



WEEK
FOUR
APRIL 2022

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tell kids that you'll read some facts and statements.
 - If they believe what you're saying is true, they should stand.
 - If they don't think it's true, they should say, "I doubt it," then sit down.
- Let them know that there is no pressure to be right or wrong and that most of the statements you will read contain information they would not be expected to know.
 - Do you believe that penguins can smell toothpaste from several miles away? (*False*)
 - Do you believe that in Tokyo, Japan, a bicycle is faster than a car for trips of less than 50 minutes? (*True*)
 - Do you believe every day, on average, 20 banks are robbed in the world? (*True*)
 - Do you believe 50 years ago, M&Ms were candy-coated jelly beans during a chocolate shortage? (*False*)
 - Do you believe you are more likely to be stung by a bee in windy weather? (*False*)
 - Do you believe when glass breaks, the cracks move faster than 932 miles per hour. To photograph the event, a camera must shoot at a millionth of a second! (*True*)
 - Do you believe a violin contains about 70 pieces of wood? (*True*)
 - Do you believe that people in parts of Ireland like Thomas the Tank Engine so much that they have put faces on all their trains? (*False*)
 - Do you believe that elastic in your underwear will last twice as long if you freeze it after washing it? (*False*)
 - Do you believe Japan has square watermelons because they're stackable? (*True*)
 - Do you believe Jesus died and rose again? (*True*)

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Ask

Jesus Appears to Thomas
John 20:19-29

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What questions do you have for God?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Whatever happens, remember God is bigger than your questions.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.

John 16:33b, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Hope—Believing that something good can come out of something bad

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Even some of the things I read to you that were true, were a little hard to believe. Sometimes we feel like we need to actually SEE something in order to believe it's really true, right? **[Transition] That's how a man in our Bible story felt. He had his doubts about something that seemed too good to be true. Except—it was absolutely true. Let's go learn more about it.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



TAKE A SNAPSHOT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Puzzlers" Activity Pages, markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Choose teams of 2-3 kids.
- Give each team the mixed-up pieces from "Puzzlers"

Activity Page.

- Challenge teams to race to spread out the pieces and assemble then into three separate puzzles.
- Give no clues other than that the pieces create three individual puzzles.
- Add another challenge to the game by telling teams they must work together without speaking.
- Tell kids to shout out, "DONE!" when their team completes all three puzzles, then wait for the others to finish.
- Invite teams to come up with one or more doubts or questions people often have about GOD, the BIBLE, or PROBLEMS they face.
- The questions can be about anything they find confusing, something they find hard to believe, something they don't understand, etc.
- Give teams a marker to write their questions on whichever puzzle word fits the question best.
- As time allows, engage kids in conversation about their questions.
- If a question is asked that you are not sure how to answer, let kids know that we don't have answers to all of our questions, but you will try to find out more or direct them to someone you can trust who will help.
- Take their questions seriously and follow up where needed.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Do you think having doubts or questions means you're not following Jesus? Why or why not?
- What are some reasons people doubt God?
- "Doubts and questions about God are good because it means you're thinking through really important stuff about life." Do you agree or disagree with that statement?
- What's the BEST thing you can do when you have questions and doubts about God? What's the WORST thing you can do?

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Sit in a circle.
- Invite kids to pray for the those on their left and right.
- Lead them in silent prayer with the following prompts and pauses:
 - Thank God for creating these friends in God's image.
 - Think of a promise God has made and then pray that promise for these friends.
 - Pray that these friends would know for sure that they have a relationship with Jesus and that they will know and believe that Jesus died for them and rose from the dead.
 - Ask God to help these friends grow in their faith and trust God more and more every day.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, YOU are the reason we don't have to live with doubts and questions. You have given us many answers to life's hard questions in the Bible. And You've given us Jesus to show us how to live with faith and hope. You created us to have a relationship with You and made a way for that to happen through Jesus' death and resurrection. You help us when we doubt, and You never stop working in our lives. Help us to anchor our hope in YOU—no matter what. In Jesus' name, amen."

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