
PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - John 6:1-15, 22-59

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

John 6:35

Reflect - What can help you when you doubt or struggle with your faith?

- A. Look for answers in the Bible.
- B. Talk with a wise and godly friend.
- C. Pray and ask God to help me believe.

Pray - God, thank You for making truth something that is knowable and life changing. Help me to always know the truth, follow the truth, and share the truth with others. Amen.

Prepare - How can knowing that Jesus is the only truth motivate you to share Jesus with others?

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is the Bread of Life
John 6:1-15,22-59

Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'

John 14:6

BIG TRUTH

*I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS
BECAUSE...*

Jesus is the only truth.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

Walk to the Truth

WHAT YOU NEED: Slides on screen

WHAT YOU DO:

- Encourage kids to listen to each statement and decide if it is true or false.
- Prompt kids to move to the left side of the room if they think a statement is true, or the right side of the room if they think a statement is false.
- Show the first slide and read the statement on the slide.
- Give kids time to run to one side of the room after the first statement.
- Show the next slide to reveal whether the statement is true or false.
- Repeat this process for all six statements.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- Everyone did a great job! Deciding whether some of those statements were true or false was tricky! We know it is good to tell other people the truth. One true thing that we can pass on is the truth about 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: Do any of you like dessert or candy? Sweet treats taste great and fill us up for a little bit, but then we will be hungry again. Food doesn't last forever! What does last forever is a relationship with Jesus. The Bible, which is God's true message to us about Himself, tells us that Jesus is the Bread of Life. Let me hear you say, "Jesus is the Bread of Life!" (Jesus is the Bread of Life!) That doesn't mean that Jesus is actually bread. It means that Jesus always satisfies us. Satisfies means that He helps us feel complete and whole in Him. The truth is that when we follow Jesus, He fills us and helps us feel complete in Him more than anything or anyone else.

(Open the Bible.) The Bible contains 66 different books, and today's Bible story is from the book of John. The book of what? (John!) The book of John is in the New Testament, the second part of the Bible. John tells us lots of information about Jesus' life and ministry while He was on earth. Let's learn about how Jesus is the Bread of Life.

AFTER THE LESSON: Jesus fed thousands of people! Everyone, say, "Wow!" (Wow!) It would have been pretty amazing to be there and see that miracle! Only Jesus could do something like that—feeding so many people with just a small amount of food—because He is God. Jesus did not only perform this miracle—He told the people how they could always be spiritually satisfied, fulfilled, and have life in Him.

Jesus offers a full and whole life in Him to every person who trusts in Him! We can tell others about Jesus since He is the only truth. Everyone, say, "Jesus is the only truth!" (Jesus is the only truth!) Jesus is the only true way to have the full and complete life God made us to enjoy and the only true way to have a relationship with God.

3. SMALL GROUPS

1. **What is something fun that you feel like you could do every day?**
 - o Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer. Share that we can want to do fun things, but they won't last forever; Jesus is the Bread of Life that will satisfy us forever.
2. **Cake or other foods can taste so good when you are hungry! The feeling of being full does not last forever though. Jesus said He is the Bread of Life. What do you think that means?**
 - o Regular bread will only satisfy us for a little while, but Jesus satisfies us forever!
3. **The Bible tells us we can pass on the truth about Jesus. Let's open our Bibles to John 6:35 and read about it together. Jesus is talking about enjoying a satisfying relationship with God. How is the bread that Jesus gives us, that lasts forever, different than the physical bread He gave the crowd in the story?**
 - o Point out that Jesus satisfies forever spiritually, unlike physical bread that satisfies physical hunger for a little while.
4. **If a friend asked, "Who is Jesus?" what would you say?**
 - o Answers could include that Jesus is the One who always satisfies us because He gives us what we need most—life with Him forever.
5. **The Bible tells us that we are here to share Jesus with others. We know we can trust Him because He is the only truth. We can pass this truth on to others. Who is someone in your oikos that you can share this truth with this week?**

PRAY TOGETHER: Jesus, thank You for being the Truth. Thank You that we can always trust You. You are the Bread of Life and give satisfying life to everyone who trusts in You. You are always with us. Help us to share the truth about You with others, so that they can have a relationship with You too. Amen.

