

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### **Inseparable**

Nothing Can Separate  
Us from God  
Romans 8:38-39

### KEY QUESTION

What are some things that  
are true about God?

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God loves you no matter what.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Being confident of this, that  
he who began a good work in  
you will carry it on to completion  
until the day of Christ Jesus.  
Philippians 1:6, NIV

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

Confidence—Learning to see  
yourself the way God sees you

### BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

### 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**

Just for Fun  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

**35**  
MIN

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- MONTHLY CHALLENGE - CONFIDENCE  
- **THIS WEEK -- : 9; C'H9; C'<J AN= FINAL**  
COLLECTION % [ g d [ l f \_ ' d ] e k ' i g ' a i z y [ c h y [ c k &

#### **WORSHIP:**

- THE BEST IS YET TO COME  
- GRAVES INTO GARDENS

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

## WORSHIP

*Worship Leaders enter*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Right now we have the chance to sing and thank God for His never-stopping, never-ending, unchanging love. God never gives up on us—and that's something worth singing about. Let's go!"

**AUDIO: THE BEST IS YET TO COME**

**AUDIO: GRAVES INTO GARDENS**

*Host enters . . .*

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME**

## WELCOME

*Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.*

## OPENER

**HOST:** "Hey everyone! Can you believe it is the end of July already?! I've had so much fun kicking off each week with a musical challenge as we Press Play. Today we continue the fun with a musical extravaganza. I need four volunteers!"

PRELUDE

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*Host chooses four volunteers, kids, or leaders. They should be confident, as they will be singing in front of everyone. Optional: preselect volunteers you know will do well.*

"Alright, I call this game, 'One Word Opera Story.' Every opera tells a story. Sure, you probably can't understand the story because the lyrics are sung in Italian or some other foreign language, but they are telling a story nonetheless! Well, these four courageous volunteers are about to tell a story . . . together . . . one word a time . . . while singing OPERA!" "Here's how it works: I'll give you a topic. We'll start on the end here and one person, one word at a time, you'll create a story. We will keep looping around until the song ends. Don't worry, we picked a simple tune for you: "The ABC song." (Note: *sing a bit to give them the melody.*) Got it? Any questions? Great! Now, remember, it's opera, so I want to see some passion! And be sure to tell us a great story along the way!"

*Use the following topics for each round or introduce your own. Keep the same volunteers or choose new volunteers for other rounds.*

*Topics:*

- A boy who lost his dog
- Someone who ate some bad takeout food
- A girl who dropped her ice cream cone after just buying it
- Someone who went to a water park but forgot their swimsuit
- A kid who went on the trampoline too soon after eating dinner

**HOST:** "(After the game) Bravo! That did not disappoint! I see a future in the opera for each of you. Seriously, that was hilarious. Now, let's stand up and worship God together!"

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.*

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Hey, friends! Glad to see you here today. We’ve had such a great month together learning so much about confidence. And today we wrap it all up. So I’m wondering . . . have you ever gotten lost or maybe separated from your parents when you were at the store?”

*\*Tell a personal story about getting separated from a parent or teacher if you have one. Otherwise, use ‘Imagine if’ language as written.\**

“Has this ever happened? Imagine you’re walking down the aisle of the grocery store, looking at all of the sugary cereals—choco sugar bombs or sticky honeybun crunchers—when all of the sudden you look around to ask if you can get one and you quickly realize that you’re by yourself in the aisle. Like, ALL by yourself. No one else is there. Somehow, you’ve been separated. How would you be feeling in that moment? *(Pause for responses.)* Well, you’d probably be feeling better if you could bust open a box of choco sugar bombs, but alas, there is no one around to pay for them.”

“Thankfully, you hear your mom or dad’s voice from the other aisle calling for you. You quickly run into their arms. You’re together again, and all is right with the world!”

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Okay, now this scenario wasn’t really that scary. Though, if you’re a little kid it could be. With that in mind, let me ask you a more serious question to think about. Do you ever feel like you’re separated from God? Can you even be separated from Him? And if you feel separated from God, what can you even do about it? Maybe you’ve already faced questions like that. Maybe you can’t imagine feeling separated from God. Either way, it’s important for all of us to realize that we’ll all face times when we might not feel as close to God as we would hope to feel.”

“Thankfully, God is bigger than those questions and is here to help. When we have questions like that, the first place we should go is the Bible. The Bible is a collection of writings from people who experienced God first-hand. God inspired them to write about those experiences to help others. Let’s head there now and see what we can find out!”

### TRUTH

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Today, we’re discovering more about something that we can read in a letter from Paul, the same apostle in the early church who we talked about last week. Paul wrote this particular letter to Christians living in the city of Rome. Know what the letter he wrote was called? Romans. Yeah, not a super creative name. But don’t let that fool you. This letter is full of all sorts of truth that we should remember. Let’s dive right in!”

