

WEEK

ONE

Preteen | W1

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener

Worship

Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are included as optional)

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot

Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions

Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You

Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus • *John 3:1-21*

Conversation Starter

Where have you seen God's love?

Bottom Line

God loves the whole world.

Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34 NIV

5 min

Large Group Opener

5 min

OPENER

What You Need

 Kid volunteers	6
 Red and Blue paper	Several
 Hula Hoops	4
 Family, Friends, School, and World printouts, "Send It Prints" from the Large Group Visuals below) or (optional) write your own on pieces of paper.	1
 Floor tape	1
 Tape	1
 Timer	1

HOST: "Hey, everyone! Welcome to another awesome day here at [environment name]. I'm so glad you're here! Go ahead and give someone near you a fist bump and say, 'I'm glad you're here!'"

"This month, we're diving into a brand-new series about how much God loves us, and how we can share that love with everyone we meet. It's called 'Like and Subscribe'—because when you come across a really cool channel or video, you don't want to miss it ... and you want to let other people know all about it too!"

"Think about how easy it is to share stuff online, a video, a picture, even a meme, with just one tap. Online and in our day-to-day lives, we can start living in and sharing Jesus' love! The love that makes people feel seen, valued, and cared for.

"Today's Bottom Line says it all.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "God loves the whole world."

"And that means God's love isn't just for us, it's for everyone! That means God's love isn't limited! Not to one group, one country, one family, or one person. He loves everyone.

SLIDE: Send It!

"We're going to start with a game that's all about spreading messages of love and encouragement, kind of like sending out a good post or positive comment, but way cooler. We're going to send it by plane.

"How many of you know how to make a paper airplane? If you don't, here's how.

Give a quick folding demo or call up one confident volunteer to demonstrate a simple plane.

"There we go! Okay, I need six volunteers to come up here and make paper airplanes. If you'd like to volunteer, raise your hand!

Choose six kids from the kids who have their hands raised, and instruct them to come up on stage with you.

"All right, let's split into two teams. Team Red and Team Blue!

Split the kids into two teams. Place each team equidistant from the labeled Hula Hoops®. Give one team the stack of red paper, and the other a stack of blue paper.

"If you've got red paper, you're Team Red; blue paper, you're Team Blue."

"Here's how 'Send It!' works: You'll have three minutes on the clock. During that time, your team will fold and launch as many paper airplanes as you can toward the zones up front. Your goal? Get as many planes as possible to land in one of the four zones: Family, Friends, School, or World."

"Each of those zones represents a part of our lives where we can share God's love. Maybe that's how you treat your family, how you talk to your friends, how you act at school, or how you care for the world around you."

"So think of it like this, every plane you send represents love in action!"

"Once the timer starts, make and launch those planes! You can make as many as you want, just fold fast and throw carefully. Our leaders will also help bring back in stray planes that didn't make it in the zones so you have more to throw.

"Here's how we'll score it: at the end of the timer, we'll count how many red and blue planes landed in any zone. The team with the most planes inside the zones wins bragging rights!"

"Everybody ready? 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... GO!"

AUDIO: Fun, upbeat music

Start the timer and start the game. Count the planes in the zones to determine a winner. If time allows, play more rounds.

"You know, it's fun to see how far those paper planes can go, some didn't even hit the target, but others made it all the way to the 'World' zone. And that's kind of like God's love!

"When we share love, kindness, and truth, we never know how far it will go or who it will reach. That's what Jesus showed us—God's love doesn't stay in one place. It keeps moving, reaching, and changing people all over the world."

Note: We've suggested worship songs below from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.

13 min

Worship

3 min

OPTION 1 (Amazing Music)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

3 min

OPTION 2 (Orange Kids Music)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted below, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store.thinkorange.com or for free with APlay.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, everyone! Let's go ahead and stand up! You know, this month we're talking about sharing God's love with the world, and when you've experienced that kind of love, you *can't contain it!* This song reminds us that God's love fills us up so much that it overflows into everything we do. So let's focus on God and His love for us today. Let me hear you sing!

SONG: "Need Your Love" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

"Let's keep it going with another song that's all about what happens when we *live* that love out loud. When we follow Jesus, we can live in a way that shows His love everywhere—at home, at school, with our friends, and even to people we don't know yet.

SONG: "Jesus We Love You" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

SONG: "How He Loves" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, everyone! Let's go ahead and stand up! You know, this month we're talking about sharing God's love with the world, and when you've experienced that kind of love, you *can't contain it!* This song reminds us that God's love fills us up so much that it overflows into everything we do. So let's focus on God and His love for us today. Let me hear you sing!

SONG: "Can't Contain It" from Live It Out available on store.thinkorange.com

"Let's keep it going with another song that's all about what happens when we *live* that love out loud. When we follow Jesus, we can live in a way that shows His love everywhere—at home, at school, with our friends, and even to people we don't know yet.

SONG: "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop available on store.thinkorange.com

5 min

Memory Verse

What You Need

No supplies needed

2 min

Worship Closer

What You Need

No supplies needed

12 min

Bible Story (Video)

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

28 min

Bible Story (Live)

"This whole month, we're learning how to *share the love of Jesus* with the people around us. When we understand how much God loves us, it changes the way we treat others, talk to others, and live every single day."

This month's Memory Verse is John 13:34! I'll read it, and then we can say it together.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you" — John 13:34.

"Let's say it together!"

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you" — John 13:34.*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Great job, everyone! This verse reminds us that Jesus didn't just tell us to love people, He *showed* us how. He gave His time, His compassion, and ultimately His life because of how much He loves us.

"That's what today's true story from the Bible is all about. We're going to meet a man named Nicodemus who had a conversation with Jesus that helped him understand just how big God's love really is."

3 min

INTRODUCTION

What You Need

👤 Bible	1
👤 Table	1
👤 Birthday party props (birthday hat, a present, cupcake and candles, confetti)	1
👤 Container to hold birthday party props	1
👤 Kid Volunteer (to be the "birthday kid")	1
👤 Large whiteboard and dry-erase marker (or posterboard and marker)	1

5 min

TENSION

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "You know what I've always loved? Birthdays! I'm pretty sure I know the answer, but just in case, let me ask, who here likes birthdays? (*Pause for responses.*) Yeah, of course! Who likes birthday parties? (*Pause for responses.*) Cake, games, presents—it's the best!

"Let me tell you about a birthday party I had as a kid.

Share an age-appropriate personal story of a birthday you had as a kid.

"You know what I realized the very next day? It was over. Just like that. No more cake, no more presents, and I had to wait a whole year for it to come around again. Such a bummer, right?"

"Birthdays are great because they remind us of the day we were born. But here's something to think about: What if you could actually start over? Not just a new year or a clean slate, but a completely *new beginning*?

"Because sometimes, even when we're trying our best to do what's right, something can still feel off. You might follow the rules, go to church, try to be kind, and still wonder, '*Is this really what it means to know and follow God?*'

"That's where we find a man named Nicodemus in our true story from the Bible today. He did everything right on the outside, but there was something missing on the inside. Then one night, he met Jesus, and Jesus told him something that sounded totally impossible.

"But let me pause on all of that really quickly. Before we dive into our true story from the Bible, let me tell you about something amazing we're doing this year! We're going through the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

"Why are we going through the Bible? Is it because we really want to learn more about the Bible? Well, not exactly. Part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we can learn about Him. He could have kept who He is a secret from us—a big mystery of the universe. But He didn't! He wants us to know Him, so He gave us the Bible. So as we go through the Bible this year, our hope is that we'll learn about Him!"

COMMUNICATOR: "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

TRUTH

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

"Some time after God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they asked for a king like the other nations around them. God gave them a king, and then many more kings (and one queen) followed. Sadly, after a long time of turning away from Him, God allowed His nation to be split in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!!"

COMMUNICATOR: "Now, we're at the part of the Bible when Jesus lived on earth. He had lots of conversations, and today we're going to look at one. Let's pick up on that conversation Jesus had with Nicodemus.

"As we look at that conversation, I'm going to need your help. Remember all of that birthday stuff we talked about earlier? It will come into play in our story. So I need to make something official. I need one volunteer

What You Need

 Bible	1
 Table	1
 Birthday party props (birthday hat, Several a present, cupcake and candles, confetti)	
 Container to hold birthday party props	1
 Kid Volunteer (to be the "birthday kid")	1
 Large whiteboard and dry-erase marker (or posterboard and marker)	1

to come up and help me out. You're going to be our birthday king (or queen)!

"Who wants to volunteer to be our birthday king or queen? Raise your hand.

Choose a volunteer from the kids whose hands are raised. Invite them to come on stage with you. Give them the birthday party hat to wear.

"Birthdays are about the day we were born. We celebrate them. But here's the thing: you can only be born one time, right? There's only one day you were born, don't you think?"

"But in Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus, He talked about being born again. Sounds strange, right? That's exactly how Nicodemus felt. And that's why I need you, birthday king (or queen)! Let's dive into this strange conversation together.

"So, Nicodemus was a Pharisee—that means he was a religious leader who studied all the laws of God. He followed every rule. He tried his best to be perfect. But he could tell that something was different about Jesus. So, one night, Nicodemus went to find Jesus! This is how their conversation went.

"Nicodemus said:

Open the Bible to John 3:2-4 (NIRV) and read.

"Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. We know that God is with you. If he weren't, you couldn't do the signs you are doing."

Jesus replied, "What I'm about to tell you is true. No one can see God's kingdom unless they are born again."

"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "They can't go back inside their mother! They can't be born a second time!"

"Nicodemus was like, 'Wait ... what? Born again? How can someone be born when they're old?' He was completely confused, and honestly, who wouldn't be?"

"Jesus wasn't talking about being born physically again. He was talking about a brand-new kind of life, the kind that starts when we believe in Him.

"Let me write some things down here that might help us as we look at this conversation. I'm going to write two columns: Born and Born Again. We're going to look at these two ideas during our conversation, just like Nicodemus and Jesus did!

Draw two columns on a whiteboard (or posterboard) with these titles: "Born" and "Born Again."

"After Nicodemus asked about being born again, Jesus answered this way:

Open the Bible to John 3:5-7 (NIRV) and read.

"What I'm about to tell you is true. No one can enter God's kingdom unless they are born with water and the Holy Spirit. People give birth to people. But the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised when I say, 'You must all be born again.'"

"Since Jesus mentioned being 'born again,' I'm going to give you another birthday prop, birthday king (or queen)!

Give another birthday prop to the birthday king (or queen) to wear or hold. Cheer and lead the audience to cheer.

"Okay, this is what Jesus was explaining to Nicodemus. He was saying, 'You've already been born once, physically, but there's another kind of birth that happens when God changes your heart.'

"Let's break this down together.

Write "Physical Birth" under Born.

"When you're born, that's your *physical birth*. **That's the moment you were birthed into the world.** You got your name, your fingerprints, your personality, all of that came with your physical birth.

Write "Spiritual Birth" under Born Again.

Give another birthday prop to the birthday king (or queen). Cheer and lead the audience to cheer.

"But when you're born again, it's not about your body, it's about your *spirit*. When you are born again is when you accept that Jesus paid for your sins on the cross, and His very Holy Spirit comes to live inside of you.

"God's Spirit gives you a new life inside. You find that you start to care about what God cares about. You start to want what He wants for you.

Write: "Start counting time under your earthly life" under Born.

"When you were born, we began counting your earthly life. You're a week old, you're a month old, you're a year old!

Write "God gives you new life" under Born Again.

Give a birthday prop to the birthday king (or queen). Cheer and lead the audience to cheer.

"But when you're born again, *God gives you new life*. That's a life that's filled with His love and power. It's not about being perfect, it's about letting God change you from the inside."

Write "You grow older: under Born.

"When you were born, you were a tiny little baby, but look at you now, you are *growing older!* That's just part of being human—you learn, you change, you get taller, you eventually become a grown-up, all the fun stuff."

Write "You grow closer to Jesus" under Born. Give a birthday prop to the birthday king (or queen). Cheer and lead the audience to cheer.

"When you're born again, you *grow closer to Jesus*. Instead of just getting older, you're actually becoming more like Jesus—kinder, more patient, more loving, more like the person God designed you to be.

5 min

APPLICATION**What You Need**

No supplies needed

Jesus' very Spirit lives inside of you and He will help you become more like Jesus!

Point to or write "Temporary life" under Born.

"We all came into this world and have a birthday, and we keep growing, but it's a *temporary life*. We all know that one day, our time here on earth will end."

Write "Eternal life" under Born Again. Give a birthday prop and sing "Happy Birthday" to the volunteer. Invite the kids to join in the singing. Cheer and lead the audience to cheer.

"But when you're born again, you're given *eternal life*. That means life forever with God! Not just later in heaven, but starting right now. Your friendship with God, which will last forever, starts right at that moment! Eternal life is a new kind of life that begins the moment you say 'yes' to Jesus.

"Do you see how I explained the difference between 'Born' and 'Born Again' on this chart?

Go over the chart as much as you feel is necessary. Then, continue.

"So, Jesus wasn't just saying, 'Try harder' or 'Follow the rules better' to Nicodemus. He was saying, 'You need a new kind of life, one that only God can give.' And that's what it means to be born again."

"Well, wow, happy birthday to our volunteer!! My goodness! They just got to have the best birthday ever today! Thank you for helping us out. You can have a seat."

COMMUNICATOR: "When Jesus talked with Nicodemus that night, He wasn't just teaching him something to memorize, He was offering him a completely new life. Nicodemus thought that knowing *about* God was enough. But Jesus wanted him to *know* God personally. He wanted Nicodemus to understand that being born again means letting God's Spirit make you new from the inside out.

"And that same offer is for us too! We all have an opportunity to be born again, to be born from above. I don't know about you, but I don't want to live in darkness. I want to live in the light! Jesus came so we could have *light* and *life*. So that we could be born again.

"One of the most iconic verses in the Bible, the one so many of us know, comes right after this moment between Jesus and Nicodemus. The apostle John wrote:

Open the Bible to John 3:16 (NIRV) and read.

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

"That's the good news—the best news! God loves the *whole world*, and that includes you. No matter what you've done, where you've been, or how many times you've messed up, God's love is still reaching for you. You don't have to be perfect. You don't have to have it all together. You just have to realize ... *I need Jesus*.

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

"When you say 'yes' to Jesus, when you believe that He died for your sins and rose again, something brand-new starts inside of you. You're born again. You're given new life. Jesus' very Spirit comes to live inside of you. And if you haven't made that decision yet, you can. Today.

"You can simply talk to God like this: 'Jesus, I believe in You. I believe You died for me and took my place. I believe You rose back to life. I know I'm a sinner, please forgive me of my sins. I want to be born again. I want to follow You with my whole life. I love You, and I pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.'"

"And if you want to talk more about that—about what it means to follow Jesus—you can always come talk to me, or to one of your small group leaders, or even your parents. We'd love to talk with you and pray with you."

COMMUNICATOR: "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' Jesus Himself came to teach us about God's great love! God loves us so, so much!

"This week, we talked about a conversation Jesus had at night with a man named Nicodemus! Nicodemus had big, big questions about God, and that's exactly why Jesus came—to teach us who God is. When Jesus lived on Earth, He did just what God would do, and He said exactly what God would say, because He is God. That's one of the reasons why God spent years and years and years working on His plan to send Jesus! This entire timeline of God's Big Story shows how God faithfully worked over thousands of years to send Jesus! (*Gesture to timeline.*) Jesus was the key point of God's Big Story. And as Jesus went around showing us what God is like, He lived a completely perfect life. He never sinned. Then Jesus gave up that perfect, sinless life to pay for our sins and break the curse we were under so we could be close to God again. Jesus, the Rescuer—because of His great, great love—gave His life to rescue us all!

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!

SLIDE: Week 1 Timeline Image

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's Timeline Image on the clothesline.

"This week we learned about Jesus and His conversation with Nicodemus!"

8 min

Closing

5 min

LANDING

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "This whole conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus shows us lots of things that are incredible—one is Jesus' description of being born again.

"When Jesus was explaining what it means to be born again, He was describing the kind of new life that only God can give, one filled with His Spirit, one that starts a friendship with Him. So, when you say yes to Jesus, you're not just believing in Him; you're choosing to start fresh. You're stepping into a new life where His Spirit fills you and His light can shine through you.

"And something else amazing that came out of that conversation. This offer of a new start is for the whole world! Anyone can experience it. God's love is for *everyone*. For Nicodemus. For me. For you. For your friends at school. For people who live on the other side of the world. For every single person, in every single place.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"That's our Bottom Line for today: **[Bottom Line] God loves the whole world.**

"And because God loves the whole world, we get to share it wherever we go.

"The first step to sharing that love with other people is living in it yourself. God's love and goodness will fill your heart, and then it will spill out onto other people.

"Before we head to small groups, I want to leave you with one last question to think about that's about living in God's love.

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

[Conversation Starter] "Where have you seen God's love?"

"Recognizing ways you've seen God's love will help you do those things yourself. It can help you see God and give you ideas on how to share His love!

"Maybe someone forgave you when you did something wrong against them, and you can know that other people see God's love when you show forgiveness to someone.

"Maybe you saw God's love when someone helped you, and you can know that other people see God's love when you help someone.

3 min

PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

"One of the key parts of following God is living in His love so much that you spread it. You've been forgiven so much that you forgive. You've been given grace so much that you give grace. We're just spreading what we received from God! We'll talk about that more in our Small Groups.

"So, think about that as you head to Small Group. 'Where have you seen God's love?'

"What are those specific moments or experiences that helped you see God's love more clearly?"

COMMUNICATOR: "Let's talk to the God who loves you so much He gave His life to be close to you.

"God, thank You so much for loving the whole world, and for loving us. Thank You for sending Jesus to show us what real love looks like. We're so grateful that You give us the chance to be born again, to start new, to live in Your light, and to walk in Your love every single day. Help us see Your love this week, in the people around us, in the ways You take care of us, and in the opportunities You give us to help others. And when we see it, help us share it. We love You, and we thank You for always being with us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

Supplies

OPENER	Quantity
1. Kid volunteers	6
2. Red and Blue paper	Several
3. Hula Hoops	4
4. Family, Friends, School, and World printouts, "Send It Prints" from the Large Group Visuals below) or (optional) write your own on pieces of paper.	1
5. Floor tape	1
6. Tape	1
7. Timer	1

INTRODUCTION	Quantity
1. Bible	1
2. Table	1
3. Birthday party props (birthday hat, a present. cupcake and candles, confetti)	1
4. Container to hold birthday party props	1
5. Kid Volunteer (to be the "birthday kid")	1
6. Large whiteboard and dry-erase marker (or posterboard and marker)	1

TRUTH	Quantity
1. Bible	1
2. Table	1
3. Birthday party props (birthday hat, a present. cupcake and candles, confetti)	Several
4. Container to hold birthday party props	1
5. Kid Volunteer (to be the "birthday kid")	1
6. Large whiteboard and dry-erase marker (or posterboard and marker)	1

WEEK

TWO

Preteen | W2

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener

Worship

Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review

Application Activity

Memory Verse Activity

Prayer Activity

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

The Most Important Commandment • *Matthew 22:34-40*

Bottom Line

Love God. Love others.

Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34 NIV

Conversation Starter

How have others shown love to you?

5 min

Large Group Opener

5 min

OPENER

What You Need

-  Timer 1
-  Judges for the game 3

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

Things to have ready: Timer (or smartphone or watch or countdown). Predetermined judges ready to judge teams. Slides loaded for game

HOST: "Hey, everyone! Welcome to another awesome day here at [environment name]! I'm so glad you're here. Turn to someone next to you, give them a high five, and say, *'I'm glad you are here!'*"

"This month, we're continuing our series 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus.' When you're watching someone online that's awesome, you 'like' it, and you 'subscribe' to it because you don't want to miss one episode of awesomeness! And you also share it because you want your friends and family to experience it too!"

"This month we're talking about the great, great love of God! That's definitely something you don't want to miss an ounce of, and you definitely want to share it!"

"Today, we're going to see what Jesus said matters most: loving God with everything we are, and loving the people around us. Because real love changes how we treat people, how we speak, and how we work together."

"Today's Bottom Line says it all.
SLIDE: Bottom Line

"We can love God with all our hearts, and love others! This love is for everyone. It's for your family, your friends, the people you like, and even the ones you don't always get along with. Because when we share God's love, we show others how much God loves them too."

"Now, before we dive into our true story from the Bible today, we're going to play a game that's all about teamwork and creativity. You're going to work together with your small group to make some awesome shapes. Did you hear that? Work together!! I want to see creativity and teamwork!"

"We are going to play a game called, 'Shape It Out!'"

SLIDE: Shape It Out! Title

HOST: "Here's how it's going to work. You'll work with your small groups for this game! We'll also have a few leaders who will be our official judges. Wave 'hi,' judges! *(Pause as the two pre-selected judges wave.)*"

"When a picture pops up on the screen, your group has sixty seconds to work together and use your bodies to make that shape. When the timer ends, everyone freezes, and our judges will come around to check out your creations and pick the winners."

"Sound good? Awesome!"

If you don't have space for this game to be played by every kid, choose 10 kids or so to play the game. Arrange them in two groups of 5.

"Okay, teams, get ready! You'll have to think fast and move together to make these shapes. Remember, think teamwork, communication, and creativity!"

"Here we go! First shape coming up ..."

SLIDE: Shape It Out! 1 (heart)

AUDIO: Upbeat music

Start the timer and the music, and start the game. Kids work together to form the shape.

HOST: "Nice teamwork! Look at those hearts! Ten seconds left, freeze in place when I say freeze!"

"Freeze! Great job, everyone! Okay, let's see who our judges think made the best shape!"

Ask the predetermined judges which group made the best shape.

"Let's try another one!"

SLIDE: Shape It Out! 2 (church building)

AUDIO: Upbeat music

Start the timer and the music, and start the game. Kids work together to form the shape.

HOST: "Nice teamwork! Great church buildings, you guys! Ten seconds left, freeze in place when I say freeze!"

"Freeze! Great job, everyone! Okay, let's see who our judges think made the best shape!"

Ask the predetermined judges which group made the best shape.

HOST: "That was awesome! You guys are seriously talented. Okay, one more round!"

SLIDE: Shape It Out 3 (smiley face)

AUDIO: Upbeat music

Start the timer and the music, and start the game. Kids work together to form the shape.

HOST: "Nice teamwork! I feel so happy from those smiley faces! Ten seconds left, freeze in place when I say freeze!"

"Freeze! Great job, everyone! Okay, let's see who our judges think made the best shape!"

Ask the predetermined judges which group made the best shape.

If time allows, you can do more rounds. Here are some additional shape ideas: phone, the word "love," cross.

Optional Slide: Shape It Out 4 (phone)

Optional Slide: Shape It Out 5 (the word "love")

Optional Slide: Shape It Out 6 (cross)

HOST: "Give it up for all our teams! You did an amazing job. You worked together, encouraged each other, and created something awesome!"

"Today, we're learning that Jesus told people that the most important thing we can do is love God and love others. When we do that, we're showing the world what God's love looks like."

11 min

Worship

Note: We've suggested worship songs below from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.

We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted below, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store.thinkorange.com or for free with APlay.

3 min

OPTION 1 (Amazing Music)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

3 min

OPTION 2 (Orange Kids Music)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

5 min

Memory Verse

WORSHIP LEADER: "Today, we're going to start with a song that celebrates what happens when we experience God's love for real. It's a love so powerful that you just *can't contain it!* Let's sing this together and show God how thankful we are for His love. When we really understand how much God loves us, it changes how we treat others. We don't just keep that love to ourselves; we share it. Because that's what Jesus told us to do: love God and love others.

SONG: "Need Your Love" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

"When we love God and love others, we shine His light everywhere we go. Let's keep worshipping with this one! His light shines through us, at school, at home, with our friends, everywhere. You can make a difference just by showing love the way Jesus did.

SONG: "Jesus We Love You" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

SONG: "How He Loves" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Today, we're going to start with a song that celebrates what happens when we experience God's love for real. It's a love so powerful that you just *can't contain it!* Let's sing this together and show God how thankful we are for His love. When we really understand how much God loves us, it changes how we treat others. We don't just keep that love to ourselves; we share it. Because that's what Jesus told us to do: love God and love others.

SONG: "Can't Contain It" from Live It Out available on store.thinkorange.com

"When we love God and love others, we shine His light everywhere we go. Let's keep worshipping with this one! His light shines through us, at school, at home, with our friends, everywhere. You can make a difference just by showing love the way Jesus did.

SONG: "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop available on store.thinkorange.com

"Let's take a moment to look at our Memory Verse for this month. It reminds us exactly what Jesus told His followers about love. Jesus didn't just suggest that we love each other, He *commanded* it. He wanted His followers—and that includes us—to show the world what His love looks

What You Need

No supplies needed

12 min

Bible Story (Video)

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

28 min

Bible Story (Live)

like. The way we treat people, the way we forgive, the way we serve, it all points back to Him.

