



WEEK TWO – JULY 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Faithfully* ▪ Acts 12:1–19

Bottom Line: *Be faithful so others can count on you.*

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: Next, we discover how faithfulness shows up in an incredible moment that Luke records in Acts 12:1–19. Peter faithfully served God and preached the message of Jesus. The church faithfully prayed for Peter while he was in prison. God was faithful to Peter and sent an angel to help him escape. They could hardly believe what happened, but everyone praised God for his faithfulness.

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 count all of the red things in the room.
- Once you have counted all of the red things, continue another round by counting all of the blue things.
- Continue more rounds by counting anything that is fuzzy and then anything that is shiny.
- Encourage kids to think of other categories you can keep counting.

2. Building Up

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

What You Need: Plastic cups

What You Do:

- Divide your few into two or three teams.
- Provide each group with enough blocks (or cups) to build a tower.
- Encourage groups to begin building the tallest tower they can.
- Let them experiment with different ways of building the towers to see which ones are the sturdiest and last the longest.

What You Say:

“Every awesome tower, building that is designed, or even pizza that is baked needs something to build upon. Each layer counts on another layer that has gone before it.

[Transition] Today in Large Group, we are going to learn about how we can be people who others can count on. Let’s go find out how we can best make that happen!”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Be faithful so others can count on you.* Faithfulness will look different for each of us. Some of us will be faithful to family members who need encouragement. Others will faithfully help friends who struggle a bit. We hope kids learn that when they are faithful to others, God can do some amazing things through them.

SMALL GROUP

1. Faithful Stories

[Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: “Faithful Stories” Activity Pages, markers

What You Do:

- Provide each kid with an Activity Page.
- Encourage kids to look at the characters on the page and talk about each of their situations.
- Encourage them to “finish the story” by drawing the believers praying for Peter (in the first strip) and then how they themselves could be someone that the person in the picture can count on (in the second strip).
- Prompt them by asking questions like:
 - What did Peter’s friends do while he was in jail?
 - What could we do if we saw that someone dropped their lunch?
- When finished with the first two pictures, invite the group to come up with ideas for how they can be faithful in the week ahead.
 - Prompt them by sharing different places they will be and people they will interact with. (“Who do you see at school? Who’s someone who sometimes needs your help at recess?”)
- Instruct kids to draw one of their ideas in the last square. (Help them figure out what to draw in each square, with the left square being the “problem” to solve and the right square containing a way to be a faithful friend, sibling, or student.)

What You Say:

*“You all were very creative and smart in looking at these situations and finishing the story with really great ways to be faithful! This is exactly how we should look at the situations we see each and every day. You can always be on the lookout for ways you can **[Bottom Line] be faithful so others can count on you.** How were Peter and the believers faithful in our story today? (Allow time for responses. Prompt them by asking questions like: Did they pray? Did they think God would be someone they can count on?) How was God faithful in our story?”*

(Allow time for responses.) This week, I want to encourage you to find ways you can create stories of faithfulness in your own life so others can count on you, too!”

2. Carry On

[Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: “Carry On” Activity Page strips, paper, tape, markers, straws, Bibles

What You Do:

- Read and review this month’s memory verse aloud.
- Focus on the second phrase of the verse: And I am sure that he will carry it on until it is completed (Philippians 1:6b NIV).
- Provide each kid with a piece of paper, an Activity Page strip, two straws, and a marker.
- Set out the tape for kids to share.
- Instruct the kids to tape their strip near the top of their construction paper.
- Tell them to tape their two straws onto each side of the strip vertically so it looks like a finish line banner.
- Encourage them to draw themselves racing through the finish line!

What You Say:

*“Just like we can cross the finish line in our favorite game, one day, God will finish the good work He has started in us! How cool is that?! We don’t quite know what that looks like right now, but you can **[Bottom Line] be faithful so others can count on you.** We can be faithful by trusting God and doing our best to follow His Word. Here’s the truth: if we can do that, we will definitely be people that others can count on!”*

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:

- Ask kids to share something they do each day. (It could be anything from brushing teeth to playing a video game to praying and doing their devotionals.)
 - For each thing they share, help them understand how they can be someone others can count on while doing that thing.
 - For example, they can make sure to do a great job brushing their teeth so their mom or dad can count on them to do it on their own.

- Or they can make sure they follow their family's rules for screen time, even when no one's watching.
- They can make sure they pray each day and ask God for His help as they try to be as much like Jesus as possible.
- Close in prayer, asking God to help kids with the things they talked about today.

What You Say:

“God, we pray specifically today that You would shape our hearts for the things You want for us. We pray that we would be the people You want us to be. We ask that You will help us begin obeying You now in the small things to get us ready to obey you with the big plans, too! This week, remind us that You want us to be faithful so others can count on us. In Jesus’ name, amen!”

As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid display their “Faithful Stories” Activity Page. Tell parents to ask them what they drew in the last set of squares. Remind them that whatever idea they decide to carry out this week, you can [Bottom Line] be faithful so others can count on you.