
PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - Acts 13

For this is what the Lord has commanded us:

“I have made you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord;
and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

Acts 13:47-48

Reflect - Thinking about God’s command to be a light and bring salvation to the ends of the earth, which truth and Bible verse would be helpful to know when you have the opportunity to share Jesus?

- A. Jesus is the only way to God the Father. (John 14:6)**
- B. Sin deserves punishment, but Jesus offers forgiveness. (Romans 6:23)**
- C. We do not have to work to earn God’s love or salvation. (Ephesians 2:8)**

Pray - God, the gift of Your love and salvation through Jesus is the most important truth we could share with others. Thank You for this gift. Help me to remember that sharing Jesus is important. Open doors for me to share Him with others. Amen.

Prepare - Who are people in your life and community that would benefit from hearing the good news of Jesus? What can you do to allow God’s light to shine through you in their lives?

BIBLE STORY

Paul Told About Jesus
Acts 13–21

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:13

BIG TRUTH

I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS.
Sharing Jesus is Important.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

Sharing Telephone

WHAT YOU NEED: None

WHAT YOU DO:

- Have kids break into groups of 5–8 with a leader in each group.
- Everyone will get a turn to share one fun fact about themselves through playing the telephone game.
- The leader will start by whispering their fun fact to the person next to them. Each person will quietly whisper what they heard to the next person in line.
- When the message reaches the last person, they will say out loud what they heard.
- Continue playing until everyone has had a turn or until time runs out.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- That was so fun to hear you guys share your fun facts with one another. You know what else is fun? Sharing Jesus!

2. WORSHIP & TEACHING

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: Did you all know that Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God? Without Jesus, we don't have the hope that we have when we share about Jesus. Like only the right key can open a lock, only Jesus can make the way for us to have a relationship with God. It is important to share Jesus because He is the key to finding a relationship with God and being able to live with Him forever. Say, "Sharing Jesus is important!" (*Sharing Jesus is important!*) Jesus is the key to a relationship with God, and we want everyone to have it.

(Open the Bible.) Now we get to hear a story from the Bible. The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. The Bible has two parts that are each filled with different books. Our story today comes from a book in the Bible called Acts. Everyone, say, "Acts!" (*Acts!*) The word "Acts" might make you think about the word "action," and there is a lot of action in our Bible story today! Let's see how a man named Paul shared about Jesus to those near and far from him!

AFTER THE LESSON: This Bible story teaches us that we can have confidence when we share Jesus with others. Paul knew sharing Jesus was so important, and he needed to share Jesus with everyone. With who? (*Everyone!*) Even though Paul faced some hard times, like people disagreeing with him, going to jail, and even being hurt badly, Paul never stopped sharing Jesus. Since Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God, Paul knew it was the most important thing to share. Because Paul never stopped sharing Jesus, many people believed and started following Jesus!

PRESENT THE GOSPEL:

- **Circle 2-** We may wonder why Paul faced so many challenges when he was sharing such good news. People got angry, doubted Paul, and did not believe him. This happened, and it continues to happen because our world and our lives are deeply broken. Brokenness in our world is a result of sin, which is when we choose to do things our way instead of God's way. Sin breaks our relationship with God, and no matter how hard we try, we cannot fix this brokenness on our own. But Paul knew—and we can know—God loved us so much that He stepped in to rescue us from sin.
- **Circle 3-** God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserved for sin. Jesus died on a cross to take that punishment, then came back to life on the third day. Jesus showed that He is more powerful than both sin and death. Paul knew the truth that only Jesus could forgive sin. He knew that turning from sin to follow Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God. This is why Paul spent all those years traveling to tell people about Jesus!
- **Circle 1-** Jesus promised that one day He would return and make everything new. Everyone who trusts and follows Jesus will be made new too! These followers of Jesus will get to enjoy a perfect relationship with God forever, just like God designed in the very beginning. Paul wanted as many people as possible to trust and follow Jesus so they could have this forever relationship. That is why Paul shared Jesus nonstop.

Not only can we trust and follow Jesus, but we can also share the truth about Him with others, like Paul did. You may ask yourself, "What if people make fun of me or think I am weird when I talk about Jesus?" That did not stop Paul, Barnabas, Timothy, and Titus, and it does not need to stop us. We can pray and ask God to give us courage. And we can work together with others to share Jesus, like Paul and Barnabas did. Sharing Jesus is important, and God is with us when we share. That does not mean sharing Jesus will always be easy.

