# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

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

#### By Your Side

Jesus Talks with a Woman from Samaria John 4:1-30, 39-42

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

Show others that they matter.

#### **MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

"The Lord has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. You must act with justice. You must love to show mercy. And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God."

Micah 6:8, NIrV

#### **MONTHLY LIFE APP**

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

### **HOST SUPPLIES**

- Masking or gaffer's tape
- Two soccer goals (or traffic cones to act as goal posts)
- Large bucket of tennis balls
- Host's phone (if not using a countdown video)

### STORY SUPPLIES

- Storyteller
- Bible

## 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** 

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- HAPPY FEBRUARY
- COMPASSION Challenge
  - This month we are focused on being good neighbors and showing compassion to those around us.
  - Our challenge is for you to come back each week and share a story of COMPASSION with your leaders.
  - If we hear a great story of COMPASSION, we will share it from stage during the service.

### **MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:**

Week 1 - This Is Living & Way Maker

Week 2 - There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do & Never Lost

Week 3 - The Best Is Yet To Come & Graves Into Gardens

Week 4 - Might Get Loud & The Blessing

### **SMALL GROUP**

**25** 

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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# Micah 6:8, NIrV

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

#### **BASIC TRUTH**

I should treat others the way

# 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:** "I love it when we celebrate God together as we sing in worship.

AUDIO: There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do

AUDIO: Never Lost

Host enters.

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

**VERSION**)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

### **OPENER**

**HOST:** "Hi, everyone! It's great to see you. This month, we're talking about how we can care for the people on our block. We can do that by showing compassion.

SLIDE: LIFE APP

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

"Compassion is caring enough to do something about someone else's need.

**SLIDE: THEME** 

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

"We all come from different kinds of neighborhoods. But no matter where we live, it's important that we show God's love by caring for the people around us and taking action when we know someone needs help.

"I'm just curious—what outdoor games do you like to play in your neighborhood? (Pause for response.) One fun game we used to play in my neighborhood is soccer. So today, I thought we'd play a fun version of soccer together . . . using tennis balls! (Hold up a tennis ball.) Here's how it works.

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME	
		25 MINUTES	10 MINUTES			

(Reference the tape line.) "We have two teams—one on this side of the line (point), and one on this side (point). Each side has a goal. (Reference the soccer goals at the back of each side.) When I say 'Go,' both teams will try to kick a tennis ball into the OTHER team's goal.

"But here's the catch. You can't move around. You have to stay in one spot! It's like you're part of a foosball table—you know, the ones where you turn the bar and players do this. (Spin your hand around.) Okay, you can all spread out and pick your spot.

Give the kids some time to pick their spots.

"All right, everyone, keep your hands behind your back. When I release the tennis balls, stay put and kick the balls! Let's see how may goals your team can get in 60 seconds. Ready, set, go!

### **AUDIO: FUN MUSIC**

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

If you're not using a screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds.

Dump the bucket of tennis balls into the playing area. Toss them out across the length of the playing field so that all kids get a chance to kick. Encourage them to kick the tennis balls toward the opposite team's goal. If needed, remind them to stay in one spot.

When time runs out, see which team scored the most goals. If no one scored, you can give them another 60 seconds to play.

#### **SLIDE: THEME**

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

"That was epic! That's one of my favorite games to play here in OUR neighborhood.

**PRELUDE** 

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

**GROUPS** 

HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

### **BIBLE STORY**

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

# Storyteller enters

### **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, friends! We've got another great story about Jesus to look at today. (Hold up Bible.) It's an amazing example of how Jesus showed compassion to someone who really needed it.

### SLIDE: IMAGE #1 (JESUS TEACHING A SMALL CROWD)

"At the time, Jesus had been teaching people in and around Jerusalem. But He knew it was time to return to Galilee.

### SLIDE: IMAGE #2A (AROUND OR THROUGH SAMARIA?)

"Most Jewish people who had to travel this way would go the long way around through the desert, because they didn't want anything to do with the people who lived in Samaria. For hundreds of years, there had been trouble between Jewish people and Samaritans. So, for the most part, they just avoided each other.

"What do you think Jesus and His friends did? Did they go AROUND Samaria or go THROUGH Samaria? Shout out what you think. (*Pause for response.*) Let's find out!

#### SLIDE: IMAGE #2B (JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES WALKING INTO SAMARIA)

"Jesus and His friends went right through Samaria. Whoa! That's definitely a bold move."

### AT THE WELL

**STORYTELLER:** "Jesus and the disciples came to a town called Sychar.

#### SLIDE: IMAGE #3A (THE WELL)

"More than a thousand years before, Jacob had dug a well there. Jesus was tired from the journey, so what do you think He did? Did He sit by the well or did He jump inside to cool off? Shout out your answer. (Pause for response.) Let's find out!

### SLIDE: IMAGE #3B (JESUS SITTING BY THE WELL)

"Jesus sat down by the well. The disciples had gone into town to buy food. While Jesus waited, a woman from Samaria came to get water.

