

Preteen

Small Group

August — Week 4

GROUPS 1/5

Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Markers
- Clipboards
- Paper



① What You Do

1. Instruct the kids to sit in a circle, putting some space between them and the kid next to them.
2. Give each kid a clipboard, a marker, and a stack of paper that is equivalent to the number of kids in the group.
 - For example, if you have eight kids, each clipboard should have eight sheets of paper.
3. On the first page, instruct kids to write about a situation in which it would be important to remember that God is with them.
 - If kids are stumped, share these examples: taking a big test, or moving to a new school
4. After a minute or so, direct the kids to pass their clipboards to their left.
5. On the second page, instruct the kids to draw a simple picture representing the words on the first page.
6. Once they're finished, encourage the kids to move the first paper with the words on it to the back of the stack.
7. Instruct the kids to pass the clipboards to the left again.
8. Direct the kids with the clipboards to use the picture to write a short description of what they think the picture represents on the next page, then move the paper with the picture to the back of the stack.
9. Keep passing, alternating between drawing and writing until each person has their original stack of paper back.
10. Encourage the kids to read and share what they originally wrote and how their message changed.
11. Discuss with your group:
 - Why is it a situation where you'd want to know God is with you?
 - How can you remind yourselves of God's presence in hard times?
 - Is it a sign of weakness or strength to rely on God?

[MAKE IT PERSONAL] Share an age-appropriate time when you knew God was with you. How did God show up and remind you that He was there?



Inclusive Pro Tips

Be patient with the kids and give them extra time to write or draw for each round if needed.

Preteen

Small Group

August — Week 4

GROUPS 3/5

Discussion Questions

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

No Supplies Needed



① What You Do

Ask

- What helps you remember that God is with you?
- Would Jacob be someone you would trust all the time? Why or why not?
And yet Jacob is part of God's plan. How does that encourage you to trust God, knowing that even when you mess up, God still loves you and is working toward His good plan?
- Abraham and Jacob were part of God's Big Story. What about us? How do we fit into God's plan today? (God invites us into a relationship with Him through Jesus! When we choose to follow Jesus and share His love with others, we are a part of God's Story!)
- What does Jacob's story tell us about God's character and His love for us?



Inclusive Pro-Tips

Be sensitive to kids needing extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.

Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

GROUPS 4/5

Verses to Take with You



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Bibles
- Dye
- Markers
- Paper

What You Need

- Whiteboard
- Dry-Erase Marker



Inclusive Pro-Tips

Consider the needs of your group. Allow extra time for processing if any kids need it.

If a kid is nervous about reciting the verse words out loud, tell them it's okay to skip that step and write the verse words on their team's paper.

Use a whiteboard and a dry-erase marker to write Hebrews 11:1 for any visual learners.

① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into 2-3 teams.
2. Give each team a Bible.
3. Direct them to look up Hebrews 11:1, using the Bible Navigation Tips below.
4. Ask the following questions one by one and direct the groups to discuss.
 - According to Hebrews 11:1, what does it mean to have faith?
 - Why can we trust that God is always with us? He promises it in the Bible (Isaiah 41:10, Deuteronomy 31:6, Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:5); when we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside of us and lead and guide us every day.
 - When have you had to trust God, even when you couldn't see the outcome?
5. Give each team a die, a piece of paper, and markers.
6. Explain the game:
 - Each kid will take turns rolling the die.
 - The number they roll is the number of words they must recite and write down from Hebrews 11:1.
 - Each team will take turns in this way until they recite and correctly write the entire verse.
 - The first team to complete the verse wins.
7. Check the team's papers before announcing a winner.
8. Repeat at least two rounds.

*Finding verses with 4th-5th graders

- ① 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.
- ② When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers.
- ③ Once they find the chapter, explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

GROUPS 5/5

Make It Personal with Prayer



Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Index Cards
- Pens or Pencils

① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to join you in a seated circle.
2. Give each kid an index card and a pen (or pencil).
3. Encourage the kids to write the first letter of their first name on one side and the first letter of their last name on the back.
4. Using one of their initials, invite the kids to write a word that describes God.
 - For example, if their first initial is "T," they might say "trustworthy!" Or, if their first initial is "S," they might say "strong!"
5. Use the other initial to write a place they might go this week.
 - For example, if their last name begins with a "D," they might say the doctor's. NOTE: If kids can't come up with words using their first and last names, suggest they use their middle name. Offer assistance as needed.
6. Challenge the kids to write a sentence that includes the two words that they wrote.
 - For example, "God is _____, and He is with me at _____."
7. Encourage the kids that wherever they go this week, God is with them.
8. Encourage the kids to use what they wrote to create a prayer praising God for who He is and thanking Him for always being with them!
9. Invite those who are willing to pray out loud.
10. Close in prayer.



Inclusive Pro-Tips

Let the kids draw their words instead of writing them if they feel more comfortable doing so.

Ensure there isn't any pressure to pray out loud! Allow kids to pray quietly and read their prayer card to themselves.