

# FEBRUARY LG | W4



## Bible Story

Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter and a Suffering Woman • *Mark 5:21-43*

## Bottom Line

Jesus shows love to people in need.

## Monthly Memory Verse

*"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you."* • John 13:34, NIV

5 min

# Large Group Opener

5 min

## OPENER

### What You Need

-  Bandanas, fabric strips, or elastic bands Several bands
-  Floor tape 1

**HOST:** “Hi, everyone! I’m so happy to be with you today. It’s the final week of our series ‘Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus!’

“This series is called ‘Like and Subscribe,’ because when you see something awesome online, you like it and subscribe to it because you don’t want to miss a minute of awesomeness. And you want to share that awesomeness with your friends and family too!

“This month we’re talking about the love of God! That’s definitely not something you want to miss a second of! And you so want to share it!

“While Jesus showed love to every single person, He showed extra care and compassion for those who were sick and hurting ... the people who needed Him most! To be honest, we all need a helping hand sometimes. Or, like in today’s game, a helping LEG! I need [number of] helpers (*based on how many volunteers you decide*) who would like to help us play.

“If you’d like to volunteer for our game, raise your hand!

Choose as many volunteers as you have space for—either across the stage, up an aisle, or even around the room. Divide them into teams of two, trying to match height.

SLIDE: Three-Legged Race Title

“Okay! Our game today is a viral sensation that’s been sweeping the nation ... since the late 1800s. Yup, about 150 years ago, the three-legged race was actually a serious, competitive sport with world records!

“We’re going to be tying each team together, using these bandanas. (Show bandanas or fabric strips.) When everyone is ready, the teams will start right here (point out start line) and run as fast as they can all the way to the finish line! (Point out the race course and finish line or indicate if they are circling around to return to the start line.) Now let’s turn you all from two-legged creatures into three-legged creatures!

AUDIO: Upbeat music

Depending on how many kids are playing, you may wish to recruit small group leaders or other adult volunteers to help tie up the teams as quickly as possible. Once the teams are attached, direct them to the start line.

“Remember, you simply can’t win this one on your own. You all need help in a big way! You have to work together with your teammate. So, on your marks ... get set ... GO!

11 min

## Worship

3 min

### Worship | This is Living

#### What You Need

No supplies needed

3 min

### WORSHIP | This is Our God

#### What You Need

No supplies needed

Cheer and encourage the racers along the route. When the race is over, announce the winning team.

"And we have a winner. Two winners! You both needed help in a big way. And you both came through for each other. Let's have a big round of applause for all of our brave three-legged volunteers."

Lead applause and send volunteers back to their seats.

"In our true story from the Bible today, we're going to see how Jesus helped a couple of people who needed it!"

#### WORSHIP LEADER (warm, confident):

"Hey everyone! You did such a great job in that game — thank you for jumping in and encouraging each other.

All month long, we've been talking about how much God loves us and how we can share that love with others.

Today, we're going to hear true stories from the Bible that remind us just how close God is to people when they're hurting or in need.

Life with Jesus is real life — even in hard moments.

So let's start by celebrating the life we have because of Him.

Everybody stand up — let's sing **This Is Living!**"

#### WORSHIP LEADER:

"You guys did such a great job — thank you for worshiping with your whole hearts.

That song reminds us that life with Jesus is full and good.

But sometimes life also brings moments where we need help, healing, or hope.

Today's Bible stories show us that when people came to Jesus with big needs, He didn't push them away.

He saw them. He cared. And He helped.

This next song might feel familiar by now, and it reminds us of something really important —

that God is powerful *and* loving, strong *and* close.

As we sing, think about who God is and how much He cares about you. Let's sing **This Is Our God** together."

5 min

## Memory Verse

### What You Need

No supplies needed

### WORSHIP LEADER:

"You did an amazing job — thank you for leaning in and singing together.

When we see who God really is, it helps us understand how He wants us to live.

Jesus didn't just show love with His words — He showed love with His actions.

And then He asked us to do the same.

Our memory verse this month reminds us exactly how Jesus wants us to love others — the same way He loves us.

Let's get ready and say it together."

*(Move directly into Memory Verse: John 13:34)*

*SLIDE: Memory Verse*

*"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." —John 13:34"*

"Let's say it together!"

**KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER:** *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." —John 13:34"*

"That verse reminds us of something really important. Jesus didn't just tell people He loved them. He showed love by helping others, forgiving, and giving His life for us. When we love others the same way, we're showing people what Jesus is like. That's what it means to follow Him. So remember, this week you can love others by stopping to help, by being kind, or by including someone who feels left out. That's how you can share the love of Jesus every single day!"

38 min

## Bible Story (Live)

3 min

### INTRODUCTION

#### What You Need

No supplies needed

Make sure the table is set on stage so the Storyteller can place their Bible on it and read from it. Place the "That's Good!" and "That's Sad!" signs on the table.

**STORYTELLER:** "You guys! I'm so excited to spend the next little while learning about God with you! I can't think of anything I'd rather do!"

