



WEEK  
**THREE**  
JUNE 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:

- Why should those who know Jesus see others differently than those who don't?
- Why do you think it's hard to accept or love people who are different from us?
- When you think back on the past few days, was there a time when you treated someone better because you believe God made them and loves them—even though they are different from you in some way? What's one way you could live that out this next week?

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

### Walk Right In

Peter Goes to the House of Cornelius  
Acts 10

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When have you changed your mind about someone?

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can change the way you see others.

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1, NIV

## MONTHLY VIRTUE

Faith—Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see

## BASIC TRUTH

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



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### MADE TO EXPLORE

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



### 4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, paper, marker, bottle of water, clear glass

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Lead kids in the following demonstration in which arrows on a sheet of paper completely change direction.
- We suggest you preview the video linked in "Get Ready" to best understand the following steps.
  - On the sheet of paper, draw three arrows, one on top of the other and pointing in the same direction.
  - The arrows should be about 2-inches long and fairly thick so they can be easily seen through a smooth, clear glass.
  - Hold the arrows behind the empty glass a few inches away.
  - Instruct kids to stand where they can see the arrows from the other side of the glass (looking straight through the glass to the arrows on the other side.)
  - As you fill the glass with water, they should see the arrows change direction.
- Explain that the science behind the demonstration is that the water bends the light and changes the way our eyes see the image.
- Invite kids to look up 1 Samuel 16:7b in their Bibles.

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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.*

- If your kids are open to it, encourage them to come up with three or four simple motions to go with the verse as they say it together a few times. This will help them learn and remember it.
- Ask:
  - What would you say is the main point of 1 Samuel 16:7?
  - How does the arrow demonstration illustrate this verse?
  - What do we sometimes look at on the outside of a person that causes us to see them a certain way? (clothes, looks, behavior)
  - What does God see when God looks at someone?
  - What will help us see people the way God sees them?
- Invite kids to think of someone they struggle to get along with (no names) then encourage them to take a moment to try and see that person through God's eyes. How does God see that person? How is that different from how you (the kid) see them?
- Close by reminding kids that EVERY person is created in God's image and greatly loved by God. They are valued and made in unique ways to show others who God is.



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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 needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Ask kids, "Is there a 'Cornelius' in your life?" (someone who is different from them in a lot of ways, someone they don't particularly like, someone who doesn't like them, someone they struggle to get along with)
- Without mentioning any names, lead kids in praying for their "Cornelius."
- Tell them that whenever you say "Cornelius," they can silently insert the name of the person they are praying for.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, I understand that You see *Cornelius* differently than I do. You love *Cornelius* as much as You love me. We are both made in Your image and important to You. Help me treat *Cornelius* the way I want to be treated. Please change the way I see *Cornelius* so that I can be more like You in the things I do, say, and the way I treat others. In Jesus' name, amen."

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