"This month's Memory Verse is John 13:34! Jesus said these words to us! I'll read them, and then we can say them together.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you' — John 13:34.

"Let's say it together!

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you' — John 13:34.*

"Keep this verse in your heart this week. Maybe write it somewhere you'll see it, or set a reminder on your phone to read it once a day. Every time you do, ask God to help you love like He does.

3 min

INTRODUCTION

What You Need

No supplies needed

Make sure the table is set on stage so the Storyteller can place their Bible on it and read from it. Set the three scrolls on the table.

5 min

TENSION

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "Alright, by a show of hands, does anyone have rules they have to follow in their life? (*Take some responses of rules.*)

"We all have rules to follow. Do you like those rules? (*Pause for responses, they'll probably be negative.*) Ha ha, for sure! Some rules feel like they are so hard to follow!

"At home, maybe it's: 'Make your bed,' 'Don't leave dishes in the sink,' 'No video games after 9 p.m.'

"At school, it might be: 'Raise your hand before talking,' 'No running in the halls,' or 'Stay in your seat.'

"Now, rules aren't bad. They actually help keep things safe and fair. But sometimes, it can feel like there are just too many to remember, right? You might actually want to do the right thing, but you're not always sure what matters most, it can start getting overwhelming!

"And that's not just a you thing—people have been asking that question for thousands of years. In fact, when Jesus was teaching, people asked Him that exact question: 'What's the most important thing to God?' We read so much and see all these rules, well, which one is the most important?

"Before we get into how Jesus answered, let me tell you about something awesome we're doing this year! We're going through the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

"Why are we going through the Bible? Is it because we really want to learn more about the Bible? Well, not exactly. Part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we can learn about Him. He could have kept who He is a secret from us, a big mystery of the universe. But He didn't! He wants us to know Him, so He gave us the Bible. So as we go through the Bible this year, our hope is that we'll learn about Him!"

COMMUNICATOR: "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

5 min

TRUTH

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

"After God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they disobeyed God—again and again and again. Even the kings God gave them rebelled! So, God split the nation in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!"

COMMUNICATOR: "We're picking up in our story from the Bible. We are at the point in the Bible when Jesus was on earth. Jesus came to earth to show us who God is! Like we talked about earlier, we have a lot of rules to keep up with, and in Jesus' time, there were a lot of laws too.

"Back in Jesus' time. God's people had hundreds of laws they tried to follow—rules about food, clothes, cleaning, and even what kind of seeds to plant! These weren't random rules; they were part of God's Law. But after a while, it all started to feel like ... a lot.

Begin unrolling the longest scroll slowly.

"But here weren't just ten commandments like we sometimes think, there were six hundred and thirteen!"

Unroll the scroll dramatically so it hangs toward the floor.

"Let's check out just a few of the laws that were part of this long, long list."

COMMUNICATOR:

Open the Bible to Leviticus 19:19 (NirV) and read.

"Do not mix two kinds of seeds and then plant them in your field.

"Do not wear clothes that are made out of two kinds of cloth.

What You Need

 Bible	1
 Table	1
 6-8 kids to help put cards on the line	6
 Clothesline (twine or string), long enough to hold the 30 index cards	1
 Index Cards	30
 Two stands or chairs or tables to hold up the clothesline (the clothesline should be short enough for kids to reach, and tall enough for the Storyteller to hold up)	2
 Clothespins	40
 "Love God" and "Love Others" written on 11 x 17-inch paper	1
 Box (to hold clothespins)	1

"So if you were growing crops, one field could only have one kind of seed. And you couldn't wear a shirt made from cotton and linen. Nope! One kind of fabric only."

"Here's another one:

Open the Bible to Leviticus 11:10 (NirV) and read.

"Treat as "unclean" all the creatures in the oceans or streams that do not have fins and scales. That includes all those that move together in groups and all those that do not."

"So ... no shrimp. No lobster. No catfish—they have fins, but they don't have scales. Sorry!"

"And here's another one:

Open the Bible to Leviticus 11:19 (NirV) and read.

"They also include storks, hoopoes, bats and all kinds of herons."

"That's part of a long list of animals you were *not* allowed to eat. And yes, that includes bats. Which, honestly, I'm okay with."

"And here's one more:

Open the Bible to Leviticus 11:7 (NirV) and read.

"Pigs have hooves that are separated completely in two. But they do not chew the cud. So they are "unclean" for you."

"No bacon. No ham. No pork chops. Ever."

COMMUNICATOR: "These are just some of the rules! There were so many more. Can you imagine keeping track of all that?! Can you imagine trying to follow all that every day? So someone asked Jesus about which law mattered most.

"The person who asked Jesus was actually trying to trap Jesus into saying which law was the most important. But, the man's question can still teach us today.

Open the Bible to Matthew 22:36 (NirV) and read.

"Teacher," he asked, "which is the most important commandment in the Law?"

"That was a tricky question. Because if Jesus picked one law, people who liked another might argue He was wrong. But Jesus didn't even hesitate. He gave an answer that changed everything.

Open up the "Love God" scroll. Show the writing to the audience.

Open the Bible to Matthew 22:37-38 (NirV) and read.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and most important commandment."

"Jesus said the first and most important commandment is this: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. Jesus was saying everything starts here, with loving God first. When we love Him with all that we are, our hearts want to follow Him."

Open up the "Love others" scroll. Show the writing to the audience.

Open the Bible to Matthew 22:39-40 (NirV) and read.

"And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.' Everything that is written in the Law and the Prophets is based on these two commandments."

"In other words, Jesus took hundreds of rules and summed them up in two: love God, love others."

5 min

APPLICATION

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

8 min

Closing

5 min

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "Think about what that means. The people listening to Jesus had been trying for centuries to remember and obey hundreds of laws. But Jesus made it simple. If you love God first, if you're focused on knowing Him, trusting Him, talking to Him, your life will naturally show His love."

"And if you love others the way God loves you, you'll do what every other command was pointing toward all along. You'll be kind. You'll forgive. You'll help. You'll serve. You'll treat people the way you'd want to be treated. Loving God leads to loving others. And loving others shows how deeply you love God. The two always go together."

COMMUNICATOR: "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!"

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' Jesus Himself came to teach us about who God is!"

"This week, Jesus Himself taught us what the most important things are. And He would know, since He is God! God wants us to know what's right and true, so He sent Jesus to earth to come and tell us. We don't have to wonder what the most important things are because God told us! Then, not only did Jesus tell us the most important commandments to keep—the ones that sum up all of the other laws—He kept every single law. It's like Jesus said: 'When you mess up, know that I've done it all for you! You don't have to lose heart!' Jesus lived an absolutely perfect life, following all of those laws, and then He gave up His life as the perfect sacrifice. He paid for our sins. He broke that awful curse. He loves us so, so much that He rescued us all!"

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!"

SLIDE: Week 2 Timeline Image

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's Timeline Image on the clothesline.

"This week Jesus taught us what the greatest commandments are!"

COMMUNICATOR: "So if you ever wonder, 'What does God want from me?' Remember this moment. You don't have to keep track of 613 laws to stay close to Him. Jesus already made it clear."

What You Need

No supplies needed

3 min

PRAYER**What You Need**

No supplies needed

Hold up the two scrolls—the “Love God” and “Love others” scrolls. Show the kids the writing. (Be sure you are holding them up in the correct order.)

[Bottom Line] “Love God. Love others.”

“When you do those two things, you’re living the way God designed you to live. You’re showing the world what His love looks like. That’s how we share the love of Jesus.

“Before we head to small groups, I want to leave you with one last question to think about.”

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

[Conversation Starter] “How have others shown love to you?”

“Maybe it was when someone forgave you after you messed up. Maybe it was when someone listened to you, encouraged you, or helped you when you needed it most. Maybe it was when someone prayed for you, included you, or showed up when you didn’t expect them to.”

“However it happened, that moment was a reminder that God’s love is real, and that He shows His love through the people around us. And that’s a little key to help you see how you can show God’s love to others this week.

“So think about that as you head to small group today. How have others shown love to you? What are some of those specific moments or experiences that helped you see God’s love more clearly? And how could remembering those moments help you share God’s love with others this week?”

COMMUNICATOR: “Let’s pray.”