But when we remember how important it is and how much God loves the people around us, we can share the truth about Jesus in a kind and helpful way. Sharing about who Jesus is, why He came, and why we trust and follow Him is important. Let me hear you say, "Sharing Jesus is important!" (*Sharing Jesus is important!*)

3. SMALL GROUPS

- 1. The Bible tells us that we are here to share Jesus, and that sharing Jesus is important! Let's open our Bibles to Acts 13:47-48 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. Why do you think Paul was willing to go through hard things just to tell people about Jesus?**
 - o Paul knew the truth about Jesus. He died for our sins and rose again so we could be forgiven and have a relationship with God. That truth is good news for everyone!
- 3. Sometimes we can worry that people may make fun of us or think we are weird when we share Jesus. How can we still be brave and respectful when we share Jesus?**
 - o We can be honest and kind. We can share the truth about Jesus and God's love, which is good news. We can be brave like Paul and remember that sharing Jesus is important..

PRAY TOGETHER: God, thank You for sending Jesus to make the way for us to have a relationship with You. This is important good news we can share with others! Help us have an attitude like Paul and Barnabas, where we want to share You everywhere we go. Help us be brave and kind when we share Jesus with others. Thank You for loving us. Amen.

4. GOSPEL CONNECTION

WHAT YOU NEED: 3 Circles/ABC Sheet, Personal ABC Cards

WHAT YOU DO:

- Show kids the 3 circles side of the laminated sheet. Ask a kid to explain the 3 circles for the group.
- Flip the sheet over. Show kids the ABC side.
- Pass out an ABC card to each child. Give them a minute to fill in the missing words on their card by copying from the leader's sheet.
- **SAY:** This tool helps us understand and explain the good news about Jesus. The three circles show us God's design, how sin broke the world, and how Jesus is the only one who can rescue us and bring us back to God. The ABCs remind us how we can respond to that good news. We Admit that we are sinners, Believe that Jesus died and rose again to save us, and Choose to follow Him with our lives. If you are ready to respond to the good news about Jesus today, we would love for you to share that with your parents at checkout, and you can also talk with one of us before you leave!

ACTIVITY

Shield of Courage

WHAT YOU NEED: Shield printable, markers, and "I am here to share Jesus" printable

WHAT YOU DO:

- Display "I Am Here to Share Jesus" printable.
- Give each child a shield printable and markers.
- Explain that they will fill in the four sections of the shield with words or drawings based on these prompts:
 - **Where?** (Where can you share Jesus?)
 - **What to Say** (What could you say about Jesus?)
 - **Why Is It Hard?** (What makes it feel scary or difficult?)
 - **Who to Tell?** (Who could you share Jesus with?)
- Have them write "I Am Here to Share Jesus" at the top of their page.
- Allow the kids to decorate and color their shields.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- Your shields look so cool! Each part of your shield helps you think about how you can share Jesus in real life. Sometimes it can feel hard or even a little scary to talk about Him. But the good news is, we're not doing it alone. When we trust in Jesus, He gives us the courage, the words to say, and the boldness to share His love with others.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - Luke 24:13-49

He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Luke 24:46-47

Reflect - Jesus said that God's plan for the Messiah and people has been written. What helps you recognize who Jesus is and what His plan is for His followers?

- A. Spending time alone with God**
- B. Talking with others who love God**
- C. Worshiping and enjoying music about Jesus**

Pray - God, it is amazing to know that Your plan for salvation through Jesus has been Your plan from the beginning of the world. Help me to see and participate in my part of Your plan—sharing the good news of Jesus with others. Amen.

Prepare - How can recognizing what Jesus has done in your life remind you that sharing Jesus is God's plan?

BIBLE STORY

The Emmaus Disciples
Mark 16:12-23; Luke 24:13-49

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:13

BIG TRUTH

I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS.
Sharing Jesus is God's Plan.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

Reverse Charades

WHAT YOU NEED: Whiteboard, dry erase marker, dry eraser

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pick one child to be the Guesser. The rest of the room will be acting out the charades.
- Have the Guesser stand at the front of the room, facing away from the group so they cannot see the word.
- Show the rest of the kids the word or phrase on the whiteboard. Make sure the guesser cannot see it.
- Have the whole group act out the word or phrase silently until the Guesser gets it correct.
- Pick another kid and repeat until time runs out.
- Words/Phrases: Monkey, Swimming, Riding a bike, Brushing teeth, Basketball, Jesus walking on water, and Moses splitting the Red Sea.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- Great job! It was so cool to see you all work together to try to help the Guesser be correct! God's plan calls for us all to work together to share Jesus to everyone!

2. WORSHIP & TEACHING

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 share Jesus with those around us, we can set off a chain reaction. We share with one person, and then that person shares with another person, who shares with another person, and the sharing keeps going. Sharing Jesus is God's plan, and we get to be a part of it! God works through us to help others know the truth about who Jesus is and why He came, making the way for us to have a relationship with God forever. Say, I am here to share Jesus! (I am here to share Jesus!)

(Open the Bible.) Now, we are going to hear a story from the Bible, which is God's true message to us about Himself. The Bible has 2 parts and has 66 smaller books. Today's Bible story is in the second part of the Bible, which is called the New Testament. Our story is from two different books called Mark and Luke. We will hear about two people who followed Jesus, called disciples. Let's see what they had to say about sharing Jesus!

AFTER THE LESSON: Can you imagine what it must have felt like when those two disciples learned that they had been walking with Jesus the whole time? The Bible shows us through this story that we get to be a part of God's plan of sharing Jesus with others. After Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, the disciples had a lot of different feelings and questions. Jesus helped the disciples see that, not only was Jesus alive, but they were part of God's plan to help the world know the truth. And we can know that, when we trust and follow Jesus, sharing Jesus is God's plan for us too!

This truth—that God sent Jesus for us— is so important for us to tell others! How could we keep this to ourselves? You might ask yourself, *Can I share Jesus, even if I am just a kid?* Absolutely! Jesus taught that God always had a plan to rescue people from sin through His Son. Part of God's plan is for everyone who believes in Jesus to share the good news about Jesus with others. When you believe in, love, and follow Jesus, God's plan is for you to share Him with others, no matter how old you are! Say, "Sharing Jesus is God's plan!" (*Sharing Jesus is God's plan!*)

3. SMALL GROUPS

- 1. Tell me about a time when you needed to be a part of a team to make it work. Tell me about that team. How did your part make a difference?**
- 2. The Bible tells us that sharing Jesus is God's plan, and He invites us to be a part of that plan. Let's open our Bibles to Luke 24:46-47 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. Jesus told His disciples that His death and resurrection were always a part of God's plan—like sharing the truth about Jesus was part of God's plan too. The world would hear that they can be forgiven by turning away from sin and following Him. How can this story encourage us when we think about God's plan for our lives?**
- 4. Why do you think God wants everyone to know about Jesus and what He does for us?**
- 5. How does today's Bible story answer the question about whether or not kids your age can share Jesus? What can you do if you feel nervous to share Jesus?**
 - o It is God's plan for all people who follow Jesus to share Jesus, including kids. I can pray and ask God for help. I can read the Bible to remember God's plan.

PRAY TOGETHER: God, thank You that Your plan includes us. Thank You that You want us to be a part of Your family and that You work through us to share this good news with others. Help us to share Jesus everywhere we go! Help us remember that we are never too young to share Jesus and that You are always with us, helping us share. This is all part of Your plan! Amen.

ACTIVITY **Everywhere I Go**

WHAT YOU NEED: Grid Paper Printable, Markers, Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Grid Paper Printable.
- Ask them to trace their shoeprint on the grid paper and then cut out the shoeprint.
- Have them flip the shoeprint over and write: "Everywhere I go, I can share Jesus." on the side without the lines.
- On the side with the lines, have them write or draw places where they can share Jesus (school, home, sports, playground, etc.).
- Let them decorate the shoeprint, reminding them not to color over the words.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- All of you did such an amazing job on your shoeprint! As we go through this week, I pray that you will remember that sharing Jesus is part of God's plan! Your shoeprint is a reminder that everywhere you go—school, home, sports, or hanging out with friends—you have opportunities to show people who Jesus is.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - Matthew 13:1-23

But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown

Matthew 13:23

Reflect - Thinking about the story that Jesus told, what can motivate you to share Jesus even when it is challenging or seems hopeless?

