

## LESSON

The Last Supper  
John 13-17

## BIG QUESTION

### *How can we stay close to Jesus?*

We can confess, serve, pray and abide like Jesus taught the disciples to do at the Last Supper.

## LARGE GROUP

- Host will introduce the big question of the day and allow kids to respond.
- **WORSHIP**
- **BIBLE STORY-** The Last Supper
- Kids will then be split into two groups with their leaders. One group will go to rotation 1 in 324 and the other group will go to rotation 2 in 323. After 20 minutes the groups will switch.

## ROTATION 1

### Worship Stations

### 324

*Gather your group with you. You will go from station to station together.*

*You will have about 5 minutes at each station.*

### 1. Serve or Be Served?

#### • WHAT YOU SAY:

- Jesus set an example for the disciples of what it meant to be a leader- serve others.
- "When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." **John 13:12-17**
- Jesus showed us an example of serving others, even when it is uncomfortable or messy or gross! When we become more like Jesus, we become more focused on others and less on us.

#### • WHAT YOU DO:

- Have kids circle up. You will read them an action from this list and they will give a thumbs up if it is a way they can serve others like Jesus and a thumbs down if it is not.

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| 1. Play what you want to with a friend (no)  | 4. Letting someone else go first (yes)                 | 8. Including someone you don't know that well when you are playing with your friends (yes) |
| 2. Do your sibling's chore (yes)             | 5. Making someone else clean up your mess (no)         | 9. Making sure you are first in line (no)  |
| 3. Helping a classmate pick up pencils (yes) | 6. Holding the door for someone (yes)                  | 10. Sitting with someone who is alone (yes)  |
|  | 7. Complaining when you are asked to do something (no) |  |

## 2. Vine and Branches

- **WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Jesus told the disciples they needed to abide in him to be like him. To abide means to stay, remain, or live in one place every day.
- He said they needed to be like a branch attached to a vine.
- "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned."

**John 15:5-6**

- Unless we are connected to Jesus, we can't do anything!

- **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Have kids gather around the vine poster. Give each kid a leaf and have them write their name on it and attach it to the vine.

## 3. Confessing Sin at the Cross

- **WHAT YOU SAY:**

- After the last supper, Jesus died on the cross. The Bible tells us he died for us, to take on the punishment of our sin. All of us have sinned!
- The Bible tells us that we cannot save ourselves from our sin, and that is why Jesus died and took the punishment for our sin. The Bible also tells us that God will forgive us for our sins!
- "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." **1 John 1:9**

- **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give kids a card. Tell them that they do not have to write their name on it, but they can write a time where they did what they thought was best instead of what God said was best (sinned).
- They can confess that sin to God and tape it up at the cross.

## 4. Pray Like Jesus

- **WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Jesus showed the disciples an example of what it looked like to pray to God- just talk to him!
- He prayed about what was happening in his life, and he prayed for his friends and other believers too, including us today!
- "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me." **John 17:20-21**
- There are lots of ways that we can pray- we can write it down, talk out loud, pray in our heads, or even sing! We are going to practice praying for each other today.

- **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Have kids get into pairs (same gender). Tell kids that they will each share something that the other person can pray for for them. Then they will take a few moments to pray for each other

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**ROTATION 2**  
**Discussion and Snack**  
**323**

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*Each small group will be grouped around low tables. Let kids enjoy snacks while you discuss these questions. Encourage kids to think beyond the typical "church" answer.*

- 1. Why do you think Jesus chose to wash his disciples feet at the Last Supper? Why is his example important for us?**
- 2. When have you served others? When is it hard to serve other people?**
- 3. What do you think it means to abide?**
- 4. What things keep us from being connected to Jesus?**
- 5. Why do we need Jesus to die on the cross for us?**
- 6. How does confessing that we have sinned help us to stay close to Jesus?**

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## PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

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**Read** - Luke 23:44–24:12

In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!

**Luke 24:5-6a**

**Reflect** - How can you celebrate that Jesus is alive this week?

- A. I can invite a friend to come to church with me.
- B. I can share with someone the difference that Jesus makes in my life.
- C. I can confess sin and commit to following Him more closely.

**Pray** - Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to take the punishment I deserve for sin. Thank you that Jesus came back to life, defeated sin and death, and made the way for me to have a relationship with You now and forever. Help me to celebrate the truth of who You are and how much You love me every day. Amen..

**Prepare** - What difference does Jesus dying for sin, defeating death, and coming back to life make in your life and the lives of people around you?

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### **BIBLE STORY**

Jesus Is Alive

Matthew 26–28; Mark 15:33–16:8; Luke 23:44–24:12; John 19

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**For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.**

John 6:38

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### **BIG TRUTH**

*I AM SET APART.*

God cares about me.

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## **1. WELCOME & CONNECTION**

### **Roll the Stone Relay**

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**WHAT YOU NEED:** playground balls, cones

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Split kids into 4 equal-sized teams. Have each team line up about halfway back in the room.
- Set up a cone on the other end of the room, one cone for each team.
- Kids will go one at a time and roll their ball using only their fingertips around their cone and back to their team.
- The first team to have everyone go wins!

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Great job working together and cheering each other on!
- In that game, you rolled a ball around a cone. Today, we are learning what happened when the stone was rolled away from Jesus' tomb! He wasn't there because he had risen!

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## **2. WORSHIP & TEACHING**

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**The following before and after lesson scripts will be Large Group led. They are included in this curriculum for Small Group leader reference!**

**BEFORE THE LESSON:** Today we get to learn why we celebrate Easter! God has an invitation for all of us. We do not have to earn His invitation or even deserve it. We do not even have to be God's friend first or do a bunch of "good" things. God gives everyone in this room, in our community, and in the world an invitation to have a relationship with Him.

This is good news! Say, "Good news!" (Good news!) We do not have to be super smart, super strong, super good, or follow a list of rules to have a relationship with God. He invites us because He cares about us. When we accept God's invitation, we are set apart! God welcomes us into His family as His sons and daughters, and He helps us live in a way that shows others how much He loves us. God's invitation is the best invitation.

(Open the Bible.) The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. The Bible is made up of different books. There are four books about the life of Jesus that are called the Gospels. Turn to a friend and say, "Gospels!" (Gospels) Our Bible story today will help us see how God cares about us. Let's learn it together!

**AFTER THE LESSON:** What an amazing story! Jesus took the punishment for sin by dying on a cross. Not only did Jesus give up His life, He rose again on the third day. Jesus showed that He is stronger than death and sin. The whole reason we celebrate Easter is because Jesus is alive! Say, "Jesus is alive!" (Jesus is alive!) Jesus rose from the dead and is alive today, working in our lives and in the world. He did all of this because we matter to Him, and He cares about us. Say, "God cares about me!" (God cares about me!) God cares about us so much, He made the way for us to have a relationship with Him now and forever through Jesus.

**PRESENT THE GOSPEL:**

- **Circle 1-** God has cared about people since the beginning of time. God made the world and the people in it. His creation was good. God's perfect design for the world was for people to know and enjoy a relationship where we love and follow Him.
- **Circle 2-** However, the world is not perfect. When we look around, we can tell our world is broken. Things are not the way God designed. People experience suffering, sadness, sickness, and all sorts of "hurt." Our world is broken because of sin. Sin is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than follow what God says is best. The very first people God created sinned, and all people have sinned ever since then. Sin separates us from God and deserves to be punished. Even when we try and be good, we cannot be good enough to fix our sin problem. God knew we would need Someone to rescue us from sin and separation from Him.
- **Circle 3-** God cares about us so much; He sent Jesus, His only Son, to be our Rescuer. Jesus died on a cross, taking the punishment we deserved for sin. On the third day, Jesus came back to life, showing that He is the true King and more powerful than sin and death. Jesus promised that one day He would return and make everything new and perfect, like it was in the beginning. Everyone who trusts and follows Him will get to live with God forever!

