



Get a Clue About
What to Do

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Use Somebody
Parable of the Talents
Matthew 25:14-30

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Look for ways to use
what you've been given.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

None of you should look
out just for your own good.
Each of you should also look
out for the good of others.
Philippians 2:4, NIRV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Initiative—Seeing what needs
to be done and doing it

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

PRELUDE: Setting the Tone for the Experience

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

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

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

Check out our Small Group Leader Conversation Guides to guide you through salvation conversations: <https://bit.ly/4daxSUg>

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

Opener
Worship
Bible Story
Bottom Line
What's Our Part in the Story?
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Real Life Seek and Find
Application Activity: Talents that Stick
Memory Verse Activity: Secret Codes
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

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



WEEK
THREE
MAY 2025

SMALL GROUP
2-3

Get a Clue About
What to Do

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



Before kids arrive, take a moment to pray for them. Pray for those who may visit your group for the first time. Reflect on the gifts God has given you to help others. Pray that the kids would recognize the unique gifts God has given them and look for ways to use those gifts to help others. Ask God to give them creativity and joy in serving God with what they have.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Use Somebody

Parable of the Talents
Matthew 25:14-30

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome each kid with a high five or a fist bump as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- When enough kids arrive, divide your group into two teams.
- Explain the "Spy Game":
 - One kid on each team will be the "spy."
 - You will call up one spy at a time.
 - You will give the "spy" you called up a word(s) (for example, "fish").
 - See "Spy Word" examples below.
 - The spy is to say three things to help the other kids guess the word(s), without saying the word(s) itself. (For example: swim, water, animal)
 - If the kids guess incorrectly, the spy from the other team will get a chance to share three words that describes that word(s) with their team.
 - If the kids guess correctly, that spy returns to their team, and chooses another kid as the "spy."
- NOTE: Consider adding spy words of your own if time and interest allows.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Look for ways to use what you've been given.

SPY WORDS

- Ice cream
- Dolphin
- French fries
- YouTube
- Beach
- Basketball
- Stop sign

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it

BASIC TRUTH

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15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the kids together in your group area.
- Explain to the group that kids will take turns acting out various actions while the rest of the group guesses what

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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they're doing.

- For example:
 - drawing
 - singing
 - baking
 - throwing a football
 - making people laugh
 - kicking a soccer ball
 - sewing
 - building, etc.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Look for ways to use what you've been given.

- Select a kid to go first.
- Quietly share an action with the kid going first that the rest of the group can't hear.
- Give that kid about 30 seconds to act out their action without using words or sounds.
- Invite the group to call out their guesses.
- Once the action is guessed, invite the kid who guessed correctly to go next.
- Continue as time and interest allow.
- *NOTE: Consider allowing the kids to come up with their own actions to perform.*

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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Philippians 2:4, NIRV

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Awesome job acting out and guessing each of those actions! Can you name some of the actions that were acted out today? (*Invite responses.*) That's right—things like drawing, playing sports, singing, and so many more! Did you know that all of those things could be considered gifts or talents? **[Transition] Today, we're going to hear a parable from the Bible about people using the gifts God gives them. Let's go find out more!**"

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

BASIC TRUTH

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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



1. EYE SPY STORY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared "Story Snapshot" Activity Page, and "Story Snapshot Leader Guide" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Explain to the kids that there are nine pieces of today's Bible Story hidden around your group space.
- The goal is for kids to seek and find the story images from the "Story Snapshot" Activity Page and help place them in order together as a group.
- Instruct the kids to search the room with their group.
- As kids find story images, stand at the front of your group space.
- Instruct the kids to place the cards from the "Story Snapshot" Activity Page in front of you.
- Once all nine cards have been found, encourage the entire group to put the images in order.
- As you work together to gather the story images, frequently ask:
 - What happens next?
- Refer to the "Story Snapshot Leader Guide" Activity Page to make sure the cards are in order.
- Read the cards out loud when they are put in the correct order.
- *Optional: Print two copies of the "Story Snapshot" Activity Page on various colored paper for larger groups and have them work in teams to find their color pieces.*

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Way to go, friends! We found all the images from today's Bible Story! Jesus told this parable (or word picture, which is a story that uses objects to teach a lesson!) to remind us to use what we've been given. The story wasn't just about money—God has given each one of us different gifts, whether it's our talents, time, life experiences, or even our stuff. God wants us to make good use of those things, but that takes initiative!

"If you're not sure what gifts you have, ask an adult or friend who knows you well. If you're great at encouraging the people around you when they're sad, you can plan to write an encouraging note to them when they need it most! **Look for ways to use what you've been given.**"

[Make it Personal] (Tell about a time when you were able to use a gift or talent to make a positive impact in someone's life. Maybe you can make people smile and cheer them up after a tough day; maybe you're great at baking and surprised a friend with a cake; maybe you're great at a sport or at singing and helped someone who could use your advice, etc.)



