



WEEK TWO - JUNE 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

Bible Story: *He'll Be There for You • Judges 6-8*

Bottom Line: *God can use you no matter what*

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 look to Judges 6-8. When God called Gideon to lead the Israelites, Gideon doubted God would really want him to help. Gideon was from the smallest tribe, the smallest family, and he was the smallest of his family! God wanted him anyway and eventually Gideon learned that God could use him no matter what!

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

1. Early Arriver Idea

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Welcome the kids to your group and use a couple minutes to ask about their week (highs/lows)
- Then encourage them to share if they have a nickname.
 - Why did you get that nickname?
 - Who gave it to you?
- **[Make It Personal] Tell kids what nickname you had when you were young, why you got it, and who gave it to you.**
- Let kids come up with some fun and silly nicknames for each other.
- Allow them to be random and make no sense, but help kids understand if they come up with a nickname that might not be super fun for the person receiving it.

2. Smallest?

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines & working as a group

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Guide kids to get into teams of three.
- Play a life-sized sorting game, cueing teams to line up by:
 - Shortest to longest hair
 - Smallest to largest shoe size
 - Smallest to largest hands
 - Shortest to longest shirt sleeves
 - Shortest to longest shorts, skirts, or pants
- After you've done a few, line the groups up without telling them what your reason is for the way you sorted them.
- Let the groups look around at their peers and see if they can figure it out.
- Keep interest high by maintaining a quick pace and high energy.
- If time remains, shuffle the groups and play again.

What You Say:

"You guys did a great job working together to get in order. Did you notice something that was alike in all the ways I asked you to line up? (Pause.) Yes! I always had the smallest or the shortest line up FIRST. [Transition] In Large Group, we'll hear how God used someone who felt small to do something BIG. Let's go learn more."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *God can use you no matter what." Big or small, young or old, God can use people to do amazing things. We pray that whether kids feel like Gideon or have the confidence of an extreme sports superstar, kids will realize that God can use them.*

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

1. Picture Pose

[Application Activity]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy & facilitates application through role-play

What You Need: "Gideon's Story" Activity Page; Bible

What You Do:

- Place the "Gideon's Story" Activity Pages in order around your SG space.
- Invite a child to open the Bible to Judges 6.
- Direct kids to go to the picture that shows what happened first in the story. Provide cues as necessary.
- When kids find the picture, lead them to tell what's happening.
- Next, guide kids to pose like the people in the scene.
 - Some kids can be Gideon or the angel, while others can be objects in the picture or elements of the setting. The kids' creativity is the only limit!
- As kids move from picture to picture, guide them to recall each part of the story and pose each scene.
- As you go, spur deeper thinking by asking questions such as:
 - How do you think Gideon felt?
 - How would YOU have felt?
 - What would you have done?

What You Say:

"Gideon was the least important member of the least important family in Israel. But God chose Gideon to lead an army into battle, and they won!"

"Think about what that story says about God. It says that He can use someone who might think they're small or unimportant to do big or important things."

*"So what does the story of Gideon say about YOU? Maybe you feel like a Gideon. Maybe you feel small or unimportant. Maybe you wonder if God could ever use you. Well, you know what? God CAN use you. [Bottom Line] **God can use you no matter what.** No matter how small you are or how young you are, God made you and you are important to Him."*

*"So here's the one thing to give you confidence today: Just like God used Gideon, [Bottom Line] **God can use YOU no matter what!**"*

2. Confident?

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: "Confident or Not Confident" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Guide kids to gather around you. Read a scenario from the Activity Page.
 - If the child in the situation shows confidence, guide kids to pretend to hold a torch and blow a horn, as Gideon and his army did.
 - If the child doesn't show confidence, tell kids to stand quietly.
- If you know your group well, feel free to add scenarios that are meaningful for your kids.

What You Say:

"Whoa! Did EVERY child choose confidence? (Pause.) Yes! Was it always easy for them to be confident? No, it wasn't, was it? But no matter what they faced, they all trusted God to help them."

"Was Gideon confident at first? (Pause.) No, he wasn't, was he? But even though Gideon felt small and unimportant, God gave him the confidence and courage to lead an army into battle and win! God made Gideon a strong and mighty warrior!"

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time God asked you to do something, but you lacked confidence to do it. Tell how God gave you confidence and helped you. Also tell how it made a difference in someone's life.)

"When might you need God's help to be confident? (When I'm scared of the dark; when my mom/dad goes on a trip; when I go to school; when I read; when I do math; when I'm in a new place; when I have a dance/music recital; when I want to tell a friend about Jesus)

"God helped me be confident even though _____ (I was scared, I felt unsure), and God can help you be confident, too. All you need to do is ask Him and trust Him.

"So remember, just like God used Gideon no matter what, and just like God used me no matter what, **[Bottom Line]** **God can use YOU no matter what**, too! He can give you confidence to be strong and mighty just like Gideon!"

3. Pray & Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: "Small but Mighty" Activity Pages

What You Do:

- Show the "Small but Mighty" pictures and tell how each insect is small but can do really mighty things:
 - A leafcutter ant can lift 50 times its weight. That would be like a kid lifting 50 kids!
 - A rhinoceros beetle can lift 850 times its weight. That would be like a man lifting 9 large elephants!
- Use the conversation below to lead kids into prayer

What You Say:

"Ants and rhinoceros beetles may be small, but God gave them amazing strength! Gideon felt small, too. But God knew what Gideon could be when he relied on HIS strength. God knew that Gideon could be a mighty warrior.

"Maybe you feel like Gideon did. Maybe you feel like you're not important or that other people are more important than you. But **[Bottom Line]** **God can use you no matter what**. No matter how small you are, no matter how old you are, or no matter how quick you are, God made you, and you are important to Him.

"That's why the story of Gideon is so amazing. It reminds us that God can use anyone to do anything! So here's one thing to give you confidence today: [Bottom Line] God can use you no matter what. Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You that You can use us to do big and important things. Thank You that You can use us no matter what, because You are good and amazing and powerful. We love You, Lord. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids, "Can God use you no matter what? (Yes!) Yes, [Bottom Line] God can use you no matter what!"