

WEEK

ONE

4-5's | W1

Today's Suggested Schedule—July 2026, Week 1

Bible Story: The Story of the Farmer • Matthew 13:1-23

God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says.

Key Question: Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line: Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse: "Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

How Does Your Garden Grow?*

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Memory Verse with Motions

Good Soil, Good Choices

Watch It Grow

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

The Story of the Farmer • Matthew 13:1-23
God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says.

Key Question

Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line

Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse

"Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

5 min

How Does Your Garden Grow? | Made to Play

What You Need

	"Allergy Alert Poster"	1
	Cardstock	7
	Play-Doh® in various colors	0
	EveryChild Optional: Flower-shaped cookie cutters	Several



EveryChild tips

- Using cookie cutters is a great way for children still developing fine motor skills to successfully create a flower shape.
- Provide gloves for children with sensory sensitivities.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh and post at the door. Print "How Does Your Garden Grow" on cardstock, six per Small Group. Laminate each page and place on the table with several colors of Play-Doh.

During the Activity: Encourage children to work together to add Play-Doh to the stems on their mats to make their garden grow.

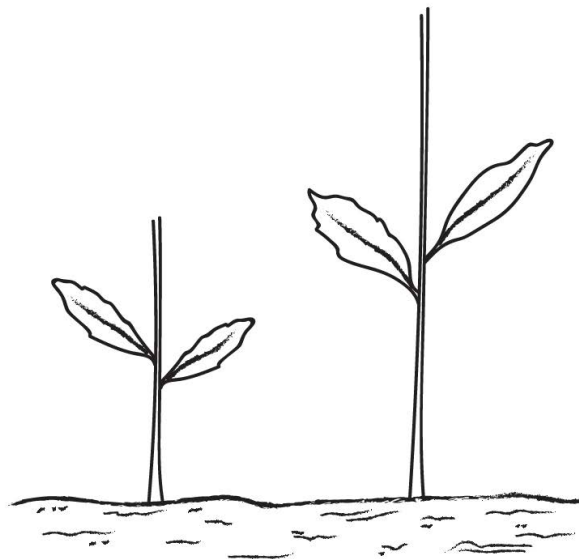
After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come to the table and let's be gardeners! We're going to make a beautiful flower garden grow."

During the Activity: "On your mat, you have flower stems. They are all different sizes! But they don't have any flowers on top! Let's use the Play-Doh to make colorful flowers to put on the stems. You can make a big flower for the tall stem, and a little flower for the short stem. You can even add some leaves to the stems. (*Allow time to create.*) Look at your beautiful garden! You are helping so many flowers grow!"

After the Activity: "Your gardens are so creative and colorful! Today, we are going to hear a story Jesus told to teach us about God and His wonderful kingdom. Jesus teaches us about a farmer who planted seeds. Some seeds grew into big plants, and some didn't grow at all. Let's go hear the story to find out why!"



What to Do:
Print on cardstock.
Six per Small Group.

"How Does Your Garden Grow?" Activity Page
July 2026, Week 1, Small Group 3-5-year-olds
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30 min

Groups

5 min

Memory Verse with Motions | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies*

Creating a safe place to connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

During the Activity: Teach the Memory Verse motions. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come stand with me! Let's learn our brand-new Memory Verse. It tells us about God's kingdom, and it goes like this: 'Put God's (point up with two hands) kingdom (make crown on head with hands) first.' (Hold up one finger.) Matthew 6:33 (open hands like a book)."

During the Activity: "Now, let's learn the motions! The first part says, 'Put God's.' Everyone, point up in the air with both hands. (Point up.) Great! The next part says, 'kingdom.' Make a crown with your hands over your head like this. (Make a crown on head with hands.) The next part says, 'first.' Point up with one finger. (Hold up one finger.) Super! And the last part says, Matthew 6:33. (Open hands like a book.) Let's put it all together! Ready? 'Put God's (point up with two hands) kingdom (make a crown on head with hands) first.' (Hold up one finger.) Matthew 6:33." (Open hands like a book.) Great job!" (Repeat several times.)