ACTIVITY

Feed the Five Thousand

WHAT YOU NEED: Feed the Five Thousand printable, paper plate, scissors, glue sticks, markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a feed the five thousand printable.
- Tell them to and cut out the loaves and fish from the printable.
- They will then glue their loaves and fishes on their paper plate.
- They will then write Jesus is the Bread of Life around the outside of the plate.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- The fish and bread on your plate would feed one or two people, possibly, but certainly not over five thousand! Jesus showed His mighty power by multiplying this little bit of food to feed everyone who was there. It was a miracle only God could do! Jesus satisfied their physical hunger, but then He told them something even more important and amazing—He is the Bread of Life. Jesus is the only One who could really satisfy them with what they really need—a forever life with God.

5. PICK UP

As kids leave, make sure they have their craft and take home activity page. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - John 10

I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:9-11

Reflect - How can knowing that Jesus is the Good Shepherd help you right now?

- A. I can be thankful knowing Jesus laid down His life for me.
- B. I can have joy knowing Jesus gives me abundant life.
- C. I can have peace knowing Jesus guards and protects me.

Pray - You are the Good Shepherd, and You care for me. Thank You! May I learn to always love and follow You. Help me to share the news of Your love and salvation with others. Amen.

Prepare - How can sharing about your relationship with Jesus help someone who is questioning or struggling with a relationship with Him?

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is the Good Shepherd
John 10:1-18

Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'
John 14:6

BIG TRUTH

I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS BECAUSE...
Jesus is God's only son.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

Follow the Leader

WHAT YOU NEED: None

WHAT YOU DO:

- Split kids into even-sized teams. Direct teams to line up.
- The kid in the front of the line is the leader.
- Instruct teams to follow the leader around the room and do the same motions as the leader.
- The trick is that the leader of the line cannot talk or explain what they are doing. Kids will have to carefully watch the kids in front of them to see what to do!
- From stage, signal teams to switch, directing the leader to move to the back of the line, and a new person is the leader.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- Great following! Go ahead and return to your seats.
- It can be difficult to follow your leader when you are in the very back of the line and can't see to the front. It could help when you looked at what your teammates were doing.
- Just like teammates helped you to follow the leader, we can help others know and follow Jesus by passing on the truth about who He is and how much He loves us! Everyone, say, "I am here to share Jesus!" (I am here to share 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: When we think about Jesus, we can know that He is like God because He is God! Jesus is God's Son—His one and only Son. When we trust and follow Jesus, we can know that we are trusting and following God because Jesus is God's only Son.

(Open the Bible.) Today our Bible story comes from the book of John. John is in the New Testament which is the second part of the Bible. What's the name of the book of the Bible for today's story? (John!) We learn a lot about Jesus' life on earth when we read the book of John. John tells us a lot about how Jesus loved, cared for, and taught people when He was on earth. Let's learn how today's Bible story helps us know that Jesus is God's only Son.

AFTER THE LESSON: Jesus said that He is the Good Shepherd, and His sheep will follow Him because they know His voice. Sometimes it can be hard to know who to trust and who to follow. Jesus tells us in this story that we should follow Him! He tells us that everyone who follows Him will be saved, meaning they will be able to have a relationship with God.

In the same way a shepherd leads, protects, and cares for his sheep and the sheep know and follow their shepherd, we can trust Jesus as our Good Shepherd. Ask, "Why?" (Why?) Because Jesus is God's only Son. Say, "Jesus is God's only Son!" (Jesus is God's only Son!) This is the best news, and we can pass on this news to others!

3. SMALL GROUPS

1. What do you think it is like to be a shepherd?
2. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. That means He always leads us to a forever relationship with God and helps us follow Him. **Let's open our Bibles to John 10:9-11 and read about it together.** We can trust and follow Jesus like a sheep following and trusting a shepherd. **How can we follow Jesus in our everyday lives?**
 - o Remind kids that praying, reading the Bible, and talking to others about Jesus are great ways to help us follow Him.
3. Jesus said that He sacrifices His life for the sheep. He took the punishment for our sin when He died for us and rose again. Jesus offers a relationship with God for anyone who confesses sin, repents by turning away from sin, and trusts that He is the only way to find forgiveness. What questions do you have about following Jesus?
4. Many of us come to know Jesus because someone in our life had courage and chose to share about Jesus with us. Who has shared Jesus with you?
5. Jesus is the most important person for us to know and share with others. Who is someone in your oikos that you can share Jesus with this week? What are some ideas for ways you can start that conversation?

PRAY TOGETHER: Thank You, Jesus, for being the Good Shepherd. You laid down Your life here on earth for us so that we can have life with You forever. Thank You for being God's only Son and leading us to God. You always lead us in the best and perfect way. Help us to follow You every day and share You with others. Amen.

