



TRAINING CAMP

PLAN. PRACTICE. GROW.



WEEK
THREE
MAY 2024

SMALL GROUP
K-1

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

Peter Says That Jesus
Is the Messiah
Matthew 16:13-20

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice talking about God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Training the body has some value.
But being godly has value in every
way. It promises help for the life
you are now living and the
life to come."
1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan
and putting it into practice

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> or a visual on some of the activities.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: On This Rock
Application Activity: Tell What You Know!
Memory Verse Activity: VIR: Very Important Rocks
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



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SMALL GROUP
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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Reflect on what you believe about Jesus and what led you to believe in Him as the Messiah. Ask God to help the kids in your group to become more confident in how they talk about God with others. Pray for those kids with questions and doubts - that your group would be a safe space for them to practice

talking about God.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

Peter Says That Jesus
Is the Messiah
Matthew 16:13-20

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Greet kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Say, "We're going to play the game, Who Is Jesus?"
- Instruct the kids to ask: "Who is Jesus?"
- Give an answer from the dialog below.
- Direct the kids to act out your answer as best as they can.
- Here are some sample conversations:
 - "Who is Jesus?"
 - Respond by saying: "Jesus is brave!"
 - Direct kids to act out "brave."
- "Who is Jesus?"
 - Respond by saying: "Jesus is kind!"
 - Direct kids to act out "kind."
- Continue in the same pattern with the following responses:
 - "Jesus is King!"
 - "Jesus is a friend!"
 - "Jesus is helpful!"
 - "Jesus is God's Son!"
 - "Jesus is a teacher!"
 - "Jesus is . . ." (Fill in additional words as time and interest allow.)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Origami Art" Activity Page, prepared paper squares or origami paper, and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to form a circle.
- Give each kid, and yourself too, a square of paper.
- Set out the "Origami Art" Activity Page so everyone can see it and you can also read it.
- Step by step, read the directions on the "Origami Art" Activity Page, demonstrating on your own paper, how to create a dog face.
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to choose a marker to draw on eyes and a mouth.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah
Matthew 16:13-20

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice talking about God.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You did a great job creating these puppy faces! How do you think this activity would have gone if I could not talk to you about folding your papers? (*Invite responses.*) Talking about the instructions with you was really important to understand what to do! **[Transition] Today, we'll hear about something Jesus encouraged His followers to talk about!**"

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come."

1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

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SMALL GROUP
K-1

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan
and putting it into practice

BASIC TRUTH

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* 1. ON THIS ROCK

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Black construction paper, and white crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to gather in a circle.
- Use a white crayon to write "Jesus is . . ." on a piece of black construction paper.
- Show the kids the paper.
- Set the paper out where they can see it.
- Give each kid a piece of black paper and a white crayon.
- Invite them to draw something on their paper to finish the phrase "Jesus is . . ."
 - For example: *crown for king; arm for strong; smiley face for friend; cross for Savior, etc.*
- Review the Bible Story by asking:
 - What questions did Jesus ask His friends? ("Who do people say the Son of Man is?" Matthew 16:13 NlRV. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 NlRV.)
 - Which friend answered Jesus first when He asked them, "Who do you say I am?" (Matthew 16:15 NlRV). (Peter)
 - What was Peter's answer? ("You are the Messiah," Matthew 16:16 NlRV.)
 - How can we be like Peter? (Answers will vary: *we can be brave, we can trust God, etc.*)
 - Who is Jesus? (Answers will vary: *Invite kids to show their pictures.*)
- Show the kids how to crumple their paper to look like a rock.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Jesus' friends had questions. They heard what others were saying and the questions that other people had about Jesus. They weren't always sure what to think. Jesus knew about their questions, and helped them talk about it! You may have questions too. That's okay!

"Hold your paper rocks up in the air. (Pause for kids to hold up their rocks.) In our story today, Peter showed how strong his faith was when he said to Jesus, "You are the Messiah. You are the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16 NlRV). Let's be strong like a rock when we **practice talking about God** so the people around us can hear how much God loves them!"



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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



2. TELL WHAT YOU KNOW!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Blank paper; markers, crayons, and/or colored pencils; and timer

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a blank piece of paper.
- Set out the markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
- Instruct the kids to draw a picture of a story from the Bible they're familiar with.
 - Here are some suggestions:
 - The Creation Story
 - Jesus' birth
 - Palm Sunday
 - Today's Bible Story (Kids can draw Jesus with His friends with question marks.)
- Set the timer for five minutes.
- Start the timer.
- Give the kids five minutes to draw.
- Once they are done, instruct the kids to sit with a partner.
- Invite the kids to share their story picture with each other.
- Remind kids to share as many details as they can from what they know, for example:
 - WHO is in the story
 - WHERE the story takes place
 - WHEN the story happened in the Bible
 - WHAT happened in the story

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

Peter Says That Jesus
Is the Messiah
Matthew 16:13-20

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice talking about God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan
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WHAT YOU SAY:

"The Bible is full of stories that show us who God is and how wonderful God is! When we love Jesus and know how wonderful God is, we should want other people to know that too! We can **practice talking about God** to help others see who God is. It can remind us to remember what God has done too!

