

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

STORY SUPPLIES

- Two Small Group Leaders
- Table
- Clear plastic cup filled halfway with water and labeled "US"
- Clear plastic cup filled halfway with iodine (diluted) and labeled "SIN"
- Clear plastic cup filled halfway with bleach (diluted) and labeled "JESUS"
- Microphone on a stand if possible

HOST

- Two pre-selected Small Group Leaders plus two kids from each of their groups
- Two rain ponchos (for the leaders)
- Two shower caps (for the leaders)
- Two pairs of safety goggles (for the leaders)
- Four squirt water bottles, filled with water
<https://amzn.to/3Btk9G0>
- Two plastic SOLO® cups
- Table
- Masking or gaffer's tape
- Prop box containing: dish towel, video game controller, and wall clock

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:

- **SUMMER IS HERE!!!!**
- **MAKE WAVES** ñ What you do today can change the world around you
 - All month long, we will be talking about what it would look like if we could **CHANGE** the world around us
 - To **MAKE WAVES** means that we are being intentional about what we do each day because it can have bigger effects than we could ever imagine
- **Baptisms**
Something important to us at **MISSION** is recognizing when people are growing in their faith and being transformed by the love of Jesus. One of the ways that we express that at **MISSION** is through **Baptism**. It is an outward expression of an inward change/commitment to following Jesus.
- **Every month, we host a class that focuses on taking the next step in your faith. Baptism is a step people take when they want to tell others they are serious about following Jesus. If you want to attend this class June 19th and learn more, let your SGL know.**

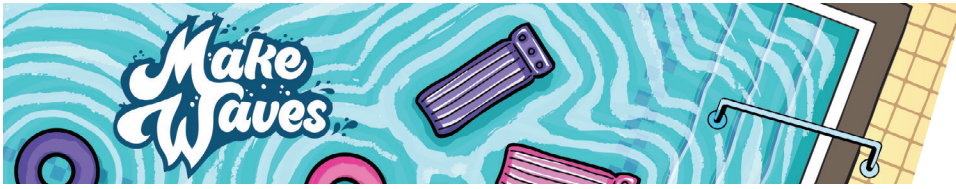
MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

Week 1 - Never Gonna Stop Singing & Let Go

Week 2 - This is Living & Graves Into Gardens

Week 3 - The Best Is Yet to Come & Who You Say I Am

Week 4 - Real Love & Waymaker



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

25 MINUTES 10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

What Is Love?
We Love Because
God Loved Us
1 John 4:9-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love others because
God loves you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The fruit the Holy Spirit
produces is love, joy and peace.
It is being patient, kind and good.
It is being faithful and gentle and
having control of oneself."
Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

MAKE WAVES

What you do today can
change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

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: NEVER GONNA STOP SINGING
AUDIO: LET GO

Host enters.

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

OPENER

HOST: "Hey, everybody! It's so great to see you today at [your environment's name]. This summer, we're finding out what it means to 'make waves'!

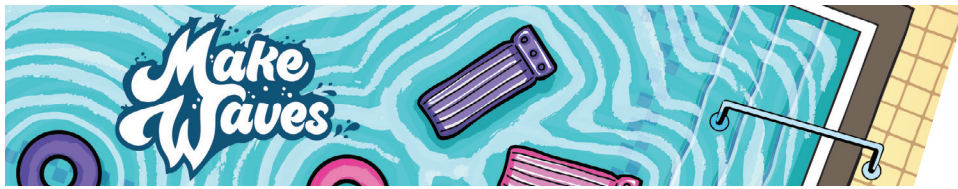
"And get this, I'm NOT just talking about making waves in the water. We can make waves in the world around us with the way we live each day. The way we act can actually make a difference for other people.

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

"You see, **what you do today can change the world around you.**

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

"So that brings up a good question. HOW do we make waves? I'm glad you asked! We can show things like love, joy, peace, and kindness. When we believe in Jesus, we have the gift of God's Spirit living inside us. And God's Spirit HELPS us do those good things.



