



SMALL
GROUP
MATERIALS
SUNDAY

K-5th

Small Group

Day 1

Small Group Leader Guide Day 1

Today's Bible Story

Jesus calls His disciples
Luke 5:1-11

Bottom Line

Jesus is the way.

Memory Verse

**"Jesus spoke to the people again.
He said, 'I am the light of the world.
Anyone who follows me will never
walk in darkness. They will have
that light. They will have life'"**
(John 8:12 NIV).

FOR TODAY



Groups

Creating a safe place to connect

1. Fisher of Men!
2. Freeze and Follow
3. Glow Verse
4. Pray

Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild 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.

GROUPS 1/4

Fisher of Men!



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Blue sheet or blue kraft paper
- Prepared "Story Fish" Activity Pages with magnets
- Prepared fishing rod
- Device for playing worship music

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Sensory rings, pop its, stretchy string, or other fidget toys



EveryChild Tips

Provide a sensory-friendly version of the fishing activity:

While waiting for their turn, offer calming fidgets like textured sensory rings, pop-its, stretchy strings, or small plush stress balls. These tools can help kids stay engaged while giving them the support they need to participate in a way that feels safe and fun.

① What You Do

1. Lay the blue sheet (or blue kraft paper) down.
2. Scatter the fish from the "Story Fish" Activity Pages on it.
3. Invite the kids to stand around the edges.

Play Together

1. Show the kids the fishing rod.
2. Say, "We're going to recap today's Bible Story while fishing! I'm going to play some music while you pass around this fishing rod. When the music stops, you must freeze. The kid holding the fishing rod will get a chance to fish for the next part of the story! Are you ready?"
3. Start the music and begin passing the fishing rod around.
4. At random, stop the music. Invite the kid with the fishing rod to locate the fish with the "1" on it.
→ NOTE: Invite the entire group to point to the correct fish to help.
5. Let them retrieve the fish and show the group the illustration.
6. Ask: What's happening in this picture?
7. Read the question on the other side of the card.
8. Repeat the process until all the Story Fish cards have been reviewed.
9. Gather the kids to discuss

Story Fish Answers

1. What was Peter doing when Jesus found him? (He was fishing all night but didn't catch anything.)
2. Who did Jesus teach by the water that day? (A crowd of people who came to hear about God!)
3. What did Jesus ask Peter to do with his boat? (To let Jesus sit in it and teach from it!)
4. What did Jesus tell Peter to do next? (Put the nets in the water again.)
5. What happened when Peter obeyed Jesus and let down the nets? (He caught SO MANY fish the nets were about to break!)
6. How did Peter feel when he saw the miracle? (Amazed! He knew Jesus was special.)
7. What did Jesus say to Peter and his friends? ("Come follow Me, and I will teach you how to fish for people!")
8. What did Peter and the others do when Jesus called them? (They left their boats and followed Him right away!)
9. What would YOU say if Jesus asked you to follow Him today? (Give space for kids to respond: "Yes!" or "I'd ask where we're going!" or "I'd be excited!")

GROUPS 1/4

Fisher of Men!



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What You Need

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While waiting for their turn, offer calming fidgets like textured sensory rings, pop-its, stretchy strings, or small plush stress balls. These tools can help kids stay engaged while giving them the support they need to participate in a way that feels safe and fun.

② What You Say

"Wow! What an amazing story. Peter was just a regular fisherman. He didn't think he was anyone special ... but Jesus picked him! And not just Peter, but others too. Jesus didn't ask the fanciest people to follow Him. He invited ordinary people, just like you and me!

"When Jesus told Peter to try fishing again, what happened? (Invite responses.) That's right! Peter caught so many fish that the boat almost sank! That's how powerful Jesus is. Even though he didn't catch anything before, Peter trusted Jesus. But the best part? Jesus told Peter, 'Come follow Me.' And Peter did! He dropped everything and said YES.

"Jesus showed Peter that He is the way to live a full life—the best life—one where we help others know God's love, too. Jesus is the way. That means we can follow Him anytime, anywhere. We don't need a boat or fishing nets ... just a heart that says, 'Yes, Jesus, I will follow You!' because Jesus is the way."

GROUPS 2/4

Freeze and Follow



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Duct tape or cones
- Glow beach ball with "Follow Me" Activity Pages
- Device for playing music

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Glow sticks or small flashlights



EveryChild Tips

For an option with less movement:

Give each kid a glowstick or a small glow object they can hold.

Play the music in short bursts while the kids move in place.

When the music stops, have the kids raise their glow objects up high!

① What You Do

1. Place the glow beach ball in the center of your space and secure it in place with duct tape or cones.
2. Have the kids gather around the ball and spread out as far as possible away from it.
3. Say, "Today we're going on a glow adventure! When the music starts, you will walk carefully
4. toward the glow light (beach ball). You can only move when the music is playing. If it stops, you
5. must freeze like a statue!"
6. Play music in short bursts while kids move slowly and dramatically toward the glow ball.
 - Call out for kids to hop, jump, skip, or walk to the ball.
7. Once everyone has reached the glow ball, invite them to sit in a circle around it.
8. Point out the "Follow Me" Activity Page images.
9. Talk about how those kids were following Jesus by helping, inviting kids to play with them, and telling the truth about a lie they told.

② What You Say

"Awesome job, friends! In our Bible story, we heard about someone named Peter. He was just doing his job (fishing) when Jesus showed up. And do you remember what happened? (Invite responses.) That's right! Peter didn't wait. He dropped everything and went! Peter didn't even know what was next, but he trusted Jesus was the way. He didn't just say, 'Cool story, bro!' and stay in his boat. Peter left everything. His boat, his nets, his fish...and followed Jesus!

And we can do that too. We may not have a fishing boat, but Jesus wants each of us to follow Him! We leave behind things like lying, being mean, or doing things our own way. When we choose to follow Jesus, we find joy, peace, and light! We get to choose the light of Jesus instead. Say it with me: Jesus is the way!"

K-5th

Small Group

Day 1

GROUPS 3/4

Glow Verse

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Prepared "Glow Verse" Activity Page cards with glow sticks
- Bibles marked at John 8:12



① What You Do

1. Before you begin, hide the "Glow Verse" Activity Page cards around your group area.
2. Give every kid a Bible marked at John 8:12.
3. Use the Bible Navigation tips to guide them to the verse.
4. Repeat the verse together and review any words in the verse that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

*Finding verses with Kindergarteners and 1st Graders

- ① Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page.
- ② Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud.
- ③ Guide them to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number.
- ④ Guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud.
- ⑤ Lead everyone to say the verse together.

Move Together

1. Say, "We're going to go on a 'verse quest' to put together our memory verse, John 8:12! We'll work together to find glow cards and put them together."
→ NOTE: If you are able to, dim the lights so the cards will glow!
2. As each card is found, gather in a circle and build the verse together.
3. Invite the kids to reference the numbers on the cards as you arrange them.
4. Once the verse is assembled in the correct order, practice it together.
→ Chant it, whisper it, say it slowly, or say it loud!

Talk Together

1. Dive deeper into John 8:12 with your group.
2. **'I am the Light of the world.'** That means Jesus is like a bright light shining in the darkest places. The world can feel confusing, scary, or unfair sometimes. That's because it's broken. There's sin in the world. But Jesus came to shine in that darkness. He shows us the way to live with love, kindness, and truth. He doesn't just light the way for some people, He lights the way for everyone—that includes you!
3. **'Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness.'** When we follow Jesus, we're choosing to walk in His light. That means we try to live the way He lived—loving others, forgiving,



EveryChild Tips

For an option with less movement, allow the kids to find verse cards from a seated position. Or hand-deliver cards to them so they can "discover" one up close.

