



WEEK ONE – JULY 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Back 2 Good • James 1:17a*

Bottom Line: *Show God's goodness to others.*

Memory Verse: *"God began a good work in you. And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed. That will be on the day Christ Jesus returns. Philippians 1:6, NIV"*

Life App: *What God is doing in you to change the world around you*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated.*

Summary: We start the month in James 1:17a. Jesus' brother, James, shares a bit of wisdom that reminds us how everything that's good comes from God. It's true! Everything good in our lives is because of God. And the best gift that God gives is Jesus. Because of what Jesus did for us, we can show God's goodness to others.

EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

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

What You Need: N/A

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
- As kids arrive, invite them to play “I Spy.”
 - Select an object in the room, but don’t tell kids what it is.
 - Say, “I spy with my little eye something [insert color of object].”
 - Instruct kids to raise their hand if they would like to make a guess.
- Each time someone guesses correctly, ask them the question, “What is the best gift you have ever been given?”

2. Show & Tell

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

What You Need: Paper; markers

What You Do:

- Encourage your group to sit in a circle.
- Explain what “Show and Tell” is. (It’s a time when someone gets to show off one of their favorite things or something they can do really well.)
- Encourage your few to think about something they could show and tell to the group. It can be a favorite object, a sibling or friend, or something they’re good at doing.
- Hand out paper, and set the markers where everyone can reach them.
- Give kids a few minutes to draw their item or action.
- Invite each kid in your group to show and tell!
 - *Note: Some kids at this age will be shy and hesitant to share. Don’t force anyone to show their picture and talk about it in front of the group. Offer to let kids tell you about their picture and let you present it for them. On the flip side, some kids will talk until you stop them! Make sure you time-manage this activity so that everyone who wants a turn gets to share.*

What You Say:

*“I really enjoyed learning more about you all today! There is so much talent and some really cool hobbies in our group. What was your favorite thing someone shared at ‘Show and Tell’? (Allow time for responses.) You know, **[Transition] Today in Large Group, we are going to learn that goodness means so much more than the things we like or what we’re good at. Let’s go find out what else it can mean for me and you!**”*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Show God’s goodness to others. When we understand that God has been so good to us, we can’t help but show goodness to others. From being kind to helping others, we hope kids come up with some great ideas to point others to Jesus with their actions.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Gift the Goodness

[Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: “Gift the Goodness Cards” and “Gift the Goodness Labels” Activity Pages, markers, gift bags

What You Do:

- Provide each kid with a set of “Gift the Goodness Cards.”
- Encourage them to color the cards that have people on them while you talk through each scenario and help them understand the goodness in each picture.
- After your few are finished coloring the goodness pictures, invite them to dream up their own ways to show God’s goodness and draw them on the blank cards.
- Give each kid a gift bag and a label.
- Encourage them to place their label on their gift bag and decorate their bag however they choose.
- Ask your few to place their cards inside their gift bag and take them out at home to remind themselves of the good things they can share this week.

What You Say:

*“I think we have come up with some really great ideas to get us started on showing God’s goodness. This week, I want to encourage you to **[Bottom Line] show God’s goodness to others any chance you get.** Whether it’s at home, school, or even at practice, you’ve got a*

whole bag of ideas to keep you going! Aren't you so excited that God wants to use you to show people how good He is? I can't wait to hear next week about how your goodness sharing goes!"

2. Good Work Thank-You Notes

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Construction paper; markers

What You Do:

- Using the tips below, if needed, look up and read Philippians 1:6 several times aloud.
 - **Finding verses with kindergartners:** *Guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word Luke at the top of the page as you say "Luke" aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 2 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 2 for the little 52; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.*
 - **Finding verses with 1st 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 Luke in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Luke starts with the letters L-U. When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 2. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 52 in chapter 2.*
- Provide each kid with a piece of paper and marker.
- Talk about what this verse could look like in their lives by prompting them with a story from yours. **[Make It Personal] (Share a personal example of God's plans or good works within you.)**
- Encourage them to write a thank-you note to God thanking Him for the good work He started in them.

What You Say:

*"Have you ever thought about what you want to be when you are older? Maybe a firefighter, a rocket scientist, a teacher, or a pastor? (Allow time for responses.) We may not know if you'll be a firefighter or a ballerina, but we do know that God has some good works planned for you and that He is beginning that good work right now inside of you. Whenever you **[Bottom Line] show God's goodness to others**, everyone around you gets a glimpse of just how good God is!"*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: Kids' thank-you notes from the previous activity

What You Do:

- Encourage your group to read their thank-you notes aloud quietly to God. (Invite kids to all read their notes at the same time, to minimize the potential for anyone to feel “put on the spot.”)
- Close your group in prayer when you see every kid has finished.

What You Say:

*“God, we thank You for being the God of good plans! We thank You for creating us to do awesome things in this world. Although we can't always see the full picture of your plans, we know that You have the best plans because You are so full of goodness. We ask that this week, You would help us to be people who **[Bottom Line]** show God's goodness to others and are overflowing with Your love. In Jesus' name, amen!”*

As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid display their gift bag. Ask them, “What card do you think you'll pull out first?” Remind them that no matter where they are or what they are doing this week, they can **[Bottom Line]** show God's goodness to others. Also, don't forget to hand out this month's content overview to each parent!