“Like I said, Paul was writing to Christians, followers of Jesus. I have a feeling that many of them must have had the same sort of questions that we just asked. Can anything ever separate me from God? What if times get really tough? What if the world gets darker and more chaotic? What if I lose my job or my home? What if I even lose my life? These were VERY real questions. But, Paul gave them a very real answer that is true for us today. Check it out!”

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

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HOME

25 MINUTES

*Open the Bible to Romans 8:38-39 (NirV) and read.*

*"I am absolutely sure that not even death or life can separate us from God's love. Not even angels or demons, the present or the future, or any powers can separate us. Not even the highest places or the lowest, or anything else in all creation can separate us. Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done."*

"Woah! There is a lot there for us to unpack. I'm going to need this!"

*Wheels out whiteboard. Writes "US" on one side and "GOD" on the other. Leave a space in the middle.*

"Alright, so there is US, and there is GOD. And Paul talked about the things that could potentially separate or come between US and GOD. Now some of these things might be a little confusing to us, but let's write them in anyway. I'll read the verse again, and write them in (or have a volunteer write)."

*Open the Bible to Romans 8:38-39a (NirV) and read.*

*"I am absolutely sure that not even death or life can separate us from God's love (Write 'DEATH', 'LIFE'). Not even angels ('ANGELS') or demons ('DEMONS'), the present or the future ('TIME'), or any powers ('POWERS') can separate us. Not even the highest places or the lowest ('HEIGHTS', 'DEPTHS'), or anything else ('ETC') in all creation can separate us . . ."*

"So what can separate us? (Pause for responses).

*Open the Bible to Romans 8:39b (NirV) and read (emphasis ours).*

*"NOTHING at all can ever separate us from God's love."*

*Communicator crosses out what is written in the middle and writes 'NOTHING.'*

"Okay, now that was what Paul had to say. What would we add to that? What are some of the things that we might be tempted to say come between us and God and SEPARATE us?"

*This may be sensitive, so navigate the conversation carefully. Use some of the following as prompts if needed. (When we make mistakes and get angry at other people. When we have bad thoughts about others. When we're lonely or think poorly about ourselves.)*

*Write in the gap what is shared.*

"(After a time of sharing) Some of these seem pretty heavy. But . . . what do you think Paul would tell us about these things?"

*Open the Bible to Romans 8:39b (NirV) and read (emphasis ours).*

“NOTHING at all can ever separate us from God’s love.”

“What was that? (Pause for responses.) NOTHING!”

*Writes NOTHING over top of the examples that were written in the gap.*

“That is how much God loves us. But if we were to stop there, we would miss a really important part. Does God do this because we are so good? As in we have done enough in our lives that God can just let these things slide by now? Or does He do this because these things aren’t really a big deal? I think Paul would tell you that life and death are a really big deal. I think he would tell you that powers are a really big deal. I think we all know that (reference a couple examples that kids had shared) are a big deal. So how can God do this? How can He make sure that NOTHING separates us?”

“The key is in the final part of the verse.”

*Open the Bible to Romans 8:39 (NirV) and read (emphasis ours).*

“NOTHING at all can ever separate us from God’s love. That’s because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done.”

“All of this is possible . . . (Draws a thick cross in the gap between US and GOD) because Jesus died for us and then rose from the dead. There is no sin that Jesus didn’t pay for. There is no hurt that Jesus can’t fix. There is no power that Jesus didn’t conquer. When we trust Jesus, we are also trusting what Jesus has done for us. And that means that NOTHING can separate us from God’s love.”

“What can separate us? (Pause for response: ‘NOTHING!’) That’s right!”

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “It’s easy to write these things on a board, but it is much more difficult to remember them when we find ourselves in a spot when we have messed up or we are lonely and we just can’t believe that God is on our side. But in those moments, we have to remember that God’s love is not based on how good we are; it’s based on how good God is. And God is very good!”

“When you’re feeling unsure, have confidence in this word—NOTHING. That may seem like a strange word but you know what it means. There’s nothing that you can write in that gap between US and GOD that can separate you. AND, the very reason this is true is because of what Jesus has done for us. So we always have a reason to thank God!”

## LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Today as you go to groups, think about this:

### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION SLIDE

“**What are some things that are true about God?** In other words, how does understanding God’s character help you have confidence in your relationship with Him? Think about that word NOTHING. How can you believe that is true by knowing what is true about God? You’ll have a chance to talk more about all of this with your Small Group. Before you head out, let’s pray and thank God that NOTHING can separate us from His love.”

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**