



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison
Philippians 4:11b-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can help you be content.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIRV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

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.

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 ("Follow You" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop* and "What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Escaping House Arrest
Application Activity: Practice Contentment
Memory Verse Activity: Guard Yourself
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—November 2021, Week 1

Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

Today's Bible Story: Be OK (Be Content/Paul in Prison) • *Philippians 4:11b-13*

Today's Bottom Line: God can help you be content.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15 (NirV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

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SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (25 minutes)

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Closer / Bottom Line
Prayer

SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Tour de Paul
Application Activity: Creative Contentment
Memory Verse Activity: Poetry in Motion
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

LARGE GROUP: Story (20 minutes) • Worship (5 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: Be OK (Be Content/Paul in Prison) • *Philippians 4:11b-13*

Today's Bottom Line: God can help you be content.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15 (NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

AUDIO: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

VIDEO: Theme Loop

Leader enters, walking a bike and wearing a bike helmet.

OPENER

LEADER: "Hello, everyone! Welcome to [your environment's name]! I just rode in to hang with all of you. Those are two of my favorite things to do: ride my bike and spend time with you!

"This bike has seen a lot of miles, and some people would think about turning it in—you know, upgrading to get a new one. But I'm a big believer in rolling with what I've got. That's actually what we're talking about this month. It's called 'contentment.'

"I can take an old bike like this and make it work. I can grease the brakes . . . refill the tires . . . and even add bling and new safety features like these cool reflector stickers I found!

Hold up a couple of the reflectors or point them out on the bike if you added them.

"I ordered some for my bike and ended up with a lot of leftovers, so I've hidden them around the room. You will divide into teams, and we'll dim the lights. Each of you will get a flashlight. When you find a reflector in your team's color, you'll bring it to me. There are [number] reflectors hidden for each team. The first team to find all of their team's reflectors, wins!

Divide the kids into two teams, and assign a color to each team. Hand out the flashlights.

Note: If you don't have two different colors, you can make this a race against the clock instead (i.e. which team can find the most reflectors in 60 seconds).

"Any questions? Okay, let's play!

LIGHTS: Dim or off

AUDIO: Fun music

Stand at the front of the room, and gather the reflectors into two piles as the kids bring them to you. Keep track of the numbers, and as soon as one team has found all of their reflectors, call the winner. Bring up the lights and turn down the music. Collect the flashlights.

LIGHTS: Normal

“Nice job, everyone! Now I can use these to bling out everything I have! Might as well, since I’m learning to roll with what I’ve got. You can stay on your feet, because we’re about to worship God and thank Him for everything He’s given us!”

WORSHIP

LEADER: “Before we worship together, let’s check out this video.

VIDEO: *Live Loud Video from Get Reel*

“Paul once wrote to the Philippians: *My God will meet all your needs. (Philippians 4:19, NIV)* That’s true for us, too. God always takes care of us. Let’s sing this new song together and tell God that we will choose to depend on Him!

VIDEO: *“What I Choose” Dance Moves Music Video*

“I love it when we sing and thank God for all the ways He takes care of us! You can have a seat.”

BIBLE STORY

VIDEO: *Host Intro*

VIDEO: *252 Story*

VIDEO: *Host Outro*

CLOSER

SLIDE: *Theme Background*

LEADER: “God is ALWAYS working things for good! He’s provided everything you need to choose contentment. It comes down to this simple truth.

SLIDE: *Bottom Line*

[Bottom Line] “God can help you be content. Say that with me.”

LEADER and KIDS: **[Bottom Line]** “God can help you be content.”

LEADER: “Let’s pray and thank God for being so good to us.”

SLIDE: *Theme Background*

PRAY

LEADER: “Dear God, thank You for all that You’ve given us. Thank You for loving us! Sometimes it’s tough for us to feel content—especially when things are tough or we want things that someone else has. But we know that what Paul wrote is true: we can always find our strength in You. We can find contentment when we remember how You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Help us choose to be content and learn to be okay with what we have. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

DISMISS

LEADER: “Let’s head over to Small Group and chat some more about how we can be content, no matter what!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: *Play high-energy music as the kids exit.*

VIDEO: *Theme Loop*

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (5 minutes)

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Leader
- Adult-sized bike (ideally, an older bike that looks like it's been through a lot, maybe even splattered with mud or dirt; you'll use this all month)
- Bike helmet (for the Leader)
- Lots of reflectors, ideally in two colors (such as this: <https://amzn.to/3tO91ic>)
- Small flashlights (one for each kid)
- Bible

Music and Sound Effects:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Fun music to use during the game

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Loop Video
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and videos and have them ready to use.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play. *Note: Legally a song belongs to the songwriter/composer who created it and the publisher who markets it. Performance rights organizations (PROs) license public performances (live or recorded) of their members' music. Usually, but not always, PROs give general permission for performances in worship services. We recommend you obtain permission from the PRO representing the song or the publisher of the song you wish to play. PROs in the U.S. are ASCAP, BMI, and SESAC. For a list of PROs in your part of the world: www.iamusic.com. Look at the copyright on the CD or sheet music to discover the PRO or publisher of the song. It is up to you to make sure your church has permission to perform or play a recording of a song.*
- Hide the reflectors around the room. If you have sticker versions, test them on surfaces first. You may want to use rolls of masking tape instead, to prevent ruining surfaces.

2. Worship

What You Need:

- Leader(s)

Large Group Visuals:

- *Live Loud* Video from *Get Reel*
- "What I Choose" Dance Moves Music Video

What You Do:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use. *Note: Make sure your church has obtained licensing rights to play or perform music. You can obtain a license to perform worship music from Christian Copyright Licensing International (www.ccli.com). It covers over 200,000 worship songs for congregational singing. You are responsible for including the copyright information on all songs reproduced under the Church Copyright License (including song lyrics projected onscreen). This includes the song title, writer credit(s), copyright notice, and your church's CCLI license number. You can include this information on one of the lyric slides, or you can create a separate slide detailing this information, but the copyright information must appear at least once for each song you play or perform. For example:*
"Hallelujah" words and music by John Doe
©2000 Good Music Co.
CCLI License # 0000

3. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Leader

Large Group Visuals:

- Host Intro Video
- 252 Story Video
- Host Outro Video

What You Do:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to help kids understand that being content is a skill that can be learned, no matter how much or how little they have in this physical life. Pray they will realize that God can help them have contented hearts and attitudes, no matter their circumstances.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison
Philippians 4:11b-13

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought offerings to put them in the offering container.
- Ask one kid to volunteer to stand in front of the group.
- Instruct the rest of the kids to look very closely at the kid standing in the front—paying extra attention to the details.
- After 15 seconds or so, ask the kid to step out of view of the group and change one small thing about their appearance. *(Some suggestions: taking off a hair bow, un-tucking a shirt, untying a shoelace, etc.)*
- Invite the volunteer back to the group's space and ask the rest of the kids to guess what they changed.
- Play as many rounds with as time and interest allow, with a different volunteer each time.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can help you be content.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIRV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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

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BASIC TRUTH

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2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Empty two-liter soda bottle or soup can; common, clean items that can be found in trash; paper; and markers; *Optional smartphone or pre-printed pictures from Pinterest®*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to form a circle.
- Show the group the empty soda bottle or soup can.
- Invite the kids to use their imagination to think of ways the object can be used differently. *(Some suggestions: decorate or paint it to make art; a flower vase; pencil holder; planter; storage for coins; wind chime)*
- Ask the kids to share their ideas as they pass around the item.
- *Optional: With your smartphone or pre-printed pictures, show the group pictures of how other people creatively upcycled that item.*
 - Two-liter bottle: <https://www.pinterest.com/reusegrowenjoy/plastic-bottle-crafts/>
 - Empty soup can: <https://www.pinterest.com/gagagallery/soup-can-crafts/>
- Repeat the creativity with additional items easily saved from the trash.
- If time allows, let kids choose one of the items to draw. They can draw their own idea for upcycling that item or choose someone else's idea from earlier.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You did an excellent job of looking at what you have in a different way!
[Transition] Let's go to Large Group to hear how we can ask God to help us look at hard situations in a different way."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MADE TO PLAY

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



1. ESCAPING HOUSE ARREST

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared "Wheel and Arrow" Activity Page; "Review Questions" Activity Page; and tape house on the floor

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Let kids on each team take turns spinning the spinner.
 - If the spinner lands on "house arrest," direct the kid to stand somewhere inside the outline of the house.
 - If the spinner lands on "set the prisoner free," ask the kid a review question.
 - If the kid answers incorrectly, instruct them to go under "house arrest" by standing inside the outline of the house.
 - If the kid answers correctly, they set their teammates free from "house arrest."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What would you have done if you were in Paul's shoes going through so many hard situations? (*Pause for responses.*) Do you think it was easy for Paul to be content in the difficult situations he was in? (*Pause for responses.*)"

"Paul trusted God. Paul trusted that God was always with him. He trusted that God loved him. And Paul trusted that God was working for good, even if things were bad or hard. Because Paul trusted God, Paul learned to be content, no matter what happened to him. He learned to look at his difficult situations differently.

"Most likely, none of you will face all those hard situations Paul did. But I also know that things aren't always easy or peaceful. When hard things happen, we can learn to trust God like Paul did. Because God loves us, He is always with us. He is always working toward something good—even when things are hard. It's hard to be content when things don't go the way we want them to, but God can teach us how. **God can help you be content, no matter what happens.**"

[Make It Personal] (*Share an age-appropriate story about when things did not go well for you. How did God help you find contentment despite your circumstances?*)

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison
Philippians 4:11b-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can help you be content.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

MADE TO EXPLORE

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



*** 2. PRACTICE CONTENTMENT**
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Hula hoops and paper plates

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place a hula hoop for each kid in a circle, leaving about six inches between each hoop.
- Give each kid a paper plate.
- Explain that the hula hoops are ships, the paper plates are their lifeboats, and the floor is water.
- To start the game, instruct the kids to stand in a hula hoop. Explain that the hula hoop they stand in is their personal ship.
- The point of the game is for the kids to creatively use their lifeboats to help themselves and others get to their hula hoop ships without sinking in the water.
- Going clock-wise, direct the kids to jump from ship to ship until they return back to their ship. The first time (when the hula hoops are close) will be easy.
- With each round, increase the distance between each ship.
- As the distance between the ships increases beyond jumping distance, challenge the kids to come up with creative ways to use their lifeboats to hop into the next ship without stepping into the water.
- The kids will have to work together as the distance between the hoops increases.
- Avoid giving the kids any suggestions or solutions. Instead, encourage the kids to work together to come up with their own ideas.
- *Note: Besides using long jumps, the kids can use their own lifeboat between two ships as a bridge to step on. As the distance between the ships increases, encourage the kids to get creative and find ways to borrow each other's lifeboats (without getting out of the ship) to make bridges.*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison
Philippians 4:11b-13

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Was it easy to get into the ships as the distance between the ships increased? (Pause for responses.) You did an incredible job of seeing the potential and coming up with new ways to cope with the increasing distances between the ships!

