
LEADER DEVO

God Forgives Me—God Gives Me a New Start

Read: Matthew 9:9-13; Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32

*"As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth.
"Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.*

While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

*On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
Mark 2:14,17*

Reflect: How can you live differently this week after receiving a new start from God?

- A. By showing forgiveness and kindness to others
- B. By making better choices that reflect God's love and purpose for my life
- C. By sharing with others how God has given you a new start

Pray: God, thank You for giving me a new start. Please let Your love for me spill out in my life so I can show others how Your forgiveness can change their lives too. I love you, Amen.

Prepare: How can the fact that God gives us a new start encourage us to share the good news of Jesus with others?



KINDER-1ST

October 4-5, 2025

God Gives Me a New Start

BIBLE PASSAGE

Jesus Called a Tax Collector

Matthew 9:9-13; Mark 2:13-17;
Luke 5:27-32

BIBLE VERSE

*"If anyone is in Christ,
he is a new creation."
2 Corinthians 5:17a*

AT-A-GLANCE

Super Clue:
Stopwatch

CRAFT/ACTIVITY:
Follow Me Train

POST-IT PRAYER WALL:

Pray together over the kids' requests, and encourage kids to take their prayer requests home with them so they can remember to pray for their oikos!

1. WELCOME & POST-IT PRAYER

- Greet the children with a smile as they come in.
- Before joining the welcome activity, ask them how their week was, or how they are feeling today.
- Have a post-it ready to write down their prayer request.
- Ask them for their prayer requests, and write it down.
- Have them go stick it on the prayer wall, then join the welcome activity.

2. WELCOME ACTIVITY

1. Make A Stopwatch

Supplies: "Make A Stopwatch" printable, Crayons, Single hole punch and Yarn

- Set out supplies.
- Have kids use crayons to decorate the stopwatch.
- Then use a hole punch to make a hole at the top of the stopwatch and help kids thread yarn in the hole and tie it.

2. Animal Actions

Supplies: Animal Actions Cards

- Set out the cards and help kids take turns acting out the animal action.

3. Rake It

Supplies: Bin of artificial leaves and mini pumpkins, tongs, buckets

- Invite children to fall-themed sensory activity!
- Encourage them to "rake" the colorful leaves using their hands, then use tongs to pick up both the leaves and mini pumpkins, transferring them from one bin to another.

4. Pumpkin Toss

Supplies: Pumpkins, Buckets

- Allow kids to connect with one another while taking turns tossing pumpkins into the buckets.

3. TEACHING SCRIPT

We are going to have so much fun today! Today's Big Deal is, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" A Big Deal is a special truth we can learn about God. Let's say it together. I'll say it first, and you can say it after me. *(Use motions.)* Redo! *(Redo!)* God Forgives Me and You! *(God Forgives Me and You!)* When God forgives us, He gives us a new start. Let's say, "God gives me a new start," together. Ready? "God gives me a new start." That is so amazing! God is so good.

WORSHIP SONG VIDEOS *Lead kids in worship through songs and motions.*

Hold up your Bible- It was so much fun singing with you! We have a great story from the book of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. I can't wait to learn more about it with you.

Let's look Inside our Super Box for a special Super Clue. The Super Clue and our Big Deal help us remember what we are learning about in the Bible.

MAILBOX / SUPER CLUE! *- Invite a kid to open the mailbox and see what today's Super Clue is!*

Wow! This is so cool! It's a stopwatch. You can use a stopwatch to start a race or a game, and you can also use it to time yourself. If you need to, you can stop the timer on the stopwatch and start again. I wonder how a stopwatch connects to our Big Deal, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" Oh, I have an idea! We can send the Super Clue to our friends—the Super Crew! They can help us know what to do. Let's send the Super Clue to them in the Clubhouse. They can tell us how a stopwatch connects to our Big Deal. Ready?

(Place the Super Clue back in the box.) Let's count down and press the "Go" button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

BIBLE STORY VIDEO *Have kids sit criss-cross applesauce while we watch our Bible story.*

Awesome! Thank you, Super Crew! In today's Bible story, Jesus invited a tax collector named Matthew to follow Him. Jesus gave Matthew a new start. He forgave Matthew for his sins, the wrong choices he had made. Matthew told other people about the new start Jesus gave him. God forgave Matthew, and God forgives us when we ask. We all sin, which means we all make wrong choices, and we need God to forgive us and help us. Our Super Clue today is a stopwatch. A stopwatch helps us remember that God forgives us and gives us a new start. Matthew made wrong choices and needed a new start. We all make wrong choices and need God to forgive us and give us a new start too. Jesus came so we can be forgiven and have a friendship with Him. Let's pray and talk to God. We can thank Him for sending Jesus. When we ask Jesus to forgive us, He does! Let's close our eyes as we pray. Ready? Let's pray in 3-2-1.