Jesus did all of this because He cares about you. Say, "Who, me?" (Who, me?) Yes, you! God loves you so much; He made the way for you to have a relationship with Him. God wants a relationship with you, not because of anything you have done or because you follow instructions and do everything right. God invites you to a relationship with Him because you matter to Him. He cares about you.

We can accept God's invitation when we trust and believe the truth about Jesus. We believe that Jesus is God's Son, He died on a cross for our sins, and He rose again. We admit that we need Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins. We turn away from our sin so we can trust and follow Jesus. If you have never accepted God's invitation or want to know more about following Jesus, talk with me or your Leader. We would love to talk with you!

Everyone, say, "But wait, there is more!" (But wait, there is more!) When we trust and follow Jesus, He changes us from the inside out. We are set apart from the world, and our lives look different than they did before. They also look different than other people around us. God works in and through our lives so we can love Him and point others to Him. God loves and cares about us so much; He sent Jesus to make the way for us to have a relationship with Him. Now we can live our lives with Him and for Him. We can live set apart! Say, "I am set apart!"

### 3. SMALL GROUPS

- 1. The Bible tells us that Jesus died on the cross and is alive now, showing the world how much God cares about us. Let's open our Bibles to Luke 24:5-6a and read about it together.**
  - o Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.
- 2. The women witnessed the rolled-away stone and saw the empty tomb. They had hope, trusting the good news that Jesus was alive. How does the truth that Jesus is alive give us hope, helping us look forward to something good we know will happen?**
  - o We can trust Jesus has power over sin and death. Nothing is impossible for Jesus. Jesus makes the way for us to have a relationship with God forever.
- 3. God showed His love by sending Jesus to die for our sins. Jesus rose again, defeating sin and death! Why do you think Jesus dying and coming back to life matters?**
  - o Jesus made the way for us to have a relationship with God because only He could defeat sin. If Jesus died and stayed dead, then He would just be an ordinary man. But because He rose again, this shows He is more powerful than sin and death. This shows what He said in the Bible is true.

**PRAY TOGETHER:** God, thank You for loving and caring for us. Thank You that we can celebrate Easter because You sent Jesus to make the way for us to have a relationship with You. Help us believe the truth of who You are and what You have done. Help us to live our lives by pointing others toward You. Amen.

### 4. GOSPEL CONNECTION

**WHAT YOU NEED:** 3 Circles/ABC Sheet, Sticky Notes

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Show kids the 3 circles side of the paper. It will be prepped with sticky notes covering the circles. Starting at the circle representing God's plan, work your way around the circle and take the sticky notes off, having the kids help you to explain the gospel as you go.
- Then flip the page over and show them the ABCs.
- **SAY:** This is how we can respond to the good news about Jesus! When you get an invitation to a party, you have to respond to tell the host if you are coming or not! We don't want you to just hear the good news about Jesus, but to respond to it too. We can do this by admitting we are sinners, believing that only Jesus can save us from our sin, and choosing to follow him with our life!
- Tell kids if they are ready to respond to that good news today, they can share that with their parents at checkout!

## ACTIVITY

### Jesus is Alive Cross

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Clear contact paper sheets, black cross cutouts, tissue paper circles, bowls for tissue paper, black permanent markers, scissors

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a half sheet of clear contact paper. Have them peel off the backing and lay it, sticky side up, on the ground or table in front of them.
- Have kids attach the black cross outline to the contact paper.
- Then have kids cover the inside of the cross area with tissue paper circles.
- Once the cross area is filled in, have them use another half-sheet of contact paper to seal in the paper cross and tissue paper pieces.
- They will write JESUS IS ALIVE on their cross. If time allows, have kids cut out their cross shape

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

- You made excellent crosses. Jesus died on a cross to take the punishment for our sin, making the way for us to have a relationship with God. When Jesus rose again on the third day, He defeated sin and death. God shows His care by inviting us to turn from sin and follow Jesus.

