



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

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Stopwatch
- Jigsaw puzzle with about 50 pieces, one for each Small Group
- LEGO®, 100+ for each Small Group
- Set of playing cards or Uno game cards, one for each Small Group
- Crayons or markers, 100+ for each Small Group
- Half cup each of dried black beans, red kidney beans, and navy beans mixed together, one container of mixed beans for each Small Group

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

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Toothpicks, 20 for each Small Group
- Rolls of tape, two 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:

- Small containers of Play-Doh (or similar product), one for each kid
- Optional: permanent marker

#### 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
- Small plastic flower pot, one 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:

- Small container of Play-Doh, one for each kid

### 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 PLAY

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## 1. OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Stopwatch, prepared game station items

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Set up the five areas around the room with the items you've chosen.
- Each area should have supplies dumped, strewn or otherwise set out in a clearly unorganized and messy way.
- Invite kids to each stand at one of the game areas but with no more than two kids at each one.
- Explain that their job is to make order out of the chaos in whatever way they choose.
- They will have 30 seconds to work then they must move to a different area and pick up where the last person left off.
- The goal is to leave each area looking better than when they got there.
- Remind kids that there can only be 1-2 kids at a station at a time.
- Continue signaling kids to move every 30 seconds until each area looks organized and orderly.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Mercy's Shore

Jesus Restores Peter  
John 21:1-19 (John 18:1-27)

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When is it hard to  
make things right?

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Put others first by  
making things right.

## 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:

"You did a great job making everything look better. Do your parents or grandparents know how well you can clean up a mess? Your secret is safe with me. Making something right when it's been messed up can be about more than just spilled LEGO bricks. When something happens in a relationship with a friend or family member, it's not always easy to make it right again. **[Transition]** Today we'll spend some time talking about putting others first in messy situations that need to be made right."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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## MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen  
in the brain and taps into the energy  
in the body



## 1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Toothpicks, tape

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Form two teams.
- At the far end of the room set out 10 toothpicks, plus a roll of tape for each team.
- Lead kids in a relay race in which the first kid on each team runs down and breaks a toothpick in half, and then returns.
- The next kid runs down and tapes the toothpick back together then returns.
- Continue until all of the team's toothpicks have all been *broken and made right*.
- After the game, ask kids to share their thoughts about the attitudes, words or actions that can break a relationship.
  - What can help fix or make that friendship right again?

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



## 2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Play-Doh (or similar product);  
*Optional: permanent marker*

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each of the kids a small container of Play-Doh.
- Invite kids to form the dough into the shape of a heart as they share what they remember from Large Group.
  - What did Peter do that he said he would never do on the night Jesus died on the cross?
  - What do you think prompted Peter to do the very thing he said he'd never do?
  - Before Peter saw Jesus alive again, what feelings do you think he had as he looked back on that night?
- Tell kids to pass their Play-Doh heart to the left then continue the review.
  - If the Play-Doh could represent how Peter felt after his actions on the night Jesus died, what might it look like? *(Pause to allow kids a moment to reshape the dough in whatever way they choose.)*
  - What was the question Jesus asked Peter three times?
  - How easy or hard do you think it was for Jesus and Peter to make things right? Explain.
  - How do we know that things were made right between Jesus and Peter?
- Ask kids to pass the Play-Doh back to the kid on their right who will restore it back into the shape of a heart they made earlier.
- Point out that after the heart shapes were broken and squished, kids "restored" them back to the original shape. We could say that they "made things right" again.
- Wrap up with a few more discussion questions.
  - How have you made things right with someone when you've done something you regret?
  - When is it hard to make things right?
  - What are some things you can say or do to start making things right with someone?
  - What can you do when you're willing to make things right but the other person isn't?
  - If you need help making things right with someone, who can you talk to?
- Close with a reminder that when someone wrongs us, it's easy to get mad and stay mad. But even if we FEEL like we have a right to stay mad, humility means choosing to make the first move to make things right.
- Collect the Play-Doh for kids to reuse during the Prayer activity. If you plan to send the Play-Doh home with kids, provide a permanent marker for them to write their initials on the outside of the container.

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



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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

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- How do you benefit by being the first one to step out and make things right with others?
- If God wants us to make things right with others, what does that tell you about how much God values relationships? What else has God done that shows us how incredibly important it is for relationships to be restored?
- Why do we sometimes choose to not make things right after something has happened between us and a friend or a family member? Is there ever a good reason to avoid making things right?
- Can our motives ever be selfish even when we're doing something to make things right? Explain.

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## 4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, plastic flower pot

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Stand in a circle with one kid in the center.
- Give the flower pot to one of the kids around the circle.
- Explain that the kid in the middle will call out one of two signals.
  1. "Plant it!" which means the person holding the flower pot must tap the bottom of it.
  2. "Pick it!" which means to pass the flower pot to someone on their left or the right.
- Tell kids that the trick is that whoever is holding the flower pot must do the OPPOSITE of the command. (If they are told to "Plant It," they must pass it. If they are told to "Pick It," they must tap it.)
- If they make a mistake, they switch places with the kid in the middle.
- Build momentum as you play by increasing the speed of how quickly the commands are given.
- After the game, gather kids together.
- Ask kids to look up Colossians 3:13. Use the tip below if kids need help locating the verse.

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**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.

- Read the verse together then give kids a few minutes to try and memorize it.
- Practice saying Colossians 3:13 as a group without looking at it in the Bible.
- Discuss the verse by first reminding kids that sometimes God asks us to do the opposite of what we might FEEL like doing.
- What can you do when something needs to be made right but no one is willing to take the first step?
- What would happen if God was not willing to make things right with us?
- What would it look like for you to take the first step in making things right if you need to this week?
- What's the difference between just letting something go and actually making things right with the person who has wronged you?
- Close by saying Colossians 3:13 together one more time reminding kids that living out this verse today might mean letting someone off the hook and letting go of a grudge. It might mean taking the first step toward someone to make things right even if they think they don't deserve it. If they feel like doing the right thing, take a beat and talk to God, the master of making things right.



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

WHAT YOU NEED: Play-Doh

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a container of Play-Doh from earlier.
- Ask them to create a shape that represents a relationship that needs to be made right.
- Invite kids to pray for those they may need to make the first move with and show humility in making things right.
- Ask kids to reshape the dough into something that represents a relationship that has been made right.
- Invite them to thank God for sending Jesus to die for us so that we could be made right.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

*"Dear God, thank You for not leaving us without a way to make things right and be in a forever friendship with You. Give us a heart of humility that is willing to take the first step in making things right with those we have hurt or who have hurt us. Since this is usually the opposite of what we feel like doing, give us the courage to step up and do what we know is right even if it's hard. In Jesus' name, amen."*

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