**K-3** 

# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison Philippians 4:11b-13

### **TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

God can help you be content.

# 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

### LARGE GROUP SUPPLIES

- Bike helmet (for the Host)
- Stickers and fun, colorful tape that someone could use to decorate a bike (for the Host)
- Poster signs for each station:
  - 1) Gear Up!
  - 2) Warm Up!
  - 3) Bike Wheel Toss
- For station #1, three sets of safety equipment such as:
  - Bike helmets
  - Knee pads
  - Elbow pads
- For station #3:
  - Masking or painter's tape
  - Lots of swim rings
  - Clear plastic bin

## STORY SUPPLIES

- Paul/Kid Poster Examples (for reference)
- Emoj Circles (printable)

# 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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- NOVEMBER SERVE DAY RECAP
  - Possible Video
  - Stats to come late
- GIVING HIGHLIGHTS
  - We give at MISSION to help those in need
  - It goes to help local organizations meet the needs of hundreds of families
  - You can give TIME, ENERGY, and MONEY
  - Talk with your family about how you'd like to SERVE with us this month to make even more of an impact in our community

#### MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

- Week 1 The Best Is Yet To Come & The Blessing
- Week 2 Might Get Loud & Way Maker
- Week 3 There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do & Never Lost
- Week 4 This Is Living & Graves Into Gardens

### SMALL GROUP

25 MIN

LARGE GROUP

**PRELUDE** 

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

**GROUPS** 

HOME

25 MINUTES

**10 MINUTES** 

# **TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison Philippians 4:11b-13

# **TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

God can help you be content.

### **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.

# 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:** "Yes, now is the time to worship and celebrate our amazing God.

AUDIO: The Best Is Yet To Come

AUDIO: The Blessing

Host enters.

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

**VERSION**)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

### **OPENER**

**HOST:** "Hey, everybody! Welcome to a new month at Mission Kids. My name is [your name], and we've got a lot of fun planned for today! This month, we're finding out what it means to live with contentment.

SLIDE: LIFE APP

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

"Contentment is learning to be okay with what you have.

SLIDE: THEME

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

"Sometimes we forget to be content when we look around and see what other people have. We end up wishing we had more and more things for ourselves. But with God's help, we can learn to be okay with what we have. We can choose to be thankful for the good things God has given us.

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES 10 MINUTES

### Put on the bike helmet.

"For example, let's say you got a bike for your birthday, and you love to ride it around the neighborhood or the park. It seems like your bike is all you'll ever need . . . until you see someone ELSE'S super-cool bike—and theirs is your favorite color!

"You have a choice to make. You can wish you had THEIR bike, which means you'll start to feel less content about yours. Or you can be thankful for the bike you already have. Maybe you could even 'upcycle' it with some stickers or cool tape.

Hold up the stickers and decorative tape.

"Sometimes all it takes to be content is changing the way you look at what you've got . . . and be grateful for it!

"I've got a fun bike-themed game for us to play today. We need three Small Group Leaders to be our contestants.

Bring up three Small Group Leaders.

(to the three leaders) "Today's game has three separate stations—and to win, you must complete all three!

"Station number one is what I call, 'Gear Up!' At this station, each player must put on a helmet as well as knee and elbow pads. Safety first!

"Station number two is 'Warm Up!' At this station, players must touch their toes three times then do twenty jumping jacks.

"Finally, station number three is the 'Bike Wheel Toss.' At this station, players must stand behind the line and try to toss one of these 'bike wheels' (hold up a swim ring) into the bin. I know they look like swim rings, but let's pretend they're bike wheels, okay?

"The first player to complete all three tasks is the winner. We'll all cheer for you. On your mark, get set, go!

### **AUDIO: FUN MUSIC**

Provide funny commentary while the contestants go through the course. During the ring toss, bring the rings back to the contestants after they miss so they don't run out.

"That was epic! Let's give a hand to all of our players . . . and a great big round of applause for our winner, [winner's name]. You can return to your seats.

Contestants sit down.

25 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

## **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, everyone! Like [Host's name] told you, this month we're finding out what it means to live with contentment. One person who had something to say about that was the apostle Paul.

Place the poster-size drawing of Paul on the wall.

"Get this. Paul actually said that he had learned the SECRET of being content! Listen to what Paul wrote in a letter to the church at Philippi. We can find that letter in the New Testament of the Bible. (Hold up Bible.) Paul said . . .

Open the Bible to Philippians 4:11-13 (NIrV) and read.

"I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. I know what it's like not to have what I need. I also know what it's like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more than enough or not enough. I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.

Point to the Paul poster.

"Paul wanted the Philippians to understand that God can help us be okay in ANY situation, no matter what happens."

# **PAUL BELIEVES**

**STORYTELLER:** "If we go way back to when Paul was younger, we find that Paul was a respected religious leader with a lot of power.

Put the flexing arm emoji on the wall underneath the Paul poster (on the bottom left).

"But Paul was missing something. He had heard about Jesus, but he didn't yet believe that Jesus was God's Son. In fact, Paul even tried to STOP people from believing in Jesus.

Put the STOP sign emoji on the wall underneath the Paul poster (in the bottom center).

"But Jesus appeared to Paul in a blinding flash of light . . . and everything changed! Paul put his faith in Jesus. He believed that Jesus is the Savior who God had promised.

Put one of the cross emojis on the wall underneath the Paul poster (on the bottom right).

"Now Paul told others about Jesus and helped start new churches in lots of different places."

**25 MINUTES** 

### TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS

**STORYTELLER:** "Of course, not everyone was happy about Paul's new belief in Jesus. The other religious leaders were upset; and so were the local government leaders where Paul was traveling. They all thought Paul would cause a lot of trouble. So they made things pretty difficult for him.

Put the thumbs-down emoji on the border of the Paul poster. (As you add the nine emojis representing the things that happened to Paul, keep placing them around the border of the Paul poster.)

"Paul wrote about some of the crazy situations he faced throughout his travels as he began to spread the word about Jesus. He wrote . . .

Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 11:23-27 (NIrV) and read.

"I have been in prison.

Put the behind-bars emoji face on the border of the Paul poster.

"I have suffered terrible beatings.

Put the "POW" emoji on the border of the Paul poster.

"Three times I was shipwrecked.

Put the ship emoji on the border of the Paul poster.

"That means that three different times, he was on a ship at sea that crashed into something. That's pretty wild!

"Paul continued.

"I have been in danger from rivers.

Put the river emoji on the border of the Paul poster.

"I have been in danger from robbers.

Put the emoji face with eye mask on the border of the Paul poster.

"Often I have gone without sleep.

Put the "no sleep" emoji on the border of the Paul poster.

"I have been hungry and thirsty.

Put the "no food" and "no water" emojis on the border of the Paul poster.

**25 MINUTES** 

"Paul knew what it was like to face difficult situations of every kind. In fact, when he wrote his words to the Philippians about contentment, Paul was actually under arrest in Rome. He couldn't leave the house! But even through all those terrible things that happened, remember what Paul said.

Open the Bible to Philippians 4:12-13 (NIrV) and read.

"I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. . . I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.

"Paul knew that because of his relationship with Jesus, he could be OKAY, no matter what."

Put nine "OK" emojis over the top of the nine emojis that surround the Paul poster, completely covering them up.

## YOU CAN BE CONTENT

**STORYTELLER:** "Your story looks different from Paul's story.

Place the kid silhouette poster on the wall, near the Paul poster.

"But every day, each of us might have to face situations that are difficult. In those times, it can be tough to be content.

"Maybe you have to wear your same sneakers, even when your friend gets a new pair.

Put the sneakers emoji on the border of the kid silhouette poster. (Again, place these five emojis around the kid silhouette poster the same way you did for Paul.)

"Maybe you have to settle for a movie night, when what you really wanted was a sleepover.

Put the movie emoji on the border of the kid silhouette poster.

"Maybe you have to live one place during the week and someplace else on the weekend.

Put the house emoji on the border of the kid silhouette poster.

"Maybe you have to live with a cast on your arm for two months.

Put the arm cast emoji on the border of the kid silhouette poster.

"Maybe you have to sit alone at lunch because you don't have a friend in your class."

Put the lunch emoji on the border of the kid silhouette poster.

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** "God knows your story. God knows what you have and what you don't have. But no matter what happens, God loves you. God sent His Son, Jesus, so that you can have a relationship with God that will last forever.

25 MINUTES

Take out the other cross emoji and place it directly underneath the kid silhouette poster.

"And when you put your trust in Jesus . . . even in the tough times . . . you can be okay.

Put five "OK" emojis over the top of the five emojis that surround the kid silhouette poster, completely covering them up.

### SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"God can help you be content.

Walk to the front of the stage as you finish up.

"Of course, it's not always easy to choose contentment. But it helps when we remember that **[Basic Truth]** we can trust **God no matter what.** God is ALWAYS working things for good, even when we can't see it. Let's pray and ask God to help us be content."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

# PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "God, it's amazing how You helped Paul be content, even though so many tough things happened in his life. It helps us to know that You can help us be content, too. Please give us the strength to trust You, no matter what. Remind us to be grateful for Your love and for all the good things You do in our lives every day. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

**25 MINUTES** 

## **CLOSER**

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** "Our relationship with God is the only real way for us to be content. I mean, think about how things went for Paul. Paul went through a lot in his life . . . prison, shipwrecks, and more . . . but somehow, he learned how to be okay through it all. He trusted God, no matter what, and believed that God was always with him.

"You can choose to be content, too. And you don't have to do it on your own!

### **SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

"God can help you be content.

"When you put your trust in Jesus, you can rely on Him and the Holy Spirit to give you strength when you're not content about something. And when something doesn't go the way you expect, you can talk to God about it and ask Him to help you see your situation in a new way. That's how you can adjust your attitude so you feel content and thankful!

"Remember, Paul said that he had found the secret of being content. He wrote . . .

Open the Bible to Philippians 4:13 (NIrV) and read.

"I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.

"You'll get to talk some more in Small Group about how **God can help you be content.** In fact, you can head that way right now. Have fun!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP