



WEEK
THREE
MAY 2025

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Use Somebody
Parable of the Talents
Matthew 25:14-30

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How can you use what
you've been given?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Look for ways to use
what you've been given.

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 need to make the wide choice.

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 EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper, pens, clipboards, *Optional:* mobile device calculators

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the kids into teams of 3-4 and have the teams sit in a circle.
- Give one kid on each team a clipboard with paper and a pen.
- Instruct each team to pick a kid to go first and direct them to:
 - Write a number between 1-10 at the top of the paper.
 - Pass the clipboard to the left.
- *NOTE: Ensure that each team has chosen a different number.*
- Direct the next kid to write a dollar sign (\$) in front of the number on the paper.
- Explain the game:
 - Invite kids to imagine their team as a group of spies, and the headquarters (HQ) gives each team a small amount of money to complete a mission.
 - The challenge is to use the money wisely to gain more.
- *Optional: Consider allowing kids to use mobile device calculators to solve the problem.*
- Read each step aloud, giving teams time to calculate and write their answers before passing the clipboard to the left after each turn.
 - *HQ doubles your money.* Multiply your original number by 2.
 - *An agent donates \$6 to your team.* Add 6 to the previous number.
 - *Half your team wants trench coats; the other half wants binoculars.* Divide the previous number by 2.
 - *You buy cool sunglasses on sale.* Subtract the original number from the current total.
 - *HQ rewards you for stellar work.* Multiply your final number by 100.
- Each team should end up with \$300.
- *Note: No matter the number (1-10) kids start with, the final answer will always be 300. See below for an example.*
- Point out how each team began with a different number and ended up with the same now!
- Ask:
 - What would you buy for yourself if you had \$300 to spend?
 - What would you buy for your family or someone else?
 - What do you think is the best way to spend \$300? Share your ideas and why they would be helpful or meaningful with your team.

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Example (A team picks the number 7)

1. Original Number: 7
2. $7 \times 2 = 14$
3. $14 + 6 = 20$
4. $20 \div 2 = 10$
5. $10 - 7$ (the original number) = 3
6. $3 \times 100 = 300$



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

(2. OPENING ACTIVITY, CONTINUED)

WHAT YOU SAY:

“Great job working together, friends! Did you know no matter which number (1-10) you plug into that equation, the answer would be 300? (*Invite responses.*) There are many ways to spend \$300, aren't there? Each of us might use that money differently [*Transition*] **Today, we'll hear a story Jesus told His followers about some men who were given different amounts of money. Let's go find out what they did with it. Come with me!**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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:

- What do you think Jesus wanted us to learn from the Parable of the Talents?
- How does the Parable of the Talents show us what we've been given matters?
- How can you use what you've been given?
- Why do you think it's important to discover what your gifts are?
- What's one thing you could do to discover more about your gifts?

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, "Mustache Disguise" Activity Page, craft sticks, tape, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Bible.
- Direct the kids to look up 1 Peter 4:10 using the Bible Navigation tips below.

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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- Instruct the kids to read the verse quietly, then call on a kid to read the verse aloud.
- Give each kid a craft stick, a pen, and a mustache from the "Mustache Disguise" Activity Page.
- **[Make it personal] by participating in this activity with your group!**
- Depending on the number of kids in your group, assign each kid and yourself a portion of 1 Peter 4:10.
- Then, instruct each kid to write their assigned portion only on a mustache.
- Make tape available and model for the kids how to attach the top of a craft stick to the back of their mustache.
- Collect the mustaches and mix them up.
- Place the mustaches in a pile face down on the floor at one end of your group space.
- Direct the kids to form a line as far away from the pile of mustaches as possible.
- Explain to the kids that at your signal, they will take turns running to the mustaches, choosing one at random, and then running back.
- Once everyone has retrieved a mustache, challenge kids to hold them in front of their faces and arrange themselves in the order of the verse.
- Once the verse is in the correct order, recite 1 Peter 4:10 together, letting the kids say the portion on their mustaches.
- Discuss each sentence separately. If using NIV, the verse can be broken down into three parts:
 - "God's gifts of grace come in many forms."
 - Why do you think God gives people different gifts?
 - *Note: It's easy for kids to identify specific talents, such as being intelligent and good at sports, art, or music. Help the kids think about skills that may not be as obvious but are talents God can use in unique ways. For example:*



(4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU, CONTINUED)

- *Love and care of animals*
- *Cooking*
- *Sense of humor*
- *Creativity*
- *Physical strength*
- *Writing*

- "Each of you has received a gift in order to serve others."
 - What gift(s) do you think God has given you?
- "You should use it faithfully."
 - What could be a benefit of using what you're good at to serve others?
- Repeat the mustache game and recite the verse if time and interest allow.



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: Pennies; yarn, ribbon, or string; prepared index cards

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the two pieces of yarn, ribbon, or string to make an "X" on the floor.
- Invite the kids to sit in a circle around the X.
- Provide each kid with a penny.
- Explain to kids that we may not have much money, but God has given each of us unique talents and experiences.
- Share with kids that we can use what we've been given to make a difference in the world around us, whether it's a lot or a little.
- Use the four prepared index cards to label each corner of the "X."
- Invite the kids to place their penny in the corner that matches how they would finish the sentence: "This week I need God's help to . . ."
- Allow kids a few minutes to share any details they'd like to about their choices.
- Encourage kids to pray silently or aloud.
- Close your group in prayer.

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