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2022

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

"We'll look at a really important way we can make waves in just a minute. But first, let's get things kicked off with some major fun! I need two Small Group Leaders to join me on the stage, and each leader can bring two kids from their group.

Select leaders and kids to play the game (i.e. one leader from each side of the room). Note: You may want to pre-select the leaders to give them a heads-up about the game.

Have the leaders stand on the "X" marks and have the kids stand behind the tape line.

(to the two leaders on stage) "Okay, leaders, you'll need to wear these.

Give both leaders a rain poncho, a shower cap, and a pair of safety goggles.

(to the kids on stage) "And kids, you'll need these.

Give each kid a squirt water bottle filled with water.

(to the kids on stage) "When I say, 'Go,' you'll squeeze that bottle and try to squirt water in your leader's mouth. Leaders, when your mouth is full, you'll run to your team's cup and spit the water into the cup. Then come right back here and fill 'er up again. The first team to completely fill their cup, wins!

(to the audience) "Oh, and of course, all of YOU have a part to play, too! Your job is to cheer on your team as loudly as you can! Is everyone ready? All right, let's play! Three, two, one, GO!

AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Provide funny commentary during the game. Declare the winning team when one team's cup overflows.

If the game is taking too long, stop and do a quick check to see which team got more water in the cup. Then declare the winner.

"That was absolutely INCREDIBLE! You all really made a splash! Let's give our volunteers a hand as they head back to their seats.

Collect the supplies as the leaders and kids go back to their seats.



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everyone! It's so fun how we're talking about making waves this summer. With the help of God's Spirit, we can make waves in all sorts of ways: by showing things like love, joy, patience, faithfulness, and self-control.

"Today, let's talk about that first one: love. We can all make waves by showing love to everyone around us. God's Spirit can HELP us show love. In fact, God has been showing love since the very beginning of the world!"

SIN ENTERS THE WORLD

STORYTELLER: "In the beginning, God created everything. God made animals, trees, water, clouds, mountains—all of it! But PEOPLE were the most amazing part of all God's creation, because people were created in the image of God.

Go behind the table. Hold up the clear cup of water labeled "US."

"Let's say this cup is us—people.

Set the cup back on the table.

"We were made to reflect God's love to the world. But when God created people—Adam and Eve—God also gave them the freedom to make their own choices. Adam and Eve broke the one rule God made to keep them safe.

"They shattered their perfect friendship with God. And sin entered the world. Let's pretend this is sin.

Pick up the cup of iodine labeled "SIN."

"Look what happens if I pour this cup in here."

Pour some of the iodine into the "US" cup, making the water turn dark.

GOD'S GREAT RESCUE PLAN

STORYTELLER: "Oh, no! That's not good, is it? But don't worry. God already had a plan to fix what was broken. God would bring people back into a relationship with Him and make things right again.

Walk in front of the table.

"We can find examples of God's great rescue plan throughout the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) God promised Abraham that his family would grow into a great nation.

Put your hand above your eyes and look up, like you're looking at the stars.



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"God said that Abraham and his wife, Sarah, would have as many children as there are stars in the sky. And God promised to bless the whole world through Abraham's family. Sure enough, even though Abraham and Sarah were old, God gave them a son named Isaac. Then Isaac had a son named Jacob. And Jacob had twelve sons who started families, and God grew those twelve families into an entire nation!

"God continued to show love for people through the amazing stories we find throughout the Bible. *(Hold up Bible.)* God showed love in the lives of men and women like Moses, David, and Ruth.

"Over time, God's people kept turning away and trying to do things their OWN way. Eventually, God allowed them to be captured as prisoners. But even then, God sent prophets: people who gave hints that God was sending a Rescuer to save us, once and for all."

JESUS, THE RESCUER

STORYTELLER: "At just the right moment, God sent Jesus.