After the Activity: "You've got it! Our Memory Verse teaches us to put God's kingdom first. When we learn verses from the Bible, it helps us remember God's words all week long! When we are at the playground, we can remember to 'put God's kingdom first.' When we are at home, we can remember to 'put God's kingdom first.' When we are at the library, we can remember to 'put God's kingdom first.' I'm so glad we have the Bible and Jesus to teach us about God's kingdom. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom."**

5 min

Good Soil, Good Choices | Made to Think

What You Need

	"Allergy Alert Poster"	1
	"Good Soil, Good Choices"	1
	Cardstock	1
	Plastic trays	2
	Potting Soil	1
	Small river rocks or aquarium gravel	1
	Little People®	1
	Scissors	1
	Plastic tablecloth	1



Listening ears



Sharing



Not being kind



Helping hands



Yelling



Kind words

What to Do:
Print on cardstock and cut.
One set per Small Group.

"Good Soil, Good Choices" Activity Page
July 2026, Week 1, Small Group 3-5-year-olds
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What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list potting soil and post at the door. Print "Good Soil, Good Choices" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Spread out the tablecloth on a table or on the floor. Fill one tray with potting soil for the "Good Soil" and fill the second tray with river rocks or gravel for the "Rocks." Place the two trays in the center of the tablecloth.

During the Activity: Let children pick a Little People figure. Hold up a choice card and describe the action. Ask if it's a "Good Soil" choice (listening to Jesus) or a "Rocky" choice. Have children move their figure to the tray they feel the choice represents. Repeat with each choice card.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's play a game about making good choices. When we listen to Jesus, our hearts are like good soil. When we don't listen, it's like the rocks."

During the Activity: "Pick a person to help you play our choices game. I'll show you a picture. If it's a good choice, put your person in the good soil. If it's not, put your person on the rocky path. Ready? First choice is ... listening ears! Is it good to listen? (Pause.) Yes! That's good soil! Put your person in the soil. (Pause.) Okay, next is ... yelling. Is yelling a good soil choice? (Pause.) No. That's a rocky choice. Move your person. (Continue with all cards.) Great job!"

After the Activity: "Jesus teaches us so we can make good choices! When we choose to listen and do what Jesus says, we are like the good soil, and God's kingdom grows! When we share our toys, God's kingdom grows. When we use kind words, God's kingdom grows. When we help our friends, God's kingdom grows. Jesus is the best teacher! I am so glad we have Jesus to teach us! **Who teaches you about God's kingdom?** [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's Kingdom."



EveryChild tips

- For children with sensory sensitivities, they can place their figure just beside the tray instead of in the soil or on the rocks.
- Use a thumbs-up for "good soil" and thumbs-down for "rocky path" as a strong visual cue to help with their decision.

5 min

Watch It Grow | Made to Create

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	Cardstock	1
	Green yarn	1
	Craft knife	1
	Scissors	1
	Clear tape	1
	Crayons or washable markers	Several
	Permanent marker	1



EveryChild tips

- For a child who struggles with the fine motor skill of pulling the yarn, let them hold the picture with both hands while a leader gently pulls the yarn for them.
- The visual of the plant growing is the key learning moment.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Watch It Grow" on cardstock, one per child. Print "Watch It Grow Flower" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Use the craft knife to cut slits at the "x" marks in each child's paper. Cut yarn in sixteen-inch lengths, one per child. Thread a piece of yarn through the holes and knot the ends together at the back of the paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their paper and their flower cutout. Help child attach their flower to the yarn with tape. Position the flower at the bottom and demonstrate how to pull the yarn to make the flower grow.

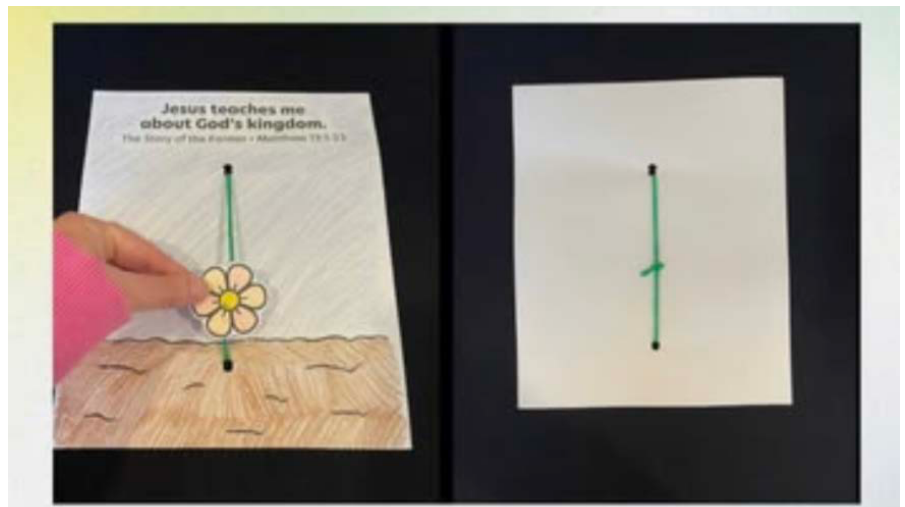
After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come on over to the table, friends! In our story today, Jesus told a story about a farmer who planted seeds. Let's make a special picture to show what happens when a seed in good soil starts to grow!"

During the Activity: "First, let's get our picture ready. You can color the sky and the soil. Make it a beautiful place for a plant to grow! (Allow time to color.) Now, color your little flower. (Allow time to color.) Super! Let me add your flower to the stem. (Place the flower on the yarn and tape together from the back. Move the flower to the bottom.) Watch this. When the seeds are planted in good soil, it grows, and grows, and grows. (Pull the yarn to move the flower up the page.) Now you try. Slowly pull the string up! Look! Your plant is growing! Pull, pull, pull! It's growing bigger and bigger! Wow! You made your plant grow!"

After the Activity: "You did a super job helping your plant grow! Jesus' story teaches us that when we listen to His words and do what He says, it's like our hearts are good soil, and good things can grow inside us, just like this plant grew from a tiny seed! **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.**"



Supplies

How Does Your Garden Grow? Made to Play		Quantity
1.	"Allergy Alert Poster"	1
2.	Cardstock	7
3.	Play-Doh® in various colors	0
4.	EveryChild Optional: Flower-shaped cookie cutters	Several

Good Soil, Good Choices Made to Think		Quantity
1.	"Allergy Alert Poster"	1
2.	"Good Soil, Good Choices"	1
3.	Cardstock	1
4.	Plastic trays	2
5.	Potting Soil	1
6.	Small river rocks or aquarium gravel	1
7.	Little People®	1
8.	Scissors	1
9.	Plastic tablecloth	1

Watch It Grow Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies*		Quantity
1.	Cardstock	1
2.	Green yarn	1
3.	Craft knife	1
4.	Scissors	1
5.	Clear tape	1
6.	Crayons or washable markers	Several
7.	Permanent marker	1

WEEK

TWO

4-5's | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—July 2026, Week 2

Bible Story: The Parable of the Bags of Gold • Matthew 25:14-30

God's kingdom grows when you use what He's given you.

Key Question: Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line: Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse: "Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

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Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Build it Bigger

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

***Allergy Alert**



Bible Story

The Parable of the Bags of Gold • Matthew 25:14-30

God's kingdom grows when you use what He's given you.

Key Question

Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line

Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse

"Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

5 min

Build It Bigger | Made to Explore

What You Need

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
|  | Cardstock | 3 |
|  | Building blocks (like DUPLOs or wooden blocks) | Several |
|  | Painter's tape | 1 |



EveryChild tips

- Focus on the process of building, not the height. Celebrate any tower, big or small.
- For a child who may knock towers over, give them their own small space to build.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Build It Bigger" on cardstock, three per Small Group. Tape the three castle pictures to the wall at varying heights. Place a large pile of blocks on the floor in front of each castle.

During the Activity: Invite the children to build towers with the blocks. Challenge them to see if they can build a tower that is as tall as the first castle, then the second, and then the third.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Welcome, friends! Today, we are going to be builders! Look at these castles on the wall. Let's see if we can use our blocks to build towers that GROW all the way up to them!"

During the Activity: "Let's start with this first castle. (*Point to the lowest one.*) Can we build a tower that's just as big? Let's work together! Add a block! (*Build together.*) We did it! Our tower grew and reached the castle! Now, what about the next one? That one is even bigger! We need to make our tower grow even more! Let's add more blocks!"

After the Activity: "Wow, look at our tall towers! We used the blocks we had to make something grow bigger and bigger! Today we are going to hear a story Jesus told to teach us more about God's kingdom. We are going to hear how we can help God's kingdom grow bigger and bigger! Let's go hear the story!"

5 min

5,2,1 | Made to Create

What You Need

-  Pop-up sticky notes
-  Permanent marker

1
1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Section out sticky notes into three stacks. The first stack should have ten sticky notes. The second stack should have four sticky notes. And the last stack one sticky note. Draw a simple bag on each sticky note, paying attention to how the notes unfold so your bags are facing the same direction and side.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story using the three sticky note stacks.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come sit with me and let's talk about today's Bible Story."

During the Activity: "Jesus told a story about a man who gave his helpers bags of gold. One helper got five bags. (*Hold up the stack of ten bags, and count as you unfold five bags.*) He was so smart, he used them to make five more! Let's see that grow! (*Let the rest of the sticky notes unfold, showing all the bags of gold.*) It started small and got big! Another helper got two bags (*hold up the stack of two bags, and count as you unfold two bags*), and he made two more! (*Let the paper unfold, showing all the bags of gold.*) It grew! But one helper only got one bag ... (*show the single bag*), and he just hid it. (*Put this bag of gold in your lap.*) Did it grow? (*Shake head.*) No! It stayed small. (*Take the one bag from your lap and hold it up.*) Jesus told this story to teach us that God is happy when we use what He gives us to make His kingdom grow."

After the Activity: "It's so much more fun when things grow! Jesus wants us to use everything He gives us to help God's kingdom grow bigger and bigger. Jesus told this story about the helpers and the bags of gold because He wants us to use what we have to help God's kingdom grow. You may not have bags of gold, but you are wonderfully made by God! You can show God's love in many ways. Maybe you are good at using kind words to cheer someone up. Or maybe you help clean up a mess that you didn't make. Or maybe you like playing in the dirt, so you help your neighbor plant flowers in the garden. There are many things we can do to show God's love to others and help God's kingdom grow. And if we ever need help knowing what to do, we can pray and ask Jesus to show us, because Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom."**

5 min

Helpers with the Bags of Gold | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies*

What You Need

-  Cardstock 1
-  Dot markers (yellow or gold preferred) 1



What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Helpers with the Bags of Gold" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Give each child a page and a dot marker. Help them use the marker to add a dot in every bag. Count together as they add each dot. Keep language very simple and repeat key phrases from the story.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come sit at the table! In our Bible Story today, Jesus told a story about a man who gave his helpers bags of gold. One helper got five bags. One helper got two bags. And one helper got one bag."

During the Activity: "Look, here are the helpers from our story. This helper was given five bags. (*Point to the man with five bags.*) Let's put a dot in each bag and we will count as we go. One, two, three, four, five. Great job, it looks like gold inside the bags! This helper was given two bags. (*Point to the man with two bags*) Let's put a dot in each bag and we will count as we go. One, two. This helper was given one bag. (*Point to the man with one bag.*) Let's put a dot in his bag and we will count as we go. One. The helper with five bags used what he was given and made more money. Let's add one more dot to each of his bags. (*Pause.*) The helper with two bags used what he was given and made more money. Let's add one more dot to each of his bags. (*Pause.*) Put your markers down. (*Pause.*) The helper with one bag hid what he was given so he doesn't get any more dots of gold in his bag."

After the Activity: "Jesus told this story because He wants us to use what we have to help God's kingdom grow. You may not have bags of gold, but you are wonderfully made by God! There are many things we can do to show God's love to others and help God's kingdom grow. Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.**"

Supplies

Build It Bigger | Made to Explore

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 1. | Cardstock | 3 |
| 2. | Building blocks (like DUPLOs or wooden blocks) | Several |
| 3. | Painter's tape | 1 |

5,2,1 | Made to Create

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|---|
| 1. | Pop-up sticky notes | 1 |
| 2. | Permanent marker | 1 |

Helpers with the Bags of Gold | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies*

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Cardstock | 1 |
| 2. | Dot markers (yellow or gold preferred) | 1 |

WEEK

THREE

4-5's | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—July 2026, Week 3

Bible Story: The Servant Who Had No Mercy • Matthew 18:21-35
God's kingdom grows when you forgive.