God, thank You for forgiving us. Thank You that Jesus came so we can be forgiven and have a friendship with You. Thank You for giving us a new start. We love you! Amen.

BIBLE VERSE VIDEO *Practice aloud with motions.*

or **BIBLE VERSE HANDOUT** *Follow directions from the handout if time allows. (Use this activity at any time.)*

Alright, boys and girls! It's time to sing our Oikos song!

OIKOS SONG

Great job, boys and girls! You have learned a lot, and have been such good listeners! Now it's your turn to get to talk... let's sit *(or lay)* in a circle for our Talk Time!



4. TALK TIME

Follow this guide to engage kids in discussion.

1. **Who remembers what our Super Clue is today?** *(a stopwatch)*
2. **What does a stopwatch help us remember?** *(Stopwatches stop and start again. They remind us that God gives us a new start.)*
3. **Have you ever seen anything totally new, like a newborn animal, a new flower growing, or a brand-new pair of shoes, can you describe it? How could you tell it was totally new?** *(Allow kids to answer and then share your own answer.)*
4. **How does God give us a new start?** *(Allow kids to answer. Remind them we get a new start because God makes us totally new when He forgives all our sins.)*
5. **The Bible tells us we are forgiven when we trust in Christ, and God gives us a new start. Let's open our Bibles to **Mark 2:14 and 17** and read about it together.** *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verses aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verses aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verses so everyone can follow along together.)* **Matthew chose to follow Jesus as soon as Jesus called him. What did it mean for Matthew to follow Jesus?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that Matthew gave up his job and the way he earned money when he followed Jesus, but he gained a new life forever with Jesus.)*
6. **Jesus died on the cross and came back to life so that everyone who trusts in Him can have a new start through a relationship with God. Why do we need forgiveness and a new start? What does it mean to be given a new start?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that getting a new start means having all your sins forgiven.)*
7. **The Bible tells us we are forgiven and given a new start when we trust in Jesus. Just like Jesus called Matthew, a tax collector, to follow Him, He wants us all to follow Him too. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?** *(Allow kids to answer.)*

PRAY: Thank you, Jesus, for dying on the cross so that everyone who trusts in You will be forgiven and given a new start. Thank You for taking away our old, sinful lives and giving us life forever with You when we trust in You. Help us remember it is never too late to trust in You and be given a new start. Thank You for forgiving all our sins, no matter how bad they are, when we trust in You. We love you so much! Amen.

5. PRAYER WALL

- Before parents arrive, ask if everyone has had a chance to put their prayer request on the wall.
- If any kids haven't, make sure they have an opportunity to do so.
- Once all post-its are on the wall, invite the kids to gather around the prayer wall.

SAY: God cares about us and the things that happen in our lives. The Bible tells us to "pray continually." (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and also to pray together. You have all shared a prayer request today, and we are going to pray together for those now.

If time is short, lead the kids in a simple prayer covering all the requests. If time allows, consider praying for each prayer request specifically. You can follow this guide: "God, thank you for caring about us and what goes on in our lives. Help us with (the hard things that were shared), and thank you for (the good things that were shared). Amen."

6. ACTIVITY

Follow Me Train

(Put up the "Team Game Time" slide on your TV)

Supplies: No supplies needed

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- In today's Bible story, Jesus called a tax collector named Matthew to follow Him.
- Let's all say, "Follow me," together. "Follow me!"
- Great job! Jesus gave Matthew a new start. We are going to play a game of tag where the person who is It tags a friend and says, "Follow me!"
- We will all spread out across the room.
- When you get tagged you can put your hands on the shoulders of the friend who tagged you.
- The two of you will travel together to another friend, and when the new friend is tagged, he can put his hands on your shoulders.
- We will keep going until all our friends have been tagged and are a part of our "Follow Me Train."

Leader Tip: Play as long as kids are engaged, picking a new friend to start each time.

TO WRAP UP THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- In the game we just played, you had a chance to follow a friend when you were tagged.
- In our Bible story, a tax collector named Matthew was invited to follow Jesus.
- He did not just follow Jesus like we followed each other in our game; He followed Jesus and learned to live like Jesus wanted him to.
- Jesus gave Matthew a new start. We all make wrong choices and need God to forgive us.
- Jesus came so we can be forgiven and have a friendship with Him.

LEADER DEVO

God Forgives Me—God Gives Me a New Heart

Read: Jeremiah 11:1-10; 17:1-10; 31-33

*"The heart is deceitful above all things
and beyond cure.
Who can understand it?
"I the Lord search the heart
and examine the mind,
to reward each person according to their conduct,
according to what their deeds deserve."
Jeremiah 17:9-10*

Reflect: How can we live this week knowing God has given us a new heart?

- A. Be more thankful for the things He has provided.
- B. Be more loving to my family.
- C. Be more diligent in prayer and studying the Bible.

Pray: God, thank You for giving me a new heart that allows me to love like You. Help me to be more patient and more kind this week in my interactions with my family. Let them see You through me! I love you Father, Amen!

Prepare: What is different in your life now that God has given you a new heart? Has it changed how you live and how you spend your time?



KINDER-1ST

October 11-12, 2025

God Gives Me a New Heart

BIBLE PASSAGE

Jeremiah Told
of a New Promise
Jeremiah 11:1-10; 17:1-10; 31-33

BIBLE VERSE

*"If anyone is in Christ,
he is a new creation."
2 Corinthians 5:17a*

AT-A-GLANCE

Super Clue:

New Batteries

CRAFT/ACTIVITY:

New Heart Watercolor

POST-IT PRAYER WALL:

Pray together over the kids' requests, and encourage kids to take their prayer requests home with them so they can remember to pray for their oikos!

1. WELCOME & POST-IT PRAYER

- Greet the children with a smile as they come in.
- Before joining the welcome activity, ask them how their week was, or how they are feeling today.
- Have a post-it ready to write down their prayer request.
- Ask them for their prayer requests, and write it down.
- Have them go stick it on the prayer wall, then join the welcome activity.

2. WELCOME ACTIVITY

1. Animal Actions

Supplies: Animal Actions Cards

- Set out the cards and help kids take turns acting out the animal action.

2. How Low Can You Go?

Supplies: Pool noodle

- Everyone will get a turn to try going under the pool noodle without touching it.
- Encourage the kids to cheer for their friends during each turn.
- After everyone has had a turn, lower the pool noodle and repeat!
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3. Rake It

Supplies: Bin of artificial leaves and mini pumpkins, tongs, buckets

- Invite children to fall-themed sensory activity!
- Encourage them to "rake" the colorful leaves using their hands, then use tongs to pick up both the leaves and mini pumpkins, transferring them from one bin to another.

4. Pumpkin Toss

Supplies: Pumpkins, Buckets

- Allow kids to connect with one another while taking turns tossing pumpkins into the buckets.

3. TEACHING SCRIPT

Today we are learning that God forgives us. That makes me think about our Big Deal. Our Big Deal teaches something important and true about God. Today's Big Deal is, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" Let's practice saying it together. I'll say it first, and you can say it after me. *(Use motions.)* Redo! *(Redo!)* God Forgives Me and You! *(God Forgives Me and You!)* When God forgives us, it means that He lets go of our wrong choices. Today we are going to learn that God forgives us when we ask Him. God can change our hearts to know and love Him.

WORSHIP SONG VIDEOS *Lead kids in worship through songs and motions.*

Hold up your Bible- It was so much fun singing with you! We have a great story from the book of Jeremiah. I can't wait to learn more about it with you.

Let's look Inside our Super Box for a special Super Clue. The Super Clue and our Big Deal help us remember what we are learning about in the Bible.

MAILBOX / SUPER CLUE! *- Invite a kid to open the mailbox and see what today's Super Clue is!*

Amazing, friends! Our Super Clue is new batteries. I know that new batteries help toys work the way they are supposed to, but I can't think of how they connect to our Big Deal, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" I know just who can help us—the Super Crew! We can send the Super Clue to our friends in the Clubhouse, and they will help. Let's send it to them now. *(Place the Super Clue back in the box.)* Let's count down and press the "Go" button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

BIBLE STORY VIDEO *Have kids sit criss-cross applesauce while we watch our Bible story.*

Thank you, Super Crew! I knew you all would be able to help. Wow! In today's Bible story, we learned that God had a special message for His people. God sent His message to a prophet named Jeremiah. God's message was that He is the only One who has the power to change people's hearts. When we talk about God changing our hearts, we mean that God helps us want to make right choices. God helps us love and care about Him and other people. God said He would forgive the people's wrong choices and change their hearts to know and love Him. We all sin, which means we make wrong choices, and we need God to forgive us and help us. When we ask God to forgive us, He does! He changes our hearts to know and love Him too! Today's Super Clue is new batteries. When you put new batteries in a toy, the toy works like new again. When God forgives us, He changes our hearts and makes us new. Only God can change our hearts to know and love Him. Hearing the word forgive reminds me of our Big Deal, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!"

BIBLE VERSE VIDEO *Practice aloud with motions.*

BIBLE VERSE HANDOUT *Follow directions from the handout if time allows. (Use this activity at any time.)*

Alright, boys and girls! It's time to sing our Oikos song!

OIKOS SONG

Great job, boys and girls! You have learned a lot, and have been such good listeners! Now it's your turn to get to talk... let's sit *(or lay)* in a circle for our Talk Time!

4. TALK TIME

Follow this guide to engage kids in discussion.

1. **Who remembers what our Super Clue is today?** *(new batteries)*
2. **What do new batteries help us remember?** *(New batteries help a toy work the way it is supposed to. God gives us a new heart that changes us to love and follow Him.)*
3. **What is the best new thing you have ever gotten? What did you like about it?** *(Allow kids to answer, and then share your own answer.)*
4. **What can be different in our lives when God gives us new hearts?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that getting a new heart from God is the only way we can know Him, love Him, and serve Him.)*
5. **The Bible tells us we are forgiven for our sins and given a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Let's open our Bibles to **Jeremiah 17:9-10** and read about it together.** *(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.)* **This passage says there is no cure for the sin in our hearts—at least one we can find on our own. We learned that only Jesus can cure our sinful hearts. What happens when we trust in Jesus and He gives us new hearts?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that God writes His teachings on our new hearts and helps us obey Him.)*
6. **When we trust in Jesus, God gives us a new heart, and He forgives all our sins. What changes when our sins are forgiven?** *(Allow kids to answer. Remind kids that when we believe in Jesus, He forgives every sin we have ever done or will ever do, no matter how many or what kind of sins they are.)*
7. **The Bible tells us Jeremiah told people about a new promise from God to give us new hearts. God kept that promise when Jesus would die for us so we can be forgiven. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?** *(Allow kids to answer, and share.)*

PRAY: Thank You, God, for Your promise to give us a new heart when we trust in Jesus. Thank You that the words given to Jeremiah are just as true now as they were when Jeremiah said them. Jesus, help us remember that it is only by trusting in You that we are forgiven and given a new heart. We praise You for making us totally new when we trust in You. We love you so much! Amen.

5. PRAYER WALL

- Before parents arrive, ask if everyone has had a chance to put their prayer request on the wall.
- If any kids haven't, make sure they have an opportunity to do so.
- Once all post-its are on the wall, invite the kids to gather around the prayer wall.

SAY: God cares about us and the things that happen in our lives. The Bible tells us to "pray continually." (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and also to pray together. You have all shared a prayer request today, and we are going to pray together for those now.

If time is short, lead the kids in a simple prayer covering all the requests. If time allows, consider praying for each prayer request specifically. You can follow this guide: "God, thank you for caring about us and what goes on in our lives. Help us with (the hard things that were shared), and thank you for (the good things that were shared). Amen."

6. ACTIVITY

New Heart Watercolor

(Put up the "Team Craft Time" slide on your TV)

Supplies: Heart printable, Watercolor Supplies

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- Today, we get to paint a special picture using watercolor paints! *(Hold up the paper for everyone to see.)*
- What shape do you see? *(Pause for answers.)*
- Yes, a heart! You're right!
- Can you all say, 'God gives me a new heart!'? *(Encourage kids to repeat after you.)*
- That's what our picture is all about, God giving us a brand new heart.
- You can decorate your heart any way you like, use all the colors you love!
- I can't wait to see how beautiful your hearts turn out when you're finished!

Leader Tip- Remind kids to take their time.

TO WRAP UP THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- These hearts you decorated are wonderful! I like how each one is unique and one of a kind, just like each of you.
- When I see a heart shape, I am reminded that God forgives us.
- Today's Bible story talked about God's forgiveness. We learned that God sent a special messenger to His people to tell them that He wanted to give them new hearts.
- He did not give them heart shapes on a piece of paper like these.
- Instead, God was going to give people a new way of knowing, following, and loving Him.
- I am so thankful God made this promise. When I see a heart shape, I can remember that God forgives me and you, and He loves us!

LEADER DEVO

God Forgives Me—God Gives Me a New Way

Read: Luke 5:1-11

"and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him."

Luke 5:10-11b

Reflect: How does having a new identity affect how we see ourselves and others the most in your life?

- A. I am more aware that everyone I encounter is valued and loved, regardless of the circumstances.
- B. I offer more grace and compassion to others quicker than before.
- C. I have become more empowered to share God's love, knowing my identity is secure in Him.

Pray: God, please help me to live each day remembering that my identity is in You. You have given me a new life in Jesus, and I thank You! I love you so much! Amen.