- A. God is the One who knows what seeds of faith will grow.**
- B. God is honored when I share Jesus, even if people do not believe.**
- C. God can work through me when I share, even if I do not see the results.**

Pray - Thank You, God, for helping my faith in Jesus grow like seed in good soil. Help me to share Jesus and know that it is always worth it, even when sharing is difficult or when others do not seem to respond. Amen.

Prepare - When do you think it is easy to share the good news of Jesus and when is it difficult? How can your faith story remind you that sharing Jesus is worth it?

BIBLE STORY

The Farmer and The Seed
Matthew 13:1-23

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:13

BIG TRUTH

I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS.
Sharing Jesus is Worth It.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION
Where Do You Stand?

WHAT YOU NEED: Tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape a line down the middle of the room
- Have kids stand in a straight line in the center of the room.
- Instruct kids that you will be giving them two options and they are to decide which one they like the best.
- If it is the first option, they will move to the left side of the line. If it is the second, they will move to the right side.
 - Options: Pizza or tacos, Fruits or vegetables, Blue or red, Summer or winter, Live in a video game or a book, Going to the ocean or the mountains

WHAT YOU SAY:

- That was fun to learn more about each other. Some of us made very similar choices, and others made different choices. But one thing we can all stand on is that we are all here to share Jesus and it is worth it!

2. WORSHIP & TEACHING

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 share Jesus, it is like planting a seed. It may take time—like how it takes time for an apple seed to grow into an apple tree that produces apples. But God can work through us when we share Jesus. When we share, God helps the people we share with to believe and grow in Him, and then they get to share Jesus with others! You never know what God will grow from it! Repeat after me, "Sharing Jesus is worth it." (*Sharing Jesus is worth it!*) When we share Jesus, it is like planting a seed! We get to watch God help people grow, so sharing Jesus is totally worth it!

(Open the Bible.) Now we get to hear a story from the Bible. The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. Today, our Bible story comes from chapter 13 of a book called Matthew. In this Bible story, Jesus shares a parable. Parables are stories Jesus told to teach about God and His Kingdom. This parable follows a Farmer and a Seed. Let's check it out!

AFTER THE LESSON: Jesus taught using parables, like this parable about the farmer and the seed, to teach people important truths about Himself and the kingdom of God. This farmer planted seed in four different places, but only one place grew the seed and produced fruit.

Jesus did not just tell this parable—He explained it! Like the seed landing in different places, different people hear the truth about Jesus and respond in different ways. Some people believe, and some people do not. But that does not mean we only share Jesus when we know for sure someone will believe. Like a farmer spreading seed everywhere, we can share Jesus with everyone. Because God is the One who helps people know and believe in Him, we can know sharing Jesus is always worth it.

As we grow in God, we get to share the truth about Jesus with others. When we do, it is like throwing and growing seeds. Some people will be excited to hear about Jesus, but others may not. You might worry that your friends do not want to follow Jesus or they are not interested in hearing about why you follow Jesus. Some people will hear and not believe, and some people will. We do not know who will believe and who will not, but God does. That is why it is a good thing and worth it for us to share Jesus with everyone that we can! When people trust and follow Jesus, they “bear fruit.” These people share Jesus with more people, who share Jesus with more people, who share Jesus with even more people. When we share Jesus, God works through us to help people know and grow in Him.

3. SMALL GROUPS

- 1. What are some qualities that make a good farmer or gardener? What about some qualities that would make for a terrible farmer or gardener?**
- 2. The Bible tells us that sharing Jesus is worth it, even when we do not always see what happens right away. Let's open our Bibles to Matthew 13:23 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. This Bible verse describes the person who hears the truth and lives it out, growing and bearing fruit and sharing Jesus with more people. How can we sow seed and share Jesus in ways that might make people want to learn more about Jesus?**
 - o When we share Jesus with kindness and are a good friend, people will be more willing to ask questions and want to learn more when we share with them. We can share about the difference Jesus has made in our lives, not just facts about Him.
- 4. Why do you think God works through people like us to share Jesus rather than just doing everything Himself?**
- 5. If people do not want to listen to you talk about Jesus, is sharing Jesus still a good thing? What can we do in those situations?**

PRAY TOGETHER: God, thank You for loving us and sending Jesus so we can be part of Your family. Help us to remember that sharing Jesus is worth it. Even if people may not be ready to listen or ask more about You, help us know that every chance we get to share about You is worth it. Thank You for helping us grow in You and for working through us to help others know You. Amen.

