

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Always on My Mind
Think on These Things
Philippians 4:8

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Focus on what's true.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Anyone who lives
without blame walks safely.
But anyone who takes a
crooked path will get caught.
Proverbs 10:9, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Integrity—Choosing to be truthful
in whatever you say and do**

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.

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 Trust In You" from *Every Beat* and
"Jesus I Will Trust You" from *This Love*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: FOCUSED Art
Application Activity: Thoughts and Actions Line Up
Memory Verse Activity: Right on Target
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

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 for kids to be able to fill their hearts and minds with positive, noble, right, and true things. Ask God to guide them to memorize key verses that will always be on their hearts. Pray the same for yourself: that you will find space to be mindful of the things filling your heart and that you will be able to think on what is right, true, pure, and noble.

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1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: "Hidden Pictures" Activity Page, offering container, and pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Greet kids as they arrive.
- Encourage kids who've brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid a "Hidden Pictures" Activity Page and a pencil.
- Point out the key on the side so they know what to look for.
- They can circle the hidden items as they find them on the page.
- While kids are working, talk about their week using the questions below as a guide.
 1. Tell me about your favorite day this week. Why was it your favorite?
 2. What did you do this weekend (or yesterday)?
 3. If you could switch places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach?
 4. What are you reading?
 5. Did you have a chance to practice integrity this week? When? What happened?

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: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the kids to sit in a circle on their knees.
- Explain that this game requires four moves:
 - Up – hands up over your head
 - Down – hands at your sides
 - Pat – pat the floor
 - Clap – clap hands together
- Call out the four motions in any random order for the kids to follow.
- To keep interest high, increase the speed of the commands. You can also select a kid in the group to lead in calling out the motions.
- If the kids in your group seem to master this fairly easily, ask them to do the OPPOSITE of what you call.
- So if you say, "Up," kids will put their hands down. If you say, "Pat," kids will clap, and so on.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You really had to FOCUS in order to play this game! **[Transition]** In our Bible story today, we'll hear about something even more important that we all should focus on. Let's go."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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MADE TO CREATE

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



* 1. FOCUSED ART

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Art or manila paper, Bibles, watercolor paints, small bottles of water, cups, paint brushes, tissue paper, scissors, glue sticks, crafting tape, and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a piece of paper.
- Instruct kids to open their Bibles to Philippians 4:8.
- Encourage them to illustrate the verse in any way they choose, using the supplies provided.
 - They can write out the verse and decorate around it, write a few phrases from the verse, or paraphrase in their own words.
 - Encourage them to use their creativity any way they choose to capture the meaning of the verse as they illustrate it.
- As they're working, engage them in conversation about the verse, using the following questions to get you started:
 - What do you think it means to "focus" on something?
 - How do the things you THINK about affect how you act?
 - Why would Paul tell us in Philippians to focus on what's true? How can focusing on negative or untrue things affect how we feel or act?
 - Tell us about a situation this week that wasn't so awesome. How did you respond? Did you focus on the good or the bad? What happened as a result of what you chose to focus on?
 - Why is it important to remember that what God says and what God does are always true?
- After you discuss the questions, give kids a chance to show off their artwork to the rest of the group.
- Set their artwork aside to dry (you will need these again during "Pray and Dismiss") and gather all art supplies for clean-up.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"What we choose to focus on is SUPER important. During quarantine, if we choose to focus on all the negative things, the days seem WAY longer. But if we choose to look at the good things, the true things—that God is still in control, that time at home means more time with family—then we have a better chance of responding in a way that honors God and the people around us. That's why it's important to **focus on what's true**."

"So this week, to help you **focus on what's true**, I want you to hang your artwork in a place where you will see it every day. Remember to look for whatever is true, noble, pure, lovely, or worthy of respect. Let this artwork and the words of Philippians 4:8 remind you to **focus on what's true**, so that you can live with integrity this week."

UNMASKED

DROP THE ACT

WEEK
FOUR
OCTOBER 2020

SMALL GROUP

2-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(* 1. FOCUSED ART, CONTINUED)

[Make it Personal] (Tell the kids about a time when you chose to focus on what was true instead of a lie. Maybe you could talk about how you handled the time of social distancing and what you chose to focus on. Make sure your example is age-appropriate.)

MADE TO IMAGINE

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

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2. THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS LINE UP [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "What You Think" and "How You Respond" Activity Pages, scissors, and floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cut apart the Activity Pages, keeping all the "What You Think" cards in one pile and all the "How You Respond" cards in another.
- Use the floor tape to create two parallel, two-foot lines on the floor, about six inches apart.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Sit one team near the "What You Think" cards and spread the cards out on the floor.
- Sit the other team near the "How You Respond" cards and spread them out on the floor.
- Call on a kid from the "What You Think" team to read one of their cards aloud and place it at the top of the tape line near them.
- Call on the other group to read through their "How You Respond" cards and select the one they believe corresponds. Then, they set it on the other line across from the "What You Think" card.
- Repeat with the remaining cards until all cards are matched.
- Point out how in each of these scenarios, the "What You Think" card determines the "How You Respond" action.
- Point to any "negative" thought cards and allow the kids to give an example of how they could change their thinking to produce a different action.
 - For instance, the card "The new kid is strange" and the corresponding action "I'm not inviting him to play with my group of friends at recess" could be changed to "you decide the new kid is just quiet." The corresponding action could be "you invite the new kid to play with you and your friends at recess."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What we THINK about has a big impact on how we respond or what we do. It's easy to see that in these examples. But in real life, we sometimes forget to **focus on what's true**. It's easier to believe the worst or to decide that things are bad or that they'll never get better. But that's just NOT true. God is good, always. His way is best, always. And He is true, always. So if you find yourself focusing on negative, untrue things this week, or just generally having a bad attitude, ask God to help you change your thinking and **focus on what's true**. Because when you THINK about what's true, you'll DO what's true in response."

MADE TO MOVE

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



3. RIGHT ON TARGET

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Phrases" cards, Bibles, floor tape, scissors, and beanbags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Call on a volunteer to open a Bible to Proverbs 10:9 and review the memory verse as a group.
- Ask a second kid to read the verse as you prepare for the game using the instructions below:
 - Use the floor tape to create two, 3' x 3' squares on the floor of your small group area.
 - Shuffle each set of "Memory Verse Phrases" cards and lay out one set of cards in random order inside each square.
 - Divide the group into two teams to line up about three feet from their team's square.
- When you say, "Go!" the first kid in each team will toss the beanbag, aiming to land on the first phrase of the verse.
- If successful, they run to grab the phrase card and hand off the beanbag to the next kid in line.
- If they miss, they must retrieve the beanbag and try again.
- Each team must pay attention so they collect each phrase in the order of the verse.
- Once all phrases have been collected, the team puts the cards in verse order and sits down to signal they are finished.
- Check their work by reading the verse aloud then declare a winner.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"All month long, we've been talking about what it means to live with integrity, to choose to be truthful in all we say and do. This verse reminds us that choosing integrity keeps us on the safe, straight path. So this week, let's ask God to help us **focus on what's true**. Because what we choose to think about—focus on—really does affect what we DO! Let's stay off the crooked path by choosing to **focus on what's true.**"

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: Kids' artwork from "FOCUSED Art"

WHAT YOU DO:

- Help the kids grab their artwork.
- Ask them to look at their creation as you pray Philippians 4:8 over them using the dialogue below or your own words.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Always on My Mind

Think on These Things
Philippians 4:8

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for Your word that shows us how to follow You. Help us **focus on what's true this week**. That includes those things that are noble, right, and pure. Help us think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, help us think about these things! Thank You that we can trust You, always. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Focus on what's true.

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their artwork and share how they've learned to **focus on what's true**. Kids can also discuss where they plan to hang their artwork so they will see it as a reminder every day to live with integrity.

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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.)

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a general summary of Social Distancing Recommendations. Please refer to this document so you can plan your Small Group experience with health and safety in mind.

1. EARLY ARRIVER

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Hidden Picture" Activity Page; one for each kid
- An offering container
- Pencils

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 #1.*

* 1. FOCUSED ART

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Art or manila paper; one sheet for each kid
- Watercolor paints
- Small bottles of water
- Cups
- Paint brushes
- Tissue paper
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Crafting tape
- Markers

2. THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS LINE UP [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "What You Think" Activity Page; one for each small group
- Print the "How You Respond" Activity Page; one for each small group
- Scissors
- Floor tape

3. RIGHT ON TARGET [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 "Memory Verse Phrases" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; two sets for each small group
- Bibles
- Scissors
- Beanbags; two for each small group
- Floor tape

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:

- Magnets from "Turnin' It Around"



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WEEK
FOUR
OCTOBER 2020

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

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**.