



WEEK FOUR - MARCH 2019 - PRETEEN

Bible Story: *Faith My Eyes • 1 Samuel 16:7*

Key Question: *Why is it important to look on the inside?*

Memory Verse: *“How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.” - Psalm 139:14 NIV*

Life App: *Individuality - Discovering who you are meant to be*

Basic Truth: *I need to make the wise choice.*

Summary: For Week Four, we head to 1 Samuel 16 and discover more about the time when God used Samuel to anoint David as the next king of Israel. As the youngest of Jesse’s sons, David was the least likely to be crowned king. Yet God helped Samuel discover that the true worth is not what we see on the outside but who we are on the inside.

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

1. Just For Fun

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

What You Need: Phone

What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Gather kids to sit in a circle.
- Read the idioms below.
- If kids know what the idiom means, encourage them to jump up.
- Ask the first kid to stand up to give you the meaning.
- Ask the group if he or she is right. Allow kids to debate the meaning. Encourage them to use it in a sentence. If necessary, search the meaning on a mobile device.
- After reading a few, ask kids what the statements have in common?
- Idiom statements:
 - From the bottom of my heart
 - A heart of gold
 - That breaks my heart
 - Cross my heart
 - Faint of heart
 - Put your heart into it
 - Heart's desire

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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

OVERVIEW:

Key Question: *Why is it important to look on the inside? We live in a world where everyone is compared to one another. Who's faster? Who's prettier? Who's smarter? But that's not the way we should look at others—or ourselves for that matter! We hope preteens start thinking about how they can look past outward appearances and see that what's on the inside is what matters most.*

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

1. Take a Snapshot

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Sticky notes, pencils, markers

What You Do:

- Give kids sticky notes and pencils.
- Ask kids to think of ways we describe people or ways we identify people.
- Challenge kids to write each example they think of on a separate sticky notes and stick the notes on the wall or table.
- Work together to group similar examples together.
- Discuss the examples. Potential discussion questions could be:
 - What are examples are positive ways to identify people? Why are they positive?
 - Dig deeper if necessary. For example: What about people’s possessions or clothes? Is that a way we identify people? Or what about grades in school? Do we identify people by their friends? What about people’s religion? Give kids an opportunity to add to the list of notes.
 - What ways would you want someone to identify or describe you? Encourage the group to pick five ways.
 - What ways would you not want to be identified by? Encourage kids to pick three ways.

2. Discussion Questions

[Application Activity]

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: A box with an unbreakable object inside

What You Do:

- Ask:
 - If people tried to determine what’s in your heart, what do you think they’d say? Would they be right? Why or why not?
 - Why is it important look on the inside, to look at what is in a person’s heart?
 - For a visual, pass around a box with any object (that won’t break) inside. Have them shake the box and try to guess what is inside. How is guessing what is inside a box the same and/or different than determining what is inside a person’s heart? How do we determine what is in a person’s heart?
 - What do actions, words, emotions, and attitudes tell you about someone? Give example how they can show you what is inside a person’s heart.
 - When is it wise to try to determine what is in a person’s heart? Is it ever un-wise?

3. Make It Personal With Prayer

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: “Week Four Bottom Line Labels” Activity Page; “Picture Frames” from Week One

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- If you know your group well, select a word for each of the kids that describes their heart and give an example why you chose the word for them.
- Close with prayer.