K-5th

Small Group

Day 1

GROUPS 3/4

Glow Verse

Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

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Live for God

What You Need

- Prepared "Glow Verse" Activity
Page cards with glow sticks
- Bibles marked at John 8:12



telling the truth, and listening to God. We're not alone, even when it feels that way. We don't have to stay in darkness or live like those around us doing wrong, because Jesus came to rescue us from it!

4. **'They will have the light that gives life.'** The light Jesus gives isn't like a glowstick that fades. His light gives FOREVER life, starting right now! When we believe in Jesus and follow Him, we can live with hope, joy, and peace even in tough times. His light helps us make good choices, love others, and trust that we'll live with Him forever in His Kingdom. That's what life in the light is all about, it's the greatest treasure we could ever find!

② What You Say

"Wow! What an adventure! You found all the glowing pieces and built the memory verse together. Let's read it one more time from God's Word, the Bible. Can you say it with me? (Read John 8:12 aloud.)

I love glowsticks, but they only last a little while. Jesus' light? It never stops shining! His light helps us see what's true, choose what's right, and live forever with Him. We can put all of our trust in Jesus and be confident that Jesus is the way!"



EveryChild Tips

For an option with less movement, allow the kids to find verse cards from a seated position. Or hand-deliver cards to them so they can "discover" one up close.

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

Draw a heart and say, "Thank You, Jesus, for loving me!"

Draw feet and say, "Jesus, help me follow You!"

Draw a light and say, "Show me the way, Jesus!"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.



① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
2. Ask: What do you think it means to pray?
3. Share that prayer means talking to God. You can talk to God at any time, anywhere, about anything! He loves to hear from us.
4. Give every kid a "Quest Log" (if not purchasing the product, use the "Kingdom Quest Log" Activity Page instructions below from here).
5. Explain that this guide can help them talk to God as they continue on an epic journey to discover God's kingdom.
6. Assist the kids with writing their names on the book.
7. Show them the Day 1 page.
8. Read the prompts and guide the kids through them, modeling how to write or draw a doodle for God.
9. After a few minutes, close in prayer together.

Talk Together

1. Dive deeper into John 8:12 with your group.
2. **'I am the Light of the world.'** That means Jesus is like a bright light shining in the darkest places. The world can feel confusing, scary, or unfair sometimes. That's because it's broken. There's sin in the world. But Jesus came to shine in that darkness. He shows us the way to live with love, kindness, and truth. He doesn't just light the way for some people, He lights the way for everyone—that includes you!
3. **'Anyone who follows me will not walk in darkness.'** When we follow Jesus, we're choosing to walk in His light. That means we try to live the way He lived—loving others, forgiving, telling the truth, and listening to God. We're not alone, even when it feels that way. We don't have to stay in darkness or live like those around us doing wrong, because Jesus came to rescue us from it!
4. **'They will have the light that gives life.'** The light Jesus gives isn't like a glowstick that fades. His light gives FOREVER life, starting right now! When we believe in Jesus and follow Him, we can live with hope, joy, and peace even in tough times. His light helps us make good choices, love others, and trust that we'll live with Him forever in His Kingdom. That's what life in the light is all about, it's the greatest treasure we could ever find!

② What You Say

K-5th

Small Group

Day 1

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



"Dear God, thank You for loving us and sending Jesus to show us the way! Sometimes it's hard to know what to do, but we know we can follow Jesus. Help us be brave like Peter and say, 'Yes! I'll follow You!' Thank You for always being with us. We love You! We pray these things in Jesus' name, amen!"

Travel Time → As you travel to the next track, use the camp chant to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

Jesus is the way—I follow His light! (Kids repeat)

Called on a quest to do what's right! (Kids repeat)

Step by step, I trust and obey! (Kids repeat)

His Kingdom grows in me each day! (Kids repeat)



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

Draw a heart and say, "Thank You, Jesus, for loving me!"

Draw feet and say, "Jesus, help me follow You!"

Draw a light and say, "Show me the way, Jesus!"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.

Getting Ready

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for Small Group Rotation for today.

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 resources: Parent Cue App

Groups

1. Fisher of Men!

- Print "Story Fish" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group
- Magnet stickers (like this: bit.ly/3ENOEMJ), 10 for each Small Group
- Yarn or string, one roll for each Small Group
- Dowel stick, one for each Small Group
- Blue sheet or blue kraft paper, one 3' piece for each Small Group
- Before group time:
 - Assemble a fishing rod using the dowel stick, string, and magnet stickers.
 - Secure a magnet sticker on the back of each "John 8:12 Fish" card with a hot glue device or a piece of tape
- Inclusive Pro Supplies: Sensory rings, pop its, stretchy string, or other fidget toys (like this: bit.ly/4o3LpCT)

2. Freeze and Follow

- Glow ball (like this: bit.ly/4lxy4RP), one for each Small Group
- Print "Follow Me" Activity Page on paper and cut apart, one set for each Small Group.
- Floor tape, one roll for each Small Group
- Duct tape or cones, to hold the glow ball in place
- Device for playing music, one for each Small Group
- Before group time, tape the scenarios to the beach ball with duct tape
- Inclusive Pro Supplies: Glow sticks or glow objects, one for every kid

3. Glow Verse

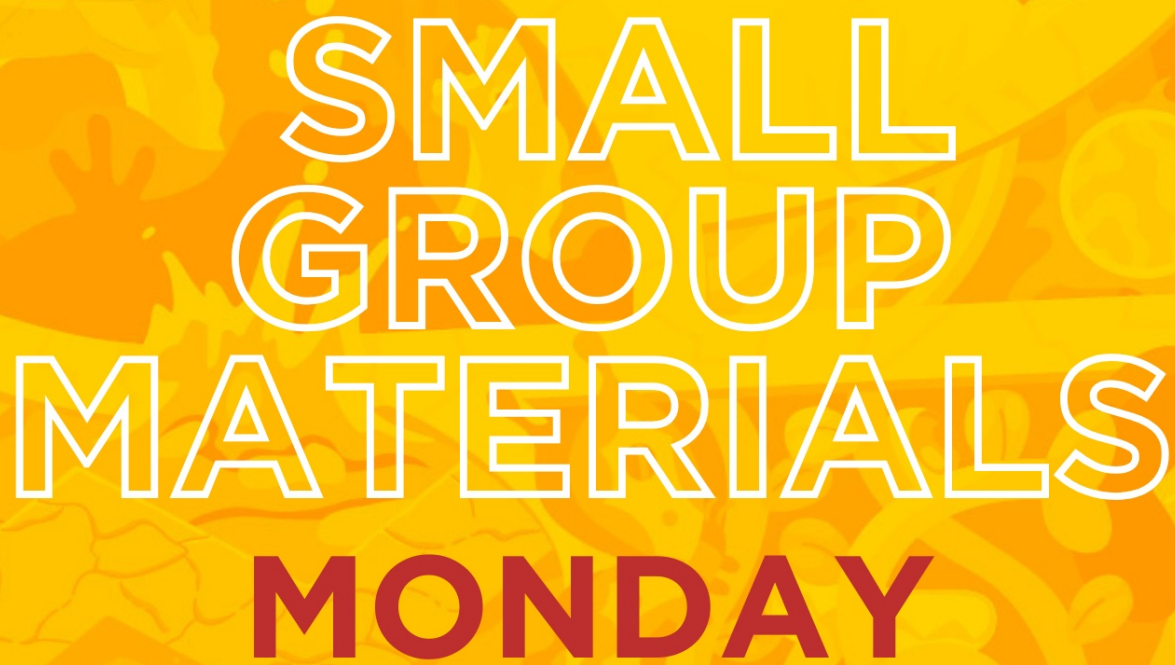
- Print "Glow Verse" Activity Page on neon cardstock, one set for each Small Group
- Glow sticks or glow objects, 10 for each Small Group
- Bibles marked at John 8:12, one for every kid
- Before group time, use tape or a hot glue device to attach glow sticks to the back of the "Glow Verse" cards