### SLIDE: IMAGE #4A (JESUS AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN)

# **LIVING WATER**

**STORYTELLER:** "Jesus spoke to the woman. He said . . .

**PRELUDE** 

SOCIAL

**STORY** 

WORSHIP

**GROUPS** 

HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

Open the Bible to John 4:7 (NIrV) and read.

"Will you give me a drink?

"The Samaritan woman must have been very surprised. Jesus was a Jewish man. Why would He speak to a Samaritan like her? She said to Jesus . . .

Open the Bible to John 4:9 (NIrV) and read.

"You are a Jew. I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?

"Listen to what Jesus said next.

Open the Bible to John 4:10 (NIrV) and read.

"You do not know what God's gift is. And you do not know who is asking you for a drink. If you did, you would have asked him. He would have given you living water.

"Wow! Jesus wasn't talking about ACTUAL water. He was telling the woman that He could offer her 'living water.' He was talking about life that lasts forever. He said . . .

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

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. But anyone who drinks the water I give them will never be thirsty. In fact, the water I give them will become a spring of water in them. It will flow up into eternal life.

"Wow! What do you think the woman did next? Do you think she got mad and ran away? Or do you think she was curious and wanted to learn more? Shout out your answer! (Pause for response.) Let's find out!

# SLIDE: IMAGE #4B (THE SAMARITAN WOMAN SPEAKING TO JESUS)

Open the Bible to John 4:15 (NIrV) and read.

"The woman said to Jesus . . .

"Sir, give me this water! Then I will never be thirsty."

#### **EVERYTHING ABOUT ME**

STORYTELLER: "Jesus then did something very interesting. He told the woman that He knew about the mistakes she had made in her life. But Jesus didn't say that to make her feel badly about what she had done wrong. He wanted her to know how much He LOVED her. He even told her that He was the Savior the world had been waiting for!

"When the disciples returned, the woman left her water jar and went back to town.

# SLIDE: IMAGE #5A (THE WOMAN AND THE TOWNSPEOPLE)

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**25 MINUTES** 

"She told everyone she could about Jesus. She said . . .

Open the Bible to John 4:29 (NIrV) and read.

"Come! See a man who told me everything I've ever done. He knows everything about me. Could this be the Messiah?

"What do you think happened next? Did the people believe her or did they ignore her? Shout out your answer. (Pause for response.) Let's find out!

### SLIDE: IMAGE #5B (THE TOWNSPEOPLE LISTENING TO THE WOMAN)

"The townspeople listened to the woman. They came to see Jesus, and they begged Him to stay.

#### SLIDE: IMAGE #6 (JESUS AND THE SAMARITANS)

"For two days, Jesus spent time with the Samaritans. This would have been really shocking to other Jewish people. But because Jesus stayed there, many of the Samaritans decided to believe! They said to the woman . . .

Open the Bible to John 4:42 (NIrV) and read.

"We no longer believe just because of what you said. We have now heard for ourselves. We know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

#### SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** "The Samaritan woman had made some wrong choices . . . and some of the other people didn't want to be around her BECAUSE she had made those wrong choices. But that didn't stop Jesus from being her friend.

"Jesus felt compassion for the woman. He chose to talk with her. He made it clear that no matter what she had done or how she was treated by others, she mattered to Him. And so did the other Samaritans.

"When we follow Jesus, we can share His compassion by showing people that they matter. Because we know that everyone is valuable and important to Jesus. Here's what we need to remember.

### **SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

"Show others that they matter.

"With God's help, I know we can do it! Will you pray with me?"

### SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

25 MINUTES

### PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "God, thank You for loving us, no matter what. All of us have messed up. All of us need compassion. It feels so good to know that there's nothing we could ever do to make You stop loving us. Please help us show love to other people and show them that they matter—like Jesus did for the Samaritan woman. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

# **CLOSER**

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** "The woman from Samaria probably felt like she didn't matter to anyone. She was sad about what she had done wrong. Maybe she even felt like she was invisible. But Jesus really SAW her. He showed amazing compassion. He showed the woman that she mattered. He showed her how much He loved her.

"Jesus loves US, too. And It's important that we remember to share His love with the people around us. We need to show compassion to all the people who are on our block. We need to show others that they matter—especially those who may be forgotten or overlooked.

"Remember . . .

#### SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Show others that they matter.

"After all, we'd want someone to do that for us, right? We'd want someone to show compassion to us. We know how good it feels when someone makes us feel important and valuable. So we need to treat others that way. We need to [Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.

"What could that look like for you? Maybe you could introduce yourself to someone who's sitting alone at lunch. Maybe you could help someone without being asked. If your mom or dad is bringing in the groceries, you could stop what you're doing to carry in a bag or two. Maybe you could remember to say 'thank you' when someone does something nice for you and really let them know that what they did meant a lot to you.

"I bet you can think of some more great ways to **show others that they matter.** You can head to Small Group and talk about it. I'll see you next time!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP