

WEEK

ONE

K-3 | W1

Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2026, Week 1

Bible Story: How to Hear from God • John 10:1-4, 14-16; Psalm 1:1-3; Romans 1:19-20

Bottom Line: I can hear from God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27 Nlrv

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

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- Opening Activity

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Right or Left (K-1st grade), Four Corners (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: Create What You Hear (K-1st grade), Ways God Speaks (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Listen and Follow (K-1st grade), Mix & Match Verse (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K-1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App



Bible Story

How to Hear from God • John 10:1-4, 14-16; Psalm 1:1-3; Romans 1:19-20

Bottom Line

I can hear from God.

Memory Verse

My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. • John 10:27 Nlrv

5 min

Social

5 min

Opening Activity | Made to Play

What You Need

- | | |
|--|---------|
|  Offering container | 1 |
|  Items that make a sound (examples: paper to crumple or tear, keys, zipper, pencil tapping on table, water bottle to squeeze, book to close, VELCRO® strip, small bell) | Several |
|  Bag or box to hide items | 1 |



EveryChild tips

- For kids with hearing impairments, make sounds that involve vibrations, such as pounding on the table.

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Choose 3-5 objects that make distinct, recognizable sounds.
- Choose 3-5 actions that also make distinct sounds. Examples: snapping, stomping, knocking, clapping.
- Put objects in the bag or box so they can't be seen.

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Encourage the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Say: "Let's play a listening game! I'm going to make a sound. Close your eyes, listen carefully, and try to guess what made the sound."
- Make the first sound (example: crumple paper).
- After making the sound, pause and let the kids raise their hands to guess what the sound was while they still have their eyes closed. Call on 1-2 kids to share their guesses.
- Invite kids to open their eyes and reveal the object.
- Say: "You heard that sound and recognized it! You knew what it was because you've heard that sound before."
- Repeat with 1-2 more sounds.
- For the final round, make a slightly quieter sound. Say: "This one might be harder. Listen very carefully."
- Make the sound, and let the kids guess again.

What You Say:

"You all did a great job listening! Some of those sounds were easy to recognize, and some were a little harder—you had to really pay attention. I want you to think about your day. What are some things you hear when you wake up in the morning? Maybe an alarm, a parent talking, a TV, or even someone making breakfast. What else? (*Pause for a few responses.*) What about at school or throughout your day? What do you hear there? Maybe your teacher or parents giving directions, other kids talking, or music. Every day, you hear lots of different voices and sounds—and we all have to learn how to recognize them.

"Did you know God speaks to you too? But God doesn't usually speak out loud like the sounds we just heard. It's possible, but sometimes, God speaks in quieter ways—like a thought in your mind, a feeling in your heart, something you read in the Bible, or something someone who follows God too tells you. And just like you recognized those sounds because you've heard them before, we can learn to recognize God's voice too. It might not sound like something we hear with our ears, but

the more we listen and pay attention, the more familiar God speaking to us will become. God WANTS to speak to you, and you can learn to hear Him! Let's get ready to learn more about that!"

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Four Corners | Made to Move

What You Need

	Bible	1
	"Four Corners" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	Several
	Scissors	1
	Tape	1



EveryChild tips

- Have kids move with a buddy.

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Four Corners" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Designate four areas of your space (could be four corners of the room, four walls, or four sides of a table).
- Place one of the "Four Corners" cutouts in each corner.

During the Activity:

- Open the Bible to John 10. Read verses 2-4, 14, and 27.
- Say something like:
- Jesus is our good shepherd who leads us.
- God speaks to us in lots of ways, but you can know it is Him because you know His voice!
- Have kids stand in the middle of your group space.
- Say: "Let's play a game to learn some of the ways God speaks to us. When we belong to Jesus, we can learn to recognize His voice—just like sheep recognize their shepherd. God wants to speak to you!"
- Say: "Each corner of the room is a different way God speaks. I'll read a situation, then you move to the corner that shows how God might speak in that situation."
- Point to each corner, and read the name of each one out loud.
- Point to the first corner and say: "God speaks directly to your heart."
- Point to the second corner and say: "God speaks through the Bible."
- Point to the third corner and say: "God speaks through other people."
- Point to the fourth corner and say: "God speaks through the world He made."
- Point to the names of each corner and say them out loud again, but this time, have the kids repeat each one after you.
- **Round 1**
- Say: "Here's the first situation. You feel something inside that you should be kind to a kid who is sitting alone at lunch. Which way is God speaking?"
- Invite kids to move to a corner. Once they move, share the correct answer. (*directly to your heart*)
- Say: "Sometimes God puts something on your heart. This doesn't usually sound like a voice you hear with your ears. It's more like a thought or a feeling that helps you choose what is right, kind, and true. If it matches what God says in the Bible, that's a good way to know it could be God speaking to your heart! Let's remember our Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.**"

- **Round 2**

- Say: "Here's the second situation. You read in the Bible that God wants us to forgive others. Which way is God speaking?"
- Invite kids to move to a corner. Once they move, share the correct answer. (*through the Bible*)
- Say: "That's right! God speaks to us through the Bible. The Bible shows us who God is and how He wants us to live. When we read the Bible, we're learning what God is like, and that can help us learn to recognize His voice even better. Let's say our Bottom Line again: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.**"

- **Round 3**

- Say: "Here's the next situation. A parent, teacher, or friend who follows God reminds you to tell the truth. Which way is God speaking?"
- Invite kids to move to a corner. Once they move, share the correct answer. (*through other people*)
- Say: "God can use people in our lives who also follow God to help us know what God wants us to do in a situation. That might look like a parent reminding you to tell the truth, a teacher helping you make a better choice, or a friend encouraging you to do what's right. Let's say our Bottom Line again: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.**"

- **Round 4**

- Say: "Here's the last one! You see a beautiful sunset and remember that God made everything. Which way is God speaking?"
- Invite kids to move to a corner. Once they move, share the correct answer. (*through the world He made*)
- Say: "When we look at what God made, it can remind us who He is. Like when you see a huge sky, a sunset, animals, or stars, and you think, 'Wow, God made all of this!' God can even speak through what He made. Remember, you and **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.**"
- Have kids go and sit where you want to share the "What You Say" section.

