



WEEK TWO - OCTOBER 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

Bible Story: *Just Can't Get Enough • Hebrews 13:5*

Bottom Line: *Stuff can't keep you happy.*

Memory Verse: *"Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.'" Luke 12:15 (NIrV)*

Life App: *Contentment—Deciding to be okay with what you have*

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

Summary: Next, we look at Hebrews 13:5, Don't be controlled by love for money. Be happy with what you have. God has said, "I will never leave you. I will never desert you," (NIrV). The writer of Hebrews knows something about contentment. The writer reminds us that nothing we own can ever make us happy. Our focus should be on our relationship with God.

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

1. Early Arriver Idea

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Sing the first verse of "If You're Happy and You Know It" (clap your hands).
- Tell kids they get to make up the rest of the verses.
- Go around the circle, with each kid getting to choose what to do "if you're happy and you know it." For example: "If you're happy and you know it, pump your fist."
- After each kid has had a turn, challenge them to "do all 10" (or however many kids you have) and do every single action that was mentioned. It will likely be a bit chaotic, but it will be fun!

2. Create It

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

What You Need: Play Doh

What You Do:

- Set out the Play-Doh
- Ask kids to think of a toy, game, piece of clothing, or other possession that at first they were just DYING to have, but then they quickly got bored with.
- Give some examples, if they're having trouble getting started: a video game that they played and played but then got tired of; a toy they really wanted for last year's birthday, but they don't play with it anymore; a pet that was really fun at first but is also a lot of work to take care of.
- Instruct kids to use the molding materials to create that object.
- When kids are finished, collect the items and set them aside to use again later.

What You Say:

"We all have things we thought would make us SO happy; and at first they did, but that didn't last very long. [Transition] Let's go to Large Group where we'll hear about whether or not things can truly make us happy."

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: *Stuff can't keep you happy.* Getting something new can be exciting, and even make you happy for a time. But as we know, that feeling of happiness doesn't last forever because what we own was never meant to do that. We hope that kids leave with the idea that only God can satisfy their needs and give them joy in spite of what they do or don't own.

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

1. Use It For Good

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Kid's Play Doh creations from the Social Activity

What You Do:

- Hand kids' creations back to them.
- Ask the kid to your right to describe what he created.
- Then guide the group to think of a way that item could be used to create a happy experience for their family or friends. For example:
 - A shirt they just HAD to have can be turned into a costume for a family play.
 - A doll can be used to play house with a brother or sister.
 - A video game can be the focus of a video game tournament with friends.
 - A toy can be given to a shelter to give another kid some joy.
- Encourage the child to role-play the idea with their object. This can as simple as holding out the object and saying, "[Sibling's name], would you like to play with this with me?"
- Make sure each child gets a turn with his object.

What You Say:

"Those were some fantastic ideas about how we can use the things we have to build stronger relationships with the people in our lives. Owning something can make us happy for a while, but eventually that feeling will wear off. When we use those things to spend time with friends and family, we can use those things for good and help others be happy.

*[Bottom Line] **Stuff can't keep you happy, but God wants us to find joy and happiness in our relationships with the people He's put in our lives!***

2. On Your Guard

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: "Shield" Activity Pages, scissors, tape, crayons, cardstock strips

What You Do:

- Read Luke 12:15 from the Bible.
- Tell kids that today you're focusing on the "Be on your guard" part of the verse.
 - Explain that means you watch out, and then when something is coming at you, you do what you can to keep it from hitting and hurting you.
- Hand out the shields. If you have not yet cut them out, instruct kids to do so.
- Explain that a long time ago, people would use metal shields to protect themselves. They would hold a shield up in front of them to keep arrows or spears from hitting and hurting them.
- Tell kids that when you are on your guard against things that can make you discontent, you need to do things to help you be content.
- Remind kids of the symbols and things you talked about last week:
 - Bible: You can read the Bible and remember verses you've memorized.
 - Question Mark: You can ask God for help to be content.
 - Mouth: You can talk to God when you have a bad attitude.
- Ask kids to draw a picture of themselves being on their guard against discontentment.
- Then help kids use the cardstock strips to create a handle for their shields.
 - Fold the strip in half lengthwise to reinforce it.
 - Tape one end of the strip several inches from the top of the back of the shield.
 - Create an arch with the strip, and tape the other end so it leaves some room in the middle to grab onto the handle.

What You Say:

"These actual shields won't stop discontentment, but if we do the things we drew on them, we can have a better chance of being content. We know [Bottom Line] stuff can't make you happy, but God can help us to be content whenever we trust in Him and ask Him to help us be content with what we have."

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Kids' shields from the "On Your Guard" activity

What You Do:

- Instruct kids to stand in a circle.
- Guide kids to hold their shields in front of their chests.
- Pray for the kid on your left, asking God to help him be on his guard against discontentment.
- Encourage that kid to pray for the kid on his left.
- Continue all the way around the circle. If a kid doesn't feel comfortable praying out loud, you can pray for the kid on her left.

What You Say:

*"Today we learned that [Bottom Line] **stuff can't keep you happy**. It's easy to become discontent when we think things will make us happy, because they might for a little while, but it won't last. We need to continue to ask God to help us be content with what we have."*

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage them to ask kids why they made shields today.