



WEEK
FIVE
MAY 2022

LARGE GROUP
K-3

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because of
what Jesus did for you.

HOST

- Two Small Group Leaders
- Five kid volunteers
- Two laundry baskets, each filled with lots of loose, mixed socks (see "What You Do")
- Two chairs facing each other

STORY SUPPLIES

- Table
- Prop box #1 containing a framed family picture (i.e. a stock photo), a math book, and a video game controller
- Prop box #2 containing a simple cross made with craft sticks
- Prop box #3 containing a Bible, a dish towel, and an arrow (either printed on paper, or an actual arrow sign)

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:

- **WELCOME** to our new Kindergarteners
- **RESILIENCE** Getting back up when something gets you down
 - All month long, we will be focusing on the message of **RESILIENCE**
 - For **HOSTS** and **COMMUNICATORS**, please be ready to share your own stories of **RESILIENCE** while
- TBD

MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

Week 1 - Never Gonna Stop Singing & The Blessing
Week 2 - Let Go & There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do
Week 3 - This is Living & Graves Into Gardens
Week 4 - Might Get Loud & Who You Say I Am
Week 5 - Real Love & Waymaker



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

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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

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.

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:

AUDIO: Real Love
AUDIO: Waymaker

Host enters.

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

OPENER

HOST: "Hello, friends! It's great to see you all here today! I'm [your name], and this month we're talking about resilience.

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

"Resilience is getting back up when something gets you down.

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

"God can help us live with resilience. And that will help us 'bounce back' when we have to face something difficult. We can choose to trust God in the middle of those challenges, because we really can **[Basic Truth] trust God no matter what.**

"I know God has definitely helped ME bounce back—lots of times!"



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Share a quick, age-appropriate, personal story of how God has helped you show resilience during something difficult. This doesn't need to be especially heavy, but it would be great to help the kids see how God has helped you through a tough time.

"Today's game will be a SUPER-fun test of resilience for two lucky Small Group Leaders. Hmm . . . which leaders would like to play?"

Bring two adult leaders on stage. Have them sit in the two chairs, facing each other, with the laundry basket full of socks between them.

"Okay, this game is called 'Sock It to Me.' [Leaders' names], please take off your shoes. You have one simple goal: put on five pairs of socks!

Hold up a couple of mismatched socks from the basket.

"As you can see, the socks are all mixed up. So first, you'll have to FIND matching socks then put them on—and do that five times! You'll just keep putting on socks, one on top of the other.

(to audience) "But here's where they'll really have to show resilience. To slow them down as they're putting on their socks, some of YOU will get to toss socks at them! Let me get five of you to be our sock throwers, right up front.

Bring five kids to the front of the stage, facing the leaders. Place the other laundry basket full of loose socks in front of them.

(to the five kids) "Just keep throwing those socks until you run out, okay?"

"Okay, [leaders' names], the rest of us will be cheering you on as you take on this epic challenge. When you put on your fifth pair of socks, stand up so we know you've won. Let's do this! On your mark, get set, go!"

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

Comment on the action as the leaders try to match socks and put them on.

Encourage the kids up front to try to throw the socks at the leaders. (They won't be very successful!) If they start to run out, you can always pick up the loose socks and toss them back in the basket so the kids can throw them again.

When a leader gets five pairs of socks on and stands up, stop the game and celebrate! Then dismiss the leaders and kids to their seats.

"That was impressive! (to leaders) You really showed a lot of resilience, [leaders' names]."



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! This month, we've talked about some amazing stories of resilience from the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) We've seen how people like Jesus' disciples and people in the early church 'bounced back' and trusted God through some really tough situations.

"Last week, we opened the book of Hebrews to look back even further. We saw how God has helped people show resilience all the way from the very beginning—people like Abraham, Joseph, and Moses.

(*Hold up Bible.*) "That brings us to the next part of Hebrews which helps us see another important reason we can live with resilience each day.

"We can keep looking to Jesus. In other words, we can see how Jesus showed resilience by doing what He had come to Earth to do. Jesus showed us the best way to live. Then, Jesus died on the cross for our sins.

Listen to these words from the book of Hebrews.

Open the Bible to Hebrews 12:2-3 (NIRV) and read.

"Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the one who started this journey of faith. And he is the one who completes the journey of faith. He paid no attention to the shame of the cross. He suffered there because of the joy he was looking forward to. Then he sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. He made it through these attacks by sinners. So think about him. Then you won't get tired. You won't lose hope.

"Wow! That's a lot to take in, I know. But the point is, we can think about Jesus whenever we face something tough. We can think about what Jesus was willing to do for us."

TIMES CAN BE TOUGH

Walk behind the table with the three boxes.

STORYTELLER: "Now, one thing I know that's true is all of us have to face tough times in life. Everyone's story is different. Which means each of us has some different challenges. (*Reference box #1.*) In this box, I've got objects that represent what some of those tough things might be.

"Let's see what's inside. Who would like to pick an item out of the box and hold it up for everyone to see?"

Pick up box #1 and walk around the room with it. Choose various kids to pick something from the box. Each time, explain how the object represents a tough situation we face.

(Obviously, these may be in a different order, depending on the order in which the kids choose the objects.)



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“Looks like we’ve got a family picture. Sometimes, family can be tough. Maybe we have trouble getting along with people in our family. Maybe our family is split and we’re moving back and forth a lot. Or maybe we’ve lost someone in our family, and we feel really sad about it. Let’s see what else is in the box.

Move to another kid to choose the next item.

“Looks like we’ve got a math book. Is math something that can be tough sometimes? (Pause.) Definitely! Especially if we’re having a hard time understanding it. Let’s see what else is in the box.

Move to another kid to choose the next item.

“We’ve got a video game controller. I bet you didn’t expect that one. I mean, video games are supposed to be fun, right? (Pause.) Sure, video games CAN be really fun. But they can also cause some problems if we don’t agree on whose turn it is or how much screen time is too much. We can have some pretty big arguments about that, for sure.”

Collect the items in the box. Take it back to the stage and set it down. Stay on stage as you talk about box #2.

KEEP LOOKING TO JESUS

STORYTELLER: “Those are definitely some tough situations that we might face in life. You can probably think of some more, too. And if we’re honest, sometimes it can be tough to bounce back from those things. It can be tough when we’re having trouble in our family. It can be tough to keep trying to figure out a math problem that we just don’t understand. It can be tough to make things right with your sibling or your friend after you’ve been arguing about a game.

“But it helps if we follow this good advice from the book of Hebrews.

Open the Bible to Hebrews 12:2 (NirV) and read.

“Let us keep looking to Jesus.

“Jesus lived on Earth, and He faced challenges, too. BIG ones.

Stand behind box #2. Pull out the craft stick cross and hold it up.

“But Jesus kept going. He did what He had come to do.

Open the Bible to Hebrews 12:2 (NirV) and read.

“The writer of Hebrews wrote that Jesus . . .

“paid no attention to the shame of the cross. He suffered there because of the joy he was looking forward to.

“Jesus came to rescue us. And NOTHING could stand in His way or stop Him from doing it! What Jesus did for us is SO big—and the point in looking to Jesus isn’t to make our problems seem small. The point is that we can find a lot of hope and encouragement when we remember what Jesus was willing to do for us. And that will help us face what WE need to face with resilience.”



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WAYS WE CAN LOOK TO JESUS

STORYTELLER: "So we know it's important that we keep looking to Jesus. But how, exactly, can we do that?"

"Well, I've got some ideas here in THIS box.

Pick up box #3 and walk around the room with it. Choose various kids to pick something from the box. Each time, explain how the object represents a way we can look to Jesus.

(Obviously, these may be in a different order, depending on the order in which the kids choose the objects.)

"Who would like to pick something out and hold it up?"

Allow a kid to pull something from the box.

"Looks like we've got a Bible. A Bible can help us look to Jesus because it's full of words and stories ABOUT Jesus. We can ask a parent or older sibling to help us read about all the amazing things Jesus did while He was on Earth. A great place to start is at the beginning of the New Testament (*hold up Bible*), in the books Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Let's see what else is in the box.

Move to another kid to choose the next item.

"We've got a dish towel. That's an interesting one! Another thing that can help us look to Jesus is if we choose to serve and help someone else. After all, that's what Jesus came to do: serve. That's how Jesus wants US to live, too, by putting others first. So maybe the next time your mom or dad or grandma is washing the dishes, you can go in and help dry them off. Serving others is a great way to remember what Jesus has done for us!

Move to another kid to choose the next item.

"And what about this? It's an arrow! [Kid's name], can you use this arrow to point to your small group? (*Pause.*) Nice job! Did you know that our friends at church can help us look to Jesus? It's true! When we spend time with each other at church, we can talk about Jesus together. We can PRAY together. We can remind each other how much Jesus loves us and how much Jesus has done FOR us."

Collect the items in the box. Go back on stage as you wrap up.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Whenever we have to face something tough, we can keep looking to Jesus. We can remember what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross for our sins. And that will help us keep going! As we read in this passage from Hebrews . . .

Open the Bible to Hebrews 12:3 (NirV) and read.

"Think about [Jesus]. Then you won't get tired. You won't lose hope.



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“Let’s remember to look to Jesus by reading about Him, serving and showing love like Him, and talking with our friends about Him. That will help us choose resilience when we have to face hard things.

“Remember . . .

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Keep going because of what Jesus did for you.

“Let’s talk to God about that now. Will you pray with me?”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior! It’s amazing to think about how much Jesus loves us and about what Jesus did for us by dying on the cross for our sins. Please help us to keep looking to Jesus by talking about Him, learning about Him, and sharing His love with others. When we face tough things, remind us to think of Jesus so we can find the strength to keep going. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”



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CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: “You know, it makes a lot of sense to look to Jesus when we’re up against something tough. I mean, Jesus gave us the **ULTIMATE** example of resilience because He went to the cross for us. He finished the good work He had come to do.

“Sometimes, life can feel like a big obstacle course—like you’re being bumped around and knocked this way and that. (*Duck and ‘block’ with your arms.*) Sometimes, hard things happen that you just didn’t see coming. (*Dodge like you just missed something that almost hit you.*) Sometimes, you mess up and say or do something you wish you hadn’t. (*Act like you’ve gotten hit with something.*) Oof!

“But through all of that, the best way to find resilience is to keep looking to Jesus. Keep remembering what Jesus was willing to do for you because of how much He loves you! That will help you find the resilience you need to face the challenges in front of you.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Keep going because of what Jesus did for you.

“So if you’re going through something tough, remember that Jesus is with you. If you’re having a tough day or feel like you’ve messed up and gotten off track, don’t worry! Shake it off. Keep looking to Jesus. That will help you get back at it . . . and try again.

“You can head to Small Group now and talk some more about this—how you can **keep going because of what Jesus did for you**. Have fun, and I’ll see you later, okay?”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP