



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I'll Be There for You
Jesus Forgives Peter
John 21:1-19

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How do you react when
a friend hurts you?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Friends forgive 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 ("Love One Another" from *Every Beat*, "Friend Like You" from *This Love*, and "This Is Amazing Grace" from *Movin' Me*)
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Review and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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/or working as a group



Before kids arrive, take some time to pray that your kids would be able to grasp the forgiveness that God offers all of us and how forgiveness is a really big part of being a good friend. Pray that you would have an amazing time together with your kids today.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, gift boxes, wrapping paper, tape, scissors, and ribbon

WHAT YOU DO:

- It's our last day prepping for the block party . . . everyone's invited! And we're down to the last thing on our list: the gift.
- **Have** a contest to see who can wrap the gift the quickest AND the prettiest.
- **Divide** the group in half (or groups of three) and give each group a gift box and supplies.
- **Say** "Go!" and let them start wrapping!
- **Declare** the first group finished the winner of the "time" challenge.
- **Decide**, as a group, which gift looks the best!



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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Limbo stick or limbo rope, music (try Orange Kids Music on Spotify or Apple Music)

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Play** limbo!
- **Pick** two people to hold the stick/rope (one of them can be you!) and ask everyone else to get in line.
 - When the music starts, they attempt to pass under the bar.
 - After everyone in the line has had a turn, the bar is lowered an inch or two and the process repeats.
 - When passing under the bar, players must bend backwards. No part of their bodies may touch the bar, and no part other than their feet may touch the ground.
 - The last person left is the winner!
- **Play** a few more rounds, as time allows.
- **Ask:**
 - When does limbo get hard? (*when the bar gets low*)
 - When that happens, does the game get more exciting? (*yes!*) Why?

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Speaking of hard, we've been talking all month about friendship and sometimes friendship gets hard too, don't you think? **[Transition] Today in large group, we're going to hear about a friendship that got really tough—and then the thing that helped it grow stronger! Let's go check it out.**"

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. TAKE A SNAPSHOT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Chairs or placeholders (like cardstock taped to the floor)

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Talk** about apologizing. How does it lead to forgiveness?

Why is apologizing hard?

- **Introduce** the four easy steps for an apology. Keep these steps nearby so kids can see it and refer back to it if necessary.
 - 1) I'm sorry for . . .
 - 2) It was wrong because . . .
 - 3) Next time I will . . .
 - 4) Will you forgive me?
- **Give** each kid a number, one through four, and then tell them to get in a group with their number. (All the ones together, all the twos together, all the threes together, and all the fours together.)
- **Explain** that their group number corresponds with a step for apologizing.
 - As a group, they need to come up with a simple hand signal for their step.
 - For instance, the ones might make a sad face and put their hand over their heart.
 - The twos might give a double thumbs down, the threes might point to their watch, and the fours might put their hands out and shrug their shoulders like they're asking a question.
 - Each group can pick their own sign, but it needs to be quick a simple.
- **Give** kids a couple minutes to confer with each other and figure out their hand signal.
- **Let** them then take turns teaching their sign to the rest of the groups.
- **Set** chairs in a circle or hand everyone a sheet of cardstock to mark their place in the circle. (Instruct kids to sit down.)
- **Pick** one person to go first and stand in the center of the circle.
- **Remove** that person's chair or placeholder and instruct the rest of the kids scoot around to fill in the space.
- **Play** a game similar to Fruit Basket Turnover.
 - The kid in the middle makes any of the four hand signals and says the corresponding phrase. (They can refer to the list if needed.)
 - Anyone who has that same signal/phrase shouts out their phrase and races to find another spot in the circle.
 - BUT the person in the center will be racing to find a spot as well, so someone will be left in the center.
 - Now it's their turn to make a hand signal, which will be the cue for that group to shout their phrase and race to change spots.
 - Play a few rounds.