What You Say:

"God speaks in many ways—directly to your heart, through the Bible, through other people who also follow Him, and through what He has made. Remember: Learning to hear God's voice takes practice. The closer you get to Him—through listening, reading the Bible, and paying attention—the easier it becomes to recognize when He is speaking. God isn't far away or silent—He wants you to hear Him because He loves you!

"And here's something important to remember: God isn't trying to hide His voice from you. He wants to guide you! The more you learn what He is like—especially through the Bible—the easier it becomes to recognize when He's speaking. Let's say our Bottom Line together: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God!**"

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Ways God Speaks | Made to Create

What You Need

	"Ways God Speaks" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	Several
	Drawing supplies	Several



EveryChild tips

- Encourage kids to work in pairs and support one another.

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Ways God Speaks" on cardstock, one per kid and leader.

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page and something to draw with.
- Say: "In our Bible Story, we learned that God speaks to us in different ways. We're going to think about each one and draw or write an example."
- Hold up your copy of the "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page, and point to the first box.
- **Box 1: God Speaks Directly to Your Heart**
- Say: "Sometimes, God speaks directly to your heart. That might feel like a thought to be kind, tell the truth, help someone, or say you're sorry—especially when it feels hard to do. Draw or write a time when God might speak to your heart."
- Give examples if needed:
 - Helping a friend
 - Telling the truth
 - Sharing
 - Including someone
- Allow drawing time.
- Say: "God can speak right to your heart in so many moments throughout your day."
- **Box 2: God Speaks through the Bible**
- Point to the second box.
- Say: "God also speaks through the Bible. When we read the Bible, we learn what God is like and what He wants us to know. Draw or write something you might learn from the Bible."
- Give examples if needed:
 - Love others.
 - God tells us to forgive.
 - God loves me.
 - God says that we should honor our parents.
- Allow drawing time.
- Say: "When we read the Bible, we're learning from God. You can open up His Word with a grown-up or read it on your own, and God will speak to you!"
- **Box 3: God Speaks through Other People**
- Point to the third box.

- Say: "Sometimes, God speaks through other people who also know and follow Him. He might use a parent, teacher, friend, or leader to help you know what He would want you to do. Draw or write someone who might help you hear from God."
- Give examples if needed:
 - A parent reminding you to be kind
 - A teacher helping you tell the truth
 - A friend encouraging you
- Allow drawing time.
- Say: "Great job! God can use people in your life to speak to you in so many ways!"
- **Box 4: God Speaks through the World He Made**
- Point to the last box.
- Say: "God also speaks through the world God made. When we look at what God made, it reminds us how big and amazing He is. Draw something God made that reminds you of Him."
- Give examples if needed:
 - Animals
 - The mountains
 - The ocean
 - The sun, moon, and stars
- Allow drawing time.
- Say: "When we look at what God made, we can remember who God is. God made so many good things. He is an amazing Creator."

What You Say:

"God speaks in many ways—to your heart, through the Bible, through other people who know and follow Him, and through what He made. As you worked on your page, you were thinking about real ways God can speak to YOU! Whatever you chose to write or draw today, choose one and really pay attention to it this week. Look for moments when God might be speaking to you in that way. You don't have to figure everything out perfectly—just start by noticing! The more you notice, the more you'll begin to recognize how God is speaking to you. Now, let's say our Bottom Line together: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.**"

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

-  Optional: Kids' completed "Ways God Speaks" Activity Pages 1

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- **If your Small Group used the "Ways God Speaks" Activity Pages:**
- Say: "Earlier, you drew ways that God can speak to you. Let's look at those again."
- Give the kids a moment to look at their Activity Page.
- Point to the four boxes and say: "God can speak to your heart, through the Bible, through other people who know and follow Him, and through the world He made. Today, we're going to quietly ask God to help us listen for His voice this week. Look at your page, and choose one way you would like to practice hearing God's voice this week."
- Pause while kids choose.
- Say: "Who wants to share which one they picked?"
- Allow 2-3 kids to share.
- You can follow up with questions, such as: "When could you do that?", "What would that look like?", or "Can you think of a specific moment when that might happen?"
- Thank each kid for sharing, and affirm their response.
- **If your Small Group did not use the "Ways God Speaks" Activity Pages:**
- Say: "We've been talking about different ways God speaks to us. God can speak to your heart, through the Bible, through other people who know Him, and through the world He made. Today, we're going to quietly ask God to help us listen for His voice this week. Choose one way you would like to practice hearing God's voice this week."
- Say: "Who wants to share which one they picked?"
- Allow 2-3 kids to share.
- You can follow up with questions, such as: "When could you do that?", "What would that look like?", or "Can you think of a specific moment when that might happen?"
- Thank each kid for sharing, and affirm their response.

What You Say:

"These are great ways to practice hearing from God this week! God wants you to hear from Him and be His friend, and this week, you can practice listening. Sometimes, the best way to hear God is to slow down and be quiet, just like we're about to do. Let's ask God to help us listen."

Getting Ready | Small Group

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

SOCIAL:

Opening Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Offering container, one per Small Group
- Objects that make a sound (examples: paper to crumple or tear, keys, zipper, pencil tapping on table, water bottle to squeeze, book to close, VELCRO® strip, small bell), 3-5 per Small Group
- Bag or box, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Choose 3-5 objects that make distinct sounds.
- Put the objects in the box or bag so they can't be seen.

GROUPS:

1. Four Corners

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Move

What You Need:

- "Four Corners" Activity Page, one set per Small Group
- Cardstock, four pieces per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- Tape, one roll per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Four Corners" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Designate four areas of your space (could be four corners of the room, four walls, or four sides of a table).
- Place one of the "Four Corners" cutouts in each corner.

2. Ways God Speaks

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page, one per kid and leader
- Cardstock, one piece per kid and leader
- Drawing supplies, several per kid

What You Do:

- Print "Ways God Speaks" on cardstock, one per kid.

4. Pray and Dismiss**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]****Made to Reflect****What You Need:**

- *Optional: Kids' completed "Ways God Speaks" Activity Pages, one per kid*

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue App**.

Supplies:

- Offering container
- Objects that make a sound (examples: paper to crumple or tear, keys, zipper, pencil tapping on table, water bottle to squeeze, book to close, VELCRO® strip, small bell) (3-5 per Small Group)
- Bag or box
- "Four Corners" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Tape
- "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Drawing supplies (several per kid)
- Bibles
- "Mix & Match Verse" Activity Page
- Paper
- Scissors
- Optional: Kids' completed "Ways God Speaks" Activity Pages
- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards

Supplies

Opening Activity | Made to Play

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 1. | Offering container | 1 |
| 2. | Items that make a sound (examples: paper to crumple or tear, keys, zipper, pencil tapping on table, water bottle to squeeze, book to close, VELCRO® strip, small bell) | Several |
| 3. | Bag or box to hide items | 1 |

Four Corners | Made to Move

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Bible | 1 |
| 2. | "Four Corners" Activity Page | 1 |
| 3. | Cardstock | Several |
| 4. | Scissors | 1 |
| 5. | Tape | 1 |

Ways God Speaks | Made to Create

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page | 1 |
| 2. | Cardstock | Several |
| 3. | Drawing supplies | Several |

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

Quantity

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Optional: Kids' completed "Ways God Speaks" Activity Pages | 1 |
|----|--|---|

WEEK

TWO

K-3 | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2026, Week 2

Bible Story: How to Read the Bible • *Matthew 6:11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Bottom Line: I can learn to know God through the Bible.

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27 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.
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Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- Opening Activity

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Books of the Bible (K–1st grade), Puzzle Piece Review (2nd–3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: Is It in the Bible? (K–1st grade), Pack Your Bag (2nd–3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Pass the Sheep (K–1st grade), Scripture Stack (2nd–3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K–1st grade, 2nd–3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App



Bible Story

How to Read the Bible • *Matthew 6:11; 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Bottom Line

I can learn to know God through the Bible.

Memory Verse

My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. • John 10:27 NIV

5 min

Social

5 min

Opening Activity | Made to Move

What You Need

-  Offering container 1
-  Floor tape 1
-  EveryChild Supplies: Green piece of paper as a visual cue Several



EveryChild tips

- Allow kids to step in place or tap their foot instead of walking forward
- Use a green piece of paper as a visual cue to signal to kids that it is time to move forward.

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Use tape to mark a start and finish line on the floor.

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Once most kids arrive, instruct kids to line up shoulder-to-shoulder behind the line.
- Say "Alright, let's see who came ready to listen today. I've got a challenge for you! The goal of this game is to make it to the finish line by listening carefully and only stepping when you hear the right word. The word you're listening for is the word DAY. So, once we start, every time you hear the word DAY, take one step forward. Let's see how well you can listen!"
- Round 1
 - "On the first DAY, God made light."
 - "On the second DAY, God made the sky."
 - "On the third DAY, God made land and plants."
 - "On the fourth DAY, God made the sun, moon, and stars."
 - "On the fifth DAY, God made animals in the water and sky."
- Have kids return to the starting line.
- Say: "Wow, you all really got the hang of this! Well done! But maybe that was a little too easy. Let's make it even more of a challenge this round. Are you ready?!"
- Round 2
 - "Every DAY, you can learn something new."
 - "Some DAYs are busy, and some DAYs are quiet."
 - "God is with you every single DAY."
 - "There are DAYS when things feel easy, and DAYS when they feel hard."
- "You can take time to learn about God every DAY."
- Have kids return to the starting line.
- Say: "That round was definitely a bit more difficult. But you all did great! Who is ready for the final round? It might be tricky! Listen closely so you don't miss it!"
- Round 3
 - "Yesterday was a great DAY, and toDAY is a new DAY."
 - "One DAYy, you might help someone in a big way."
 - "God speaks to you every DAY, even when it's quiet."
 - "There might be a DAY when you don't notice – but God is still speaking every DAY."
- "Any DAY is a good DAY to read the Bible and learn about God."
- Direct kids to sit down

What You Say:

"You all did a great job listening and moving! Some of those were easy, and some made you really pay attention. You had to listen carefully, so you didn't miss the word '*day*.' Every single day, we hear lots of words and voices. Some are loud, and some are quiet. Some are easy to notice, and some take practice to hear. Jesus said we can ask God for our *daily bread*. That means not just food for our bodies – but what our hearts need too. One of the main ways God gives us what we need is through the Bible. When we read the Bible, we're learning what God says and what matters to Him. It's one of the clearest ways we can hear from God. The Bible teaches us what is true, helps us make wise choices, and shows us who God is. And just like this game, listening takes practice. The more we spend time reading the Bible, the more we begin to recognize what God is saying. Let's get ready to learn more!"

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Puzzle Piece Review | Made to Explore

What You Need

	"Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	Several
	Scissors	1
	Optional: Pencil	1
	EveryChild Supplies: Completed puzzle	Several puzzle



EveryChild tips

- Offer a visual "completed version" as a guide.

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Puzzle Piece Review" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- - *Optional: Lightly mark the back of pieces with numbers to help guide assembly if needed.*
- *Optional: Print an additional "Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page. Cut and assemble for a visual example.*

During the Activity:

- Gather kids in a circle on the floor.
- Place the mixed-up puzzle pieces in the center of your area.
- Say: "Today we're going to build something together. It's a puzzle, but not just any puzzle! Each piece tells us something true about the Bible. As we put the pieces together, we're going to see a bigger picture of what the Bible is and why it matters."
- Let each kid pick one to two puzzle pieces or pair up with a buddy, depending on the number of kids in the group.
- Say: "Take a look at your piece. If you can read it, try reading it quietly to yourself. If you're not sure what it says, that's okay – I'll help you."
- Go around the group and help each kid read their piece
- Say: "Now let's work together to put all the pieces together. Each piece is important, just like every part of the Bible is important."
- Invite kids to begin assembling the puzzle
- As they work, you may guide with prompts such as:
 - "Where do you think your piece might go?"
 - "Does anyone see pieces that might fit together?"
 - "Let's help each other. This is something we're building together!"
- Keep the focus on collaboration over speed. If kids finish quickly, invite them to go back through the pieces and choose one truth to share or explain in their own words.

What You Say:

"Look at what you built together! Each piece mattered – but it wasn't complete on its own. When you put the pieces together, it really started to make sense. That's what the Bible is like. It's made up of many parts, but they all connect to tell one big story. God used different people, at different times, to give us the Bible, and every part helps us understand more about Him. Some parts are stories, some are instructions, some are prayers, but all of it helps us see who God is and how He works. And when you read the Bible, you're not just learning information – you're getting to know God Himself! So remember, you can learn to know God

through the Bible, and **[Bottom Line]** I can learn to know God through the Bible."

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Scripture Stack | Made to Play

What You Need

	Bibles	1
	Plastic cups	Several
	Permanent marker	Several



EveryChild tips

- *Slow the pace of the game when needed.*
- *Repeat the verse slowly and often*

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Write one word of the Memory Verse on each cup:
- My
- sheep
- listen
- to
- my
- voice;
- I
- know
- them,
- and
- they
- follow
- me.
- John
- 10:27
- Stack cups in a single tower with words mixed up

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up John 10:27.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

Finding verses for 2nd-3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Hold up the stack of cups. Say: "These cups have the words of our Memory Verse – but they're all mixed up! We're going to work together to stack them into a pyramid in the correct order. We'll start with five cups on the bottom, then four, then three, then two, and one on top."
- Unstack and spread cups out where kids can see all of them.

- Say: "Let's find the very first word of the verse. Does anyone think they might know which word is first?"
- Invite kids up one at a time as they recognize the right words. Allow kids to use their Bibles if they wish.
- Continue building left to right until five cups form the base.
- Say: "Great! Now let's build the next row with four cups."
- Invite kids to continue placing cups in order.
- Continue pattern. Say: "Let's keep building three on this row. Now two more. And one on top to finish it!"
- Keep reinforcing the verse as you go.
- Once finished, point from bottom to top. Say: "Let's read the whole verse together from the bottom to the top."

What You Say:

"You all worked together to stack our Memory Verse – and the more you practiced, the easier it became to put it in the right order. That's how it works with the Bible too. The more you read it and hear it, the more familiar it becomes. And the more familiar it becomes, the easier it is to recognize what God is saying. God will never say something that goes against what we read in the Bible. So, when you know what is true, it helps you know when something you're thinking or hearing matches who God is. Over time, reading the Bible helps you recognize God's voice in everyday life – in your thoughts, your choices, and the way you treat others. So this week, keep practicing. Even a little time in the Bible can help you hear from God more clearly. **[Bottom Line] I can learn to know God through the Bible.**"

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

	Sticky notes	1
	Coloring supplies	Several
	Poster board or foam board	1

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Write at the top of the poster board: "God, help me learn..."
- Place the poster board where all kids can reach it.
- Set out sticky notes and coloring supplies.

During the Activity:

- Say: "Today we've talked about how the Bible helps us learn who God is. And when we pray, we can ask God to help us understand and learn more."
- Hold up a sticky note. "Each of you will have a sticky note where you will finish the sentence: 'God, help me learn...' You can write or draw something you want God to help you learn from the Bible this week."
- You can give examples such as:
 - "God, help me read my Bible this week."
 - "God, help me learn more about You."
 - "God, help me listen to You."
 - "God, help me make good choices."
- Hand out sticky notes and coloring supplies.
- Say: "Take a couple of minutes to write or draw your prayer."
- Walk around and offer support if needed.
- Say: "When you're ready, come stick your prayer on the board."
- After all sticky notes are posted, you may read two to three aloud.

What You Say:

"These are all great prayers. You're asking God to help you learn and that's exactly what He wants to do. When you read the Bible, you're not doing it alone. God is with you, and He helps you understand what you're reading. And you can talk to Him anytime. You don't need special words. You can talk to God like a friend – honest, simple, and from your heart. This week, when you read the Bible, you can ask God, 'Help me understand. Show me who You are.' Then take a moment to read and listen. Even if it's just a few minutes, that time matters. God can use it to help you grow and to help you hear His voice more clearly. Let's talk to Him now."

Getting Ready | Small Group

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

SOCIAL:

Opening Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Offering container, one per Small Group
- Floor tape, one roll per Small Group

EveryChild Supplies:

- *Optional: Green piece of paper as a visual cue, one per Small Group*

What You Do:

- Use tape to mark a start and finish line on the floor.

GROUPS:

1. Puzzle Piece Review

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Explore

What You Need:

- "Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page, one per Small Group
- Cardstock, one piece per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- *Optional: Pencil, one per Small Group*

EveryChild Supplies

- *Completed puzzle, one per Small Group*

What You Do:

- Print "Puzzle Piece Review" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- *Optional: Lightly mark the back of pieces with numbers to help guide assembly if needed.*
- *Optional: Print an additional "Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page. Cut and assemble for a visual example.*

- - - - 2. Pack Your Bag

3. Scripture Stack

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Play

What You Need:

- Bibles, one per kid
- Plastic cups, fifteen per Small Group
- Permanent marker, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Write one word of the memory verse on each cup:
- My
- sheep
- listen
- to
- my
- voice;
- I
- know
- them,
- and
- they
- follow
- me.
- John
- 10:27
- Stack cups in a single tower with words mixed up

4. Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- Sticky notes, one to two per kid
- Coloring supplies, several per kid
- Poster board or foam board, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Write at the top of the poster board: "God, help me learn..."
- Place the poster board where all kids can reach it
- Set out sticky notes and coloring supplies.

HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue App**.

Supplies:

- Offering container
- Floor tape
- "Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Optional: Pencil
- Backpack, tote bag, or something similar
- Index cards, one to
- Coloring supplies (several per kid)
- Bible
- Bookmark
- Highlighter
- Journal
- Pen/pencil
- Bibles
- Plastic cups, fifteen per Small Group
- Permanent marker
- Sticky notes, one to
- Coloring supplies (several per kid)
- Poster board or foam board
- Optional EveryChild Supplies: Green piece of paper as a visual cue
- EveryChild Supplies: Completed puzzle

Supplies

Opening Activity | Made to Move

	Quantity
1. Offering container	1
2. Floor tape	1
3. EveryChild Supplies: Green piece of paper as a visual cue	Several

Puzzle Piece Review | Made to Explore 1.

	Quantity
"Puzzle Piece Review" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	Several
3. Scissors	1
4. Optional: Pencil	1
5. EveryChild Supplies: Completed puzzle	Several

Scripture Stack | Made to Play

	Quantity
1. Bibles	1
2. Plastic cups	Several
3. Permanent marker	Several

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

	Quantity
1. Sticky notes	1
2. Coloring supplies	Several
3. Poster board or foam board	1

WEEK

THREE

K-3 | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2026, Week 3

Bible Story: The Vine and the Branches • John 15:1-11

Bottom Line: I can grow when I stay close to God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27 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.
- In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- Opening Activity

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Grow, Don't Grow (K-1st grade), Stay Connected (2nd-3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: The Grapevine Walk (K-1st grade), Fruit or No Fruit? (2nd-3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Standing Sheep Verse (K-1st grade), Build-a-Branch (2nd-3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K-1st grade, 2nd-3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App



Bible Story

The Vine and the Branches • John 15:1-11

Bottom Line

I can grow when I stay close to God.

Memory Verse

My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. • John 10:27 NIV

5 min

Social

5 min

Opening Activity | Made to Move

What You Need

	Offering container	1
	"Vine Relay" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	Several
	Brown construction paper	Several
	Scissors	1
	Painter's tape	Several



EveryChild tips

- Allow kids to walk and take their time instead of run.
- Pair kids up with a buddy
- *Offer verbal countdowns and clear turn-taking cues\
- *

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Vine Relay" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per kid.
- Cut long strips of brown paper
- Tape them into a vine shape with branches off the main vine.
- You may also use tape to make a vine shape directly on the floor or wall.
- Prepare tape ahead of time by rolling small pieces and sticking them along the vine (sticky side out), spaced out for easy access.
- Place one to two extra tape rolls nearby for leaders only.
- Mark two start lines on the floor with painter's tape.

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Once most kids arrive, divide them into two teams and have each team line up behind the starting lines.
- Say: "Alright, friends! Today we're going to build something really cool – but you have to work as a team!"
- Point to the vine. Say: "Do you see this vine? Right now, it looks pretty empty. Your job is to fill it up with leaves! Here's how the game works. When it's your turn, you will run to the vine, grab one leaf, and stick it onto a piece of tape that is already on the vine. Then run back and tag the next person in line. Once you have finished your turn, you can take a seat at the back of the line."
- You can demonstrate the steps as you explain: run → grab leaf → stick leaf → return → tag.
- Say: "Let's practice the rules together. How many leaves do you take at a time?" (Allow kids to respond.) "That's right. One leaf at a time! And where do the leaves go?" (Allow response.) "Yes - on the vine! Make sure your leaf is touching the vine so it stays connected."
- Say: "When I say go, the first person in each line will start. Ready? 3... 2... 1... GO!"
- Start the relay and encourage kids as they play:
- "Nice job!"
- "Keep going!"
- "Look at your vines grow!"
- The game ends when the first team has had all team members successfully add leaves to the vine.

What You Say:

"You all worked hard to build your vines! At first, it just looked like a line but as you added more leaves, it started to look full and alive. Jesus

used a picture like this to teach us something important. He said, 'I am the vine, and you are the branches.' That means we are like branches that grow on a vine. Branches don't grow by themselves! They only grow when they stay connected to the vine. That's how they get what they need to live and grow. In the same way, we grow when we stay close to God. When we spend time with God, like praying, reading the Bible, and listening to Him, it's like staying connected to the vine. That's how we grow on the inside. If a branch isn't connected, it can't grow anything. But when it stays connected, it grows strong and full. **[Bottom Line] I can grow when I stay close to God.** I can't wait to learn more with you!

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Stay Connected | Made to Connect

What You Need

-  Ball of yarn Several
-  EveryChild Supplies: Gloves Several



EveryChild tips

- Offer simple prompts or choices.
- Provide gloves for kids with sensory sensitivities.

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Have kids sit in a circle.
- Say: "We're going to build something together again, but this time, we're not building with leaves. We're going to build a connection."
- Hold up the ball of yarn. Say: "This yarn is going to help us see what it looks like to stay connected."
- Explain how it works:
- Leader holds the end of the yarn.
- Leader says one way to stay connected to God.
- Leader tosses the ball to a kid while holding the end.
- Each kid shares and tosses to someone new, while holding on to the piece of yarn.
- Say: "When you catch the yarn, you'll say one way you can stay connected to God. Then hold onto your piece and toss the ball to someone else."
- Demonstrate:
- Hold the end.
- Say: "I can stay connected to God by praying."
- Toss to the yarn to a kid.
- Continue guiding the activity as kids participate.
- Prompt if needed:
- "Reading the Bible."
- "Talking to God."
- "Listening during quiet time."
- "Doing what God says."
- As the web forms, pause and point it out.
- Say: "Look at this! We're all connected."
- After all kids have had a turn, gently lower the yarn web to the floor or keep holding if manageable.

What You Say:

"Take a look at the yarn in your hands. It connects all of us, and it helps us see something important.

Jesus said, 'I am the vine, and you are the branches.' A branch stays a live and grows when it stays connected to the vine. That's where it gets everything it needs. When Jesus said this, He was teaching that He is our source. He is the One who gives us what we need to grow and begin to see how things like love, joy, and patience. But there are a lot of other voices around us every day. Voices that try to tell us what matters most, what we should do, or how we should live. Sometimes those voices can be loud and distracting. Jesus invites us to stay connected to Him instead. When w

e stay close to Jesus – when we listen to His words, talk to Him, and remember what is true – we start to recognize His voice more clearly. We begin to want the things He wants. And over time, our lives begin to show it. We don't have to try to grow all on our own. Growth happens when we stay connected to Him. So, when you think about this yarn, let it remind you: staying close to Jesus is what helps you grow strong on the inside. **[Bottom Line] I can grow when I stay close to God.**

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Build-a-Branch | Made to Create

What You Need

	Bibles	1
	"Build-a-Branch" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	Several
	Scissors	1
	Coloring supplies	Several
	Clear tape	Several
	Wall	1
	table, or floor space	1



EveryChild tips

- Allow kids to use Bible or alternate visual guide for sequencing support.
- Affirm each kid's contribution to the final result.

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Build-a-Branch" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up John 10:27.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

Finding verses for 2nd-3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Give each kid one of the strips with a word of the Memory Verse on it. Kids may pair up or take more than one word depending on number of kids in the group.
- Say: "Each of you has one part of our Memory Verse. First, take a minute to color in your word. You can add color, leaves, or anything that helps it stand out."
- Allow a few minutes for decorating.
- After decorating, say: "Now we're going to put all our words together to build our Memory Verse. We're going to put it in order first, then shape it like a branch. Let's find the very first word. Does anyone think they know what comes first?"
- Continue guiding:
 - "What comes next?"
 - "Who has the next word?"
- Help kids arrange the verse in order, left to right.
- Once the words are in order, say: "Now let's shape it into a vine and branches!"
- Gently guide kids to angle or curve the line slightly to resemble a vine.
- Tape pieces down as they are finalized.
- When complete, point to the full verse. Say: "Let's read it together."

- Read the verse out loud as a group one to two times.

What You Say:

"Jesus said, *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.*' Jesus also said something else. He said He is the vine, and we are the branches. You see, branches don't just try harder to grow – they need the vine to give them life. Without the vine, a branch might look okay for a little while... but it won't keep growing. It dries out. In the same way, we can try to live life on our own. We can listen to other voices or just do whatever we feel like. But those things don't give us what we really need. Jesus is the One who gives life to our hearts. When we listen to His voice and follow Him, it's like staying connected to the vine. Jesus didn't say this to make things harder for us! He said it so we could have true joy that lasts. So when you choose to listen to Jesus this week, remember – you're not just making a good choice. You're staying close to the One who gives you life. And we can remind ourselves: **[Bottom Line] I can grow when I stay close to God.**"

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

No supplies needed



EveryChild tips

- Allow kids to sit, kneel, or stand
- Option to keep eyes open or closed

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

- - *During the Activity:*
- Invite kids to sit in a circle or spread out with a little personal space.
- Say: "We're going to take a few quiet moments to talk to God. You can close your eyes if you want or just look down to help you focus. I'm going to say a few short prayers. After each one, you can quietly repeat it in your heart or say your own words to God."
- Pause between each line
- "God, thank You that You are always with me."
- "Help me stay close to You."
- "Help me listen to Your voice."
- "Help me follow You – even when it's hard."
- Say: "Now I want you to take a moment to talk to God in your own words. You can ask Him to help you stay close to Him this week."
- Allow twenty to thirty seconds of quiet and then gently close with "Amen."

What You Say:

"Jesus said He is the vine, and we are the branches. That means we're not meant to do life on our own. Prayer is one way we stay close to Him. You can talk to God anytime, about anything. And you can also take time to just be quiet and listen. God is always with you. He is the one who gives you life and helps you grow. **[Bottom Line]** I can grow when I stay close to God."

As adults arrive to pick up, remind the kids that they can stay connected to Jesus this week!

Getting Ready | Small Group

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

SOCIAL:

Opening Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Offering container, one per Small Group
- "Vine Relay" Activity Page, one cutout per kid
- Cardstock, one piece for every two kids
- Brown construction paper, several pieces per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- - - Painter's tape, one roll per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Vine Relay" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per kid.
- Cut long strips of brown paper.
- Tape them into a vine shape with branches off the main vine.
- You may also use tape to make a vine shape directly on the floor or wall.
- Prepare tape ahead of time by rolling small pieces and sticking them along the vine (sticky side out), spaced out for easy access.
- Place one to two extra tape rolls nearby for leaders only.
- Mark two start lines on the floor with painter's tape.

