

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

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WEEK 3

In Week 3, we turn to **James 1:19** where James writes about how we should respond when situations begin to get a little out of hand. When we're quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry, we allow ourselves to respond well so we don't sin in our anger.

Bottom Line: **When you're angry, talk to God.**

Have you ever gotten so angry that you said the first thing that came to your mind and instantly regretted it? Anger doesn't have to get the best of us. When we're angry we need to be cautious of how we respond and talk to God about our feelings.

Memory Verse

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

Psalm 31:24 (NIRV)

Bible Truth

Slow to Anger.

James 1:19

Bottom Line

When you are angry, talk to God.

NOTES:

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

Rise and Shine-- Week 3 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: **Fall Catch-'Em-All.**
4. Worship
5. Intro: **Rise and Shine**
6. Bible Lesson Video: **Slow to Anger**
7. Application
 - a. Weekly Bottom Line: **When you're angry, talk to 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



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WEEK 3

OPENER 3 minutes

(Welcome kids.)

Hi everyone! Welcome to Flatirons Kids! I'm so excited to see you here today! This month we're talking about how God is with us-- **rain or shine**. We all go through different seasons of life. Some of them are fun, some are challenging, and we know that they all come and go. But we know that God is with us to help us, no matter what kind of season we're in!

Announcements

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

GAME TIME

So far we've played games about spring and summer. Which season do you think comes next? (Pause for responses.) Yep! Fall! When I think of fall, I think of the leaves . . . maybe raking them all up and then jumping into a massive pile! Well, today we'll see how well you can collect the leaves BEFORE they hit the ground! This game is called "**Fall Catch-'Em-All.**"

Show slide: "FALL CATCH-'EM-ALL"

Here's how the game works. I'll need 2 contestants at a time. Raise your hand if you want to play!

(Pick three kids from each side to go on stage. Be sure to pick kids from different parts of the room—not just up front. Give each kid a lawn/leaf bag.)

All right, contestants. Here's a leaf bag for each of you-- it has a color marked on it, which will tell you what team you're on.

In just a minute, these leaves will start falling from the sky. (Reference the artificial leaves.) When that happens, you'll try to catch the leaves in your bag BEFORE they hit the ground. You must catch them in the air; you can't pick them up off the floor, okay? And you must catch the leaves with your bag, not your hands. In the meantime, I'll be picking up the leaves that fall to the floor and helping to launch them again. We'll check your bags at the end of the game, and whichever team has collected the most leaves wins!

Everyone ready? Here we go!

Show countdown: 60 seconds

Way to go, contestants! You did a great job catching those leaves. It was tough, but you didn't give up. Let's all stand up now and get ready to sing and worship God as a reminder that God is always with us, through every season.

WORSHIP 6-7 minutes

I'm so excited for us to worship God together. God is always with us, through every season. Right now, we have the opportunity to spend some time completely focused on God. Let's give God our very best as we lift our voices and worship from our hearts. 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!

INTRO 1 minute

Show Series Graphic: Rise and Shine

Today we're taking a look at an important idea from the Book of James. **(Hold up Bible.)** This book of the Bible was written by Jesus' half-brother, James! Think about that! James came to believe that his brother was the Son of God... and he wanted to help others put their faith in Jesus too! Let's check out our story!

BIBLE TRUTH 10 minutes

Show Video: Video_WK3_StoryLab

APPLICATION 3 minutes

Show Graphic: WK3_Bottom Line

For all of us, there will be times when we feel angry. We can be angry with ourselves, angry with someone else, or angry with something that just doesn't go our way. We can be angry when we see something that isn't right in the world that needs to be fixed. We can ask God for help; we can be quick to listen... slow to speak... and slow to get angry. So let's remember this and put it into practice! Here's what we need to remember today:

[BOTTOM LINE] When you are angry, talk to God. Say that with me. **When you're angry, talk to God.**

And even though there are times when it's good and right to be angry, we still need to make sure our responses to what makes us angry are good and helpful. We don't have to let anger get us down or keep us down. With God's help, we can be **resilient**.

Show Graphic: Virtue

Remember, **resilience** means **getting back up when something gets you down**.

It's good to know that you can always talk to God anytime you're angry. You can ask God to help you slow down your anger. God lives inside you through the Holy Spirit and He loves to help! And you can do the other things we talked about-- like listening before you speak... or taking a deep breath to give yourself time to think.

Our **Memory Verse** for this month will help us remember this. 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)

There are lots of safe ways to process anger! That way you can keep from saying or doing something you regret. And that’s a great way to treat others the way you want to be treated! Let’s pray and ask God to help us slow down when we feel angry.

PRAYER

God, thank You for caring about our feelings. When we get angry, help us to be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. We know that sometimes anger is important and good because it helps us to do what’s right and it helps us know when something feels wrong but help us know what to do with our anger to make sure we don’t sin against You, ourselves, or others when we are mad. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

SMALL GROUPS

Show Graphic: Small Group

(Dismiss kids to their small groups.)