



PLAY WITH
CONFIDENCE

WEEK
FOUR
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:

- Can you think of a time when God found a way to answer a question you had?
- Who do you talk to when you have questions?
- Is it okay to question things we have always been taught?
- What questions do you have?

(Do not be intimidated by this last question! As their Small Group Leader, you have a unique opportunity to give kids a safe place to ask questions that perhaps they would not feel comfortable asking a parent. Be aware of the potential open door for tricky discussion and be mindful of questions that should be answered with a temporary response of, "Let's figure out a time to discuss that individually." Also, remember this: you are not expected to have ALL the answers! Some things you might not know, and some questions actually don't have definitive answers. It's okay to tell kids exactly that.)

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

All I Ask of You
Philip and the Man
from Ethiopia
Acts 8:26-40

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What questions do you have?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God is with you even when
you have questions.

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 can trust God no matter what.



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



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Common Questions" Activity page, Bibles, pens or pencils, prepared box with lid from the "Take a Snapshot" activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide kids into four groups. Pass the box around the group and instruct each group to select a slip of paper from the box.
- Once each group has received a slip of paper, give them a chance to read their question with each other.
- They will then work with their groups to look up each of the verse references listed on their paper and write down what thoughts they have after reading those verses.
- After everyone has had a chance to come up with answers to their questions, give each group a turn to share their question with the others as well as the answer they came up with.
- Explain that in this case, they were given specific verses to look up in order to find some info on a specific question. But when we have our own questions, we typically have to find the answers on our own.
 - Take time to show kids how to use a concordance in a Bible or how to search for something in a Bible app or on a Bible website.
- Ask the following questions:
 - Can we find every single answer in the Bible?
 - How can we find answers that are not in the Bible?
 - Is the internet always a trusted source for answers?
 - Who in your life is a trusted source to ask your questions?
- Be sure to explain that not every question can be answered with the Bible. And not every question can be answered at all! There are some questions that we will never know the answers to in this life because only God knows! That's what makes God omniscient or all knowing. But what we can do is keep asking questions and discussing who God is and how to follow Jesus.

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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: "Wireless Controls" Activity Page,
pens or pencils, *Optional: A wireless Xbox controller*

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you brought a wireless Xbox® controller, hold it up for kids to see. If you do not have one to show kids, hold up a copy of the "Wireless Controls" Activity Page.
- Ask kids these questions and call on volunteers to answer:
 - Does anyone know what this is? (*Wireless Xbox controller*)
 - How do you use it in order to play a video game? (*Everything you want to happen on the screen, you can control by pushing the buttons on the controller.*)
 - What makes this type of controller so special? How is it different from other kinds of controllers? (*This particular controller is wireless. It operates with either infrared or Bluetooth technology, which allows it to work without having to be plugged into the source.*)
- Explain how it's pretty awesome that a piece of equipment can be connected to what's going on in the game without even having to be plugged in. It can be easy to forget to stay connected with God. We can tend to pull back or unplug when we get busy or distracted.
- Remind kids that God is ALWAYS plugged into our lives and is always available and ready for any questions we may have.
- Give kids a chance to think of specific questions they have for God.
- Instruct them to write these things down on their "Wireless Controls" Activity Page.
- Pair kids up and give them time and space to pray for each other. They can either pray about the questions they wrote down, or they can share other prayer requests with each other.

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