

WEEK

ONE

K-3RD | W1

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 1

Bible Story: John the Baptist Is a Witness about Jesus • *John 3:22-36*

Bottom Line: Jesus must increase. I must decrease.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the Tone for the Experience

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- 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 from God's Big Story are listed as optional)
- Prayer

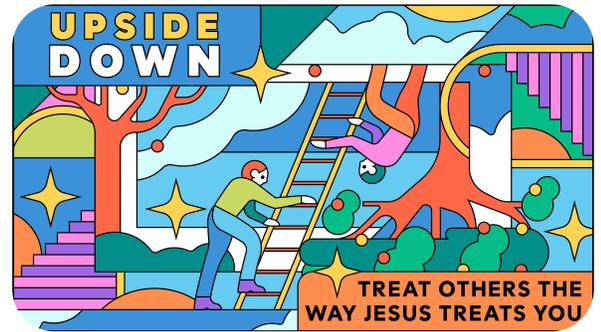
Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

- Bible Story Review: Bible Story Ring Toss (K-1st grade), Jesus Is #1 (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)
- Application Activity: Upside Down Craft (K-1st grade), Jesus at the Top (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)
- Memory Verse Activity: Memory Verse Motions (K-1st grade), Memory Verse Motions (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)
- Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K-1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App



Bible Story

John the Baptist Is a Witness about Jesus • *John 3:22-36*

Conversation Starter

How can I show others that Jesus is better?

Bottom Line

Jesus must increase. I must decrease.

Monthly Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

5 min

Social Activity | Made to Play

What You Need

-  Offering container 1
-  Print "Jesus Puzzle" Activity Page on cardstock, one set for each Small Group 1
-  Optional: Floor tape, enough for each Small Group 1

What You Do:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Place the images from the "Jesus Puzzle" Activity Page in a grid of three rows of three pictures.
- As kids arrive, invite them to work together, flipping each piece over and rearranging as needed, to complete the giant picture of Jesus. Tape to secure if desired.

What You Say:

"Look at that! You worked together to put all the pieces into one big picture of Jesus! In the true story from the Bible we are going to learn about today, some of John the Baptist's friends were confused. They could only see a little piece of what was happening and thought it was a popularity contest between John the Baptist and Jesus. **[Transition]** But **John the Baptist helped people see the big picture—that Jesus is God's Son, the most important One! Let's go find out more!**"



Completed Puzzle

What to Do:

Print on cardstock. One set for each Small Group.
(See artwork on the next 9 pages)

"Jesus Puzzle" Activity Page

March 2026, Week 1, Small Group K-1
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5 min

Bible Story Ring Toss | Made to Play

What You Need

	"Bible Story Questions" Activity Page	0
	"Yes and No Images" Activity Page	1
	Paper plates	1
	Markers	Several
	Safety cones	3
	Floor tape	1

Before group time:

- Cut out the center of each paper plate, one paper plate for each kid to make a ring.
- Tape the "Yes" image to one safety cone, and the "No" image to the other safety cone.

What You Do:

- Place the cones (with the "Yes" image on one, and the "No" image on the other) about three feet apart.
- Create a line a few feet away from the cones using floor tape that the kids will stand behind to toss their ring.
- Give each kid a ring to decorate.
- One at a time, read one question from the "Bible Story Questions" Activity Page to one kid.
- Encourage the kids to stand behind the tape line and toss their ring onto the "yes" cone if the answer is yes and the "no" cone if the answer is no.
- Once the kid has made their choice, instruct them to collect their ring.
- Continue with a new kid until you've read all of the questions on the "Bible Story Questions" Activity Page. (Make sure all of the "Bible Story Questions" are discussed. Some kids will go twice, and that's okay!)

What You Say:

"Great job! You listened well and really know our story! When John the Baptist's friends saw people following Jesus, they complained. But John the Baptist wasn't upset at all! He was filled with joy! He was so happy because he knew that Jesus was the most important! John the Baptist wanted people to follow Jesus and celebrate Jesus.

"Have you ever been to a wedding? John the Baptist said he was like the friend of a groom. The groom is the man getting married at a wedding. And at this time, a close friend of the groom would arrange everything and get everyone ready for the wedding. So John was saying that he was like the friend getting everyone ready for Jesus. That's why he was filled with joy when Jesus showed up! John the Baptist's whole job was to get people ready for Jesus. That's why he believed **[Bottom Line] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.**"

Did Jesus choose 12 helpers to travel with Him?

(Yes)

Did Jesus and His followers go to Jerusalem?

(Yes)

Did they go there to celebrate Christmas?

(No)

Did Jesus and His helpers spend time in the countryside of Judea?

(Yes)

Was John the Baptist Jesus's cousin?

(Yes)

Did God say that Jesus was His Son?

(Yes)

Did God speak from Heaven when Jesus was baptized?

(Yes)

Did Jesus and His helpers spend time in the countryside of Judea?

(Yes)

Did John baptize people as a sign they were turning away from bad choices?

(Yes)

Were John's friends happy that many people were going to Jesus?

(No)

Did John's friends think they were winning a popularity contest?

(Yes)

Is "Rabbi" another name for a teacher?

(Yes)

Did John say that Jesus is like the groom at a wedding?

(Yes)

Was John's job to be the friend who helps the groom get ready?

(Yes)

Was John filled with sadness when he heard the groom's voice?

(No)

Did John say that Jesus must become more important?

(Yes)

Did John say that he must become less important?

(Yes)

Does "I must decrease" mean you are not valuable to God?

(No)

Does focusing less on yourself help you worry more?

(No)

Does everyone who believes in Jesus get to have eternal life?

(Yes)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock. One set for each Small Group.
(Page 1 of 2)

"Yes and No Images" Activity Page
March 2026, Week 1, Small Group K-1
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What to Do:
Print on cardstock. One set for each Small Group.
(Page 2 of 2)

"Yes and No Images" Activity Page
March 2026, Week 1, Small Group K-1
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5 min

Upside Down Craft| Made to Create

What You Need

-  "Balancing Person" Activity Page 0
-  Coloring supplies 1
-  Paper clips 1

What You Do:

- Give each kid a cutout from the "Balancing Person" Activity Page to color.
- Help kids attach two paper clips to each hand on their cutout (so four paper clips total).
- Show the kids how to balance their cutout on their fingertips so their person is standing upside down.

What You Say:

"Look at that! Your person is balancing upside down! This is a great picture of what John the Baptist was talking about. He put Jesus first, which feels upside down sometimes. He knew he was to make less and less of himself so more and more could be made of Jesus. John knew that Jesus was God's Son, who came to offer hope and rescue to everyone who believes in Him. He knew that Jesus was the Rescuer, the Savior, of the whole world! No one will ever be more important than Jesus. So instead of pouting that people were leaving him to follow Jesus, John was filled with joy. That was John's whole purpose—to point people to Jesus. He knew that **[Bottom Line] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.**"



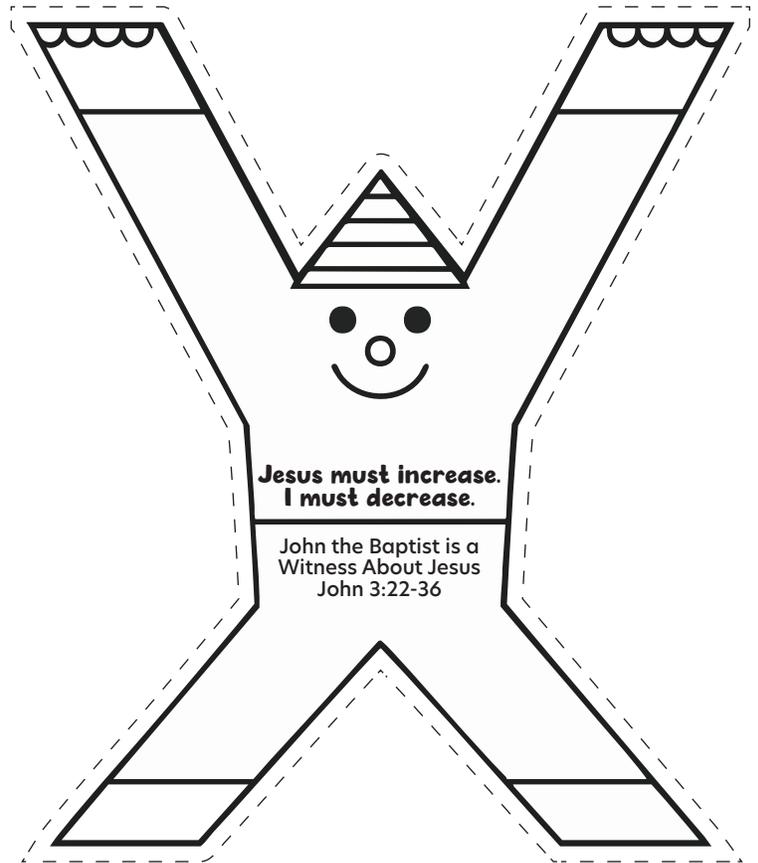
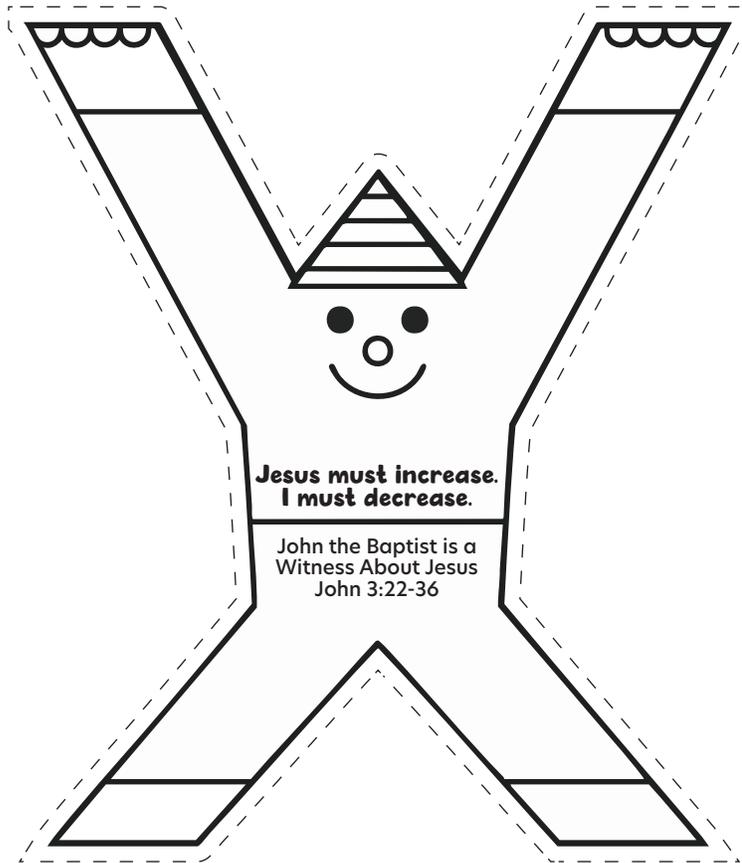
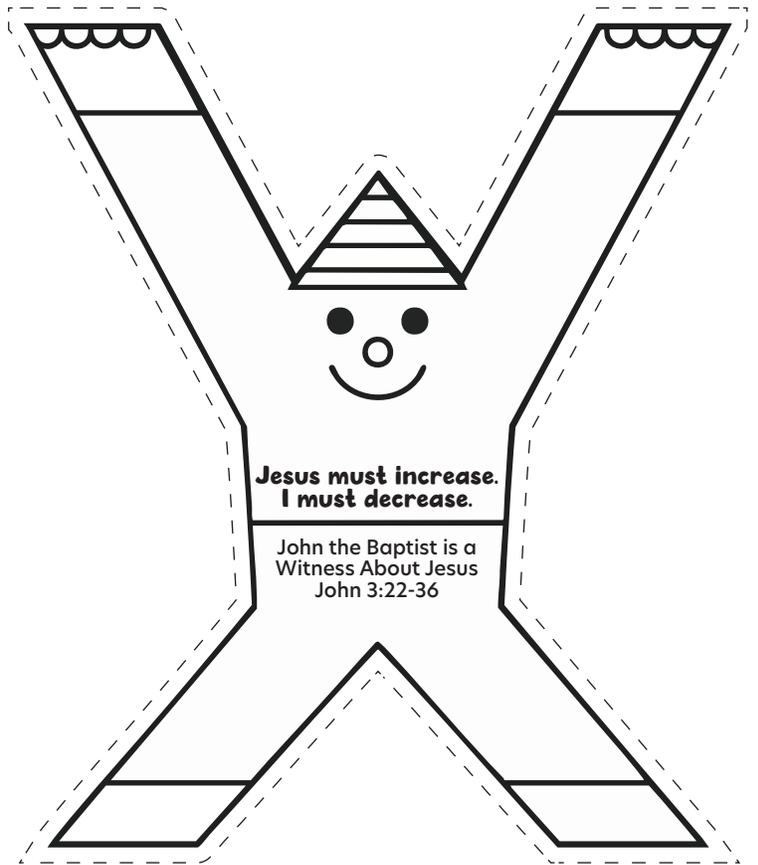
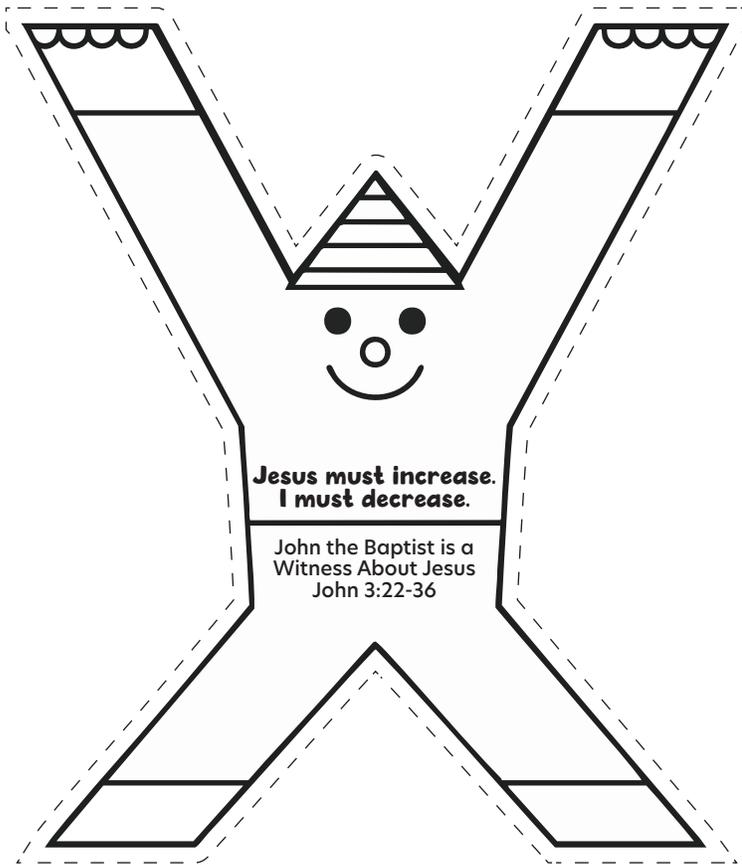


Week 1 | Application Activity |
Balancing Person

K-1 | March 2026

<https://thinkorange.com/252-kids-ministry-curriculum/>





What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One for every kid.

5 min

Memory Verse Motions | Made to Move

What You Need

-  Bibles marked at Philippians 2:3 0
-  "Verse Motions" Activity Page 1

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Bible marked at Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page. Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud. Then, guide children to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

Finding verses with 1st graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book's name. When the kids find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the right chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Explain that you're going to teach motions to help us learn our new Memory Verse.
- Using the "Verse Motions" Activity Page, teach the verse and motions one line at a time.
- *Don't do anything only to get ahead. (Shake head "no" and run in place.)*
- *Don't do it because you are proud. (Puff out your chest.)*
- *Instead, be humble. (Crouch down low.)*
- *Value others more than yourselves. (Point to friends around you.)*
- Philippians 2:3 (Open hands like a book.)
- Practice the full verse with motions together several times.

What You Say:

"Awesome job learning the motions to our brand-new verse. This verse is all about humility, which means to put others first. That's just like what happened in today's Bible Story with John the Baptist and Jesus. John didn't want it to be a popularity contest; he wanted to point everyone to Jesus, God's Son. Jesus was the Rescuer of the whole wide world! John knew that **[Bottom Line] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.**"



Don't do anything



only to get ahead.



**Don't do it because
you are proud.**



Instead, be humble.



**Value others more
than yourselves.**



Philippians 2:3 NIrV

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

-  "Prayer Cube" Activity Page 0
-  Inflatable Prayer Cube 1

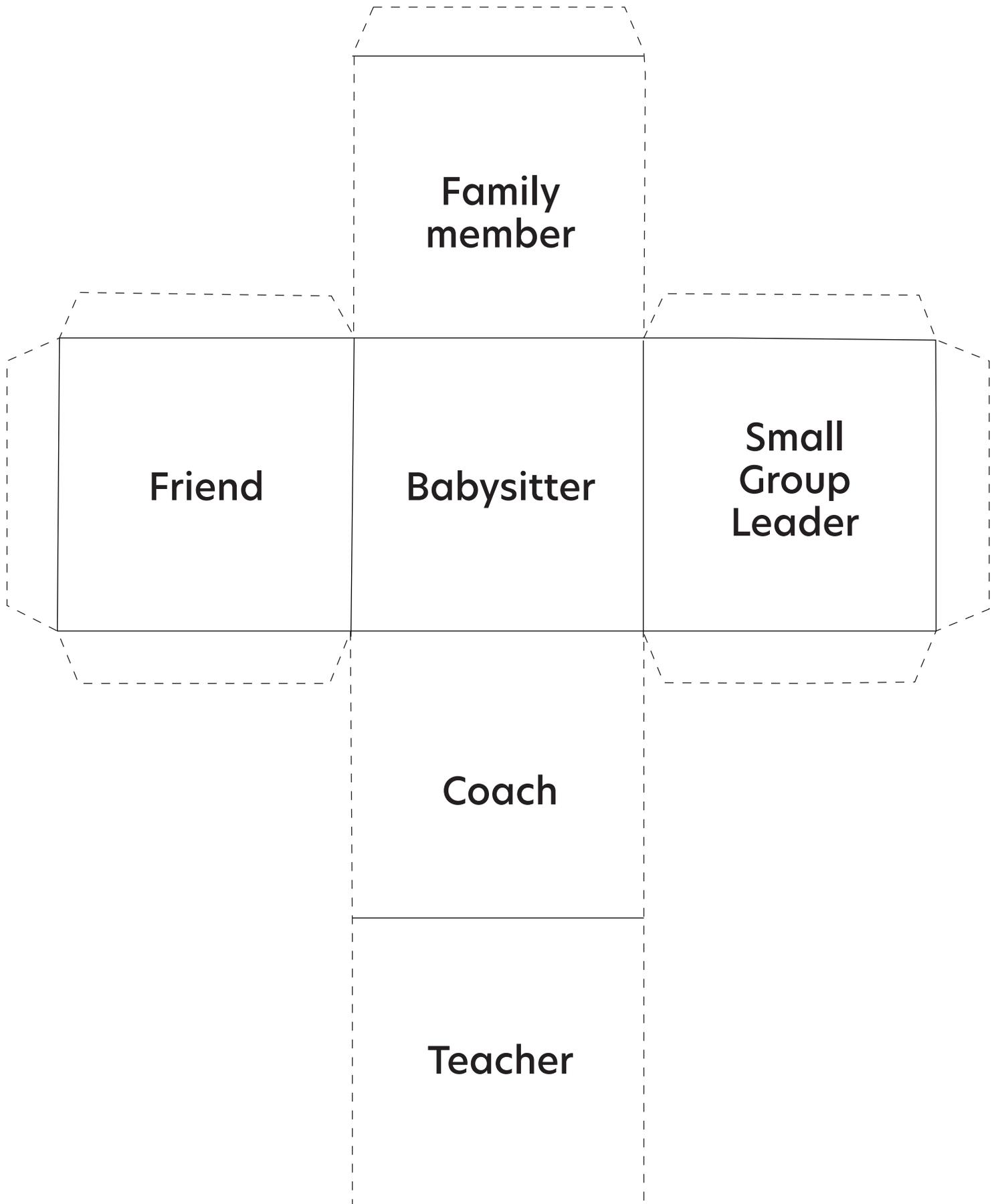
What To Do:

- Fold and assemble the cube from the "Prayer Cube" Activity Page and tape the edges together.
- Encourage kids to take turns rolling the cube.
- When the cube lands, read the prayer prompt on the top side. (e.g., "Pray for a family member." "Pray for a friend.")
- Lead the group in a short, simple prayer that goes along with what was rolled.
- When you've prayed several short prayers, close your group time in prayer.

What You Say:

"These cubes are a fun way to remember all the different people we can pray for. When we pray for others, we are putting them first, just like John the Baptist put Jesus first. That's a great way to remember that **[Bottom Line] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.** Let's pray together one more time.

"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus. Help us to be like John the Baptist and be filled with joy when we point people to Jesus. Help us remember to put others first. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One for each Small Group.

WEEK

TWO

K-3 | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 2

Bible Story: A Roman Commander Has Faith • *Matthew 8:5-13*

Bottom Line: Remember God is most important.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

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Prelude: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

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 from God's Big Story are listed as optional)

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Act It Out (K-1st grade), Puppet Show Retell (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: Who's Who (K-1st grade), Application Roll (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Color by Number (K-1st grade), Memory Verse Balloon Bop (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

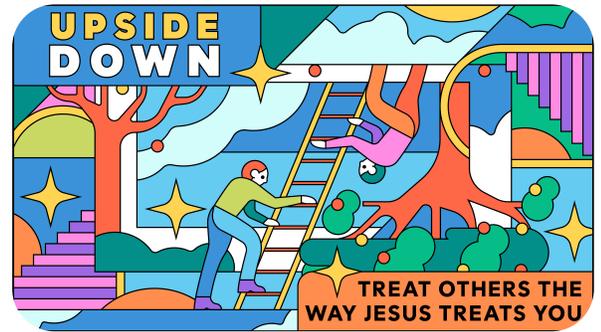
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K-1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

A Roman Commander Has Faith • *Matthew 8:5-13*

Conversation Starter

How do you show that God is important?

Bottom Line

Remember God is most important.

Monthly Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

5 min

Social

5 min

Social Activity | Made to Play

What You Need

👤 Offering container

1

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids by name with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite the kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Explain that you're going to play a version of "Simon Says."
- Say, "In this game, Simon is in charge. If I say, 'Simon says ...' you do the action. If I don't say 'Simon says,' you stay still!"
- Play a few rounds with simple commands:
 - "Simon says touch your nose."
 - "Simon says hop on one foot."
 - "Wave your hands!" (*Try to trick them.*)
 - "Simon says make a silly face."
- Continue playing, letting kids who are "out" help you spot others who move at the wrong time.
- Play as long as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

"You are all great listeners! You knew that Simon was the one in charge of the game, and you had to listen to Simon's words to know what to do. **[Transition]**In our true story from the Bible today, we'll meet a Roman commander who was really important and was in charge of many soldiers. But he knew who was REALLY in charge of everything. The commander had a servant who was really sick, but he knew there was Someone who had the power to heal him and make him all better. Let's go find out who it was!"

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Puppet Show Retell | Made to Imagine

What You Need

-  Prepared craft-stick puppets from the "Puppet Show" Activity Page 4
-  Optional: a small cloth or washcloth (for the sick person's bed) 1
-  Craft sticks 4
-  Masking tape 1
-  Scissors 1

What You Do:

- Give the puppets to different kids.
- Tell the story of the Roman commander again and instruct the kids to act it out with the puppets.
- Use simple prompts:
 - "The commander came to Jesus in the town of Capernaum."
 - "The commander was sad because his servant was suffering terribly. Can the sick person puppet lie down on the blanket?"
 - "The commander had strong faith. He said, *'Just say the word, and my servant will be healed!'*" (Matthew 8:8 NIV).
 - "And Jesus did! The servant was healed at that very moment!" (*Direct the sick puppet to jump up.*)
- As time allows, switch the puppets and tell the story again so more kids get a turn.
- Print "Puppet Show" Activity Page on cardstock and cut, one set for each Small Group
- Craft sticks, four for each Small Group
- Masking tape, one roll for each Small Group
- Scissors, one pair for each Small Group
- *Optional: a small cloth or washcloth (for the sick person's bed), one for each Small Group*
- *Before group time:*
- *Tape craft sticks to the back of the four images from the "Puppet Show" Activity Page.*

What You Say:

"What a great puppet show! The Roman commander was a very important soldier; he was even in charge of around one hundred other soldiers! That's a lot of soldiers! No one would have ever expected a Roman commander to talk with a humble Jewish teacher—much less to ask for help! Yet, here he was, pleading with Jesus. That's because the Roman commander knew that Jesus was way more than a humble Jewish teacher. The commander knew that Jesus is most important. Everything answers to Him. And Jesus helped right away! Jesus was amazed by the commander's faith. The Roman commander showed us that we should always **[Bottom Line] remember God is most important.**"



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One set for each Small Group.

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Application Roll | Made to Connect

What You Need

 Large die

1

What You Do:

- Explain that the kids will take turns rolling the die. The number they roll will match a question you ask.
- Let the first kid roll the die. If they roll a 3, ask them question #3 from the list.
- Continue rolling the die and asking questions until everyone who wants a turn has had one.

Application Questions:

1. Name one person who is important to you.
2. Name one thing that is important in our room.
3. Who made the whole world? (*God!*)
4. Who is more powerful than a superhero? (*God/Jesus!*)
5. Who is a very important person in the world?
6. Who is the most important person in the whole universe? (*God/Jesus!*)

What You Say:

"Those are great answers! There are lots of important people and things in our lives. But our true story from the Bible today about the important Roman commander helped us learn to **[Bottom Line] remember God is most important**. The commander knew Jesus' authority was bigger than anyone's, and Jesus was so amazed by his faith!

"So what does this mean for us? It's remembering what the Roman commander knew—God is more important and more powerful than anything. God is in charge! If there is something that you're scared of at nighttime, you can ask God for help. If there is something bothering you at school, ask God for His help. If you are having a hard time with a friend, ask God for help. God is the King of everything! **[Bottom Line] Remember God is most important.**"

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Color By Number | Made to Create

What You Need

-  Bibles marked at Philippians 2:3 1
-  "Memory Verse Color by Number" Activity Page 1
-  Crayons or markers that match the Several colors on the page

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Bible marked at Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page. Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud. Then, guide children to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

Finding verses with 1st graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book's name. When the kids find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the right chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Give each kid a "Memory Verse Color by Number" Activity Page and make the crayons or markers that match the colors on the page available.
- Explain that the kids will color the picture by matching the number in each space to the color in the key.
- As they color, read the Memory Verse that is on the page to the group: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves (Philippians 2:3 NIV).*
- Help them find the numbers and the right colors.

What You Say:

"Your pictures look so great! This verse helps us remember to be humble, which means putting others first. The Roman commander was not proud; he was humble when he said, 'Lord, I am not good enough' (Matthew 8:8 NIV). When we are humble, it shows that we **[Bottom Line] remember God is most important**—not us!"



Color according to the numbers

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------|------------|
| 1 = light blue | 3 = light green | 5 = orange | 7 = pink | 9 = purple |
| 2 = dark blue | 4 = dark green | 6 = yellow | 8 = red | 10 = brown |

What to Do:
Print on paper. One for every kid.

"Memory Verse Color by Number" Activity Page

March 2026, Week 2, Small Group K-1

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5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

-  Index cards 0
-  Pens or pencils 1
-  Small bag or bowl 1

What To Do:

- Instruct each kid to write their name on an index card.
- Place all the name cards into the bowl.
- Pass the bowl around the circle and let each kid draw one name card (make sure they don't get their own name).
- Explain that you are going to pray for each other.
- Go around the circle. When it's a kid's turn, instruct them to hold up the name card they drew, and the whole group will pray together: "Dear God, please help [name on card]."
- Continue until you have prayed for every kid.

[Make It Personal] Include your own name card in the bowl.

What You Say:

"It's so good to pray for our friends. Praying for others is a way to put others first and show them the love of Jesus. The Roman commander asked Jesus to help his servant. He had faith that Jesus could help, because Jesus is the most important."

"Dear God, thank You for all my friends. Thank You for being bigger and more important than anything. Help us to remember that You have all the authority over everything and that we can trust You no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

WEEK

THREE

K-3 | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 3

Bible Story: Be Humble/Love Your Enemies • *Matthew 5:38-48*

Bottom Line: Love like Jesus even when it's hard.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

Prelude: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Note: This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources, check out our free *A Place at the Table* course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum. (joinamazing.com/everychild)

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: Light the Story

Application Activity: Upside Down Hearts

Memory Verse Activity: Prayer Chain

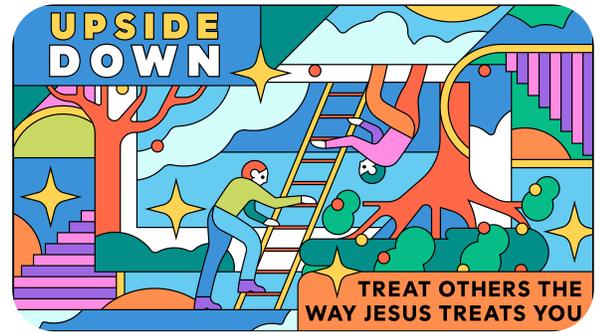
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Be Humble/Love Your Enemies • *Matthew 5:38-48*

Conversation Starter

How can you show kindness to someone who makes you mad?

Bottom Line

Love like Jesus even when it's hard.

Monthly Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

5 min

Social

5 min

Social Activity | Made to Play

What You Need

-  Offering Container 1
-  Hula Hoops® (1 for every 5 kids) 1



EveryChild Tips

- If a kid has mobility challenges, the group can gently help guide the Hula Hoop over them while they remain stationary.*

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids by name with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite the kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Instruct the kids to stand in a circle, holding hands.
- Place a Hula Hoop over one pair of clasped hands.
- (If you have a larger group, feel free to make smaller groups and give each group a Hula Hoop. Groups of five work great!)
- Challenge the group to move the Hula Hoop all the way around the circle without anyone letting go of their friends' hands. (The kids will have to step through the Hula Hoop and move their bodies to pass it along.)
- Cheer them on as they work together to get the Hula Hoop all the way around the circle.

What You Say:

"You did it! That was a real challenge, but you worked together! Sometimes, being friends and loving each other can be a little tricky! **[Transition]** Today, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is going to teach us a brand-new way to do something that can feel upside-down: how to love people who are unkind to us. Let's go listen!"

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Light the Story | Made to Explore

What You Need

-  Print "Bible Story Pictures Front" Activity 1 Page on paper
-  Print "Bible Story Pictures Back" Activity 1 Page on paper
-  Flashlights 1
-  Glue Several



Week 3 | Bible Story Review |
Light the Story

K-1 | March 2026

<https://thinkorange.com/252-kids-ministry-curriculum/>

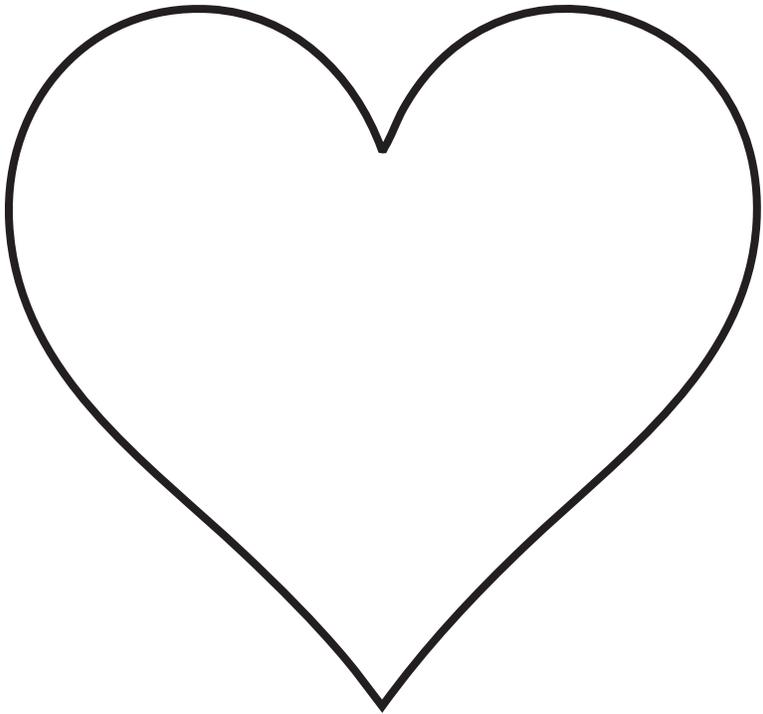
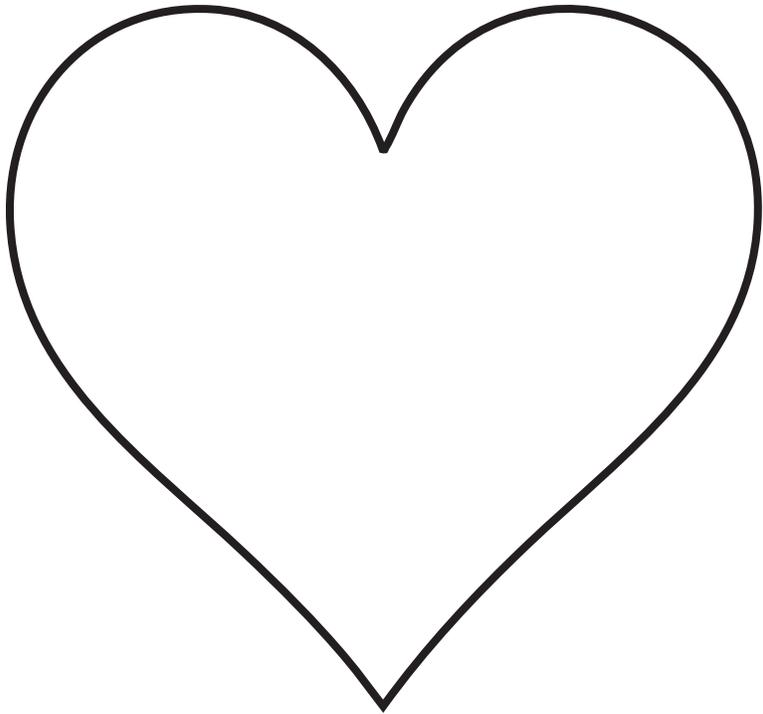
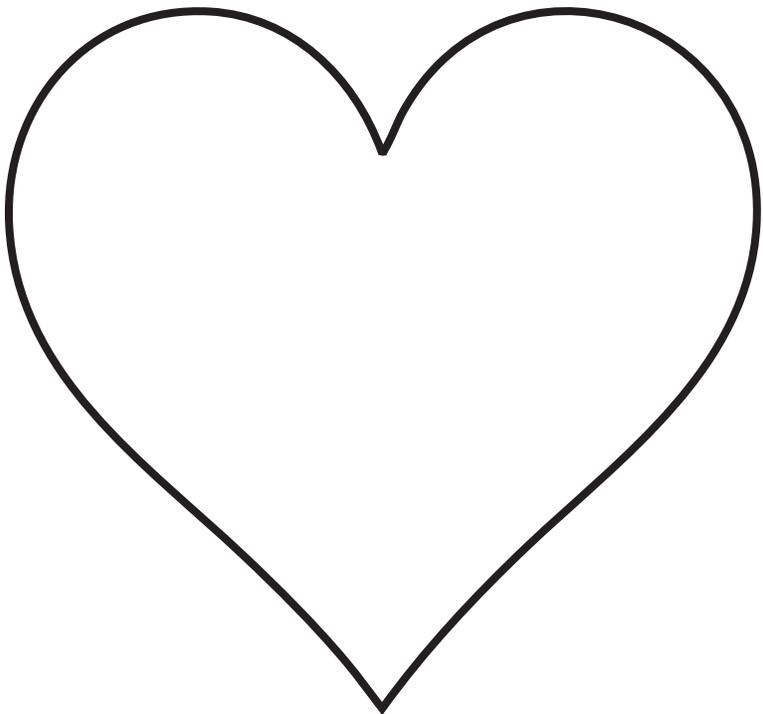
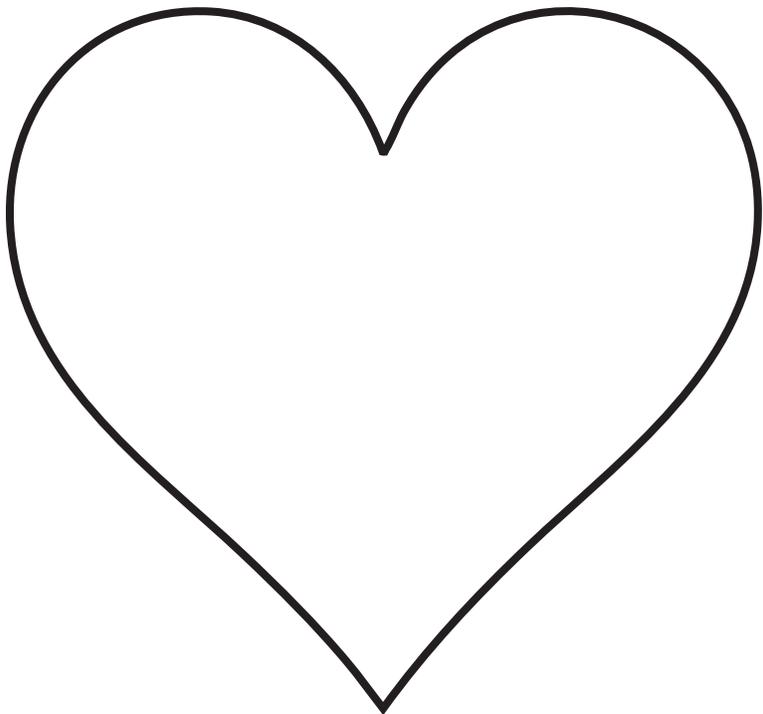
- *Before group time:*
 - Glue "Bible Story Pictures Front" to "Bible Story Pictures Back."
 - Cut along the dotted lines.
 - Strategically "hide" the four images around your Small Group space so the kids can find them with a flashlight. (Or for a game with less running around, place the images in the center of the circle and instruct the kids to shine their light to pick an image. Then instruct one kid to hold the image above their flashlight so they can see through it.)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a flashlight.
- Tell the kids that you're going to be detectives and find the parts of our story that are hidden around the room.
- Call out something from today's Bible Story and have the kids find the picture that matches by shining their flashlight from underneath to show the image through the heart shape.
- "Jesus was teaching people on a mountainside! Find the picture of **Jesus teaching.**"
- "Jesus said the old way was to hurt people back when they've been mean to you. Use your light to find the picture of **someone who looks like they might have just been mean.**"
- "Jesus said to love your enemies, the people who are hard to love. Use your light to find the picture of **two people giving one another a hug.**"
- "Jesus said that loving our enemies is how we can be like our Father in heaven! Shine your light to find the picture of the **sun.**"

What You Say:

"Great job, detectives! You lit up our whole story. Jesus taught us some things that can feel hard. He said not to be mean to people who hurt us. Instead, He wants us to **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard.** Jesus explained how God's Kingdom is quite different from the way we usually live. Jesus didn't just say: 'Don't be mean to your enemies.' He told us to *love* our enemies. That's completely upside down, right?! But showing love to an enemy—that's just what God does. God shows kindness to everyone, even to people who hate Him! And God says He wants us to show the world that we are His children by doing the same. He wants us to **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard.**"



What to Do:
Print on paper.
One for each Small Group.



What to Do:
Print on paper.
One for each Small Group.

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Upside Down Hearts | Made to Play

What You Need

-  Plastic cups, enough to cover a small area of the floor Several
-  Heart sticker 1

Before group time:

- Place the heart sticker on the bottom of the inside of one of the plastic cups.

What You Do:

- Scatter all the cups upside down on the floor.
- Tell the kids that you've hidden a special heart on the bottom of one of the cups.
- Instruct the kids to take turns flipping over one cup at a time, looking for the heart.
- When a kid finds the cup with the heart sticker, celebrate!
- Ask that kid to name one way they can show love to someone this week, especially someone who might be hard to love. (e.g., "I can share with my brother even when I don't want to," "I can say something nice to the kid who was mean to me.")
- Hide the heart again, turn the cups over, and play another round.

What You Say:

"You found the heart! Finding that heart reminds us to find ways to show love to others. Jesus taught us that our Father in heaven sends the sun and rain on everyone, not just nice people. That can seem upside down!

"So what does this look like for us? Loving your enemies is so hard, but God hasn't left you to do it alone! When you become a follower of Jesus, the Holy Spirit will help you. Ask for His help! And then, do what you can do to show God's love. Choose kindness instead of getting back at someone. It takes true humility to put others first and **[Bottom Line]love like Jesus even when it's hard.**"

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Beanbag Verse | Made to Move

What You Need

 Bibles, marked at Philippians 2:3	1
 Beanbag	1
 Stickers or small prizes	Several

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Bible marked at Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page. Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud. Then, guide children to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

Finding verses with 1st graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book's name. When the kids find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the right chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside and sit in a circle with you.
- Explain that you will pass the beanbag around the circle as you all say words of the verse together, and the Bible reference.
- Start passing the beanbag and reciting the verse.
- The kid who is holding the beanbag when you say the last word of the reference ("three!") gets the sticker or small prize.
- Play several times so more kids have a chance to win.

What You Say:

"Great job! This verse is all about being humble. Being humble means putting others first. And when we choose to love our enemies or go two miles instead of one, we are definitely putting them first! That's a great way to **[Bottom Line]love like Jesus even when it's hard.**"

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

 Strips of paper (about 1" x 6")	1
 Coloring supplies	Several
 Tape or a stapler	1

What To Do:

- Give each kid a strip of paper and make coloring supplies available.
- Ask them to think of one person whom it is sometimes hard for them to love. They don't have to say the name out loud.
- Instruct them to draw a picture of that person on their paper strip.
- When they are done, help them tape or staple their strip into a loop.
- Then, link all the loops together to form a paper chain.
- Hold up the chain for everyone to see.

What You Say:

"Look at our prayer chain. There are so many people we can pray for. People we love and people who are hard to love. It can be hard to love everyone, but Jesus told us to '*pray for those who hurt you*' (*Matthew 8:44 NIV*). Let's pray for the people on our chain right now.

"Dear God, thank You for loving us, no matter what. Please help us to be like You, our Father in heaven. Help us to love the people we drew on our prayer chain today. Give us the strength to **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard**. We need Your help! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

WEEK

FOUR

K-3 | W4

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 4

Bible Story: Mary and Martha • *Luke 10:38-42*

Bottom Line: Make time for Jesus first.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

Prelude: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Note: This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources, check out our free *A Place at the Table* course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum. (joinamazing.com/everychild)

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: Parachute Story

Application Activity: Jesus Above All

Memory Verse Activity: Quiet Line Up

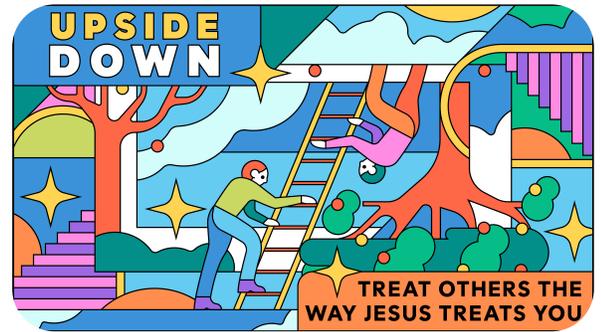
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Mary and Martha • *Luke 10:38-42*

Conversation Starter

How can you make time for Jesus?

Bottom Line

Make time for Jesus first.

Monthly Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

5 min

Social

5 min

Social Activity | Made to Explore

What You Need

-  Offering container 0
-  "Spot the Difference" Activity Page 1
-  Coloring supplies Several



EveryChild Tips

- For kids who may be overwhelmed by a busy picture, point to one specific area and ask, "Does anything look different right here?"
- Let kids work individually if they focus better that way, celebrating the differences they find on their own.

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids by name with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite the kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Divide the kids into pairs.
- Give each pair a "Spot the Difference" Activity Page and a coloring tool.
- Explain that there are two pictures that look almost the same, but some things are different.
- Challenge them to work with their partner to find and circle all the differences.
- Walk around and help pairs that get stuck, giving them clues to help them find the differences.

What You Say:

"Great job, detectives! You had to look very closely to find all the things that were different. Sometimes, two things can look similar, but one is just a little different than the other.

[Transition] "In our true story from the Bible today, two sisters, Mary and Martha, made two different choices about what was most important when Jesus came to visit their home. Let's go find out what they chose!"

Spot the Difference

Can you spot the 10 differences between the two pictures?



What to Do:
Print on paper. One for every kid.

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Broom Relay | Made to Move

What You Need

-  Bible 1
-  Brooms or dusters 1
-  Crumpled-up balls of paper 2
-  Floor tape 2

What You Do:

- Read Luke 10:38-42 to the group.
- Use the floor tape to create two starting lines on one side of the room.
- Divide the group into two teams and instruct them to line up on one side of the room, behind a starting line.
- Give the first kid in each line a broom and a paper ball.
- Explain that they will have a relay race. One at a time, they are to use the broom to sweep their paper ball across the room and back.
- Then once the kid reaches their team, after sweeping the crumpled paper ball across the room and back, the next kid in line is to use the broom to do the same thing.
- The twist: When you call out, "Make time for Jesus first!" the kids are to freeze right where they are. They can only start again when you say, "Go!"
- Start the race. Shout the freeze command randomly.
- After a moment, say "Go!" and let them continue.
- Continue giving the command at random points.
- The first team to have all the kids on their team finish wins.

What You Say:

"Great job in that race! It was hard to stop when you were in the middle of working hard, wasn't it? You really wanted to keep going so you could get to the finish line! That's kind of how Martha felt in our story. She was busy, busy, busy. She was busy trying to make the visit for Jesus and His friends wonderful. She was so busy that she got frustrated and upset. While it was good to try to make the visit special, Jesus taught Martha that there was something else that was more important—spending time with Him. Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to everything Jesus had to say. She didn't want to miss time with Jesus. It's most important for all of us to **[Bottom Line] make time for Jesus first.**"

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Jesus Above All | Made to Play

What You Need

- 🖨️ Prepared images from the "Jesus Above All" Activity Page

Before group time:

- Fold each picture in half along the line and glue the two sides together.

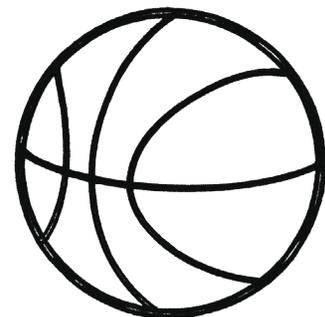
What You Do:

- Place the pictures from the "Jesus Above All" Activity Page on the floor, scattered around the room with the pictures of the "distractions" facing up.
- Explain that you're going to play a racing game.
- Challenge the kids to race to flip over all the distraction pictures so they are face down and Jesus is face up.

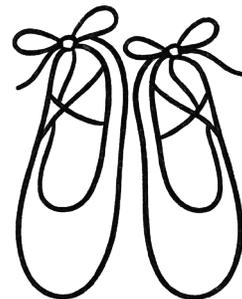
What You Say:

"Great job! In our Bible Story today, Jesus and His disciples stopped in the town of Bethany at the home of two sisters, Mary and Martha, and their brother, Lazarus. These siblings were close friends of Jesus and super-excited to welcome Him and His friends into their house. Martha was busy doing all of the things to make their visit wonderful. Martha may have been preparing a meal or getting the house ready for all those guests. Mary, on the other hand, took a seat right at Jesus' feet as He spoke. She didn't want to miss a single word. Martha got frustrated because Mary wasn't helping her, but what Mary chose to do was the better thing.

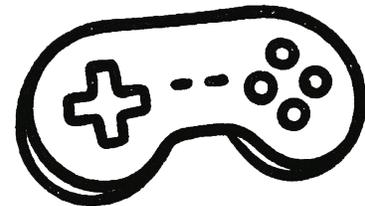
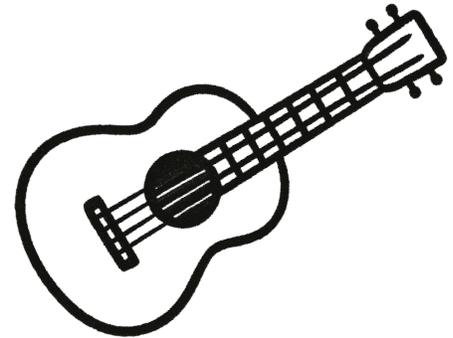
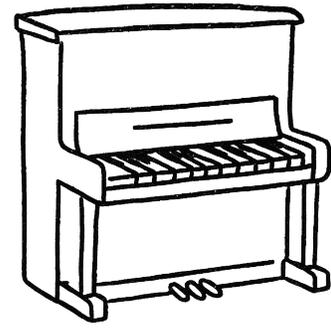
"Spending time with Jesus is most important. We can all get busy and get distracted, like Martha. It's not bad to like playing soccer or watching TV, but our Bible Story reminds us to put Jesus above everything else. Mary knew what was most important, and that was spending time with Jesus. It's important that we remember to make time for Jesus every day. Now, we still need to go to school, and clean our rooms, and help others, and do our homework, but we also need to remember to make time for Jesus. We can **[Bottom Line] make time for Jesus first**. When we make time for Jesus, we remember that He is with us, and we can do all of those things aware that He is right there with us!"



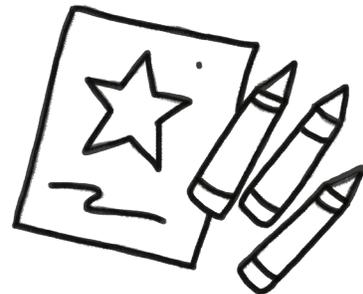
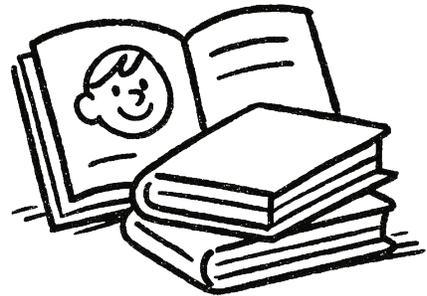
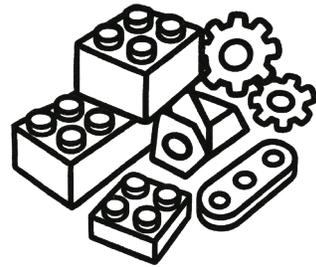
What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut. One set for each Small Group.
(Page 1 of 4)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut. One set for each Small Group.
(Page 2 of 4)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut. One set for each Small Group.
(Page 3 of 4)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut. One set for each Small Group.
(Page 4 of 4)

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Memory Verse Toss | Made to Move

What You Need

 Bibles

1

 Soft ball or bean bag

1

What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

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

- Repeat the verse aloud several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Guide the kids to put their Bibles aside.
- Invite the kids to stand in a circle.
- Start the game by tossing the soft ball (or bean bag) to a kid while you say the first word of the verse, "Don't ..."
- Instruct the kid who catches it to say the next word in the Memory Verse, "... do ..." and toss it to someone else.
- Encourage the next kid who catches it to say the next word of the Memory Verse, "... anything ..." and toss it on.
- Continue tossing the soft ball (or bean bag) around the circle, with each kid saying the next word of the Memory Verse until it's complete.
- Play several times, encouraging the kids to go faster each time.

What You Say:

"You are getting so good at remembering that verse! Taking the time to learn verses from the Bible is important so we can always remember God's Word, wherever we are! *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. (Philippians 2:3 NIV).* When we are humble and put others first, it helps us remember that Jesus is the most important Person. We can be humble, and put Jesus first in our busy, busy schedules. It helps us remember that only one thing is needed: to **[Bottom Line] make time for Jesus first.**"

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

No supplies needed

What To Do:

- Tell the kids that you're going to pray in an "upside down" way.
- Invite them to find a safe space to lie on their backs.
- Lead them in a simple prayer while they look up at the ceiling.
- For fun, some kids might want to try putting their feet up on a wall.

What You Say:

"We can pray anytime, anywhere, and in any position—even upside down! God always hears us. Let's pray and ask God to help us remember to spend time with Him this week, just like Mary did.

"Dear Jesus, thank You for wanting to spend time with us every single day. It's easy to get worried and upset about many things, but please help us to remember to **[Bottom Line] make time for Jesus first**. We want to go through life knowing You are with us, so our hearts can rest in You no matter how busy things get. Help us to be like Mary and choose what is better, spending time with You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

WEEK

FIVE

K-3 | W5

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 5

Bible Story: Palm Sunday / Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet • *John 12:9-19, 13:1-17*

Bottom Line: Jesus showed us how to be humble.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the Tone for the Experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

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 from God's Big Story are listed as optional)

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Jesus Thaumatrope (K-1st grade), Build the Story (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: Humble Feet (K-1st grade), Cheer for Jesus (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Your Best Foot Forward (K-1st grade), Hopscotch Memory (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

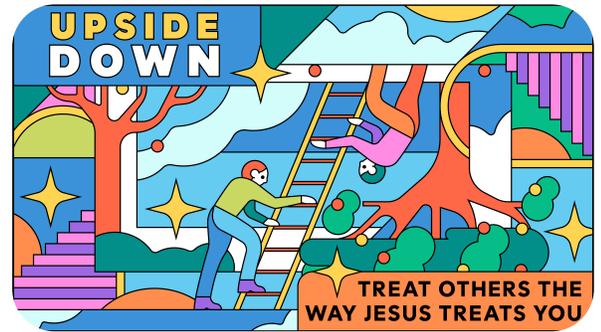
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K-1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

Palm Sunday / Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet
• *John 12:9-19, 13:1-17*

Conversation Starter

Jesus showed us how to be humble.

