PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to bring to kids' minds that one extra toy, new pair of shoes, or another brand-new stuffed animal they just HAD to have, but then it lost its luster once they saw another one. Pray that kids would learn today that wanting more and more things will make them miserable. God can help us be content when we remember and are thankful for what we do have.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard 1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

Luke 12:15, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought offerings to put them in the offering container.
- Direct the kids to circle up.
- Encourage them to think of three statements about themselves: two that are true and one that is a "wish." (i.e., something that's not true but that they wish were true.)
- Invite the kids to take turns sharing their three statements with the group in any order.
- After each kid finishes sharing, lead the group in voting for which statement they think is a wish.
- Continue until each kid has had a chance to share.

K-3

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

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

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ROLLS TO BINOCULARS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, toilet paper rolls, markers, and rubber bands; Optional hole punch, string, scissors, and stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Look up Luke 12:15 and read it to the group.
- Give each kid two toilet paper rolls.
- Set out the markers.
- Prompt the kids to think of a few things, memories, experiences, and relationships they have. (Answers might include: food, clothing, a place to stay, toys, books, ability to participate in sports, vacations, birthday parties, family, friends, cousins, etc.)
- Ask the kids to draw or write those things on their toilet paper rolls.
- Show the kids how to make a pair of binoculars by placing the toilet paper rolls next to each other and securing them together with rubber bands at regular intervals.
- Option: To make the binoculars wearable around their necks:
 - Punch holes on opposite sides of the binoculars.
 - Thread a piece of string through the holes and tie the ends with a knot.
- Option: Kids can also add stickers.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What are binoculars used for? Our verse talks about how we must be on the lookout for wanting more and more things. I have found that when I'm focused on all of the amazing things God has given me, it helps my heart be content. Instead of thinking about what my friend has that I don't have, I can choose to look at some of the things, memories, experiences, and relationships God has given me.

"Take these binoculars home and place them somewhere in your room to remind you to look at what you wrote on them when you find yourself wanting more and more. **Wanting more and more can make you miserable**, so instead, let's choose to be content!"

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

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

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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GRAPE COLLECTING MEMORY VERSE [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Grapes" Activity Page cards and Bible marked at Luke 12:15

WHAT YOU DO:

- Choose a kid to open the Bible to Luke 12:15.
- Read the verse out loud.
- Instruct the kids to stand in a big circle.
- Scatter the "Memory Verse Grapes" round your small group area for the kids to gather.
- Encourage the kids to work together to find the verse cards and put them in order. (If you have pre-readers, point out the numbers on the grapes to help them with the order.)
- When the kids have put the verse in order, read the verse out loud together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What does a guard or a soldier do? (Pause for responses.) Yes, they keep a close watch so they can protect whatever it is they guard. This verse reminds us to be on our guard or keep watch over our attitudes toward stuff. God wants us to be okay with what we have, not unhappy and miserable, not always looking for more. It's no fun to be around someone who is always unhappy, who always complains or compares what they have to what others have. We have to keep a close watch and check our attitudes so we can be content because wanting more and more can make you miserable."

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Binoculars from "Rolls to Binoculars" Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to hold their binoculars.
- Direct the kids to circle up.
- Invite the kids to praise God for the things they do have by asking them to read what they wrote on their binoculars. (They can do this "popcorn style," calling out their responses one at a time, in quick succession.)
- Close in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are so good! Thank You for all the wonderful things, experiences, memories, and relationships You have given us. There are times when we really want something, and it can become all we focus on. There are times when we want what our friends and neighbors have. Please help us have content hearts by remembering what we do have. We know You will always take care of what we need. **Wanting more and more can make you miserable**, so I know You will help us with this. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, have kids show them their binoculars. Encourage the kids to share what they wrote on their binoculars and why.