



## WEEK ONE - JUNE 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

**Bible Story:** *Thou Raise Me Up • Ephesians 2:20-21a*

**Bottom Line:** *Jesus matters most.*

**Memory Verse:** *"I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." - Psalm 27:13 NIV*

**Life App:** *Confidence - Living like you believe what God says is true.*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** We start the month with something that Paul tells us in Ephesians 2:20-21. He explains that we are held together by Jesus. When we build our life on Jesus, we have a strong foundation that will stand against whatever life might throw at us.

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**8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES**

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### **1. What Matters Most**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Whiteboard; Dry Erase Marker; Paper; Pencils

#### **What You Do:**

- Welcome the kids to your group and use a couple minutes to ask about their week (highs/lows)
- ASK: What are some things you want to do this summer?
- Write down kids' answers on a white board.
- Once you've filled up the board with their answers, pass out the paper to let the kids make their own lists of important things to do this summer.
- Instruct kids to number their lists in order of importance.
- After they've made their lists, ask kids to pair up and share their top five list with their partner.

#### **What You Say:**

*""Wow! I'm not sure anyone could do ALL the things we've listed here. But you have identified what matters most on your own lists so maybe you can make those the priority this summer! [Transition] In Large Group, we're going to hear about something that matters EVEN MORE than all those great plans. Let's go!"*

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

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**9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP**

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#### **OVERVIEW:**

**Bottom Line:** *Jesus matters most.* "Jesus came to bring us life to the full. We find confidence when we build our life on Him. We pray that kids will understand that living fully alive is best when they put their trust in Jesus.

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9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

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## 1. Most Important!

### [Application Activity]

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** "Most Important" Activity Pages; markers or crayons

### What You Do:

- Give each child a "Most Important" Activity Page and set out the markers or crayons.
- Instruct kids to draw a line from each picture to the item that's missing.
- As kids work, invite them to describe why each item is important.
- Finally, invite each kid to draw a picture of themselves with Jesus in the space provided. They can draw other people with Jesus, too.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to emphasize that when it comes to the Church, **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most.**

### What You Say:

*"When it comes to parachuting, what do you HAVE to have? Yes! A parachute! When it comes to a skateboard, what does your skateboard HAVE to have? Yes! A deck! When it comes to a mountain bike, what does your bike HAVE to have? You got it: both wheels!*

*"When it comes to the Church, what do you have to have? What if we removed ourselves and we weren't here? (Pause and let kids think about that for a moment.) Yes! When it comes to the Church, you have to have people, and you have to have Jesus! **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most.***

*(If they haven't already, let kids draw a picture of themselves with Jesus in the space provided. They can draw other people with Jesus, too.)*

*"Jesus came to give us life to the full. And when we believe in His power to save us, we can have confidence that He'll help us through anything. He'll help us when we're sad, He'll help us when we're lonely, He'll help us when we're scared, He'll help us when we're angry, and He'll help us when we're confused. No matter what, Jesus will always help us. So remember: **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most.**"*

## 2. Confidence

### [Memory Verse Activity]

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** Bibles

**What You Do:**

- Unpack the word confident—acting like you believe something is true—and then cue kids to move as different animals might move if they were either confident or not confident.
- You might choose: an elephant, a lion, a snake, a monkey, a dog, a cat, a fish, a bird, or a horse. End by guiding kids to move like THEY are confident.
- Help kids look up the memory verse using the navigation tips below.
  - *When finding verses with kindergartners, guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word Psalm at the top of the page as you say "Psalm" aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 27 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 27 for the little 13; this is the verse number. Tell them to put their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*
  - *When finding verses with first 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 Psalms in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Psalms starts with the letters P-S. When the kids find Psalms, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Psalms. Help the kids find the page. When they find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 27. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 13 in chapter 27. Tell them to put their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*
- Unpack the phrase "remain confident." Emphasize the fact that we can ALWAYS be confident of God's goodness.

**What You Say:**

*"What do you think it means to 'remain confident'? (To stay confident; to always be sure; to trust; to believe) Yes! Psalms 27:13 tells us that we can always be confident that God is good. We can trust and be sure that we will see His goodness.*

*"What are some ways we can see God's goodness? (In the world He made; in how He gives us families and people who love us; He gave us Jesus.) Yes! We can see God's goodness in many ways, can't we? But the biggest way we can see God's goodness is through Jesus. God loves us SO much that He sent Jesus to live on earth, to die on the cross, and to come*

*back to life so that if we believe in Him, we can have confidence that we'll live forever with God and that He'll help us through anything. Wow! So remember: **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most!***

### **3. Pray and Dismiss**

#### **[Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** N/A

#### **What You Do:**

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

#### **What You Say:**

*"Today you learned that **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most**. How does Jesus matter most? (He's God's Son; He's our Savior; He died on the cross for us and came back to life.) Yes, **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most** because without Him, everything would fall apart. **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most** because He loves you more than you can imagine. **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most** because if you choose to believe in Him and follow Him, He'll be your Savior and you'll live with Him forever. Let's pray.*

*"Dear God, thank You so much for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Thank You, God, that You love us more than we can imagine. Help us learn to have confidence in You and to love You more and more. We love You, Lord. Amen."*

*As adults arrive to pick up, prompt kids to tell their parent today's Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] Jesus matters most** and hand out the monthly overview cards to each child.*