



8:45 – 9:10 – Welcome

As 4th graders arrive, let them choose from the following options:

- Board Games / Card Games
- 4 Square
- Basketball
- Gaga Ball
- Card-Making
- Pen-Pai Writing
- Coloring
- Talking – Relationship Building

9:10 – 9:25 – Team Building Game

Game: Straw Balance *This fun balancing exercise requires coordination and cooperation.*

Materials: Pastic straws

- Have everyone form a large circle and give each one a plastic straw.
- The challenge is to balance each straw between one person's right pointer finger and the left pointer finger of the person next to them.
- Challenge your students to make movements such as rotating the circle, squatting down, raising one foot, raising your right hand, etc.
- The goal is to make the movements while keeping the straw connections intact.

9:25 – 9:55 – Small Group Time

****All materials are located in you Small Group Bins**

Prayer (10-15 minutes)

3 Questions to ask every week:

- **What is one way you saw God at work this week?**
 - What did that tell you about God?
- **Where do you need God's help this week?**
 - Which qualities of God do you need help remembering? (ex. Loving, patient, wise, always with us, forgiving..)
 - What is one way you pray God changes your heart?
- **Who is one person we can pray for today?**

Pray for each other about what was shared.

Matthew Study (15-20 minutes)

This week we are starting Matthew Chapter 1 – See workbook p. **12-16**
(packets for students will be in your small group bins)

9:55–10:00 – Quick Whole Group Recap

Main Takeaways:

We want our kids to walk away knowing that:

- God always keeps His promises – even over hundreds of years
- His presence is with all who believe in Him – through the Holy Spirit
- They can call out to Him for help in their everyday lives.

Invite children to share something they learned in their small group – as time allows.

10:00 – 10:10 – Wrap Up Game

Game: Family Tree Relay

Supplies:

- 2 sets of name cards (Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Judah, Rehab, David, Joseph, Mary, Jesus, plus several “distractor” names like Noah, Moses, Daniel, Peter, Paul, John, James, Silas, Jonah...)
- 1 Basket/bin labeled with an “X”
- Painter’s tape to make a timeline on the floor
- 2 Bibles – one for each group to reference

Explain to the class – to help us remember that God kept His promises through many generations, and that He continues to keep His promises today, we’re going to play a game!

- Divide the class into two teams and form a line for each.
- Scatter all the name cards at one end of the room (one set for each team)
- One player at a time runs to grab one card
- They bring it back and decide as a team if it belongs in Jesus’ family tree.
- If yes, they place it in order on the timeline.
- If not, they place it in the “X” basket/bin
- Repeat with the next player – adding and re-arranging names on the timeline as needed
 - Have them continue playing until all the cards are sorted

Wrap up the game with the following questions:

- Why would Matthew start his Gospel with a long family list? – What does it show us about God?

10:10 – 10:20 – Bible Games

These activities are to be played as the service ends and parents start to pick up their kids, so there might be a lot of movement with kids coming and going during this time. Be flexible and do what works for the group you have that morning.

- Choose between the following:
 - The Action Bible “Guess It Game”
 - Would You Rather Questions
 - Bible Times Quiz cards
 - Sword Drills

Dismissal:

As children leave, give them a Sermon Note sheet to use if they are going into the service.

10:35 – Dismiss children who have permission to leave on their own.

(Any child with a “L” on their nametag can **NOT** leave on their own and needs to be picked up by their guardian.)