ACTIVITY

Follow the Shepherd

WHAT YOU NEED: Blindfolds, hula hoops, cones, bean bags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pick one kid to be the shepherd. The other kids will be sheep. The sheep all need to wear blindfolds.
- Once sheep are blindfolded, use hula hoops, cones, and bean bags to set up a small obstacle course.
- The kid who is the shepherd will be directing the sheep, one by one, through the obstacle course, helping them to avoid the obstacles.
- Once all sheep have crossed safely to the other side, pick another kid to be the shepherd. Repeat as time allows.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- You all did a great job of following your shepherds! Was it hard to follow when you could not see? (Allow kids to answer.) Especially when you can't see where the shepherd is leading, it can be hard to follow.
- The good news is that we can always follow Jesus because we can trust where and how He leads us! Even if we can't see where Jesus is leading, we can trust Him and follow Him because He is God's only Son.

5. PICK UP

As kids leave, make sure they have their craft and take home activity page. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - John 14:1-14

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

John 14:6-7

Reflect - Which statement about Jesus encourages and inspires you the most?

- A. Jesus is the way—the only way to heaven and a relationship with God.
- B. Jesus is the truth—the only truth about salvation.
- C. Jesus is the life—the only way to true life now and forever.

Pray - God, You are the only way, truth, and life. When I am tempted to doubt or go another way, bring me back to You. Help me be bold in sharing this most amazing and important truth. Amen.

Prepare - How can the truth about Jesus help someone who is confused about life and the state of the world?

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is the Way, the Truth,
and the Life
John 14:1-14

**Jesus told him, 'I am the way,
the truth, and the life. No one
comes to the Father except
through me.'**
John 14:6

BIG TRUTH

*I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS
BECAUSE...*
Jesus is the only way.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

Shake and Share

WHAT YOU NEED: Pom Poms, dice

WHAT YOU DO:

- Have kids circle up with their small groups.
- Each group will have a pair of dice and a pile of pom poms.
- Kids will go around the circle, rolling the dice.
- If they roll an even number, they get 1 pom pom from the middle of the circle and give it to the kid sitting to their right.
- If they roll an odd number, they get 1 pom pom from the middle and give it to the kid sitting on their left.
- If they roll doubles, they get 2 pom poms from the middle and keep both.
- The goal is to be the person with the most pom poms at the end of the game!

WHAT YOU SAY:

- That game was all about sharing!
- This month, we are learning that we are here to share Jesus. In the same way you shared pom poms today, you can share Jesus with the people around you!

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: There is only one way that we can have a relationship with God. That way is through Jesus! The Bible tells us Jesus is the only way. We can trust that Jesus is the only way and the right way because God is the One who designed the way for us to have a relationship with Him.

(Open the Bible.) We get to share and pass on the truth from the Bible, which is God's true message to us about Himself. Today's Bible story is from the book of John. The book of what? (John!) We find the book of John in the New Testament, the second part of the Bible. John wrote this a long time ago, and he's passed on the truth to us today!

AFTER THE LESSON: Do you think Jesus' disciples were confused when He told them that they knew the way to where He was going? (Allow response.) It sounds like they were! Then Jesus told them that He is the way, the truth, and the life. He is the only way to God. They knew the way because they knew Jesus! Everyone, say, "Jesus is the only way!" (Jesus is the only way!)

Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God, and God offers this to everyone! God offers this to who? (Everyone!) This is an important truth to share so others can know how to respond and follow Jesus too!

PRESENT THE GOSPEL:

- **Circle 3-** Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, died on a cross, and rose from the dead to be our way—the only way—to God!
- **Circle 1-** When we have a relationship with God, He gives us a relationship with Him—one where we love and follow Him the way He created us to live. It's the way God designed from the beginning when God created the world perfectly. Everything in the world was perfect when He created it. There were no problems, no sadness, and no sickness. The people on earth had a relationship with God and spent time with Him.
- **Circle 2-** But those first people made wrong choices and changed their relationship with God and each other. The perfect creation God designed was ruined by sin. Sin is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than follow what God says is best. Sin leads to problems and brokenness. We all sin. The brokenness from sin breaks our relationship with God. Even when we try hard to be good and do what's right, we still sin and need to be rescued from sin. We need a way to fix our relationship with God.
- **Circle 3-** Jesus is the only way because He is the only One who can rescue us! Jesus took the punishment we deserved for our sin by dying on a cross. On the third day after Jesus died, He came back to life and showed that He's the King of everything—more powerful than both sin and death! Jesus gives us life now and forever with God.