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can help you be content.

"As you just experienced, there are some things we do that nobody has to teach us. We're just able to do them because we're human. But other things have to be learned. Being content is one of those things we have to learn. It's not something that comes naturally. But God promises that He will help us learn!

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIRV

"Can you think of some situations in your life that you might benefit from seeing differently so you can learn to be content with them? (Pause for responses.) Those are great examples of things that can happen to make us upset, angry, or just sad that something didn't go the way we expected.

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



WEEK
ONE
NOVEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(* 2. PRACTICE CONTENTMENT, CONTINUED)

“What are some things you can do to help you learn to be content when you’re not? (Ask God to help you see in a new way and be content; remember the truth that God loves you and is always working for your good) **God can help you be content.**”

Note: Be sensitive to kids who have had traumatic things happen to them. Be careful not to downplay their situation, but at the same time try to keep the focus on difficult and challenging things, rather than traumatic things.

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



3. GUARD YOURSELF

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page cards; foam squares; painter's tape; spray bottle; and water; *Optional ping pong balls instead of water and spray bottle*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Help kids find Luke 12:15 in their Bibles using the navigation tips below.
- Read the verse together as a group several times.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Luke in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 12. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 15 in chapter 12.

- Tape the large foam squares on the floor in random places. (You can enlist the kids' help with this.)
- Tell kids that the foam squares are "safe zones."
- Direct the kids to stand on one side of the room.
- Give each kid a "Memory Verse Card."
- Tape a long finish line on the opposite side of the room.
- The goal of the game is for the kids to transport their cards to the finish line while "guarding" themselves from being sprayed with water.
 - You can spray the kids at any time as long as they're not standing on a "safe zone."
 - The kids can dodge being sprayed by strategically using the "safe zones" to move towards the finish line.
 - Only one kid is allowed on each safe zone.
 - If two kids land on the same safe zone, you can spray them.
- At the end of the game, let kids tell the group how many times they think they got sprayed.

Note: As an alternative to spraying water, consider throwing ping pong balls.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You had to watch out for my every move to guard yourselves! Our verse tells us to 'Watch out!' and to be on 'guard.' That means we need to be on the lookout when other people have things we want or when they get to do things we can't because it can make us discontent.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison
Philippians 4:11b-13

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can help you be content.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



WEEK
ONE
NOVEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(3. GUARD YOURSELF, CONTINUED)

“When is it hard for you to be content? What kinds of things should you watch out for? *(Pause for responses. Answers include: Someone has a video game I really want. My sister gets an extra treat before bedtime. My friend has a phone, but I’m not allowed to have one.)* It’s not always easy to be content, but God can teach us how! And we can ask Him to help us. Remember, **God can help you be content.**”

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Cards from "Guard Yourself" Activity and pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a card and a pen.
- Prompt kids to think about the situations they talked about earlier—times when it's hard to be content.
- Instruct them to write a short sentence describing that situation or thing.
- Give kids a moment to pray silently and ask God to help them learn to be content in this situation.
- Close in prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Be OK

Be Content/Paul in Prison
Philippians 4:11b-13

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, it's not always easy to be content, but we know You'll help us when we ask. We want to learn to be okay when we don't get something we want or when we face a difficult situation. Please help us learn to be content in all things and at all times. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

"Take these memory verse cards home and tape them somewhere as a reminder that **God can help you be content**, no matter what. I hope you have a GREAT week!"

As adults arrive to pick up, ask each kid to read the verse off of their card. Encourage them to share what the verse means.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can help you be content.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIRV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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 Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Empty and clean two-liter soda bottle or soup can
- One to two clean items commonly found in the trash—such as a toilet paper roll, an empty tissue box, or an empty cereal box
- Paper
- Markers
- *Optional smartphone or pre-printed pictures from Pinterest®*

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 #2.*

1. ESCAPING HOUSE ARREST [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Wheel and Arrow" Activity Page on cardstock and cut out; one for each small group.

- Print "Review Questions" Activity Page on paper; one for each small group.
- Brad
 - Assemble the spinner according to the "Wheel and Arrow" Activity Page instructions.
- Painter's tape
 - Tape an outline of a large house on the floor of your small group area. It can be simple like a square with a rectangle on top.

*2. PRACTICE CONTENTMENT [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Hula hoops—one for each kid
- Paper plates—one for each kid

3. GUARD YOURSELF [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one card for each kid.
- Spray bottle
- Water
- Twenty foam squares big enough for a kid to stand on
- Painter's tape
- *Optional ping pong balls instead of water and spray bottle*

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:

- Cards from "Guard Yourself" Activity
- Pens

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.



WEEK
ONE
NOVEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

GETTING READY

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

- Tell parents about our additional family resource:
Parent Cue app.

Review Questions:

- What book of the Bible are we talking about today? (Philippians)
- Where was Paul when he wrote Philippians? (under house arrest in Rome)
- Name one horrible event that happened to Paul. (He was shipwrecked, beaten, robbed, hurt with stones, put in prison, he has been hungry, thirsty, and without sleep. You can ask several kids this question!)
- Even though he was in prison, what did Paul learn? (He learned to be content no matter what happened or no matter what he had.)
- Paul didn't say contentment came easy to him. How did he learn to be content in spite of going through lots of hardships? (Jesus/God taught him and gave him strength.)
- How did Paul say we could learn to be content? (Jesus/God will help us learn to be content.)
- What is contentment? (learning to be okay with what you have)

What to Do:

Print on paper; one for each small group.

"Review Questions" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 1, Small Group 2-3
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1. Cut out the wheel and arrow.
2. Place the arrow on top of the wheel and align the dots.
3. Push the brad through the dots and loosely secure it to the back of the wheel.

What to Do:

Print on cardstock and cut out; one for each small group.

Then he said to them,
“Watch out! Be on your
guard against all kinds
of greed; life does not
consist in an abundance
of possessions.”

Luke 12:15 (NIV)

Then he said to them,
“Watch out! Be on your
guard against all kinds
of greed; life does not
consist in an abundance
of possessions.”

Luke 12:15 (NIV)

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Luke 12:15 (NIV)

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“Watch out! Be on your
guard against all kinds
of greed; life does not
consist in an abundance
of possessions.”

Luke 12:15 (NIV)

What to Do:

Print on cardstock and cut apart; one card for each kid.

“Memory Verse Card (NIV)” Activity Page

November 2021, Week 1, Small Group 2-3

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Then he said to them,
“Watch out! Be on your
guard against wanting
to have more and more
things. Life is not made up
of how much a person has.”

Luke 12:15 (NirV)

Then he said to them,
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Luke 12:15 (NirV)

What to Do:

Print on cardstock and cut apart; one for each kid.

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more
can make you miserable.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

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.

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 ("I Want to Say] Thank You" from *This Love* and "What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Deal?
Application Activity: More Grapes
Memory Verse Activity: Rolls to Binoculars
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—November 2021, Week 2

Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

Today's Bible Story: I Want It That Way (King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard) •
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

Today's Bottom Line: Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15 (NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

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.

SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (25 minutes)

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Closer / Bottom Line
Prayer

SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Bowling for Grapes
Application Activity: Jump-Off!
Memory Verse Activity: Weaving Wants
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

LARGE GROUP: Story (20 minutes) • Worship (5 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: I Want It That Way (King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard) •
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

Today's Bottom Line: Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15
(NIV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

AUDIO: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

VIDEO: *Theme Loop*

Leader enters, wearing a bike helmet, rolling in the same bike from last week.

OPENER

LEADER: "Hey, there! I'm thrilled to see all of you here today. Like, I couldn't ask for anything more! That's a good thing, since we're talking about contentment.

"Whenever I think about contentment, I think about this ol' gal. (*Point to the bike.*) I'm sure some people would have given her an upgrade a long time ago, but I've learned the beauty of an 'upcycle' instead. I take good care of her and even give her extra bells and whistles sometimes, like this. (*Honk the bike horn.*) Nice, right?

Take the bike horn off the bike and pick up the other bike horn.

"I brought a couple of these awesome horns today, and I thought we'd put them to use in a different way. You know, roll with what we've got.

Dump the balloons from the bin onto the floor.

"Let's see if we can get these balloons across the floor using only these bike horns. Check it out.

Demonstrate using the bike horn to move the balloon (using the force of the air).

"We'll divide into two teams. Half of your team will be on this side of the room (*point*), and the other half over there. Each team will get a balloon. The first person will use the bike horn to push your balloon to your teammate on the other side, who will then push it back to this side. Then the next kid in line will push it back over there—and so on and so on, until your whole team finishes. Make sense?

Divide the kids into two even teams. Have half of each

team stand behind one tape line and the other half stand behind the other tape line. Give one side the balloon and bike horn. If one team is short a kid, assign someone to go twice. (Or you can play yourself.)

NOTE: If you have fewer than ten kids and want to borrow a bunch of bike horns, you could do this as an all-play race where all of the kids race at the same time.

“On your mark, get set, GO!”

Cheer for the kids as they compete. Watch to make sure they use the bike horn air to move the balloon and not touch the balloon with their hands. If a balloon pops, use a backup. The first team to get through all of their players wins; but let both teams finish so everyone gets a chance to play.

“Wow, that was . . . loud. But so fun! You all really made the most of what you had and got those balloons moving. Way to go! Let’s keep the fun going. Everyone on your feet for worship!”

WORSHIP

LEADER: “Before we sing, let’s check out this video.

VIDEO: [Live Loud Video from Get Reel](#)

“It’s really easy to get caught up in all the things we want. Our memory verse this month is something Jesus said, which we can find in Luke 12:15.

SLIDE: [Memory Verse](#)

“Then he said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.’ (Luke 12:15, NIV)

“The truth is, God is everything we need. We can be content because of our relationship with Him. **[Basic Truth] We can trust Him no matter what!** Let’s sing this song and thank Him now.

VIDEO: [“What I Choose” Dance Moves Music Video](#)

“Great job, everyone! You can have a seat.”

BIBLE STORY

VIDEO: [Host Intro](#)

VIDEO: [252 Story](#)

VIDEO: [Host Outro](#)

CLOSER

SLIDE: *Theme Background*

LEADER: “King Ahab and Queen Jezebel couldn’t just be content with what they had. It just goes to show . . .

SLIDE: *Bottom Line*

[Bottom Line] “Wanting more and more can make you miserable. Say that with me.”

LEADER and KIDS: **[Bottom Line]** “Wanting more and more can make you miserable.”

LEADER: “Let’s ask God to help us learn from the story of King Ahab and Jezebel.”