ACTIVITY

Trade or Keep?

WHAT YOU NEED: Index Cards, Markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give kids 5 index cards and a marker. Have them write one number on each card: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
- Collect all the cards and shuffle them together.
- Deal one card face down to each player. Players may look at their card but keep it secret.
- Explain that the goal is to end the round without having the lowest number.
- On their turn, the player decides to "Trade" or "Keep."
- If they say "Trade," they trade cards with the player on their left. If they say "Keep," they keep their card and the next player takes their turn.
- Special rule: If someone asks to trade with a player who has a 5, that player can say "No trade!" and reveal their 5.
- When the turn gets back to the leader, the leader can keep their card or draw the top card from the deck.
- After everyone has had a turn, everyone flips their card over.
- The player(s) with the lowest number gets 1 point against them.
- Collect the cards, shuffle, and play another round.
- The goal of the game is to have the fewest points by the end of the game.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- That game was fun. When you had a four or five, it was easy to keep your card. If you had a one or two, you probably wanted to trade. And if you had a three, it was harder to decide. Sometimes sharing Jesus can feel like that, we're not sure what will happen. But sharing Jesus is always worth it. Even if we don't know how someone will respond, God can use us when we choose to share about Him.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - Acts 2

With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Acts 2:40-41

Reflect - The disciples in the early church witnessed amazing things when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Which part of their story do you think is the most exciting?

- A. The way the disciples were empowered with boldness**
- B. That people were drawn to listen and believe**
- C. The rapid growth that happened in the church**

Pray - God, the same Holy Spirit that You poured out at Pentecost is the same Holy Spirit that fills Christians today. Fill me with boldness and help me share Jesus with passion. May I always remember that sharing Jesus is exciting. Amen.

Prepare - Have you shared Jesus with someone? If so, what happened? How can our own stories and stories from others show that sharing Jesus is exciting?

BIBLE STORY

The Holy Spirit and the Church
Acts 2

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:13

BIG TRUTH

I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS.

Sharing Jesus is Exciting.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

Keep It Moving

WHAT YOU NEED: Bean Bags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Split kids into teams of 8–10 and have them circle up.
- Give one kid a bean bag to start.
- Kids will toss the bean bag to someone in the circle. If they drop the bean bag at any point, their team is out.
- Continue until everyone has caught the bean bag once.
- Leader will then add in another bean bag and they must try to keep both bean bags going at the same time.
 - Challenge: Have kids say the name of the person they are tossing the bean bag to.
- Play until only one team is left!

WHAT YOU SAY:

- Great job! It was so exciting to see you all work together to try to keep the bean bags in the air. When we work together, amazing things happen!

2. WORSHIP & TEACHING

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:BEFORE THE LESSON: The truth about Jesus is something too good to keep to ourselves! Jesus loves us so much that He makes the way for us to have a relationship with God now and forever. When we follow Jesus, we get so excited about His love that we share Him with others. And when we share Jesus, exciting things happen! God works in the lives of people to help them know and follow Him too! Say, "Sharing Jesus is exciting!" (Sharing Jesus is exciting!)

(Open the Bible.) Let's jump into our Bible story! We are going to hear about what the Bible, God's true message to us about Himself, has to tell us about sharing Jesus. Today's Bible story comes from the book of Acts. The book of what? (Acts!) Acts is one of the 66 books that are part of the Bible, and it is in the second part of the Bible called the New Testament. In today's story, we will learn about the Holy Spirit and the Church!

AFTER THE LESSON: What an exciting story! Peter and the other disciples knew the truth about Jesus. Then God filled them with the Holy Spirit, and they were able to share Jesus so people from different places who speak in different languages could all understand what the disciples were saying. How exciting! Peter boldly shared the truth about Jesus and encouraged everyone listening to repent, which means turning from their sin and following Jesus instead. The people did not just listen—they believed! That is even more exciting! So many lives were changed because Peter and the disciples shared the truth about Jesus

When we trust and follow Jesus, that is the best decision we can ever make. It is so exciting that we cannot keep it to ourselves! The same Holy Spirit we heard about in our Bible story fills us too. We can share Jesus, and when we do, God moves in amazing ways and helps others believe and follow Him too! Then we get to enjoy new relationships with people who follow Jesus too!

