



WEEK  
**TWO**  
MAY 2022

SMALL GROUP  
**5th & 6th**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

## GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

#### 1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

*Made to Connect:* an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Sticky notes
- Markers or pens

#### 2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Explore:* an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Sticky notes from the Take a Snapshot Activity
- Tape
- Blank sticky notes
- Markers or pens
- Tables, chairs, beanbag chairs and other miscellaneous items for Small Groups to make an obstacle course.
  - *Optional:* Layout an obstacle course for Small Groups to use. Kids will be bouncing balls through the course so the course layout can be simple and still be challenging for kids.
- Rubber ball or basketball; two for each group
- (Optional) Timer or mobile device

#### 3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Connect:* an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

#### 4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

*Made to Move:* an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Masking tape
- Scissors
- Markers or pens
- Cups; eight for every two kids



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- Containers with 10+ ping pong balls; one container for every two kids
- Timer or mobile device

### 5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

*Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Beach ball or rubber ball (You can use the "Prayer Ball" from week 1 and Small Groups can add prayer prompts to it using the sticky notes from the Bible Story Activity.)
- Tape
- Sticky notes from the Bible Story Extension Activity

### HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**

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## MADE TO CONNECT

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## 1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Sticky notes, markers

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids three to five sticky notes and markers.
- Say: Think about something in your life that has been

challenging. What made it challenging?

▫ What are the things might keep you from bouncing back?

- Tell kids to write one answer on each of their sticky notes. (*You didn't know how to fix it, you didn't want to do it, it didn't make sense, it was boring or not fun, you were scared, etc.*)
- Lead kids to share their answers. Group similar answers together.
- Keep the notes for the "Bible Story Extension" Activity.
- **[Make it Personal]** (*Share a time when you decided to keep going and it was tough. Share why it was tough and how you felt when you kept going.*)

Ask:

▫ When have you decided to keep going?

▫ How did you feel when you kept going and worked through something tough?

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Go the Distance

Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin  
Acts 3:1-4:21

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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**When have you decided to keep going?**

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Keep going even when it gets tough.

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"But those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak."

Isaiah 40:31, NIV

## MONTHLY LIFE APP

Resilience—Getting back up when something gets you down

## BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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## MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning  
through hands-on experimentation  
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## 2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Sticky notes from the Take a Snapshot Activity, blank sticky notes, tape, markers, balls, supplies to create an obstacle course, (optional) timer or mobile device

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### WHAT YOU DO:

- Review the Bible story by asking:
  - Why were Peter and John arrested?
  - What were some challenges Peter and John faced?
    - Write each challenge on a sticky note.
    - Compare the challenges with the sticky notes from the Take a Snapshot Activity. Are any the same?
  - How were Peter and John resilient?
  - Why were Peter and John able to keep going and to continue talking and teaching about Jesus?
- Enlist kids' help in:
  - Creating an obstacle course using tables, chairs, and other miscellaneous items in the room.
  - Identifying the obstacles in the course by sticking one of the sticky notes to each obstacle.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Give each team a ball.
- Line up teams at one end of the obstacle course.
- Teams take turns going through the obstacle course. To travel through the course:
  - Teams must bounce their ball through the course.
  - Teammates must take turns bouncing the ball. A kid can only bounce the ball once before a teammate must bounce it.
  - If the ball hits any of the obstacles, the team goes back to the starting line.
  - (Optional) To make it a competition, set a timer. Declare the team with the fastest time to complete the course or the team to get the farthest through the course the winner.
- Wrap-up the activity by reminding kids that even though the obstacle course was a fun challenge, not all challenges we experience are fun. Often, there isn't an easy fix when things get tough, or situations happen out of our control. While we cannot control situations around us, we can turn to God's truths, and the power of the Holy Spirit, to guide our actions and attitudes.
- Ask:
  - Like Peter and John, what are some ways we can train ourselves to be bounce back and push through when things get tough?
  - What can we learn from Peter and John to help us show resilience when (fill in with an example from one of the sticky notes from the Take a Snapshot Activity)?



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## (2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION, CONTINUED)

Allow kids to share specific challenges they are facing. The goal of this discussion is not to provide solutions for the situations kids are facing. This is an opportunity to discuss the importance of knowing God's truths, of knowing Scripture, and then turning to those truths to help us keep going. **[Make it Personal]** (Share an age-appropriate time you were facing challenges and what helped you did to bounce back.)



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## MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



## 3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**Ask:**

- What does it look like to be resilient when a friend isn't treating you kindly? What about when you're not getting along with a parent? Or when you're struggling with learning something at school?
- What can you do if you aren't sure what it means to be resilient in a certain situation?
- Do you think when you decide to keep going when it is tough, it helps you bounce back when something gets you down again? Why or why not?

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## 4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, masking tape, markers or pens,  
cups, containers of ping pong balls, scissors, timer or  
mobile device

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a Bible and look up Isaiah 40:31.
- Ask if anyone wants to try to recite the verse from memory.
- Give each kid a strip of masking tape.
- Pair kids up.
- Tell one kid from each team to write the first two sentences of the verse on their tape.
- Tell the other kid from each team to write the last two sentences of the verse on their piece of tape.
- Give each kid four plastic cups.
- Instruct kids to rip or cut their tape into four pieces and stick each piece to one of the cups.
- Tell teams to stack their collective cups together, in the correct order of the verse.
- Guide kids to stand about six feet apart, facing their teammate.
- Give one kid from each team a container of ping pong balls; their teammate holds the stack of cups.
- Kids bounce a ping pong ball to their teammate; their teammate tries to catch the ball in the top cup of their stack of cups.
- When a ball is successfully caught, the kid removes the top cup with the ball in it and places it at the bottom of their stack of cups.
- Holding only the bottom cup, teams work together to catch another ball in the top cup.
- Each time a ball is caught, the cup with the ball is moved to the bottom of the stack.
- As more ping pong balls are caught, the stack of cups starts to wiggle, increasing the difficulty of catching the bounced ping pong ball.
- Remind kids to hold only the bottom cup in the stack.
- Depending on the skill level of the group, the winner is:
  - The first team to successfully catch eight balls
  - The team with the most balls caught in a give time limit, e.g., 1-2 minutes.
  - For a visual, go to: <https://bit.ly/3pRNAqA>
- Gather kids together.
- Read Isaiah 40:31 and ask:
  - What does this verse say about God?
  - What does this verse tell us about resilience?
  - How does this verse relate to our story today about Peter and John?
  - How can knowing this verse help you to show resilience?
- Challenge kids to memorize Isaiah 40:31 and to say it to themselves when things get tough and they need God's help to be resilient.

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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space  
for personal processing  
and application



## 5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Prayer Ball," tape, sticky notes from  
the Bible Story Extension Activity

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Adhere several of the sticky notes to the beach ball.
- Lead kids in prayer using the "Prayer Ball."
  - Bounce the ball to a kid in the circle.
  - Tell kids to read the words closest to their left thumb.
  - Encourage kids to say a one sentence prayer relating to the sticky note nearest to their thumb.
- Example prayers: God, give me wisdom to fix what seems impossible. God, give me patience when I need to show resilience, etc.
- Close in prayer. If applicable, incorporate prayer about some of the situations kids shared about earlier during group time.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are with us always. When we receive Jesus as our Savior, You give us Your Spirit. Your Spirit gives us power to bounce back. Give us the courage to keep going and wisdom to know what it looks like to keep going. Thank You, God, for Your Word. It shows us who You are and reminds us of Your truths and promises. We love You, God! Amen!"

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