SLIDE: *Theme Background*

PRAY

LEADER: “Dear God, it’s hard to hear the story of Ahab and Jezebel and how they killed Naboth and took his vineyard. But we can clearly see how wanting more and more can make us miserable. Help us remember that when we have trouble feeling content with what we have. You’ve already given us so much! You love us, and You’re always with us—and nothing can ever take that away. Help us be grateful instead of wanting more and more. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

DISMISS

LEADER: “Let’s head to Small Group and see what creative ways we can come up with to be content.”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: *Play high-energy music as the kids exit.*

VIDEO: *Theme Loop*

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (5 minutes)

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Leader
- Adult-sized bike (the same one from Week 1)
- Bike helmet (for the Leader)
- Two classic bike horns—one of which should be attached to the bike, but easy to remove
- Masking tape
- Plastic bin filled with several balloons (inflated with air, not helium)

Music and Sound Effects:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Loop Video
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and videos and have them ready to use.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- Inflate the balloons with air. If you're doing the team competition, you only need two for the race, but definitely have a few backups in case they pop. If you have everyone race at one time, you need one balloon per kid, plus a few extras. Place the balloons in the plastic bin.
- Tape four lines on the floor, two on each side of the room.

2. Worship

What You Need:

- Leader(s)

Large Group Visuals:

- *Live Loud* Video from *Get Reel*
- Memory Verse Slide
- "What I Choose" Dance Moves Music Video

What You Do:

- Download the videos and slide and have them ready to use.

3. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Leader

Large Group Visuals:

- Host Intro Video
- *252 Story Video*
- Host Outro Video

What You Do:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to bring to kids' minds that one extra toy, new pair of shoes, or another brand-new stuffed animal they just HAD to have, but then it lost its luster once they saw another one. Pray that kids would learn today that wanting more and more things will make them miserable. God can help us be content when we remember and are thankful for what we do have.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way
King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought offerings to put them in the offering container.
- Direct the kids to circle up.
- Encourage them to think of three statements about themselves: two that are true and one that is a "wish." (i.e., something that's not true but that they wish were true.)
- Invite the kids to take turns sharing their three statements with the group in any order.
- After each kid finishes sharing, lead the group in voting for which statement they think is a wish.
- Continue until each kid has had a chance to share.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper and pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen.
- Ask kids to think of one thing that they really want. It can be something they've seen in an advertisement or something someone else has.
- Direct the kids not to share their answers with anyone.
- Instruct the kids to write or draw that item.
- Collect the papers and fold them in half.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Arrange the teams in two opposing lines with a six-foot gap between them.
- Assign each kid a number. It might be easiest to keep track of team numbers by assigning one team even numbers and the other team odd numbers.
- Place one of the folded papers in the center of the playing area.
- Tell kids that when you call out their number, they should run toward the center, steal the folded paper from the floor, and run back to their team's side without getting tagged by the other kid.
 - If they get tagged, the opposite team keeps the folded paper.
- Call out two numbers—one number from each team.
- Ask the kid who successfully steals the paper to look at it and tell the group what they "stole."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"It's okay to want things. God made lots of good things in this world, and it's fine to want some of them! But we can go too far when we want something. Wanting something someone else has can make us do crazy things sometimes.

[Transition] Let's go to Large Group to hear about a person who really wanted something that belonged to someone else and did not-so-great things to try to get it."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MADE TO PLAY

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

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



1. DEAL?

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Review Questions" Activity Page and "Deals" Activity Page prepared gameboard

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Choose a team to go first and ask a review question to one of the kids on the team.
 - If the question is answered correctly, give that team three points.
 - Instruct the kid who answered the question to talk with their team and decide if they want to keep the points or play "Deal" to try to score additional points.
 - This may or may not increase their chances of scoring additional points.
 - If the kid chooses to play "Deal," let them pick a number from the gameboard.
 - Remove the sticky note with the corresponding number and read what the team won or lost.
- Once a number is selected, it can't be chosen again.
- Continue the game by choosing a kid from the other team to take a turn.
- Play until each kid has had a turn.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"How many of you now wish your team had kept the original score instead of taking a deal? There were some great deals made, but wanting more didn't always leave you with the best option. Ahab learned that **wanting more and more can make you miserable**, didn't he? Instead of considering other options, he and Jezebel stole what belonged to Naboth's family and hurt them in order to get what Ahab wanted. They also paid a high price for being discontent.

"When we want what others have, we need to remember not to be like Ahab. It's okay to want things. But when our wanting leads us to hurt someone else or forget the good things God has already given us, we've gone too far. **Wanting more and more can make you miserable**. God wants us to remember all the good things He has given us so we can be content with what we have."

Note: You might have kids from a wide range of economic status represented in your small group. It might be important to make a distinction between wanting basic needs and wants. Wanting your basic needs fulfilled is not wrong. It's when we already have an abundance of things and make a habit of wanting more that we cross over into discontentment.

[Make It Personal] (Share a personal story from a time you found yourself wanting what someone else had. Did you sulk or throw a temper tantrum? Were you able to gain contentment, or did you let it make you miserable?)

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



*** 2. MORE GRAPES**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Balloons and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape a line to divide the playing area in half.
- Divide your group into two even teams.
- Scatter an even amount of small purple or green balloon "grapes" in each team's playing area.
- When you start the game, kids will run to the opposing team's side, grab no more than two balloon grapes at a time, and bring them back to their side.
 - If a kid is tagged by their opponents while on their side, that kid must drop the balloon grapes and return to their home side before running to steal more balloons.
 - The team with the most balloon grapes on their side at the end of the game, wins.

NOTE: Some kids might attempt to grab more than two balloons at a time or not drop the balloons when tagged. If this happens, it's okay. You're actually setting up that opportunity as a teachable moment.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What was the goal of this game? (Pause for responses.) That's right! To collect as many balloons as possible, two at a time!

"How many of you wanted your team to win so much that you thought about breaking the rules? (Pause for responses.) Some of you might have been tempted to grab more than two balloons at a time while some of you might have thought about not dropping the balloons when you were tagged, just so your team could win.

"This game is a picture of what happens when we want something really badly. Wanting to win, or wanting something you don't have, is not a bad thing unless it makes you do things you shouldn't. For example, it's okay to want a new pair of shoes. But if we can only think about those shoes, if we're jealous towards someone because we feel like they have cooler shoes, or someone else's cool shoes makes us forget about the new shoes we just got, that's where we cross over into discontentment and misery. It's important to ask God to help us remember all the things we do have when we feel discontent because **wanting more and more can make you miserable.**"

MADE TO CREATE

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



3. ROLLS TO BINOCULARS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, toilet paper rolls, markers, and rubber bands; *Optional hole punch, string, scissors, and stickers*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Look up Luke 12:15 and read it to the group.
- Give each kid two toilet paper rolls.
- Set out the markers.
- Prompt the kids to think of a few things, memories, experiences, and relationships they have. (*Answers might include: food, clothing, a place to stay, toys, books, ability to participate in sports, vacations, birthday parties, family, friends, cousins, etc.*)
- Ask the kids to draw or write those things on their toilet paper rolls.
- Show the kids how to make a pair of binoculars by placing the toilet paper rolls next to each other and securing them together with rubber bands at regular intervals.
- *Option: To make the binoculars wearable around their necks:*
 - *Punch holes on opposite sides of the binoculars.*
 - *Thread a piece of string through the holes and tie the ends with a knot.*
- *Option: Kids can also add stickers.*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

Luke 12:15, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What are binoculars used for? Our verse talks about how we must be on the lookout for wanting more and more things. I have found that when I'm focused on all of the amazing things God has given me, it helps my heart be content. Instead of thinking about what my friend has that I don't have, I can choose to look at some of the things, memories, experiences, and relationships God has given me.

"Take these binoculars home and place them somewhere in your room to remind you to look at what you wrote on them when you find yourself wanting more and more. **Wanting more and more can make you miserable**, so instead, let's choose to be content!"

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Binoculars from "Rolls to Binoculars" Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to hold their binoculars.
- Direct the kids to circle up.
- Invite the kids to praise God for the things they do have by asking them to read what they wrote on their binoculars. (They can do this "popcorn style," calling out their responses one at a time, in quick succession.)
- Close in prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Want It That Way

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
1 Kings 21:1-19, 27

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are so good! Thank You for all the wonderful things, experiences, memories, and relationships You have given us. There are times when we really want something, and it can become all we focus on. There are times when we want what our friends and neighbors have. Please help us have content hearts by remembering what we do have. We know You will always take care of what we need. **Wanting more and more can make you miserable**, so I know You will help us with this. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Wanting more and more can make you miserable.

As adults arrive to pick up, have kids show them their binoculars. Encourage the kids to share what they wrote on their binoculars and why.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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 Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paper
- Pens

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 #2.

1. DEAL?

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Review Questions" Activity Page on paper; one for each small group.
- Print "Deals" Activity Pages on white cardstock; one set for each small group.
- Tape or glue
- Sticky notes
- Black, permanent marker
 - Tape or glue the bottom of the first "Deals"

- Activity Page to the top of the second "Deals" Activity Page to make a gameboard.
- Number sticky notes #1-18 and place them over the "Deal" boxes on the gameboard.

*2. MORE GRAPES

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Twenty purple balloons (blown up)
- Twenty green balloons (blown up)
- Painter's tape

3. ROLLS TO BINOCULARS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Empty toilet paper rolls—two for each kid
- Rubber bands—three for each kid
- Markers
- *Optional hole punch, string, scissors, and stickers*

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:

- Binoculars from "Rolls to Binoculars" Activity

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.**

DEAL?

Add 5 Points

Lose 3 Points

Take An
Extra Turn

Lose 5 Points

Add 1 Point

Lose a Turn

ADHERE PAGE 2 HERE

What to Do:

Print on white cardstock; one set for each small group.

"Deals" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 2, Small Group 2-3
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Change
Score With
Opposite
Team

For 4 Points
Answer
A Review
Question With
No Help

Pass On
A Question

Lose 2 Points

Add 2 Points

Lose 2 Points

What to Do:

Print on white cardstock; one set for each small group.

**Split Your
Team's Score
in Half**

**For 3 Points
Pick A Teammate
And Answer A
Review Question
Correctly**

Add 3 Points

**For 3 Points
Make Up A
Review Question
& Ask Your Team
To Vote On
The Answer**

**Take 5 Points
Away From
The Opposite
Team and
Add it To Your
Score**

Add 1 Point

What to Do:

Print on white cardstock; one set for each small group.

Review Questions:

1. What is the name of the king from our story today? *(King Ahab)*
2. What was the king's wife's name? *(Jezebel)*
3. Was Ahab a good king or a not-so-great king? *(He was a not-so-great king. He didn't follow God or lead the people to follow God.)*
4. What did King Ahab want? *(a vineyard that belonged to a man named Naboth)*
5. When King Ahab wanted the vineyard, what did Naboth tell him? *(no)*
6. Why didn't Naboth want to sell Ahab the vineyard? *(It was land that had been passed down to him through his family and he would give it to his children too.)*
7. What did Jezebel do when she found out Naboth wouldn't sell Ahab the vineyard? *(She wrote letters in Ahab's name commanding officials to tell lies about Naboth to get him into trouble then kill him.)*
8. Why was Jezebel's plan a bad one? *(She was lying to help steal Naboth's family land.)*
9. What did the officials in the town do to Naboth? *(They did what Jezebel told them to do. They lied about Naboth to get him in trouble then killed him.)*
10. Who talked to Ahab after he got the vineyard he wanted so badly? *(Elijah)*
11. What did Elijah tell Ahab? *(that God had seen what Ahab and Jezebel did to Naboth and it was wrong)*
12. How did Ahab respond to Elijah's message? *(He was very sad about what he had done. He didn't eat and he tore his clothes to show how sad he was.)*
13. What should the king have done instead of stealing Naboth's vineyard? *(Answers will vary)*

What to Do:

Print on paper; one for each small group.

"Review Questions" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 2, Small Group 2-3
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TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on
what you have now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

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.

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 ("[I Want to Say] Thank You" from *This Love* and "10,000 Reasons" from *Kidmin Worship Vol. 2*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Manna Madness
Application Activity: Bicycle Chain Cross
Memory Verse Activity: Dodge to Guard
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

Today's Suggested Schedule— November 2021, Week 3

Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

Today's Bible Story: In My Life (Israelites Long for Egypt) • Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

Today's Bottom Line: Don't miss out on what you have now.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15 (NirV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

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.

SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (25 minutes)

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Closer / Bottom Line
Prayer

SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Now and Later
Application Activity: Rearview
Memory Verse Activity: Human Bicycle
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

LARGE GROUP: Story (20 minutes) • Worship (5 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: In My Life (Israelites Long for Egypt) • *Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7*

Today's Bottom Line: Don't miss out on what you have now.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15 (NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

AUDIO: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

VIDEO: *Theme Loop*

Leader enters wearing a bike helmet and pushing the bicycle from previous weeks—this time "blinged-out."

OPENER

LEADER: "Hello, my fellow up-cyclists! I'm loving this month of learning to roll with what we've got.

Roll the bike back and forth.

"That's how you live with contentment—like with my bike here! I could have upgraded her a long time ago, but I realized that she still rides just fine. She just needed a little love. So I gave her a little bling, and voilà! (*Reference the decorations on the bike.*)

"I thought you might like to do some 'upcycling,' too. So I brought these!

Bring out the two tricycles.

"Let's divide into two teams, and each team will get a box of bling. Give your tricycle the best makeover you can until the music stops. Then we'll see who made the most of what you had!

Divide your group into two teams. (Note: If you have a smaller group and/or could only get one tricycle, you could make it a race against time to decorate the trike.)

"Ready, set, UPCYCLE!

AUDIO: *Fun music*

Set a timer on your phone. Allow the kids one or two minutes to decorate the tricycles. Encourage them to go over the top, as it will make for an even funnier race that they don't realize is coming!

“Three . . . two . . . one . . . STOP!

AUDIO: Music stops

(*looking at the tricycles*) “Wow! You all did amazing! These look totally upcycled. It looks like you’re ready for part two of our upcycle challenge: a trike race!

(*Reference the tape line.*) “See these lines I’ve made? They’re the starting lines. Send half of your team to the other side. When I say, ‘Go,’ you’ll take turns riding the tricycle to your teammates on the other side. Then the next person in line will ride it back here, and back and forth until everyone has gone. It’ll be tricky with all the extra bling, but that’s part of the fun!

If you’ve decided to use cones or obstacles, bring those out and set them up in each lane. Make sure the teams are even. If they’re not, have one kid go twice (or you can play yourself). When everyone is lined up, start the race.

“On your mark, get set, GO!

Watch to make sure no one gets too crazy or fast. You can always pause the game and add obstacles like chairs if necessary. When you have a winner, you can still allow the other team to finish so everyone gets a chance to play . . . then celebrate the winning team.

“That was epic—and hilarious! Did anyone wish maybe they hadn’t blinged QUITE so much? Sometimes the upcycling is awesome . . . and sometimes just appreciating what you have as-is is the way to go! But either way, that was a fun challenge.

“Let’s keep the fun going! I’ll roll these trikes out, and you can stay on your feet because we’re going to worship God together!”

Roll the tricycles off stage, and get the kids to help you gather up the supplies.

WORSHIP

LEADER: “I love this line of the song we’re about to sing: I don’t wanna miss out on the good right now. We really can miss out if we’re longing for what someone else has, or what we want to have tomorrow. Let’s sing this song together and choose to depend on God. Let’s be content and thankful for all that He has given us!

VIDEO: “What I Choose” Dance Moves Music Video

“It’s so great to worship God together and thank Him for His love! You can have a seat.”

BIBLE STORY

VIDEO: Host Intro
VIDEO: 252 Story
VIDEO: Host Outro

CLOSER

SLIDE: Theme Background

LEADER: “We can learn something important from the Israelites and their grumbling. Let’s not miss what God is doing in our lives—right here and now. Let’s choose to be thankful and content.

“Remember:

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Don’t miss out on what you have now. Say that with me.”

LEADER and KIDS: [Bottom Line] “Don’t miss out on what you have now.”

LEADER: “Let’s talk to God for a minute.”

SLIDE: Theme Background

PRAY

LEADER: “Dear God, thank You ALL that You’ve given us. We have so much to be thankful for! But if we’re not careful, we can be like the Israelites. We can start to focus on what we DON’T have and miss out on what we have right now. Please show us how to be content. Help us be grateful for what we have, so we don’t miss out on all the good things You’re doing in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

DISMISS

LEADER: “I know something great that’s happening right now: Small Group! So let’s get going!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.
VIDEO: Theme Loop

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (5 minutes)

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Leader
- Adult-sized bike (from previous weeks; this time, decorated with some of the items listed below)
- Bike helmet (for the Leader)
- Two tricycles (or just one will work; see "What You Do")
- Helmets for the kids to use as they ride (recommended)
- Two prop boxes with lots of "bling," such as:
 - Streamers
 - Tape
 - Pool noodles (cut into smaller pieces and then cut open so they can fit around the bike frame and/or handlebars)
 - Paper and markers (to make signs)
 - Balloons (already inflated with air, not helium)
 - Pom poms
- Masking tape
- Obstacles like cones, chairs, etc. (optional)
- Leader's phone

Music and Sound Effects:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Fun music to use during the game

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Loop Video
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and videos and have them ready to use.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- Borrow two tricycles. These should not be damaged by the activity, so you should be able to return them without incident. If you can't borrow two—or if your group is small enough that one is sufficient—simply adjust the game to be a race against the clock versus a race of teams against each other.
- Fill up the two prop boxes with similar supplies for "blinging" the trikes.
- Decorate the Leader's bike with some of these same supplies.
- Tape four lines on the floor—two lines on each side of the room, unless you're racing against the clock then you only need one line on each side of the room.

2. Worship

What You Need:

- Leader(s)

Large Group Visuals:

- “What I Choose” Dance Moves Music Video

What You Do:

- Download the video and have it ready to use.

3. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Leader

Large Group Visuals:

- Host Intro Video
- 252 Story Video
- Host Outro Video

What You Do:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to bring to their minds all the great things about being the age they are now. Ask God to help them stay focused on what they have now, celebrating what He has given them and the abilities and privileges they have in this phase of life.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought offerings to put them in the offering container.
- Instruct the kids to form a circle.
- As kids arrive, add them to the circle.
- Ask the kids to think of something they're thankful for that starts with the same letter as their name.
- Invite the kids to go around the circle and introduce themselves by sharing their name and what they are thankful for. (For example, "My name is Luke, and I'm thankful for lollipops.")
- Instruct the next kid in the circle to repeat the last kid's statement and add their own. (For example, "My name is Lindsey, and I'm thankful for light. His name is Luke, and he is thankful for lollipops.")
- Continue playing a few rounds as long as time allows. Have kids pick new things they're thankful for in each new round.
- End by reminding kids that there are always a lot of things to be thankful for.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on what you have now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

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

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on what you have now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NlrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "What's Missing?" Activity Page; "Clues" Activity Page; and pencils or crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a "What's Missing?" Activity Page and a pencil or crayon.
- Explain that the pictures are identical, except one picture is missing ten items.
- Instruct the kids to compare the two pictures and find the ten missing items.
- When they find the missing item, direct the kids to draw the item in the picture in its proper place.
- Once all ten items are found, talk about what the items are.
- The "Clues" Activity Page contains the master list of missing items.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"I love solving puzzles like this. I always rush to solve what's missing, then I'm sad when it's over! I can get so excited about finding the missing items that I miss out on the fun of checking out what the picture is all about. **[Transition]** Today in Large Group, we'll learn about some people who also missed out on what was right in front of them."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



*** 1. MANNA MADNESS**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Manna Balls" Activity Page cards balled up; "Manna Balls Answers" Activity Page; extra paper balls; buckets; plastic spoons; and pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a small plastic spoon.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Direct each team to stand against opposite walls, facing each other.
- Place an empty bucket against each team's wall.
- Scatter the prepared paper balls on the floor along with the "Manna Balls" Activity Page balls.
- On your signal, instruct the teams to use only their spoons to pick up as many manna balls as they can and put them in their team's container.
- The kids cannot touch the "manna" with anything other than the spoon.
- When all of the manna balls have been picked up, ask the teams to open the papers and separate the ones that have questions from those that do not.
 - Make sure each team has an even number of questions.
- Instruct kids to work together as a team to read their questions and write answers on the cards.
 - For every correct answer, the team earns five points.
 - For every incorrect answer, deduct two points and offer the opposite team a chance to answer the question.
- End by asking the teams to count the number of manna balls they collected that had no questions on them.
- Deduct three points for each manna ball without a question.
- Tally the score and declare a winner.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Picking up the manna with small spoons was a lot of work, wasn't it? (Pause for responses.) In spite of that, it looked like you had fun rushing to pick up as many manna balls as you could! Do you think I ruined the fun by deducting points for the manna balls that didn't have a question on them? (Pause for responses.)"

"It would be so easy to complain when a situation like that happens, wouldn't it? The Israelites whined and complained about what they didn't have instead of being happy with what they did have. God led them out of slavery and provided everything they needed in the desert."

"Sometimes we think that having more and more things will make us content, but as this game just showed us, having more isn't always the best. The team that had more pieces didn't have a fair chance at winning the game, did they? Wanting something else or focusing on what we don't have keeps us from enjoying what we DO have or realizing how God provides for us at the moment.
Don't miss out on what you have now."

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on what you have now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



WEEK
THREE
NOVEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(* 1. MANNA MADNESS, CONTINUED)

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time you wanted something more, better, or bigger so much that it kept you from enjoying what you already had. Maybe you wanted a nicer, bigger house. Or maybe you wanted to have a better, more fun job. Tell kids what you did to become content with the situation.)