"For this month, we've been talking about our theme of 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of God.' Because when you find something awesome online, you 'like' it and you 'subscribe' to it because you don't want to miss a second of it! And you share it with your friends and family so they can experience the awesomeness too!"

5 min

## GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

### What You Need

No supplies needed

"This month we've been talking about the great, great love of God, and you definitely don't want to miss a second of that either! This week, we're going to look at how Jesus stopped what He was doing—and what the Savior is doing is always important—to help some people who were in need. Jesus is so loving and kind and good.

"But before we get into our true story from the Bible, let me tell you about something awesome we're doing this year! We're going through the Bible cover-to-cover!

"Why? Well, God gave us the Bible so we can get to know Him. So as we go through the stories of the Bible, we'll learn about God!

**STORYTELLER:** "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

*SLIDE: God's Big Story*

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

"After God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they disobeyed God—again and again and again. Even the kings God gave them rebelled! So, God split the nation in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

5 min

## SETTING UP THE STORY

### What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

## JARIUS MAKES A REQUEST

### What You Need

No supplies needed

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!"

**STORYTELLER:** "We're continuing right along through the Bible! We're at the part of the Bible where Jesus was on earth, teaching us about God. Let's see what happened when Jesus encountered two people who really needed His help.

"People everywhere heard about the amazing things Jesus was doing. He healed people who were sick or couldn't walk, or had skin diseases. He had power over evil spirits. He even calmed a wild storm!

"Today's story takes us to some pretty hard emotions and some pretty amazing ones. So I need all of you to help me out with marking the highs and lows. But first, I need a couple of special sign holders. If you would like to help, raise your hand!

*Choose two volunteers from the kids who have their hands raised, and instruct them to stand on either side of you. Hold up the two signs.*

"Now, this sign says, 'That's good!' (*Show "That's good!" sign.*) So every time you see this sign, I want you to punch your fists in the air and shout 'That's good!' But this sign (*show "That's sad!" sign*) says 'That's sad!' So when you see this sign, I want you to make a sad, droopy face and say, 'That's sad!'

*Hand each volunteer a sign.*

"Okay, you've got 'That's good!' And you have 'That's sad!' Start by holding your signs down. But when I cue you, raise your sign high, and we'll all shout it out. Let's practice.

*Point to Volunteer 1, who raises sign.*

*(Cheer and smile.) "That's good! Okay, you can put it down as soon as we say it.*

*Point to Volunteer 2, who raises sign.*

*(Make a sad face.) "That's sad! Now you can put your sign down until I point to you. Everyone ready?*

**STORYTELLER:** "One day, when Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee with His friends, a huge crowd showed up to meet the boat. One of them was a man named Jairus, an important leader of the synagogue, where Jewish people worshiped God. When Jairus saw Jesus, he fell down at Jesus' feet.

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:23 (NirV) and read.*

5 min

## THE SUFFERING WOMAN

### What You Need

No supplies needed

*He begged Jesus, "Please come. My little daughter is dying."*

*Cue Volunteer 2, who raises sign.*

*"That's sad!' So very sad. But Jairus wasn't finished. He said—*

*Continue reading. Open the Bible to Mark 5:23 (NirV) and read.*

*"Place your hands on her to heal her. Then she will live."*

*"Now, we don't know what Jesus had planned for the day, but He set it aside and went with Jairus.*

*Cue Volunteer 1, who raises sign.*

*"That's good!' Yay! Jesus started off ... and so did the entire crowd! They were all jostling and packing in close to Jesus to see what He would do."*

**STORYTELLER:** *"But one woman in the crowd wanted something more. This woman had been sick for a long time with an illness that made her bleed.*

*Cue Volunteer 2, who raises sign.*

*"That's sad!' Think about how awful it feels to be sick for a few days. This lady had been sick for twelve years! She had spent all her money on doctors, but they couldn't help. Her sickness made her an outcast. She was weak and alone, without hope. Until Jesus showed up.*

*"When this woman saw Jesus coming, she pushed her way through the crowd. Reaching out, the woman touched the back of Jesus' clothing.*

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:28-29 (NirV) and read.*

*She thought, "I just need to touch his clothes. Then I will be healed." Right away her bleeding stopped. She felt in her body that her suffering was over.*

*Cue Volunteer 1, who raises sign.*

*"That's good!'It's absolutely amazing! This woman may have planned to slip away, but ...*

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:30-31 (NirV) and read.*

*At once Jesus knew that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd. He asked, "Who touched my clothes?"*

*"You see the people," his disciples answered. "They are crowding against you. And you still ask, 'Who touched me?'"*

*"But Jesus knew someone had been healed. He wanted to look in their eyes and speak with them.*

5 min

**JARIUS'S DAUGHTER****What You Need**

No supplies needed

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:33-34 (NirV) and read.*

*Then the woman came and fell at his feet. She knew what had happened to her. She was shaking with fear. But she told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Dear woman, your faith has healed you. Go in peace. You are free from your suffering."*

*Cue Volunteer 1, who raises sign.*

*"That's good!"*

*"It was incredible. Jesus completely healed this woman—in an instant! After being sick and alone for so long, she had a whole new chance at life!"*