GROUPS:

1. Stay Connected

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Connect

What You Need:

- Ball of yarn, one per Small Group

EveryChild Supplies:

- *Gloves, one pair per kid*

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Create

What You Need:

- Bibles, one per kid
- "Build-a-Branch" Activity Page, one set per Small Group
- Cardstock, four pieces per Small Group
- Coloring supplies, several per kid
- Clear tape, one roll per Small Group
- Wall, table, or floor space, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Build-a-Branch" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- **4. Pray and Dismiss**

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- No supplies needed
- **<u>HOME:</u> Prompting Action Beyond the Experience**
- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue App**.

Supplies:

- EveryChild Supplies: Gloves
- EveryChild Supplies: 2. Fruit or No Fruit?
- EveryChild Supplies: Made to Play

Supplies

Opening Activity | Made to Move

	Quantity
1. Offering container	1
2. "Vine Relay" Activity Page	1
3. Cardstock	Several
4. Brown construction paper	Several
5. Scissors	1
6. Painter's tape	Several

Stay Connected | Made to Connect

	Quantity
1. Ball of yarn	Several
2. EveryChild Supplies: Gloves	Several

Build-a-Branch | Made to Create

	Quantity
1. Bibles	1
2. "Build-a-Branch" Activity Page	1
3. Cardstock	Several
4. Scissors	1
5. Coloring supplies	Several
6. Clear tape	Several
7. Wall	1
8. table, or floor space	1

WEEK

FOUR

K-3 | W4

Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2026, Week 4

Bible Story: The Lord Calls Out to Samuel • 1 Samuel 3

Bottom Line: I can ask God to speak to me.

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27 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.
- In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- Opening Activity

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Act It Out (K–1st grade), Who's Calling? (2nd–3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: Blindfolded Trek (K–1st grade), Keys to Listening (2nd–3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Whose Voice Is It? (K–1st grade), Blindfold Mix & Match (2nd–3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K–1st grade, 2nd–3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App



Bible Story

The Lord Calls Out to Samuel • 1 Samuel 3

Bottom Line

I can ask God to speak to me.

Memory Verse

My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. • John 10:27 NIV

5 min

Social

5 min

Opening Activity | Made to Play

What You Need

	Offering container	1
	Music player	1
	Upbeat Music	1
	EveryChild Supplies: Noise-cancelling headphones	Several



EveryChild tips

- *Select whispered instructions carefully so all kids can participate.*
- *Model what a "good freeze" looks like before starting*
- **Keep instructions short and simple to build success*
- *

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Have music ready to play and pause quickly

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Once most kids arrive, say: "We're going to play a game called Freeze & Listen! You'll need to listen very carefully."
- Explain the rules:
- When the music plays, you may walk, dance, or move around the room.
- When the music stops, you must FREEZE immediately.
- Only the kids who are completely frozen and quiet may follow the whispered instructions.
- Start with a practice round.
- Play music for fifteen to twenty seconds.
- Stop the music suddenly and whisper: "If you can hear me, touch your nose."
- Play several more rounds using different instructions such as:
- "Clap once."
- "Sit down slowly."
- "Give a thumbs up."
- "Whisper, 'God speaks.'"
- "Close your eyes."
- Each round, whisper a little more softly so kids must listen more carefully.
- After several rounds, gather the kids together.

What You Say:

"Wow! That was fun! It was a lot easier to hear when everyone stopped moving and got quiet, right? When there was noise and movement, it was much harder to listen carefully. Sometimes our lives feel just like that. There's noise all around us: people talking, distractions, games, school, and even our own thoughts. It can make it hard to really listen. The Bible teaches that God speaks to us. That's amazing! But just like in our game, we sometimes have to slow down, stop, and listen carefully so we don't miss what He's saying.

"Today we're going to hear about a boy named Samuel. At first, he didn't realize it was God speaking to him. But he learned to listen. And here's something important to remember: **[Bottom Line]** I can ask God to

speak to me. When we ask, we're choosing to listen, and God is always ready to speak."

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Keys to Listening | Made to Connect

What You Need

	"Keys to Listening" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	Several
	Scissors	1



EveryChild tips

- Read scenarios slowly and repeat as needed

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Keys to Listening" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

During the Activity:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Spread the keys out where everyone can see them.
- Say: "Each of these keys has something true from the Bible. These are like 'keys' that help us listen to God."
- Explain the activity:
- You will read a scenario.
- Kids will work together to choose a key (Scripture) that could help in that situation.
- Before the first scenario, read out the verses on the keys.
- Scenario 1:
- "You feel nervous about something new, like a test or trying a new activity."
- Key Options:
- "Trust in the Lord with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5.
- "Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid... the Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go." Joshua 1:9.
- Say: "When you feel nervous, God wants to remind you that you can trust Him. He is with you wherever you go, so you don't have to face it alone."
- Scenario 2:
- "You don't know what the right choice is."
- Key Options:
- "Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way." Psalm 119:105.
- "If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God." James 1:5.
- Say: "When you're unsure what to do, God's Word helps guide you! You can also ask God for wisdom, and He will help you know the right choice."
- Scenario 3:
- "Someone is being unkind to you at school."
- Key Options:
- "Be kind and tender to one another." Ephesians 4:32.
- "Do to others as you would have them do to you." Luke 6:31.
- Say: "Even when someone is unkind, God can help you choose kindness. Listening to Him helps you respond in a way that shows His love."
- Scenario 4:
- "You're trying to listen to God, but it's hard to be quiet and pay attention."

- Key Options:
- "Be still, and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10.
- "Speak, Lord. I'm listening." 1 Samuel 3:10.
- Say: "Sometimes we need to slow down and be still so we can listen. You can ask God to help you focus and remind your heart to listen."
- Scenario 5:
- "You see someone who needs help."
- Key Options:
- "Love one another." John 13:34.
- "Do to others as you would have them do to you." Luke 6:31.
- Say: "When you feel like you should help someone, that's something God often leads you to do! It matches what the Bible teaches about loving others."

