



## WEEK ONE – MAY 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Runnin' Down a Dream* ▪ Matthew 28:16–20; Acts 1–2

**Bottom Line:** *Keep going because God is with you.*

**Memory Verse:** *“But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.” – Isaiah 40:31 NIV*

**Life App:** *Perseverance – Refusing to give up when life gets hard*

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

**Summary:** We start the month in Matthew 28:16–20 and Acts 1–2 as we listen in on the last conversation Jesus had with His disciples before going back to heaven. He gave them a huge mission—to share His message to ends of the earth. He also promised that they wouldn't have to do it alone. He would send the Holy Spirit to help. When the Holy Spirit did come at Pentecost, the Spirit gave the disciples power to accomplish the task Jesus set out for them.

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

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### **1. Early Arriver Idea**

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

**What You Need:** Globe

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

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up.
- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Set out the globe.
- Encourage kids to talk about different countries they've visited, would like to visit someday, and/or know a lot about.

### **2. Many Languages**

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

**What You Need:** “Many Languages” Activity Pages

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

- Ask if any kids know another language. If so, encourage them to teach the group a few words.
- Hand out the Activity Page.
- Say a few of the words with the kids.
- Pair kids up and let them each say sentences in English while substituting words from the chart.
- Encourage the partners to not look at their papers, and guess what the foreign word was.
- Collect the Activity Pages to use again later.

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

*“I always think it’s fun to learn words in different languages. Wouldn’t it be cool if we just automatically knew other languages without having to learn them? **[Transition] Let’s go to Large Group, where we’ll hear about a time that actually happened!”***

*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:** *Keep going because God is with you. We all have jobs to do. Some jobs feel completely overwhelming and make us feel like we want to give up. God can give us the strength we need to keep going and finish what we started.*

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

**1. Spreading Marker****[Application Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Paper towels, clear containers, water, felt-tip water-based markers

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid a paper towel.
- Instruct the kids to fold the towel in half from side to side multiple times until the towel is about one inch wide.
- The kids will use a marker to draw a squiggly line along the paper towel, starting about an inch and a half from one end.
- Give each kid a clear plastic cup with about an inch of water in it.
- Instruct the kids to stick the blank end of their paper towel into the cup and observe.
- Ask kids to talk about what’s happening with the marker: it spreads, the colors separate, etc.

**What You Say:**

*“In our Bible story today, the gospel—the good news about Jesus—spread to many people because the disciples shared it. Just like our marker spread out and changed when we put the paper towel in the water, our words about Jesus can spread out and change the people around us. **[Make It Personal]** (Tell kids about a time when you told someone about Jesus and it changed their life.) It’s not always easy to tell people about Jesus, because we might not know the person well, and we might be afraid that they’ll make fun of us or say that what we’re saying isn’t true. But we know it is true and it’s the most important thing anyone can hear. You can tell people about Jesus and **[Bottom Line]** keep going because God is with you.”*

**2. Many Languages Verse****[Memory Verse Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Bibles, “Many Languages” Activity Pages

**What You Do:**

- Guide kids to look up Isaiah 40:31 using the following tips.
  - **Finding verses with 2nd and 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 Isaiah in the list under “Old Testament.” When the kids find Isaiah, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Isaiah. Help the kids find the page. When they find Isaiah, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 40. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 31 in chapter 40.*
- Say the verse together several times.
- Hand out the “Many Languages” Activity Pages.
- Choose a language from the page, and say the verse while substituting the words from that language. (Note: The verbs will not all be conjugated correctly, but that’s okay.)
- Then choose another language, and ask a kid to say the verse while substituting the words from that language.
- Choose yet another language.
- This time, point to a kid when you come to a word that’s on the page. He will jump up and say the word. Point to a different kid for the next word, and so on.
- Continue in a similar way with the other languages.

**What You Say:**

*“In today’s Bible story, some of the disciples were able to share the gospel with people in languages they didn’t even know. That’s so cool! It’s not likely that will ever happen to any of us, but we could all definitely learn other languages. It’s not an easy thing to do, but when you do, remember to **[Bottom Line] keep going because God is with you.** Then, after you learn another language, you could tell people about Jesus in that language, just like the disciples did.”*

**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:**

- Tell kids to think about one of the things they wrote on a slip of paper earlier.
- Encourage them to silently pray and ask God to help them trust Him when they face that situation so that they can persevere.
- Close with a prayer similar to the one below.

**What You Say:**

*“Dear God, thank You for loving us and for giving us the Holy Spirit to be with us so that we can keep going when we need to persevere. Remind us to rely upon You for help and strength when we need it. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids about the spreading marker activity. Also, don’t forget to hand out this month’s content overview to each parent!***