Jesus said He was going to prepare a place with many rooms for His disciples, and they will be with Him in that place someday. This place that Jesus prepared is for everyone who follows Him. We can respond to Jesus when we confess our sin, ask Jesus for forgiveness, turn away from our sin, and believe that Jesus is the only way to find forgiveness and true life. When we trust and follow Jesus, He prepares a place for us with God the Father. It will be much greater than any of us can imagine, like things were before sin came into the world.

Jesus is the only way to be rescued from sin, to have a relationship with God, and to live with Him forever. Say, "Jesus is the only way!" (Jesus is the only way!) When we know this truth, we can pass this on and share the truth about Jesus with people like our friends and family so they can also know and believe that Jesus is the only way! Say, "I am here to share Jesus!" (I am here to share Jesus!) If you have questions or want to know more about trusting and following Jesus, talk with me or your Team Leader. We would love to pass on the truth about Jesus!

3. SMALL GROUPS

1. **What is the difference between following directions to a new place and just trying to figure it out on your own?**
 - o Share that we may or may not find a new place by trying on our own, but Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God.
2. **The Bible tells us we are here to share Jesus because He is the only way to God! Let's open our Bibles to John 14:6 and read about it together.** How does Jesus say that we can know God, His Father? (by knowing Jesus) **Jesus tells us that anyone who knows Jesus also knows God! How is it encouraging and helpful that Jesus said He is the only way?**
 - o Remind kids that we don't have to guess or wonder what's right or wrong. We can trust Him and follow Him.
3. **In what ways do some people think they can have a relationship with God without trusting in Jesus. Why is this not true?**
 - o Examples might include being a good person, praying every day, reading the Bible, trying to not sin. Remind kids that Jesus makes it clear that the ONLY way to have a relationship with God or have eternal life is through his sacrifice for us. We will never do enough "good stuff" to be right with God.
4. **We can all know God by believing and trusting in Jesus. Who can know God by trusting in Jesus? (All of us!) We can believe and trust that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life—meaning He is the way to have a life and relationship with God for everyone who turns away from sin and trusts in Him. Who could you share that with this week?**
5. **The Bible tells us we are here to share Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life. We can pass on the truth about Jesus being the way to God because we want everyone to know the way to have a relationship with God! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?**

PRAY TOGETHER: Jesus, You are the way, the truth, and the life. Thank You that we can always trust You and that You are the only way to have a relationship with God. You invite everyone to turn from sin and find forgiveness and life in You. Help us remember to follow You every day and pass on to others the truth of the life You give. Amen.

ACTIVITY

I Can Pass It On

WHAT YOU NEED: Bean bags (one for every pair of kids)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Split kids into 2 even lines. Have them sit down, facing each other.
- Kids sitting across from each other will pass a bean bag back and forth. When you tell them to stop, the kid holding the bean bag will share a way that they can share that Jesus is the only way with someone in their life this week.
- Once they have shared, have one line of kids move one spot to the left. The other stays seated where they are.
- Repeat as many rounds as time allows!

WHAT YOU SAY:

- You had some great ideas about how you can share Jesus! Everyone, say, "I am here to share Jesus!" (I am here to share Jesus!)
- When we know that Jesus is the only way to find forgiveness and find a forever relationship with God, it encourages us to pass on the truth to others.

5. PICK UP

As kids leave, make sure they have their take home activity page. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.

PREPARE: LEADER DEVO

Read - John 15

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"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.

John 15:4-5

Reflect - Where would you like to see God help you grow in this season?

- A. In my relationship with Him
- B. In resting in Him and not trying to earn His love or approval
- C. In producing fruit that helps others know and grow in Him

Pray - God, You invite me to remain close to You and to produce fruit that helps other people know You. Please be my reason, purpose, and motivation in all I say and do. Amen.

Prepare - How can a relationship with Jesus give life purpose and meaning?



BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is the True Vine
John 15

Jesus told him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'

John 14:6

BIG TRUTH

*I AM HERE TO SHARE JESUS
BECAUSE...*

Jesus is the one to follow.

1. WELCOME & CONNECTION

What Can You Do?

WHAT YOU NEED: What Can You Do? slides, beanbags, play-ground balls, balloons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Split kids into 2 teams.
- Call up one kid from each team.
- See which kid can complete the prompt on the screen first. Award a point to whichever team completes the task first.
- Call up different kids from each team each round.
- The team with the most points wins!

