

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

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

Right Now Timothy 1 Timothy 4:12

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can make a difference right now.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. Psalm 139:14, NIrV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Uniqueness—Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

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.

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

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

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN **SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction** Early Arriver Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP



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

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect Bible Story Review: Lab Leader Application Activity: Rainbow Paper Memory Verse Activity: Memory Match Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

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



 PRELUDE
 SOCIAL
 STORY
 WORSHIP
 GROUPS
 HOME

 PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Take a moment to express gratitude for the gifts God gave you to serve others as a young kid. Thank God for showing us that no matter how old you are, you can make a big difference. Ask God to help you encourage the kids, reminding them that their words and actions matter, and that they have unique gifts to be an example to others.

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BASIC TRUTH

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

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container and dominoes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Greet each kid by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Lay out the pile of dominoes.
- Instruct the kids to work together to make the longest domino road possible.
- Encourage the kids to design their road so it will fall in a row when knocked down.
- As kids work together, ask:
 - "How have you used your gifts or abilities this week?"
- Once the domino road is complete, choose a kid to knock over the first domino.
- Celebrate as the whole line falls!
- Ask:
 - "Why do all the dominoes fall if one falls?
 - "Have you ever heard of something called the domino effect?"



PREL	UDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME
PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES		οΝ				

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: "Old Enough" Activity Page, and masking tape (or painter's tape)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Put a line of tape down the middle of your group area that's long enough for all of the kids in your group to stand on.
- Instruct the kids to line up on the tape line.
- Share what both sides of the tape represent:
 - The left side of the line stands for "not yet."
 - The right side of the line stands for "right now."
- Explain to kids that you will read scenarios from the "Old Enough" Activity Page.
- Instruct the kids to choose a side of the line, based on what you share, and jump to it.
- Encourage kids to return to the tape line in the middle after each round.
- One by one, read through each scenario on the "Old Enough" Activity Page, pausing as kids jump to the side of their choosing.
- Continue with the scenarios as long as time allows.
- If you finish all the scenarios on the "Old Enough" Activity Page, feel free to create some of your own based on your community or the kids' interests.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"That was fun! Some of us are old enough to do certain things, and others of us are still waiting for the right time. That's normal! We all have things we're excited to do when we're older. What do you really look forward to doing when you're old enough? (*Invite responses.*) Guess what? **[Transition] Today, we'll discover something you can do at any age, any time!**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Right Now

Timothy 1 Timothy 4:12

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PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME	
			CREATI	CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT		

MADE TO PLAY

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



1. LAB LEADER

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible marked at 1 Timothy 4:12

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Open the Bible marked at 1 Timothy 4:12 and call on an older kid to read the verse to the group.
- Repeat the verse as a group then put the Bible away.
- Choose one kid to be the "Guesser."
- Explain the game:
 - The "Guesser" will step outside the group area or turn around where they can't see the group.
 - You will silently choose another kid to be the "Lab Leader."
 - Instruct the "Lab Leader" to lead the group in science-themed motions and other actions. Here are some examples:
 - Swirling the beaker (pretend to mix liquid)
 - Looking into a microscope (bend over and squint)
 - Writing notes (pretend to write on their hand)
 - Clapping, snapping, tapping, or other simple motions
 - Encourage the "Lab Leader" to perform various motions.
 - Call the "Guesser" back to the group area.
 - Instruct the "Guesser" to observe the group and guess who the "Lab Leader" is.
 - Give the "Guesser" three chances to guess correctly.
- Play until every kid who wants to be the "Guesser" or the "Lab Leader" has had a chance.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"That was such a fun game! In our Bible Story today, we learned about Timothy, who was a young leader in the church and a student of Paul. Like the Lab Leader in this game, Timothy had people following his example. He had to use all his gifts to lead well, no matter what challenges he faced.

"Just like we changed motions in this game, Timothy had to grow and develop new skills. What do you think Timothy had to learn to be a good church leader? (Invite responses.)

"Timothy trusted that God made him for the right job at the right time. Even though he was young, he made a difference in many people's lives. He didn't wait to get older—he used his gifts when God called him to!

"You can too. Your gifts of kindness, confidence, creativity, strength, or courage– God has given you gifts that you can use to help others today! Because **you can make a difference right now!**"

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Right Now Timothy 1 Timothy 4:12

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PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME		
			CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES				

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



*2. RAINBOW PAPER

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Black construction paper, prepared small tubs of water, clear nail polish, paper towels, markers, and a bright light (like a flashlight, phone light, or desk lamp)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Set out the tubs of water.
- Assign 3-4 kids to each tub.
- Give each group a few bottles of clear nail polish and several squares of black construction paper.
- Give each kid a paper towel to put nearby so the kids have a place to let their projects dry.
- Set out the markers.
- Invite the kids to write their initials on the paper towels so they can identify their creations.
- Explain to kids that they will be creating "rainbow paper."
- Option 1:
 - Drop a few drops of nail polish onto the surface of the water.
 - Quickly place a square of black paper on top of the nail polish on the water's surface.
 - Pull the paper out by one of the edges, flip it over, and set it on the kid's paper towel to dry.
 - Repeat the process three times for each kid.
 - Option 2:
 - Carefully place a square of paper onto the water's surface and submerge it slightly.
 - Drop a few drops of nail polish onto the paper.
 - Pull the paper out of the water by one of the edges and set it aside on the kid's paper towel to dry.
 - Repeat the process three times for each kid.
- As the papers dry, invite the kids to observe the rainbow-like shine, also known as *iridescence*.
- Once dry, encourage the kids to observe their paper under a bright light or near a sunny window to see the rainbow effect.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"This rainbow paper is pretty cool! Look at how we all started with the same materials—but every one of our projects looks different. There are so many things that made each one unique, like how much of the supplies we used.