**STORYTELLER:** *"But remember? Jesus was actually on His way to Jairus's house, where a girl was dying.*

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:35 (NirV) and read.*

*While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus. He was the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"*

*Cue Volunteer 2, who raises sign.*

*"That's sad!" These people had no hope. They didn't believe that Jesus was powerful enough to help.*

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:36 (NirV) and read.*

*Jesus heard what they were saying. He told the synagogue leader, "Don't be afraid. Just believe."*

*"When Jesus arrived at Jairus's home, things were chaotic. It was tradition for mourners to come and loudly grieve when someone died.*

*Cue Volunteer 2, who raises sign.*

*"That's sad!" People were already crying and wailing. But Jesus did not let that stop Him.*

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:39 (NirV) and read.*

*He went inside. Then he said to them, "Why all this confusion and sobbing? The child is not dead. She is only sleeping."*

*"But the mourners just laughed at Him! Jesus sent them outside. Only the girl's parents and three of Jesus' closest friends stayed with Him as they went into the room where the twelve-year-old girl lay. Jesus looked down at her and then, gently—*

*Open the Bible to Mark 5:41 (NirV) and read.*

5 min

## WRAPPING UP THE STORY

### What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

## GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

### What You Need

No supplies needed

*He took her by the hand. Then he said to her, "Talitha koum!" This means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"*

*"... And she did!*

*Cue Volunteer 1, who raises sign.*

*"That's good!" Double good. Triple good. A million good!*

*"Right away, the girl got up and took a few steps. Everyone was amazed. Speechless. Dead people do not just get up and walk, right?! You can imagine the incredible reunion with Jairus and his wife both hugging their daughter at once.*

*"Jesus told the group not to tell anyone what had happened. Then, He told the girl's parents to give her something to eat.*

*"Okay, let's give a big round of applause to our good/sad sign leaders! You all did great!*

*Lead applause and send the volunteers back to their seats*

**STORYTELLER:** *"The girl had not only been raised to life again, but she was completely well! No matter how important Jesus' plans were, He always had time to stop and show God's love by helping someone in need.*

*SLIDE: Bottom Line*

**[Bottom Line]** *"Jesus shows love to people in need. Say that with me."*

Host enters and joins in.

**KIDS, STORYTELLER AND HOST:** *[Bottom Line] "Jesus shows love to people in need."*

**HOST:** *"Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!*

*SLIDE: God's Big Story*

*"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' Jesus Himself came to teach us about who God is!*

*"This week, we looked at two interactions Jesus had with people who needed His help. If we zoom out to look at God's Big Story, God spent so much time in His Big Story preparing for Jesus to be on earth. (Gesture to timeline.) It was so important for Jesus to come. One of the reasons it was so important for Jesus to come is that Jesus shows us exactly who God is because He is God. So when Jesus went throughout our broken world, again and again, He fixed what was broken—like He did in our story today. And then, after years of fixing what was broken, Jesus*

died on a cross, and when He did, He fixed our biggest brokenness: the sin that was keeping us all from being God's close friends. God is in the business of fixing brokenness. While He was on earth, Jesus fixed broken bodies and broken lives. And then, on the cross, God declared loud and clear: 'I'm fixing something else that's broken too.' Our God loves us so, so much!

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!"

*SLIDE: Week 4 Timeline Image*

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's Timeline Image on the clothesline.

"This week we learned how Jesus always had time to stop and show compassion to people in need, like the suffering woman and Jairus's daughter."

8 min

## Closing

5 min

### WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

#### What You Need

No supplies needed

**HOST:** "So what's our part in the story? Well, Jesus was on the most important mission ever: to give up His life to save the whole world, so we can be close to God! But that didn't stop Jesus from pausing in His day to show God's love to specific people who needed His help.

"And *all* of us need His help. Whether you're really sick and need healing or a little sad and need encouragement, Jesus is with you, and He will help you through it. You can choose to be still and breathe and ask Jesus to show you His love. And when you've spent time with Jesus and experienced His love, you can pass it on to the people around you who are in need.

"One of the best ways to show love like Jesus is to be willing to stop what you're doing to offer help—like if you're in the middle of a new level in your video game, but your little sister wants you to help her fix her block build. Or maybe you're at lunch, laughing with your friends, and you see a kid who's all alone, so you invite them over.

"Each day, ask the Holy Spirit to show you the needs of the people around you ... and how to meet those needs, even if it's as simple as giving a smile.

"Don't forget: you can also pay attention to how Jesus shows love to *you* through other people who help meet your needs. Because the more you see the love of Jesus in action, the more you'll be able to share it with others in need."

**STORYTELLER or HOST:** "Let's talk to the God who loves you so much!"

3 min

## PRAYER

**What You Need**

No supplies needed

"Dear God, thank You for showing Your love for us by sending Jesus. Thank You that Jesus always had time to help people in need. Remind us throughout the week of ways that we can show the love of Jesus to people around us who are in need. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

# Supplies

OPENER	Quantity
1. Bandanas, fabric strips, or elastic bands	Several
2. Floor tape	1