Key Question: Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line: Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse: "Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Mending Broken Hearts

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Kingdom First Song

Freeze and Forgive

Kingdom Castle

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

The Servant Who Had No Mercy • Matthew 18:21-35

God's kingdom grows when you forgive.

Key Question

Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line

Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse

"Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

5 min

Mending Broken Hearts | Made to Play

What You Need

-  Construction paper in a variety of colors Several
-  Scissors 1
-  Adhesive bandages 1



EveryChild tips

- Pre-peel the corners of the bandage wrappers to make them easier for small fingers to open.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cut out several large hearts from the construction paper. Cut each heart in half. Mix up all the halves in a pile on a table.

During the Activity: Encourage them to find the two matching halves of a heart. Once they find a match, show them how to use a bandage to "mend" the heart back together by placing it over the seam.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Oh no! Look at all these broken hearts! Let's play a game to help put them back together."

During the Activity: "Forgiving is like putting a broken heart back together. Let's find the matching pieces. Here's a red piece ... can you find the other red piece? (*Child finds the match.*) Great! Now, let's put a bandage on it to make it all better. (*Demonstrate.*) Look! You fixed the broken heart! Let's fix another one!"

After the Activity: "You put all the broken hearts back together! Forgiving others helps make our hearts feel whole and happy. In our story today, Jesus teaches us that God's kingdom grows when we forgive."

30 min

Groups

5 min

Kingdom First Song | Made to Move

Creating a safe place to connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say and do the motions together with the children.

During the Activity: Sing the verse to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come over and stand with me. Let's say and do the motions to our Memory Verse. Ready, here we go! 'Put God's (point up with two hands) kingdom (make crown on head with hands) first.' (Hold up one finger.) Matthew 6:33 (open hands like a book). Way to go, friends!"

During the Activity: "Let's sing our Memory Verse to the tune of 'Row, Row, Row Your Boat!' Listen and do what I do.

"Put God's kingdom first.
Put God's kingdom first.
Jesus teaches us to
Put God's kingdom first!"

(Repeat as time and interest allow.)

"Great singing! Let's try it quietly ... now loudly ... now whisper it and freeze!"

After the Activity: "You did such a wonderful job singing! Our Memory Verse says, 'Put God's kingdom first' Matthew 6:33. That means we choose God's way first. We choose kindness. We choose love. We choose forgiveness. In our Bible story, Jesus taught Peter to forgive again and again and again. When we forgive others, we are putting God's kingdom first. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.**"

5 min

Freeze and Forgive | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies*

What You Need

-  Music player 1
-  Upbeat worship or instrumental music 1



EveryChild tips

- Invite children to move any way they are able.
- Give a visual cue (like raising your hands or holding up a stop sign) for FREEZE to support children who need visual direction.
- Teach children ASL for "Forgive": Hold one hand flat with palm up. Place the other hand flat on top and brush it forward two times.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Gather children in an open area.

During the Activity: Encourage children to dance when the music plays and freeze when the music stops. Instruct kids to say "I forgive" after you give them different scenarios.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come over here and spread out. We're going to play a game called Freeze and Forgive!"

During the Activity: "When the music plays, we'll all dance! When the music stops, we'll all freeze. *(Start the music.)* Everyone, dance! Dance, dance, dance all around! *(Pause the music.)* Now freeze and listen. If someone bumps you, what do you say? Everyone, say, 'I forgive!' Say it with me. 'I forgive!' *(Start music)* Everyone, dance! *(Pause the music.)* Now freeze and listen. If someone takes your crayon, what do you say? *(Pause.)* 'I forgive!' Say it with me. 'I forgive!' *(Continue with different situations. Repeat as time and interest allow.)* Every time we choose to forgive, we are helping God's kingdom grow!"

