



WEEK
FOUR
APRIL 2023

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- When it comes to knowing Jesus, what would you say are the most important things to understand?
- What would you like to understand better about God? Who can you go to for help?
- If someone asks you for help to understand something, when is it hard for you to do that with a good attitude? What makes the difference between it being hard or easy?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Stand By Me

On the Road to Emmaus
Luke 24:13-35

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When has someone helped you understand something?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Put others first by helping them understand.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves."

Philippians 2:3, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Humility—Putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve

BASIC TRUTH

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



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MADE TO PLAY

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



4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, several toy gardening tools

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the toy gardening tools in a random formation on the floor (aligned, crisscrossed, in a shape, etc.)
- Ask kids to look closely then guess how many tools there are. Indicate who has guessed correctly then rearrange the tools and ask again.
- Only you will know that the answer has nothing to do with the formation or the amount of garden tools. It is determined by how many fingers you have placed on the floor or your lap. Make sure your hands are visible.
- As kids begin to figure out the game, ask them to hold back the secret as you continue to play.
- If kids are still not getting it, be more obvious as you place a different number of fingers on the floor each time.
- After the game, give kids Bibles then ask them to look up and read Proverbs 3:27.
- Use the suggestion below to help kids find the verse.

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Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

- Say the verse together several times and see if kids can recite it on their own.
- Consider asking half the kids to say the first part in a certain voice, then let the remaining kids say the second part using the same voice style.
 - High (squeaky) voice
 - Low voice
 - Robot voice
 - Pirate voice
 - Whisper
 - Shout
- Ask:
 - If you figured out the secret in our game, was it easy or hard to hold back what you knew? Why or why not?
 - What does it mean to "hold back good" from someone?
 - If we can help someone understand and we choose not to help, is that holding back good? Why or why not?
 - What do you learn about humility from this verse?



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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct everyone to stand in a circle and turn to the left so they are facing the back of the person in front of them.
- Ask each person to pray a short prayer (silently or aloud) for the person in front of them to have opportunities to put others first this week by helping someone understand.
- Invite everyone to turn and face the opposite direction and then pray the same prayer for the person they are now facing.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, help us to show humility by serving others this week. When we can help someone understand something better, help us do it without complaining or expecting something in return. Show us how to follow Your example and put our family, friends, and others first this week. In Jesus' name, amen."

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