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25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

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



*2. TALENTS THAT STICK

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Sticky notes, pencils, prepared poster board, and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- *NOTE: Before you begin the activity, write this week's Bottom Line across the top of the poster board.*
- Gather the kids together in your group space.
- Give each kid 2-3 sticky notes.
- Set out the markers and pencils.
- Invite the kids to use the markers and pencils to write or draw two or three gifts or talents they think they're good at on each sticky note!
 - Examples: playing soccer, singing, playing an instrument, baking, drawing, encouraging others, math, learning languages, gift giving, caring for their pets, crafting, etc.
- Display the poster board and point out the Bottom Line on it.
- Read the Bottom Line aloud for the kids and invite them to repeat it together.
 - **Look for ways to use what you've been given.**
- As kids finish drawing or writing on each sticky note, invite them to stick their notes onto the poster board.
- Point out all the different gifts, talents, and things kids mentioned.

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

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to be done and doing it

BASIC TRUTH

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job, everyone! You all named so many different gifts, talents, and things God has given you to show others God's love. We might not have a bunch of money, but we can use what we do have to help the people around us. There are even more talents and gifts you and I have to share! This week, ask your grown-ups or a friend who knows you well what you're good at too. Always remember that no matter how much or how little you think you have, there's always a way to share God's love with others! **Look for ways to use what you've been given.**"



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3. SECRET CODES

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, "Secret Decoder" Activity Page, and pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the kids together in your group space.
- Give each kid a "Secret Decoder" Activity Page and a pencil.
- Divide the kids into groups of two and give each pair a Bible.
 - It's okay if there is a group of three.
- Lead the kids to look up Philippians 2:4 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them 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 Philippians in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find Philippians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Philippians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Philippians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 2. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 4 in chapter 2.

- Direct the kids to repeat the verse several times together.
- Explain to the kids that they will work together to decode this month's Memory Verse.
- Instruct the kids to begin decoding the Memory Verse, filling in the missing letters by matching the images with the letters in the word bank.
- **NOTE:** Encourage the kids to fill in one letter at a time. For example, if the spy goggles represent the letter "A," instruct the kids to write an "A" in each space where they see spy goggles.
- Once the kids finish, recite the verse together once more.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Great job decoding this month's Memory Verse! Can you say it with me one more time? (Pause to read the Memory Verse out loud together.) It can be easy to look out for ourselves without looking out for the people around us too. This verse reminds us not just to look out for our own good but to also look out for the good of others. God has given each of us unique gifts and talents to share God's love with those around us! We can take the initiative to use our gifts and talents daily when we **look for ways to use what you've been given.**"

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal understanding
and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the kids together in a circle.
- Share with kids that prayer is a conversation we get to

have with God anytime, anywhere!

- Lead the kids in prayer this month using the “secret code,” TACO:
 - T = Thanks
 - A = Adoration
 - **C = Choices**
 - O = Others
- Explain to kids that choices are things we choose to do or not to do.
- Ask:
 - “Can you think of a time you chose to ignore someone around you who needed help?”
 - “Maybe you ignored helping a sibling or saw a kid at school sitting alone at recess, but you chose to ignore them.”
- Explain to the kids that they can talk to God about their choices—good ones and even ones that may not have been the best.
- Lead the kids in asking God to forgive them and help them take initiative this week!

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**Look for ways to use
what you’ve been given.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**None of you should look
out just for your own good.
Each of you should also look
out for the good of others.**
Philippians 2:4, NIRV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Initiative—Seeing what needs
to be done and doing it**

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to take care of our greatest need. Thank You for the Holy Spirit, who helps us take the initiative to use our gifts and talents to make a difference in the world around us. Sometimes, it’s hard to focus on others because we get caught up thinking about ourselves. Please forgive us for those moments, and help us to see what You are doing when You make a way for us to use what we’ve been given. Show us how to use the gifts You’ve given us—big or small—to share Your love with others. Help us to see the needs right in front of us clearly and to take action to make a difference. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share the “secret code” that they decoded in the Secret Code Activity (the Memory Verse). Encourage the kids to use the “secret code” to pray this week and ask God to help them use what they’ve been given!



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HOME

GETTING READY

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

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

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

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

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. EYE SPY STORY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print "Story Snapshot Leader Guide" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- Print "Story Snapshot" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group
 - Before group time, hide the "Story Snapshot" Activity Page images around your group space. If space is minimal, consider hiding the images under chairs, under Bibles, rugs, etc.

- *Optional: Print two copies of the "Story Snapshot" Activity Page on various colored paper for larger groups and have them work in teams to find their color pieces.*

* 2. TALENTS THAT STICK

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Sticky notes, 2-3 for every kid
- Pencils, one for every kid
- Poster board, one for each Small Group
- Markers, enough for the Small Group to share
- Before group time:
 - Write this week's Bottom Line (Look for ways to use what you've been given) across the top of the poster board.

3. SECRET CODES

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles, one for every two kids
- Print "Secret Decoder" Activity Page on paper, one for every kid
- Pencils, one for each kid

* 4. PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding 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.**