



## WEEK ONE – MAY 2019

**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.

**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.*

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**9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:40 - KIDS ARRIVE**

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### Team Welcomes Kids *(Providing Time for Fun Interactions)*

"Je-sus loves me.

2 lap pats – 2 claps

Je-sus loves me.

2 lap pats – 2 claps

Jesus loves [child's name]"  
shout out the name

#### 1. Early Arriver Idea (or FREE PLAY)

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

**What You Need:**

### 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
- Choose a “ducker” and begin to play “Duck, Duck, Goose.”
- After each ducker runs around the circle, encourage them to answer the question: If you were going to run a long race, what would you want to bring with you?
- Continue until each kid has had a chance to be the ducker and answer the question.

### What You Say:

*[Transition] “Today in Large Group, we are going to learn why we can always keep going no matter what obstacles lay in front of us!”*

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

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## 9:10-9:35 | 10:40-11:05 - LARGE GROUP

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*Bible Story – INTRO, Story, OUTRO Videos (whatever works best for your few)  
Worship SONGS*

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## 9:35-10:05 | 11:05-11:35 - SMALL GROUP

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### GROUPS

*(Creating a Safe Place to Connect)*

### 2. Spread the News

#### [Application Activity]

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

**What You Need:** “Spread the News” Activity Pages, markers

### What You Do:

- Talk with your group about what it means to persevere.
  - Ask if anyone knows how to tie their shoes. (If not, ask about other things that are difficult for kids that age to learn, such as writing their name or reading a short sentence.)
  - Ask if learning those skills was hard, and what kids had to do in order to be successful.
  - Did they have to practice and do that skill over and over again? Did it take a long time? Did they have someone who helped them?
- Lead kids to think about something they need to persevere in right now. Maybe it’s tying their shoes if they haven’t learned that yet. Maybe it’s getting along with a sibling. Maybe it’s doing a chore or task until it’s finished, instead of stopping before the task is finished.
- Give every kid an Activity Page and markers.
- Encourage them to decorate their “newspaper” and to draw in one way they are going to keep going and persevere this week!

- If you have kids who haven't identified where they need perseverance, continue the conversation with those kids as the rest of the group works on their newspapers.

### **What You Say:**

*“Who wants to share a way you are going to persevere this week with our group? (Allow time for kids to share.) What AMAZING ideas! Now, who wants to share one of the obstacles or things that may get in the way of you finishing? (Allow time for kids to share.) You know, no matter what comes up this week, our story reminded us today that we can **[Bottom Line] keep going because God is with you.** Each of the ideas you wrote down can be finished because God will help us! I can't wait to hear next week about how you finished things strong this week!*

## **3. Pray and Dismiss**

### **[Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Kids' newspapers from “Spread the News” activity

### **What You Do:**

- Encourage your group to sit in a circle and think about the things they want to persevere through this week.
- Let kids refer to the newspapers they made.

### **What You Say:**

*“God, we thank You that we get to be a part of spreading the best news ever! When times get hard or tough situations arise, we pray that Your Spirit will help us and give us the encouragement we need to keep going. Remind us when we grow tired that we can keep going because You are with us.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, let each kid display their newspaper. Ask them how they want to persevere this week. Remind kids that they can keep going because God is with them. Also, don't forget to hand out this month's content overview to each parent!***