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## PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

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**Read** - 1 Peter 1:13-25

Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

### 1 Peter 1:13

**Reflect** - In what area of your life do you need to prepare your mind and center your thoughts on God and His Word?

- A. My thoughts and attitudes at work.
- B. My thoughts and attitudes at home.
- C. My thoughts and attitudes in my community.

**Pray** - God, help me with my thoughts this week. Help my mind to stay on You so I can obey You and turn away from anything that could distract me. Thank You for helping transform me from the inside out. Amen.

**Prepare** - What does it mean to live in a way that is holy (set apart and different), and what part do our thoughts play in living that way?

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### **BIBLE STORY**

Living for Jesus  
1 Peter 1:13-25

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**For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.**

John 6:38

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### **BIG TRUTH**

*I AM SET APART.*

God cares about my thoughts.

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## **1. WELCOME & CONNECTION**

### **Three Things**

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**WHAT YOU NEED:** None

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Split kids into teams of 6-8 and have them circle up.
- Instruct kids that they will be going around in the circle introducing themselves and telling three facts about themselves: 2 that are true and 1 that is false.
- Kids around the circle will work together to guess which one is false and then take their guess.
- The rest of the circle will take turns until everyone in the group has gone

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Wow, those were some interesting facts! It was so cool to see how you guys worked together to figure out which fact was false! Along with the fun, you also got to learn some pretty cool things about each other!

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## **2. WORSHIP & TEACHING**

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**The following before and after lesson scripts will be Large Group led. They are included in this curriculum for Small Group leader reference!**

**BEFORE THE LESSON:** What is on the inside—like our thoughts—impact what we say and do on the outside. When you have happy thoughts, you tend to be happy on the outside. When you have selfish thoughts, you tend to have selfish actions.

God cares about our thoughts, even if no one else knows what we are thinking. God knows that our thoughts make a difference in our actions. He made us to have thoughts that focus on Him. When we do, it helps us live out actions that set us apart and show others that we love and follow Him. Say, "God cares about my thoughts!" (*God cares about my thoughts!*) We live set apart when our thoughts are focused on God.

(Open the Bible.) The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. A man named Peter wrote a letter to encourage followers of Jesus to live out their faith, even when it was tough. This letter is found in a book of the Bible called 1 Peter. Say, "Let's check it out!" (Let's check it out!)

**AFTER THE LESSON:** Have you ever wondered if you can think about whatever you want as long as you do not say or do wrong things? Peter encouraged Christians that our thoughts matter because our thoughts affect our actions. When we have a relationship with God, He set us apart to have actions which honor Him and point others to Him. God calls us to work hard to set our minds on things that please and honor Him. When we believe in God, we are set apart to think in ways that love, follow, and honor God. Repeat after me: "God cares about my thoughts!" (*God cares about my thoughts!*)

Peter reminded Christians that both our thoughts and our actions should point others to God, even when life is difficult. What we think impacts how we live. If we are constantly thinking terrible things about people, we will not want to treat others well. If we keep replaying events in our minds of how someone upset us, it is going to be difficult to forgive that person. But when we have respectful thoughts like Peter wrote about, and when we think about Jesus returning, we will have respectful actions. Kind thoughts lead to kind actions. Forgiving thoughts lead to forgiving actions. What we fix our minds on affects how we function as people.

Our thoughts are not always good. That is why we need to set our minds on God. When we focus our minds and thoughts on Him, He helps us live our lives in the way He made us to live. When we trust and follow Jesus, we can live set apart. We are different than we were before we followed Jesus, and we are different than other people who do not follow Jesus. Say, "I am set apart!" (*I am set apart.*)

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### 3. SMALL GROUPS

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- 1. Would you rather be able to know what other people are thinking or always be able to tell people what you are thinking? What would someone learn about you if they could know your thoughts?**
- 2. The Bible tells us that God cares about our thoughts, and He calls us to honor Him in everything. Let's open our Bibles to 1 Peter 1:13 and read about it together.**
  - o Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.
- 3. Peter is encouraging believers to focus their minds on Jesus and the hope we have that He is coming again. Why does what we think about matter?**
  - o God desires for us to have thoughts that lead to actions that honor Him and point others toward Him. What goes through our brains influences our actions.
- 4. When sin entered the world, it impacted our thoughts. Even our minds can be filled with things that disobey God. How can focusing on what Jesus has done for us and what He will do for us when He returns change our thoughts?**
  - o When we become Christians, God makes us a new person and gives us a new mind, which means we think about old things in new ways. We think about what God says, and it changes how we live our lives.

5. The Bible tells us that God cares about our thoughts because He calls us to honor Him in everything. God transforms our minds and helps us think about things that please Him. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about?

**PRAY TOGETHER:** God thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Please help us all to honor You with our thoughts. Help us focus our thoughts on You so we can live in a way that shows we are set apart and follow You. Amen.

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## ACTIVITY

### Memory Verse Match

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**WHAT YOU NEED:** 2 sets of Memory Match

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Shuffle the two sets of Memory match and place cards on the table face down.
- Kids will take turns flipping over two cards trying to find a match.
- If a match is found, those cards will be put off to the side for when all the matches are complete and the player will return to the back of the line.
- If a match is not found, the player will go to the back of the line.
- Once all the cards have been matched, have the group put them in the right order and then say it aloud all together.
- Play as many rounds as time allows.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Great job matching the words of our Theme verse. It is incredible to know that Jesus came to do God's will and to rescue us from our sin. Jesus had His mind set on following God, and we can do the same! When we trust in Jesus, He helps our thoughts focus on God and helps us to live set apart.

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## PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

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**Read** - James 3

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

**James 3:13**

**Reflect** - Where can you grow in showing wisdom with your words?

- A. I can speak words that encourage, uplift, and build up others.
- B. I can avoid speaking words that hurt, harm, and discourage others.
- C. I can speak the truth in love and kindness..

**Pray** - God, You have given me the power to point others to You and help them grow with my words. Help me to honor you with what I say. Thank You for working through me to love and encourage others with what I say. Amen.

**Prepare** - In your everyday conversations, what helps you honor God and lift others up rather than tear them down?

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### **BIBLE STORY**

Controlling My Words  
James 3

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**For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.**

John 6:38

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### **BIG TRUTH**

*I AM SET APART.*

God cares about my words.

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## **1. WELCOME & CONNECTION**

### **Balloon Bounce Race**

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**WHAT YOU NEED:** Balloons (10 per group), timer

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Split kids into 2 teams .
- Instruct the kids that they will have 1 minute to keep the balloons in the air. Once a balloon touches the floor, it is no longer apart of the game.
- The goal is to be the team with the most balloons left in the air when the time is up.
- Play as much as time allows.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- That was super fun! Was it hard to communciate with each other? This game is a good reminder that we can use words to work together. God can help us to use our words to help each other!

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## **2. WORSHIP & TEACHING**

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**The following before and after lesson scripts will be Large Group led. They are included in this curriculum for Small Group leader reference!**

**BEFORE THE LESSON:** People remember what we said and why we said it. This can be a good thing when we use good words, and a not-so-good thing when our words are not so good. God cares about our words because words show what is in our hearts. Say, "God cares about my words." (God cares about my words.) When we love and follow God, He helps fill our minds and hearts with good things, which helps us speak words that are good for others and point them to God. When we struggle with the words we choose to use, we can ask God to help our hearts and minds be filled with His love and truth. We can use words that stick with people for a long time and help point them to God.

When we follow God, our words can point people to Him. We can use words that help and build up, rather than words that hurt, distract, or tear down. Our words are one way we can live out the truth that we love God. These words show that we are set apart. Say, "I am set apart!" (I am set apart!)