"What are some ways you could tell people about Jesus or talk with your family and friends about God? (*Invite responses.*) Some of you may love to read stories. So you can read or listen to someone read you a story from the Bible, and then go tell other people about it! Some of you may like to draw! So you can draw something from the Bible and show it to other people. Or some of you may see how God helps you, and that is another great thing you can tell others about. A great place to start to **practice talking about God** is just telling the people around you what you do know about God!"

[Make It Personal] (*Share about a time you were able to talk with someone else about God. It could even be how you prepare for Small Group each week, so you can talk with the kids about Jesus!*)



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



3. VIR: VERY IMPORTANT ROCKS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared rocks, permanent marker, and hand wipes; *Optional: "VIR Cards" Activity Pages and permanent markers*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a line, shoulder to shoulder.
- Place one of the prepared rocks (or "VIR Cards" Activity Page) in front of each child, face down, in verse order.
- Give the first kid in line (the kid with the first word/phrase from the Memory Verse face down on their rock) the marker.
 - If you have less than 15 kids, hand out additional rocks after each kid has completed one (keeping the rocks in order.)
 - If you have more than 15 kids, choose a few kids to help you hand out the rocks each round.
- Instruct the first kid to write the number "1" on their rock (the side that is face up, without the words), then pass the marker to the next kid in line to write the number "2" on their rock, and so on.
- Once each kid has written a number on their rock, collect the rocks, shuffle them, and place them in a pile across from where the kids are seated.
- Provide hand wipes for cleanup, if needed.
- Instruct the kids to take turns (in order), run over to the pile, find their order number rock, turn it over, and place it to the side of where the group is playing.
 - Direct the first kid in line to find the rock with "1" on it, flip it over, and set it to the side.
 - Instruct the second kid to go next to find the rock with "2" on it, flip it over, and set it to the side, etc.
- Continue this way until rocks have been flipped over and lined up, revealing the Memory Verse.
- Read the words on the verse to the kids and invite them to repeat after you.
- Ask if anyone would like to try to read the verse from the rocks.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

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TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice talking about God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan
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BASIC TRUTH

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job putting these rocks in the right order so we could remember our Memory Verse! This is a great verse we can share with other people!"

"Today, we heard about how bold Peter was when he shared who Jesus is. Peter had learned about Jesus. What are some ways we can learn more about Jesus? (Invite responses, like: read or listen to the Bible, talk with grown-ups who follow Jesus, pray to God, etc.) The more we know about Jesus, the more we can tell others about how good He is! And the more others will learn to trust Him too! Wherever we are and whatever we're doing, we can **practice talking about God!**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Speak Now

Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah
Matthew 16:13-20

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Practice talking about God.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come."

1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

BASIC TRUTH

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4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Ask: "What are some ways you've seen God at work in your life this week?"
 - Be ready with prompts, like: What kind of food did they eat, did they remember their spelling words, figure out how to solve a math problem, grandma got better after being sick, etc.
- Share with the kids that you're going to begin a prayer with an example of your own.
- Encourage the kids who would like to pray out loud to take turns after you.
- Say: "Praying out loud is another great way to **practice talking about God!**"
- Close your group time in prayer after everyone who wants to has shared.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You for how You love us and take care of us! I want to thank You for _____ this week!" (Pause and invite kids to thank God for something from their week.)

"Wow, God! You have done so much in each of our lives! Please help us to keep our eyes open to all You are doing around us! Thank You, God, for all You have created and blessed us with! We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share their Very Important Rocks with their friends and family!



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Origami Art" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- Origami paper or colored paper cut into 8.5" squares, one for each kid and leader
- Markers

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.

* 1. ON THIS ROCK

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Black construction paper, one for each kid and leader
- White crayons, one for each kid and leader

2. TELL WHAT YOU KNOW!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Blank paper, one for each kid
- Markers, crayons, and/or colored pencils, enough for a Small Group to share
- Timer, one for each Small Group

3. VIR: VERY IMPORTANT ROCKS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Rocks (big enough to write a few words on, and smooth), 15 for each Small Group
- Before group time:
 - Use the permanent marker to write words and phrases from 1 Timothy 4:8 on 15 rocks.
 - Write the verse reference on the last rock.
- Permanent markers, one for each kid
- Hand wipes
- *Optional:* Print "VIR Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart. Use this, and washable markers instead of rocks and permanent markers, one set for each Small Group

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**