Bottom Line

Jesus showed us how to be humble.

Monthly Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

5 min

Social

5 min

Social Activity | Made to Play

What You Need

-  Offering container 0
-  Print "Palm Sunday Spot It" Activity Page 3
on cardstock and cut, one set for every three kids
-  Print "Palm Sunday Spot It Instructions" 1
on cardstock and cut, one card for each set of playing cards
-  3-inch circle punch or scissors 1

Before group time:

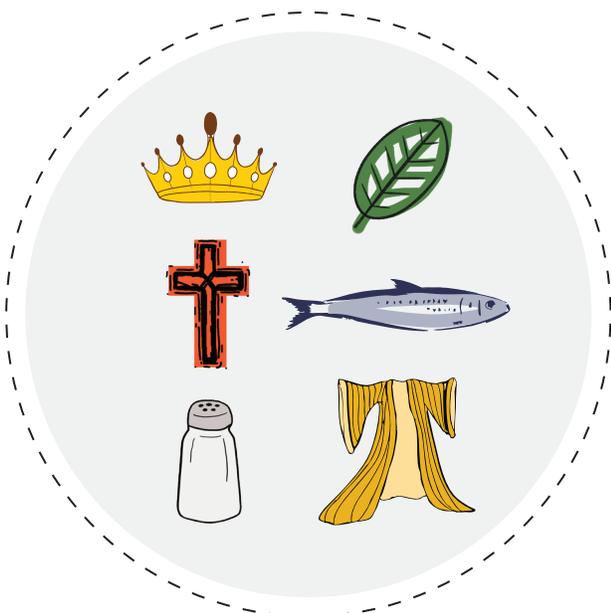
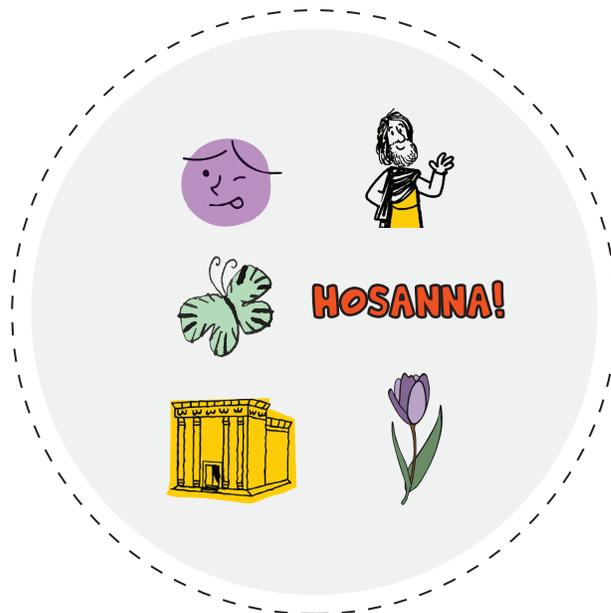
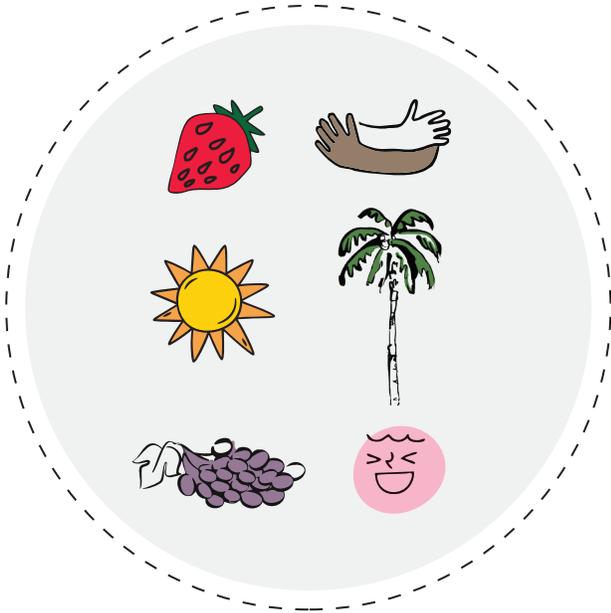
- Punch each card with a 3-inch circle punch.

What You Do:

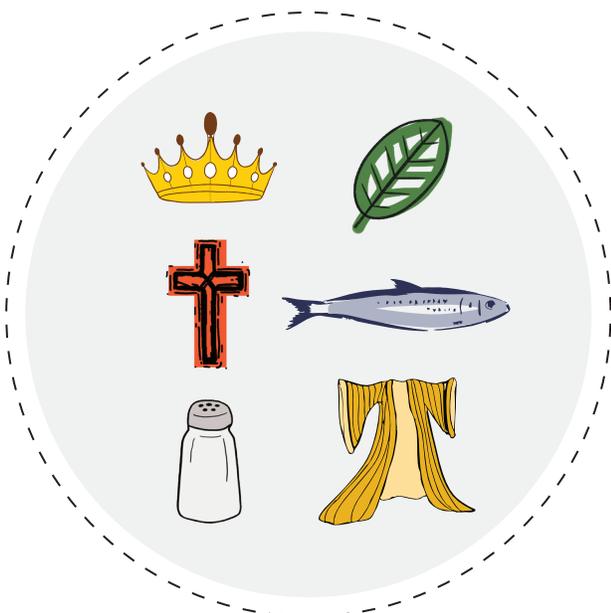
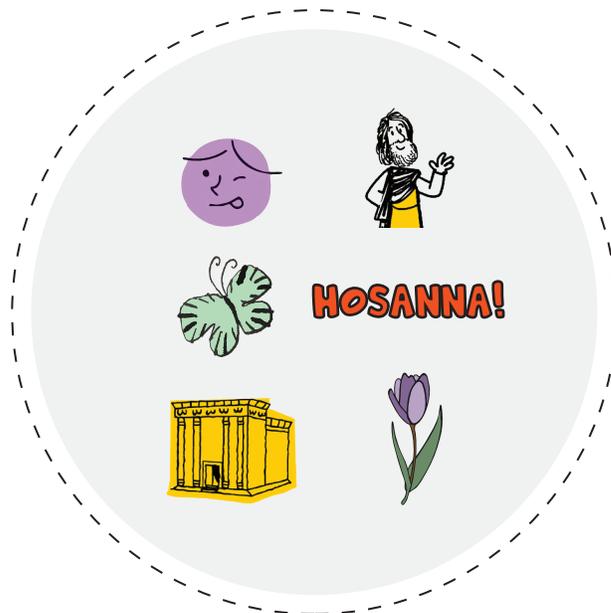
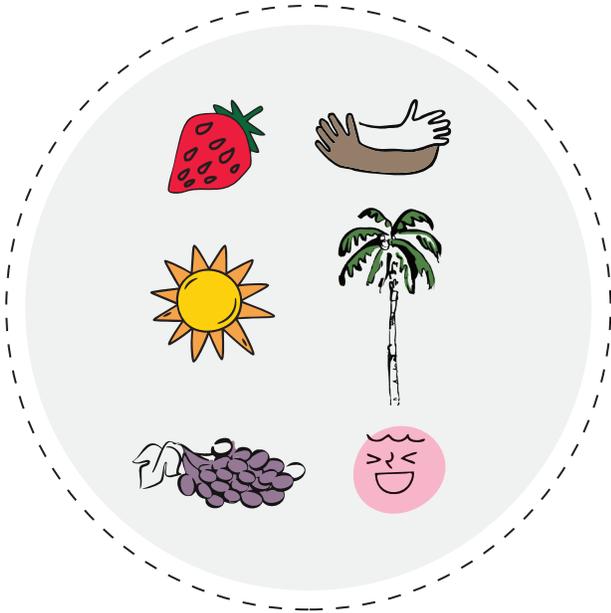
- Welcome the kids by name with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite the kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Divide the kids into groups of three.
- Give each group a "Palm Sunday Spot It Instruction Card" and place a deck of cards from the "Palm Sunday Spot It" Activity Page face down in the middle of each group.
- Explain that on any two cards, there is always one, and only one, matching picture on each round of cards.
- Demonstrate by playing a practice round for the entire group to see.
- The first kid to spot the match and call it out wins those cards.
- When a match is spotted, flip the next top two cards in the pile over, and everyone will try and spot the next match.
- Let the groups play for several minutes, finding the matches between their cards. The pictures will include pictures such as a donkey, palm leaf, coat, people shouting, and Jesus.
- The kid with the most cards at the end of the game wins.

What You Say:

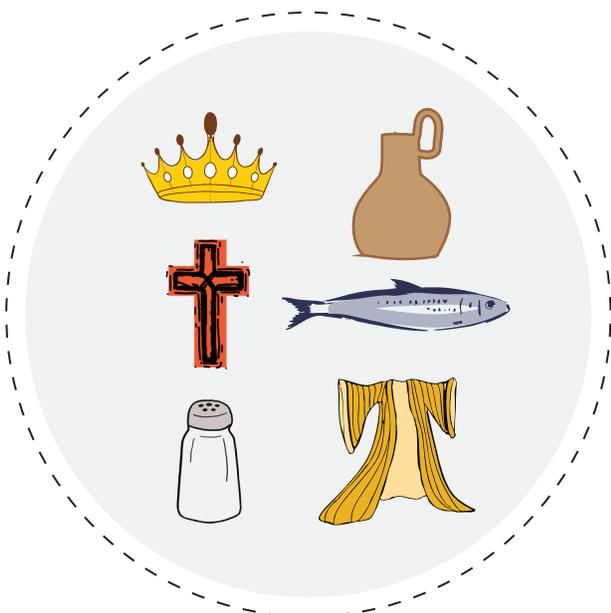
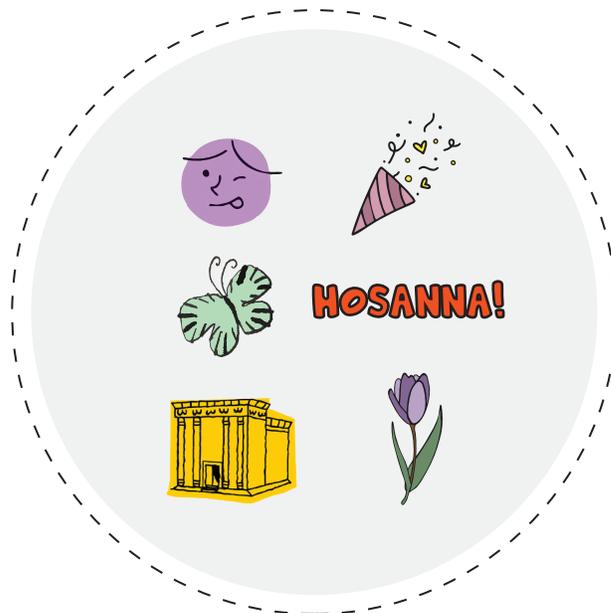
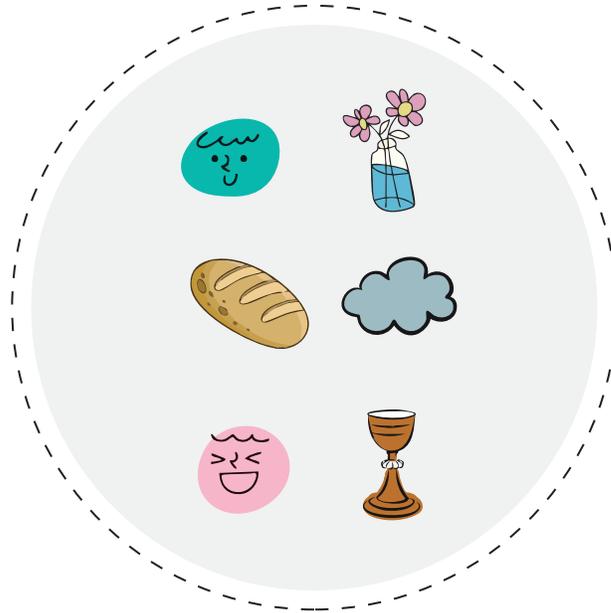
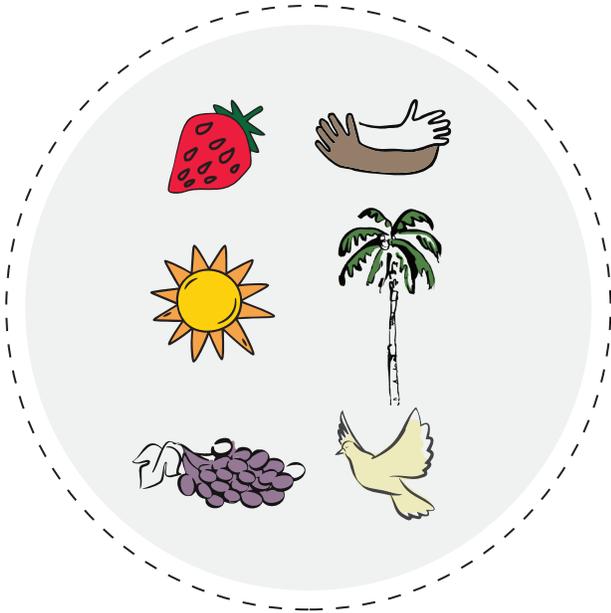
"You have sharp eyes! It's fun to spot the matches. Does anyone know what today is? Yes! It's Palm Sunday. It's a day that we celebrate the week before Easter, a day that we celebrate Jesus! The pictures on our cards today are all clues about our Bible Story. **[Transition] It's a story about a day when a huge crowd was trying to spot Jesus! Let's go find out what happened.**"



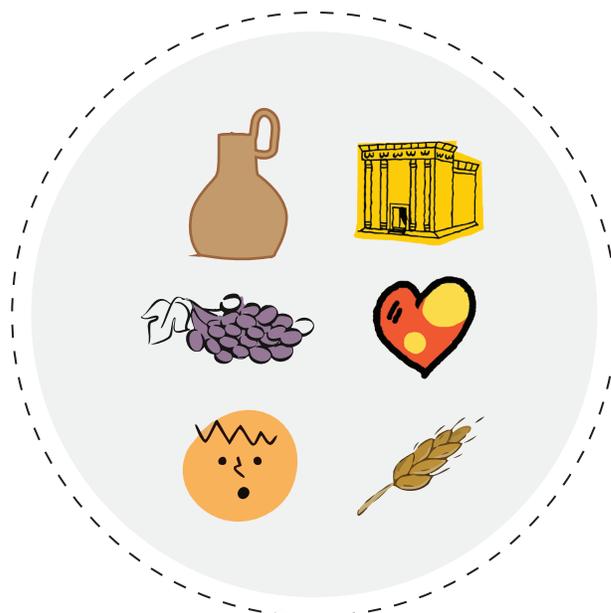
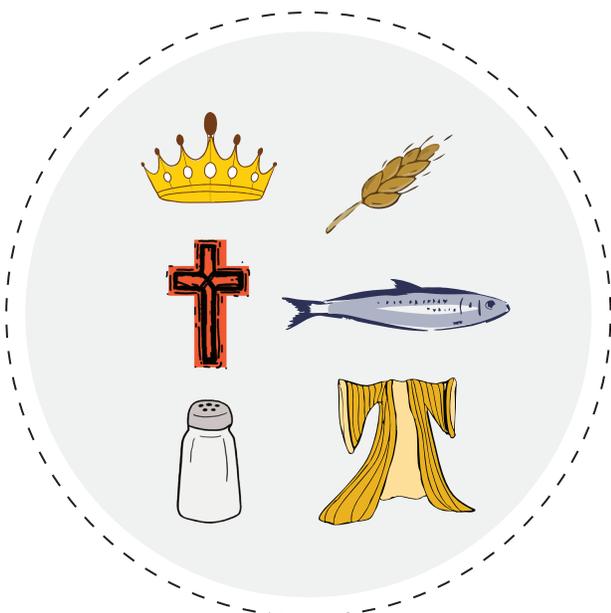
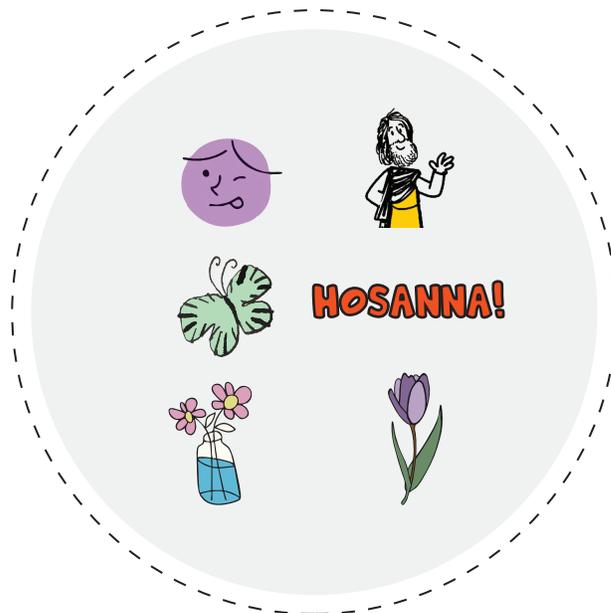
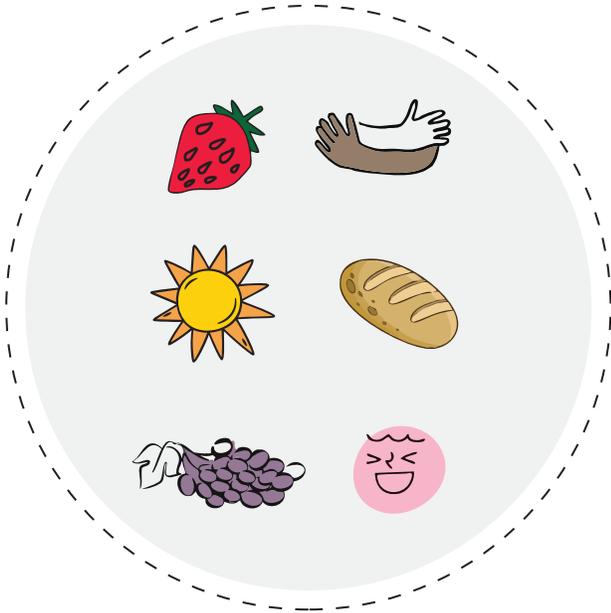
What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One set for every three kids. (Page 1 of 7)