“God, thank You for loving us first. Thank You for sending Jesus to show us what perfect love looks like. Help us to love You with all our heart, soul, and mind, and to love others the way You love us. Give us the courage to show kindness, forgiveness, and compassion even when it’s hard. We want to live the way Jesus taught us to. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

Supplies

OPENER	Quantity
1. Timer	1
2. Judges for the game	3

TRUTH	Quantity
1. Bible	1
2. Table	1
3. 6-8 kids to help put cards on the line	6
4. Clothesline (twine or string), long enough to hold the 30 index cards	1
5. Index Cards	30
6. Two stands or chairs or tables to hold up the clothesline (the clothesline should be short enough for kids to reach, and tall enough for the Storyteller to hold up)	2
7. Clothespins	40
8. "Love God" and "Love Others" written on 11 x 17-inch paper	1
9. Box (to hold clothespins)	1

WEEK

THREE

Preteen | W3

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener

Worship

Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are included as optional)

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Like It or Not (K-1st grade), Unbox the Story (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension (4th-5th Grade)

Application Activity: Change for the Better Hanger (K-1st grade),

Respond with Love (2nd-3rd grade),

Take a Snapshot (4th-5th Grade)

Memory Verse Activity: Voice the Verse (K-1st grade), Draw the Verse (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (4th-5th Grade)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

Bottom Line

The love of Jesus changes people.

Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34 NIV

5 min

Large Group Opener

5 min

OPENER

What You Need

No supplies needed

HOST: "Hey, everyone! Welcome back to another awesome week here at [environment name]! It's great to see you. Find three people you don't know and give them a high-five and tell them your name. *(Pause as the kids mingle and introduce themselves.)*

"Great job!

"This month, we've been talking about our series called 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus' because when you see something awesome online, you like it and subscribe to it because you don't want to miss a minute of awesomeness. And you want to share that awesomeness with your friends and family too!

"This month we're talking about the love of God! That's definitely not something you want to miss a second of! And you so want to share it! "We're learning that when we experience God's love, it doesn't just stop with us—it spreads, like a chain reaction to others."

"And speaking of chain reactions, I've got a game that's going to show us exactly how that works. It's called 'Domino Effect!'"

SLIDE: Domino Effect Title

HOST: "Here's how it works. I need three teams, each with two players." "Each team will get a set of dominoes, and two minutes on the clock. Your mission? Build the best domino chain you can. A domino chain is a line of dominoes just enough apart so that when one falls, it triggers the next one to fall, and the next one, and so on. When time's up, we'll see which team's dominoes all fall successfully!"

"You can make your domino chain as long, curvy, or creative as you want—but remember, if one domino doesn't line up, the chain won't work! And no testing before time's up!"

"I need six volunteers—three teams of two kids. If you want to volunteer, raise your hand!"

Choose six volunteers from the kids who have their hands raised. Invite them to come to the front with you. Create teams of two, and assign them to a table.

"Everybody got it? Okay, two minutes on the clock. Teams ready? Here we go in 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... GO!"

AUDIO: Upbeat instrumental music

COUNTDOWN (optional): Two-minute countdown on screen

Encourage teams with comments like, "Nice job, Team 1! I like that curve! Team 2, you're doing great, careful with those corners! Team 3, you've got a good straight line going!"

"One minute left! Make those final connections—you want every domino to be ready!"

"Time's up! Builders, hands off your dominoes! Everyone, freeze!"

Move to Team 1.

11 min

Worship

3 min

OPTION 1 (Amazing Music)

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Alright, let's see what you've got as you knock those dominoes over. Ready? 3 ... 2 ... 1... go!"

Team 1 triggers their chain reaction.

"Nice job! Let's see if Team 2 can top that."

Repeat with Team 2 and Team 3.

If time allows, do another round with three new teams of two kids.

HOST: "Great work, teams! You can head back to your spots. Let's give all our domino builders a big round of applause! You know, it only takes one domino to start a chain reaction. Just one small push, and everything else starts moving. That's exactly how God's love works. When Jesus shows love to one person, it doesn't stop there. It changes that person, and then they show love to someone else, and it keeps going."

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"Today's Bottom Line says it perfectly: **[Bottom Line] The love of Jesus changes people.** And once we experience that love, it can create a chain reaction that changes the world. In our true story from the Bible today, we'll meet a man named Zacchaeus—someone who was totally changed because of Jesus' love.

Note: We've suggested worship songs below from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.

We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted below, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store.thinkorange.com or for free with APlay.

WORSHIP LEADER: "God's love is just so big! And one act of love can lead to another, and another, and another. God's love never stops spreading!"

"So let's stand up and worship God—His love changes us from the inside out. Our first song celebrates how much we and everyone else needs God's love.

SONG: "Need Your Love" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

"Let's sing about how much we love Jesus and how much He loves us!"

SONG: "Jesus We Love You" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

SONG: "How He Loves" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

3 min

OPTION 2 (Orange Kids Music)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

5 min

Memory Verse**What You Need**

No supplies needed

12 min

**Bible Story
(Video)**

WORSHIP LEADER: "God's love is just so big! And one act of love can lead to another, and another, and another. God's love never stops spreading!"

"So let's stand up and worship God—His love changes us from the inside out. Our first song celebrates the kind of love we can't keep to ourselves. Once we've experienced God's love, we can't contain it!"

SONG: "Can't Contain It" from *Live It Out* available on store.thinkorange.com

"Our next song reminds us what happens after we've experienced God's love; it doesn't just stay inside us. It moves us to live differently. When we choose to show kindness, to forgive, or to care for someone who's hurting, we're living out God's love. This song is all about putting that love into action, every day, everywhere we go. Let's sing 'Live Your Love' together and celebrate how Jesus' love changes us!"

SONG: "Live Your Love" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop* available on store.thinkorange.com

"Let's take a moment to look at our Memory Verse for this month. It's such a good reminder that love isn't just a feeling, it's something we do. When Jesus talked about love, He wasn't talking about liking people who are easy to get along with. He was talking about a love that makes a difference. A love that changes hearts, changes relationships, and even changes the world. I'll read it first, and then we'll say it together."

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." —John 13:34"

"Let's say it together!"

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." —John 13:34"*

"Keep this verse in your heart this week. Maybe write it somewhere you'll see it, or set a reminder on your phone to read it once a day. Every time you do, ask God to help you love like He does."

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

28 min

Bible Story (Live)

3 min

INTRODUCTION

What You Need

No supplies needed

Make sure the table is set on stage so the Storyteller can place their Bible on it and read from it. On the table, also place three glass cups on a tray with tent cards labeled "Sin," "Zacchaeus," and "Jesus' Love." Each glass is half full of liquid: "Sin" contains dark-colored water tinted with liquid iodine, "Zacchaeus" has clear water, and "Jesus's Love" contains diluted bleach. Place a small spoon or dropper nearby.

5 min

TENSION

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "Hey, everyone, I want you to think about something. How hard is it to really change? Like, we can change small stuff all the time—our clothes, our hairstyle, what game we play—there's some easy stuff out there to change. Turn and talk about some things that are easy to change. *(Pause as the kids turn and talk to each other.)*

"Yeah, some change is easy to make. But real change? The kind that starts inside? That's a lot tougher.

"Maybe you've tried before. You wanted to stop saying mean things or quit losing your temper so quickly. You made a plan. You tried harder. But somehow, you still ended up right back where you started.

"It's the same for me too! It's not easy to fix ourselves. We can try to do better, but there's always something in us that still needs help. *Share an age-appropriate story about how you really tried to change something you were doing, and it just didn't change because you were trying to do it on your own.*

"So can people really change? And if they can ... how?

"Well, today's story is about a guy who had a lot going for him, money, success, power—but deep down, something was wrong. But when he met Jesus, everything shifted.

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Before we get into that true story from the Bible, let me tell you about something awesome we're doing this year! We're going through the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

"Why are we going through the Bible? Is it because we really want to learn more about the Bible? Well, not exactly. Part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we can learn about Him. He could have kept who He is a secret from us, a big mystery of the universe. But He didn't! He wants us to know Him, so He gave us the Bible. So as we go through the Bible this year, our hope is that we'll learn about Him

COMMUNICATOR: "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

"After God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they disobeyed God—again and again and again. Even the kings God gave them rebelled! So, God split the nation in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

5 min

TRUTH**What You Need**

No supplies needed

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!"

COMMUNICATOR: "Today, we're continuing our journey through the Bible! We're right at the part of the Bible where Jesus was on earth, showing us what God is like. Today we're going to look at an interaction Jesus had.

"And this interaction was with a guy who had a horrible reputation. His name was Zacchaeus. On the outside, he looked like he had it all—money, a nice house, fancy clothes. But on the inside? Something wasn't right.

