

UNMASKED DROP THE ACT



WEEK
TWO
OCTOBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Say Anything
No Secrets with God
1 John 1:9

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What do you talk to God about?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Being truthful with God
keeps you close to Him.

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 can trust God no matter what.

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 ("Every Beat" from *Every Beat*, "Jesus I Will Trust You" from *This Love*, and "Close" from *Walk This Way*)
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

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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 some time to pray that you would be able to create a safe place today for your kids to process what it means for them to be honest with God. Ask for sensitivity and insight for yourself as you help your kids navigate confession, honesty, and God's forgiveness.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, index cards, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Invite** kids to put their offering in the offering container as they arrive.
- **Gather** kids in a circle.
- **Give** each kid two index cards and a pencil.
- **Tell** kids to write a truth about themselves on one index card, such as I have a pet goldfish or I can clog dance.
 - **Be sure** kids don't reveal their cards to each other.
 - **Encourage** them to think of something most people don't know about them.
- **Tell** kids to write a "lie" about themselves on the other index card, such as I'm allergic to mustard.
- **Collect** the cards, **shuffle** them, and **lay** them face up in the center of the circle.
- **Encourage** the group to separate the cards into a "Truth" pile and a "Lie" pile.
 - The only rule is they can't touch, sort, or in any way reveal their own card to the group.
- Once the cards are sorted, talk about the cards.
 - **Allow** kids to identify their cards.
 - **Ask:** Are there any truth cards in the lie pile? Are there any lies in the truth pile?

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



2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

WHAT YOU NEED: Marble or small object

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Gather** kids in a circle.
- **Select** one kid to be the guesser and instruct them to sit in the center of the circle.
- **Ask** the guesser to close his or her eyes or turn around so he or she is not facing the group.
- **Place** a small object in the hand of one of the kids in the circle.
- Tell kids to pass the object around the circle.
 - **Explain** that kids need to pass the object with great secrecy and stealth-like movements so as not to let on where the object is.
 - They might want to all continually move their hands as if they're passing the object so it's not obvious as to where the object is.
 - While the kids are passing the object, tell the guesser to count out loud to 20 before opening his or her eyes.
- **Give** the guesser three opportunities to guess who has the object.
- **Play** several rounds, **select** a new guesser for each round.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Being stealth-like and hiding the *[insert object used]* was key for this game; however, in our daily lives there are a lot of things we shouldn't hide.
[Transition] Let's head to Large Group to hear what they are."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Game Cards" Activity Page, timer or
mobile device

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Lay** the Game Cards facedown in a pyramid formation on the floor.
 - **Divide** the group into two teams.
 - Teams take turns selecting a kid to be the Clue Giver.
 - The Clue Giver selects a Game Card without showing their teammates what is written on the card.
 - The Clue Giver pretends they are talking to the person identified on the Game Card and their team has 60 seconds to guess who the Clue Giver is talking to.
 - For example: If the Game Card selected is "Things you might say to a doctor," the Clue Giver might say, "I don't feel good" "Are you giving me a shot?" "That stethoscope is cold," etc.
 - The Clue Giver cannot say any form of the word in the clue. For example, they cannot say: "Hey, Doc, I don't feel good."
 - If the team guesses correctly, **award** them three points.
 - If the team cannot guess correctly who the Clue Giver is talking to, their opponents get one guess. If their opponents guess correctly, **award** them one point.
 - **Switch** Clue Givers for each round.
 - **Continue** playing until all the "Game Cards" have been revealed.
 - The team with the most points wins.
- Note: Depending on your group you may need to adjust the time allotted for guessing.*
- After a winner is declared, **ask:**
 - What about God? What are some things you can talk to God about?

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

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



2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, dissolvable paper, clear
container of water, pencils/pens, red permanent markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Gather** kids in a circle.

- **Look up** and **read** 1 John 1:9.
- **Ask:**
 - What does John tell us about God in this verse? (*He is faithful, He forgives, He makes us pure, He is fair*)
 - What does it mean that God is faithful? (*always there, never lies, trustworthy*)
 - What does it mean "to confess our sins"? (*admit when we've done something wrong*)
- **Give** kids a piece of dissolvable paper.
- **Place** a container filled with water in the center of the circle.
- **Encourage** everyone write on the paper one thing they need to tell God, a situation where they struggle to obey God or to listen to what He says.
 - It can be one word or an entire sentence.
 - **Assure** kids they will not have to share with anyone but God what they write on the paper.
- **Give** kids a red marker.
- **Ask:** When we confess what does God promise? (**Refer** to 1 John 1:9)
- Using the red marker, **tell** kids to write FORGIVEN across their paper.
- **Allow** kids to take turns putting their papers in the water and stirring the water.
- **Ask:**
 - What happened to your paper in the water?
 - How is what happened to the paper like confessing our sins to God?
- **Say:** Just like the paper is gone, when we tell God the things we've done wrong, God forgives us and He makes us pure.
- **Ask:**
 - Once we confess our sins, does that mean we won't do wrong things again? (*No, we are humans and we aren't perfect. God knows we can't obey Him perfectly and He still wants us to talk to Him about everything including when we mess up or disobey Him.*)
 - How does confessing our sins and being truthful keep us close to God? (*This is an opportunity to circle back to the paper. Because God is perfect, our sins and imperfections separate us from Him. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to bridge that gap. Just like the paper dissolved and was taken away, when we confess, God forgives us. Because of Jesus, sin cannot separate us from God and we can be with Him now and forever*)
 - If God knows everything, why do we need to tell Him what we've done?

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3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What do you usually talk to God about? What do you pray about?
- How does talking to God affect your relationship with Him? (To spark discussion, ask: how does talking to your friend affect your relationship with them? What would happen if you decided to ignore your friend? *(This is an opportunity to emphasize that talking to God helps you to know Him better and to stay close to Him. Just like if you ignored a friend, if you didn't talk to God you would miss opportunities to know Him.)*)
- When is it hard to talk to God? Why can it be hard to talk to God?
- Is there anything we can hide from God? If God knows everything, why talk to Him?

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MADE TO MOVE

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



4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Three sets of "Psalm Cards" (Activity Page); each set is a different color, 12 cups, masking tape, Bibles

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WHAT YOU DO:

- **Divide** the group into three teams.
- **Assign** each team a color of a set of "Psalm Cards."
- **Create** a starting line using masking tape and instruct teams to line up behind it.
- **Give** each team a Bible.
- On the other side of the room, across from the starting line, **set up** the playing field. To **set up** the playing field:
 - **Place** 12 cups upside down in a 4x3 grid.
 - Under each cup **place** a "Psalm Card." There is a total of 3 sets of "Psalm Cards," one set per team. Don't show kids what color "Psalm Card" you place under each cup and don't group together "Psalm Cards" for the same team.
- **Explain** teams will race to collect their team's "Psalm Cards." To **race**:
 - One kid from each team races to the playing field and looks under a cup. If the "Psalm Card" is their team color, they collect the card, turn the cup back face down and return to their team. If the "Psalm Card" is not their team color, they replace the card back under the cup and return to their team.
 - Teammates take turns running to the playing field trying collect all four of their team's "Psalm Cards."
 - **Declare** the first team to collect all four "Psalm Cards" and put them in the correct order the winner.
 - **Explain** teams may need to use the Bible to put the verse in the correct order.

Note: The verse for the game is Psalm 32:5. Most kids will be unfamiliar with it and will need to look in up in the Bible to put the "Psalm Cards" in the correct order.
- When a winner is declared, **read** Psalm 32:5 and **ask**:
 - What did the psalmist talk to God about?
 - What did God do when the psalmist showed integrity and hid nothing from God?
 - Does anyone remember what our memory verse is this month? **Allow** kids to recite it or **look up** Proverbs 10:9 in the Bible.
 - When we live with integrity, it is similar to living without blame. However, we're all human, so there will be times we do something wrong or don't do what we're supposed to. What does God promise He will do when we choose to tell Him where we've gone wrong?

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

WHAT YOU NEED: Magnets

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Set** the magnets on a table.
- **Show** kids how magnets can either draw near to each other or repel away from each other.
- **Allow** kids a few moments to play with the magnets.
- **Say:** Kind of like when the magnets come together, when we choose to be truthful with God and talk to Him about everything, we get closer to Him. Just like when the magnets push each other away, when we hide things from God and aren't truthful with Him, we push God away. God sent Jesus so we would have a way to be with Him now and forever. God doesn't want us to push Him away. God wants us to talk to Him about everything.
- **Close** in prayer.

"Dear God, Thank You for loving us so much! We know You want us to draw near to You. You sent Jesus so we had a way to be with You now and forever. God, because of Jesus, we know nothing can separate us from You, and yet sometimes we try to hide things from You. Sometimes we hide our mistakes, our embarrassing moments, or we simply hide the things we think aren't interesting. But God, You are interested in everything about us, and that is AMAZING to think about; the God of all creation desires to hear from each of us. God, we ask You to remind us to share our lives with You, all of our lives, and we ask You to guide our words and our actions to be truthful and to reflect Your integrity to others. We love You!! In Your name! Amen!"

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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. JUST FOR FUN

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Index cards; two for each kid
- Pencils; one for each kid

2. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- A small object that fits in the palm of a kid's hand, e.g. a marble, a penny, a pom-pom, etc.
- (Optional) blindfolds

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]

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WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Game Cards" Activity Page and cut apart; one set for each Small Group

- Timer or mobile device

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Clear bowl with water
 - For example: medium-sized fish bowl, a glass serving bowl, medium-sized bubble bowl. Check to see if you could borrow these from other ministries in your church that may use glass bowls as centerpieces.
- Dissolvable paper, cut into 4 or 8 pieces; one piece for each kid
 - You can purchase dissolvable paper or water-soluble paper on Amazon.com
- Permanent red markers; one to three for each Small Group
- Pens or pencils

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles

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 "Psalm Cards" Activity Page; three sets for each Small Group printed on different colored paper and cut apart
- Opaque plastic cups, 12 for each Small Group
- Masking tape
- Bibles

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GETTING READY

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Magnets; several per Small Group
 - Make sure the magnets provided can demonstrate how magnets can both attract and repel other magnets.

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**.