WHAT YOU SAY:

- You showed some great skills by doing the actions in unique ways. It's challenging to try to get something done when you can't do things the way you normally would. You might want or even need a little help.
- Today, we're going to talk about a great way we can help other people—by telling them what is true about Jesus! Jesus loves us and offers us the only way to have a forever relationship with God, and that is good news that we can pass on to others!

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: One of the purposes God has for you is to share Jesus with others. Jesus is the One to follow, because when we follow Him and stay connected to Him, He helps us live out our purpose by pointing other people to the truth about God and Jesus. We can pass on the truth about Jesus and help other people know and respond to Jesus by believing and trusting in Him. When we are connected with God, we live out the purpose God has given us!

(Open the Bible.) Today we are going to look in the Bible, God's true message to us about Himself. In our Bible story, we are going to learn more about Jesus. More about who? (Jesus!) Yes! And the more we know about Jesus, the more we can pass on to others.

AFTER THE LESSON: Jesus said that He is the vine, and we are the branches. Point up, and say, "Jesus is the vine!" (Jesus is the vine!) Point to yourself, and say, "We are the branches!" (We are the branches!) The vine is what makes leaves and fruit grow on the branches. Jesus told His disciples that He would remain connected to them if they remained in Him.

The great news is that Jesus remains connected to all people who put their trust in Him! It is only when we are connected to Jesus that we find lasting joy and true purpose. Jesus has a great plan and purpose for all of us, just like He had for His disciples—to follow Him and help other people follow Him too! He wants all of us to have a personal connection with Him and to trust Him with our lives.

Jesus invites everyone to respond to Him by trusting and believing in Him, turning away from sin, and following Him. We can follow Jesus when we obey Him, talk with Him by praying, love others, and "produce fruit"—which means we live lives that point others to Him. We can tell others about who Jesus is, how great His love is for them, and how He is the only reason they can have a relationship with God. He is the One to follow. Everyone, say, "Jesus is the One to follow!" (Jesus is the One to follow!)

3. SMALL GROUPS

1. **What is your favorite fruit? What does it take to make that fruit grow?**
 - o Share that, when we remain connected to Jesus, He helps us grow and produce "fruit" which are words and actions that help point others to Him.
2. **The Bible tells us we can share Jesus and share the truth that following Him is the way to have a relationship with God. Let's open our Bibles to John 15:4-5 and read about it together. Jesus said He is the True Vine, and following Him is the only way we can have a relationship with God. What does it mean to bear fruit like this Bible verse says?**
 - o Remind kids that fruit trees are fulfilling their purpose when they have fruit growing on them (when they "bear fruit"). Jesus is saying we are like branches, and when we are connected to Him as the vine, we will be fulfilling our purpose and showing our fruit to our oikos.
3. **What kind of fruit is Jesus talking about? Let's open our Bibles to Galatians 5:22-23 and read it together. If you follow Jesus, do you see these fruits in your own life? If you haven't made that decision yet, think about someone in your life who follows Jesus. Do you see fruit in their life?**
4. **How can we remain in Jesus?**
 - o We can trust and follow Jesus. We can spend time reading the Bible and praying. We can turn to Him when we need to make decisions or want direction. We can obey Him even when it is difficult.
5. **The Bible tells us that Jesus is the One to follow and, through Him, we can have a relationship with God. He took the punishment for our sin and forgives all people who confess and turn away from sin and follow Him instead. Everyone, say, "Jesus is the One to follow!" (Jesus is the One to follow!) What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?**

PRAY TOGETHER: God, thank You for sending Jesus so we can follow Him and have a relationship with You. Thank You for working through us so that we can bear fruit when we trust in You. Help us pass on the message of Your love and truth to others. Amen.

ACTIVITY

You Are The Branches

WHAT YOU NEED: You Are the Branches printable, green ink pads, baby wipes, fruit stickers, thin markers, fruit of the spirit printable

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a You Are the Branches printable.
- Have them use the green ink pads to put leaves on their branches with their fingertips. Once the leaves are on their branches, let them put the fruit stickers on their branches.
- Have them write a fruit of the spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) above each fruit sticker.
- Give them baby wipes to wipe off their hands when they are done.

WHAT YOU SAY:

- It's great to know that Jesus is the true vine, and we are the branches! This means that He is the One who works in us to bear fruit. The things we do that bear fruit are done by His power.
- Remember that one way Jesus wants us to bear fruit is by sharing Him with others. He is the only One to follow and, through Him, we can have a relationship with God!

5. PICK UP

As kids leave, make sure they have their craft and take home activity page. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.