"Zacchaeus was a tax collector. Now, back in Bible times, Jewish tax collectors took money from their own people for the Roman government. These men paid their own salaries from that money, but some of these tax collectors took more money than they were supposed to and kept the extra for themselves. Zacchaeus had done that. Zacchaeus was rich because he had taken from other people. Not to mention that he wasn't just a tax collector, he was a chief tax collector.

"So Zacchaeus had a bad, bad reputation. People didn't just dislike Zacchaeus; they *despised* him. They saw him as a traitor, a cheater, and a thief. Zacchaeus didn't have peace with God, and he for sure didn't have peace with people.

"And that's what sin does. It might start small—a lie, a selfish choice, a time you hurt someone and don't make it right. But every time we choose what we want instead of what *God* wants, that sin adds up.

Pick up the spoon (or dropper), and dip it into the dark "Sin" cup.

"Let's imagine this clear cup represents Zacchaeus. When he took money that wasn't his ..." *(Add one spoonful/dropperful of dark liquid from the "Sin" cup to the "Zacchaeus" cup.)*

"... when he lied to people ..." *(Add another spoonful/dropperful of dark liquid from the "Sin" cup to the "Zacchaeus" cup)*

"... when he only thought about himself ..." *(Add one more spoonful/dropperful from the "Sin" cup to the "Zacchaeus" cup. Swirl gently until the contents of the "Zacchaeus" cup darkens.)*

"His heart and his life were dark because of the sin he had chosen. That's what sin does to all of us. We aren't just making bad choices, it changes us. It clouds who we are and keeps us from seeing God clearly.

"Everyone in town thought they knew Zacchaeus' story. They probably thought he would never change.

"But what they didn't know is that Zacchaeus was about to meet Someone whose love could change *anyone*."

"And that's when Jesus walked into Jericho.

COMMUNICATOR: "Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And—you guessed it—Zacchaeus was there! He wanted to see who Jesus was. Did I mention that Zacchaeus was short? Well, he was. And that's a pretty important part of the story! Because he was short, he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see Him, since Jesus was coming that way.

"I love this part. Zacchaeus didn't let anything stop him—not the crowd, not his reputation, not even the fact that he was short. He just wanted to see Jesus."

"And when Jesus reached that tree, He stopped, looked up, and said something completely unexpected."

COMMUNICATOR:

Open the Bible to Luke 19:5 (NirV) and read.

Jesus reached the spot where Zacchaeus was. He looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay at your house today."

"Wait, what? Out of the whole crowd, Jesus looked right at that guy whom everyone else avoided and called him by name. He didn't yell, 'Zacchaeus, treat others better, and then I'll hang out with you!' He didn't say, 'Zacchaeus, you should be ashamed of yourself.' Jesus knew his name and wanted to spend time with him—wow!

Pick up the "Jesus' Love" glass and hold it above the dark "Zacchaeus" glass.

"When Jesus stepped into Zacchaeus's life, something incredible happened. The love of Jesus began to change everything.

Slowly pour the "Jesus' Love" solution into the dark "Zacchaeus" cup as you continue speaking. The liquid in the "Zacchaeus" cup should clear up.

"Jesus' love didn't wait for Zacchaeus to get it all together; His love started the change.

"Look at that! The darkness is gone. Zacchaeus's heart was changing, not by rules or guilt, but by love.

"This is what the Bible tells us happened next:

Open the Bible to Luke 19:6-8 (NirV)

and read.

So Zacchaeus came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this. They began to whisper among themselves. They said, "Jesus has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus stood up. He said, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of what I own to those who are poor. And if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay it back."

"Zacchaeus didn't just feel happy for a day; he was transformed. The same man who used to take from others was now giving back. That's what the love of Jesus does. It changes people from the inside out."

COMMUNICATOR: "The love of Jesus changes people. It changed Zacchaeus, and it can change you too. Jesus doesn't wait for us to be perfect before He loves us, He meets us right where we are.

5 min

APPLICATION

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

**GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER
(OPTIONAL)****What You Need**

No supplies needed

8 min

Closing

"When you let Jesus' love into your life, it starts a transformation. Maybe you'll become more patient. Maybe you'll forgive someone you've been angry with. Maybe you'll start caring about people you used to ignore. That's the power of His love working in you. As much as we try to fix ourselves, as much as we try to do better, we have to go to the Source—Jesus. We can't do it on our own. We need Him.

"You can experience that transformation, that love. And that love doesn't stop with us. When one heart changes, it can start a chain reaction that changes others too.

HOST: "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' Jesus Himself came to teach us about who God is!

"This week, we read about something that happened while Jesus was on earth. God spent years and years of His Big Story paving the way for Jesus to come on earth because when Jesus came, He showed everybody what God is like because He is God. God really, really wants us to know what He is like! And when Jesus encountered Zacchaeus, a man who had done a tremendous amount wrong, Jesus welcomed him. God was saying, 'I love you no matter what you've done.' Jesus' love changed Zacchaeus. And when Jesus was going around showing everyone what God is like, He never sinned. He lived an absolutely perfect life. Jesus showed God's great love when He gave up that perfect life, paid for our sin, broke the curse we were under, and rescued us. The God of all showed how deep His love goes by dying to rescue us all! We are so very loved by God!

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!

SLIDE: Week 3 Timeline Image

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's Timeline Image on the clothesline.

"And this week, we saw how the love of Jesus can change people ... even people like Zacchaeus!"

5 min

LANDING

What You Need

No supplies needed

3 min

PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "So here's what I want you to remember: The love of Jesus changes people. It changed Zacchaeus. It can change you. And it can change the people around you.

"When we love like Jesus—when we forgive, include, serve, and show kindness—we're letting His love flow through us. And that's how change spreads.

"Because God's love doesn't just fix us, it transforms us.

"Before we head to small groups, I want to leave you with one last question to think about."

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

[Conversation Starter] "How can love change things?"

"When we talk about love, we're really talking about *God's* love. God's love is the kind of love that reaches out first—even when people don't deserve it. It's the kind of love that sees us, forgives us, and invites us into something new. That's what Jesus showed Zacchaeus. God's love didn't just make Zacchaeus feel better; it completely changed his heart and his life.

"That same love can change us too. God's love has the power to transform our hearts, our relationships, and the way we see people around us.

"So, as you head to small group, think about this: How can love change things? When have you seen God's love make a difference for you, or through you? And what would it look like to let Jesus' love change the world around you this week?"

COMMUNICATOR: "Let's talk to the God who loves you so much!

"God, thank You for loving us the way You loved Zacchaeus—not after we've cleaned up our mess, but right in the middle of it. Thank You that Your love changes hearts and makes us new. Help us live in that love this week. Show us how to share it with others so they can be changed too. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

WEEK

FOUR

Preteen | W4

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Opening Activity

Large Group (35 minutes)

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

Opener

Worship

Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are included as optional)

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Application Activity

Bible Story Review

Memory Verse Activity

Prayer Activity

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter and a Suffering Woman • Mark 5:21-43

Conversation Starter

How can you show love to others?

Bottom Line

Jesus shows love to people in need.

Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34, NIV

5 min

Large Group Opener

5 min

OPENER

What You Need

 Hula Hoops

 Floor tape

2

1

HOST: "Hey, everyone! Welcome back to another awesome week here at [environment name]!"

"It's the final week of our series 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus!'"

"This series is called 'Like and Subscribe,' because when you see something awesome online, you like it and subscribe to it because you don't want to miss a minute of awesomeness. And you want to share that awesomeness with your friends and family too!"

"This month, we're talking about the love of God! That's definitely not something you want to miss a second of! And you so want to share it! This week, we're going to take a deeper dive into a situation that happened with Jesus. We're going to talk about what it means to share the love of Jesus, to notice people, to help people, and to stay connected to God and each other. In today's story, there was a huge crowd around Jesus! So today's game will give you a taste of what it was like to be part of a huge crowd around Jesus.

"Turn to the person next to you and say, 'It's about to get crowded!'"
(Pause as the kids respond.)

"This game is called 'It's Crowded!' and trust me ... it's going to get tight in here."

SLIDE: It's Crowded! Title

"Here's how it works: We've got two teams of four that will start behind this starting line here. Each team has a Hula Hoop®, that's your 'crowd zone.' When I say GO, the first kid on each team will run to the Hula Hoop, hold up this sign that says, 'It's Crowded!', and that's the signal for the next teammate to run.