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

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



2. BICYCLE CHAIN CROSS
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Cross" Activity Pages and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a "Cross" Activity Page.
- Set out the markers for the kids to share.
- Read the Bottom Line together and invite kids to color their cross.
- Engage them in conversation about the picture.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job of coloring this bicycle chain cross. Making a cross with an old bicycle chain is a creative way to use something you no longer need and make something new that you might want and be content with. What has God done for you or given you that you can learn to be content with? *(Pause for responses. Remind kids of all the things they said they were thankful for earlier in group time.)*

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on what you have now.

"What's the most exciting thing coming up in the next few months? *(Invite responses.)* What's the most exciting thing you can think of that might happen next year? *(Invite responses.)*

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

"There are some great things ahead of us! But imagine if you were only focused on those fun things to come. Would you miss out on anything? *(Invite responses.)* You would! By focusing on what you don't have or on things coming up, you'd miss things like fun times with friends, learning something cool at school, or time with family. Instead of looking back at what you had before, or looking forward to what you hope will happen in the future, look at what you have, right now. This week, look for things you can be content with so you **don't miss out on what you have now.**"

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on what you have now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



3. DODGE TO GUARD

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Phrases" Activity Pages, balls, cones, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape a large circle on the floor (large enough to hold all of the cones and half of the kids with room to move).
- Loosely tape a verse phrase from the "Memory Verse Phrases" to each cone to create a target.
- Place the prepared targets inside the circle at random places.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Direct one team to stand inside the circle.
- Instruct the other team to stand around the outside of the circle.
- When you start the game, instruct the team standing on the outside of the circle to:
 - Eliminate kids by hitting them (below the waist) with a ball.
 - Knock down the targets by throwing balls at them.
 - If a ball gets stuck inside the circle, the team can't retrieve it.
- Instruct the team standing inside the circle to:
 - Dodge the balls to avoid getting hit.
 - Count the number of times they get hit below the waist.
 - Remove the verse phrases from the targets to construct the verse on the floor inside the circle without being hit.
 - If the opposite team successfully knocks down the target with that phrase, the team can't use that phrase.
- At the end of two minutes, stop the game and assign points.
 - Assign five points for every phrase that was collected and placed in the correct order.
 - Assign ten points for every missing phrase the playing team can recite from memory.
 - Assign five points to the opposite team for every target that was knocked down.
- Switch team places and repeat the game.
- End by tallying the score and declaring a winner.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Awesome job playing this game! I'm not sure what you were better at—throwing the balls or dodging them! This game is a perfect example of what our verse this month says. We want to be on guard against wanting more and more things. We want to dodge and avoid wanting more and more, because that creates discontentment in our hearts. Keep guarding your heart, so you **don't miss out on what you have now.**"

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask the kids to form a circle.
- Prompt the kids to silently reflect on something they have now that they can learn to be content with to avoid missing out. (*Some prompts: a new pair of shoes, clothing, toy, or game; opportunity to join a team; learn a new instrument or go on vacation*)
- Close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You so much for being good and kind and loving. Thank You for taking care of everything we need. Please give us hearts that are content. Please help us remember what You have given us so we don't miss out on what we have now. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

As adults arrive to pick up, instruct each kid to show the bicycle chain cross they colored and share what God has done for them as well as what He is doing now.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

In My Life

Israelites Long for Egypt
Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Don't miss out on what you have now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."

Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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 Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "What's Missing?" Activity Page on paper; one for each kid.
- Print the "Clues" Activity Page on paper; one for each small group.
- Pencils or crayons

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. MANNA MADNESS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Manna Balls" Activity Pages on white paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.
- Print "Manna Balls Answers" Activity Page on paper; one for each small group.
 - Ball each card up into a "manna ball."

- White paper (same as the paper "Manna Balls" was printed on)
- Scissors
 - Cut six to eight sheets of white paper into fourths. Ball up the pieces of paper and mix them with the Activity Page balls.
- Buckets or containers—two for each small group
- Plastic spoons—one for each kid

2. BICYCLE CHAIN CROSS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Cross" Activity Page on paper; one for each kid.
- Markers

3. DODGE TO GUARD

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Memory Verse Phrases" on paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.
- Painter's tape
- Eight to ten balls (foam balls, ping pong balls, anything gentle enough to be thrown inside)
- Ten cones or plastic cups

4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

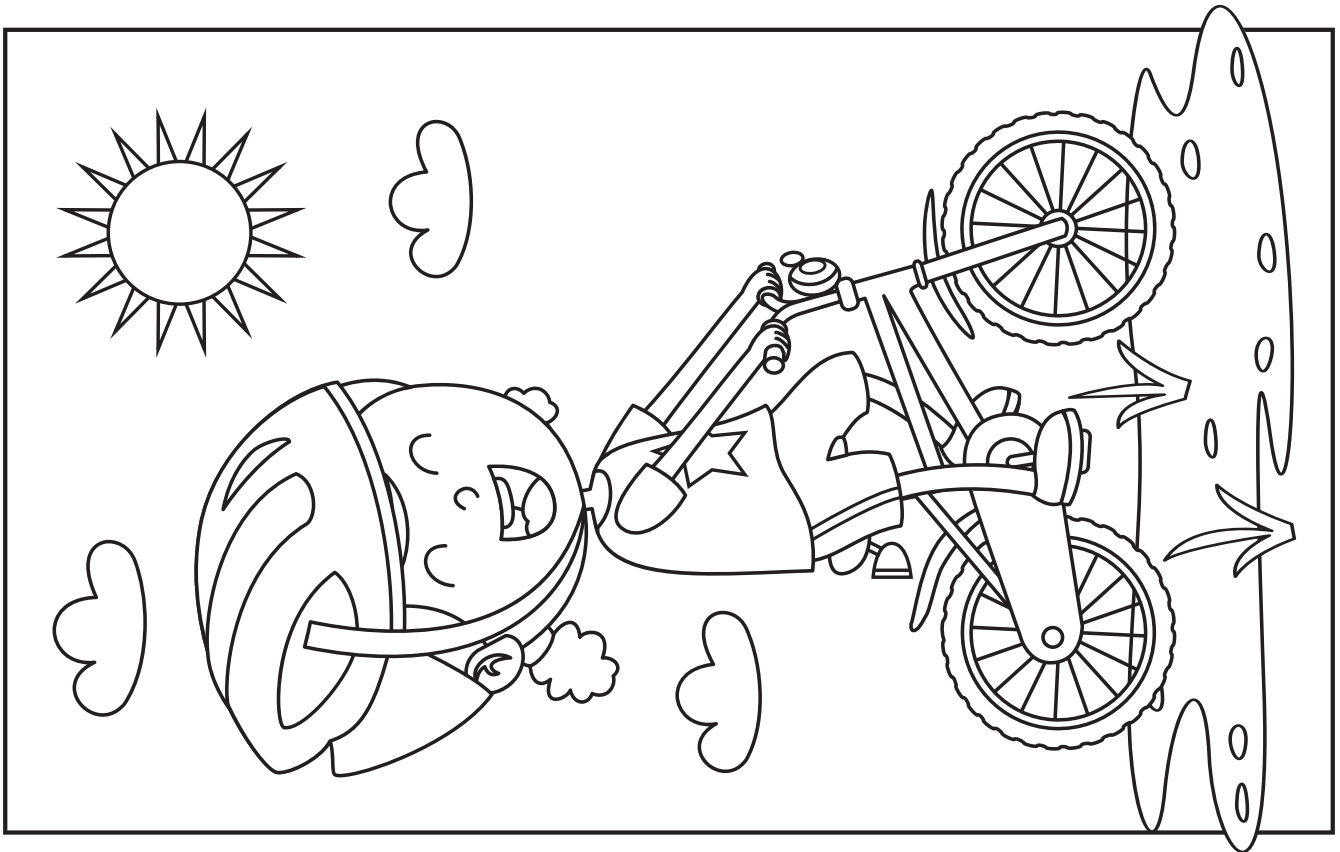
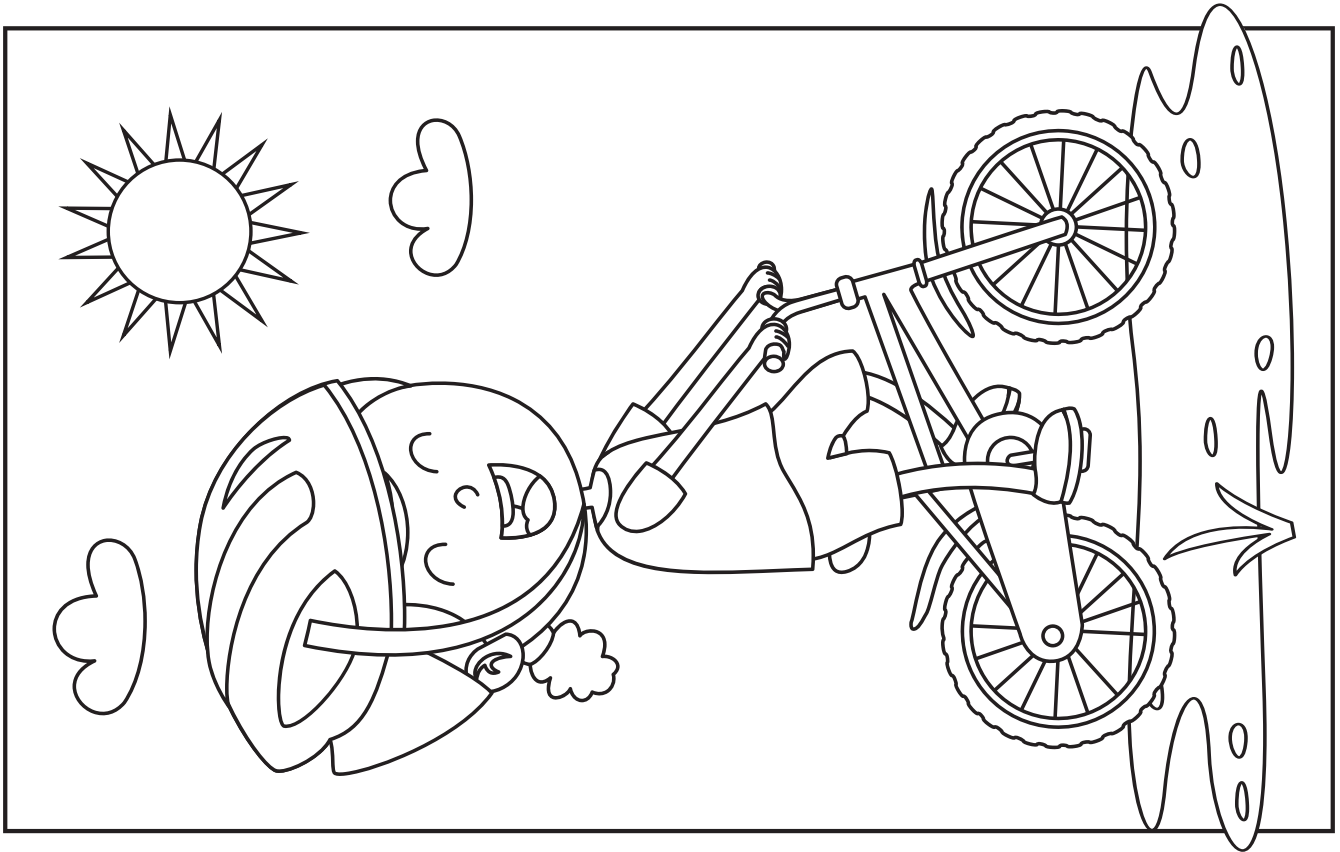
Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

