

5 min

Opener

5 min

23 Opening Activity

What You Need

👤 Offering Container 0

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five or fist bump.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Encourage the kids to sit in a circle with you.
- Explain that you're going to play a whispering game called "Telephone."
- Model for the kids how to whisper into your hand or into the ear of the kid next to you.
- Start by whispering the phrase, "God is good," to the kid on your right.
- Instruct that kid to whisper the same thing to the kid on their right.
- Encourage the kids to whisper the statement around the circle until it reaches the last kid.
- Invite the last kid to say the message out loud.
- When the last kid shares the message they think they heard, share the original message.
- Play a few more rounds with other simple phrases like, "Jesus loves me," or "God is strong."

- *For kids who are non-verbal, use a picture card that represents the phrase that they can show the next kid when it is their turn.*

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

23 – Move If True | Made to Move

"That was fun! Was the message the same at the end as it was at the beginning? We shared some short, true statements about God! We practiced talking about God! **[Transition]** That's what our true story from the Bible is about today. Let's go hear it!"

What You Say:

"Great job remembering our story! Jesus was young, but He was already talking to the teachers about God. The teachers at the temple

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to stand up and spread out.
- Explain that you will say something about the Bible Story.
- If what you say is true, encourage the kids to do a fun action. If it's not true, encourage the kids to sit down on the floor.
- Read the following statements and actions:
 - "Jesus and His family traveled a long way to go to a special party in Jerusalem. If this is true, march in place!" (*true*)
 - "When it was time to go home, Jesus got lost playing basketball. If this is true, pretend to play basketball." (*false*)
 - "Mary and Joseph looked for Jesus for three whole days! If this is true, hold up three fingers and look around." (*true*)
 - "Mary and Joseph found Jesus at the temple, listening and talking with the teachers. If this is true, point to your ears and then your mouth." (*true*)
 - "The teachers were angry that Jesus was at the temple. If this is true, show me an angry face." (*False—the teachers were amazed!*)

- *For kids with mobility challenges, adapt the movements to be done while seated (e.g., "march" with their hands on their legs, "look around" by turning their head).*
- *Use thumbs-up for true and thumbs-down for false as an alternative to standing and sitting.*

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

23 – Flip the Plate: Where's Jesus? | Made to Play

knew about God, and Jesus talked to them about Him. He asked them questions. Even when we are young, we can **[Bottom Line]practice talking about God** too!"

What You Say:

"You found Jesus! When Mary and Joseph found Jesus, He was talking to teachers in the temple about God.

"We can talk about God too! You will spend your whole life getting to know who God is, and the people around you who know Him can help

What You Need

 Paper Plates	Several
 Pencil	1

What You Do:

- Before the activity, draw a simple stick person Jesus on the underside of one of the paper plates.
- Line up all sixteen plates face-up on the floor, so the drawing of Jesus can't be seen.
- Gather the kids around the plates.
- Instruct the kids, one at a time, to point to the plate they think Jesus is under.
- Flip the plate to see if they were right.
- Celebrate when they find Jesus.
- Mix up the plates and play again.

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

23 – Memory Verse with Motions | Made to Move

What You Need

 "Memory Verse Motions" Activity Page 0

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in front of you.
- Show the kids the "Memory Verse Motions" Activity Page, and teach them the motions to the Memory Verse.
 - "Training the body" (flex your muscles)
 - "has some value." (two thumbs-up)
 - "But being godly" (point up)
 - "has value in every way." (stretch arms out wide)
 - "It promises help for the life you are now living" (march in place)
 - "and the life to come." (point forward)
 - "1 Timothy 4:8" (open your hands like a book)
- Say the whole verse with the motions together several times.

you. A lot of people you know have been friends with God longer than you have, and they can teach you about Him. So ask them questions about God. Talk to them about Him. **[Bottom Line] Practice talking about God.**"

What You Say:

"Great job with those motions! Our verse reminds us that learning about God is so important. Being God's friend—learning about who He is and following His ways—is the most important thing you can do in your whole life! It is valuable now and forever! One way we learn about God is to **[Bottom Line] practice talking about God.**"

- Print a few extra "Memory Verse Motions" Activity Pages to support visual learners and readers who want to follow along.

5 min

Prayer

5 min

23 – Talking About God | Made to Reflect

What You Need

-  Index cards 0
-  Pencil 0

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle with you.
- Give each kid an index card and a pencil.
- Encourage them to think of and write down the name of someone (or draw someone) in their life who is a friend of God, who they can talk to about God.
- Say: "One of the people God has put in your life to help you learn about Him is me! He's also put other people in your life who know Him, who you can talk to about Him to learn more about Him. And if you can't think of a lot of people in your life who you can talk to about God, ask God to bring more people that you can talk to. All of God's friends are just trying to get to know Him better. So talk to the people in your life who know Him to get to know Him better! **[Bottom Line] Practice talking about God.**"
- Close your group time in prayer

Allow children to whisper a person to the leader to write or draw if they feel more comfortable.

What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You so much that You want us to know You. We all want to know You better. Help us see the people in our lives who are Your friends, and give us the courage to talk about You. And bring more people in our lives who are Your friends so we can all grow together and get to know You better. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Supplies

23 Opening Activity Quantity

- 1. Offering Container 0

23 – Flip the Plate: Where's Jesus? | Made to Play Quantity

- 1. Paper Plates Several
- 2. Pencil 1

23 – Memory Verse with Motions | Made to Move Quantity

- 1. "Memory Verse Motions" Activity Page 0

23 – Talking About God | Made to Reflect Quantity

- 1. Index cards 0
- 2. Pencil 0