

WEEK FOUR – JUNE 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: I'll Be There for You | Philippians 2:4 (suppt. Luke 6:6-11) Bottom Line: Look out for one another Memory Verse: "As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did.." Philippians 2:5 (NIrV) Virtue: Live It Out – Discover how to love like Jesus Basic Truth: I should treat others that way I want to be treated

Series Overview: Living and loving like Jesus sounds great in theory, but may be a little hard in practice. However, with the help of God's Spirit, we don't have to do it alone. When we follow Jesus, God's Spirit transforms us, shaping us every day into who God has called us to be and how God is calling us to live. Live It Out is not JUST a theme, but a call to action. It encourages kids to actively live out their faith through their words and interactions with others. And the more we become like Jesus, the more we can make a true difference in this world and in the lives of those around us.

8:45 - 9:00 | 10:45 - 11:00 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- PRE-CONNECTION TIME
 - Before kids arrive, pray for your group. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for encouraging you with God's Word. Reflect on a time God used someone else to encourage you during a hard time. Ask God to help the kids in your group use their words and actions to build one another up.
- DURING CONNECTION TIME
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
 - "What's something nice you did for someone this past week?"
 - "What's something that made you happy this week?"
 - "Can you tell me about something you are thankful for?"
 - "What's your favorite thing to do with your family?"
 - "What's the best part of your day when you are at school?"
 - "Who do you like to play with at home or school?"
- AFTER CONNECTION TIME

- Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience

o Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 - 11:15 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

Opening Activity

Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Prepared bag with encouraging items

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to form a circle.
- Display the bag to the kids, but don't reveal what's inside.
- Walk around the circle with the bag and let each kid reach inside (without looking).
- When a kid feels an item, instruct them to describe it by sharing a few clues out loud with the rest of the group.
- Ask: "What does it feel like?"
- Give the entire group a chance to guess what the item is.
- After the group guesses, instruct the kid to take the item out and show it to everyone.
- Hand the bag to the next person and repeat the process until everyone has had a turn.

What You Say:

"That was fun! You all had some great guesses about what was in the bag. You might receive these things when a teacher or someone around you wants to celebrate or encourage you! Did you know there's something else we all have that can be used to encourage each other? **[Transition] It's free and can be used any** day or at any time to lift up those around us. Let's go hear more about it in today's Bible Story!"

9:15 - 9:50 | 11:20 - 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

This whole summer you get to lead kids through nine amazing weeks of discovering what it looks like to love like Jesus. Each week will break down a "one another" statement from the Bible. God designed us to be in community with one another even when it's challenging, and we'll need God's Spirit to help guide us as we do. In these nine weeks, kids will learn about difficult concepts such as living in peace with one another or forgiving one another. Invite kids to bring open and honest conversation but be sure to create a safe space for them to process what makes some of those things challenging to do. Some kids may be in situations that make it hard for them to trust, forgive, be at peace with, or even pray for those who have mistreated or hurt them in some way. Be open to listening and hearing their needs and let them know you are here for them. Always be sure to bring the correct people into any conversation that involves the safety of a child.

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

This Side or That Side? [Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: "Bible Story Q's" Activity Page, and floor tape

What You Do:

• Using the tape, create a line on the floor. Make sure it's long enough for every kid to stand on.

- Invite the kids to stand on the taped line.
- Designate the floor on one side of the tape line to be "true" and the other side "false."
- Inform the kids that you're going to read a set of statements and the kids are to respond based on what they think the answer is.
 - If the kids think the statement is true, direct them to jump on the "true" side.
 - If the kids think the statement is false, direct them to jump on the "false" side.
- One at a time, read a statement out loud to the group from the "Bible Story Q's" Activity Page, allowing kids to jump to the side of the tape line to indicate their answer.
- After the kids have moved to the side of the tape line, reveal the answer to the question.
- After you reveal the answer to each question, instruct the kids to stand on the tape line again.
- After each false answer, discuss with the group what they think the correct answer is.

What You Say:

"Awesome job, friends! Following Jesus wasn't easy for early Jesus-followers. During these hard times, the author of Hebrews wanted to remind Jesus' followers to persevere, meet regularly, and encourage each other. When we encourage and inspire each other to love and do good works, we're living like Jesus!

"Even when life feels hard or unfair, we can remind one another that God will make everything right in the end. Share God's love and hope for those around us, especially those who love Jesus! We all need some encouragement to keep loving and doing good works. One of the best ways to encourage others to love is by loving others ourselves. So, let's remember to live like Jesus and [Bottom Line] encourage one another." [Make It Personal] (Share a time when you encouraged another Jesus-follower and how it impacted them. Did you share a passage of Scripture or hopeful words with them?)

Encourage One Another [Live For God | Application Activity]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: "Encouragement Cards" Activity Page, small basket (or bin), and floor tape

What You Do:

- Use the floor tape to create two start lines and one finish line.
- Place the cards from the "Encouragement Cards" Activity Page in a small basket (or bin).
- Set the basket (or bin) of cards at the finish line.
- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Instruct each team to line up behind their team's start line.
- Share with kids that they are going to play an "encouragement race."
- Explain the game:
 - Each team is to send one kid to quickly travel to the basket, grab a card, and return to their team.
 - Once that kid returns, they are to read the verse and share the encouraging words with their group.
 - If the card has a "group action," the team must complete it together.
- Encourage the teams to help each other read the cards.
- Direct the teams to repeat the process until all cards have been read.

What You Say:

"Way to go, friends! I loved watching your teams encourage each other. How did it feel when a teammate said/did encouraging things for you? (Invite responses.) Jesus, God's only Son, lived His life showing love to everyone, no matter who they were! He was there for others, encouraging them with God's words. God calls us to do the same—to encourage each other, to stir up love, and to do good things together.

"So, this week, I want you to think about ways you can **[Bottom Line] encourage** one another. Maybe you're sharing the gospel with a friend or writing a card with an encouraging Scripture verse for a sibling who had a hard day! Whatever it is, remember that when we encourage others, we are living like Jesus—don't forget to **[Bottom Line] encourage one another."**

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share the Memory Verse, Philippians 2:5, with them.