Go back behind the table. Set the cup of bleach labeled "JESUS" on the table. Hold it up as you talk.

"Jesus showed what it truly means to love God and love others. Then, Jesus gave up His life on the cross. Jesus took all our sin and brokenness on Himself when He died.

"If we put our trust in Jesus, look what happens.

Pour some of the "JESUS" bleach into the "US" water, making it clear again.

"Our sin is no longer there! We can be completely forgiven because of what Jesus did for us. Jesus showed God's love and made things right for EVERYONE.

"There's a really powerful passage in the book of First John that explains how much God loves us and how God showed love through Jesus. Could I have a Small Group Leader read this for me?"

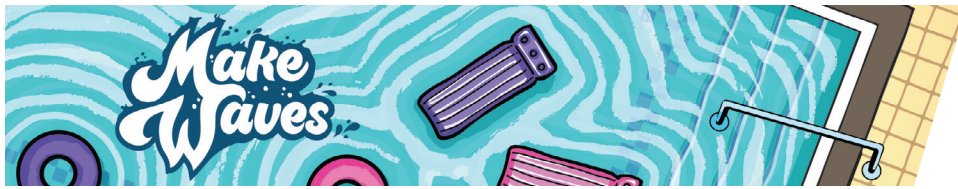
Open the Bible to 1 John 4:9-10 (NirV), and hand it to a leader to read. (Have the leader stand behind a microphone on a stand, if possible.)

LEADER #1: "Here is how God showed his love among us. He sent his one and only Son into the world. He sent him so we could receive life through him. Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins."

STORYTELLER: "Thanks, [leader's name]. God sent Jesus to pay for our sins. Then God raised Jesus from the dead! Since God loves us that much, that should change the way we live every day.

"Can I have another leader read this next part from First John?"

Open the Bible to 1 John 4:11-13 (NirV), and hand it to a leader to read. (Have the leader stand behind a microphone on a stand, if possible.)



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LEADER #2: *"Dear friends, since God loved us this much, we should also love one another. No one has ever seen God. But if we love one another, God lives in us. His love is made complete in us. Here's how we know that we are joined to him and he to us. He has given us his Holy Spirit."*

STORYTELLER: "Thanks, [leader's name]. You see, THAT'S how we can show love. With the help of God's Spirit."

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

Hold up the "US" cup.

STORYTELLER: "God's love is powerful! God's love CHANGES us. And since we've experienced God's love for ourselves, that makes us want to share God's love with others."

"Think of it this way.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Love others because God loves you.

"Imagine what a difference it would make in the world around us if we chose to live each day with LOVE. We'd really make waves! Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You so much for the gift of Your love to us through Jesus. We can see how You've shown love to Your people throughout history, all the way to today. Please show us how we can respond to Your great love by choosing to love others. Thank You for giving us Your Spirit to help us! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "Doesn't it make you feel so good to know how much God loves us? God has been showing love to people ever since the very beginning. God showed love in the BIGGEST way by sending Jesus to be our Savior. And Jesus showed how great His love is by giving His life for our sins."

"That kind of love changes us. It makes us want to love other people, because we know how powerful God's love can be."

"That's what we need to remember today."



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SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Love others because God loves you.

“When we believe in Jesus, we have a relationship with God that lasts forever AND God gives us the Holy Spirit to help us through life! It’s through the help of God’s Spirit that we can make waves and show love.

“We can do that in lots of ways.

Hold up the dish towel and fold it.

“We can help someone without being asked.

Hold up the video game controller.

“We can give up our turn.

Hold up the clock.

“We can spend time with someone.

“We can **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated!**

“Our memory verse this month is Galatians 5:22-23a. It helps us understand what God’s Spirit can do in our lives.

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

“The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

“God’s Spirit can cause all those good things in US!

“You can head to Small Group now and talk about that some more. See you later!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP