

# Tuesday | Small Group



**WHAT YOU NEED:** Ping-pong balls, permanent markers, plastic spoons, painter's tape, and buckets or similar

## **WHAT YOU DO:**

- Gather kids in a circle. Double check to see if any of your kids have food allergies. Pass out snacks and water.
- Help kids open snacks as needed.
- Enjoy the snack with your group. Once everyone is settled begin the small group activity.
  
- While they are finishing their snack, divide kids into two teams.
- Give each team a Bible.
- Lead teams to look up Acts 2:28. Help them find the Table of Contents in the front of the Bible. From there, find the page number of Acts. Then look to find the big number for chapter 2, and small number for verse 28. (For K/1 groups, help them with each step and read the verse aloud to them).
- Give each team 10 ping-pong balls and a permanent marker.
- Lead kids to copy two or three words from the Bible onto each ball until the entire memory verse has been written on the 10 balls, including the reference. (Help K/1 groups write the words on the ping-pong balls).
- Guide teams to place all their balls (with words) into a bucket.
- Use the painter's tape to create a finish line on one side of your small group area.
- When finished, tell each team to line up on the opposite side of your small group area, facing the finish line.
- Place each team's bucket of balls in front of their line.
- Give the first kid in each line a spoon.
- On the count of three, instruct the first kid to scoop one ball from the bucket, carefully walk it to the finish line, drop the ball into the other container, return to their team to hand off the spoon to the next kid in line, and go to the end of their team's line.
  - Kids cannot use two hands while walking with the ping-pong ball (i.e. cupping hand over spoon to keep the ball in place).
  - If they drop the ball while walking, they can scoop it back up (using one hand), then must continue walking without using their other hand.
  - The next kid in line cannot start until the previous kid hands them the spoon.
- Once a team has gotten all their balls to the finish line, the team whole must go to the finish line and begin assembling the verse in order. (For K/1 groups, help read the words to them and place them in order).
- The first team to have the memory verse in order is the winner!

# Tuesday | Small Group Continued



**WHAT YOU SAY:** People get invited to parties for all different reasons. Maybe you were invited to a birthday party because you were friends with someone. Perhaps you received a good grade on a test and were invited to a pizza party during lunch. Matthew probably felt like there was no reason Jesus would invite him. Matthew probably didn't feel like he belonged or deserved Jesus' love, so when Jesus invited him to follow, Matthew was so excited he threw a party. It doesn't matter where you're from, if you go to church every weekend, or whether you think you deserve Jesus' love, He has invited you too! Let's cue the confetti, friends, because Jesus is a good reason to have a party.

**PRAYER:** "Dear God, we thank You for the joy You've given us deep down in our hearts that we can overflow to others. We thank You for the great responsibility You've given us to help the world around us feel invited and included. Help us be excited with smiles on our faces as we look for people around us we can invite and make smile because of the joy You bring to our lives. Remind us that everyone is invited to the party. In Jesus' name, amen!"