



WEEK TWO – SEPTEMBER 2024 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *More Than Enough* | John 6:1-13

Bottom Line: *Use what you have to help others*

Memory Verse: *“Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.”. – Matt. 5:14-16 (NIV)*

Virtue: *Compassion – Caring enough to do something about someone else’s needs*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated*

Series Overview: Think back to a time when someone made time for you. Maybe that looked like caring for you when you were sick, or teaching you how to tie your shoe, making food for you, or teaching you how to read or learn a new skill. No matter what it is, when people make time for us, it can bring us joy. It’s like a light shining on a dark day. Caring for one another isn’t always the easy thing to do, but it certainly is what Jesus asks of us. We are reflections of Who God is, and as we “Live Bright” this month, we’ll discover exactly how we can shine God’s light.

Bottom Line: **Use what you have to help others.** Some light is better than no light.

Whether it’s a flashlight lighting up what’s in front of you or a spotlight illuminating the whole stage, each light impacts those who need it. God has given each of us something we can offer to help someone else—whether we have a lot or only a little. Any amount of light can make a difference in someone’s life.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Go Fish” card decks

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a fist bump or high five
- Ask: “What are different types of lights you see every day?” (*traffic lights, night lights, ceiling lights, etc.*)
- When enough kids have arrived, introduce the deck of “Go Fish” cards (or the standard deck of cards).
- Review how to play Go Fish according to your card deck.
- Lead the kids to play together.
- Use additional decks to start another, separate game, if needed.
- Repeat rounds of games as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

““That was fun! Look at these fish! They’re so creative and colorful. Great job, friends. *[Transition]* I wonder what fish have to do with our Bible Story today? Let’s go find out.”

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

Large Group Overview: In Week 2, we read about a massive miracle found in John 6:1-13. Jesus had just crossed over the Sea of Galilee with His disciples when a massive crowd arrived. Jesus knew that the people would be hungry . . . and instead of sending them on their way, He had compassion on them and fed them.

With a little boy's small meal of only five loaves and two fish, Jesus turned a small amount of food into a huge blessing.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

Fish + Bread

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Invite kids to make a fish face any way they choose.
 - Demonstrate a few examples, or ask a few kids to demonstrate for others to copy, as needed.
- Let them know you are going to review the Bible Story, and each time they hear the word 'fish', they should make a fish face.
- Practice by saying "fish!" so the kids can make their fish face.
- Invite the kids to pretend to take a big bite out of a sandwich.
- Explain that each time they hear the word "bread", they should mimic taking a big bite!
- Practice by saying "bread!" so the kids can mimic taking a bite.
- Read the Bible Story Review below, pausing for kids to respond each time you say "fish" or "bread."
 - Jesus went up onto a mountainside with His disciples. They were followed by a huge crowd of people who wanted to hear Jesus' teaching. It was time for a meal, and the big crowd was getting hungry. Finding food for all those people wouldn't be easy. Jesus asked Philip, "*Where can we buy **bread** for these people to eat?*" (*John 6:5, NIV, emphasis added*). Philip answered, "Even if we could

buy enough **bread** for each person to have just one bite, it would take half of the money we make in a year! Then Andrew said: “*Here is a boy with five small loaves of barley **bread**. He also has two small **fish***” (John 6:9, NIV, *emphasis added*). But the disciples knew that a small meal of **bread** and **fish** wouldn’t be enough to feed such a huge crowd. Jesus told the disciples to have the people sit down. Jesus took the **bread** and gave thanks. Then Jesus and the disciples began passing out the **bread** and **fish** to the people. Amazingly, as the disciples passed out the **bread** and **fish**, they had more **bread** and **fish**. Everyone ate as much **fish** and **bread** as they wanted. In fact, there was so much **fish** and **bread** that the disciples filled up twelve whole baskets full of leftovers! The boy didn’t have much, but he gave the **fish** and **bread** that he had, and Jesus used it to feed thousands and thousands of people!

What You Say:

“Can you imagine one small meal of bread and fish feeding thousands of people? The boy who gave that small meal probably didn’t think what he had would make that much of a difference. But he still gave what he had. And Jesus used that small meal to do something amazing! When we’re willing to share what we have, Jesus can use that to do something bigger than we can imagine. That’s why He wants us to [Bottom Line] use what you have to help others.”

[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about a time when you saw a big need and chose to do something—even if it seemed like a small thing—to help. Maybe you made a meal for a grieving family, sent a card to someone who was sick, filled up someone’s car with gas, or ran an errand to help out. Talk about how your small act helped the person feel loved.)

What You Have

[Live For God | Application Activity]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: “What You Have Pictures” Activity Page, and brown paper bag

What You Do:

- Place the cards from the “What You Have Pictures” Activity Page in the bag and shake it up.
- Set the bag on one side of your group area.
- Direct the kids to line up on the opposite side.
- Instruct the kids to take turns safely running to the bag, selecting a picture, and running back to the group with it.
- Direct the first kid in line to start the game.
- Once they return to the group, invite the kids to identify the item.
- Then, ask the kid who got the card to give an example of a way they could use that item to meet a need and show compassion.
 - See the ideas below for ways to show compassion with each item.
- Repeat with the next kid in line, and so on.
 - When a kid draws an item that’s already been used, instruct them to come up with a new way they can show compassion with that item.
- Ideas for showing compassion:
 - Food: You can share your snack if a friend forgot to bring one.
 - Toy: You can let someone have a turn to play with the toy before you do.
 - Board game: You can invite someone who is all alone to play.
 - Flowers: You can bring flowers to someone who is sick.
 - Canned food: You can donate canned food to a food pantry.
 - Blanket: You can donate a blanket to a shelter.
 - Coat: You can donate coats you’ve outgrown to a clothes closet.
 - Smiley face: You can share a smile or tell a joke to cheer someone up.

What You Say:

“You might not think you have much, but you can still use what you have to help. The key is to be willing to share what you have because what you have can make a big difference. And remember, it doesn’t have to be something big or even something you hold in your hand. You can give your time to help someone. You can

share a smile, a hug, or a high five to cheer someone up. You can use your words to build someone up and encourage them to keep going.

*“Jesus showed compassion, and we can do the same by sharing what we have. When you choose to trust Jesus and offer what you have, He can use it to meet the needs of other people in a big way. Look to see the needs around you and then **[Bottom Line] use what you have to help others.**”*

Pray + Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: “Prayer Cards” Activity Page, writing utensils

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to gather in a closed circle for prayer.
- Give each kid a card from the “Prayer Cards” Activity Page and a pencil.
- Read the prayer on the card out loud to the group.
- Direct kids to write their name on the line—provide help as needed.
- Encourage the kids to pass their cards to the kid on their left and read the name—provide help as needed.
- Give the kids a few minutes to pray silently or aloud, repeating the prayer on the card as they ask God to help that kid remember to **[Bottom Line] use what you have to help others.**
- Close the group time in prayer.

What You Say:

“God, You are an awesome God! We know that You can take what we have and use it to help others. This week, when we see a need, help us to show compassion. Thanks for loving us and sending Jesus to show us how to love others. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”