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

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



2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Two sets of 21 clear cups, two rolls of tape, "Jesus Forgives Peter Cards" Activity Page, and Bibles

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WHAT YOU DO:

- **Divide** your group into two teams.
- **Give** each team a set of 21 cups, a roll of tape, "Jesus Forgives Peter" cards, and a Bible.
- **Explain** that they need to race to be the first team to tape a card to each cup, and then stack them in order of the Bible story.
 - Let them refer to their Bibles to make sure they get the order of the verses right.
 - *Note: The very top cup will actually be what happened first, the second row will be cards 2-3, the third row will be cards 4-6, the fourth row, 7-10, etc. There will be 6 total rows when stacked correctly.*
 - The first team to finish with the cups in the correct order wins!
- **Pick** a few volunteers to read the stacked cups aloud to the group.
- **Ask** if anyone wants to share their favorite part of today's Bible story.
 - What does it say about their friendship that Jesus forgave Peter for something so huge?



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PRETEEN

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. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Have you ever had to forgive a friend? What happened? (Make sure kids know not to mention any names or identifying details!)
- Have you ever had to ask for forgiveness from a friend? How did it feel?
- How can you show forgiveness to a friend beyond just accepting their apology?
- What do you do when you forgive a friend but they keep hurting you in the same way? *(You can forgive, while also remembering week one: choose your friends carefully. If someone keeps showing you that they're not a good friend, or are bad for you, you can choose wisely about the time you spend with them and ask an adult you trust for advice and help. BUT we should always offer forgiveness.)*

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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



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4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Envelope of puzzle pieces, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Explain** that you have the pieces to a treasure map, but they are going to have to work to earn each piece!
- **Invite** kids to complete a task (listed below) and then hand them a piece of the puzzle.
- **Let** them use their Bibles and work together to fill in the blanks.
- **Instruct** kids to make sure everyone gets a chance to participate and fill in a blank and look up a verse.
 - Keep letting kids complete a task (together) and receive a puzzle piece until they have all six pieces complete, and then they can put the puzzle together.
 - *NOTE: You can give them the pieces in any order, EXCEPT for the 8th piece (the one that starts with "Just like Jesus ..."). Save that piece for last!*
- Tasks to earn a puzzle piece:
 - Make a human pyramid (just three people per pyramid)
 - Everyone says the alphabet backwards together
 - Sing a song
 - Say three nursery rhymes
 - Crab walk to the far side of the room and back
 - Everyone stands on one foot and pats their head for 30 seconds
 - Do 15 jumping jacks
- Answer for piece 8: Just like Jesus FORGAVE Peter, we should FORGIVE our friends too. Just like God sent Jesus to FORGIVE us, we should FORGIVE others.
- Wrap up discussion questions:
 - What makes it hard to forgive your friends sometimes?
 - Why do you think forgiveness is such a big deal in our friendships?



WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Verse Puzzle" activity page, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Give** each kid an intact Verse Puzzle.
- **Allow** a few minutes for kids to fill in the blanks on their own puzzle, using the puzzle pieces from the Verse activity (above) if needed.
- **Tell** the kids that you COMPLETELY understand that forgiveness can be so hard and we definitely shouldn't let friends continue to hurt us. But friends forgive one another, even when it's hard.
- **Pray** over your group, asking God for help forgiving:
 - "Dear God, thank you so much for your gift of forgiveness. Thank you for preserving the story of how Jesus forgave Peter so we could learn from it. And we thank You so much for forgiving us. Thank you for loving us no matter what. Please give us the courage to ask for forgiveness when we hurt others or upset them, and give us the courage and love to forgive others, too, when they hurt us. We praise you for the freedom that comes with forgiveness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!"
- **Encourage** kids to find a place to display their puzzle at home for the next couple of weeks.
- **Suggest** that they look at one verse each day and think about that verse as they interact with friends.

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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. JUST FOR FUN

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Two gift boxes
- Roll of wrapping paper
- Two sets of scissors
- Roll of ribbon
- Tape

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

- Limbo stick, or broom stick, or piece of rope
- Music (try Orange Kids Music on Spotify or Apple Music)

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.)

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Chairs or placeholders (like cardstock taped to the floor); one for each kid

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and

facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Clear cups; two set of 21 for each Small Group
- Two rolls of tape
- Bibles

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[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 the "Verse Puzzle" Activity Page and cut apart; one puzzle for each small group
- Envelope
 - Place the puzzle pieces together in the envelope
- Pens or pencils

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Verse Puzzle" Activity Pages; one for each kid; don't cut the pieces apart

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**.