



WEEK

ONE

MAY 2025

SMALL GROUP

PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Living Hope

God So Loved the World
John 3:16-17

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How has God met your needs?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God took care of our greatest need.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others.
Philippians 2:4, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it

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



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



Before kids arrive, take some time to pray and connect with God. Ask God for wisdom for how you lead your group today. Pray that your kids would grasp how amazing it is that God loves them and gave Jesus for them.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, plastic cups, chair(s)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids with a smile as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Hand each kid a plastic cup.
- Share the goal with the kids:
 - Each kid must attempt to balance a cup on top of their head without touching it as they alternate between sitting and standing.
- Once their cup falls, that kid is out of the game.
- Instruct the kids to keep track of how many times they can successfully sit down and stand up while keeping the cup balanced on their heads.
- *NOTE: If you only have one chair, have the kids take turns completing the challenge one at a time. If you have multiple chairs, consider dividing the kids into two teams. Each team competes until only one team has kids still in the game.*
- Begin the challenge and monitor falling cups.
- Play as many rounds as time and interest allow.
- Call a winner for each round as the last kid (or team) standing.
- Cheer on all the kids as they try the challenge.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, Pens, "Scrambled Clues" Activity Page; *Optional: clipboards*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to form groups of two or three.
- Give each group a Bible, a "Scrambled Clues" Activity Page, and a pen.
- Instruct the groups to look up today's Bible Story, John 3:16-17, using the Bible Navigation tips.

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

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- Explain that each scrambled word is a clue related to today's Bible story.
- Allow time for the groups to unscramble the words on the page.
- Scrambled words answers:
 - vinltaitie (*initiative*)
 - oLev (*love*)
 - doG (*God*)
 - Drowl (*world*)
 - fiLe (*life*)
 - Beevile (*believe*)
 - cReevei (*receive*)
- Once everyone is finished, review the answers as a group to ensure all the scrambled words were unscrambled correctly.
- Use the unscrambled words to spark conversation. Ask:
 - What does this word mean to you?
 - How does this word describe something about God or people?
 - How was this word used in today's Bible Story?
 - Which word do you think is the most important? Why?

[Make it Personal] Join the kids by choosing one of the unscrambled words from the list and telling them why you feel it's important.



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:

- How would you explain salvation to someone your age?
- How has God met your needs?
- Is it easy or hard for you to put your trust in Jesus? Explain why.
- If you have questions about what it means to trust in Jesus, who can you talk to?

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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: Bible; *Optional: Salvation Conversation Guide for Kids*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the Bible to read John 3:16.
- Call on a kid to share with the group where the book of John is found. (in the New Testament)
- *Optional: Consider using the Conversation Guide on Salvation to explain to kids how God met our greatest need.*
- Before closing in prayer, give kids a moment to consider where they are in their relationship with Jesus, whether that's out loud or to themselves.
- Encourage any kids who would like to share, to share their thoughts as you pose the following question: "Which of these statements best describes you?"
 - I have already decided to follow Jesus.
 - I have a lot of questions about salvation/following Jesus.
 - I am ready to follow Jesus.
 - I haven't thought a lot about my relationship with God.
- *NOTE: If a kid is not ready to share, don't force them to share.*
- Encourage kids to talk to a grown-up or trusted adult if they have questions about their faith.
- Close your group in prayer.

NOTE: Be sensitive to kids who might have questions about following Jesus. Follow your church's policy for having conversations with kids about salvation. Involve families with this discussion or decisions as well.

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