

# RAISE YOUR GAME

PLAY WITH CONFIDENCE

WEEK  
**ONE**  
MAY 2023

SMALL GROUP  
**K-1**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



## 2. OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed.

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Ask the kids to make their way across the room or space from where you are standing so they can stand with their back against the wall.
- Explain how to play "Stop! Go and Tell!" a game similar to Red light, Green light.
- Kids will stop and freeze when you say "Stop!"
- They can move closer to you when you say "Go and Tell!"
- When a kid makes it across the space to you, the game starts over.
- The "winner" can become the next caller and you can join in the game, too.
  - You can come up with fun ways for them to move across the room such as skipping, hopping on one foot, walking backwards, etc.
- If they ask what they're supposed to tell or why you're saying "Go and Tell!" let them know that they'll find out today during the Bible story.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### All Around the World

The Great Commission and Ascension  
Matthew 28:16-20;  
Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Share God's love with others.

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"So we say with confidence,  
'The Lord is my helper;  
I will not be afraid.'"  
Hebrews 13:6a, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

Confidence—Living like you believe God is with you

## BASIC TRUTH

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"That was so much fun! Believe it or not, that game is kind of like our lives and how God helps direct us! Sometimes, God tells us to STOP doing what we're doing to protect us, like when we're about to make an unwise choice. And sometimes, God tells us to GO, like when we see a friend who needs help.

**[Transition] And today, we'll learn about a special time Jesus told us all to Go and Tell and share His love with others!"**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

# RAISE YOUR GAME

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WEEK  
**ONE**  
MAY 2023

SMALL GROUP

**2-3**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO EXPLORE

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



## \*2. GO, GO, DOMINO!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Floor tape and dominoes

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Tape two similar paths on the floor that are about three feet long and four feet apart. (vary them straight, wavy, zig-zag, etc.)
- Divide your group into two teams.
- Give each team half of the dominoes and direct them to stand around their line.
- Instruct the teams to set up the dominoes along the floor tape paths in such a way that the first domino makes the other dominoes fall.
- Once both teams have set out all of the dominoes, invite one of the teams to attempt to knock them over.
- Invite the other team to knock theirs over.
- If the domino lines don't fall successfully, let teams work together to figure out how they can get the domino lines to fall successfully from one end to the other.
- Encourage the teams to work together until both lines fall completely!

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## BASIC TRUTH

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Jesus told His disciples to GO and share God's love with others, making disciples of all nations. That's a big job! Just like this first domino will never meet the last domino, we may never meet everyone across the whole world. But we can work TOGETHER to **share God's love with others!** If we can share God's love with someone, and that person shares God's love with another person, we can help share Jesus to the ends of the earth!"

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## MADE TO PLAY

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



## 3. STICKY NOTE COVER-UP [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles; white board and dry erase marker or marker and posterboard; and sticky notes

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Using the Bible navigation tips below, look up Hebrews 13:6 and read it out loud.

***Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders:** Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When kids find the table of contents, lead them to find "Hebrews" in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find Hebrews, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Hebrews. Help the kids find the page. When they find Hebrews, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 13. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 6 in chapter 13.*

- Write the memory verse on a white board or posterboard.
- Invite the kids to close their Bibles.
- Read the verse out loud from the board a few times together.
- Use a sticky note to cover up one word at a time.
- Increase the number of sticky notes on the board each time you read the verse.
- Direct the kids to continue to read the verse out loud, including the covered word(s).
- Follow this pattern until the entire verse is covered and the kids are repeating the verse by memory!

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job of practicing our memory verse today! Memorizing Scripture is a great way to keep it in our hearts so we have it right when we need it. When we feel afraid, we can remember that we're not alone. God is here to help us! When we remember that God is with us and remember how much God loves us, we can have confidence to **share God's love with others.**"

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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space  
for personal processing  
and application



## 4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed.

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Sit together in a circle or around a table.
- Ask the kids to put their hands in front of them on the table.
- Explain to them that their fingers can help them remember people to pray for.
- Jesus told us to **share God's love with others**, and that means anyone and everyone. We can pray for people and look for ways we can share God's love with them.
- Thumb: Our family
- Pointer finger: Our friends
- Tall finger: Our church leaders
- Ring finger: Our school teachers and leaders
- Pinky finger: Our community helpers
- Give the kids a few moments to think through who each of those people might be then demonstrate for them how they can pray for each one.
- Conclude with time for each of them to pray for the folks they thought of.

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**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Thank you God, for providing so many wonderful people in my family, church, school, and community! Thank you for my (*list family*), my friend, [*friend's name*], our pastor [*pastor's name*] . . . (*guide kids to add more names*). They are all so helpful to me. Please help me share Your love with each of them. Help me be kind and considerate, helpful and, if nothing else, please help me share a smile with each of them. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, remind kids to take their balloon Jesus home to show their family and friends! Encourage them to retell the story when they get home.