Prepare: How do people try to find identity? How is knowing our identity is found in Jesus different?



KINDER-1ST

October 18-19, 2025

Gospel Presentation Week

God Gives Me a New Way

BIBLE PASSAGE

Jesus Called Peter

Luke 5:1-11

BIBLE VERSE

*"If anyone is in Christ,
he is a new creation."
2 Corinthians 5:17a*

AT-A-GLANCE

Super Clue:

Road Rug

CRAFT/ACTIVITY:

Net Full of Fish

POST-IT PRAYER WALL:

Pray together over the kids' requests, and encourage kids to take their prayer requests home with them so they can remember to pray for their oikos!

1. WELCOME & POST-IT PRAYER

- Greet the children with a smile as they come in.
- Before joining the welcome activity, ask them how their week was, or how they are feeling today.
- Have a post-it ready to write down their prayer request.
- Ask them for their prayer requests, and write it down.
- Have them go stick it on the prayer wall, then join the welcome activity.

2. WELCOME ACTIVITY

1. Road Rug Play

Supplies: Road Rug, Cars and Trucks

- Set out items and allow kids to play and connect with friends.

2. How Low Can You Go?

Supplies: Pool noodle

- Everyone will get a turn to try going under the pool noodle without touching it.
- Encourage the kids to cheer for their friends during each turn.
- After everyone has had a turn, lower the pool noodle and repeat!
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3. Rake It

Supplies: Bin of artificial leaves and mini pumpkins, tongs, buckets

- Invite children to fall-themed sensory activity!
- Encourage them to "rake" the colorful leaves using their hands, then use tongs to pick up both the leaves and mini pumpkins, transferring them from one bin to another.

4. Pumpkin Toss

Supplies: Pumpkins, Buckets

- Allow kids to connect with one another while taking turns tossing pumpkins into the buckets.

3. TEACHING SCRIPT

Hi Friends! Today's Big Deal is, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" Let's say our Big Deal together. I'll say it first, and you can say it after me. *(Use the motions.)* Redo! *(Redo!)* God Forgives Me and You! *(God Forgives Me and You!)* To forgive means to let go of our wrong choices. God forgives us when we ask Him, and He also shows us a new way to go. That is super! Today we are learning that when God forgives us, He also gives us a new way to live. We can turn from our old, wrong choices and have a friendship with Him. That is super!

WORSHIP SONG VIDEOS *Lead kids in worship through songs and motions.*

Hold up your Bible- It was so much fun singing with you! We have a great story from the book of Luke. I can't wait to learn more about it with you.

Let's look Inside our Super Box for a special Super Clue. The Super Clue and our Big Deal help us remember what we are learning about in the Bible.

MAILBOX / SUPER CLUE! - *Invite a kid to open the mailbox and see what today's Super Clue is!*

Well, what do we have here? It is a picture of a road rug. Road rugs are so fun to drive toy cars and trucks on. If you are driving a toy car on a road rug and need to turn around, you can look at the road on the rug to find the right way to go. I wonder how a road rug connects to our Big Deal, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" We have some friends in the Clubhouse who are always so good at figuring out how our Super Clue connects to our Big Deal. They are the Super Crew. Let's send the Super Clue to our friends in the Clubhouse. They will be able to help us. Ready? *(Place the Super Clue back in the box.)* Let's count down and press the "Go" button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

BIBLE STORY VIDEO *Have kids sit criss-cross applesauce while we watch our Bible story.*

Thank you, Super Crew! That was very helpful! Wow! In our Bible story, when Peter saw the net full of fish, he knew Jesus had power that only comes from God. Peter remembered all the wrong choices he had made. He told Jesus to go away because he was embarrassed by what he had done. Jesus invited Peter to follow Him, and Peter said yes. We all sin, which means we make wrong choices, and we need God to forgive us and help us. When we believe in Jesus and ask God to forgive us, God gives us a new way to go. Our Super Clue today is a road rug. When you are playing with cars and driving on a road rug, you can drive your car all around the rug. If you are driving and need to turn around, you can look at the rug and find the right way to go. In our lives, God gives us a new way to go too. We can turn around and stop going our own way and turn to Jesus—the only way! We can believe in Jesus and ask God to forgive us. When we do, God gives us a friendship with Him.

BIBLE VERSE VIDEO *Practice aloud with motions.*

BIBLE VERSE HANDOUT *Follow directions from the handout if time allows. (Use this activity at any time.)*

Alright, boys and girls! It's time to sing our Oikos song!

OIKOS SONG

Great job, boys and girls! You have learned a lot, and have been such good listeners! Now it's your turn to get to talk... let's sit *(or lay)* in a circle for our Talk Time!