We are going to hear a story from the Bible, which is God's true message to us about Himself. Our story is found in the New Testament. Everyone, say, "New Testament!" (*New Testament*) The Bible is split up into two parts, the Old and the New Testament. The book of James, which is where we will be hanging out, is found in the New Testament. James encouraged people to live out their faith. Let's dig into the Bible together.

**AFTER THE LESSON:** James wrote these Bible verses a long time ago, but it is something we all need to hear today! James wrote that we all struggle in different ways, and one of those ways is with our words. Like a rudder can control a big ship or a bit in a horse's mouth can control the big horse, our words may seem small, but they control a lot. We can live in a way that we honor God in everything we do and say. Let me hear you say, "God cares about my words!" (*God cares about my words!*)

James encouraged Christians to live a life of peace, which helps others live lives of peace as well. We can do that with our words! You may be thinking to yourself, Do my words really matter? I am just a kid who says silly things at times! They aren't that big of a deal, right? The truth is that you matter and your words matter. Say, "God cares about my words!" (*God cares about my words!*) Jesus came to make the way for you to have a relationship with God forever. God sees you as valuable and significant. When you believe in Jesus, it changes everything! You become a new person—one who follows God and lives set apart for Him.

God works through Your words to help others and tell the world about Him. You can use your words to tell people about the best news ever—the hope of Jesus! You are not meant to blend in but to stand out. God sets you apart to shine brightly in a dark world. One way you do that is through your words.

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### 3. SMALL GROUPS

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1. **What is something someone said to you that you have never forgotten?**
2. **The Bible tells us that God cares about our words. Let's open our Bibles to James 3:13 and read about it together.**
  - o Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verse aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verse aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verse so everyone can follow along together.
3. **James is writing to encourage Christians to use their words for good. James said that our conduct, which is what we say, do and how we live our lives, should show gentleness that comes from wisdom. How can our words show that we trust and follow God?**
  - o Wise and gentle words build others up. These words can point others to God. These words encourage us and remind us of what is true and good.
4. **Our words carry power to either lift people up or tear them down. How can God help us use our words wisely?**
  - o When we believe in Him, Jesus helps transform our lives. God changes our hearts to follow Him with our words and actions.
5. **God can work through our words to show His love and share His truth with others. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?**

**PRAY TOGETHER:** God, You are so kind to us. Thank You for inviting us to follow You and use our words to tell the world about You! Help us turn to You and ask for help so we can use words that honor You. We love You! Amen.

## ACTIVITY

### Heart Check

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Heart printable, markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a heart cut out and marker.
- Remind kids that the Bible tells us that our words flow out of our hearts.
- Questions to help them:
  - *What fills my heart at school?*
  - *What fills my heart at home?*
  - *What fills my heart online?*
- Give the kids a chance to check their hearts and then instruct them to write the words that they feel honor God within the heart.
- At the bottom of the page, have them fill in the blank: *"This week, I want my words to be more \_\_\_\_\_."*
- Have them take this home as a reminder to fill their hearts with good, uplifting words and thoughts that honor God.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- As you look at your heart, remember that God is growing good things inside you. When your heart is filled with His love, your words can encourage others and show them what following Jesus looks like."

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## PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

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**Read** - Philippians 2:1-18

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

### Philippians 2:3-4

**Reflect** - How can you live with humility and look out for the interests of others?

- A. Ask someone for a specific need that I can help fulfill.
- B. Say yes to an opportunity that will mean a lot to someone else.
- C. Reach out to someone who is lonely and struggling and offer my time.

**Pray** - Thank You, God, for giving me an incredible example of humility in Jesus. Help me to live like Him, caring for and loving others with kind and humble actions. Amen.

**Prepare** - What does it mean to "consider others as more important than yourselves"? What kind of actions demonstrate that type of humility?

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### **BIBLE STORY**

Humble Actions  
Philippians 2:1-18

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**For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.**

John 6:38

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### **BIG TRUTH**

*I AM SET APART.*

God cares about my actions.

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## **1. WELCOME & CONNECTION**

### **Opposite Pictures**

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**WHAT YOU NEED:** White boards, dry erase markers, dry erasers, example papers in a cup

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Break kids up into two groups.
- Invite a kid up from each group.
- Tell the kids that they will be drawing a picture that goes along with the word you say.
- The teams will be trying to guess the opposite of the word based on the picture.
- First team to guess the opposite of the word, get a point.
- Play several rounds.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Amazing job drawing pictures and guessing the opposite! Opposites are totally different from each other. Today, we get to talk about something else that is totally different—you! When you trust and follow God, He sets you apart. That means you get to be and live differently than you did before you followed God. You also get to be different in a really good way from the rest of the world.

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## **2. WORSHIP & TEACHING**

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**The following before and after lesson scripts will be Large Group led. They are included in this curriculum for Small Group leader reference!**

**BEFORE THE LESSON:** When we love and follow God, we can follow His example by living with humility. When we talk about living with humility, that means thinking of others first and serving their needs. Humility looks like caring for people in ways that show we love them. We live this way even when it is not easy for us. When we live with humility, we are able to point others to God and show that we live for Him. God cares about our actions, and He made us to live with humility. Say, "God cares about my actions!" (*God cares about my actions!*)

(Open the Bible.) The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. The Bible is made up of different books. Today's Bible story comes from a man named Paul who wrote a letter to people living in a place called Philippi (FIH lih pigh). Paul encouraged people to live with humility. Let's see what he had to say.

**AFTER THE LESSON:** Paul wrote that if we love and follow Jesus, the way we live changes. Other people may look out for themselves first and only want to take care of themselves. Sometimes, we may even feel that way. But this Bible story teaches that we can be different when we live with humility by putting other people first. Paul did not say we have to figure this out for ourselves! He wrote that we live this way by having the same attitude as Jesus. Paul wrote that Jesus obeyed God in everything He did—and we can too!

When we follow Jesus, we get to shine like stars! If we love Jesus, it shows. Our actions affect other people because our actions can help point people to God. We live like Jesus when we obey God and help others. We even show that we are set apart when we do not complain and do not argue. Jesus shines through us!

When we struggle with our actions, we can ask God to help us. We can read the Bible and follow the example of Jesus and other amazing people who loved God. We can even learn from and follow the examples of other amazing Christians in our lives.

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### 3. SMALL GROUPS

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1. **What are ways kids your age can be kind, helpful, and live with humility?**
2. **The Bible tells us God cares about our actions. Let's open our Bibles to Philippians 2:3-4 and read about it together.**
  - o Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.
3. **In today's Bible story, Paul wrote that people who follow Jesus live like stars that shine brightly. How can we live out the different things Paul listed in these Bible verses?**
  - o Suggested answers include not being selfish, not being proud and putting ourselves first, being humble, seeing others as more important than ourselves, caring about other people and not just ourselves.
4. **Jesus showed humility when He died to take the punishment for our sin. When Jesus rose again, He made the way for us to have a relationship with God forever. What does it look like for us to follow Jesus and live like Him with our actions?**
5. **How does today's Bible story help answer whether our actions affect others? What are ways we can have actions that honor God?**

**PRAY TOGETHER:** God thank You for the chance to open the Bible and learn about You. Help us to live set apart and live out the truth that we love and follow You. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from sin and give us the best example of how to live. Help us live our lives with actions that help others and honor You. Amen.

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## ACTIVITY

### Live It Out Puzzle

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**WHAT YOU NEED:** Puzzle (1 per kid), colorful permanent markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a puzzle and markers
- Have the kids write "Live Like Jesus" in the middle of their puzzle.
- Allow the kids to decorate the rest of the puzzle
- Encourage the kids to take the puzzle home and use it as a reminder that we are to "Live Like Jesus" everyday!

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- Each piece of this puzzle is important—just like the choices we make every day. When we choose humility, kindness, and love, we're living like Jesus, and all those pieces come together to show His heart to the world. Take this home as a reminder that no matter where you are, you can choose to live like Jesus.