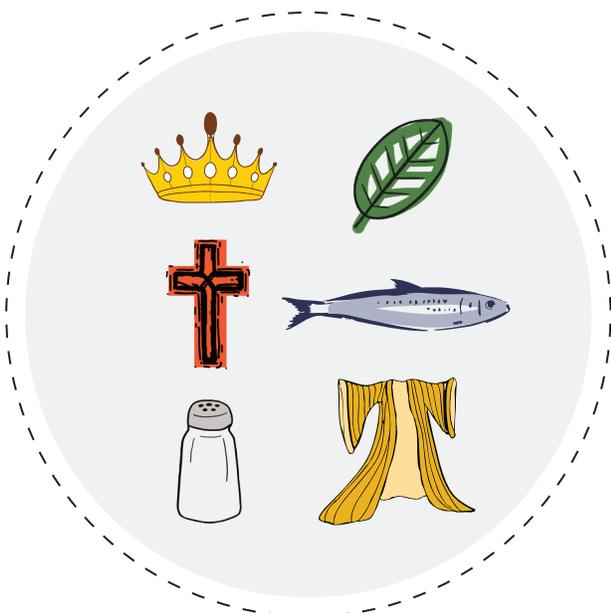
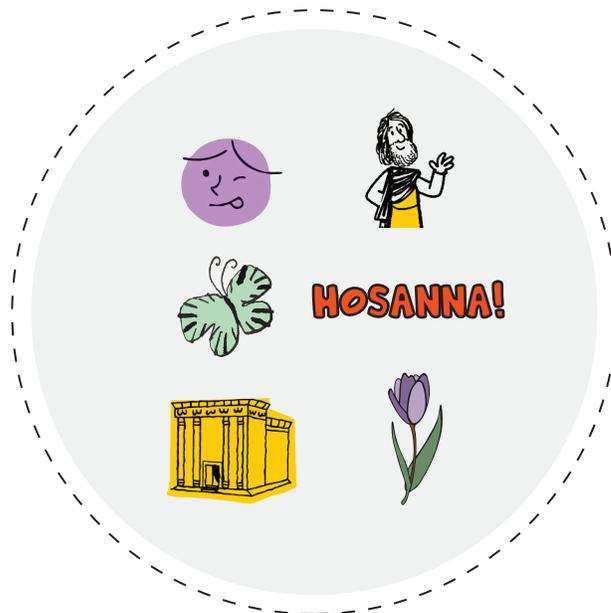
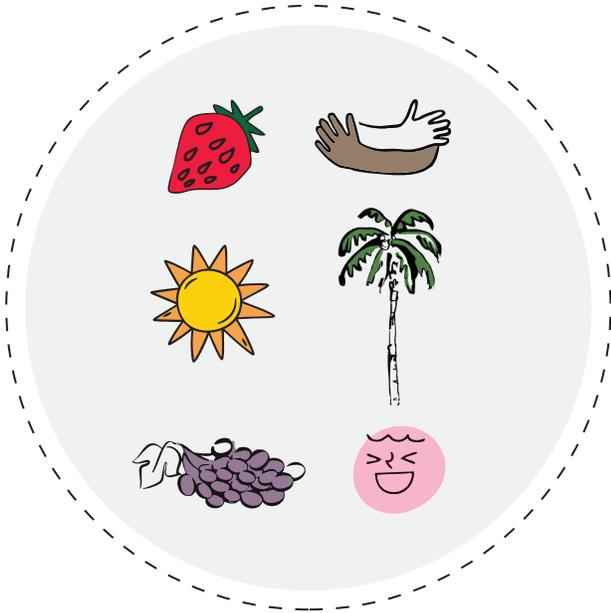
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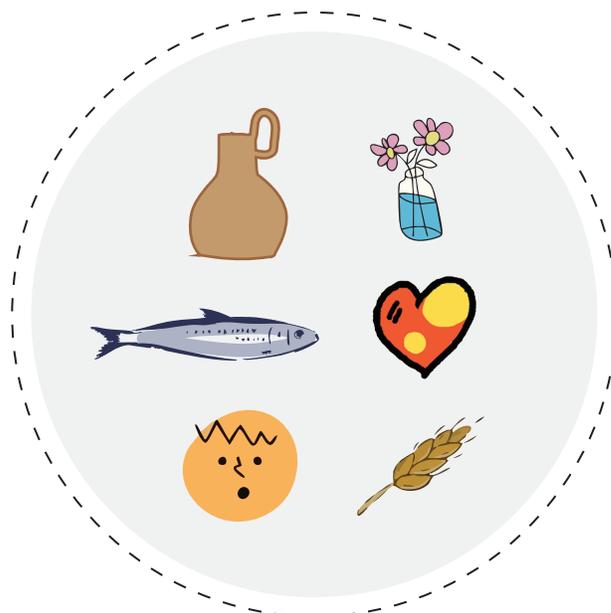
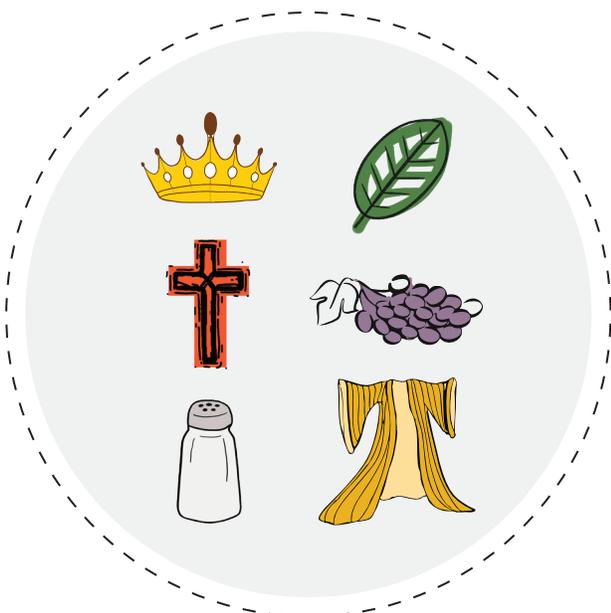
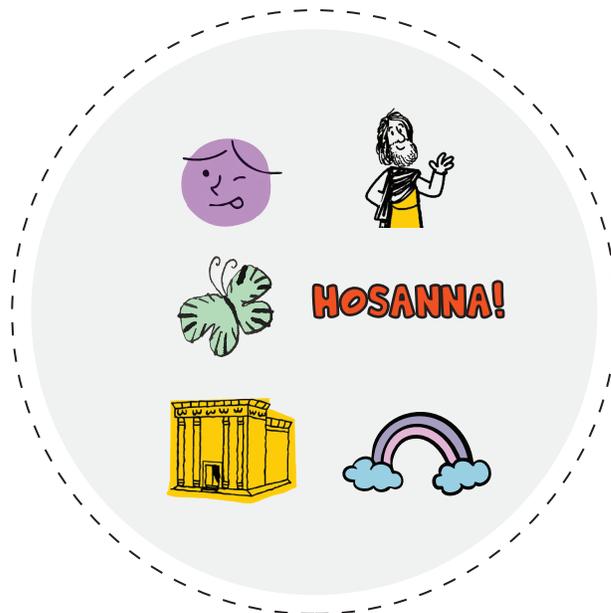
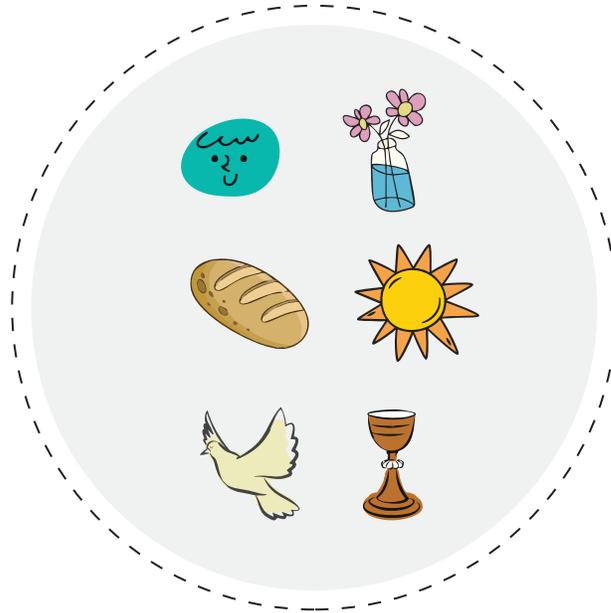
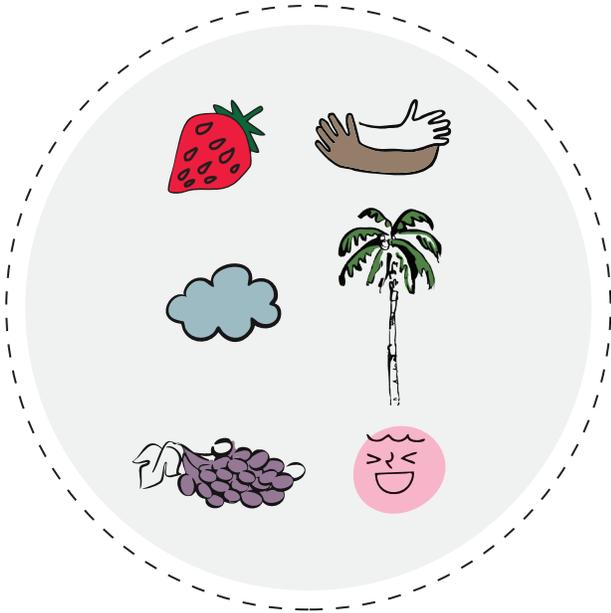
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One set for every three kids. (Page 3 of 7)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One set for every three kids. (Page 4 of 7)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One set for every three kids. (Page 5 of 7)



What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One set for every three kids. (Page 6 of 7)

Give each player a card and place the deck face down. Count to three and turn the top card of the deck over. The goal is to be the first to find and name the matching picture on each card. If you do, you win the card. The player with the most cards at the end of the game wins the round. Shuffle and play again.

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5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Build the Story | Made to Create

What You Need

-  Bible 1
-  LEGOs® or other building blocks, Several enough for four teams to build an illustration from the Bible Story



EveryChild Tips

- Use larger blocks, like DUPLO®, for kids who need more support with fine motor skills.
- Partner kids so that each team has a strong builder who can help bring the team's ideas to life.

What You Do:

- Read John 12:12-15 and John 13:3-5 out loud to the group.
- Share that another of the writers of another gospel tells us that the people laid their coats and branches from the trees on the road that Jesus traveled down! That was something you did for someone so important! The people were so excited that Jesus was coming!
- Divide your group into four groups.
- Give each team a specific part of the Palm Sunday story to build with their LEGOs®.
- Team 1: Build the donkey Jesus rode.
- Team 2: Build the road with coats and branches on it.
- Team 3: Build the crowd of people who were celebrating and waving palm branches.
- Team 4: Build Jesus washing the disciples' feet.
- Give them several minutes to build their part of the story.
- When they are done, bring all the creations together and use them to retell the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem like a king and Jesus serving others by washing feet.

What You Say:

"Look at this! You built the whole story! Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, and the people celebrated Jesus like a king. They made a special path with coats and branches and waved palm branches in the air as they shouted 'Hosanna.' 'Hosanna' means, 'save us, we pray.'

"But Jesus showed them that He is an 'upside down' kind of King. A few days later, Jesus did the job of a servant and washed His friends' feet. Jesus, the true King of heaven and earth, chose to take on this humble job of washing feet. Jesus even washed the feet of Judas Iscariot, whom He knew was about to betray Him to the religious leaders! Jesus did that to teach us all an important lesson. Jesus showed us how to treat others and put others first. **[Bottom Line] Jesus showed us how to be humble.**"

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Cheer for Jesus | Made to Move

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Remind the kids how the crowd on Palm Sunday shouted "Hosanna!" to celebrate Jesus. "Hosanna!" means "save us, we pray!"
- Tell the kids that you are going to create your own cheer for Jesus.
- Brainstorm some simple words for your cheer together. (e.g., "J-E-S-U-S, He's the very best!" or "Hosanna in the highest! Jesus is our King!")
- Create some simple motions to go with your cheer—like clapping, stomping, or raising your hands.
- Practice your cheer together a few times, getting louder and more excited each time.
- Divide into two groups and have a "cheer-off."

What You Say:

"That was an awesome cheer! It's great to celebrate Jesus. But Jesus taught us that cheering for Him with our mouths isn't enough. He also wants us to 'cheer' for Him with our actions. **[Bottom Line] Jesus showed us how to be humble.**

"Now, showing humility like Jesus is tough, because the world tells us we're supposed to get ahead and be important. We need the help of the Holy Spirit inside us to set aside what we want in order to serve others like Jesus. But when we ask Jesus to give us the ability to be humble, He will do it! When we choose to be humble and put others first, we are showing the world how amazing Jesus is."

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Your Best Foot Forward | Made to Create

What You Need

-  Bibles marked at Philippians 2:3 1
-  Print "Memory Verse Foot Sticker" on Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent 1
-  Coloring supplies 1

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Bible marked at Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips.

Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page. Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud. Then, guide children to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

Finding verses with 1st graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book's name. When the kids find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the right chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Say the Memory Verse, Philippians 2:3, together as a group.
- Give each kid a sticker and let them decorate their sticker with coloring supplies.
- When the kids are done, they can peel the sticker and put it on their shoe or sock.

What You Say:

"These look great! When you see this sticker on your shoe this week, let it be a reminder to put your 'best foot forward' by being humble. Our verse tells us to value others more than ourselves. That's what Jesus did when He washed the disciples' feet. **[Bottom Line] Jesus showed us how to be humble.**"



Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.

Philippians 2:3 NIRV



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Philippians 2:3 NIRV



5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

No supplies needed

What To Do:

- Remind the kids how the crowds celebrated Jesus on Palm Sunday by shouting "Hosanna!"
- Say, "Let's take a moment to celebrate Jesus too! What is one amazing thing about Jesus that you want to celebrate?"
- Give a few examples like, "Jesus is kind," "Jesus is my friend," "Jesus is powerful," "Jesus helps me _____."
- Go around the circle and invite each kid to say one thing they want to celebrate about Jesus. After each kid shares, encourage the whole group to shout, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

What You Say:

"It's so good to celebrate Jesus together! He is amazing, and Jesus did the most amazing, humble thing by serving His friends and giving up His life for us so we could be friends with Him forever. Let's pray.

"Dear Jesus, You are amazing! We celebrate You today. Thank You for showing us what it means to be humble and put others first. Help us to be like You this week and serve others. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."