3. SMALL GROUPS

- 1. What is something exciting that has happened or is coming up that you can share with the group?**
- 2. The Bible tells us that sharing Jesus is exciting because God can use our words to help others believe! Let's open our Bibles to Acts 2:40-41 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. The Holy Spirit filled Peter, who told a big crowd all about Jesus. That day, thousands of people believed in and followed Jesus! Why is it exciting when people put their faith in Jesus?**
 - o Peter and the believers got to see lots of people trust and follow Jesus. It is exciting because so many people's lives were changed when they heard about Jesus and believed in Him
- 4. What can we share about Jesus, and what can happen in people's lives when we do?**
 - o Jesus died and came back to life to take the punishment for our sin. He made the only way for us to be a part of God's family. When we share that news with others, they can turn from sin and have a forever relationship with God too.
- 5. The Bible tells us sharing Jesus is exciting! In today's story, we saw how God worked through Peter and the disciples so that thousands of people believed in Jesus. God can work through you too. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?**

PRAY TOGETHER: God, thank You so much for sending the Holy Spirit and working through the disciples to help so many people know and follow You. Thank You that You work through us in the same way. Sharing about Jesus is exciting! Help us be bold and brave to share Jesus and work through us to bring exciting changes in people's lives! Amen.

ACTIVITY

Sharing Jesus With...

WHAT YOU NEED: Cards, Markers, Stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a card and an envelope.
- Explain that they will write a note to someone who doesn't know Jesus, telling them about Him.
- Encourage kids to think of someone in their life they could give the card to (a friend, neighbor, or family member). Help them think of kind words they can write about Jesus.
- After writing their message, let kids decorate and color their cards.
- When they are finished, encourage them to give the card to the person they thought of as a way to share Jesus with them.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- You all did a great job writing your notes! This week we've learned that sharing Jesus is important, it's part of God's plan, and it's worth it. I'm praying for you as you give your cards to someone this week.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - Hebrews 11

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:1-3

Reflect - What step of faith is God currently calling you to take?

- A. Turn away from temptation and trust Him for healing
- B. Say yes to an opportunity that seems challenging or uncomfortable.
- C. Share what God is teaching you with someone else

Pray - God, You have given me so many examples of faith-filled people in the Bible and in my own life. Grow me in my faith, helping me to live fully for You. Help me know that You are good, loving, and always with me. Thank You for leading me to have faith because You sent Jesus to make the way to have a relationship with You—and nothing will change that. Amen.

Prepare - Whose faith inspires your faith journey? How has God worked through that person to help you grow in your relationship with Him? Who do you think you can inspire in the same way?

GAMECHANGER WEEKEND

God Leads Me to Have Faith

BIBLE STORY

Heroes of the Faith
Hebrews 11

This is Gamechanger weekend! That means that we will be in Large Group time for the entire service. Split kids into 4 teams- red, blue, yellow, and green.

INTRO

WHAT YOU SAY: Today is a gamechanger! That means that today we celebrate all that God does to change the game for us!

Today we get to learn that God leads us to have faith! When we have faith in Jesus, our lives change, and we get to experience the goodness of His love. Our faith in Jesus is a real game changer. Everyone say **"God Leads Me to Have Faith"**

GAME 1- Puzzle Relay

WHAT YOU NEED: Puzzles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Have kids line up with their team.
- Instruct them that they will be racing to see which team can complete their puzzle first.
- On start, one by one, each kid will go to the puzzle in front of their team and put a piece together. Once that player completes their piece and returns, the next player will then go.
- The first team to complete their puzzle wins. Play until all teams have completed their puzzle!

• **POINTS-**

- 1st place-1000, 2nd place-750, 3rd place-500, and 4th place-250

WHAT YOU SAY: That was intense! Was it hard to try to figure out the puzzle in such a short amount of time? In our story today, we're going to see that no matter what we face—hard times or good times—we can always have faith in Jesus.

GAME 2- Tower Tumble

WHAT YOU NEED: Cups, Balloons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Choose one kid from each team to come to the front.
- Give each player 3 cups and 1 uninflated balloon.
- When the leader says "Go!", players will:
 - Stack the 3 cups into a pyramid (two on the bottom, one on top).
 - Inflate their balloon.
 - Release the air from the balloon toward the cups to try to knock down the pyramid.
- If the cups don't fall, players can inflate the balloon again and keep trying.
- The first player to knock down their cup pyramid wins the round for their team.
- **POINTS-**
 - First team done- 1000
 - Second team done- 750
 - Third team done- 500
 - Fourth team done- 250

WHAT YOU SAY: You all did such an amazing job stacking and knocking down your towers! The truth is in this game, the towers tumbling was a good thing, but sometimes in life, it might feel like our life is tumbling out of control, and that does not feel like a good thing, does it? At times, we might go through some really tough situations. Without faith in Jesus, it could be easy to feel like we are getting tossed around like those plastic cups in our game.

WORSHIP AND LESSON

BEFORE THE LESSON: The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. This means that the Bible is filled with amazing real people and true events that happened in history! God has given us the Bible to help us know more about Him and His plan for the world. We can read about amazing men and women who followed God and pointed others to Him. We do not just learn about their stories; we can learn from their example about what it means to live with faith and follow Jesus. Say, "God leads me to have faith!" (God leads me to have faith!) The true Bible stories about these people show how God worked through them to lead others to game-changing relationships with Jesus. We can also share how Jesus changes the game for us!

(Open the Bible.) Now we get to hear from the Bible—God's true message about Himself. We can read about a lot of people in the Bible who had faith in God and followed Him closely because they believed and trusted Him. Today's Bible story comes from the book of Hebrews, which is in the second part of the Bible. Everyone, say, "Hebrews!" (Hebrews!) In the book of Hebrews, there is a chapter that tells us about a lot of these people that had faith even when they went through tough times.

AFTER THE LESSON: We just heard about Abel (AY buhl), Enoch (EE nuhk), Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, and more in Hebrews 11. This chapter talks about people who trusted God even when they were not sure what would happen next. Like our Bible story said, having faith was not always easy for them. These people all died before Jesus came to earth, but they believed and trusted God and His plan, which pleased God! Some Bibles even call them "heroes of the faith" because they are people we can look up to and learn from their examples of great faith.

God kept His promise to send a Savior as part of His biggest plan! God sent Jesus, His own Son, to rescue people from sin. While the people we read about in Hebrews 11 had a lot of faith, we can know that the true hero of the Bible is Jesus. Jesus is the ultimate example of how we can live, and He is the ultimate hero because He rescues us from the punishment of sin. We can believe and trust in Jesus because, in Him, all of God's promises come true. We know that Jesus will come back one day because God always keeps His promises.

We are here to share Jesus, to share about His love for us and how He gave up His life so that we could have a friendship with God forever. Without Jesus, we would still be separated from God because of our sin. But Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life that none of us could live, died the death that we deserve because of our sin, and rose again! Jesus defeated death and sin so that we could know and love God forever. Now that is worth sharing about and that is truly the biggest Game Changer of them all!

GAME 3- Game Changer Relay

WHAT YOU NEED: Gamechanger relay cards, bucket

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each team a bucket and Game Changer cards in their team colors.
- Have one leader from each team stand on one end of the Large Group area with the empty bucket.
- Another leader from each team should stand with the laminated stack of cards for their team and the kids lined up behind them.
- Explain what the symbols and numbers on each card mean.
- On your signal, the first kid in line will pull a card and complete that action.
- Point out to kids that most of the cards have them doing a challenge with a friend or multiple friends. They will go back to their team to complete those challenges! Once they are done, they will drop the card into the bucket and go to the back of their team's line.
- Start the game. At the end of 5 minutes, the team who has turned in the most cards to their bucket wins that game.
 - o **POINTS-** Award 100 points per card in that team's bucket.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- That game is always such a Game Changer! We have learned today that God leads us to have faith, and that is good news for us!
- Great job, everyone! Go ahead and take a seat! If you have any cards left, give them to your leader to count. Leaders, let me know how many your team got!