After the Activity: "You did such a great job dancing and forgiving! Sometimes forgiving can feel hard. But Jesus teaches us to forgive again and again because God forgives us again and again. When we forgive someone who bumps us, we are showing God's kindness. When we forgive, we show people that God forgives. Jesus teaches us that God is kind and forgiving. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom."**

5 min

Kingdom Castle | Made to Create

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	Cardstock	1
	Crayons or washable markers	1
	Stickers (hearts, smiley faces, jewel stickers)	1
	Scissors	1
	Clear tape	1
	Permanent marker	1



What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Kingdom Castle" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to decorate their castle with crayons, markers, and stickers. Roll the paper into a large tube to create a turret, tape the ends together.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come to the table and let's make our own Kingdom Castle to take home."

During the Activity: "Let's decorate our castles! You can color the walls, add bright doors, or put jewels on your castle. Every time you see your castle, you can remember that God is kind and loving, and God forgives. (Allow time for decorating.) Wow! Your castles look amazing! Let's make your castle even more special. (Roll each child's paper into a large tube and tape the ends together.)"

After the Activity: "God is the best. He is kind and forgiving. When we forgive others—like when someone bumps us or won't share—we are helping God's kingdom grow. Thank You, Jesus, for teaching us about God's kingdom and helping us forgive. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.**"

Supplies

Mending Broken Hearts | Made to Play

	Quantity
1. Construction paper in a variety of colors	Several
2. Scissors	1
3. Adhesive bandages	1

Freeze and Forgive | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies*

	Quantity
1. Music player	1
2. Upbeat worship or instrumental music	1

Kingdom Castle | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies*

	Quantity
1. Cardstock	1
2. Crayons or washable markers	1
3. Stickers (hearts, smiley faces, jewel stickers)	1
4. Scissors	1
5. Clear tape	1
6. Permanent marker	1

WEEK

FOUR

4-5's | W4

Today's Suggested Schedule—July 2026, Week 4

Bible Story: The Story of the Widow Who Would Not Give Up • Luke 18:1-8

God's kingdom grows when you pray and don't give up.

Key Question: Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line: Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse: "Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

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Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

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Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Keepy Uppy

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Number One Jump

Never Give Up Surprise

Filled with Treasure

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App



Bible Story

The Story of the Widow Who Would Not Give Up
• Luke 18:1-8

God's kingdom grows when you pray and don't give up.

Key Question

Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line

Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse

"Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

15 min

Social

5 min

Keepy Uppy | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies*

What You Need

 Mylar balloon

1

 Drinking straw

1



EveryChild tips

- For a child in a wheelchair, make sure the circle is wide enough so they can easily participate by reaching up to tap the balloon when it comes near them.
- Use a brightly colored or metallic balloon that is easy to see and track.
- The goal is teamwork, not competition. Celebrate every tap, no matter who does it.

Providing time for fun interaction

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Inflate the balloon by inserting the straw into the balloon and inflating with air. Remove the straw and balloon will self-seal. Gather children in an open area, standing in a circle.

During the Activity: Toss the balloon into the air. Explain that the group's job is to work together to keep the balloon from touching the floor. Encourage them to tap it gently back into the air. Emphasize teamwork and not giving up.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello, friends! Let's play a game together. It's called Keepy Uppy and we need to work as a team!"

During the Activity: "The number one rule is: don't let the balloon touch the floor! We need to keep tapping it up, up, up! Ready? (*Toss the balloon in the air.*) Get it! Tap it! Oh, it's coming down! Don't give up! Keepy uppy! Wow, you are doing a great job working together. Keep going, don't give up! (Pause.) Wow! You kept the balloon up in the air for a long time!"

After the Activity: "That was fun, and we had to work together and not give up, you kept the balloon in the air for a long time! Our Bible Story today is about a woman who did not give up. She kept asking and asking for help. Let's go find out what happened!"

5 min

Never Give Up Surprise | Made to Think

What You Need

-  Avery Labels #28830 or equivalent 1
-  Set of nesting boxes (at least 4–6 boxes 1 that fit inside each other)
-  Music player 1
-  Fun, upbeat music 1



EveryChild tips

- If passing is difficult for a child, allow them to hold the boxes while others pass around them.
- Slow the music to keep the pace calm and manageable.
- Build excitement with each layer opened to reinforce perseverance in a joyful way

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print “Memory Verse Stickers” on label paper, one sticker per child. Remove the border of the label paper, then cut stickers into individual stickers. Place the stickers inside the smallest, tiniest box. Nest all the boxes together so they are closed and ready to open one at a time. Have children sit in a circle with enough space to pass the boxes safely.