4. Pray

- Coloring Supplies, enough for the Small Group to share
- Pencils, one for every kid
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"; one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Kingdom Quest Log" Activity Page on 11x17-inch paper, one for every kid and Small Group Leader
 - Before group time, assemble Kingdom Quest Logs using the Quest Log Steps; one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group Leader
- Inclusive Pro Supplies: dry-erase board and dry-erase marker

The logo for NF Kids, featuring the letters 'NF' in white inside a dark red circle, followed by the word 'KIDS' in a bold, dark red, sans-serif font.

NF KIDS

The main title of the page, 'SMALL GROUP MATERIALS MONDAY', is centered. 'SMALL GROUP MATERIALS' is written in a large, white, outlined, sans-serif font. 'MONDAY' is written below it in a smaller, bold, dark red, sans-serif font.

**SMALL
GROUP
MATERIALS
MONDAY**

K-5th

Small Group

Day 2

Small Group Leader Guide Day 2

Today's Bible Story

Jesus walks on water
Matthew 14:22-33

Bottom Line

Jesus is with me.

Memory Verse

**"Jesus spoke to the people again.
He said, 'I am the light of the world.
Anyone who follows me will never
walk in darkness. They will have
that light. They will have life'"**
(John 8:12 NIV).

FOR TODAY



Groups

Creating a safe place to connect

1. Waves and Wind Recap
2. Waves and Wind
3. Light of the World
4. Pray

Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)

EveryChild Tips



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GROUPS 1/4

Waves and Wind Recap

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Floor tape or neon tape
- Pool noodles
- Cones
- Device for playing upbeat worship music
- Bean bag or light item
- Packing tape



EveryChild Tips

Balance Alternatives: If a child can't balance an item on their head, they can hold it gently in one hand and try not to drop it.

To adjust to the mobility of your group, create a simplified storm path using just floor tape and ask them to "steer" around the storm using hand movements, sounds, or by leading a buddy.



① What You Do

1. Before you begin:
 - Set up a winding "storm path" using tape, cones, and pool noodles.
 - Mark a start line and finish line at each end of the 'storm path.'
2. Gather the kids and explain how to play:
 - One-by-one, each kid will walk the storm path—but with a twist! They must balance the bean bag (or small item) on their head while crossing it.
 - If a kid drops the bean bag, they must start over.
 - Once they reach the finish line, you will ask them a Bible Story Recap question!
3. Have the kids line up behind the start line while you demonstrate how to maneuver the course.
4. Start the music and begin!
5. Play until every kid gets a turn and all the recap questions have been discussed.

Bible Story Recap

1. Who told the disciples to go on ahead in the boat? (*Jesus v.22*)
2. What happened in the middle of the night? (*A strong wind and waves v.24*)
3. How did the disciples react when they saw Jesus walking on the water? (*They were afraid v.26*)
4. What did Jesus say to calm their fear? (*"Be brave! It is I. Don't be afraid." v.27*)
5. What did Peter ask Jesus? (*"Lord, is it you? If it is, tell me to come to you on the water." V.28*)
6. What happened when Peter looked at the wind and waves? (*He was afraid and started to sink v.30*)
7. What did Peter shout as he began to sink? (*"Lord, save me!" v.30*)
8. What did Jesus immediately do? (*He reached out His hand and caught Peter v.31*)
9. What did the disciples do when Jesus and Peter got into the boat? (*They worshipped Him v.33*)

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 1/4

Waves and Wind Recap

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

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② What You Say

“Whoa! That was quite a storm path, wasn’t it? You had to balance, focus, and keep your eyes straight ahead. That’s kind of like what happened to Peter in our true story from the Bible today! Peter was one of Jesus’ closest friends, and when Jesus came walking on the water during the storm, Peter actually stepped out of the boat to walk toward Him! But then ... the waves crashed, the wind howled, and Peter got scared. He took his eyes off Jesus, and that’s when he started to sink.

But did Jesus let him go under? NO WAY. Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed Peter’s hand. He didn’t wait until Peter was perfect or calm, He came right to him. Jesus is with us, friends! He hears us when we call out to Him. He helps us stay focused, even when everything around us feels like chaos. Say it with me: Jesus is with me!”



EveryChild Tips

Balance Alternatives: If a child can’t balance an item on their head, they can hold it gently in one hand and try not to drop it.

To adjust to the mobility of your group, create a simplified storm path using just floor tape and ask them to “steer” around the storm using hand movements, sounds, or by leading a buddy.

GROUPS 2/4

Waves and Wind



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Blue food coloring
- Water
- Clear jars or bottles
- Plastic tablecloth
- Vegetable oil
- Glitter or small beads
- Alka-Seltzer® tablets

Note

NOTE: Consider watching an example of this experiment before you begin:

bit.ly/4obgggV



EveryChild Tips

For an option with less movement:

Give each kid a glowstick or a small glow object they can hold.

Play the music in short bursts while the kids move in place.

When the music stops, have the kids raise their glow objects up high!

① What You Do

1. Before you begin, lay a plastic tablecloth on the floor or on a table.
2. Gather the kids around it.
3. Fill each clear jar or bottle $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way with water.
4. Add several drops of blue food coloring (blue works great for a “stormy sea”) and the glitter or small beads.
5. Slowly pour vegetable oil on top, until the jars are filled a little over $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way with water and oil.
6. Invite the kids to observe how the oil floats on top of the water.
7. Then, add one Alka-Seltzer tablet to each jar and observe what happens.
8. Ask the kids: “What do you see?”
→ NOTE: Point out that the bubbles are rising and falling like a stormy sea!
9. Say, “Whoa! Those waves and bubbles are moving around just like a storm, aren’t they? Sometimes life can feel like that... stormy, swirly, and a little confusing.”

Ask

1. Do you think it would be hard to keep your eyes on Jesus in a real storm like Peter did?”
2. “What kinds of things make you feel distracted or afraid, like you’re in a storm?” (Prompt with examples: being scared of the dark, starting a new class, someone being unkind, trying something new.)
3. “How can we remember to keep our eyes on Jesus?” (Prompt with examples: Remind yourself that Jesus is with you, pray, recall a Scripture that you’ve memorized!)

Continued on the next page. →

GROUPS 2/4

Waves and Wind



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Blue food coloring
- Water
- Clear jars or bottles
- Plastic tablecloth
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NOTE: Consider watching an example of this experiment before you begin:

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EveryChild Tips

For an option with less movement:

Give each kid a glowstick or a small glow object they can hold.

Play the music in short bursts while the kids move in place.

When the music stops, have the kids raise their glow objects up high!

② What You Say

“Peter trusted Jesus enough to get out of the boat. That’s brave! But when he saw the big waves, he got scared and started to sink. Can you believe it? The same Peter who had seen Jesus do miracles got distracted and forgot Jesus was right there.

