



WEEK
FIVE
MAY 2022

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



Before kids arrive, take a few minutes to thank God for the truth in the verses that you'll be talking about today, specifically for the great cloud of witnesses we can look to as inspiration for having resilience through faith during difficulties.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Keep Holding On
Keep Looking to Jesus
Hebrews 12:1-3

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What can help you focus on Jesus?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because of what Jesus did for you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"But those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak."
Isaiah 40:31, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Resilience—Getting back up when something gets you down

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to put their offering in the offering container as they arrive.
- Gather kids in a circle.
 - Instruct everyone to look down.
 - Say "1-2-3-LOOK UP" and when you say, "LOOK UP," instruct kids to choose one kid to look at.
 - If two kids are looking at each other they are out.
 - Kids who did not make eye contact with anyone continue to look at the same person until you say, "LOOK DOWN."
- The game continues until there are only two or three people left in the circle.





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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



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What can help you focus on Jesus?
- What did Jesus do for us to help us keep going? *(lead kids to talk about how when we decide to put our faith in Jesus as our Savior, we become part of a community of Jesus followers. How can being part of a community of Jesus followers help us to keep going?)*
- How can we trust Jesus to help us in difficult situations? *(This is an opportunity to compare training for a race with training to trust Jesus. What can we do to train ourselves to trust Jesus? What are some ways we can develop our relationship with Jesus now to prepare ourselves to get back up when something gets us down later?)*

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Shapes" Activity Page, "Shape Order" Activity Page, markers, Bibles, scissors, yellow cardstock, tape/glue

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids a "Shapes" Activity Page and instruct kids to cut out the shapes.
- Explain that the shapes can be used to spell, "Jesus."
- Give kids a piece of yellow cardstock, and if kids are up for a challenge, let kids try to spell "Jesus" using the shapes.
- After they've given it a try on their own, use the "Shape Order" Activity Page to guide to tape the shapes on the yellow cardstock to spell JESUS.
- Encourage kids to look closely. Do they see "JESUS" on the paper?
- Give kids a Bible and look up Philippians 4:8.
- Remind kids that Philippians is a letter Paul wrote to the Jesus followers in Philippi. Read the verse to the group.
- Ask: What does Paul tell the Jesus followers to focus on or think about?
- Challenge kids to write Philippians 4:8 in their own words on their paper.
- Ask:
 - What about Jesus would help you to keep going even when things got tough? *[Make it Personal] (Share about what characteristics of Jesus help you to keep going and why.)*
 - What are some ways we can help others keep going?

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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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: Ball, sticky notes, markers, tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Write on four sticky notes, "YOU are . . ." and on four sticky notes, "Thank YOU for . . ."
- Tape the sticky notes around a ball.
- Explain that the "YOU" on the sticky note refers to Jesus.
- Lead kids in prayer using the "Prayer Ball."
 - Bounce the ball to a kid in the circle.
 - Tell kids to read the words closest to their left thumb.
 - Encourage kids to pray a brief prayer by completing the sentence on the sticky note nearest to their thumb.
- Example prayers: Jesus, You are noble. You are truth. Jesus, thank You for loving me. Thank You for forgiving me.
- Close with prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus, You love us so much You went to the cross to provide a way for us to be with God now and forever. Thank You for never giving up on us. Thank You for loving us when we mess up or make unwise choices. Thank You for showing us how to love others and how to show others we love God. Thank You for giving us the power to keep going and to bounce back when things get us down. We love You! Amen!"

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