

# LOWER ELEMENTARY-- JANUARY



**ELEMENTARY**

JANUARY 2025

## MONTHLY OVERVIEW

### GOD VIEW:

**THE CONNECTION BETWEEN RESILIENCE AND GOD'S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD'S BIG STORY**

With every season comes new and different challenges but also the chance to experience incredible joy. Through sunshine or rain, storms, and blue skies, seasons and weather are important to growth, but not just for flowers and trees. How we respond to each season of life helps us grow in maturity and can spur us to a deeper faith in God. This is especially true when it comes to our emotions.

Just as seasons come and go, so do our emotions. And how we choose to handle those emotions can shape us and teach us a lot about how God cares for us. No matter what emotion we may be feeling or what we may face, because of Jesus, we can learn to trust that God knows how we feel. Jesus showed us how to face life with resilience, and because of it, we can trust God no matter what.

### WEEK ONE

**BIBLE STORY**  
Jesus Wept  
John 11:1-45

**BOTTOM LINE**  
When you're sad, remember you're not alone.

### WEEK TWO

**BIBLE STORY**  
Do Not Worry  
Matthew 6:25-34

**BOTTOM LINE**  
When you're worried, trust God.

### WEEK THREE

**BIBLE STORY**  
Slow to Anger  
James 1:19

**BOTTOM LINE**  
When you're angry, talk to God.

### WEEK FOUR

**BIBLE STORY**  
Paul and Silas  
Acts 16:16-40

**BOTTOM LINE**  
God can help you choose joy.

**MEMORY VERSE**

**BE STRONG, ALL YOU WHO PUT YOUR HOPE IN THE LORD. NEVER GIVE UP.**  
PSALM 31:24, NIRV

**RESILIENCE**

**GETTING BACK UP WHEN SOMETHING GETS YOU DOWN**



## Lower Elementary Large Group

JANUARY 2025

WEEK 2

In Week 2, we head to **Matthew 6:25-34** for Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. In it, Jesus reminded everyone not to worry about tomorrow because "Tomorrow will worry about itself." Every day will have its own set of troubles, but God will provide for us, just like the birds and the flowers.

**Bottom Line: When you're worried, trust God.**

Have you ever seen a flower bloom or a bird find food? God cares for nature, and the birds and flowers have all they need in life, but God cares for us so much more! When we let worry consume our thoughts, it can cause us to forget to notice the ways God is already working in our situations. We can trust God with anything, whether we know the outcome or not.

### Memory Verse

"Be strong, all you who put your hope in the Lord. Never give up."

Psalm 31:24 (NIRV)

### Bible Truth

Do Not Worry

Matthew 6:25-34

### Bottom Line

When you're worried, trust God.

### NOTES:

- All **yellow highlighted text** are cues for visual and audio slides.
- The text in **red** indicates stage directions.

## Rise and Shine-- Week 2 Teaching Outline

*Start at 15 after (if service is expected to be about an hour)*

1. Intro: Welcome kids, get them excited.
2. Announcements
3. Game Time: **Summer Faves!**
4. Worship
5. Intro: **Rise and Shine**
6. Bible Lesson Video: **Do not worry**
7. Application
  - a. Weekly Bottom Line: **When you're worried, trust God.**
  - b. Monthly Virtue: **Resilience-- Getting back up when something gets you down**
  - c. Memory Verse: **"Be strong, all you who put your hope in the Lord. Never give up." Psalm 31:24 (NirV)**
8. Prayer
9. Small Groups: 15 minutes

*End on the hour*



## Lower Elementary Large Group

JANUARY 2025

WEEK 2

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### OPENER 3 minutes

(Welcome kids.)

Hey, hey, hey, everyone! I'm thrilled that you're joining us here at Flatirons Kids! If this is your first time here, I hope you have an awesome time with us today. This month we're talking about how God is with us during every season of life-- through all the ups and downs. We can trust God in every season. And that doesn't just mean seasons like spring, summer, fall, and winter. It means that we can trust God in any situation in life. We can trust God no matter what!

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### Announcements

(Share campus-specific announcements. See your Kids Director for details.)

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### GAME TIME

Even though we are talking about trusting God in more than just winter, spring, summer, and fall, what are some things that you like to do in the summer? (Pause for responses.)

Those are all great reasons to LOVE summertime. I've got a fun summer game that everyone can play. I call it **Summer Faves!**

**Show graphic: Summer Faves!**

First, everyone go ahead and stand up. I'll call out a summer-themed topic and give you two options. You'll decide which of those two options is your favorite-- or which one WOULD be your favorite-- and you'll move to the side of the room that lines up with your choice, but you can't stay in the middle! Make sense? All right, let's play!

**Show slide 1: (Ice Cream: Chocolate or Vanilla?)**

First up, one of the best things about summer: ice cream! What's your favorite ice cream flavor—chocolate or vanilla? Follow the arrow to the side of the room that lines up with your **Summer Fave!**

(Kids will move to one side of the room or the other to vote for their favorite. Be sure to explain what each slide means. You can play too!)

(Go through the other slides, playing the game in the same way each time.)

**Show slides: Game slides 2-8**

That was so fun! Now I feel like we all know each other a little better too. Thanks for celebrating summer with me. You know what else I love about summer? Summer tunes! Let's get into some worship! After all, God is with us and God loves us in every season. Everyone, stay on your feet, but head back to where you were sitting before. Let's get ready to sing and worship God!

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**WORSHIP 6-7 minutes**

I'm so excited for us to worship God together, friends! We are here to lift our voices and praise God together! When we choose to worship God, it changes our day. We have more joy. We are more at peace. No matter what's going on in our lives . . . no matter how we feel, we can choose to thank God and offer our worship. Let's do that right now! Sing along with me. You can follow along to the moves or worship in your own way. Let's sing!

(Encourage kids to worship God through song and dance. Play worship songs.)

**Show Worship Song: I Thank God**

**Show Worship Song: Rain or Shine**

Great work everyone! Now let's take a seat and get ready for our Bible story!

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## INTRO 1 minute

### Show Series Graphic: Rise and Shine

Today we're looking at the Book of Matthew (**Hold up Bible.**) which was written by a man named... shocker... Matthew! Matthew was a tax collector who gave up everything to follow Jesus. During this time, Jesus was traveling from town to town, teaching people, performing miracles, and sharing the good news of God's love. Everywhere where Jesus went, a crowd followed.

Jesus healed many people who were sick because He cared about the struggles they faced in their bodies. But He also cared about people's hearts and minds, which is why He taught them what it looked like to live in God's kingdom. Let's check out today's story!

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## BIBLE TRUTH 10 minutes

### Show Video: Video\_WK2\_StoryLab

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## APPLICATION 3 minutes

### Show Series Graphic: Rise and Shine

Let's remember that God is with us through everything we face in life. God knows when we're worried about something we need, someone we care about, or a situation we're facing. God is with us in every season of life-- **rain or shine**. God can give us peace, even when we feel worried. Here's what we need to remember:

### Show Graphic: WK2\_Bottom Line

**[BOTTOM LINE] When you're worried, trust God.** Say that with me. **When you're worried trust God.**

When I think about what Jesus said about worry, I don't feel quite so worried anymore. It really means a lot to know that Jesus cares about us. He cares about the worried thoughts we have. He taught that instead of focusing on our worry, we can choose to trust God. If we can learn to trust, then we'll be able to find **resilience**.

**Resilience** means **getting back up when something gets you down.**

We can always bring our worries to God and ask God to give us peace.

Let's remember this by practicing our **Memory Verse** for this month. It is Psalm 31:24 (NirV). Let's say it together:

**Show Verse: Psalm 31:24 (NirV)**

***“Be strong, all you who put your hope in the Lord. Never give up.”*** Psalm 31:24 (NirV)

We can pray and ask God to help us trust . . . and to fill our hearts with peace instead of worry. That's true for everything! Like if we're worried because someone is sick in our family, or because we're fighting with our siblings a lot. That's also true when we feel worried about our homework or a big test . . . or if we're having trouble with a friend. If you feel worried a lot, it's good to talk to your parent or another adult you trust. They can help you find someone to talk to who can help you calm the worries you feel inside. It's good to remember that God knows how we feel. God made us and knows us better than anyone. Let's pray and ask God to help us choose to trust.

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### PRAYER

God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for knowing exactly what we need. We know that YOU know how we feel inside. You know the things that make us feel worried or afraid. God, please help us to let go of worry and not let it control us. Please give us Your peace instead. Help us to follow You and to trust You no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

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### SMALL GROUPS

**Show Graphic: Small Group**

(Dismiss kids to their small groups.)