



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Friend Like Me

Elijah and Elisha

1 Kings 19:14-21; 2 Kings 2:1-15

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When has someone encouraged you?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends encourage one another.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

A friend loves at all times.
They are there to help
when trouble comes.

Proverbs 17:17, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Discussion Questions
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



1. OPENING ACTIVITY

What are you bringing to the block party?

WHAT YOU DO:

- Start with one person saying, "I'm going to a block party and I'm bringing _____."
- Each person will use the first letter of their name to come up with an item to bring to the block party.
 - Example: I'm John and I'm bringing "J"elly
- The next person will do the same, except they must repeat what the previous person was bringing as well.
 - Example: I'm Sam and I'm bringing "S"mores to a block party with John who is bringing Jelly.
- Continue until everyone has gone.
- Throughout the game, encourage people to remember what everyone is bringing because EVERYONE'S INVITED!
- After everyone has gone, challenge the group to go back and remember everyone's name and what everyone was bringing to the block party.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"It's great to get to know everyone here! And it's great to get to know people at a block party. NO ONE should be left out. EVERYONE should be invited. It's one of the best way to make new friends.
[Transition] The Bible has a cool story of an encouraging friendship as well. Can you guess who I'm talking about? Let's go find out who it is!"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



WEEK
THREE
SEPTEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



2. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- When has someone encouraged you? What did they do?
- When is the last time you encouraged someone else? What did you do?
- Are all your friends your age? How could you benefit from having friends that are older than you? What about younger friends?
- Why does it sometimes feel awkward to use our words to encourage our friends?
- What would make it easier to encourage our friends?

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



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3. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Encouragement in Action" Activity Page, paper, pens/ pencils, Bibles, notecards

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Ask** kids to circle up on together.
- **Place** the supplies and the "Encouragement in Action" page in the middle of your group.
- **Read** through the page together and talk briefly about all the different ways they can put encouragement into action.
- **Give** everyone a few minutes of silence to do one or more of the options listed on the page.
- **Close** by praying aloud for your group:
 - "Dear God, we praise You for the friends in our lives! Thank You for blessing us with people who love us and care for us. Will You help us to be friends who encourage? Show us how to be kind and show love, show us how to build up and encourage others with our actions and our words and our time. Thank You, Lord, for building us up and encouraging us—help us to love like You love! Amen!"