



WEEK
FOUR
OCTOBER 2021

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Right Now

Timothy
1 Timothy 4:12
(supporting: Acts 14-17;
1 Timothy 4:14,
1 Corinthians 4:17; 16:10)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can make a difference right now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.
Psalm 139:14, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Individuality—Discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

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 KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER: "This is our moment. It's our time to praise God together.

AUDIO: THIS IS LIVING

AUDIO: THE BLESSING

Host enters.

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

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hello, everyone! We're so glad you're here at [your environment's name]. This month, we're talking about something super-fun and super-exciting. It's something that every single person in this room has in a unique and special way: individuality!

SLIDE: LIFE APP

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

"Individuality is discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"God made each and every one of us with a purpose and a good plan for our lives. He's given us different gifts and talents that we can use to show who He is and show His love to others. You'll continue to discover the plans God has for you as you get older. But you don't have to wait until you're my age to make a difference. Sometimes you have to act now—and act fast!



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hello, everyone! I'm so glad to be here with you today. Our story is about a young man named Timothy. *(Hold up Bible.)* To tell you his story, I thought we could play a fun game that I like to call 'Squat, Stand, or Jump!'

SLIDE: "SQUAT, STAND, OR JUMP!"

"This game is pretty simple. From time to time, I'll ask you a question, and I'll give you three possible answers. If you think it's the first answer, you squat. If you think it's the second answer, you stand. If you think it's the third answer, you jump. Sound like fun? Let's get started!

"First, let me give you a little background about Timothy. Timothy was from a town called Lystra. His mother and grandmother were Jewish, so they believed in the one true God. Timothy's father was Greek, and he most likely wasn't a believer.

"One day, a visitor came to the town of Lystra. Was it . . .

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #1A

". . . Jesus . . . Paul . . . or Daniel Tiger?

"Remember, squat if you think it's the first answer, Jesus. *(Demonstrate.)* Stand if you think it's Paul. *(Demonstrate.)* Or jump if you think it's Daniel Tiger. *(Demonstrate.)*

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're standing, you're right. It was Paul!

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #1B

"You can all sit down. *(Motion for the kids to sit down.)*

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

"Paul and his friend Barnabas had come to Lystra to tell people the good news that Jesus is the Son of God who had come to save us from our sins."

BIG NEWS IN LYSTRA

STORYTELLER: "While Paul and Barnabas were there in Lystra, something amazing happened. Did Paul . . .

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #2A



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". . . pick a four-leaf clover . . . pet a cute dog . . . or heal a man who couldn't walk?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're jumping, you're correct. With God's power, Paul healed a man who had never been able to walk! (*Motion for the kids to sit down.*)

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #2B

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

"The people of Lystra were so amazed that they actually started worshipping Paul and Barnabas like they were gods. The people even wanted to bring sacrifices to them. But Paul said . . .

Open the Bible to Acts 14:15 (NIRV) and read.

"Friends, why are you doing this? We are only human, just like you. We are bringing you good news. . . Turn to the living God.

"Paul had done a good job of getting out of THAT situation! But then some people from nearby towns heard what was happening in Lystra, and they weren't too happy about it. They showed up and convinced the townspeople to throw stones at Paul. Yikes!

"The crowd dragged Paul outside of the city. But then, the other believers gathered around Paul. And Paul didn't give up. He got up and went right back into the city. Now remember, this was all happening in the town where Timothy lived. What do you think Timothy was doing while all this was going on? Was he . . .

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #3A

". . . petting a cute dog . . . cooking dinner for his mom and grandma . . . or watching from a distance?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"Interesting! The truth is, we don't know what Timothy was up to while all this was happening to Paul.

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #3B

"But we DO know that he must have heard about all these big things that were going on in his town!" (*Motion for the kids to sit down.*)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

I'M A BELIEVER

STORYTELLER: "Paul and Barnabas then traveled to a place called Derbe, to tell the people there about Jesus.



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Later, they returned to Lystra. Timothy, his mother, and his grandmother had all listened to Paul's teachings . . . and at some point, all three of them decided something important. Did they decide to . . .

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #4A

". . . believe in Jesus . . . learn how to juggle . . . or start a family band?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're squatting, you're right. Timothy, his mom, and his grandma all decided to believe in Jesus! (*Motion for the kids to sit down.*)

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #4B

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

"Paul continued on his journey to tell others about Jesus. But he left behind a new and growing church in Lystra. Years later, when Paul came back to Lystra, the other followers of Jesus had something to say about Timothy. Did they say Timothy was . . .

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #5A

". . . a great beach volleyball player . . . a faithful Jesus-follower . . . or an amazing comedian?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

"If you're standing, you're correct. The other believers all spoke well of Timothy. They told Paul that Timothy was a faithful follower of Jesus. (*Motion for the kids to sit down.*)

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #5B

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

"Paul was looking for someone who could help him encourage the new churches he had started. Timothy knew God's Word, and he could speak to both Jewish and Greek people because of the way he had grown up. He would be the perfect person to help Paul!

"The elders of the church prayed for Timothy, and God's Spirit gave Timothy everything he needed for the work ahead."

AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL

STORYTELLER: "Over the next years, Paul and Timothy traveled around to encourage the believers, tell new people about Jesus, and start new churches.

"While they were in a place called Ephesus, Paul gave Timothy a new mission: go to the church in a place called Corinth. Paul knew that Timothy would be a great choice to help the Corinthians. Was that because Timothy . . .



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SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #6A

“. . . was a great dancer . . . knew how to speak 10 languages . . . or because he would be a great example for them?

Pause while the kids squat, stand, or jump.

“If you’re jumping, you got it right. Paul knew that Timothy would be able to show the Corinthians an example of what it meant to follow Jesus. (*Motion for the kids to sit down.*)

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #6B

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

“Over the years, Timothy became Paul’s right-hand man. And later, Paul even decided to put Timothy in charge of the church back in Ephesus.

“Timothy was still a young man, so he might have felt like he wasn’t prepared to do such a big, important job. But Paul did something for him. Did Paul . . .

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #7A

“. . . write a letter to Timothy . . . sing him a silly song . . . or give him a basket of freshly picked apples?

“If you’re squatting down, you got it! Paul wrote a letter to Timothy to encourage him. (*Motion for the kids to sit down.*)

SLIDE: GAME QUESTION #7B

“Paul wrote . . .

Open the Bible to 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIRV) and read.

Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers in what you say and in how you live. Also set an example in how you love and in what you believe. Show the believers how to be pure.

“Paul really believed that Timothy could lead the other believers by setting a great example!”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Timothy was a very young man when he first met Paul. But he put his faith in Jesus, he followed God faithfully, and he grew stronger and stronger in what he believed. And when the time came, Timothy was able to play an important part in helping Paul build up the early church.

“God used Timothy to make a big difference—not only in his hometown of Lystra, but in places like Ephesus and Corinth, too. God used Timothy’s story and all of his individuality to help share the good news about Jesus.



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"You don't have to wait to make a difference and show God's love to others.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"You can make a difference right now.

"Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for Timothy's incredible example. He didn't let the fact that he was young stop him for telling others about You. Help us all see how we can share Your love, regardless of how old we are. Help us make a difference right now, with the gifts and abilities You've given us. Show us how we can use our individuality to share Your love with the people You put in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



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CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "I can see why Timothy might have thought he was too young to do a big job like leading a church. But the truth is, God had prepared Timothy for the work he had to do. God can use anyone, at any age, to make a big difference.

"Sometimes we might not feel like we're ready for something—but in those moments, we can trust that God is always with us. **[Basic Truth] We can trust Him no matter what!**

"Remember, God can use you right now, whether you're 6 or 60. He can work through your individuality and your own special story and help you share His love with the people around you.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"You can make a difference right now.

"And don't forget, when you show God's love, you can actually point other people to Jesus. You can live your life in a way that shows how much you trust Him.

"When something doesn't go your way, but you stay calm, other kids can see God's peace in you. When you help someone who's sad by talking to them and spending time with them, you're showing God's love in a hard situation. When you're having a bad day, but you still decide to smile and have fun, you're showing God's joy. You can show others what God is like, and what God is doing in your life, like no one else can.

"Before we head to Small Group, let's say our memory verse for this month. These are David's words from Psalm 139:14."

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

HOST AND KIDS: "How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." (Psalm 139:14, NIV)

HOST: "That's right. God made you with amazing individuality. He put you exactly where you are, in your family and in your school, so He can use you RIGHT NOW. And guess what? You get to talk more about that in Small Group. Right now!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP