



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Just Want to Celebrate
David Dances
2 Samuel 6:12b-22a

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are creative ways
to show gratitude?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate what God has done.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Give thanks to the Lord,
because he is good. His faithful
love continues forever.**
Psalm 136:1, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Gratitude—Letting others know
you see how they've helped you

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 ("Friend Like You" from *This Love*, "(I Want to Say) Thank You" from *This Love*, and "Wonderful" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*)
Bible Story
Prayer
Bottom Line

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

SHOUT OUT

LET 'EM KNOW YOU'RE THANKFUL

WEEK
TWO
NOVEMBER 2020

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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, pray that your students would connect celebration and gratitude. Ask Got to help you create a safe place in your group, a space in which kids will feel safe to be who they are and express themselves freely.

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1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, feathers, paper plates

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Invite** kids to put their offerings in the container.
- **Give** each kid a feather and a paper plate.
- **Challenge** kids to keep their feathers in the air for as long as they can by fanning it with their paper plates or blowing on them.
 - If a kid's feather falls to the floor, he/she is out of the game and must sit down.
 - The kid whose feather flies the longest is the winner.
- **Repeat** as time allows.
- **Switch up** the game by giving kids additional feathers to keep in the air or working with a partner or in teams to keep all their feathers flying.

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MADE TO PLAY

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: "Dance Moves" Activity Page, music source

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Give** each kid one of the "Dance Moves" from the Activity Page but don't let other kids know what you've assigned them. (If preferred, kids can come up with their own moves as long as they are silly and something the others can identify.)
- **Play** upbeat music as kids move around the room performing their signature dance moves as described by the name of the dance they were assigned.
- **Stop** the music after a few minutes and bring all the kids together.
- **Ask** kids to identify each dancer's unique style.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Cool moves, guys! This group can really dance but you'd be no competition for the guy in today's Bible story. **[Transition] Here's a clue: He not only dances but he can play the harp and throw stones around like a rock star.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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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



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Grateful Shout Out" Activity Page, scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Sit** together in a circle.
- **Remind** kids that we are focusing in on gratitude this month.
 - Today, in particular, we're celebrating what God has done—past and present.
 - Much of what we celebrate revolves around the character and qualities of God.
 - Because God has never changed, what He has done in the past or is doing right now will always be in keeping with who He is.
- **Hand** a copy of the "Grateful Shout Out" Activity Page and the scissors to one of the kids.
- **Explain** that the kids will take turns cutting off a section of the megaphone nearest one of the edges and follow the instructions printed on the portion they cut off.
 - If kids get stumped for ideas or answers, they can "shout out" to another kid for help.
- **Continue** until all the sections of the megaphone have been cut off.
- **Save** the pieces of the megaphone for use in "Verses to Take with You."

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*2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, stopwatch, paper, marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Invite** kids to sit in a line facing the same direction.
- **Explain** how kids will be reviewing today's Bible story.
 - One kid will stand and turn his/her back to the group.
 - You'll write on a sheet of paper an amount of time (in seconds), then you'll show it to the kids who are seated but not to the kid who is standing.
 - Once you ask a review question to the kid who's standing, the time will start.
 - Without knowing how long they have, that kid must try to finish his/her answer exactly when the time is up.
 - If they finish before you say STOP, they must continue giving additional information pertaining to the answer.
- **Change** the amount of time for each kid, varying the length from 5-15 seconds. If some of the questions do not get fully answered in the amount of time kids are given, come back and ask them again.

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Review Questions: (Refer to 2 Samuel 6:12b-22a for any clarification of answers or to create more questions for review.)

1. What would you say was important to David?
2. What was the name of David's wife?
3. Why did David's wife get so upset when she saw David dancing?
4. What might David have been saying while he was dancing?
5. Why was the ark of the Lord such a big deal?
6. Where were the people taking the Ark of the Lord?
7. If you could give Michal some advice, what would you tell her?
8. How did David celebrate what God has done?
9. What is one thing you want to remember from this story?
10. What did David stop and do on the way to Jerusalem?

- **Invite** someone to read Psalm 30:11-12 aloud. If kids are not aware, remind them that David wrote many of the Psalms, including this one.
- **Challenge** kids to consider ways they can follow David's example of gratitude and celebration for what God has done in the past and for what He is doing today.
 - David was so grateful for what God had done that he couldn't keep silent about it. What is something you can celebrate with that kind of excitement?
 - If you have a hard time finding something to be grateful for, what do you think needs to change?
 - Michal was clearly not as excited as David when the ark was returned to Jerusalem. What makes some people more grateful than others?
 - When we struggle to feel grateful, what are some things we can celebrate about God no matter what else is happening in our life?

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What's your favorite way to celebrate and worship God?
- If someone said to you, "I don't have anything to be grateful for," what would you say to help them realize that they do?
- Why does God deserve to be celebrated every day?
- A grateful heart is a happy heart. Agree or disagree?

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

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



4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, "Gratitude Party Planner" Activity Page, pens, pieces from the "Gratitude Shout Out" megaphone from "Take a Snapshot"

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Invite** a kid to read Psalm 9:1.
- **Ask:**
 - If you were to grade David for how closely he lived out the kind of gratitude expressed in Psalm 9:1, what grade would you give him? Why?
 - What grade would you give his wife, Michal? Why?
 - What grade would you give yourself? Why?
- **Remind** kids that we can always improve our gratitude grade. One way is to get creative in the way we show our thanks to God and to others.
- **Invite** kids to work with a partner to plan a party that will celebrate what God has done.
- **Let** them pick one of the character traits of God cut from the "Gratitude Shout Out" megaphone used in "Take a Snapshot."
- **Give** teams a copy of the "Gratitude Party Planner" Activity Page to help them organize their party.
- **Let** them imagine that they have no limit on how much they can spend, who they can invite, or where the party will take place.
- **Gather** back together after a few minutes and let kids share their ideas. Where possible, let them lead the group in one of the ideas they came up with, such as a song or game.
- **Challenge** kids to stretch their gratitude muscles this week as they look for creative ways to celebrate what God has done.

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TWO
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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: Bible, Pick-Up Sticks or prepared "Gratitude Stix"

WHAT YOU DO:

- **Read** Psalm 107:1 as a reminder that God wants us to celebrate what He has done.
- **Set out** the Pick-Up Sticks (or the Gratitude Stix you prepared in Week 1).
- **Follow** the same steps as in Week 1 for using the Pick Up Sticks.
- **Use** the following color chart (different from last week) to lead kids in prayer.
- **Modify** the prayer categories if your set of Pick-Up Sticks contains different or additional colors.
 - Red: Thank God for His power.
 - Green: Thank God for His love.
 - Yellow: Thank God for His goodness and holiness.
 - Blue: Thank God for the way He cares for us.
 - Orange: Thank God for sending us Jesus.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, You are worthy of our greatest expression of gratitude and our most joyful celebration. We praise You for what You have done in the past and look forward to all You will do in the future. We thank You for sending us Jesus. We know that we always have something to celebrate when we follow Him. In Jesus' 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 Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container
- Feathers; one for each kid
- Paper plate; one for each kid

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Dance Moves" Activity Page and cut into strips; one set for each small group
- Music source with upbeat song

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. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[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:

- Scissors
- Print the "Gratitude Shout Out" Activity Page and cut the outline of the megaphone; one for each small group

* 2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Stopwatch
- Paper
- Marker

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Pens
- Print the "Gratitude Party Planner" Activity Page; one for every two kids
- You'll also need all of the pieces cut from the "Gratitude Shout Out" megaphone from "Take a Snapshot."

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:

- Bible
- Pick-Up Sticks or prepared "Gratitude Stix" from Week 1

M
"SHOUT
OUT"

LET 'EM
KNOW YOU'RE
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TWO
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SMALL GROUP
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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**.