"Each runner has to get inside the Hula Hoop, take the sign, lift it high, and shout, 'It's crowded!' before the next teammate runs and gets inside the Hula Hoop. The goal is for your whole team to fit inside your Hula Hoop first—no toes, elbows, or knees outside the circle!"

"Once everyone's in and you're holding up your sign, yell 'It's crowded!' as loud as you can. The first team to do it wins!"

"I need eight kids who want to play. If you want to play the game, raise your hand!"

Choose eight kids from the kids who have their hands raised. Invite them to come on stage with you. Direct both teams to stand behind the start line.

"Team One, are you ready and have your first kid picked? Team Two, are you ready and have your first kid ready to go? Great!"

"3 ... 2 ... 1 ... GO!"

11 min

Worship

3 min

OPTION 1 (Amazing Music)

What You Need

No supplies needed

AUDIO: Upbeat music

"Team One's off to a quick start! Team Two's squeezing in, look at that teamwork! Ooh, careful, don't crush any toes! Can they fit everyone? ... Oh, Team One's almost there! Team Two's holding the sign, 'It's Crowded!' We've got a winner!

"Nice work, everyone! That got crowded fast! You had to make space, stay balanced, and work together to fit everyone in.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"That's kind of what it was like in our story today. Jesus was surrounded by a huge crowd—everyone wanted to see Him. But even in that crowd, Jesus still noticed people who needed His help. He didn't push anyone away. He made room.

"Even when it seems like there's so much going on and there are so many other people trying to get attention, even when everyone's busy, Jesus still sees you. And He can help us see and love others too."

Note: We've suggested worship songs below from Amazing Kids Worship and Orange Kids Music. We've created these songs to be developmentally appropriate for elementary and preteen kids, incorporating simple, direct language, fun dance movements, and upbeat, current arrangements.

We've chosen these specific songs that amplify our teaching content for this month. We recommend that you use these songs as scripted below, or combined with other popular worship songs that your kids know and love. Be sure to share the links to these songs with parents so they can stream them at home or in the car! Songs can be purchased at store.thinkorange.com or for free with APlay.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, everyone! You know there might be times in our life that seems overwhelming and noisy. There are times when it just seems a lot of things are going on—whether that's at home, with your friends, or elsewhere. It's amazing to know that God still sees us, and His love always finds a way to reach us. Even in the midst of the crazy." "God's love is so powerful, we can't contain it. When Jesus changes your life, when you really understand His love for you, you just want to share it with the people around you. So let's take a minute to move, jump, sing, and thank Him for His amazing love.

SONG: "Need Your Love" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

"Nice job, everyone! That song reminds us that when we experience God's love, it spills out of us; we just have to share it."

"That's exactly what this series, 'Like and Subscribe,' is all about—sharing the love of Jesus in real ways. Let's sing together!

SONG: "Jesus We Love You" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

SONG: "How He Loves" Dance Motion, Lyric or Instrumental Lyric Videos are available for free with Amazing Music on APlay until January 1, 2026.

3 min

OPTION 2 (Orange Kids Music)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

5 min

Memory Verse**What You Need**

No supplies needed

12 min

**Bible Story
(Video)**

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, everyone! You know there might be times in our life that seems overwhelming and noisy. There are times when it just seems a lot of things are going on—whether that's at home, with your friends, or elsewhere. It's amazing to know that God still sees us, and His love always finds a way to reach us. Even in the midst of the crazy." "God's love is so powerful, we can't contain it. When Jesus changes your life, when you really understand His love for you, you just want to share it with the people around you. So let's take a minute to move, jump, sing, and thank Him for His amazing love."

SONG: "Can't Contain It" from Live It Out available on store.thinkorange.com

"Nice job, everyone! That song reminds us that when we experience God's love, it spills out of us; we just have to share it."

"That's exactly what this series, 'Like and Subscribe,' is all about—sharing the love of Jesus in real ways. And that can start by letting His light shine in us so others can see Him through us. That's what this next song is about—letting your light shine for Jesus wherever you go. Let's sing it out together!"

SONG: "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop, Won't Stop available on store.thinkorange.com

"I love worshipping with you! Let's dive into our Memory Verse now that we've been learning all month. It's pretty cool that Jesus didn't tell His followers to chase fame, likes, or attention; He told them to love."

"Let's check it out. This is John 13:34. I'll read it out loud."

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." —John 13:34"

"When Jesus said this, He wasn't just giving a nice quote, He was giving us a challenge. He wanted His followers, including us, to show the world what His love looks like. The way we treat people, the way we forgive, the way we help—that's how others see Jesus through us."

"Let's say it together!"

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." —John 13:34"*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Keep this verse in your heart this week. Maybe write it somewhere you'll see it, or set a reminder on your phone to read it once a day. Every time you do, ask God to help you love like He does."

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

28 min

Bible Story (Live)

3 min

INTRODUCTION

What You Need

No supplies needed

Make sure the table is set on stage so the Communicator can place their Bible on it and read from it. Have the energy stick ready on the table.

5 min

TENSION

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "It's time to dive right in to what we're learning about today. Let's go ahead and read a little from our Bible Story!"

Open the Bible to Mark 5:21-24 (NIV) and read.

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee in a boat. It landed at the other side. There a large crowd gathered around him. Then a man named Jairus came. He was a synagogue leader. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He begged Jesus, "Please come. My little daughter is dying. Place your hands on her to heal her. Then she will live." So Jesus went with him. A large group of people followed. They crowded around him.

"Wow, a lot was happening in this story! I've got a pretty deep question for you. Have you ever been in a situation where you needed help, but didn't know if anyone noticed? This is a tough place to be in."

"Maybe you were hurt, left out, or just having a bad day. You wanted someone to care, but it felt like everyone else was too busy. I think we've all been there. Maybe you were standing in a crowded hallway and dropped your books, but everyone just walked past. Or maybe you were sitting alone at lunch, hoping someone would sit with you, but no one did.

"It's hard when you feel invisible. Like no one sees what you're going through. In today's story, we're going to meet someone who felt just like that, a woman who was completely unseen, forgotten, and alone. But then she had one moment, one chance, to reach out to Jesus. And that one moment changed everything.

"But before we get further into our true story from the Bible today, let me tell you something amazing we're doing this year! We're going through the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!"

5 min

GOD'S BIG STORY OPENER (OPTIONAL)

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Why are we going through the Bible? Is it because we really want to learn more about the Bible? Well, not exactly. Part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we can learn about Him. He could have kept who He is a secret from us, a big mystery of the universe. But He didn't! He wants us to know Him, so He gave us the Bible. So as we go through the Bible this year, our hope is that we'll learn about Him!

COMMUNICATOR: "We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"Let me catch you up on where we've been in God's Big Story so far!

"You might remember that, in the beginning, God created everything. He made the world, the animals, people ... everything! God made the first people for the same reason He made all people—to be His close, close friends. But sadly, the first people God made chose to turn away from Him and sin. God wanted people to be close to Him, but they couldn't anymore. Pain, sickness, and death entered the world too.

"But God didn't want to leave things that way. So He put His rescue plan in motion right from the start!

"God was going to rescue everything through a family! God chose a man named Abraham and promised that his family would bless the whole world. Abraham had a great-grandson named Joseph, who became a leader in Egypt and saved his family—God's people. Over time, God's people grew but were enslaved by a new Pharaoh. 'Help us!' they cried out to God. God freed His people and brought them to the super-nice home He had designed for them, the Promised Land.

"After God's people were settled in the Promised Land, they disobeyed God—again and again and again. Even the kings God gave them rebelled! So, God split the nation in two—into the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Prophets spoke for God saying, 'Come back to Me!' But the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed, and the southern kingdom of Judah was taken captive. Oh no! After years in exile, some of God's people returned to rebuild their homeland, while others stayed in foreign lands.

"During that sad time, God kept sending messages to His people about the Rescuer He had promised long ago. 'God's Rescuer is going to come like this!' the prophets said. But for years and years, nothing happened.

"And then it did! God sent Jesus, the Rescuer we needed, just like He promised! While Jesus was on Earth, He showed us who God is because He is God!

"And that's where we are in God's Big Story!"

5 min

TRUTH**What You Need**

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: “We’re going to continue our journey through the Bible. We’re at the part of the Bible where Jesus was on earth, showing us what God is like. Let’s continue on with our story.

“So, I want you to picture a place you’ve been in that was completely crowded. Maybe at a concert, a game, or even a hallway between classes. Everyone’s pushing, trying to get somewhere, and it’s just a lot!

