



WEEK
THREE
SEPTEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
K-1

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Friend Like Me

Elijah and Elisha
1 Kings 19:14-21;
2 Kings 2:1-15

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends encourage one another.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

A friend loves at all times.
They are there to help
when trouble comes.
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Friendship—Using your words and
actions to show others you care

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 ("Look At Me" from *Walk This Way*, and
"Love One Another" from *Every Beat*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: EliJAH or EliSHA Jumping
Application Activity: You Are . . .
Memory Verse Activity: Pass It On
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Thank God for the friends in your life who encourage you and point you toward God. Ask God to guide you as you help teach your few what it looks like to be an encouraging friend. Pray that kids would see and feel the need to be an encouraging friend and that they can identify which friends **THEY** can count on to encourage them through good times and bad.*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Friend Like Me
Elijah and Elisha
1 Kings 19:14-21;
2 Kings 2:1-15

1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container and a large beach towel or piece of fabric

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids as they arrive and encourage those who've brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Once two or three kids have arrived, lay the beach towel or piece of fabric on the floor of your Small Group area and encourage the kids to stand on it, pretending the floor is covered in hot lava.
- Fold over the edge of the towel to make it smaller.
- Encourage the kids to scrunch together to make sure everyone fits.
- Continue to fold over the edge of the towel a little bit at a time as kids work together to fit so they don't fall into the lava.

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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Egg cartons, floor tape, and pennies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Line up each team and set the empty egg cartons, one per team, several feet away.
- Set 12 pennies next to each team.
- Use the tape to mark a spot on the floor in front of each egg carton.
- One at a time, kids will grab a penny, run to their egg carton, stand on the tapeline and drop their penny without bending over. (They must drop the penny from waist height.)
- If they miss the carton, they pick up the penny, run back to their team, and hand it off to the next player.
- The game ends when one team gets one penny in each of the 12 cups of their egg carton.
- Explain that teams will receive BONUS points for cheering on their teammates as they play.
 - Make a BIG deal out of this requirement, explaining that the more they encourage each other, the greater chance they have of winning the game!
 - As the game is being played, assign points to teams at different times, depending on how excitedly they cheer on their friends.
- Assign any number of points you choose to the team who did the best job of encouraging then declare the winner!

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"You did an awesome job! But do you know what really helped? When you chose to encourage each other. **[Transition] Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about two guys with VERY similar names who encouraged each other too. Let's go.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



1. ELIJAH OR ELISHA JUMPING
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "EliSHA and EliJAH" Activity Pages and floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape the Activity Pages to the floor around your Small Group area, about two feet apart from each other. Let the kids help with this!
- Encourage the kids to stand somewhere between their EliJAH and EliSHA page.
- Point out the differences between the two pages, placing an emphasis on the endings ("JAH" and "SHA") for your prereaders.
 - You can also point out that "J" comes before "S" in the alphabet, just like Elijah was a prophet (person who spoke for God) BEFORE he found Elisha.
- Instruct the kids to jump between the two pages as you read the story recap below.
 - You'll notice there are a few instances where the kids need to stay put instead of jumping.
 - They'll need to listen closely for these tricky spots in the story!
 - You might need to pause in these spots to make sure kids jump back to the right name sign.

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Story Recap

- EliJAH (*jump*) was a prophet who spoke for God. He was discouraged, feeling like he was the only prophet left.
- God sent him to find EliSHA (*jump*) to be the next prophet.
- Elijah (*jump*) found Elisha (*jump*) working in the field.
- When Elijah (*jump*) asked him to follow him, Elisha (*jump*) agreed.
- From then on, everywhere Elijah (*jump*) went, Elisha (*jump*) followed, watching and learning.
- The two men traveled to Gilgal. They knew that soon God was going to take Elijah (*jump*) up to heaven.
- Elijah (*stay put*) told Elisha (*jump*) to stay there.
- Elisha (*stay put*) replied, "I will not leave you." This happened two more times until they arrived at the Jordan river.
- At the river's edge, Elijah (*jump*) struck the water with his coat. The water parted, and they walked across on dry ground.
- Elijah (*stay put*) stopped to encourage his friend, Elisha (*jump*).
- They walked farther. Then, a chariot and horses made of fire appeared and separated Elijah (*jump*) and Elisha (*jump*).
- Elisha (*stay put*) watched as Elijah (*jump*) was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind.
- Elisha (*jump*) picked it up. He hurried back to the river, struck the water, and walked across on dry ground!
- Instruct the kids to pick up their signs and hand them to you, then have a seat.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(1. ELIJAH OR ELISHA JUMPING, CONTINUED)

WHAT YOU SAY:

"I love this story, even though the two names can be SUPER confusing. *(Hold up the Elijah sign)* Elijah was a prophet who told other people about God. But he felt alone. Then, God sent him to find EliSHA *(hold up the Elisha sign)*. The two men traveled together and EliSHA watched and learned all he could from EliJAH. Before Elijah was taken up to heaven to be with God, Elisha said, 'You have been like a father to me.' They were good friends who encouraged each other. And we can be good friends, too, when we remember that **friends encourage one another.**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**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. YOU ARE . . .**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Encouragement Cards" Activity Page, scissors, stickers, crayons or markers, and zip top bags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out an "Encouragement Cards" page to each kid.
- Read the front of the cards to the kids and point out the blank.
- Explain that kids will take these cards home, write one thing they love about a friend on the blank line, and give the card to that friend as a way to encourage them.
- Instruct the kids to cut the cards apart and decorate the blank side of all eight cards with the provided supplies.
- When finished, give the kids a zip top bag and place their cards inside.

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BASIC TRUTH

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Raise your hand if you like to receive notes from a friend. (Pause.) Me, too! This week, we're learning that **friends encourage one another**. One way we can encourage our friends is to give them a sweet note. On your cards, it says, 'You are . . . blank.' I want you to think of a friend you could give one of these cards to and fill in the blank as a way to encourage that friend.

"You might say, 'You are good at math,' or 'You are patient with your sister.' What are some other things you could write to a friend on these cards? (Pause as kids share answers.)

"So that's your challenge this week! Since **friends encourage one another**, let's do just that by giving out notes of encouragement to our friends! Do you think you can hand out all eight cards?"

[Make it Personal] (Share a time when you were sad and a friend encouraged you and helped you feel better. Maybe they wrote a note, prepared a meal when you were sick, gave you a thoughtful gift, or told a silly joke to cheer you up.)



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES**

MADE TO CONNECT

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



3. PASS IT ON

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, construction paper, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Look up and read Proverbs 17:17 with the group.
- Cut a large heart out of the construction paper.
- Have the kids sit in a circle and pass the heart as you recite the verse.
- The kid who ends up holding the heart when you say, "Proverbs 17:17," stands in the center of the circle.
- Once that kid is standing in the middle, lead the group to say, "Way to go, [kid's name]. You're awesome!" They then return to the circle.
- Repeat until everyone has had a turn in the center.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"A friend loves at all times, it's true. But the second part of our memory verse is important too. A friend is there to help when trouble comes. One big way we can help is to encourage each other. Sometimes friends are sad, or something frustrating happened and they need a friend to remind them just how awesome they are! You can be that friend to remind them. So this week, pay attention to the friends around you. Is someone sad? Is someone sitting by themselves? Is someone acting different than they normally do? Maybe they're not laughing or joining in to play? Let's pay attention and say kind words. Invite them to play or just offer a hug or high-five. Because **friends encourage one another.**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: "Encouragement Cards" from the "You Are . . ." activity

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Friend Like Me
Elijah and Elisha
1 Kings 19:14-21;
2 Kings 2:1-15

WHAT YOU DO:

- Let the kids hold their bag of encouragement cards as you pray for them.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are awesome! Help us remember this week that **friends encourage one another**. We want to be the kind of friends who love at all times, especially when our friends are sad or need encouragement. Help us remember to use our words and actions to show our friends how important they are to us as we give out these cards this week. Thanks for loving us, God. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends encourage one another.

As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to show off their bags of encouragement cards and explain how they will fill them out and give them away this week because **friends encourage one another**.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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

GETTING READY

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

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story. **(Choose one or both of these activities.)**

1. EARLY ARRIVER

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- A beach towel or large piece of fabric

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Two empty, clean egg cartons
- Twenty-four (at least) pennies
- Floor tape

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. ELIJAH AND ELISHA JUMPING [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "EliSHA and EliJAH" Activity Pages; one set for each kid
- Floor tape

***2. YOU ARE . . .**

[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 the "Encouragement Cards" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Scissors
- Stickers
- Crayons or markers
- Zip top bags; one for each kid

3. PASS IT ON

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pink or red construction paper; one piece for each group
- Scissors
- Bible

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:

- "Encouragement Cards" from "You Are . . ." Activity

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.