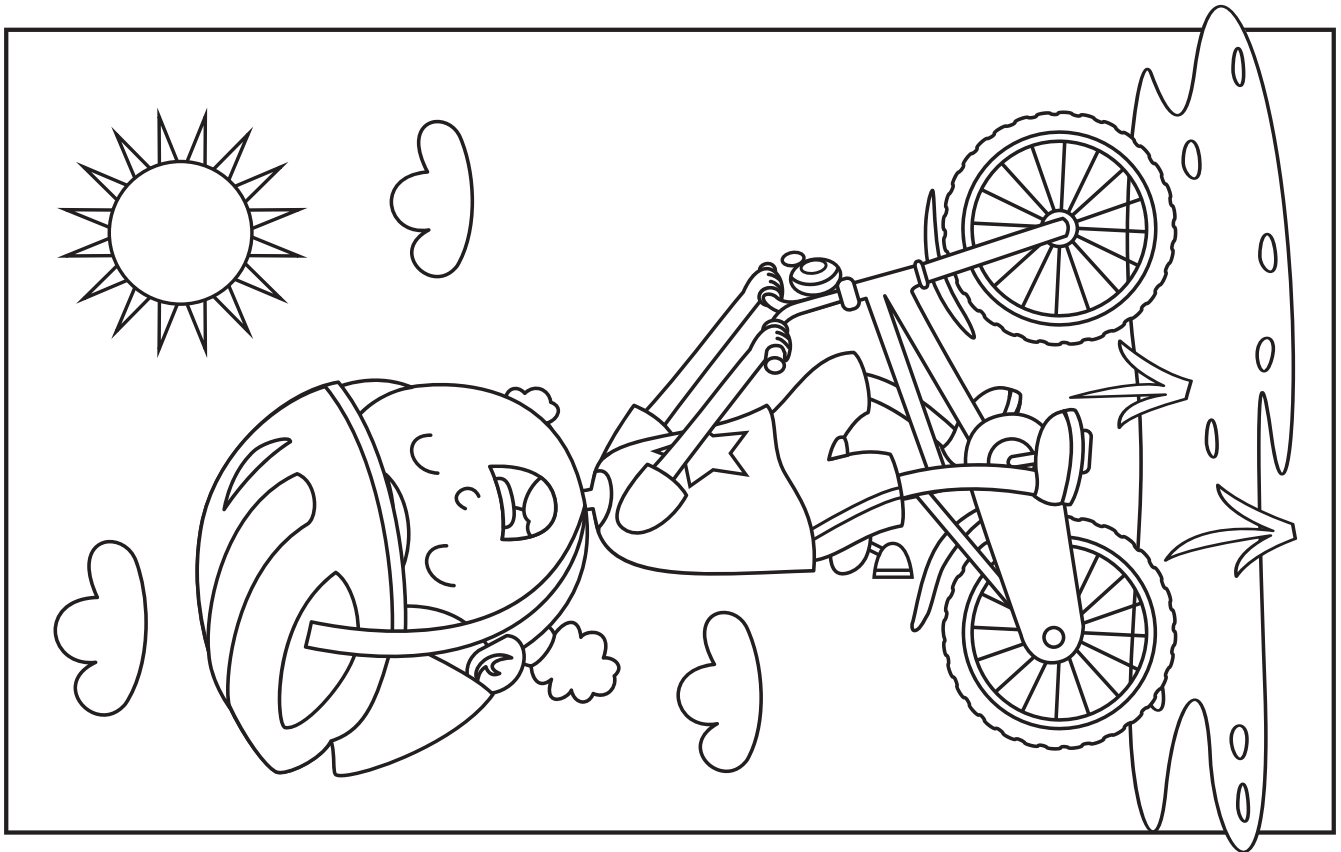
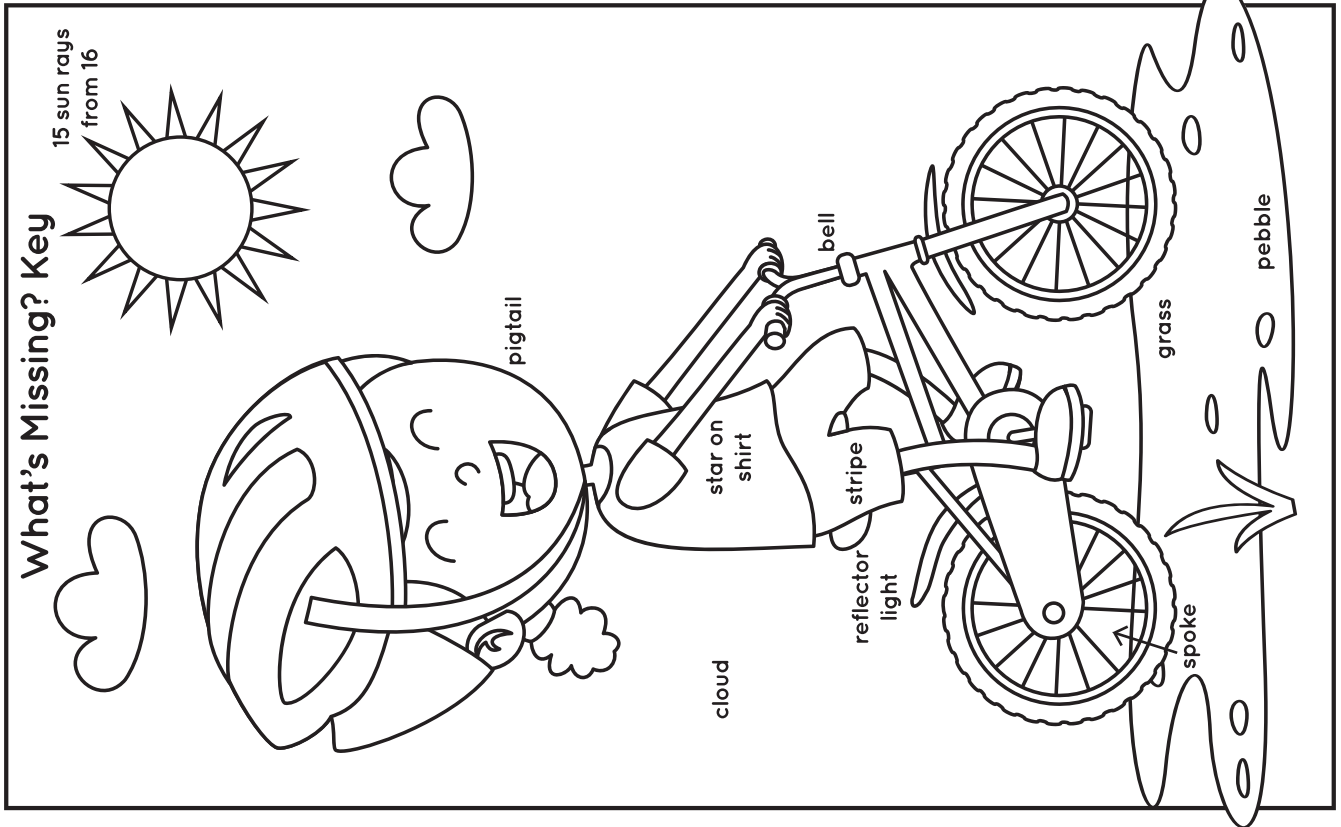
HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

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



What to Do:
Print on paper; one for each kid.

"What's Missing?" Activity Page
November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3
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What to Do:

Print on paper; one for each small group.

**What did the
Israelites do
when they
were in Egypt?**

**Who led the
Israelites out
of Egypt?**

**How did God
provide a way
for the Israelites
to escape?**

**What did
the Israelites
whine and
complain about?**

What to Do:

Print on white paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

"Manna Balls" Activity Page

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**What did God
rain down in the
morning to take care
of the Israelites?**

**What did God
provide in the
evening for the
Israelites to eat?**

**What did some
people do
to disobey God?**

**When the Israelites
moved to a new
camp, what did they
complain about?**

What to Do:

Print on white paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

"Manna Balls" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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**What did the
Israelites do to
Moses when they
got angry?**

**What did God
ask Moses to use
to strike the rock?**

**What happened
when Moses struck
the rock?**

**When the Israelites
saw how God
provided for them
over and over
again, did they stop
complaining?**

What to Do:

Print on white paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

"Manna Balls" Activity Page

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Manna Balls Answers:

What did the Israelites do when they were in Egypt? *(They were held as slaves for the Egyptians.)*

Who led the Israelites out of Egypt? *(Moses)*

How did God provide a way for the Israelites to escape? *(He parted the Red Sea.)*

What did the Israelites whine and complain about? *(not having food or water)*

What did God rain down in the morning to take care of the Israelites? *(manna)*

What did God provide in the evening for the Israelites to eat? *(quail)*

What did some people do to disobey God? *(They didn't follow His instructions for gathering manna—they tried to keep it overnight and it rotted.)*

When the Israelites moved to a new camp, what did they complain about? *(not having water)*

What did the Israelites do to Moses when they got angry? *(They picked up stones to throw at him.)*

What did God ask Moses to use to strike the rock? *(his staff)*

What happened when Moses struck the rock? *(drinking water for everyone came out)*

When the Israelites saw how God provided for them over and over again, did they stop complaining? *(no)*

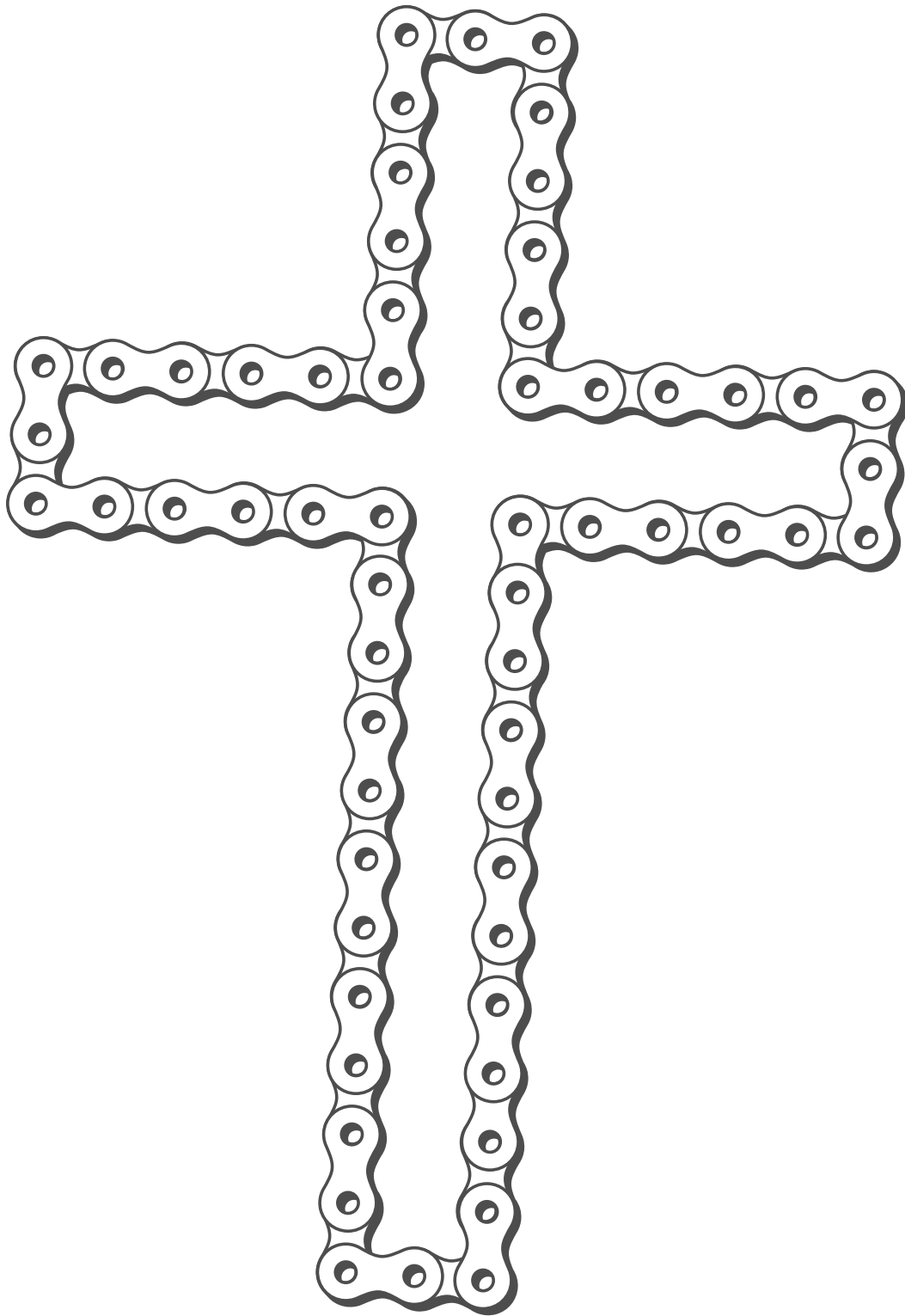
What to Do:

Print on paper; one for each small group.

"Manna Balls Answers" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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Don't miss out on
what you have now.

What to Do:

Print on paper; one for each kid.

"Cross" Activity Page

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Then he said

to them, “Watch out!”

What to Do:

Print and cut apart—one set per group.

“Memory Verse Phrases (NirV)” Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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Be on your

guard against wanting

What to Do:

Print and cut apart—one set per group.

"Memory Verse Phrases (NirV)" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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to have more

and more things.

What to Do:

Print and cut apart—one set per group.

"Memory Verse Phrases (NirV)" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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Life is not made

up of how much

What to Do:

Print and cut apart—one set per group.

"Memory Verse Phrases (NirV)" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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a person has.”

Luke 12:15 (NirV)

What to Do:

Print and cut apart—one set per group.

“Memory Verse Phrases (NirV)” Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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Then he said

to them, “Watch out!”

What to Do:

Print on paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

“Memory Verse Phrases (NIV)” Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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Be on your guard

against all kinds

What to Do:

Print on paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

"Memory Verse Phrases (NIV)" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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of greed;

life does not

What to Do:

Print on paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

"Memory Verse Phrases (NIV)" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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consist in

an abundance

What to Do:

Print on paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

"Memory Verse Phrases (NIV)" Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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of possessions.”

Luke 12:15 (NIV)

What to Do:

Print on paper and cut apart; one set for each small group.

“Memory Verse Phrases (NIV)” Activity Page

November 2021, Week 3, Small Group 2-3

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TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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

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.

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 ("Make a Move" from *Make a Move* and "What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Give What I Have
Bible Story Review: Freely Give
Memory Verse Activity: The Secret to Contentment
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—November 2021, Week 4

Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

Today's Bible Story: That's What Friends Are For (Giving Freely to the Lord's People) •
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Today's Bottom Line: You can always use what you have to help someone else.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15 (NIV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

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.

SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (25 minutes)

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("What I Choose" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Closer / Bottom Line
Prayer

SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Special Delivery
Application Activity: Upcycle Cycle
Memory Verse Activity: Wheels in Wheels
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

LARGE GROUP: Story (20 minutes) • Worship (5 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: That's What Friends Are For (Giving Freely to the Lord's People) •
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Today's Bottom Line: You can always use what you have to help someone else.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."* Luke 12:15
(NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

AUDIO: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

VIDEO: *Theme Loop*

Leader enters, wearing a bike helmet and rolling in the same bike from previous weeks.

OPENER

LEADER: "Hey, everyone! Welcome back to [your environment's name]."

Take off the helmet.

"I sure have loved spending so much time with my old bike. (*Point to the bike.*) You'd think all this time with this old thing would have me wishing for something new . . . but it's all good, because I've been learning how to be content!

"I've been rolling with what I've got, and making the most of what I already have. And you know what? I've discovered that almost everything I have is pretty awesome. And I can even use it in some unexpected ways. Take, for example, this helmet. (*Hold up the helmet.*) Sure, it protects my noggin when I'm out on the road. But I also realized I can use it for a super-fun game!

Bring out the two plastic bins full of water balloons. Set up the tarp(s) if you haven't already.

Note: If at all possible, this is a great game to play outside. But even if you're playing inside, the tarps should contain the water fairly well. The leader should stand in a kiddie pool (on top of the tarp) that can catch most of the excess.

"You see, inside each of these bins, I've got some water balloons. I'll divide you into two teams: the [color] team, and the [color] team. (*Hold up a balloon from each bin.*) When I say, 'Go,' you'll stand behind the line and take turns GENTLY tossing the water balloons at my helmet and trying to pop them on my head. If the balloon bursts on my helmet, your team gets a point. But if it bursts while hitting the ground or any spot other than my helmet, you DON'T get the point. Got it?"

Divide the kids into two teams, and give each team a plastic bin full of water balloons.

“Remember, you need to take turns throwing the balloons. Everybody on each team needs to get a turn, but we’ll rotate between teams.

Stand in the kiddie pool and put on the poncho.

“[Color] team, you’re up first!

Make sure the teams take turns and go slowly enough that you can easily keep track of points. Also, make sure that each kid on each team gets a chance to throw a balloon. If a balloon falls but doesn’t burst, have an adult volunteer pick it up. (To keep things fair, that balloon is out and should not be thrown again.) After the kids have thrown all the balloons, announce the winning team.

To clean up, fold or wrap the tarp(s), taking care not to spill the water. Place them to the side (or someone can take them outside and dump the excess water). Move the kiddie pool to the side of the room where it won’t be a distraction. Remove the poncho and helmet so you can get ready for Worship.

“That was pretty fun! Who knew you could get so many uses out of bikes and their accessories as we have this month? We’re upcycling pros! Now everyone back on your feet, because it’s time for us to sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

LEADER: “God has given us everything we need. Most importantly, He has given us His amazing love! As we read in 1 John 4:7 (NirV), ‘Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has become a child of God and knows God.’ When we put our trust in God, we’ll be truly content. That’s what makes us want to share God’s love with others. Let’s sing this together.

VIDEO: “What I Choose” Dance Moves Music Video

“I love worshipping God with all of you! You can have a seat.”

BIBLE STORY

VIDEO: Host Intro

VIDEO: 252 Story

VIDEO: Host Outro

CLOSER

SLIDE: Theme Background

LEADER: “Just like the people in Macedonia, you really can use your gifts, talents, and creativity to help other people. So remember:

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “You can always use what you have to help someone else. Say that with me.”

LEADER and KIDS: **[Bottom Line]** “You can always use what you have to help someone else.”

LEADER: “Let’s ask God to help us do that.”

SLIDE: Theme Background

PRAY

LEADER: “Dear God, there are so many ways we can help others! You’ve given us all that we need to help—with our talents, time, and ability to think of solutions to different problems. Help us be content and remember the love You’ve given us. And please show us how we can use what we have to help others. Let us see the needs of the people around us and give us wisdom to know how we can lend a hand. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

DISMISS

If your church is partnering with Orange and Compassion International in supporting The Giving Tree, we suggest using the time before dismissal to promote the initiative to your kids. (Please see the “Getting Ready” section for more information about this partnership.) Consider showing one of the available promo videos here to get your kids excited about providing life-changing gifts for critically vulnerable kids and families all around the world. From now through the end of December, share how much money you’ve raised and how that money can help.

Optional Video: Promo for The Giving Tree

LEADER: “It’s time to head to Small Group, so everyone, up on your feet. Let’s talk about how we can use what we have to help others!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

VIDEO: Theme Loop

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God (5 minutes)

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Leader
- Adult-sized bike (from previous weeks)
- Bike helmet (for the Leader)
- Poncho (for the Leader)
- Heavy-duty tarp(s) to cover the floor
- Kiddie pool
- Two plastic bins filled with an even number of water balloons in two different colors with one color in each bin (you'll need at least one balloon for each kid, plus a couple of extras just in case)
- Masking tape
- Bible marked at Philippians 4:13
- Promo video for The Giving Tree (optional; see "What You Do")

Music and Sound Effects:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Loop Video
- Theme Background Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Download and print this week's tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and videos and have them ready to use.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- Note: If you're in a warm climate and you have the ability to move this game outside, all the better. Your second-best bet is to have the Leader stand in a kiddie pool so the water is mostly contained, with heavy-duty tarp(s) under the pool as well.
- Choose two colors of water balloons and pre-fill them, dividing the balloons by color into the two different bins. Aim for one balloon for each kid, based on your usual numbers, plus a couple of extras in case any pop before you start.
- Tape two lines that the kids should stand behind while they throw the water balloons.
- This Christmas, we invite you to join with Orange and Compassion International through **The Giving Tree**: a partnership to provide life-changing gifts for critically vulnerable kids and families all around the world. These "12 ornaments of Christmas," which you can display on a Christmas tree (or trees) in your environment, feature items ranging from \$10 to put a Bible in the hands of a child, to \$60 for water wells, and many more. Each ornament features a text-to-give option for the individual who chooses the ornament. However, funds may also be collected by the church

to send to Compassion. All funds raised through the Giving Tree project will purchase items from Compassion International's Gift Catalog or go directly to Compassion International's Unsponsored Children Fund. You can download all project materials with your curriculum download, including promotional resources for leaders, families, and kids. Please visit www.compassion.com/orange if you have any further questions about the project. Plan to promote this initiative and collect money each Sunday through December 26.