“Now imagine being someone who’s not just unnoticed ... but unwanted. Someone everyone avoids. That’s what it was like for the woman in today’s story.

Open the Bible to Mark 5:25-26 (NirV) and read.

A woman was there who had a sickness that made her bleed. It had lasted for 12 years. She had suffered a great deal, even though she had gone to many doctors. She had spent all the money she had. But she was getting worse, not better.

“This woman had been sick for twelve years—twelve years of pain, weakness, and being treated like she didn’t belong anywhere. She had spent everything she had on doctors, but no one could help her. Because of her sickness, people thought she was unclean. She couldn’t go to the temple. She couldn’t hug her family. She couldn’t be near anyone. For twelve long years, she was completely alone.

“But one day, she heard that Jesus was coming through town. And even though the crowd was huge, and people were pushing from every side, she made a choice.

“She decided to reach out. She was desperate for help, and she was willing to do whatever she needed to do.”

COMMUNICATOR: “So, Jesus was already on another mission to help someone who needed Him. He was on His way to Jairus’s house to help Jairus’s daughter. But there was another person in that crowd, the woman who had been sick for 12 years. She had tried everything. Doctors, medicine, money—nothing worked. She was exhausted and hopeless. But when she heard Jesus was near, she made a bold choice.

Open the Bible to Mark 5:27-29 (NirV) and read.

She heard about Jesus. She came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothes. She thought, ‘I just need to touch his clothes. Then I will be healed.’ Right away her bleeding stopped. She felt in her body that her suffering was over.

“I want to show you a little example of what that looked like. I need two volunteers who want to help me tell the story. If you want to help me, raise your hand.

Choose a boy and a girl with their hands raised from the audience. Invite them to come on stage with you. One will represent Jesus, and the other will represent the woman. Also get the energy stick.

“Alright, let’s imagine Volunteer 1 here is Jesus, and Volunteer 2 is the woman in the crowd. I’m going to have each of them hold one end of this energy stick.

“Now, right now, nothing’s happening—no power, no light, no sound. But watch what happens when they connect. Volunteers, touch hands.

When the volunteers touch hands, the stick should light up and buzz.

“Whoa! The moment the woman reached out to Jesus, power flowed from Him! Jesus is God, and He has healing power! She didn’t even

have to say anything. She just reached out, and Jesus' love met her right where she was.

Let the stick glow for a few seconds.

"Kids, you can separate now.

"When the woman touched Jesus, her pain stopped. But Jesus didn't just keep walking.

Open the Bible to Mark 5:30-34 (NirV) and read.

At once Jesus knew that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd. He asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

"You see the people," his disciples answered. "They are crowding against you. And you still ask, 'Who touched me?'"

But Jesus kept looking around. He wanted to see who had touched him. Then the woman came and fell at his feet. She knew what had happened to her. She was shaking with fear. But she told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Dear woman, your faith has healed you. Go in peace. You are free from your suffering."

COMMUNICATOR: "Jesus didn't get mad. He didn't say, 'Hey, don't touch Me!' He looked her in the eye and called her 'dear woman.' He showed love when everyone else treated her like an outcast.

"Thanks, volunteers, you guys can go ahead and sit! Great job.

Lead the applause as the kids return to their seats.

"But the story didn't end there. While Jesus was still talking, this happened.

Open the Bible to Mark 5:35-36 (NirV) and read.

Some people came from the house of Jairus. He was the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

Jesus heard what they were saying. He told the synagogue leader, "Don't be afraid. Just believe."

"Even when it looked too late, Jesus didn't stop. He went to Jairus's house.

Open the Bible to Mark 5:39-42 (NirV) and read.

He went inside. Then he said to them, "Why all this confusion and sobbing? The child is not dead. She is only sleeping." But they laughed at him.

He made them all go outside. He took only the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him. And he went in where the child was. He took her by the hand. Then he said to her, "Talitha koum!" This means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!" The girl was 12 years old. Right away she stood up and began to walk around. They were totally amazed at this.

"That's the power of Jesus and His love. It doesn't run out.

"Can I have someone else come up here to join me? If you want to help, raise your hand.

Choose a kid from the audience whose hands are raised. Invite them to come up on stage with you.

5 min

APPLICATION**What You Need**

No supplies needed

5 min

**GOD'S BIG STORY CLOSER
(OPTIONAL)****What You Need**

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "So what does that mean for us? It means when we stay connected to Jesus, His love flows through us—to our friends, our family, even to people we might overlook.

Pick up the energy stick again, holding one end.

"I'll hold this side to represent us, and you [kid's name], hold the other side.

Have the kid hold the opposite end. The stick shouldn't light yet.

"Now, nothing happens until we connect.

Reach out and hold the volunteer's free hand. The stick should light up.

"When we're connected to Jesus, when we spend time with Him, talk to Him, learn from Him, His love flows through us. It's visible. It's powerful. But when we disconnect—when we stop listening, stop caring, stop noticing others—that flow stops.

"You can't show the love of Jesus if you're not connected to Jesus.

"So stay connected. Keep talking to Jesus throughout the day. Keep reading the Bible. Keep praising God. Look for people who need love, especially the ones no one else sees.

"Thank you volunteer, you can have a seat!

Lead applause as the kid returns to their seat.

COMMUNICATOR: "Let's take a look at the progress we made in God's Big Story this week!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

"This week, we're up here in the part of this picture of God's Big Story—the picture that says, 'Jesus' Life.' Jesus Himself came to teach us about who God is!

"This week, we looked at two interactions Jesus had with people who needed His help. If we zoom out to look at God's Big Story, God spent so much time in His Big Story preparing for Jesus to be on earth. (*Gesture to timeline.*) It was so important for Jesus to come. One of the reasons it was so important for Jesus to come is that Jesus shows us exactly who God is because He is God. So when Jesus went throughout our broken world, again and again, He fixed what was broken—like He did in our story today. And then, after years of fixing what was broken, Jesus died on a cross, and when He did, He fixed our biggest brokenness: the sin that was keeping us all from being God's close friends. God is in the business of fixing brokenness. While He was on earth, Jesus fixed broken bodies and broken lives. And then, on the cross, God declared loud and clear: 'I'm fixing something else that's broken too.' Our God loves us so, so much!

"Let's put the next image on our timeline!

SLIDE: Week 4 Timeline Image

If you're making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today's Timeline Image on the clothesline.

8 min

Closing

5 min

LANDING

What You Need

No supplies needed

"This week we learned how Jesus always had time to stop and show compassion to people in need, like the suffering woman and Jairus's daughter."

COMMUNICATOR: "Jesus noticed the woman in the crowd. He noticed Jairus and his daughter. He always notices the people—not just the ones everyone else sees, but the ones who feel left out, alone, or forgotten. And He notices you too."

"When life feels crowded, when you feel overlooked or forgotten, Jesus sees you. You are never interrupting Him. He will always make time for you. And His love is still powerful enough to change everything."

"This same love can flow through you when you reach out to help someone else. So this week, when you see someone who needs help, encouragement, or just a little kindness, don't wait for someone else to do it. Be the one who reaches out. Let Jesus' love shine through you."

"Before we head to small groups, I want to leave you with one last question to think about."

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

[Conversation Starter] "How can you show love to others?"

"In today's story, Jesus was surrounded by a huge crowd, but He still noticed people in need. He stopped, He cared, and His love made a difference."

"Sometimes showing love means stopping, slowing down enough to notice people who might need help, encouragement, or just someone to listen."

"Maybe it's the kid at school who usually sits alone. Maybe it's your younger sibling who always wants your attention. Maybe it's a friend who's having a rough time and just needs someone to say, 'Hey, I'm here for you.'"

"When we stay connected to Jesus, His love flows through us, like we saw with the energy stick. That same love can flow through you this week."

"So as you head to small groups, talk about this question: How can you show love to others?"

"What would it look like to slow down, notice people, and make room for them, just like Jesus did?"

"Let's take that question with us as we go. I can't wait to hear what you come up with."

COMMUNICATOR: "Let's talk to the God who loves you so much."

3 min

PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Dear God, thank You for showing us that Your love never runs out, that it's powerful enough to heal, restore, and change lives. Help us be brave enough to reach out. Help us stay connected to You this week. Show us the people who need Your love. Give us the courage to be with the people who are left out this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

Supplies

OPENER	Quantity
1. Hula Hoops	2
2. Floor tape	1