



WEEK
FOUR
APRIL 2023

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

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

1. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pens
- Print "Tic-Tac, Toe, What Do You Know" Activity Page, one for each kid.

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 Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paper strips (2"x11"), 20 for each Small Group
- Yardstick, one for each Small Group
- Empty paper towel tube (or a piece of cardstock rolled into a tube of the same size), one for each Small Group

- Rolls of tape, five for each Small Group

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Toy gardening tool that is easy to pass, one for each Small Group
- Print "Fill in the Blank Story Script" Activity Page, one for each Small Group

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 Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Small plastic toy gardening tools, two to four for each Small Group

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:

- No supplies needed

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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1. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Pens, "Tic-Tac, Toe, What Do You Know" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a "Tic-Tac, Toe, What Do You Know" Activity Page and a pen.
- Ask kids to fill in each block with short one- or two-word answers to each of the questions.
- As long as the answer fits the question, they can put answers in any box and in any order.
- When finished, have everyone walk around the room and compare their answers with each other.
- When they find that they've put the same (or very similar) answer as someone else in the same square, both kids can X out that square.
- The winner is the first kid who gets three Xs in a row (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal).
- Continue the game if desired in order to have as many kids as possible with a row of Xs.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Stand By Me

On the Road to Emmaus
Luke 24:13-35

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

**When has someone helped
you understand something?**

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Put others first by helping
them understand.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Don't do anything only to get
ahead. Don't do it because you are
proud. Instead, be humble. Value
others more than yourselves."**

Philippians 2:3, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Humility—Putting others
first by giving up what you
think you deserve**

BASIC TRUTH

**I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"This is a great group of kids who know a lot of things! We could learn all kinds of stuff from each other. It takes humility to be willing to learn from others. It also takes humility to be willing to engage patience in order to help someone else understand something. **[Transition] In today's story we'll meet some men who were on the receiving end of Jesus' willingness to help them understand something very important. Let's go find out what it was.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper strips, tape, yard stick, paper tube

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid two or three strips of paper. Set out rolls of tape where everyone can reach them.
- Show kids how to form rings by taping the ends of the strips together but don't link them into a chain.
- Ask half of the group to stand on your left and the others on your right.
- Hold the paper tube vertically and balance the yardstick horizontally on the center of the tube.
- Ask a kid on your left to share something they would like to learn or better understand.
- Ask a kid on your right to suggest how they or someone else who might be able to help the first kid with what they want to learn.
- They don't necessarily need to name a specific person, just a general category such as teacher, coach, etc.
- Invite the two kids to each place a ring on their side of the yardstick, being careful to keep it balanced.
- Repeat with another kid from each team until everyone has had a turn.
- Take the paper rings off the yard stick and begin again, but switch roles so that the team on your right is sharing something they would like to know more about and the other team is suggesting how they or someone else might help.
- Continue adding rings with each turn while working to keep the yardstick balanced.
- After everyone has shared, ask:
 - When have you had the opportunity to help someone your age or younger learn a new skill or better understand something?
 - When has someone helped you understand something?
- Point out that each time they added a ring to the yardstick, it made a difference.
- Remind them that putting others first—especially when we can help them in some way—can make a huge difference in that person's life.

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2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Fill in the Blank Story Script" Activity Page, toy gardening tool

WHAT YOU DO:

- Review the Bible story using the "Fill in the Blank Story Script."
- Sit in a circle.
- Hand one of the kids the toy gardening tool.
- Explain that they will begin passing the garden tool around the circle as you read the story about the men who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus.
- Whenever you pause, the kid holding the garden tool must fill in the blank by finishing the sentence in keeping with the story.
- If they don't know the answer, they can hand the garden tool to the next kid.
- (Note that suggested answers are printed in bold on the script but kids can answer in their own words.)
- Pick up the story where you left off and continue on.
- At the end of the script, discuss and wrap up:
 - What are some of the things the men on the road to Emmaus learned about God's story that they didn't already know?
 - What is something you discovered in this story that you didn't know before? Is there someone you can share this new discovery with to help them know and better understand Jesus?
 - Why do you think Jesus was disappointed with the men for not better understanding what was going on with the events that had taken place in Jerusalem?
 - Why does God want us to understand the things in the Bible?

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GROWING FROM
THE GROUND UP

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3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- When it comes to knowing Jesus, what would you say are the most important things to understand?
- What would you like to understand better about God? Who can you go to for help?
- If someone asks you for help to understand something, when is it hard for you to do that with a good attitude? What makes the difference between it being hard or easy?

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4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, several toy gardening tools

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the toy gardening tools in a random formation on the floor (aligned, crisscrossed, in a shape, etc.)
- Ask kids to look closely then guess how many tools there are. Indicate who has guessed correctly then rearrange the tools and ask again.
- Only you will know that the answer has nothing to do with the formation or the amount of garden tools. It is determined by how many fingers you have placed on the floor or your lap. Make sure your hands are visible.
- As kids begin to figure out the game, ask them to hold back the secret as you continue to play.
- If kids are still not getting it, be more obvious as you place a different number of fingers on the floor each time.
- After the game, give kids Bibles then ask them to look up and read Proverbs 3:27.
- Use the suggestion below to help kids find the verse.

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.

- Say the verse together several times and see if kids can recite it on their own.
- Consider asking half the kids to say the first part in a certain voice, then let the remaining kids say the second part using the same voice style.
 - High (squeaky) voice
 - Low voice
 - Robot voice
 - Pirate voice
 - Whisper
 - Shout
- Ask:
 - If you figured out the secret in our game, was it easy or hard to hold back what you knew? Why or why not?
 - What does it mean to "hold back good" from someone?
 - If we can help someone understand and we choose not to help, is that holding back good? Why or why not?
 - What do you learn about humility from this verse?

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct everyone to stand in a circle and turn to the left so they are facing the back of the person in front of them.
- Ask each person to pray a short prayer (silently or aloud) for the person in front of them to have opportunities to put others first this week by helping someone understand.
- Invite everyone to turn and face the opposite direction and then pray the same prayer for the person they are now facing.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, help us to show humility by serving others this week. When we can help someone understand something better, help us do it without complaining or expecting something in return. Show us how to follow Your example and put our family, friends, and others first this week. In Jesus' name, amen."

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