

**WEEK**

**ONE**

# Small Group Leader Guide



## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Bottom Line
- What's Our Part in the Story?
- Prayer

### SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Superhero Headquarters
2. Where Faith Begins
3. Theme Song
4. Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Use this 2nd-3rd grade guide!

THIS MONTH



## Today's Bible Story

### Creation and the Fall Genesis 1–2:3, 3 Romans 5:8

#### Bottom Line

**You can trust God no matter what.**

#### Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of we do not see.  
(Hebrews 11:1 NIV)**

#### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

## SOCIAL

# Opening Activity

## What You Need

- ☐ Offering container
- ☐ "Guess It!" Activity Page
- ☐ Cones or floor tape

## Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Grabber tool

## \*Sample Categories

(Feel free to add your own!)

- Something alive
  - Something that has green on it
  - Something that flies
  - Something big
  - Something small
  - Something God made!
- (Try to do this category last!)

## Inclusive Pro Tips



To reinforce understanding, explain each category to the kids in simple terms and point to the cards as you explain them so all kids can easily follow along.

For kids with mobility challenges, offer an alternate way to pick up the cards, like using a grabber tool. Let the kids know it's okay to adapt!

Make sure every kid has a chance to participate by adjusting the activity to fit your groups abilities. If necessary, you can pair up kids who need extra help with a buddy.

MADE TO  
↓  
Move

## ① What You Do

**Pray for your group before they arrive** → Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Ask God to remind every kid that God is with them, even when they don't feel ready. Pray that the kids would find the courage to try new things. Ask God to help the kids remember that even when it feels big or scary, God's plan is perfect!

1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
3. Divide the kids into two teams.
4. Spread the "Guess It!" Activity Page cards on the floor on one end of your group space.
5. Designate a starting line for both teams with cones or floor tape.

## Explain the Game

1. You will call out a category.\*
2. Kids are to quickly travel to find a card that belongs in that category and bring it back to their team.
3. For example, you might say, "Something bright!" The kids might pick up the "sun" card or the "moon and stars" card.

## Play Together

1. When you're ready, call out a category, and signal the first kids in line to begin.
2. When kids bring their cards back to the team, invite them to share why they chose that card for that category.
3. Instruct the kids to return the cards to the other end of the group space after each round.
4. Continue until every kid gets a turn to retrieve a card.

## ② What You Say

"You all were so fast to pick up the cards! Do you know what all of these cards have in common? (Invite responses.) They're all things God made! Every single card you could have picked up is something God made! And there's more that He created!

**[TRANSITION]** "Today, we're going to hear a true story from the Bible about how God created everything in the beginning. We're also going to learn about some other things that happened at the beginning! Let's go!"

**Transition** → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

## GROUPS 1/4

# Superhero Headquarters

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Superhero HQ" Activity Page

### Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Additional "Superhero HQ" Activity Page

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Move

## ① What You Do

1. Before you begin, hide a set of the "Superhero HQ" Activity Pages in your group space.
2. Tell the kids that "Superhero Headquarters" has received top-secret information: Bible Story clues are hidden throughout your group space!
3. Explain that the goal is for the kids to find the seven hidden Bible Story clues and place them in the order of the story.
4. At your signal, invite kids to search for the hidden clues.
5. Encourage kids to work with other kids to find clues together.
6. Once all seven clues are found, direct the kids to bring them to the front of your group space.
7. Work together to review the story and put the pieces in the correct order.
8. Use the numbers in the corner of each page to check your group's work.

### Open discussion about the Bible Story by asking:

1. "What was the one rule God gave Adam and Eve to follow?" (God told them not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)
2. "What happened when Adam and Eve didn't follow God's rule?" (They ushered in the curse of sin, which pulled their hearts away from God, and affected the hearts of everyone who would live after them.)
3. "How do we know that God still loved Adam and Eve even after they disobeyed?" (God started His plan to rescue them through Jesus—God wanted to be Adam and Eve's close friend, and He couldn't because of the curse of sin.)
4. "Who can become a part of God's incredible plan? (Anyone, anywhere who chooses to follow Jesus can be part of God's incredible plan!)"

## ② What You Say

Continued on the next page →

### Inclusive Pro Tips



Before the kids go searching for the "Superhero HQ" Activity Page cards, use another set to review the pictures with your group. Invite a kid to read the descriptions. Help if needed.

## GROUPS 1/4

# Superhero Headquarters

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Superhero HQ" Activity Page

### Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Additional "Superhero HQ" Activity Page

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Imagine

### Inclusive Pro Tips



Before the kids go searching for the "Superhero HQ" Activity Page cards, use another set to review the pictures with your group. Invite a kid to read the descriptions. Help if needed.

## ② What You Say

"Mission accomplished! You found all the pieces of our Bible Story! But at first, they were scattered all around, kind of like a puzzle when you dump it out of the box. And you know what? Life can feel like that sometimes too, like when we've made a big mess of things.

"Maybe you said something unkind to a friend, and now things feel weird between you. Maybe you didn't listen when a grown-up gave you instructions, and now you're in trouble. Maybe you knocked down your brother's block tower, and he's mad at you. When we've made a bad choice, we might wonder if everything is going to be okay.

"BUT the good news is that God is always working on a good plan. Even though Adam and Eve sinned and it made things really messy, God had a plan to make things right again. And that plan was Jesus! God sent Jesus to break that awful curse so we can be close friends with Him again!

"God's goodness was even bigger than Adam and Eve's sin. And when you make a bad choice, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God no matter what! God's goodness is always going to be bigger than your bad choices.

**[MAKE IT PERSONAL]** Vaguely, talk about an age-appropriate time when you made a bad choice and it made life messy. Be sure to keep it kid-friendly! Share how God loves you anyway. Make sure the majority of your words and the focus is on God's love for you!

"We are going to make bad choices in life, but because God is always good, we can trust that God loves us. We can believe that God is with us through any situation. No matter what, this will always be true—**[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God no matter what!"

