I have won the battle over  
the world."

John 16:33b, NIRV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Hope—Believing that something  
good can come out of  
something bad

### 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

Early Arriver  
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  
Bottom Line  
What's Our Part in the Story?  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

25  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Mosaic Masterpiece  
Application Activity: Letter Scramble  
Memory Verse Activity: Look for It!  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

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



**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

**MADE TO EXPLORE**

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



**2. OPENING ACTIVITY**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Interlocking bristle blocks (or LEGOs®)

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Divide kids into groups of three or four.
- Give each group a set of STEM interlocking blocks (or LEGOs®).
- Encourage each group to work together to build a unique creation.
  - If kids need help getting started, suggest building a house, a playground, a bike, etc.
- Share the challenge that each kid can only use one hand to place or adjust blocks.
- Once each group finishes their creation, invite them to join their structures together to make one giant masterpiece.
- Step back and admire the final creation, pointing out how each different piece comes together to make something unique.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Look Up Child**

Keep Looking to Jesus  
Hebrews 12:1-3

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Look at what you created, friends! Each of your groups started with a small pile of blocks, and you combined your creations to make something much bigger. You knew exactly what your group's creation looked like, but we had no idea what they would all look like together. **[Transition] In today's story, we'll discover how things can work together even when we don't see the whole picture. Come with me!"**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

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**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

**Hope—Believing that something good can come out of something bad**

**BASIC TRUTH**

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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



### \* 1. MOSAIC MASTERPIECE [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Mosaic" Activity Page, Bible marked at Hebrews 12:1-3, and coloring supplies

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Open the Bible marked at Hebrews 12:1-3.
- Read the portion of Scripture out loud.
- One by one, ask the Bible Story Review questions below.

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### BASIC TRUTH

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Review Questions:

1. Why was it challenging for the new believers who this letter was written to, to follow Jesus? (answer: b)
  - a) Because they didn't know about Jesus
  - b) Because they were being persecuted, and it's hard to follow Jesus when it makes life harder
2. Who are some people in the "cloud of witnesses" mentioned in Hebrews? (answer: a)
  - a) Abraham, Sarah, Moses, and many more people who trusted God
  - b) Only Jesus and His disciples
3. What does it mean to throw off sin? (answer: b)
  - a) To ignore our mistakes and keep going
  - b) To ask God for forgiveness and let go of things that get in the way of following Jesus
4. How can we keep looking to Jesus? (answer: a)
  - a) By remembering what Jesus has done for us and keeping our eyes focused on His love and help.
  - b) By ignoring Jesus when things are tough

- Give each kid a "Mosaic" Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Instruct kids to write their name on the back of their paper.
- Encourage kids to think about a specific challenge they're facing, maybe at school or with a friend.
  - For example, getting along with a friend or having a hard time with schoolwork.
- Give the kids a few minutes to think.
- Then, invite the kids to write a word or draw a picture representing their challenge in the blank piece of the mosaic.
- Once the kids are finished, give them a few minutes to decorate the rest of the mosaic.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Great job, friends! Our Bible Story today reminds us that we're not alone. So many people before us trusted God through their challenges. The good news is



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PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### (\* 1. MOSAIC MASTERPIECE, CONTINUED)

that we can too! Of course, we'll have times when things feel tough or confusing, whether you didn't make the sports team or didn't get the role you wanted in a play. Or maybe you're having a hard time with a friend. Guess what? Remember, **whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus.**"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



## 2. LETTER SCRAMBLE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Letter Scramble Scenarios" Activity Page

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather your group together.
- Explain that today's Bible Story encourages us to remember: **whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus.**
- Divide the group into three teams.
- Instruct the three teams to spread out.
- Give each team a stack of cards from the "Letter Scramble Scenarios" Activity Page.
- One by one, read a scenario (listed below). Be sure not to say the responses to the scenarios out loud.
- Encourage each group to find the two cards that are responses to each situation. (One card follows Jesus' way, the other follows our own way.)
- After teams find the two response cards, reread the scenario.
- Instruct the teams to work together to select the card they think best aligns with Jesus' way and set it aside.
- Continue in this way until all questions have been answered and each team has set aside four letters.
- Challenge the teams to work together to spell out the mystery word (HOPE) using their chosen letters.
- Celebrate the teams as they finish!

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### Activity scenarios:

1. Your mom cooks a dinner that's not your favorite. Do you:
  - A. Grumble and complain.
  - H. Remind yourself it's okay if it's not your favorite, but you can still be grateful and enjoy dinner with your family.
2. You want to play outside, but it starts storming. Do you:
  - B. Get upset and refuse to play inside.
  - O. Make the best of it, and find a game to play inside.
3. Your sibling accidentally breaks your favorite toy. Do you:
  - P. Calmly talk about how you feel and offer to fix it together.
  - C. Yell at them and say it's all their fault.
4. You want to watch your favorite TV show, but it's time to do schoolwork. Do you:
  - E. Finish your work first so you can enjoy the show later.
  - D. Watch your show first, and ignore the responsibilities you have.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## (2. LETTER SCRAMBLE, CONTINUED)

### WHAT YOU SAY:

“Great job, friends! Have any of you ever been in one of the situations we talked about today? (*Invite kids to raise their hands if they have.*) It can be hard to see the bigger picture when we’re frustrated or sad.

“Whenever we face something tough, remember we can always look to Jesus for hope! Hope is all about believing that something good can come out of something bad. Has anyone here ever run a race? (*Invite responses.*) When a runner runs a race, their focus is on the finish line! When things seem hard, we can focus on Jesus, just like a runner focuses on a finish line. That’s how we grow hope inside of us! God used the saddest thing—the death of Jesus—to bring the best gift ever: a way for us to be God’s friend forever. So, when things are hard, don’t forget to keep your eyes on Jesus. Focus on the finish line and ask God to help you see the bigger picture! Remember, **whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus.**”



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



### 4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Playground ball

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to join you in a standing circle.
- Hold the ball.
- Explain to the kids that while we might not always understand why some things happen, we can still have hope because God can make something good out of something bad.
- Select a kid to start, and gently toss the ball to them.
- Make eye contact as you toss the ball, and say: **"Whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus."**
- Direct the kid who caught the ball to repeat the Bottom Line as they gently toss the ball to another kid.
- Continue until everyone has had a turn tossing the ball.
- Encourage kids to keep eye contact as they pass the ball around.
- Close the group in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for the fun we've had today and the friendships we're building. As we go into this week, please help us remember, **whatever happens, keep looking to Jesus.** Help us to trust that with our eyes fixed on You, You will help us find hope in every situation. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, prompt kids to show off their "Mosaic Masterpiece" Activity Page. Ask the kids to tell the adults how they'll use their mosaic this week to help them find hope. Remind kids how excited you are to see them next week!

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