4. TALK TIME

Follow this guide to engage kids in discussion.

1. **Who remembers what our Super Clue is today?** *(a road rug)*
2. **What does a road rug help us remember?** *(It is fun to drive cars on a road rug. If you are driving and need to turn around, you can look at the rug and find the right way to go. God gives us a new way to go, too, so we can know and follow Him.)*
3. **God gives us a new way. What does it mean that God gives us a new way?** *(God gives us a new way to live. When we believe in Jesus and ask God to forgive us, God gives us a friendship with Him.)*
4. **What does God's forgiveness mean?** *(When we ask God to forgive us, He does! This means He lets go of our wrong choices.)*
5. **When we trust and follow Jesus, He gives us an identity, a new heart, Jesus make us a new creation washing us clean from our mistakes. He calls us children of God! What are some good things that come when we have a new identity from God?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that God forgives all our sins and makes us His forever.)*
6. **The Bible tells us God gives us a new identity when He forgives our sins. Let's open our Bibles to **Luke 5:10b-11** and read about it together.** *(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.)* **When Jesus called Peter, a fisherman, he left everything to follow Jesus immediately. What does it look like for us to follow Jesus today?** *(Allow kids to answer.)*
7. **Why do we all need a new identity from God?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that everyone has sinned, and everyone needs a new identity as God's child.)*
8. **The Bible tells us Jesus forgave Peter for his sins and called Peter to follow Him for the rest of Peter's life. Jesus made Peter's life totally new when He called Peter. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?** *(Allow kids to answer, and share.)*

PRAY: God, thank You for knowing we need a new identity. Thank You for giving us a new identity in You when we decide to trust and follow Jesus. You make us totally new, and You make us Yours forever. Help us to tell other people about You and Your love for them, like Peter did after You called him. We love you and thank you for calling us your children. Amen.

5. PRAYER WALL

- Before parents arrive, ask if everyone has had a chance to put their prayer request on the wall.
- If any kids haven't, make sure they have an opportunity to do so.
- Once all post-its are on the wall, invite the kids to gather around the prayer wall.

SAY: God cares about us and the things that happen in our lives. The Bible tells us to "pray continually." (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and also to pray together. You have all shared a prayer request today, and we are going to pray together for those now.

If time is short, lead the kids in a simple prayer covering all the requests. If time allows, consider praying for each prayer request specifically. You can follow this guide: "God, thank you for caring about us and what goes on in our lives. Help us with (the hard things that were shared), and thank you for (the good things that were shared). Amen."

6. ACTIVITY

Net Full of Fish

(Put up the "Team Craft Time" slide on your TV)

Supplies: Paper bag, fish cutouts, crayons, and markers

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- We have a fun craft to help us remember our Bible story today!
- Each of you will get a paper bag, and your first job is to decorate it to look like a fishing net.
- Just like this one. *(Show the example.)*
- Once your net is ready, you'll get to color and decorate six fish to go inside it. When you're done, you'll have your very own net full of fish, just like in our Bible story!
- If you want you can write the names of those in your Oikos who you are praying for on the back of the fish.
- So grab your crayons and markers, and let's start creating!

TO WRAP UP THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- All of your nets full of fish look amazing.
- In our Bible story, when Peter saw the net full of fish, he knew Jesus had power that only comes from God.
- Peter remembered all the wrong choices he had made. He told Jesus to go away because he was embarrassed by what he had done.
- Jesus told Peter, "Don't be afraid. Follow Me." Peter left his boat and followed Jesus as one of Jesus' helpers.
- When we believe in Jesus and ask God to forgive us, God gives us a friendship with Him.
- We can follow him just like Peter did.

LEADER DEVO

God Forgives Me—God Gives Me a New Hope

Read: Joel 1–3

*"You will have plenty to eat, until you are full,
and you will praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has worked wonders for you;
never again will my people be shamed.
Then you will know that I am in Israel,
that I am the Lord your God,
and that there is no other;
never again will my people be shamed."
Joel 2:26-27*

*"And everyone who calls
on the name of the Lord will be saved;
for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem
there will be deliverance,
as the Lord has said,
even among the survivors
whom the Lord calls"
Joel 2:32*

Reflect: How does knowing that God gives me hope change the way I live?

- A. I can face challenges with God's strength and not my own.
- B. I can share hope confidently with people who are struggling.
- C. I can trust in God when life feels uncertain or overwhelming

Pray: God, thank You for giving me the hope that can only be found in Jesus and His forgiveness. I can live confidently knowing that Your grace and forgiveness covers my mistakes. Please help me share that hope with everyone that I meet this week. I love you, Amen!

Prepare: How can we share the hope of Jesus this week? Who is the one person in our lives that needs to find freedom in the hope Jesus provides?



KINDER-1ST

October 25-26, 2025

God Gives Me a New Hope

BIBLE PASSAGE

Joel, the Messenger to Judah

Joel 1-3

BIBLE VERSE

*"If anyone is in Christ,
he is a new creation."
2 Corinthians 5:17a*

AT-A-GLANCE

Super Clue:

U-turn Sign

CRAFT/ACTIVITY:

Red Light, Green Light, U-Turn

POST-IT PRAYER WALL:

Pray together over the kids' requests, and encourage kids to take their prayer requests home with them so they can remember to pray for their oikos!

1. WELCOME & POST-IT PRAYER

- Greet the children with a smile as they come in.
- Before joining the welcome activity, ask them how their week was, or how they are feeling today.
- Have a post-it ready to write down their prayer request.
- Ask them for their prayer requests, and write it down.
- Have them go stick it on the prayer wall, then join the welcome activity.

2. WELCOME ACTIVITY

1. Road Rug Play

Supplies: Road Rug, Cars and Trucks

- Set out items and allow kids to play and connect with friends.

2. How Low Can You Go?

Supplies: Pool noodle

- Everyone will get a turn to try going under the pool noodle without touching it.
- Encourage the kids to cheer for their friends during each turn.
- After everyone has had a turn, lower the pool noodle and repeat!
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3. Rake It

Supplies: Bin of artificial leaves and mini pumpkins, tongs, buckets

- Invite children to fall-themed sensory activity!
- Encourage them to "rake" the colorful leaves using their hands, then use tongs to pick up both the leaves and mini pumpkins, transferring them from one bin to another.

4. Pumpkin Toss

Supplies: Pumpkins, Buckets

- Allow kids to connect with one another while taking turns tossing pumpkins into the buckets.



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3. TEACHING SCRIPT

Hi everyone, I am so glad you are here today. Who knows what redo means *(Allow responses)* it means we get another chance to do something. When we ask God for a redo, we ask Him to forgive us. That is a big deal! Today we have a special Big Deal that helps us learn something super important about God. Today's Big Deal is, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" Let's say our Big Deal together. I'll say it first and show you the motions, and then you say it after me. *(Use the motions.)* Redo! *(Redo!)* God Forgives Me and You! *(God Forgives Me and You!)* Wonderful! When we ask God to forgive us, He forgives our wrong choices and gives us a new hope. Let's say, "God gives me a new hope," together. Ready? "God gives me a new hope." Super job!

WORSHIP SONG VIDEOS *Lead kids in worship through songs and motions.*

Hold up your Bible– It was so much fun singing with you! We have a great story from the book of Joel. I can't wait to learn more about it with you.

Let's look Inside our Super Box for a special Super Clue. The Super Clue and our Big Deal help us remember what we are learning about in the Bible.

MAILBOX / SUPER CLUE! – *Invite a kid to open the mailbox and see what today's Super Clue is!*

Oh, look! It's a U-turn sign. A U-turn sign is a street sign that tells drivers it is OK to make a U-turn. A U-turn is when you are driving in one direction, and you need to turn and go back the other way. *(Demonstrate.)* I wonder what a U-turn sign has to do with our Big Deal, "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" Oh! I know who can help us. We can send this Super Clue to our friends in the Clubhouse. The Super Crew will know how to help. *(Place the Super Clue back in the box.)* Let's count down and press the "Go" button to send the Super Clue to the Super Crew. Ready? 3-2-1 Go!

BIBLE STORY VIDEO *Have kids sit criss-cross applesauce while we watch our Bible story.*

Thanks for your help, Super Crew! In today's Bible story, God's people were hurting and suffering because of their wrong choices, but when they turned away from their wrong choices and asked God to forgive them, He did. God gave them a new hope in Him. Hope is waiting and trusting that something good is coming. Like a U-turn sign shows us when to turn around and go a different way, God's people did a U-turn when they turned away from their wrong choices. God forgave them, and they got a chance to have a redo and make right choices. That is a big deal! Let's say our Big Deal together. "Redo! God Forgives Me and You!" God offers to give us a redo too. We all sin, which means we make wrong choices, and we need God to forgive us and help us. The good news is God sent Jesus so we can be forgiven and have a friendship with Him. When we ask God to forgive us, He does, and He gives us a new hope in Him. This new hope helps us turn from our wrong choices and follow Him.