Sometimes, we get distracted too. We worry, feel sad, or feel all alone. But guess what? Jesus never leaves. He’s with you on the playground, when you’re trying something hard, when you’re feeling nervous, or even when you’re mad or tired. When we keep our eyes on Jesus, He can help us walk through any storm with peace!

So, if you haven’t already made the choice to follow Jesus, there’s no better time than now! You can invite Jesus into your life when you say, ‘Jesus, I trust You!’ The storm may not stop right away, but our hearts can be calm because Jesus is with us. Let’s remember this: Jesus is with me!”

GROUPS 3/4

Light of the World



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Prepared "Glow Verse Images" Activity Page cards with glowsticks
- Bible marked at John 8:12
- Glowsticks
- Floor tape or glow tape
- Optional: a device for playing upbeat worship music

① What You Do

1. Before you begin, use floor tape to mark two start lines and finish lines.
2. Gather the kids together, open the marked Bible, and read John 8:12.
3. Repeat the verse together and review the verse motions from day 1.
4. Review any words in John 8:12 that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
5. Place a set of the "Glow Verse Images" Activity Page cards at each finish line.
6. Divide the kids into two teams and have each team line up at a start line.
7. Explain how to play:
 - One-by-one, they will run to the verse cards, grab one, and bring it back to their team.
 - Each card has an image on it that describes a part of the verse and the verse text.
 - Once all cards are collected, each team will work together to put the verse in the right order, using the images to assist them.
8. Invite the kids to reference the numbers on the cards as they arrange them.
9. Once the verse is assembled in the correct order, practice it together.
 - Chant it, whisper it, say it slowly, or say it loud!

Continued on the next page. →

EveryChild Tips



Review the "Glow Verse Images" with the kids before you begin the game.

For an option with less movement, allow the kids to find verse cards from a seated position. Or hand-deliver cards to them so they can "discover" one up close.

GROUPS 3/4

Light of the World



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Prepared "Glow Verse Images" Activity Page cards with glowsticks
- Bible marked at John 8:12
- Glowsticks
- Floor tape or glow tape
- Optional: a device for playing upbeat worship music



EveryChild Tips

Review the "Glow Verse Images" with the kids before you begin the game.

For an option with less movement, allow the kids to find verse cards from a seated position. Or hand-deliver cards to them so they can "discover" one up close.

② What You Say

"Whoa! You all were zooming to get those cards. Nice work, friends! Now let's take a look at what we collected. These pictures are little clues to help us remember something BIG Jesus said. Let me read it from the Bible again ... listen close! *(Read John 8:12.)*

'Jesus spoke to the people again. He said, "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life"' *(NirV)*.

Wow. Jesus says He is the light of the world! That means even when life feels dark, Jesus shines bright and reminds us we aren't alone. When we follow Him, we don't have to be afraid. He's with us every step, even when we're unsure or scared. When Peter stepped out of the boat, the storm was wild, but Jesus didn't leave him in the dark. And guess what? He won't leave YOU either! Jesus is with you at school, at night, in the car, on the playground—everywhere! Say it with me again: JESUS IS WITH ME!

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

- Draw a heart and say, "Jesus, help me remember you're with me when _____"
- Draw feet and say, "I love You, Jesus. Thank You for walking with me."
- Draw a speech bubble and say, "God, help me remember to talk to you when _____"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.



① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
2. Ask: Have you prayed before? If so, what do you pray about?
3. Share that prayer means talking to God. You can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything! He loves to hear from us.
4. Pass out the "Quest Log" to returning kids and hand out new ones to first timers.
5. Explain that this log can help them talk to God as they continue on an epic journey to discover God's kingdom.
6. Encourage kids to write their names on their book. (Assist as needed.)
7. Show the kids the Day 2 page.
8. Give them several minutes to draw their self-portrait.
9. In the blank space, write or draw a prayer to God.
10. After a few minutes, talk about the places the kids in your group go, where Jesus is with them. Remind kids that Jesus is with you wherever you go.
11. If using the "Quest Log," add your sticker that says, "Jesus is with me."
12. Collect every kid's log and put aside for the next day.
13. Close in prayer.

② Prayer

"Dear God, Thank You for all of my Kingdom Quest friends here today! Thank You for sending Jesus. Thank You that even in the storm, when life feels uncertain, Jesus is with us. Help us keep our eyes on You. Even when we feel afraid, even when things change, even when we don't know what to do. Remind us that You're close and want to help! We love You, God! We pray these things in Jesus' name, amen!"

Travel Time → As you travel to the next track, use the camp chant to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

Jesus is the way—I follow His light! **(Kids repeat)**
 Called on a quest to do what's right! **(Kids repeat)**
 Step by step, I trust and obey! **(Kids repeat)**
 His Kingdom grows in me each day! **(Kids repeat)**

Getting Ready

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for Small Group Rotation for today.

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 resources: Parent Cue App

Groups

1. Waves and Wind Recap

- Floor tape or neon tape, one roll for each Small Group
- A device for playing upbeat worship music; one for each Small Group
- Pool noodles, three for each Small Group
- Cones, five for each Small Group
- Optional: Bean bag or light item

2. Waves and Wind

- Blue food coloring, 12 drops for each Small Group
- Water,
- Clear jars or bottles, two for each Small Group
- Plastic tablecloth, one for each Small Group
- Vegetable oil, one bottle for each Small Group
- Blue glitter or small beads
- Alka-Seltzer tablets, two for each Small Group
- NOTE: Consider watching an example of this experiment before you begin: bit.ly/4obgggV

3. Light of the World

- Print "Glow Verse" Activity Page on neon cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group
- Glowsticks or glow objects, 10 for each Small Group
- Bible marked at John 8:12, one for each Small Group
- Before group time, use tape or a hot glue device to attach glow sticks to the back of the "Glow Verse" cards
- Optional: a device for playing music
- Optional: Laminator (Consider laminating the Glow Verse cards for easy repeated use)

4. Pray

- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"; one for every kid
- Coloring Supplies, enough for the Small Group to share
- Pencils, one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Kingdom Quest Log" Activity Page on 11×17-inch paper, one for every kid and Small Group Leader
 - Before group time, assemble Kingdom Quest Logs using the Quest Log Steps; one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- EveryChild Supplies: dry-erase marker and dry-erase board



SMALL
GROUP
MATERIALS
TUESDAY

K-5th

Small Group

Day 3

Small Group Leader Guide Day 3

Today's Bible Story

Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection
Luke 23:32-45, 55-56; Luke 24:1-6

Bottom Line

Jesus is alive.

Memory Verse

**"Jesus spoke to the people again.
He said, 'I am the light of the world.
Anyone who follows me will never
walk in darkness. They will have
that light. They will have life'"**
(John 8:12 NIRV).

FOR TODAY



Groups

Creating a safe place to connect

1. Stone Roll Relay
2. Jesus is Alive!
3. Verses to Take with You
4. Pray

Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)

EveryChild 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 EveryChild tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each VBS segment.

GROUPS 1/4

Stone Roll Relay



Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Bible marked at Luke 23 and 24
- Prepared construction paper 'rocks'
- "Bible Story Cards" Activity Page
- Floor tape or glow tape



EveryChild Tips

To adjust to the mobility needs of your group, let the kids reveal images from a seated position.

① What You Do

1. Before you begin:
 - Create two relay lanes with floor tape or glow tape.
 - Hide a "Bible Story Card" under each 'rock' at the far end of each lane.
2. Divide the kids into two teams and invite them to stand at the other ends.
3. Older kids and younger kids: Make sure both teams have a mix of ages!
4. Explain how to play:
 - One at a time, kids will run to the end, roll away a rock, grab the image underneath, and bring it back to the group.
5. Once all the images are found, celebrate the kids!
6. Retell the story together with the pictures and let the teams help sequence them!
7. Gather the entire group to discuss. Use the brief descriptions below to help the kids with each card.

Bible Story Cards Answers

1. "Jesus prayed."
2. "Judas betrayed Jesus, and Jesus was arrested."
3. "Jesus stood before Pilate."
4. "Jesus carried the cross."
5. "Jesus died."
6. "The curtain tore."
7. "Jesus was buried."
8. "The tomb was empty!"
9. "Angels said, 'He is risen!'"
10. "Peter saw the empty tomb."

② What You Say

"Way to go friends! Peter saw Jesus do SO many amazing things—he even walked on water with Him! But then, Peter also saw Jesus die. That was really hard and sad. But the story didn't end there! Peter also saw something incredible ... Jesus came back to life! The tomb was empty, and Jesus was alive again! That's one of the many ways we know Jesus really is the Rescuer God promised for us! He defeated sin, He's alive, and He made a way for us to live with Him forever when we choose to follow Him. That's the best news ever! Can we say the bottom line together? Jesus is alive!"

GROUPS 2/4

Jesus is Alive!



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Clear 8-ounce water bottle
- White vinegar
- Baking soda
- Prepared balloon
- Funnel
- Plastic tablecloth
- Bible marked at Luke 24:1-6

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Plain paper and coloring supplies



EveryChild Tips

To support kids with sensory sensitivities, pre-pour vinegar or pre-fill balloons.

Let kids draw a picture of what “new life” with Jesus looks like to them if they prefer not to verbalize it.

① What You Do

1. Gather the kids around the plastic tablecloth (on the floor or around a table).
2. Place the balloon securely around the funnel.
3. Invite a kid to assist you with pouring 2 ½ tablespoons of baking soda into the balloon.
4. Invite another kid to help you pour ¼ cup of white vinegar into the 8-ounce water bottle.
5. Carefully stretch the balloon over the top of the jar and let it hang to the side (don't dump the baking soda in just yet!).
6. Grab the Bible and say, “In Luke 23, we read that Jesus died on the cross. It was quiet. Sad. Heavy. People thought the story was over.”
7. Ask: “What do you think will happen when I flip this balloon over and the baking soda falls into the cup?”
8. When ready, lift the balloon and let the baking soda fall into the vinegar.
9. Watch and discuss as the reaction inflates the balloon!
 - Say, “Just like this balloon fills with air, something even more incredible happened when Jesus rose again ... new life filled the world! He defeated sin and death. And not just for Peter, but for you, too! Jesus is alive, and because of that, when we choose to follow Him, we can be forgiven, made new, and live with Him forever!”
10. Open the Bible marked at Luke 24:1-6 and read it to the kids.

Talk Together

1. “How does it make you feel to know Jesus is alive?”
2. “Why do you think Jesus wanted Peter (and us) to know He came back to life?”
3. “What’s one way you can live like Jesus is your forever friend this week?”

Continued on the next page. →

K-5th

Small Group

Day 3

GROUPS 2/4

Jesus is Alive!



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Clear 8-ounce water bottle
- White vinegar
- Baking soda
- Prepared balloon
- Funnel
- Plastic tablecloth
- Bible marked at Luke 24:1-6

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Plain paper and coloring supplies



EveryChild Tips

To support kids with sensory sensitivities, pre-pour vinegar or pre-fill balloons.

Let kids draw a picture of what "new life" with Jesus looks like to them if they prefer not to verbalize it.

② What You Say

"Peter saw Jesus do miracles. He saw Him die. And then, Peter saw something incredible ... Jesus came back to life! That moment changed everything for Peter. And guess what? It changes everything for us, too!

When we say 'Jesus is Alive!' we're celebrating the truth that Jesus beat sin and death, and made a way for us to be forgiven and live with Him forever. That's called new life. And it's available to anyone! If you've never told Jesus you want to follow Him, you can do that anytime. You don't need fancy words. You can say something like, '*Jesus, I believe in You. I am a sinner and I believe you died for me. But You didn't stay dead. You are alive. Thank You for loving me. I want to follow You and live with You forever.*' If you've never said that to Jesus before and you want to talk about it more, come find me or another leader. We'd love to talk with you and pray with you!"

When we choose to follow Jesus, we can be a part of the best story ever. Jesus fills us with hope, love, peace, and purpose! And this risen balloon reminds us of that new life with Jesus. Remember, friend, Jesus is alive and that's worth celebrating!

Verses to Take with You



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Bible marked at John 8:12
- "Verse Cards" Activity Page
- Pre-cut black construction paper frames
- Plastic tablecloth
- Glue sticks
- Chalk

① What You Do

1. Open the marked Bible and select a kid to read John 8:12 out loud.
2. Repeat the verse together several times.
3. Ask:
 - How did this verse connect to the good news that Jesus is alive?
4. Scatter the "Verse Cards" Activity Page cards in your group area.
5. Explain that these verse cards have other Bible verses that remind us Jesus is alive.
6. Explain to the kids that they'll get a chance to walk around, read each verse, and pick the one that speaks to them the most today.
 - *Maybe it encourages them, helps them understand Jesus more, or makes them feel hopeful.*
7. After every kid has selected a "Verse Card," give them each a pre-cut paper frame.
8. Lay out the plastic tablecloth and gather them around it.
9. Show them how to use a glue stick to adhere the verse card into their black paper frame.
10. Set the chalk on the plastic tablecloth and let the kids decorate their picture frame with:
 - Their name.
 - A word that describes how they feel when they remember Jesus is alive
 - A drawing or symbol (cross, heart, sunrise, etc.)
11. Encourage the kids to place the frame somewhere at home where they can see it, as a reminder of the good news that Jesus is alive!



EveryChild Tips

To assist the kids with reading the verses, have a leader or buddy read them aloud and help the kids choose one.

Allow seated participation at a table or on the floor.

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

- Draw a heart and say, "Jesus, I am thankful you're alive because _____"
- Draw a cross and say, "I love You, Jesus. Thank You for rescuing me!"
- Draw a foot and say, "Jesus, help me follow You when _____"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.

① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
2. Ask: Before today, did you know that Jesus came to rescue us?
3. Share that prayer means talking to God. You can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything! He loves to hear from us.
4. Pass out the "Quest Log" to returning kids and hand out new ones to first timers.
5. Explain that this log can help them talk to God as they continue on an epic journey to discover God's kingdom.
6. Encourage kids to write their names on their book. (Assist as needed.)
7. Show the kids the Day 3 page.
8. Give them several minutes to draw an emoji to show how you feel knowing that Jesus came to rescue us and that Jesus is alive!
9. In the blank space, write or draw a prayer to God.
10. If using the "Quest Log," add your sticker that says, "Jesus is alive."
11. Collect every kid's log and put aside for the next day.
12. Close in prayer.

Continued on the next page. →



GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

- Draw a heart and say, "Jesus, I am thankful you're alive because _____"
- Draw a cross and say, "I love You, Jesus. Thank You for rescuing me!"
- Draw a foot and say, "Jesus, help me follow You when _____"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.



② Prayer

"Jesus, thank You for rescuing us. Thank You that You didn't stay in the grave—Jesus is ALIVE! Thank You for loving me no matter what. Today, we pray for anyone who made the decision to give their life to You. We pray that they would learn more about You every day! In Jesus' name, amen!"

Salvation Prayer

"Dear Jesus, **(Kids repeat)**

Thank You for loving me. **(Kids repeat)**

I believe You are God's Son. **(Kids repeat)**

I believe You died on the cross for me and came back to life.