## GROUPS 3/4

# Theme Song

## Memory Verse Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Bibles

### Inclusive Optional Supplies

- ☐ Whiteboard and dry-erase marker  
(or posterboard and marker)

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



Use a visual aid, like a whiteboard or a posterboard, to write the verse so kids can follow along.

Consider offering movement alternatives. Instead of full-body movements, if a kid needs to sit while doing the verse motions, allow them to do so. Or let the kids tap their knees, snap, or pat the floor in rhythm to the verse instead of moving around.

## ① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into groups of two.
2. Give each group a Bible and guide them to find Hebrews 11:1.
3. Recite the verse together several times, using a "repeat after me" method.
4. Divide the kids into two teams and assign each team part of the Memory Verse.
5. For the NIV
  - Team 1: Faith is being sure of what we hope for.
  - Team 2: It is being sure of what we do not see.
6. For the NIV
  - Team 1: Now faith is confidence in what we hope for
  - Team 2: and assurance about what we do not see.
7. Challenge the teams to create a chant, rap or song (with motions) for that portion of the verse.
8. Invite teams to teach each other their part and then practice together, ending together with: "Hebrews 11:1!"

## ② What You Say

"WOW! This was a great way to learn this month's Memory Verse! I loved seeing what everyone came up with. The Bible is God's Word. God gave it to us so we can know Him better! He also wants us to know what is true. So it's a great idea for us to memorize verses from the Bible so we can take the truth with us everywhere!"

"We can't see God with our own eyes, but we can see the AMAZING, awe-inspiring world that God created! It is wonderful because God is wonderful! We can also remember all the things God has done—including sending Jesus to rescue us! We have 'seen' so many of God's great works, and we can have faith and believe in Him because of all of these things. Anyone, anywhere who chooses to follow Jesus can be part of God's incredible plan. It's true, friends! No matter who you are, no matter what you've done, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God no matter what."

### \*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.)
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

## GROUPS 4/4

# Pray and Dismiss

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

No supplies needed



## ① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
2. Invite the groups to take turns praying for each other.
3. Share with kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!
4. Consider suggesting the following prompt if kids are stuck. *"Dear God, thank You for [kid's name]. Help them to trust You no matter what! We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen."*
5. If kids are uncomfortable or shy, invite them to pray silently.
6. Close in prayer.

## ② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for loving all of us! You made a way for us to live with You forever through Your Son, Jesus. When we've made bad choices, help us remember we can trust You no matter what! Help us be reminded of Your goodness when we see the things You've made—including us! Help us remember that You love us so very much. We want to live in Your love for us. We love You, God. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**Transition →** As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to share their comic books with them and talk through what's happening. Challenge the kids to share today's Bottom Line, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God no matter what!

**WEEK**

**TWO**



# Small Group Leader Guide



THIS MONTH



## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Bottom Line
- What's Our Part in the Story?
- Prayer

### SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Bible Story Review: Superhero Review
2. Application Activity: Rainbow Art
3. Memory Verse Activity: God's Promise!
4. Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

## Today's Bible Story

### Noah Genesis 6-9

#### Bottom Line

**You can trust God even when you don't understand.**

#### Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of we do not see.  
(Hebrews 11:1 NIV)**

#### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Use this 2nd-3rd grade guide!

## GROUPS 1/4

# Superhero Review

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Floor Tape
- ☐ "Superhero Review" Activity Page



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Let kids move in a way that works for them. Suggest that kids walk or point based on the needs of your group.

If a kid isn't comfortable moving in this way, ask them to help you read the questions or cheer others on!

Some kids might need extra time to process and think as you read the questions. Be patient and repeat the questions if necessary.

## ① What You Do

1. Place a line of floor tape in the center of your group space.
2. Instruct the kids to stand on the tape line.
3. Share the rules:
  - You will read a question from the "Superhero Review" Activity Page out loud.
  - Each question will have two answer choices. Kids are to choose an answer by moving to the side of the tape line they think is correct.
  - You will challenge the kids to do different superhero movements as they move to the side of the tape line they have chosen.
4. One at a time, read a question from the "Superhero Review" Activity Page out loud.
5. Point to each side of the room as you call out the possible answers.
6. After you've read a question and its two possible answers, challenge the kids to move like a superhero as they answer each question. Some examples of superhero movements are:
  - Leaping (like over buildings)
  - Super-speed (quick feet, but moving safely!)
  - Invisibly (walk low and stealthy)
  - Strong (strut with your biceps curled)
7. Once kids have moved, tell them the correct answer.
8. Before you ask another question, instruct the kids to return to the tape line.

## ② What You Say

Continued on the next page →

## GROUPS 1/4

# Superhero Review

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Floor Tape
- ☐ "Superhero Review" Activity Page



### Inclusive Pro Tips

Let kids move in a way that works for them. Suggest that kids walk or point based on the needs of your group.

If a kid isn't comfortable moving in this way, ask them to help you read the questions or cheer others on!

Some kids might need extra time to process and think as you read the questions. Be patient and repeat the questions if necessary.

## ② What You Say

"Great job answering today's Bible Story review questions—and doing it in such a fun way! Today's true story from the Bible was about Noah. What did God ask Noah to build? **(INVITE RESPONSES.)** That's right, an ark! That took a long time, and finally, once it was done, God brought two of every animal to climb aboard, along with Noah and his family.

"After more than a year in the ark, it was probably such a huge relief for Noah and his family to get out into the fresh air—and on the dry ground again! Can you imagine the kind of faith Noah must have had to trust God and build the ark, even when he didn't understand? He had a lot of trust in God, and a lot of faith. Faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see. See, Noah had no other reason to think that it was going to rain for so long, and that rain would cover everything on the Earth . . . except for the fact that God told him. And Noah trusted and believed God.