2. Worship

What You Need:

- Leader(s)

Large Group Visuals:

- "What I Choose" Dance Moves Music Video

What You Do:

- Download the video and have it ready to use.

3. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Leader

Large Group Visuals:

- Host Intro Video
- 252 Story Video
- Host Outro Video

What You Do:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that kids would have great takeaways from this month. Pray that they always use what they have to help others. Thank God for all that has been given to your few: talents, families and friends, church community, and even possessions. Ask God to give them empowering opportunities to use what they have to make this world a better place.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome the kids as they arrive.
- Invite the kids who brought offerings to put them in the offering container.
- Direct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Ask the kids:
 - When you have free time, what do you like to do?
 - Name something you're good at.
 - Do you take lessons to help you learn to do something better?
 - Name something you'd like to learn to do. How could you start learning how to do it?
 - What are some ways you can use what you're good at to help someone?
 - Has anyone used what *they're* good at to help you? How did it make you feel when someone helped you?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Colored straws

WHAT YOU DO:

- Direct the kids to form a circle.
- Hold the multi-colored straws in your hand and drop them so they fall randomly.
- Instruct the kids to go around the circle, taking turns pulling a straw from the pile without making another straw move.
- If a kid makes a straw move, they lose a turn.
- Play three rounds.
- After three rounds, invite the kids to take turns sharing what they are thankful for based on the color of the straws they collected. (Try to guide the group so that each kid has a chance to answer a question instead of allowing one kid with several colors to give a lot of answers.)
- Adjust the colors below based on what you have available.
 - Red: Name a person you are thankful for.
 - Yellow: Name a place you are thankful for.
 - Green: Name a food you are thankful for.
 - Blue: Name a thing you are thankful for.
 - Purple: Name anything you are thankful for.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"That was a fun game! I loved hearing about the things, people, places, and foods you are thankful for. A thankful heart helps us be content. **[Transition]** **Let's go to Large Group to learn some other ways we can be content."**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MADE TO CREATE

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



1. GIVE WHAT I HAVE
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Coupons" Activity Page, "Cover" Activity Page, pens, stapler, and markers; optional stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid five "Coupons" and a cover from the "Cover" Activity Page.
- Set out the markers.
- Tell kids they get to make a coupon book with five coupons to give to anyone they choose—parents, grandparents, a teacher, a neighbor, etc.
- Encourage the kids to think of some unique skills they have and enjoy using, then think someone in their life who they would like to help.
- Prompt them to fill in the blanks of each coupon, using their ideas. Some suggestions:
 - One hour of organizing, decorating, cleaning, etc.
 - One hour of yard help
 - One hour of help around the house
 - One extra chore
 - Straighten up the garage
 - Help with dinner
 - Carry groceries
 - Assist with laundry
 - Wash the car
 - Help decorate the house for Christmas
 - Read a story to . . .
 - Spend time together by . . .
 - Go through clothes and toys to find items to give away
- Once the kids have filled in five coupons, get out the stapler, and demonstrate how to assemble the book.
- Direct each kid to place the cover on top of the five coupons and staple it on the sides.
- Encourage the kids to color and decorate the cover.
- *Option: provide stickers.*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Last month, we talked about ways you can use the gifts and talents God has given you to make a difference in this world. I love that you'll use your talents and time to bless your parent, grandparent, teacher, or neighbor—whoever you plan on giving the book.

"What are some of the ways you plan on helping them? (*Pause for responses.*) **You can always use what you have to help someone else.** God has given each of us a unique set of talents. Not only that, but we all own things like clothing, toys, shoes, food, art supplies—stuff that we can share with others to



WEEK
FOUR
NOVEMBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(1. GIVE WHAT I HAVE, CONTINUED)

help them. Maybe you're great at making others feel welcome, comfortable, or good. Or maybe you have some mad math skills you can use to help your classmate or brother with their homework.

"Every time you use what you have to help others, you not only honor God, but you become part of God's story. Helping others changes you on the inside and makes your heart content. You also change the world around you by making it look more like God's kingdom, and that's amazing!"

MADE TO EXPLORE

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



*** 2. FREELY GIVE**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "My Upcycle Ideas" Activity Pages, Bible, markers, and pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 to the group.
- Explain that when the church was just getting started, there were some churches in Macedonia who gave freely and shared everything they had to help other followers of Jesus.
- Give each kid a "My Upcycle Ideas" Activity Page.
- Prompt the kids to think of ways they can upcycle something they have then use it to help others. Here are some suggestions:
 - Save money and use that money to help others.
 - Swap an item with a friend who needs what you have. (with parents' permission)
 - Give some of your school supplies, clothes, toys, time, etc., to someone who needs it.
 - Upcycle items that would otherwise land in the trash to make a gift for someone.
- To spark ideas, consider showing the kids pictures of how others have upcycled soup cans, cereal boxes, bottles, clothing, etc.
- Set out the pens.
- Invite the kids to complete the "My Upcycle Ideas" Activity Page.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What are some of your upcycling ideas? *(Pause for responses.)* So many things—from empty cans and old school supplies to our favorite things—can be upcycled to help others. The people in the Macedonian churches didn't have a lot. Yet somehow, they were okay with that. They were content. And it was that contentment that made them want to share their time, talents, and possessions with others.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

"Let's get creative this week by looking at the stuff we own or that we're good at and asking, 'What can I do with it or how can I share it with someone to help them?' You'll be amazed at how God will take your unique ideas and turn them into opportunities to help someone else. **You can always use what you have to help someone else.**"

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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

[Make It Personal] (Give an example of a time you used your things, time, or talent to help someone else. Maybe you baked someone some cookies or sat with someone and listened to them talk. Maybe you used your car to take someone to an appointment or donated some of your items to someone who really needed them. How did it make you content?)

MADE TO PLAY

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

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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



3. THE SECRET TO CONTENTMENT
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, pencil, and chairs

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle in chairs.
- Read Luke 12:15 out loud to the kids.
- Assign each kid a word or phrase from the memory verse until the entire verse is assigned.
- Instruct the kids to pay attention to the phrase assigned to the kid on their right.
- Explain that when you touch their head with a pencil, they should say their assigned word.
- Go around the circle, touching each kid's head so the verse is recited in order.
- When finished, ask the kids to move one seat to the right.
- Play another round.
- This round, when you touch their head, instruct the kids to say the word or phrase that the previous kid sitting in the chair was assigned.
- Once the group becomes fluent with the verse, keep moving kids to the right and increase the pace.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What would have happened if you hadn't used your mind to focus on the phrase you were given? (*Pause for responses.*) That's right! You wouldn't have been able to participate. As the game went on, your phrase kept changing, which meant you really had to focus harder to remember your assigned phrase.

"Paul wrote that the secret to contentment is focusing on God. He knew this secret first-hand. He learned to be content because Jesus gave him strength. When you put your trust in Jesus, He can give you the strength to be content, too! The more we learn to be content, the more likely we'll want to share what we have with others. **You can always use what you have to help someone else.**"

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Close your group time with the prayer below.
- Invite the kids to repeat the words you pray.
- Pause after every phrase so the kids have a chance to repeat what you say.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You want us to use what we have to help others. *(Pause.)* Please help us see what those things and talents are. *(Pause.)* Show us ways to use them to encourage others, to make a difference, and to show others how much You love them and us. *(Pause.)* Help us remember **you can always use what you have to help someone else.** *(Pause.)* We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show them their "My Upcycle Ideas" Activity Page and share what they plan on doing to help someone else.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

That's What Friends Are For
Giving Freely to the Lord's People
2 Corinthians 8:1-5

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can always use what you have to help someone else.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has."
Luke 12:15, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Contentment—Learning to be okay with what you have

BASIC TRUTH

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



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 Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Straws in five different colors—five of each color

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 #2.

1. GIVE WHAT I HAVE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Coupons" Activity Page on paper and cut apart; five coupons for each kid.
- Print "Coupon Book Cover" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one for each kid.
- Markers
- Pens
- Stapler
- Optional stickers

* 2. FREELY GIVE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "My Upcycle Ideas" Activity Page on paper; one for each kid.
- Bible
- Pens
- Markers

3. THE SECRET TO CONTENTMENT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Pencil
- Chairs

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.**

This coupon certifies that

will

This coupon certifies that

will

This coupon certifies that

will

This coupon certifies that

will

This coupon certifies that

will

What to Do:

Print on paper and cut apart; five coupons for each kid.



What to Do:

Print on cardstock and cut apart; one for each kid.

"Coupon Book Cover" Activity Page

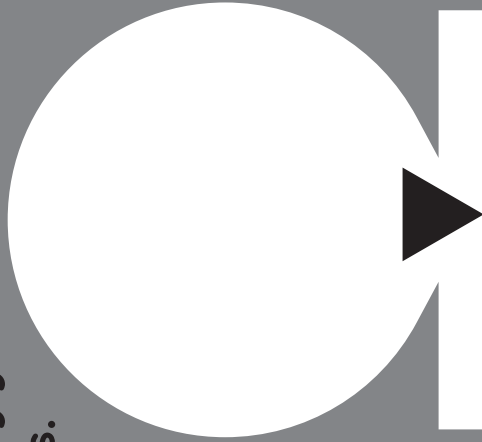
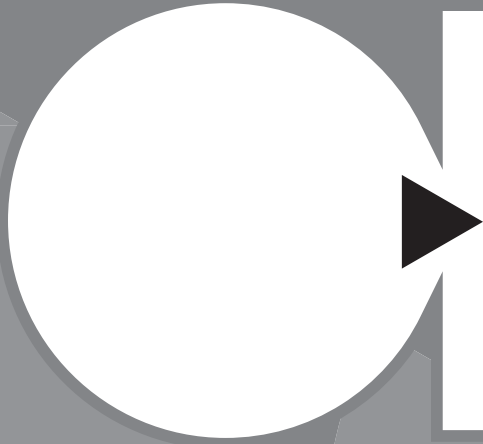
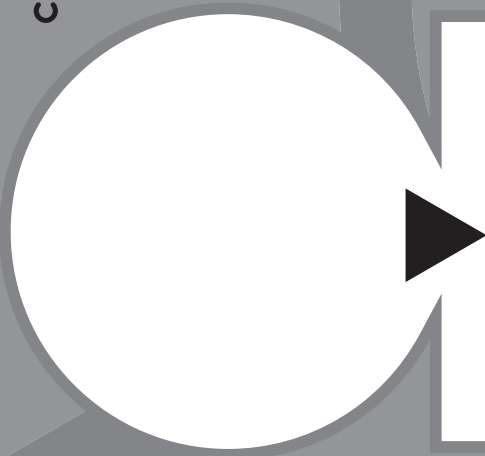
November 2021, Week 4, Small Group 2-3

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My Upcycle Ideas

In each circle, write an item you could upcycle.

In the box below that circle, write a way you could use that item to help others.



What to Do:
Print on paper; one for each kid.

"My Upcycle Ideas" Activity Page
November 2021, Week 4, Small Group 2-3
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