(Kids repeat)

I'm sorry for the wrong things I've done. **(Kids repeat)**

I want to follow You every day. **(Kids repeat)**

Thank You for being my Savior and my forever friend. **(Kids repeat)**

(Kids repeat)

Amen." **(Kids repeat)**

Travel Time → As you travel to the next track, use the camp chant to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

Jesus is the way—I follow His light! **(Kids repeat)**

Called on a quest to do what's right! **(Kids repeat)**

Step by step, I trust and obey! **(Kids repeat)**

His Kingdom grows in me each day! **(Kids repeat)**

Getting Ready

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for Small Group Rotation for today.

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 resources: Parent Cue App

Groups

1. Stone Roll Relay

- Bible marked at Luke 23 and 24; one for each Small Group
- Grey or brown construction paper, about 25 pictures for each Small Group
- Print "Bible Story Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; two sets for each Small Group
- Floor tape or glow tape, one roll for each Small Group
- Before group time:
 - Crumble the grey or brown pieces of paper into 20 'rocks.'

2. Jesus is Alive!

- Clear 8-ounce water bottle, one for each Small Group
- White vinegar, ¼ cup for each Small Group
- Baking soda, 2 ½ Tbsps for each Small Group
- Balloon, one for each Small Group
- Funnel, one for each Small Group
- Permanent marker, one for each Small Group
- Plastic tablecloth, one for each Small Group
- Bible marked at Luke 24:1-6; one for each Small Group
- Before group time:
 - Empty the 8-ounce water bottle.
 - Pre-inflate the balloon and use the permanent marker to draw a cross on one side, and 'Jesus is alive!' on the other. Deflate the balloon and set it aside for the activity.
- EveryChild Optional Supplies: plain paper and coloring supplies

3. Verses to Take with You

- Bible marked at John 8:12, one for each Small Group
- Plastic tablecloth, one for each Small Group
- Glue sticks, one for every kid
- Print "Verse Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one for every kid and a few extra
- Black construction, one sheet for every two kids
- Chalk (like this: bit.ly/4fl5fFR), enough for the Small Group to share
- Before group time:
 - Cut the black construction paper in half horizontally.
 - Use scissors or a craft knife to cut out a rectangle from the center of each piece of paper. Leaving about a 2-inch border on all sides to form a picture frame shape. Tip: Trace a smaller rectangle inside before cutting to keep the border even.)

4. Pray

- Coloring Supplies, enough for the Small Group to share
- Pencils, one for every kid
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"; one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on 11 17-inch paper,
 - one for every kid and Small Group Leader
 - Before group time, assemble Kingdom Quest Logs using the Quest Log Steps (for younger kids) for any first-time kids
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group Leader
- EveryChild Optional Supplies: dry-erase board and dry-erase marker

NOTE: Collect each "Quest Log" and set aside for the next day.



SMALL
GROUP
MATERIALS
WEDNESDAY

K-5th

Small Group

Day 4

Small Group Leader Guide Day 4

Today's Bible Story

Peter's Denial & Restoration
Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75;
Mark 16:6-7; John 21:15-19

Bottom Line

Jesus makes me new.

Memory Verse

**"Jesus spoke to the people again.
He said, 'I am the light of the world.
Anyone who follows me will never
walk in darkness. They will have
that light. They will have life'"**
(John 8:12 NIV).

FOR TODAY



Groups

Creating a safe place to connect

1. Take a Snapshot
2. Try Again!
3. Verse Scramble
4. Pray

Home

Prompting action beyond the
experience

→ Devotionals for Kids → Parent
Cue Card → [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild 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 EveryChild tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each VBS segment.

GROUPS 1/4

Take a Snapshot



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Laminated hearts from “Forgiven” Activity Pages
- Bible marked at John 21:15-17
- Paper towel or baby wipes
- Dry-erase markers

① What You Do

1. Give each kid a laminated heart from the “Forgiven” Activity Page and a marker.
2. Ask: “What are some mistakes you’ve made? Things we do that don’t honor God?” (Let them write or draw a few things on the heart.)
3. Read aloud John 21:15–17 or summarize how Jesus forgave Peter.
4. Explain to the kids that when we ask Jesus to forgive us, He does, and He helps us start fresh.
5. Invite kids to wipe their laminated hearts clean.
6. Then, let the kids write a NEW word on the clean heart that reflects their purpose in Jesus (e.g., “Loved,” “Forgiven,” “Leader,” etc).

Make it Personal → Share age-appropriately why you are so grateful for Jesus’ forgiveness. What are you thankful that God has forgiven you for specifically? Maybe you use to speak mean words about your siblings or friends. Or maybe, you started to hang out with the wrong crowd and it got you in trouble. Talk Together.

Talk Together:

1. What does it mean that Jesus forgives us?
2. How does it feel to know Jesus still has a purpose for you, even after you mess up?

GROUPS 2/4

Try Again!

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Beanbags or soft balls
- Hula hoop or taped floor target
- Prepared index cards that read "Try 1," "Try 2," "Try 3," and "Bonus Try!"



① What You Do

1. Before you begin, place a hula hoop (or taped target on the floor with tape) in the center.
2. Mark a taped line a few feet away from the targets and gather the kids behind it.
3. Explain how to play:
 - Say "Today, you'll get three chances to toss the beanbags into the target. Are you ready?"
4. Hold up the index cards as a visual as the kids go through their turns.
5. After three throws, hold up the "Bonus Try!" card and let them try one more time!
6. Encourage the kids to cheer each other on, no matter how many they make!
7. After the game, gather the group and discuss the application.

Talk Together

1. "How did it feel to get a bonus try?"
2. "How do you think Peter felt when Jesus forgave him?"
3. "Have you ever made a mistake but someone still loved you anyway?"
4. "Why do you think Jesus gives us second chances?"
5. "Is there anything you want to ask Jesus for forgiveness for?"

Continued on the next page. →



EveryChild Tips

You can make a large target with floor tape to adapt the difficulty level of this activity.

GROUPS 2/4

Try Again!

Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Beanbags or soft balls
- Hula hoop or taped floor target
- Prepared index cards that read "Try 1," "Try 2," "Try 3," and "Bonus Try!"



② What You Say

"Way to go, friends! That surprise bonus try was pretty awesome, wasn't it?"

Peter messed up. He told people three times that he didn't even know Jesus! The truth is, we can all be like Peter, because none of us is perfect. The good news is that Jesus didn't stay mad at Peter. He came back and gave Peter another chance. That's how much Jesus loves us, too!

In this game, we got three tries...and then we got a bonus try! But guess what? God's love doesn't stop at one bonus try. He forgives again, and again, and again. Not because we deserve it, but because His love is bigger than all our mistakes. He sent Jesus to pay the price for our sins—and Jesus is powerful and loving enough to carry the sin of the world so that we could experience life with God no matter what we've done! Jesus is always ready to forgive us, even when we mess up. That's called grace—and it's the most beautiful gift. Because of Jesus, we can always come back, try again, and know we are still loved. If there's something you want to ask Jesus for forgiveness for, He's listening and ready to forgive you today! Remember our bottom line today: Jesus makes me new! Let's say it together! ***(Repeat it together.)***"



EveryChild Tips

You can make a large target with floor tape to adapt the difficulty level of this activity.

