

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Why Can't We Be Friends?**  
Abigail Intervenes  
1 Samuel 25:1-35

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can help others make peace.

### HOST

- Table
- Large, clear plastic tub filled over halfway with water
- Large, clear plastic tub full of items that you can use for the "sink or float" game (feather, LEGO® brick, sponge, rock, toy truck, coin, piece of wood, piece of paper, ice, paper clip, etc.)
- Two beach towels to cover the two plastic tubs until you play the game

### STORY SUPPLIES

- Long rectangular table
- Large plastic bin (not clear)
- Three large, tall water bottles (like 1-liter) to represent Nabal, Abigail, and David
- Paper to make sleeves for the faces (Nabal, Abigail, David)—see "What You Do"
- Thick black marker
- Tape
- Ten smaller water bottles still wrapped/connected together in a multi-pack (take a few out if needed, so that you have ten or you can wrap them together with packing tape)
- Wrapped gift (can be empty)

### 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** 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

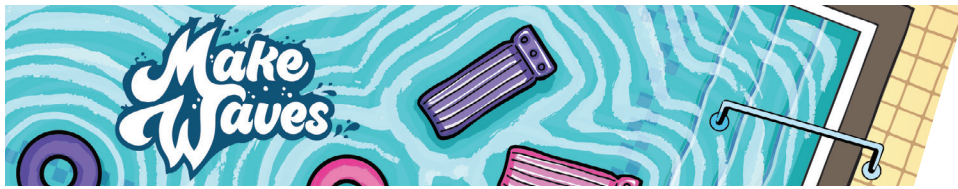
#### MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

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**

**Why Can't We Be Friends?**  
Abigail Intervenes  
1 Samuel 25:1-35

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

You can help others make peace.

**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 need to make the wise choice.

**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: THE BEST IS YET TO COME**  
**AUDIO: WHO YOU SAY I AM**

*Host enters.*

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

**OPENER**

**HOST:** "Hello, friends! Today is a really great day to be here at [your environment's name], because we have SO much fun in store. All summer, we're finding out what it means to make waves.

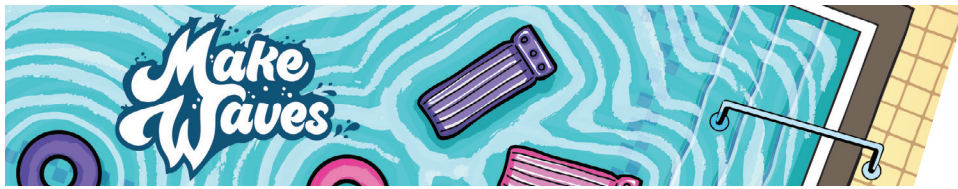
"You see, we know this is true.

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

**"What you do today can change the world around you.**

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

"When we put our faith in Jesus, we have an amazing gift. We have God's Spirit to help us each day. God's Spirit can help us live with things like love, joy, peace, faithfulness, gentleness, and even self-control. When we live THAT way, we can really make waves and make a difference for the people around us.



WEEK  
**THREE**  
JUNE 2022

LARGE GROUP  
**K-3**

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10 MINUTES

"Who's ready to play another wave-making kind of game? *(Pause for response.)* Me, too!

"Let's see. First, we'll need these.

*Remove the beach towels to reveal the large, clear tub of water and the large, clear tub of items next to it on the table. Reference the tub full of items.*

"I'll put several items from this container in the tub of water. What we DO know is that dropping these items in the water will make some waves. But what we DON'T know is if these items will sink or float!

"First, I'll hold up an item, and you tell me if you think it'll sink or float. Then we'll try it and see what happens. Okay, let's get started with our first item!

**AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

*Go through the items, one at a time. First, let the audience shout out if they think the item will sink or float, then drop the item into the water to test it. Remove that item and move on to the next one.*

"Well, that was pretty cool! I was surprised that some of the items didn't do what I expected. But you all were really good at guessing. Give yourselves a hand



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## BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Storyteller enters*

### SETTING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, everyone! Our story today begins with a guy named Nabal. If you're not sure how to say his name, you can just remember that it rhymes with cable . . . and stable . . . and fable. And well, you get the idea!

"Since we're making waves this summer, I thought we could tell this story with some water.

*Set the "Nabal" water bottle all the way on one side of the table.*

"See? Here's Nabal. Nabal was a wealthy man who lived near the town of Carmel. He was rude and foolish.

*(as the Nabal water bottle, in a gruff voice)* "Hey! I'm right here, you know.

*(to the Nabal bottle)* "Sorry, Nabal. It says so right here. *(Hold up Bible.)* It says you're rude and mean in the way you treat others. *(paraphrase of 1 Samuel 25:3)*

*(as the Nabal water bottle)* "Oh, right. Can't really argue with that.

*(to audience)* "Nabal's wife was named Abigail.

*Set the "Abigail" water bottle on the table next to Nabal.*

"And SHE was wise. You'll learn more about her in a little bit."

### DAVID'S REQUEST

**STORYTELLER:** "This story took place when David was staying in the Desert of Paran, which was close to where Nabal and Abigail lived.

"Here's David.

*Set the "David" water bottle on the opposite side of the table from Nabal and Abigail.*

"David heard that Nabal was clipping the wool off his sheep. He sent ten men to greet Nabal and ask him for food.

*Set the pack of ten smaller water bottles on the table beside David, then drag them across the table to Nabal and Abigail.*

*(as the messengers)* "Nabal, can we please have some food?"

*(to audience)* "After all, David's men had been kind to Nabal's shepherds and had kept them safe. Now, during this happy time of year, David figured he could ask Nabal to help him out."



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### **NABAL'S RUDE RESPONSE**

**STORYTELLER:** "Well, when David's men asked Nabal for some food, Nabal was very rude.

"Listen to what he said.

*Hold up the Nabal water bottle in one hand. In your other hand, open the Bible to 1 Samuel 25:10-11 (NIRV) and read in a gruff voice.*

*"Who is this David? . . . Why should I give away my bread and water? Why should I give away the meat I've prepared for those who clip the wool off my sheep? Why should I give food to men who come from who knows where?"*

*Set the Nabal water bottle back down on the table.*

*(to the Nabal water bottle)* "Yikes! Pretty mean, Nabal.

*(to audience)* "David's men returned to camp, and they told David what Nabal had said.

*Move the ten smaller water bottles back over to David's side of the table.*

"David was so angry that he told his men to get their swords, and he went with 400 of them up the mountain to confront Nabal.

*Hold up the David water bottle like he's talking to the ten smaller water bottles.*

*(as David)* "Nobody talks to ME that way. Men—let's go get that rude Nabal!

*Set the David water bottle back down on the table.*

"This wasn't a very wise thing for David to do. But people don't always make wise choices when they're angry."

### **ABIGAIL SAVES THE DAY**

**STORYTELLER:** "Meanwhile, a servant went to tell Abigail what had happened.

*Hold up the Abigail water bottle.*

"And here's where Abigail was so wise!

*Set the Abigail water bottle back on the table and put the wrapped gift next to it.*

"She prepared gifts for David and his men, and she loaded the gifts on the backs of donkeys. She told her servants to go ahead with the gifts, and she would follow.

*Move Abigail and the wrapped gift into the middle of the table, between Nabal and David.*



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"Abigail rode into a mountain valley, and she saw David coming with his men.

*Move David and the ten-pack of water to the center of the table as well.*

"He did NOT look happy. Abigail bowed down in front of David and gave him the gifts.

*Hold up the David water bottle.*

*(as the David water bottle, angrily)* "What's this? *(less angry)* Oh—a gift. I like gifts. That's very kind of you.

*Set the David water bottle back down on the table.*

*(to audience)* "Abigail apologized for what Nabal had done. She begged David not to fight Nabal. She said . . .

*Hold up the Abigail water bottle in one hand. In your other hand, open the Bible to 1 Samuel 25:24-26 (NIRV) and read.*

*"Pardon your servant, sir. Please let me speak to you. Listen to what I'm saying. Let me take the blame myself. Please don't pay any attention to that evil man Nabal. His name means Foolish Person. And that's exactly what he is. He's always doing foolish things . . . Sir, the Lord has kept you from killing Nabal and his men. He has kept you from using your own hands to get even.*

*Set the Abigail water bottle back down on the table.*

"Abigail was wise and creative with her words. She had saved the day! David accepted the gifts, and he told Abigail to go home in peace."

*Move the water David bottle and ten-pack of bottles to David's side of the table. Move Abigail back to the Nabal side.*

*Move in front of the table as you wrap up.*

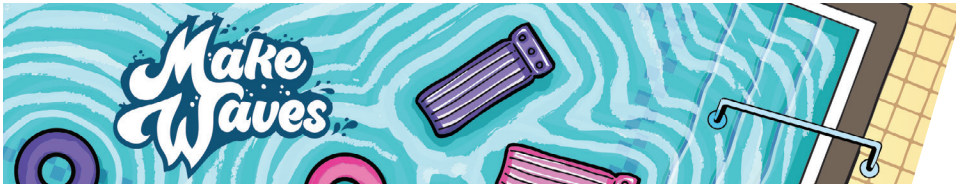
### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

**STORYTELLER:** "Abigail returned home to find Nabal throwing a giant party. She had stopped David from hurting Nabal. But Nabal soon met an awful end.

"Here's the important thing to remember, though. Abigail had done something very brave and courageous. She had stopped a fight before it even began! She helped make peace.

"You and I can make peace like Abigail did. That's not always easy, especially when people are arguing or upset. It might mean that you're the first one to say, 'I'm sorry.' It might mean that you help someone ELSE make peace. Making peace is a way that we can make waves. It's something we can do with the help of God's Spirit.

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**



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**"You can help others make peace."**

"Now, there's something important that I want you to hear as we wrap up today. I want to be clear that there may be times when you're NOT able to make peace. There may be situations where people you know are having trouble or arguing, and it's not up to you to stop them. They may need help from other adults who are trained to make things better.

"But remember, God is there to help you as you make waves by making peace. Let's pray and ask God to help us do that."

**SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND**

## PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You for helping Abigail be so wise and helpful. She used her words and actions to make peace. Help us be like her—the kind of person who can calm down a difficult situation. Please give us Your wisdom to know how we can bring peace to the people around us. In Jesus' name, amen."



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## CLOSER

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

**HOST:** “David was so angry that he was ready to battle against Nabal. Yikes! But Abigail saw trouble coming, and she did something to solve the problem. She made things BETTER. She helped David see the situation in a different way.

“When we believe in Jesus, God’s Spirit is living inside us. And with the help of God’s Spirit, we can do what Abigail did. We can help others make peace.

“That’s a good thing to remember.

**SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE**

**“You can help others make peace.**

“Think about it. Sometimes, you might be the one who makes someone else mad. You might realize it later and wish you had acted differently. If that happens, don’t miss the chance to say you’re sorry for what you did wrong.

“Or you might be the one who GETS mad. Before you lose your temper, stop and think about what you can do to calm down. Think about what you can do to make peace.

“Or maybe you’re like Abigail. Maybe you can see a way to stop someone ELSE’S argument before it gets out of control. Remember, you can always ask God for help. God is always with you. God’s Spirit is always there to help you. God can help you **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice.**

“Why don’t we head to Small Group so we can talk some more about making peace? I’m so glad you were here today! 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**