



WEEK
ONE

JANUARY 2024

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 with others and build on their understanding



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What are things you're expected to do?
- What makes you feel loved?
- How can you show love to God?
- What does love have to do with responsibility?
- How can Jesus help us love others?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want to Know What Love Is
Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are things you're expected to do?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Love God and love others.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large."
Luke 16:10a, NIRV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

BASIC TRUTH

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



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MADE TO PLAY

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



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: , Bible,

WHAT YOU DO:

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want to Know What Love Is
Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40

- Hand the volunteer a Bible.
 - Ask the group if Luke is in the Old or New Testament. (New)
 - Remind the kids that since Luke is in the New Testament, that means it will be found in the back half of the Bible.
 - Explain that the New Testament begins with the four gospels.
 - Ask: "Can anyone name the four Gospels?" (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John)
 - Remind kids that this month's verse is found in Luke, so now they know the verse is in the first portion of the second half of the Bible.
- Invite your volunteer to look up Luke 16:10a and read it out loud for the group.
- Ask:
 - What's something little you have been trusted with?

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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(4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU, CONTINUED)

- What's something large you were trusted with as a result of being trusted with something little?
- Why are you more likely to be trusted with big things when you've shown you can be responsible with the small things?



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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: Note Cards

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Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

BASIC TRUTH

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

- Direct the kids to write prayers that are focused on how they can love God and others. (These should be brief reminders that will help guide them when they pray at home.)
 - If the kids are stumped, share examples like this:
 - Be kind to my little brother.
 - Sit with the new kid at lunch.
 - Spend time reading my Bible.
- Encourage kids to take their notecard home and place it somewhere they will see it.
- Challenge them to set time aside in the week ahead to pray each day.
- Say: "Praying doesn't have to be complicated or take a long time. Just taking a little time talking to God each day is a great way to spend time with God and also to stay focused on ways we're trying to love God and others."
- Close your group time in prayer.