**[MAKE IT PERSONAL]** Talk about an age-appropriate time when you weren't sure what would happen next, and you had to trust God. Be sure to keep it kid-friendly! Maybe it was when you were going through a scary thunderstorm, or moving to a new place.

"We all are going to do things that we don't know the outcome of or that we've never experienced before. All Noah could lean on was God's promises. He knew that God had been good and would see him through what he was facing."

"We can know the same thing. God has always been good and will see us through whatever we are facing. Remember: **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God even when you don't understand."

## GROUPS 2/4

# Rainbow Art

## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Bubble Wrap
- ☐ Washable Markers
- ☐ White Paper
- ☐ Prepared Spray Bottle with Water



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

Some kids with sensory sensitivities may not want to press down on the bubble wrap. Let them use the markers to decorate their page.

If a kid prefers not to create the bubble wrap rainbow, let them spray the papers for the others.

## ① What You Do

1. Lay a piece of bubble wrap flat on a table or floor.
2. Demonstrate for the kids first:
  - Use the washable markers to color directly onto the bubble wrap in rainbow order.
  - Once the bubble wrap is fully colored, press a white piece of paper on top.
  - If the marker has dried, lightly mist the white paper with water before pressing.
  - Peel off the paper and admire the colorful rainbow print!
3. Give each kid a piece of white paper and let them press it onto the bubble wrap.
4. Let the kids use a marker to write their names on the back of the paper.
5. Reapply marker to the bubble wrap and water to the paper as needed.
6. Encourage kids to take their artwork home as a reminder of God's promises.

## ② What You Say

"Today's Bible Story was a story about faith, trust, and promises. God even made a physical sign for the promise He made after the flood! God promised never again to flood the entire Earth. And the sign He gave for His promise? A rainbow!"

"Now, whenever you see a rainbow, let it remind you that God is faithful to keep ALL of His promises—not just the one He made that day! God's promises are good, and He has never broken a single one. Take this rainbow art home with you today and let it remind you of all of God's promises!"

"Noah had seen enough of God's work to know God would always, always keep His words. But we have even more to go on than Noah ever did! We have all the true stories in the Bible, God's Word, to show us God has been faithful to keep His promises—every single one! We also have stories from our families, our friends, and in our own lives of things God has done. God kept His promise to Noah then, and God still keeps His promises now! Just like Noah, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God even when you don't understand!"

## GROUPS 3/4

# God's Promise

## Memory Verse Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Story Verse" Activity Page
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Timer

MADE TO  
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Move



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Some kids might need extra time to place the verse in order. It's okay if they don't finish in 90 seconds. Celebrate both groups for their effort!

## ① What You Do

1. Give every two kids a Bible.
2. Guide the kids to look up Hebrews 11:1.
3. Repeat the verse together several times.
4. Discuss any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
5. Divide the kids into two groups.
6. Give each group a set of cards from the "Story Verse" Activity Page.
7. Explain how to play:

→ Say, "I'm going to give you 90 seconds to work together with your group to place the words of Hebrews 11:1 in order! When your team is done, shout 'FAITH!' together."

→ At your signal, start the timer and prompt the kids to get started.

→ If time allows, play another round, but this time challenge the kids to silently place the verse in order.

## ② What You Say

"I love our Memory Verse this month! The truth is we can trust God with EVERY part of our lives! God is so powerful that He goes with all of us wherever we go. That's our God! Just like God gave Noah (and us) a rainbow as a reminder of His promise, God gave us Jesus to save the whole world, even when it was epic and difficult.

"God promised to rescue us, and then God sent Jesus to die on the cross for everything we could ever do wrong. Jesus took the punishment for sin so that so that when we choose to follow Jesus and turn from the things we do wrong, we can be friends with God again forever! Remember this verse and know that **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God even when you don't understand."

NOTE: Be sensitive to kids who might have questions about following Jesus. Follow your church's policy for having conversations with kids about salvation. Involve families with this discussion or decisions as well.

### \*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.)
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

## GROUPS 4/4

# Pray and Dismiss

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Prepared construction paper



## ① What You Do

1. Invite kids to sit in a circle.
2. Place the four pieces of colored paper around your group area.
3. Explain to the kids what each color means.

NOTE: If you choose different colors, adjust how you share.

- Red = family and friends
- Blue = school
- Green = worries
- Yellow = dreams

4. Say, "These colors help us think about different parts of our life we can talk to God about. You get to choose one color to pray about today!"
5. Invite the kids to pick one color and stand or sit near that color.
6. Give kids a few minutes to silently talk to God about the area they chose.
7. Encourage the kids: **[BOTTOM LINE]** You can trust God even when they don't understand!
8. Close in prayer.

## What You Say

"God, thank You for always keeping Your promises! Thank You for loving us, guiding us and caring for us, no matter what we're going through. We want to trust You with every part of our lives—our family, friends, school, sports teams, worries, and dreams. Help us to remember that You are always faithful, even when we are going through something scary and we don't know what's ahead. Give us unshakeable faith to always know that we can trust You, even when we don't understand. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**Transition** → As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to share the Memory Verse, Hebrews 11:1!

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Consider any kids who may focus better with a fidget option (like holding a soft object, using quiet hand motions, or drawing while praying).

**WEEK**

**THREE**

# Small Group Leader Guide



## Today's Suggested Schedule

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### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Bottom Line
- What's Our Part in the Story?
- Prayer

### SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Bible Story Review: Silent Scenes
2. Application Activity: Trust Walk
3. Memory Verse Activity: Super Freeze Dance
4. Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Use this 2nd-3rd grade guide!

THIS MONTH



## Today's Bible Story

### God Chooses Abram Genesis 12:1-9, 15:1-6

#### Bottom Line

**You can trust that God has a plan.**

#### Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of we do not see.  
(Hebrews 11:1 NIV)**

#### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.



## SOCIAL

# Opening Activity

## What You Need

- ☐ Offering Container
- ☐ Floor Tape
- ☐ Pillows
- ☐ Carpet Squares or Paper

## Optional

- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Timer

MADE TO  
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Move



## Inclusive Pro Tips

Consider the needs of your group and adjust the activity accordingly.

Some kids might prefer to walk instead of jump. Some kids might need extra time to maneuver the path. Say things like: "You can jump, step, or scoot - just stay on the path!" to keep it fun and flexible.

Let the kids hold hands or walk alongside someone.

## ① What You Do

**Pray for your group before they arrive.** → Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Express gratitude for God's Son, Jesus, who showed us what it looks like to look out for others, no matter what people may think. Ask God to give the kids in your group hearts that notice and care for others in need. Pray they will have the courage to be kind and stand up for what is right, even when it's hard.

1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
3. Before you begin, set up a path around the group space using floor tape (straight or wiggly lines), pillows, carpet squares, paper, or other objects.
4. Explain the challenge.
  - Say, "Today we'll pretend the floor is lava!"
  - Kids must use their "x-ray vision" (like superheroes) to spot danger and jump safely across the path.
  - Optional: Let the kids take turns wearing sunglasses as their "x-ray goggles."
5. Optional: Use the timer to time each kid and see who can cross the fastest. Consider splitting kids into categories by grades (K-1st, 2nd-3rd, etc.)
6. Continue to play as time and interest allow.

## ② What You Say

"That was some impressive x-ray vision, friends! You stayed on the path and kept going towards your goal! **[TRANSITION]** Today, we're going to hear a true story from the Bible about two people who God asked to follow Him. Their journey was bumpy, but they followed God as best they could for a long, long time. Let's go find out what happened!"

**Transition** → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

## GROUPS 1/4

# Silent Scenes

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Floor Tape
- ☐ "Silent Scenes" Activity Page
- ☐ Small Bowl or Cup



## ① What You Do

1. Place the "Silent Scenes" Activity Page in the small bowl or cup.
2. Divide the kids into teams of two or three.
3. Explain that each team is to select a strip to act out the events of today's Bible Story without speaking.

Assist any kids who need help reading the strips.

4. As a team is acting out the events from today's Bible Story, instruct the rest of the teams to guess the part of the story that is being acted out.
5. If a team guesses correctly, give them a "Super Point" (1 point).
6. Play until all the scenes have been acted out.

## ② What You Say

Continued on the next page →



### Inclusive Pro Tips

If any kids prefer not to act, let them choose another kid to act with them. Let any kids who don't want to act participate in the guessing role for the entire activity.

## GROUPS 1/4

# Silent Scenes

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Floor Tape
- ☐ "Silent Scenes" Activity Page
- ☐ Small Bowl or Cup

MADE TO  
↓  
Imagine

## ② What You Say

"Abraham and Sarah lived quite an adventurous life! They trusted God, packed up, and moved when God told them to. And they did this without knowing exactly where they were going! They followed God, and followed God for many, many miles and for many, many years. Abraham and Sarah didn't always make wise choices throughout their journey, but God was faithful to keep His promises to them.

"When Abraham was 75 years old, God spoke to Abraham and made him several promises, including these main two: God was going to make Abraham into a great nation and God was going to bless the whole world through Abraham. Those promises were a part of the plan God was always working on. Abraham and Sarah didn't get to see God fulfill those promises completely, but God kept every one. God did make Abraham's family into a great nation, and He did bless the world through Abraham, because when God sent Jesus to Earth, God chose to put Jesus in Abraham's family. And Jesus rescued the world.

"No matter what we're going through in life, we can trust God's plan too. We're still in the middle of the story. There's still a lot of pain and darkness in the world. But NOTHING will stop God from making good things come out of the bad, and making everything right in the end! Those are two of His plans. We just don't know how long we'll have to wait to see Him work those out. But He will! He always, always has done what He said He's going to do. The Bible says that God is working for good in every situation we face. So no matter what, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God has a plan. And while you may not know what God is doing, you can know this: God is always working for good in your life."

**[MAKE IT PERSONAL]** Share an age-appropriate time in your life when you were going through something difficult and had to trust that God was working for good in it toward His good plan. Maybe you were trying to meet a deadline, or you were in a tricky situation and didn't know how it was going to turn out. Share how you have seen God come through in your life and that helps you trust Him.

NOTE: Be sensitive to kids who might have questions about following Jesus. Follow your church's policy for having conversations with kids about salvation. Involve families with this discussion or decisions as well.



### Inclusive Pro Tips

If any kids prefer not to act, let them choose another kid to act with them. Let any kids who don't want to act participate in the guessing role for the entire activity.

## GROUPS 2/4

# Trust Walk

## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

☐ Floor Tape

### Optional

☐ Blindfold

 MADE TO  
↓  
Play

## ① What You Do

1. Direct kids to form groups of two (a group of three is okay).
2. Designate a starting line and a finish line in your group space with floor tape.
3. Invite the kids to form a line with their partner behind it.
4. Tell the kids to identify who will be the "walker," and who will be the "guide."
5. Blindfold the walker (if comfortable) or ask them to close their eyes.
6. Explain how to play.

→ The "Guide" is to help the "Walker" move safely to the finish line using only their voice (no touching!)

→ They can say things like, "Take one step forward," "Turn right," or "Stop!"

7. When the "walker" finishes, switch roles so both kids get a turn.
8. Continue until every group gets a turn to walk.

## ② What You Say

"Awesome job, friends! It can feel a little scary to walk without seeing, right? I mean, you really had to trust your partner to guide you to safety!"

"In life, we don't always know what's coming next. Even though we can see, there are a lot of things we don't understand, like why it's taking us so long to understand math or if you're ever going to find friends again after your big move. Friends, we CAN trust God's plan for us because we can trust God. He is good and is always working for good! Nothing can stop God's plan to bring good out of hard things and to make everything right in the end. God loves us and knows what's best for us, and **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God has a plan and it's a good one."



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

For any kids who need extra processing time, encourage the "Guide" to speak slowly and repeat directions if necessary. Encourage them to be patient.

Some kids might prefer predictable steps, especially with a blindfold. Walk them through the course before starting.

## GROUPS 3/4

# Super Freeze Dance

## Memory Verse Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Timer



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

For kids with sensory sensitivity, consider lowering the volume of the music.

Some kids might need extra processing time, say the Memory Verse word first, and then freeze to give them time to think.

For any kids who struggle with movement, invite them to wiggle in place instead of dancing or to do a simple superhero pose instead.

MADE TO  
↓  
Move

## ① What You Do

1. Give every kid a Bible.
2. Direct them to look up Hebrews 11:1 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.
3. Repeat the verse together several times.
4. Talk through any possibly unfamiliar words or phrases, focusing on the meaning of the verse.
5. Say, "We're going to play 'Super Freeze Dance,'" and explain:

- When the music starts, the kids are to dance around like superheroes!
- When the music stops, you will call out a word from the Memory Verse.
- Kids are to freeze and shout out the next word of the verse.

6. Repeat starting and stopping the music until they've said the whole verse at least once.
7. Let the kids "celebrate" with a victory superhero pose at the end!

## ② What You Say

"Amazing job moving around like superheroes and saying the Memory Verse! The Bible is God's Word, and it helps us learn more about God, how God loves us, why Jesus came, and how to live life following Jesus. The Bible teaches us what is true!

"This verse reminds us that even though we can't see God with our own eyes, we can see what He's done, and we can trust Him because of it! After all, God is good and everything He has done is good!

"Because God is good, His plan is always good too! There are things in your life that might not make sense. Maybe you moved away from your friends, or you're having a hard time with math. Remember, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God has a plan! Whatever the plan is, it is good because God is good!"

### \*Finding verses with 2nd-3rd graders

- ① Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.)
- ② When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list.
- ③ When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page.
- ④ When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter.
- ⑤ Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

## GROUPS 4/4

# Pray and Dismiss

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

No Supplies Needed

MADE TO  
↓  
Reflect

## ① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to join you in a seated circle.
2. Instruct the kids to close their eyes.
3. Explain that you will read several statements slowly, say a statement, and if the statement applies to the kids, the kids are to raise their hand (no need to speak).
4. One at a time, share the statements below, pausing to allow the kids to raise their hands if the statement applies to them:

- "I've had a bad day this week."
- "It's hard to stay positive when things are difficult."
- "I trust God has a plan, even on my bad days."
- "I believe that God will make everything right in the end."

5. Encourage the kids by letting them know they're not alone! Tell them everyone has tough days, but they can trust God together.
6. Close in prayer.

## What You Say

"God, thank You for being with us in every minute of our lives! Sometimes, we don't understand why some things happen. When we're worried or unsure, please remind us that You are good and that nothing can stop Your good plan to make everything right in the end. Please help us trust in You and in Your promise to make everything right in the end because You have never never, ever broken a promise. Help us to have faith and trust in You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

**Transition** → As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to recite this month's Memory Verse (and bonus if they add a great superhero pose at the end). Challenge the kids to practice it with their families all week long!

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



Some kids might not feel comfortable raising their hands. Offer alternatives, such as placing a finger or fist on their lap.

Pause for 5-10 seconds between each statement to give the kids time to process.

**WEEK**

**FOUR**

# Small Group Leader Guide



## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Bottom Line
- What's Our Part in the Story?
- Prayer

### SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Bible Story Review: Super Boost
2. Application Activity: Jacob's Ladder Paper Chain
3. Memory Verse Activity: Assemble!
4. Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Use this 2nd-3rd grade guide!

THIS MONTH



## Today's Bible Story

### Jacob's Dream Genesis 28:10-22

(Supporting: Genesis 25:19-34;27)

#### Bottom Line

**You can trust that God is with you.**

#### Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of we do not see.  
(Hebrews 11:1 NIV)**

#### Inclusive Pro Tips



This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.



## SOCIAL

# Opening Activity

## What You Need

- ☐ Offering Container
- ☐ "Flying Contest" Activity Page
- ☐ "Paper Airplane" Activity Page
- ☐ Coloring Supplies



## ① What You Do

**Pray for your group before they arrive.** → Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Recall a time in your life when you experienced uncertainty, but you knew that God was with you. Ask God to give each child courage when they face uncertainty. Pray they will trust God even when they don't know what's next. Ask God to help the kids see that God is always working in their lives!

1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
3. Give each kid a "Flying Contest" Activity Page.
4. Set out the coloring supplies.
5. Instruct the kids to color and decorate their superheroes.
6. Use the "Paper Airplane" Activity Page to show and demonstrate how to fold their "Flying Contest" Activity Page.
7. Give kids time to fly their paper airplanes.

## ② What You Say

"Great job with your paper airplanes, everyone! It was fun to see how far they could go! It's amazing what can happen when we trust God. Just like these superhero planes soared through the air, we can do incredible things when we remember that God is always with us. **[TRANSITION]** Today, in our true story from the Bible, we'll discover a guy, a twin brother, who made lots of bad choices, but God was always with him! Let's go find out more!"

**Transition** → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

## Inclusive Pro Tips



Some kids might struggle to fold their paper airplanes. Assist the kids as needed, or have a few pre-folded paper airplanes so they can focus on decorating and flying them.

If any kids are overwhelmed by the excitement, let them fly their airplanes separately in a calmer space.

## GROUPS 1/4

# Silent Scenes

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

☐ "Super Boost" Activity Page

MADE TO  
↓  
Play

## ① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into two teams.
2. Direct each team to sit together.
3. Explain the game:

- You will read a question out loud about the Bible Story.
- The teams will take turns answering the questions you ask.
- If a team answers correctly, they will get a "super boost."  
The whole team gets a round of high fives!
- If a team answers the question incorrectly, the other team gets a chance to "save the day" by answering it correctly.

4. One at a time, ask a question about the Bible Story to one of the teams from the "Super Boost" Activity Page.
5. Continue asking questions until all of the questions have been asked and answered.
6. After all the questions have been asked and answered, ask:

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- How did Jacob show God was with him, even when he made bad choices?

## ② What You Say

Continued on the next page →

## GROUPS 1/4

# Silent Scenes


 MADE TO  
↓  
Play

## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

☐ "Super Boost" Activity Page


### Inclusive Pro Tips

Some kids might need extra time to process the questions. Be patient and give them a moment to process before moving on.

Some kids might be sensitive to touch. If they don't want a high five, give them a verbal cheer or a thumbs-up!

Consider adding movement to this game by inviting a kid on each team to run to you when they are ready to answer the question.

## ② What You Say

"Jacob made a lot of mistakes and bad choices in his life. But God continued to be faithful to Jacob—and God continued working on His great rescue plan! In Jacob's dream, God spoke the promises to Jacob that He had made to Abraham and Isaac. But God also made another important promise to Jacob in his dream. God said this: 'I am with you.'"

"You see, Jacob had heard about God, but he didn't have the privilege of reading the Bible and learning all of these truths about who God is like we do. But God wanted Jacob to know that He was always with him, so God told him.

"And God has made the same promise to us: He is always with us.

"God is even with us in an even more incredible way! After Jesus' resurrection, when He went to heaven, He sent His Holy Spirit to live inside of His followers. When you become a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came to live inside of you too! So the promise God made to Jacob is true of all Jesus-followers too! 'I am with you.'"

"So no matter what happens, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God is with you too!"

**[MAKE IT PERSONAL]** Share how you are learning to trust that God is always with you. Share some of the prayers you are praying to ask God to help you learn to trust that He is with you. Share how you aren't a perfect follower of Jesus, but how you have seen God work for good even when you haven't been perfect.

## GROUPS 2/4

# Jacob's Ladder Paper Chain



## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Jacob's Ladder" Activity Page
- ☐ Prepared Ladder Examples
- ☐ Markers
- ☐ Construction Paper Strips
- ☐ Tape or Glue



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

If writing is challenging for the kids, let them draw symbols to represent their ideas.

If a kid isn't comfortable sharing out loud, let them point to or hold up a strip they feel connected to.

Allow extra processing time for any kids who need it! Be patient and let them work at their own pace.

## ① What You Do

1. Use this [instructional video](https://bit.ly/4hv2AJ9) for a visual guide: [bit.ly/4hv2AJ9](https://bit.ly/4hv2AJ9)
2. Instruct each kid to select two different colored strips of paper.
3. Set out the markers.
4. Explain the activity:
  - On one strip of paper, kids are to use the markers to write areas where we might make bad choices. (For example: being impatient, not sharing, always thinking about ourselves first, etc.)
  - On the other strip of paper, kids are to write God's promises. (For example: God will always love us, God is always with us, God made a way for us to be forgiven through Jesus, God gave us the Holy Spirit, etc.)
5. Display one of the prepared ladder examples to the kids.
6. Use the "Jacob's Ladder" Activity Page to show the kids how to put the strips together, alternating between our bad choices and God's promises, to show how God was always faithfully building despite our bad choices.
7. Ask: "How does this ladder remind you of Jacob's dream?"

## ② What You Say

"Wow! You all did a great job making your Jacob's Ladder paper chains! This paper chain reminds us of Jacob's dream when he saw the stairway with angels going up and down and God standing beside it. God made a connection between heaven and earth—Jesus came down to Earth to restore people's relationship with God. God was working and working on that plan for a long, long time.

"We also made those ladders personal. On one piece of paper, you wrote down some of your bad choices. On the other are some of the promises God made to us as His friends. These promises are truths about God! God will always love us! He is always with us! He always forgives us!

"Take these home and remember: even though we all make bad choices, God's promises are always true. Because we are Jesus' friends, God will always love us, God will always forgive us, and God will always help us. You can always trust that God is with you, even when things are hard or we mess up.

"God is building a beautiful friendship with you, always, despite whether or not you make good choices, because He is good.

"Should we aim to be more like Jesus every day? Yes! Will we be perfect? No! The Holy Spirit will help us daily when we choose to follow Jesus. But hold onto these truths: No matter what, you can trust that God loves you, you can trust that God is always on your side, and **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God is with you!"

## GROUPS 3/4

# Assemble!

## Memory Verse Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Assemble!" Activity Page
- ☐ Floor Tape
- ☐ Timer

MADE TO  
↓  
Move

## ① What You Do

1. Place a line of tape in the center of your group space.
2. Set two sets of "Assemble!" Activity Page Memory Verse cards on the line of tape.
3. Divide the kids into two teams.
4. Create a start line for each team a few feet from the tape line.
5. Direct each team to line up behind their team's tape line.
6. Let each team know which color set of cards is theirs.
7. Explain how to play:
  - You will start a timer and kids on each team will take turns running to the tape line, picking up one verse card in their color, and running it back to their team.
  - The teams are to continue sending one kid at a time until they've collected all their verse cards.
  - Once all the verse cards are gathered, each team is to work together to put the verse in order.
8. Instruct the teams to shout, "Assemble!" and strike a superhero pose!
9. Declare the first team who says, "Assemble!" to be the winner.
10. Cheer the other team on together until they finish.

## ② What You Say

"Whoa! You all worked so well together to assemble this month's Memory Verse! Our verse, Hebrews 11:1, reminds us what faith means—it's trusting in what you can't see because of what you CAN see.

"Even though you couldn't see the finished verse until you worked together, you trusted that each piece you picked up would help you complete it. That's what faith is like!

"We may not 'see' God, but we can look at all the things God has done and trust what He has said to be true.

"God says He loves us. We can trust that to be true. God says that He forgives us. We can trust that to be true. And there's another thing God says: He is with us! Because God is always trustworthy, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust that God is with you!"



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

You can modify the running by offering different pace options like hopping, rolling, etc. You can allow various participation styles by letting some kids be the "assemblers" while the other kids retrieve the pieces.

## GROUPS 4/4

# Pray and Dismiss

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

☐ LEGO® or Building Blocks

MADE TO  
↓  
Reflect

## ① What You Do

1. Set LEGOs or building blocks in the center of your group space.
2. Invite the kids to quietly and independently build a tower at their own pace.
3. As the kids build, talk about how trusting God is like building a tower. Each time we trust God, we add a block to our tower.
4. Encourage each kid to think about one way they can trust God. Ask them to say it aloud as they add a block to their tower.

→ For example: trusting God for their family, when they're scared, with friendships, at school, with hobbies, when they're trying something new, when unsure what's coming next, etc.

→ NOTE: Let the kids repeat answers, what's important is that it's meaningful to them.

5. Once their towers are built, take turns praying aloud. Encourage kids to share one thing they're trusting God with.
6. Close in prayer.

## ② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for loving us so much! You promised that You are with us, please teach us how to trust that You are with us every second of our lives. Lord, we want to trust You with everything, all of these things we said as we built these towers, and we want to connect with You as You are with us every second as we go throughout our lives. Teach us how to connect with You over everything we face in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**Transition** → As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to share their Jacob's Ladder paper chains and what they represent!

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



Consider allowing kids to work in pairs or smaller groups to support anyone who might find it hard to focus.

If some kids prefer not to speak their prayer out loud, let them know they can pray silently!

**WEEK**

**FIVE**

# Small Group Leader Guide



## Today's Suggested Schedule

### Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### Small Group (15 minutes)

#### Social: Providing time for fun interaction

1. Opening Activity

### Large Group (35 minutes)

#### Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

#### Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Bottom Line
- What's Our Part in the Story?
- Prayer

### SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

#### Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

1. Bible Story Review: Joseph's Life Memory Match
2. Application Activity: Joseph's Faith Circle
3. Memory Verse Activity: Verse Master
4. Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

#### Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Use this 2nd-3rd grade guide!

THIS MONTH



## Today's Bible Story

### Joseph Genesis 37, 39-25

#### Bottom Line

**You can trust God when things get tough.**

#### Memory Verse

**Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of we do not see.  
(Hebrews 11:1 NIV)**



#### Inclusive Pro Tips

This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional inclusive pro-tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each segment.



## SOCIAL

# Opening Activity

## What You Need

- ☐ Offering Container

MADE TO  
↓  
Move

## ① What You Do

**Pray for your group before they arrive.** → Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for the true story of Joseph, a reminder that even when life feels tough or confusing, God is still at work! Reflect on a time you went through something tough and couldn't see how God was using it until later. Thank God for being faithful. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you communicate to kids they can trust God no matter what! Pray that your group would trust God with their big and small struggles. Pray that they would learn to look for how He is working even when life doesn't go as planned.

1. Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
2. Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
3. Say, "We're going to play Secret Message Telephone! It's like the regular telephone game, but instead of whispering a message, we'll act it out!"
4. Instruct the kids to line up, all facing forward.
5. Explain the game:
6. The last kid in line is to receive a secret message (acted out silently, not spoken) from you.
  - The last kid in line is to tap the shoulder of the kid in front of them, who turns around to watch and learn the action.
  - Each kid is to act out what they saw for the next kid.
  - This will continue until the action makes it to the front of the line.
7. Examples for you to demonstrate for the kids to act out:
  - Playing soccer
  - Taking care of a baby
  - Eating pancakes
  - Getting new sneakers
  - Taking care of a dog
8. After the last kid acts out the message, challenge the kids to see if they can guess what the original message was.
9. Share the original messages as the kids guess.
10. Continue to play as time and interest allow.

### Inclusive Pro Tips



Consider the needs of your group. If you think some of your kids could get overwhelmed, play in smaller groups.

If any kids are hesitant to act out the scenario, invite another kid to join them or let them observe the game.

## SOCIAL

# Opening Activity

**What You Need**

- ☐ Offering Container



## ② What You Say

"It was so much fun playing the Secret Message Telephone game with everyone! It's always interesting to see how messages can change as they get passed along. **[TRANSITION]** Today, we're going to hear a true story from the Bible about someone who God sometimes gave 'secret messages' to through dreams. Let's go hear more!"

**Transition** → Lead your group to the Large Group area.

**Inclusive Pro Tips**

Consider the needs of your group. If you think some of your kids could get overwhelmed, play in smaller groups.

If any kids are hesitant to act out the scenario, invite another kid to join them or let them observe the game.

## GROUPS 1/4

# Joseph's Life Memory Match



## Bible Story Review

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ "Joseph's Memory Match" Activity Page

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



Be patient and allow kids time to process as they match the card. Walk around and help any of the kids who are stuck.

## ① What You Do

1. Divide kids into three groups.
2. Shuffle each set of "Joseph's Memory Match" Activity Page cards.
3. Give each group a set of cards.
4. Instruct each group to spread the cards out face down.
5. Explain how to play:
  - The kids will take turns flipping over two cards at a time, trying to find matching pairs.
  - The goal is to match a "bad" event in Joseph's life with the "good" God brought out of it.
  - Kids can use the colored borders to confirm they have a match.
  - Keep playing until all the cards are matched!
6. Once all the cards have been matched, gather the group and discuss.

## ② What You Say

"That was so much fun, and you all did a great job matching up the tough things that happened to Joseph with the good things God brought out of them. Joseph went through some really hard times in his life. But did Joseph ever give up? **(INVITE RESPONSES.)** No, he didn't! He kept trusting that God was in control. And God took Joseph from prison all the way to the palace, where he helped save thousands of people, including his own family.