"Friends, you and I are so unique. God made us that way! Uniqueness is learning more about yourself so you can make a difference. Maybe this week, it's tutoring your younger sibling in math or being kind to a friend who needs it. These moments are like our rainbow paper—each one is a unique opportunity to make a difference.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Right Now

Timothy 1 Timothy 4:12

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(*2. RAINBOW PAPER, CONTINUED)

"Remember, you can make a difference right now by using what makes you unique!"

Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids

If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

- What kind of difference do you dream of making in the future?
- What kind of difference do you think your family/school/church/sports team needs right now?



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME	
			CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT			

MADE TO PLAY

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



3. MEMORY MATCH

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, and "Memory Match Cards" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide kids into groups of four.
- If you have fewer kids, feel free to adjust the size of your groups or the number of groups.
- Give each group a Bible.
- Together, look up Psalm 139:14 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.

Finding verses with a multi-age group: Guide all 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, ask a middleelementary kid (2nd-3rd grade) to find Psalms in the list under "Old Testament." When the kid finds Psalms, lead them to look at the page number beside the word and say it aloud, explaining that the number tells them on what page they can find Psalms. Ask olderelementary kids (4th-5th grade) to help younger ones find the correct page in their own Bibles. When they all find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Ask a kindergartner or 1st grader to find chapter 139, and give time for all the kids to turn the pages to find it. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers, and ask a middle-elementary kid to find verse 14 in chapter 139. Then, read the verse aloud slowly, especially for your pre-readers; or ask older-elementary kids to read it to the group.

- Read the verse aloud together.
- Provide each group a set of cards from the "Memory Match Cards" Activity Page.
- Instruct each group to lay out their cards out in a grid pattern (rows and columns) with the cards face down so no one can see the words on the cards.
- Explain the rules:
 - Direct each group to pick a kid to go first.
 - Instruct that kid to turn over two cards.
 - If the two cards are a match, instruct that kid to keep the match, and take another turn.
 - If the cards don't match, instruct that kid to turn the cards back over.
 - The turn then passes to the kid on their left.
 - Keep playing until all the cards have been matched.
 - Declare the kid with the most matches as the winner!
- If time allows, play another round, or create a tournament in which the winners from each team compete in a final match.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Matching your cards in this game was so fun, right?

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(3. MEMORY MATCH, CONTINUED)

"I want you to think about matching your gifts with someone's needs in real life. Sometimes, you'll see a need and be able to help right away, like when your friend is upset, and you use your gift of kindness to encourage them.

"What's important is that we always look out for situations where you can make a difference right now.

"Our Memory Verse reminds us that we are wonderfully made by God. God created you with unique gifts and abilities, so remember **you can make a difference right now."**

[Make It Personal] (Share a time when you made a difference as a kid. Maybe you used your gift or ability to help or encourage someone, like singing at a church, raising money for charity, etc.)



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME		
			CREATI	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:

• Invite the kids to sit together in a circle.

Encourage kids to quietly think about a person or

- situation in their community, school, or world that needs change or help.
- Direct kids to pray silently or aloud, asking God to show them how they could make a difference right now.
- Explain that sometimes all we can do is pray, and that's absolutely okay! Prayer is powerful because God listens and acts, even when the problem seems too big or difficult. Asking God for help is oftentimes the most powerful thing we can do!
- Lead your group in a closing prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for creating each of my friends here to make a difference! We know that the world has so many big needs, but we also know that we can be part of the solution when we use the gifts You've given us. Show us how to help, how to encourage, and how to pray for those needs. Remind us that You are always with us and that we can make a difference right now by following Your guidance. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, send each kid home with the black paper squares from the Rainbow Paper Activity. Again, if your church or community is participating in a service project that you think your few, or even an individual kid, would really thrive in helping, let the adults know!

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container
- Dominoes, as many as possible

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:

- Print "Old Enough" Activity Page on paper, one for each Small Group
- Masking tape (or painter's tape), one roll for each Small Group

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. LAB LEADER

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

• Bible marked at 1 Timothy 4:12, one for each Small Group

* 2. RAINBOW PAPER [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

- Black construction paper or cardstock; three, 1-inch squares for every kid
- Small, plastic, disposable tubs; 4-5 for each Small Group
- Clear nail polish, 4-5 bottles for each Small Group
- Paper towels, one roll for each Small Group
- Markers, enough for each Small Group to share
- Bright light (like a flashlight, phone light, or desk lamp), one for each Small Group
- Before group time:
 - Fill the small plastic tubs halfway with water.

3. MEMORY MATCH

[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 four kids
- Print "Memory Match Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, two sets for every four kids

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.**