

WEEK FIVE – JUNE 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: Come Together | Romans 15:7 (suppt. Acts 10) Bottom Line: Accept 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: Various objects (like household items, office supplies, toys, and blocks)

What You Do:

- Direct your group to sit in a circle.
- Place the random objects in the center of the circle.
- Challenge the kids to work together to identify similarities in the objects.
- Instruct them to sort the objects in groups based on what they noticed.
 - To prompt their thinking on groups to sort the objects in, ask questions, like:
 - Are some items the same color? Or shape?
 - Where is this item used?
- Once the items are sorted into groups, invite the kids to explain how they sorted them.
- If time allows, introduce a new sorting rule.
 - For example, the new rule could be: "Now, let's sort them by size instead of color!"

What You Say:

"You all did a great job figuring out where these objects belonged! But what if we sorted our small group instead of the objects? Do you think we could fit every kid

into one group?[Transition] Today, in our true story from the Bible, we'll hear about someone who discovered that everyone was invited to something very special. Come with me!"

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

Invite Others

[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: "Acceptance Scenarios" Activity Page, parachute (or large sheet), and plush animals

What You Do:

- Lay the parachute (or large sheet) flat on the floor.
- Invite the kids to sit around the parachute (or large sheet).
- Place the plush animals on the sheet.
 - Make sure there is one plush animal for each kid.
- Instruct the kids to hold onto the edges of the parachute (or large sheet).
- At your signal, instruct the kids to lift the parachute (or large sheet), making the plush animals bounce around.
- After a few seconds, call out, "Freeze!" and instruct the kids to lower the parachute carefully.
- Say: "This parachute and animals remind me of Peter's dream and God's message to Peter that because of Jesus, there was no longer separation between Jewish people and non-Jewish people. Anyone can follow Jesus!"
- Select a kid to grab one plush animal from the parachute.
- Read that kid a scenario from the "Acceptance Scenarios" Activity Page.
- Give that kid a moment to share an answer to the scenario and assist them if needed.
 - *NOTE: If your group has more than 12 kids, come up with a few extra scenarios that your kids can relate to.*
- Direct that kid to hold onto their plush animal until the end of the game.
- Repeat the process until every kid has retrieved a plush animal.
- Collect all of the plush animals.
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What You Say:

"Wow, you all did a fantastic job working together and answering those big questions about how we can **[Bottom Line] accept one another**. I'm so glad God invites every single one of us to be part of His family. That means we can invite others to be part of God's family by loving and respecting them. Will we agree with everyone we meet? Of course not! But when we look at Jesus' life, He spent time with everyone—from wealthy leaders to people considered unimportant. Jesus loved and accepted everyone!

"Maybe it's a new kid at school who needs a friend, or your teacher partners you up with someone you've never played with for a group activity. God will use you to help those around you feel loved and accepted—just like God used Peter when you [Bottom Line] accept one another!"

[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time you accepted or welcomed someone's differences. Maybe you invited someone lonely to hang out with your friend group, or your Small Group is open for anyone to join!)

Match Them

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: "Matching Questions" Activity Page, "Matching Answer Cards" Activity Page, and timer

What You Do:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Give each team six cards from the "Matching Answer Cards" Activity Page.
- Direct the teams to sit.
- Spread the cards out so the entire team can see them.
- Explain the goal of the game:
 - Each team is to work together to see if one of their cards is a match to the question asked by the leader before the time runs out.
- When you're ready, ask the first question from the "Matching Questions" Activity Page.
- Set the timer for 30 seconds and prompt the kids to find a matching answer.
- If a team thinks they have a match, instruct the team to hold their thumbs-up.
- If a team thinks they don't have a match, instruct the team to display a thumbs-down.
- Collect the selected card and announce the answer after the teams vote thumbs-up or thumbs-down.
- Assign points to both teams if they answered correctly using their thumbs.

• One-by-one, continue reading questions from the "Matching Questions" Activity Page and prompting each team to try and find a matching answer.

What You Say:

"Great job, friends! Peter thought he already knew the rules about who he should spend time with and who he should talk to about Jesus. He thought God's family was just for certain people—people like him. But God showed Peter something incredible, and he realized that God's love isn't just for one group of people. It's for everyone! When Peter went to Cornelius' house, he did something he had never done before—he talked to Cornelius and his family, even though they were different from him.

"And as Peter shared the good news about Jesus, something amazing happened. God's Holy Spirit came to Cornelius and his family, just like it had come to Peter and the other disciples. That's when Peter finally understood: Jesus came to save everyone, no matter where they're from, what they like, or what they look like! Let's work to **[Bottom Line] accept one another** each and every day."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share the Bottom Line from today.