During the Activity: Play the music and pass the boxes. When the music stops, the child holding the box will open it to reveal another box. Help the child take the inside box out. Put the first box outside of the circle and start the music again. (Continue until you get to the very last box with the stickers. The child who opens this box gets to stand up and walk around the inside of the circle, giving each child a sticker.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Come over and sit in a circle with me. Today we are going to play a passing game with this big box! We will pass the box around the circle while the music plays. When the music stops, whoever is holding the box gets to open it to see what’s inside!”

During the Activity: (Start the music.) “Pass the box! Don’t give up! Keep passing until the music stops. (Pause the music.) [Child’s name] is holding the box. Open the box and tell us what’s inside. (Pause.) Oh no! There’s another box inside! Should we give up? (Pause for responses.) No! We won’t give up! (Remove the first box and place it outside the circle. Start music.) Okay! There’s the music! Pass the box. Keep going! (Continue until you get to the last box.) The music stopped and [child’s name] is holding the box! Open it up and see what’s inside. (Pause.) Wow! Look at all the stickers! Stand up and walk around the inside of our circle and give each friend a sticker. (Pause.) Great job!”

After the Activity: “Just like we kept opening boxes and didn’t give up, the woman in the story Jesus told, kept asking the judge for help and didn’t give up. Jesus told this story to teach us to keep praying and not to give up because when we do, God’s kingdom grows. God hears us when we pray. God loves to help us. Your sticker has our Memory Verse on it. Let’s say our Memory Verse together: ‘Put God’s kingdom first’ Matthew 6:33. Super job! **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom.** Thank You, Jesus, for teaching us to pray and not give up.”

5 min

Filled with Treasure | Made to Create

What You Need

	Cardstock	1
	Avery® Labels #22807 or equivalent	1
	Jewel stickers	Several
	Crayons	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Filled with Treasure" on cardstock, one per child. Print "Treasure Stickers" on label paper, one set per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage kids to decorate their treasure chest then add their special stickers and the jewel stickers.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come sit at the table with me. Let's add treasures to your treasure chest."

During the Activity: "Look at this big open treasure chest! What do we put inside treasure chests? Treasure! Color your treasure chest. (*Allow children time to color.*) Now let's add your special stickers. This sticker says God is good. (*Give each child a sticker.*) Add this treasure to your treasure chest. (*Pause.*) This sticker (*hold up the sticker*) says 'Put God's kingdom first.' That's our Memory Verse! Add this treasure to your treasure chest. And this sticker (*hold up the sticker*) says pray and don't give up. That's what Jesus taught us in the story he told about the woman who didn't give up. Now add some jewel stickers to make your treasure sparkle! (*Pause.*) Wowee! Look how full your treasure chests are! Every time we pray and don't give up, we are adding treasure to God's kingdom."

Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

The Story of the Widow Who Would Not Give Up • Luke 18:1-8



After the Activity: "When we pray and don't give up, we show that loving God and His kingdom is most important. Jesus told this story because He wants us to know that God is not like the judge in the story. God is good, and God always cares for His people. He loves us, and He loves to help us! We can pray and talk to God, and never give up, and He will help us. And we know this because Jesus teaches us about God's kingdom. **Who teaches you about God's kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.**"

Supplies

Keepy Uppy | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies*

	Quantity
1. Mylar balloon	1
2. Drinking straw	1

Never Give Up Surprise | Made to Think

	Quantity
1. Avery Labels #28830 or equivalent	1
2. Set of nesting boxes (at least 4–6 boxes that fit inside each other)	1
3. Music player	1
4. Fun, upbeat music	1

Filled with Treasure | Made to Create

	Quantity
1. Cardstock	1
2. Avery® Labels #22807 or equivalent	1
3. Jewel stickers	Several
4. Crayons	1