



WEEK
THREE
JULY 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:

- Is there anyone in your life who you admire for their faith in God? If so, how do they keep their faith strong?
- What helps you remember God is with you?
- How do you typically respond when difficult things happen to you?
- When you have faith in God, do bad things happen less? Why or why not?
- How can our group here at church be a reminder that God is with you?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The Perfect Storm

Paul Shipwrecked
Acts 27:1–28:10

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What helps you remember that God is with you?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When bad things happen,
God is with you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift."
Ephesians 2:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: White board, dry erase marker, Bibles, "Squash Journal" Activity Page, scissors, glue sticks, ribbon or string, markers or crayons, stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask for six volunteers and hand each volunteer a Bible.
- Assign each volunteer one of the following verses to look up.
- Write the verse references on the white board.
 - Romans 15:13
 - John 16:24
 - Romans 12:12
 - Psalm 5:11
 - James 1:2-4
 - Romans 5:3-5
- Let the volunteers take turns reading their verses out loud for the group.
- Encourage kids to listen and choose one or two that they identify with or that stands out to them.
- Give everyone a set of "Squash Journal" Activity Pages and guide them to follow the provided directions to create their journals.
- Kids can use markers, crayons, and/or stickers to decorate the covers.
- Encourage kids to use the blank pages inside to write down any of the verses that was read earlier that stood out to them.
- They can write the entire verse down or creatively write the reference in fancy lettering. They can even include illustrations if they would like to.
- Explain that this journal can be taken home for them to continue writing down Bible verses or thoughts they may have. Journaling can be a great way to reflect on God's Word. And this journal can be something they keep as a reminder that God is always with them.

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

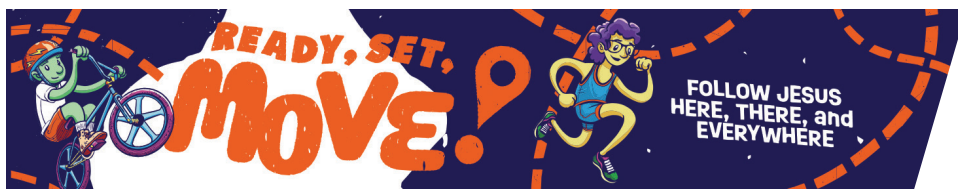
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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: Construction paper, scissors, markers or pens, stapler or clear tape, an assortment of pillows and/or blankets, "Prayer Stations" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the three Prayer Stations that you used in Weeks 1 and 2. See below for the changes you'll need to make for this week.
 - STATION 1: Prayer Chains. Set out a variety of colors of construction paper, scissors, markers or pens, and a stapler or roll of clear tape.
 - STATION 2: Prayer Share. There are no supplies needed for this station.
 - STATION 3: Rest with God. Place a few pillows and blankets for kids to use for a quiet, restful prayer time.
- Explain what kids are supposed to do at each Prayer Station.
 - Prayer Chains: Kids can cut one-inch strips of paper from sheets of construction paper. On each strip, they will use a marker or pen to write one way they can be reminded that God is with them. (i.e., I have family that takes care of me, I have good friends, etc.)
 - They will use the stapler or tape to make a paper chain with their strips of paper.
 - They can keep their paper chain somewhere at home where it can be a reminder to talk to God.
 - When they are going through a tough time, it can remind them that God is always with them.
 - Prayer Share: You will be at this station.
 - Give every kid a turn to share something that they would like for you to pray about for them.
 - Take time to write down the requests or make a note in your phone.
 - After everyone has shared something, pray out loud for every request that was mentioned.
- Rest with God: Kids can get comfortable in the space and silently spend time with God. Explain that this could mean they pray about something on their mind, or they can even just spend time thinking about God or thanking God for various good things in their lives.
- Let kids each choose a prayer station to start.
- Allow groups to have several minutes at each station. Remind everyone to be respectful while they rotate and spend time at each station, giving each other space and quiet.
- After everyone has had a turn at each station, encourage kids by assuring them that prayer can be creative. God wants to hear from us in all different ways. If there is a particular station they liked, they can pray this way at home, too. Talking to and spending time with God can help us build our faith!

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