

WEEK ONE – JUNE 2025 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Live Like Jesus* | *Philippians 2:5 (suppt. Philippians 2:1-8)*

Bottom Line: Live like Jesus

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 can trust God no matter what.*

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.

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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
 - O Before kids arrive, pray for your group. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for being trustworthy and faithful in every situation. Thank God for sending Jesus as the perfect example of how to live! Ask God to help the kids in your group follow Jesus' example in their words and actions—no matter what challenges they face.
- DURING CONNECTION TIME
 - o 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
- Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

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

Opening Activity

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Gather the kids and invite them to spread out in front of you.
- Explain to the kids that they will play a game called Copycat where they are to copy what you do.
- Perform a simple movement.
- Instruct the kids to copy what you do.
- Movement suggestions:
 - o March
 - o Jumping jacks
 - o Spin around
 - o Walk around the group area, etc.
- Change up your movements and encourage the kids to copy you.
- Choose a kid who follows your movements closely to become the leader.
- Encourage them to perform simple movements for the other kids to copy.
- Movement suggestions:
 - o Animals—snake, bird, kangaroo, elephants
 - o Movement—jumps, hops, skips, turns
 - o Speed—fast, slow, high, low
- At your signal, instruct the leader to pause.

- Thank the kid for leading.
- Choose another kid to have a turn leading.
- Continue until every kid gets a turn to be the leader.

What You Say:

"Excellent job, friends! I love the ideas you came up with to lead our group in a fun way. [Transition] You all did a fantastic job copying and following the leader in this game. Did you know there's Someone who sets the best example for all of us to follow every day? We'll hear more about 'WHO' that is today. Come with me!"

0.15 0.50 | 11.20 | 11.50 | I ADCE CDOUD

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

Think + Act Like Jesus
[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

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

What You Need: Bible marked at Philippians 2:1-8, and "Think and Act Scenes" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Select a kid to open the marked Bible to Philippians 2:1-8.
- Read the verses aloud to the group.
 - NOTE: Depending on their reading ability, consider inviting older 1st graders to read the verses, one verse per kid, aloud to the group.
- After you read through the verses, one by one, ask the questions below:
 - o "Who is Jesus?" (Invite responses, like: Jesus is God's Son, with every bit of God's power!)
 - o Read Philippians 2:7 aloud again: "How does this verse describe Jesus?" (as a servant)
 - o "What does it mean to think and act as Jesus did?" (Invite responses, like: it means thinking about what Jesus would think and doing what Jesus would do; Jesus was equal with God, but He didn't take advantage of that; Jesus put others ahead of His needs and wants.)
 - o "How can we get to know Jesus?" (Invite responses, like: we can spend time with Jesus and discover the amazing things He did by reading the Bible; we can sit quietly, breathe deep, and ask Jesus to be with us; we can gather with friends and talk about Jesus!)
- Divide the kids into three groups.
- Give each group one picture from the "Think and Act Scenes" Activity Pages.
- Say, "Live It Out' is all about discovering how to live like Jesus."
- Direct the groups to discuss what's happening in their picture.
- Prompt the groups to discuss how they could 'Live It Out' in that scenario.
- Gather the entire group together.
- Invite each group to share their solution to their scenario.
- Ask: "How could you 'Live It Out' in the scenario on the picture?"

• Discuss how each group's solutions align with how Jesus chose to serve others.

What You Say:

"Before we can think and act like Jesus, we need to know Jesus! And that's one big reason we come to Small Group each week. The more we learn about how Jesus lived, loved, and cared for others, the more we can discover how He wants US to live, love, and care for others.

"Jesus humbled Himself. What that means is He put others first. He chose to love and serve others—especially those who were overlooked. He was humble and obeyed God completely, even though it led to His death. Jesus loved us so much that He gave up His own life to take the consequences of our sins. (Our sins are the things we've done that are outside of what God wants for us.) Jesus paid for our sins to make it possible for our relationship with God to be restored! Living like Jesus can seem impossible, but it takes a lifetime. Just keep going! Keep helping, loving, and serving others. [Bottom Line] Live like Jesus."

[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time you 'Lived It Out' as a kid. Maybe you encouraged a friend with a Bible verse or forgave someone who hurt you. Maybe you cared for a friend going through a tough time. Remind your group that every time you choose to serve others, you [Bottom Line] live like Jesus.)

LLJ

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: White slap bracelets, duct tape (or washi tape), permanent markers,

What You Do:

• Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.

- Give each kid a slap bracelet.
- Set out the duct tape
- Explain to the kids that they'll decorate their camp bracelets using the colorful tape.
- Direct the kids to tear off pieces of tape and adhere them around their bracelets.
- Encourage the kids to cover the bracelet with only one layer of tape so that the bracelet still slaps to fit around their wrists.
- Explain that "LLJ" stands for "Live Like Jesus."
- Set out the permanent markers.
- Assist the kids with writing "LLJ" on their bracelets in large capital letters with the permanent marker, and their initials somewhere smaller on the bracelet.
- Encourage the kids to wear their bracelets this week as a reminder to live it out and [Bottom Line] live like Jesus!

What You Say:

"These bracelets look fantastic—I love all your creativity! These bracelets can help you remember something really special: Jesus shows us how much God loves us and how we can love others too! When we [Bottom Line] live like Jesus, we're trying to love people like He does. Of course, we aren't Jesus, so we won't do it perfectly like Him! Learning to live like Jesus takes a LIFETIME, friends. You can start that journey as soon as you decide to follow Jesus, tell God that you want to turn away from living for yourself, and start living like Jesus.

"When you wear your bracelet this week, think about how Jesus was kind and forgiving and always helped others. You can live like Jesus by being kind to your siblings, sharing with your classmates, and lending a hand to those who need help when you can. We can follow Jesus' example because He showed us the best way to live! [Bottom Line] Live like Jesus."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to show off their "LLJ" bracelets as a reminder to [Bottom Line] live like Jesus.