"That's why faith is SO important. Faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see. We can't always see how things will turn out, but we have seen that God is good—in Joseph's story, and in Bible story after Bible story. We've also seen Him be good in our own lives. And when we look at what we know about God, that He is good and He is always working for good, we can trust Him. So **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God when things get tough."

**[MAKE IT PERSONAL]** Share an age-appropriate example of a tough time in your own life when God brought something good out of it. Maybe you felt like nothing was going right, only for God to step in at the last minute to turn it all around. Create a safe space to share, allowing kids to share more about their lives too.

## GROUPS 2/4

# Joseph's Faith Circle

## Application Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

☐ Soft Playground Ball


## ① What You Do

1. Invite the kids to sit with you in a circle.
2. Hold the ball and say: "Joseph trusted that God was with him, even when he was in prison. We are going to think about some ways we can trust God when things get tough too. I will get us started. When things are tough, I can remember that God loves me."
3. Pass the ball to one kid in the circle.
4. Instruct the kid who catches the ball to share one way they can trust God when things get tough.

→ If the kids are stumped, share examples, like: I can remember that God loves me, I can remember God is always with me, I can remember that God is good and He is always working for good, I can remember who God says I am, I can ask the Holy Spirit to help me, I can remember God's promises.

5. For kids who need more support processing, ask simpler questions like:

→ "What's something hard that you can trust God with?"

→ "Can you think of a time when God helped you?"

6. Continue passing the ball around the circle until every kid has shared.

## ② What You Say

"Amazing job, everyone! You did an awesome job thinking about how we can trust God when life gets tough! Joseph did the same thing. Joseph faced so many tough situations—like being betrayed by his brothers, being thrown into a pit, and even going to jail. But no matter what happened, Joseph chose to trust God. He chose to trust that God is good and had good plans for his life. And that helped him get through what he was facing.

"Just like Joseph, **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God when things get tough. Maybe you're facing something difficult at home, school, or with friends. But remind yourself of these truths: God is good and He is always working for good, even if you can't see it. Remind yourself of God's promises, like some of the ones we talked about. Remind yourself that He is always with you, that He loves you, that you are precious to Him. Remembering who God is and what He promises will help you trust Him as you go through the tough thing you're facing.

"In fact, even Jesus, God's Son, had to trust God when He was facing something really hard, like being arrested and dying on the cross. But because Jesus knew God would bring good out of something tough, something amazing would come from it. Jesus paid for sin and broke the curse. Jesus made it possible for us to be in relationship with God forever!"



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

Some kids might need extra time to think and process their answers. Be patient and don't rush them. Let another kid have a turn and come back to them later.

## GROUPS 3/4

# Verse Master

## Memory Verse Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Bible Marked at Hebrews 11:1
- ☐ "Verse Master" Activity Page
- ☐ Floor Tape

MADE TO  
↓  
Play

## ① What You Do

1. Before you begin, tape the "Verse Master" Activity Page cards around your group space (either on the walls or on the floor).
2. Open the Bible marked at Hebrews 11:1.
3. Call on a kid to read the verse aloud for the group.
4. Repeat the verse several times, and discuss any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
5. Before you begin, point to the words of the verse in order that are taped on the wall.
6. Encourage the kids to follow along.  
NOTE: This gives visual learners a reference of the verse words.
7. Instruct the kids to separate and choose to stand near one of the words in the Memory Verse.
8. Select a kid to be the "Verse Master."
9. Explain the rules:

- The "Verse Master" is to attempt to take away parts of the Bible verse.
- The "Verse Master" is to close their eyes, count to ten, and call out one word from the verse.
- Any kids standing near that word are to be out for that round.  
NOTE: Some words are listed multiple times, so there are multiple ways to get out!
- Each kid has a chance to stay in the game if they run to the center and recite the Memory Verse.

10. Once all the kids are out, play another round if time allows.
11. Recite the verse together one last time!

## ② What You Say

"That was intense! Now that we've had some fun, let's think about the verse we just practiced. Can you say it with me one more time? **(RECITE HEBREWS 11:1 TOGETHER.)**

"This verse is all about faith—the kind of faith Joseph had when he was facing tough times! Even when he was in prison, separated from his family, and sold by his brothers, Joseph still trusted that God was good and had a good plan for his life. He couldn't see how things would work out, but he trusted God.

"Keep this verse in your memory so you can be reminded at any time that faith in God doesn't require seeing—we can have faith, trust in God, even when we can't see what's next! We can always have faith because God is good and He has always been good. That's why **[BOTTOM LINE]** you can trust God when things get tough."



### Inclusive Pro-Tips

Consider the needs of your group. Some kids might be overwhelmed by a fast paced game. Offer a slower version of the game, where kids can quietly read the verse and not have to rush to the words.

## GROUPS 4/4

# Pray and Dismiss

## Prayer Activity

### Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

### What You Need

- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Coloring Supplies
- ☐ Pencils



## ① What You Do

1. Give each kid a piece of paper.
2. Set out the pencils and coloring supplies.
3. Encourage the kids to write or draw about a difficult situation or bad day they've experienced in the past.
4. If a kid struggles to think of something, offer examples like:
  - "Think of a day you felt sad or frustrated, or think of a time when something didn't go as planned, or you felt like giving up."
5. Once they're finished, encourage the kids to think about how God might have used the situation for good.
6. Lead the kids in prayer to ask God for help, understanding, and peace in their situation.
7. For the situations that haven't been resolved, encourage them to revisit their situation later and see how God answer their prayers.

## What You Say

"God, thank You for always being with us, no matter what. When we are going through hard times, please help us to trust You, like Joseph did! Please help us to know that You will never leave us and You will always help us through. We want to learn to trust and rest in You. Thank You for always being there for us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**Transition** → As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to share this month's Memory Verse with them and what it means for them, personally!

### Inclusive Pro-Tips



Consider allowing kids to work in pairs or smaller groups to support anyone who might find it hard to focus.

If some kids prefer not to speak their prayer out loud, let them know they can pray silently!