



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
ONE
MAY 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 needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Are there times when you don't feel confident? If so,

when?

- What keeps you from feeling confident?
- When was a time where you felt afraid to share God's love?
- How can you share God's love? *(Be sure to encourage kids to think of outside-the-box ways they can share God's love. Remind them that this does not always have to be big or awkward or even risky. Sometimes the simplest ways speak the loudest!)*
- How does the way you live affect the way others see Jesus?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All Around the World

Great Commission
and Ascension

Matthew 28:16-20,

Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:1-11

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How can you share God's love?

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.



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MADE TO MOVE

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



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4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared "Verse Blocks" Activity Page, masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use a piece of masking tape to mark two "Starting Lines" on one end of your group space.
- Divide kids into two teams and have each team line up behind a "Starting Line."
- On the opposite end, place a pile of the prepared "Verse Blocks" Activity Page pieces across from each team.
- Explain that when you say, "Go!" kids will relay race to the other end to pick up the pieces from their stack.
- Only one player from each team can go at a time. The next player in line will not go until the player who collects a piece from the other end crosses back over the "Starting Line."
- Once all 16 pieces have been retrieved, teammates will work together to place the pieces together in a way that fits and states the verse in the correct order (a la the 1980s game Tetris®).
- The first team to successfully complete their verse puzzle wins the game!
- Lead kids in saying the verse together a few times and encourage them to continue learning it at home.
- Explain that just like it took all of their teammates in order to retrieve the pieces and put the verse in order, it takes all of us in order to share God's love with the world. It's a team effort! But not only do we have each other, we also have the Holy Spirit to help us love and live the way Jesus did when He was here on Earth. The Spirit can give us confidence to share God's love, even when we're nervous!



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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: "Share Controls" Activity Page, pens or pencils, *Optional: A set of Joy-Con controllers

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you brought a set of Joy-Con controllers, hold them up for kids to see. If you do not have a set to show kids, hold up a copy of the "Share Controls" Activity Page.
- Ask kids these questions, and call on volunteers to answer:
 1. Does anyone know what these are? (*Joy-Con controllers*)
 2. How do you use them in order to play a video game? (*You can hold them in your hands and control what's going on in the video game either by pushing buttons or moving the controller in certain directions. It is motion-censored, which allows it to wirelessly connect with the screen where the game is playing.*)
 3. What makes this type of controller so special? How is it different from other kinds of controllers? (*They are versatile. You can connect them to both sides of a gaming device, and play single player. Or you can keep them separate and share a controller with another person, which allows you to play a game with someone else.*)
- Explain that after Jesus defeated death, He told us to go share God's love with others. This includes everyone! We should share with people who don't know who God is, and we should share with people who do! We are given opportunities every day to share God's love with everyone we encounter.
- Give kids a chance to think of people in their lives with whom they can share God's love. Instruct them to write those names down on one of the controllers on their "Share Controls" Activity Page.
- Instruct them to write down various ways they can share God's love on the other controller on the page.
- Explain that you are going to lead them in a prayer. You will begin by praying out loud, but then you will include some quiet time where kids can pray silently for the people they wrote down on their page. Encourage them to ask God to help them find ways to share His love with those people this week.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God,

Thank you for the amazing thing you did when Jesus came back to life! Today's story reminds us that You want us to share Your love with everyone! Sometimes it feels scary or risky. We've all missed an opportunity to show love to someone because we were nervous. Help us to have confidence as we remember that You are with us. We pray specifically for the people that You have brought to each of our minds today. (*Pause for a moment.*) Thank You, God, for placing these people in our lives. Help us to trust You. Amen."