GROUPS 3/4

Verse Scramble



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- John 8:12 Puzzle" Activity Pages
- Bibles marked at John 8:12
- Floor tape
- Optional: "Glow Verse Motions" Cards from Day

EveryChild Tips



For an option with less movement, allow the kids to find assemble the verse cards from a seated position (*on the floor or around a table.*)

① What You Do

1. Before you begin:
 - Mark two start lines in your group area.
 - Scatter the puzzle pieces from the "John 8:12 Puzzle" Activity Pages in the center of your group.
2. Divide the kids into two teams and give each team a Bible marked at John 8:12.
3. Briefly show them how to find the verse using the Bible Navigation tips below.

*Finding verses with 1st 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. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book's name.
- ③ When the kids 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 right chapter.
- ⑤ When they find the chapter, explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

4. Repeat the verse together several times.
5. Have each team line up behind a start line.
6. Explain how to play:
 - Say, "It's time to unscramble the verse! I'm going to shout out a number 1-6, and one person from each team will race to look for that number puzzle piece, and return it back to their team. Once each team has all of their puzzle pieces, you'll work to put the puzzle together!"
7. Once the teams have collected all of the puzzle pieces, encourage them to start assembling the puzzle.
8. Celebrate each team as they finish!
9. Repeat the verse again together.
10. Optional: Review the motions from Day 1 using the Glow Verse Motions cards.

Continued on the next page. →

K-5th

Small Group

Day 4

GROUPS 3/4

Verse Scramble



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- John 8:12 Puzzle" Activity Pages
- Bibles marked at John 8:12
- Floor tape
- Optional: "Glow Verse Motions" Cards from Day

② What You Say

"Way to unscramble the words to John 8:12, friends! John 8:12 says that Jesus is the light of the world. That means He lights the way when things feel dark or confusing. When Peter made a mistake and felt ashamed, Jesus didn't leave him in the dark. He forgave Peter and gave him a new chance to follow the light! Jesus does the same for us. Isn't that amazing! Jesus makes us new. He forgives us and gives us a new start. Let's say the memory verse together one last time (**Repeat the verse together.**)

EveryChild Tips



For an option with less movement, allow the kids to find assemble the verse cards from a seated position (**on the floor or around a table.**)

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
2. Ask: Have you ever messed up? (Pause for responses.) How does it feel to know that God loves us even when we mess up?
3. Share that prayer means talking to God. You can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything! He loves to hear from us.
4. Pass out the "Quest Log" to returning kids and hand out new ones to first timers.
5. Explain that this log can help them talk to God as they continue on an epic journey to discover God's kingdom.
6. Encourage kids to write their names on their book. (Assist as needed.)
7. Show the kids the Day 4 page.
8. Give them several minutes to draw or write about a time when you messed up, then draw a cross right on top of what you wrote or drew to show that Jesus came to rescue you, and God loves you no matter what.
9. In the blank space, write or draw a prayer to God.
10. If using the "Quest Log," add your sticker that says, "Jesus makes me new."
11. Collect every kid's log and put aside for the next day.
12. Close in prayer.

Continued on the next page. →



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

- Draw a heart and say, "Jesus, I am thankful you're alive because _____"
- Draw a cross and say, "I love You, Jesus. Thank You for rescuing me!"
- Draw a foot and say, "Jesus, help me follow You when _____"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: prepared "Kingdom Quest Log" books

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



EveryChild Tips

Write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

- Draw a heart and say, "Jesus, I am thankful you're alive because _____"
- Draw a cross and say, "I love You, Jesus. Thank You for rescuing me!"
- Draw a foot and say, "Jesus, help me follow You when _____"

Allow pre-writers to dictate their prayer to you or a helper.



② Prayer

"Dear God, Thank You for loving us even when we mess up, just like You loved Peter. Thank You for being happy to welcome us back when we choose You! Thank You for sending Jesus to be the light of the world! When we feel sad, scared, or like we've made a big mistake, help us remember that Jesus is always with us. Thank You that because of Jesus, we can be forgiven and made new. Help us to follow Your light every day. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

Salvation Prayer

"Dear Jesus, **(Kids repeat)**

Thank You for loving me. **(Kids repeat)**

I believe You are God's Son. **(Kids repeat)**

I believe You died on the cross for me and came back to life. **(Kids repeat)**

I'm sorry for the wrong things I've done. **(Kids repeat)**

I want to follow You every day. **(Kids repeat)**

Thank You for being my Savior and my forever friend. **(Kids repeat)**

Amen." **(Kids repeat)**

Travel Time → As you travel to the next track, use the camp chant to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

Jesus is the way—I follow His light! **(Kids repeat)**

Called on a quest to do what's right! **(Kids repeat)**

Step by step, I trust and obey! **(Kids repeat)**

His Kingdom grows in me each day! **(Kids repeat)**

Getting Ready

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for Small Group Rotation for today.

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 resources: Parent Cue App

Groups

1. Take a Snapshot

- Print "Forgiven" Activity Page on paper and laminate, one heart for every kid
- Dry-erase markers, one for every kid
- Paper towel or baby wipes, one for every kid
- Bible marked at John 21:5-7; one for each Small Group

2. Try Again!

- Beanbags or soft balls, one for each Small Group
- Hula hoop or floor tape; one for each Small Group
- Index cards, four for each Small Group
- Before group time:
 - Prepare four index cards with one of the following phrases on each: "Try 1," "Try 2," "Try 3," and "Bonus Try!"
 - If not using a hula hoop, mark a large square 'target' in your group area

3. Verse Scramble

- Print "John 8:12 Puzzle" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, two sets for each Small Group
- Bibles marked at John 8:12; two for each Small Group
- Floor tape or glow tape, one roll for each Small Group
- Optional: "Glow Verse Motions" Cards from Day 1

4. Pray

- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"; one for every kid
- Coloring Supplies, enough for the Small Group to share
- Pencils, one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Kingdom Quest Log" Activity Page on 11×17-inch paper, one for every kid and Small Group Leader
 - Before group time, assemble Kingdom Quest Logs using the Quest Log Steps; one for every first-time kid
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- EveryChild Supplies: dry-erase marker and dry-erase board



SMALL
GROUP
MATERIALS
THURSDAY

K-5th

Small Group

Day 5

Small Group Leader Guide Day 5

Today's Bible Story

**Pentecost/Early Church
Acts 2**

Bottom Line

The Holy Spirit helps me.

Memory Verse

**"Jesus spoke to the people again.
He said, 'I am the light of the world.
Anyone who follows me will never
walk in darkness. They will have
that light. They will have life'"
(John 8:12 NIRV).**

FOR TODAY



Groups

Creating a safe place to connect

1. You've Got Mail Recap
2. Be the LIGHT
3. Share the Verse!
4. Pray

Home

Prompting action beyond the experience

- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue Card
- [Parent Cue App](#)



EveryChild 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 EveryChild tips. Check out the Special Needs Resource Kit for more ideas for adapting each VBS segment.

GROUPS 1/4

You've Got Mail Recap

Bible Story Review

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Prepared "Story Snippets" Activity Pages in labeled envelopes



① What You Do

1. Divide the group into two teams.
→ Make sure to mix the teams with older and younger kids.
2. Give each team a set of "Story Snippets" Envelopes.
3. Explain that the kids on each team will take turns picking an envelope, displaying the card to the group, and reading it.
4. Older and younger kids: Invite older kids to assist younger kids with reading their cards.
5. Each team must work together to put the story in order!
6. Once both teams are finished, check the order as a whole group.
7. Gather the kids to discuss.

② What You Say

"Great work, teams! You worked to piece together one of the most exciting moments in the Bible! Let's think about what happened:

After Jesus went back to heaven, His followers were waiting ... just like He said. And then it happened! A sound like a mighty wind. Flames like fire above their heads. And suddenly, they were speaking languages they didn't even know! Why? Because the Holy Spirit had come just like Jesus promised. It wasn't just a surprise party. It was the beginning of the church. People from everywhere heard the truth about Jesus in their own language. And thousands of them chose to believe and follow Him!

That same Holy Spirit helps you today. You don't need a flame over your head or a big crowd. You just need an open heart and a simple prayer: 'God I know I need Your Son Jesus, today and every day. I'm choosing to follow Him. Fill me with your Holy Spirit. Make me aware of Your Spirit every day!' When we say, 'Holy Spirit help,' the Holy Spirit says, 'I'll help you!' Let's say our bottom line together: The Holy Spirit helps me!"



EveryChild Tips

For pre-readers, have leaders read the card aloud and invite the kids to place it on the timeline.

GROUPS 2/4

Be the LIGHT



Application Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- LIGHT" Activity Pages
- Index card
- Pencils

① What You Do

1. Divide the kids into three mixed-age groups, and invite them to form circles.
2. Give each group a "LIGHT" Activity Page.
3. Give every kid an index card and a pencil.
4. Explain that each letter represents how the Holy Spirit helps us shine our light:
 - L - Love others.
 - I - Invite someone to church.
 - G - Give generously.
 - H - Help someone.
 - T - Tell others about Jesus.
5. Each child will choose one thing to commit to this week and write or draw a picture about how they will do it.
6. Invite the groups to share what they chose with each other.
7. Let them share or "send" their letter to God through a "mailbox prayer moment."

② What You Say

"You've probably heard someone say, 'Be the light!' But do you know what that really means? (**Invite responses.**) Great answers! Jesus is the Light of the world. And when we follow Him, we get to shine His light to others. That's what the early Church did after they received the Holy Spirit. They didn't keep the good news to themselves. They loved people, helped each other, prayed together, and shared what they had.

You can do the same thing, right where you are! Maybe it's showing kindness to someone who's left out, giving to someone in need, or telling a friend about Jesus. Whatever you picked today...whether it's to Love, Invite, Give, Help, or Tell; remember you're not doing it alone! The Holy Spirit will help you! Pray and ask God for help every day. Ask Him to open your eyes to the needs around you. Let's say it together: The Holy Spirit helps me!

EveryChild Tips



Encourage kids to draw their action instead of writing it down.

GROUPS 3/4

Share the Verse!



Memory Verse Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- "John 8:12 Postcard" Activity Page
- Neon stickers
- Coloring supplies
- Pencils

① What You Do

1. Give every kid a "John 8:12 Postcard."
2. Repeat the verse together several times.
3. Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
4. Say, "The Holy Spirit sends us to share the message of Jesus with those around us!"
5. You're going to decorate this postcard to help someone discover this truth that Jesus is the Light of the world!"
6. Make the stickers, coloring supplies, and pencils available to everyone.
7. Explain that the kids will be making postcards to share with someone else!

② What You Say

"Great job memorizing John 8:12, friends! Now, you get to share this truth with someone else. Have you ever received a postcard before? (*Invite responses.*) Maybe from a family member on vacation or a friend who wanted to say hi. But today, YOU get to send a message! One that could help someone discover the light of Jesus!

When Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit, He was also sending us out with a mission to share God's love with the world. That doesn't always mean getting on a plane and flying to another country (*though some people do!*). It can look like sharing scripture with a friend, telling your neighbor about Jesus, or helping someone in need in your neighborhood.

Take a minute to pray and ask: Holy Spirit, who do You want me to share this with? Get ready to bless someone with it.

Say it with me: The Holy Spirit helps me!"

K-5th

Small Group

Day 5

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- Scissors
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: "Kingdom Quest Log" Activity Page, "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page, scissors, and a prepared Kingdom Quest Log example

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



① What You Do

1. Gather the kids together in a circle.
2. Ask: What can the Holy Spirit help you do?
3. Share that prayer means talking to God. You can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything! He loves to hear from us.
4. Pass out the "Quest Log" to returning kids and hand out new ones to first timers.
5. Explain that this log can help them talk to God as they continue on an epic journey to discover God's kingdom.
6. Encourage kids to write their names on their book. (Assist as needed.)
7. Show the kids the Day 5 page.
8. Give them several minutes to draw or write where you can share the love of Jesus.
9. In the blank space, write or draw a prayer to God.
10. If using the "Quest Log," add your sticker that says, "The Holy Spirit helps me."
11. Close in prayer.
12. Send each kid's "Quest Log" home with them today
13. Encourage kids to take their quest log home to remember our Kingdom Quest this week and to help them continue their epic journey to discover God's kingdom.

Continued on the next page. →



EveryChild Tips

Write prayer starters (**found on the next page**) on the dry erase board for kids to reference, copy, and fill in.

GROUPS 4/4

Pray

Prayer Activity

Faith Skills

Hear from God

Pray to God

Talk about God

Live for God

What You Need

- Coloring Supplies
- Pencils
- Scissors
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"
- Optional: "Kingdom Quest Log" Activity Page, "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page, scissors, and a prepared Kingdom Quest Log example

EveryChild Optional Supplies

- Dry-erase board
- Dry-erase marker



② What You Say

"Dear God, thank You for this amazing adventure we've had on our Kingdom Quest! Thank You for showing us who Jesus is! He is our Savior, our Friend, and our King. Today, we're so thankful that You didn't leave us alone. You loved us enough to send Your only Son to die for our sins. Please help us remember every day that the same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us when we follow You! Help us tell the world that Jesus is alive, and that He is the way. We love You, God, and we want to live for You every day. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!"

Travel Time → As you travel to the next track, use the camp chant to keep kids thinking about what they're learning!

Jesus is the way—I follow His light! **(Kids repeat)**
 Called on a quest to do what's right! **(Kids repeat)**
 Step by step, I trust and obey! **(Kids repeat)**
 His Kingdom grows in me each day! **(Kids repeat)**



EveryChild Tips

For older kids, write prayer starters on the dry-erase board for them to reference, copy, and fill in.

→ "Jesus, it makes me feel _____ to know that you are alive!"

For younger kids, write visual prayer starters on a dry-erase board, like:

→ Draw a heart and say, "Thank You, Jesus, for always being with me!"

→ Draw a balloon and say, "Thank You, Jesus, that you are alive!"

→ Draw a light and say, "Show me the way, Jesus!"

Getting Ready

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for Small Group Rotation for today.

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

Groups

1. You've Got Mail Recap

- Print "Story Snippets" Activity Pages on paper and cut apart, two sets for each Small Group
- Envelopes,
- Before group time, place one "Story Snippets" card in each envelope. Keep the sets of cards separate.

2. Be the LIGHT

- Print "LIGHT" Activity Pages on paper, three for each Small Group
- Index card, one for every kid
- Pencils, one for every kid

3. Share the Verse!

- Print "John 8:12 Postcard" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one for every kid
- Neon stickers, 2-4 for every kid
- Coloring supplies, one for every kid
- Pencils, one for every kid

4. Pray

- Coloring Supplies, enough for the Small Group to share
- Pencils, one for every kid
- "Quest Log" with "Quest Stickers"; one for every kid
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on 11×17-inch paper, one for every kid and Small Group Leader
 - Before group time, assemble Kingdom Quest Logs using the Quest Log Steps (for younger kids) for any first-time kids
- Optional: Print "Quest Log Steps" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group Leader
- EveryChild Supplies: dry-erase board and dry-erase marker