

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Direct kids to partner up.
- Instruct each pair to come up with a “talent” they can perform in front of the group.
- Share examples:
 - sing a song
 - invent a dance move
 - tell a joke
 - share a cool play from basketball or football (or another sport)
 - act-out a scene from a favorite movie
- If kids don’t want to perform, help them see that their role in the performance is important, too. (For example, you can point out that they helped come up with the idea, make up the dance moves for the dance, or the words for the song, etc.)
- Allow each set of kids to perform their talent in front of the group.

TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

You Say

God So Loved the World
John 3:16
(supporting: John 3:1-21)

TODAY’S BOTTOM LINE

**You can be confident
because God loves you.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the
Lord in the land of the living.**
Psalm 27:13, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Confidence—Learning to see
yourself the way God sees you**

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“I really enjoyed watching all of your talents! Way to get out there and show everyone your creative side! Sometimes it can be difficult to step out of our comfort zone and do something we’ve never done before—like perform in front of each other. **[Transition] Today in Large Group, we’ll learn why we can always be confident. Let’s go!**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



ALL THE QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "All the Questions Cards" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Give each kid a card from the "All the Questions Cards" Activity Page, but they keep their card a secret from the rest of the group.
- Explain that you will play a guessing game about some of the people and parts of today's Bible story.
- Choose a kid to go first.
- Direct that kid to read their card if they haven't already, but not share what it is. (*You might need to whisper the word to your younger non-readers.*)
- Instruct the first kid to start the game by saying, "I hear you have a lot of questions."
- Direct the rest of the kids, one at a time around the circle, to ask questions to guess about the person, place, or thing on the first kid's card.
- Tell the kids that they can only ask yes or no questions.
- If younger players need help, point out that there are some hints on each card. (You can also guide older kids to help younger kids out by giving them an idea for a question to ask.)
- Once the first player's card is revealed, direct the kid on their left to go next.
- Play until everyone has had a chance to be asked about their card.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

You Say

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(supporting: John 3:1-21)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Those were a lot of questions! Who in our Bible Story had a lot of questions? (*Nicodemus*) What kind of questions did he ask? (*who Jesus was, how to be born again, etc.*)

"Nicodemus had a lot of questions, and Jesus didn't give him all the answers—just the most important one. **You can be confident because God loves you.**

"You don't have to know all the answers, be perfect at everything, or never make a mistake. Nicodemus didn't have to be the smartest or the best. He just had to have confidence that God loved him because of Jesus. That's a big idea, but John tried to explain it in the Bible in John 3:16. I liked the way they explained that verse in Large Group.

"God loved. (*Point to heaven then cross arms over your chest like you're hugging yourself.*) God gave. (*Point to heaven then extend both hands like you're giving something away.*) Whoever believes . . . (*bring hand chest-height, point out in a sweeping motion, then point to your heart*) lives forever. (*Give two thumbs-up then extend hands outward, palms down, as far as you can reach.*)

"Remember this little saying—God loved, God gave, whoever believes, lives forever—so that **You can be confident because God loves you.**"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



PRESS PLAY, THEN PAUSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, upbeat music, and device to play music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Look up Psalm 27:13 together, using the tips below if needed.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

You Say

God So Loved the World
John 3:16
(supporting: John 3:1-21)

***Finding verses with a multi-age group:** Guide kids 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, ask a middle elementary kid (2nd–3rd grade) to find Psalms in the list under Old Testament. When the kid finds Psalms, lead them to look at the page number beside the word and read it aloud. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Psalms. Ask older elementary kids (4th–5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their own Bibles. When they all find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 27, and give time for all the kids to turn the pages to find it. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers, and ask a middle elementary kid to find verse 13 in chapter 27. Then, read the verse aloud slowly, especially for your pre-readers; or ask older elementary kids to read it to the group.*

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can be confident because God loves you.

- Explain that you're going to play a game of "Freeze!"
- Start the music.
- Encourage kids to dance around, run in place, do jumping jacks, etc.
- Abruptly stop the music and tell kids to Freeze!
- Direct anyone who is still moving to sit down.
- Lead everyone in saying the memory verse together.
- Play the music again and repeat the stopping, freezing, and reciting the verse a few more times.
- Play one more round at the end, inviting all the kids who are sitting to join the group.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.**
Psalm 27:13, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

"It can take a lot of confidence to dance in front of people, sing in front of people, or even just answer out loud when the teacher calls on you. What else takes confidence to do? (Pause for responses.)

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Confidence—Learning to see yourself the way God sees you

"Confidence comes when you listen to the right people about who you are. Who can remind you who you are and what's true about you? (parents, teachers, SGL, etc.) And of course, who is the most important one to tell us who we are? (God)

BASIC TRUTH

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(PRESS PLAY, THEN PAUSE, CONTINUED)

“God knows everything about you—how you dance, how you laugh, that weird face you make when you smell something gross. God knows all the great stuff you’ve done and all the stuff you’re embarrassed about or sorry for. God knows everything about you, and He loves you, no matter what. When you feel a little silly, or if you ever feel lost or lonely, remember that **you can have confidence because God loves you.**”

[Make It Personal] *(Share a time when, because you felt confident in God’s love for you, you were able to do or say something extraordinary.)* I can tell you for sure that no matter what, **you can have confidence because God loves you.**”

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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



CONFIDENT BECAUSE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Sticky notes, markers, music, and device to play music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to write something they like about each person in the group on sticky notes.
- Guide the kids to stick to writing something that speaks to who a person is not what they have.
 - For example, they could say, "I really like the way you are kind to everyone!" Instead of, "I like your shoes."
- Instruct the kids to write one note compliment to **the person to their right** in the group—and no more than one.
- Once kids finish writing their notes, direct them to stand up.
- **Have kids share the compliment with their friend to the right of them**

Note: If the kids in your group don't know each other at all, take a few minutes to let them share about what's important to them. Ask them what they like to do, what sports or instruments they play, what they like about school, etc.

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**Confidence—Learning to see
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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Since all of these people like all of these things about you, imagine how much God loves you and what He thinks about you! What are some awesome things you believe God thinks about us? (*Allow time for responses.*) It's always a good idea to remind ourselves what God thinks of us!

[Make it Personal] (Share a time when you had a lack of confidence but you reminded yourself what God thinks about you.) I want you to take your notes home with you today and remember that **you can be confident because God loves you.** If you find yourself doubting this truth or losing confidence this week, pull out your notes and remind yourself how we love you and that God loves you even more!"

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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



PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids around and teach them the motions from “All the Questions” Activity.
 - God loved. (*Point to heaven then cross arms over your chest like you’re hugging yourself.*)
 - God gave. (*Point to heaven then extend both hands like you’re giving something away.*)
 - Whoever believes . . . (*Bring hand chest-height, point out in a sweeping motion, then point to your heart.*)
 - Lives forever. (*Give a thumbs-up then extend hands outward, palms down, as far as you can reach.*)
- Repeat the saying and motions a few times until kids can do it by themselves.

TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

You Say

God So Loved the World
John 3:16
(supporting: John 3:1-21)

WHAT YOU SAY:

“God’s rescue plan for humanity is the reason that **you can be confident because God loves you**. God sent Jesus to rescue all of us from sin and death. (*Whatever your church’s procedures/traditions are for leading kids in salvation conversations, now would be a great time carry those out.*) Let’s pray.

“Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to rescue us. Thank You for giving us the confidence to be who You created us to be. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, send a card from “All the Questions” home with each kid to test out their families’ knowledge.

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