What You Say:

"You all made some really thoughtful choices! Each of those keys reminds us of something about God and how He speaks to us. God doesn't want hearing Him to be tricky or hard. He wants to guide you. He speaks in ways that help you know what is true – like through the Bible, a quiet thought, or a reminder to do what is right. When Samuel heard God's voice, he didn't understand at first. But when he said, 'Speak, Lord. I'm listening,' he was ready. He was paying attention. These keys remind us of what is true. And when we know what is true, it helps us recognize God's voice. God will never tell you something that goes against what the Bible says. So the more you learn what is true, the easier it becomes to notice His voice in your life. When you're unsure, you can start with something simple. You can ask God to speak to you – and then listen. ***[Bottom Line] *I can ask God to speak to me."**

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Blindfold Mix & Match | Made to Explore

What You Need

	Bibles	1
	"Blindfold Mix & Match" Activity Page	1
	Paper	1
	Scissors	1
	Blindfold	1



EveryChild tips

- Allow kids to keep eyes closed instead of using a blindfold if preferred
- Keep directions simple and one at a time ("left," "right," "stop")
- Offer a seated version to reduce movement challenges

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Blindfold Mix & Match" on paper and cut, one set per Small Group.

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up John 10:27.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

Finding verses for 2nd-3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Place the Memory Verse strips in the middle of the group.
- Say: "The words of our Memory Verse are all mixed up again! But this time, we are going to add another layer to make it a bit more challenging!"
- Choose one kid to be the "listener."
- Have that kid wear a blindfold or close their eyes.
- Explain the rules:
- The group will help guide the blindfolded kid.
- Kids can give simple directions like: "Move left," "Pick that one up," or "That comes first."
- The blindfolded kid will pick up and place the pieces in order based on what they hear.
- Begin the activity:
- Guide the kid to pick up one piece at a time.
- Let the group help direct where it should go.
- Prompt as needed:
- "What sounds like the beginning?"
- "What comes after 'My sheep'?"
- "Where should that piece go?"
- Continue until the verse is in the correct order.
- Once complete:

- Remove the blindfold.
- Read the verse together as a group one to two times.
- Rotate in a new kid if time allows.

What You Say:

"That took some really good listening! When you couldn't see, you had to rely on what you heard to help you know what to do. Jesus said, 'My sheep listen to my voice.' That means we can learn to recognize His voice. Sometimes we don't see exactly what God is doing or what comes next. But we can listen. And just like in this activity, listening helps guide us. The more we hear God's truth – like when we read the Bible and remember what it says – the more familiar His voice becomes. And when we're not sure what to do, we can do what Samuel did. We can say, 'Speak, Lord. I'm listening.' Remember our **[Bottom Line]** **I can ask God to speak to me.**"

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

What You Need

No supplies needed



EveryChild tips

- Give the option to keep eyes open or closed
- Allow kids to pass if they don't want to share out loud

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle or spread out with a little personal space.
- Say: "We're going to take a few moments to talk to God. What is something you want to ask God to speak to you about this week?"
- Allow a few kids to share. Keep it brief and optional.
- Say: "Let's get ready to listen to God. We can use our bodies to show that our hearts are ready to hear from Him."
- Show kids how to hold their hands open in their lap.
- Say: "You can hold your hands open like this. Open hands can remind us that we're ready to receive what God wants to say. You can also close your eyes if you want or look down so you focus on what God is saying. I'll say a few short prayers. You can repeat them quietly in your heart or say your own words."
- Pray slowly, pausing between each line:
 - "God, thank You that You speak to me."
 - "Help me be ready to listen."
 - "Help me notice Your voice."
 - "Speak to me this week."
 - "Now take a moment to talk to God about what you want Him to speak to you about."
- Allow twenty to thirty seconds of quiet.
- Close with: "Amen."

What You Say:

"Today we learned that God speaks to us, and we can listen – just like Samuel did! When Samuel heard God's voice, he said, 'Speak, Lord. I'm listening.' That's a simple prayer you can pray too. Prayer isn't just talking to God. It's also taking time to listen. You can do that anywhere – at home, at school, or before bed. When you hold your hands open like this, it can remind you that you're ready to listen and receive what God wants to say. Remember, you don't have to wonder if God wants to speak to you. He does! And you can always start by asking. ***[Bottom Line] *I can ask God to speak to me.**"

As adults arrive to pick up, remind the kids that they can ask God to speak to them – and take a moment to listen this week!

Getting Ready | Small Group

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

SOCIAL:

Opening Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Offering container, one per Small Group
- Music player, one per Small Group
- Upbeat Music, several per Small Group

EveryChild Supplies

- Noise-cancelling headphones, one per kid

What You Do:

- Have music ready to play and pause quickly

GROUPS:

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Connect

What You Need:

- "Keys to Listening" Activity Page, one per Small Group
- Cardstock, five pieces per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Keys to Listening" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.

3. Blindfold Mix & Match

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Explore

What You Need:

- Bibles, one per kid
- "Blindfold Mix & Match" Activity Page, one per Small Group
- Paper, three pieces per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- Blindfold, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Blindfold Mix & Match" on paper and cut, one set per Small Group.

4. Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- No supplies needed
- **<u>HOME:</u> Prompting Action Beyond the Experience**
- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue App.**

Supplies:

- EveryChild Supplies: Noise-cancelling headphones

Supplies

Opening Activity | Made to Play

	Quantity
1. Offering container	1
2. Music player	1
3. Upbeat Music	1
4. EveryChild Supplies: Noise-cancelling headphones	Several

Keys to Listening | Made to Connect 1.

	Quantity
"Keys to Listening" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	Several
3. Scissors	1

Blindfold Mix & Match | Made to Explore

	Quantity
1. Bibles	1
2. "Blindfold Mix & Match" Activity Page	1
3. Paper	1
4. Scissors	1
5. Blindfold	1