BIBLE VERSE VIDEO *Practice aloud with motions.*

BIBLE VERSE HANDOUT *Follow directions from the handout if time allows. (Use this activity at any time.)*

Alright, boys and girls! It's time to sing our Oikos song!

OIKOS SONG

Great job, boys and girls! You have learned a lot, and have been such good listeners! Now it's your turn to get to talk... let's sit *(or lay)* in a circle for our Talk Time!

4. TALK TIME

Follow this guide to engage kids in discussion.

1. **Who remembers what our Super Clue is today?** *(a U-turn sign)*
2. **What does a U-turn sign help us remember?** *(A U-turn sign shows us when to turn around and go a different way. God gives us the chance to turn from our wrong choices and go a different way and make right choices.)*
3. **If you see someone with a big bag of candy, do you want some? Does it encourage you to act differently in hopes that you will get a reward? What is the difference between looking forward to someone sharing candy with you and looking forward to the love and forgiveness that God gives us?** *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that God's offer of a new hope is for everyone. It will never run out. We do not have to worry if we may or may not get it. God loves us and wants us to follow Him with how we live, but He will not leave us when we are not perfect or when we make wrong choices. God's love and forgiveness are a gift, not something we earn.)*
4. **The Bible tells us God gives us a new hope when we trust and follow Jesus because He forgives all our sins. Let's open our Bibles to **Joel 2:26-27 and 32** and read about it together.** *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verses aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verses aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verses so everyone can follow along together.)* **God gives those who trust in Him some wonderful promises in these verses. He promises to always satisfy us, that we will never be put to shame, and that everyone who calls on Jesus will be saved. How do we get this new hope that God offers?** *(Allow kids to answer. God gives us a new hope when we trust and follow Jesus.)*
5. **Not only does God give us a new hope when we trust and follow Jesus, but He also forgives all our sins. How can this hope of forgiveness help when we make wrong choices? What can we do when we make wrong choices?** *(Allow kids to answer. Tell kids God does not count any of our sins against those who trust in Him. He takes our sins away so we can have life with Him forever. When we make wrong choices, we can turn to God for forgiveness. When we trust in Jesus and ask for forgiveness, God forgives—forever.)*
6. **The Bible tells us God makes us totally new when we trust and follow Jesus because He forgives all our sins. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about?** *(Allow kids to answer, and share.)*

PRAY: God, thank You for giving us a new hope by forgiving all our sins when we trust and follow Jesus. Thank You that this new hope will never end. We have it now, and we will have it forever because You give us life with You forever! Help us to remember the hope You give us is the best kind of hope because it lasts forever. We love you so much! Amen.

5. PRAYER WALL

- Before parents arrive, ask if everyone has had a chance to put their prayer request on the wall.
- If any kids haven't, make sure they have an opportunity to do so.
- Once all post-its are on the wall, invite the kids to gather around the prayer wall.

SAY: God cares about us and the things that happen in our lives. The Bible tells us to "pray continually." (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and also to pray together. You have all shared a prayer request today, and we are going to pray together for those now.

If time is short, lead the kids in a simple prayer covering all the requests. If time allows, consider praying for each prayer request specifically. You can follow this guide: "God, thank you for caring about us and what goes on in our lives. Help us with (the hard things that were shared), and thank you for (the good things that were shared). Amen."

6. ACTIVITY

Red Light, Green Light, U-Turn

(Put up the "Team Game Time" slide on your TV)

No supplies needed

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- Let's play a fun game called "Red Light, Green Light, U-Turn." What is it called? (*Red Light, Green Light, U-Turn!*) Good! One person will be the traffic light.
- He will stand at one end of our space. The rest of us will be in a line across the room from the traffic light.
- The goal of the game is to be the first person to reach the traffic light.
- If you reach the traffic light first, you get to be the next traffic light.
- When the person who is the traffic light says, "Red light," everyone stops and freezes.
- When the traffic light says, "Green light," everyone moves toward the traffic light.
- There is one more thing! The person who is the traffic light can also say, "U-turn!" When he says, "U-turn," everyone needs to turn around and go back to the starting line. Are you ready? Let's play!

TO WRAP UP THE ACTIVITY, SAY:

- Great job listening to the directions. Whenever someone said, "U-turn," we turned around and went in the opposite direction. God gives us a chance to turn around when we make wrong choices. God forgives us when we ask Him.
- He helps us go in the opposite direction and make the right choice. In our Bible story today, God's people chose to turn away from their wrong choices and asked God to forgive them.
- God forgave His people and sent a special message to them through the prophet Joel. God told the people not to be afraid. God would make everything new, and the people could have hope and know that God is the only true God.
- We can know that God is the only true God too! God sent Jesus so that we can be forgiven and have a friendship with Him.