



## WEEK FOUR – MAY 2025 – KINDER/FIRST

**Bible Story:** *John's Disciples Follow Jesus | John 1:35-45*

**Bottom Line:** *Look for ways to tell others about Jesus*

**Memory Verse:** *"None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others." Philippians 2:4 (NirV)*

**Virtue:** *Initiative – Seeing what needs to be done + doing it*

**Series Overview:** Getting started can sometimes seem like the hardest part of meeting a need. But it actually starts before then. First we have to see the needs around us. Initiative isn't just some practical principle; it's really a spiritual principle that starts with God. God took initiative on our behalf by seeing that our relationship was broken and needed to be fixed. So God sent Jesus to make it right. And because we are made in God's image, we are wired to be able to take initiative and get things done too.

**Bottom Line:** **Look for ways to tell others about Jesus.** When you hear good news do you typically keep it to yourself? Probably not! You want to share it with everyone around you no matter how that happens: notes, video, facetime, email, etc. Good news is worth sharing, and Jesus is the best news of all. So what can you do to share Jesus with others?

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

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### 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, take a moment to pray for them. Pray for those who may visit your group for the first time. Reflect on the people in your life who shared Jesus with you and thank God for them. Pray that the kids would look for opportunities to share Jesus with others, just as John pointed his disciples to Jesus. Ask God to fill the kids with boldness and love so they can be a light to those around them.*
- *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
- Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

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

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### Opening Activity

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** N/A

### What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two.
  - It's okay if there's a group of three.
- Slowly say the first tongue twister below, and invite the kids to repeat after you.
  - "I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!"
- Direct the pairs (or groups of three) to face each other and take turns saying the tongue twister as quickly as they can.
- After a few minutes, teach another tongue twister.
  - He threw three balls.
  - Fran feeds fish fresh fish food.
  - There was a fisherman named Fisher.
- Continue the game as time allows, but try to end with the "fisherman" tongue twister.
  - *Optional: Consider challenging the kids to say the twisters in different ways—baby voice, deep voice, mouse voice, etc.*

**What You Say:**

““That was so fun! Tongue twisters are tricky, but you all worked hard to say them quickly. *[Transition]* ***There’s so much truth we can learn from in today’s Bible story! Let’s go hear about some people who QUICKLY told others about Someone very important.***”

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

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**Large Group Overview:** For Week 4, we head to John 1:35-42 where we meet Jesus’ cousin, John the Baptist. One day as John was with his disciples, they saw Jesus walking by. Jesus was the very same man John had been preparing his disciples for! So when the time came, John’s disciples left to go follow Jesus, and that decision led to more disciples following Jesus as they began to tell one another about Him.

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## 9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

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### **And So On, And So On**

#### **[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]**

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

**What You Need:** Bible marked at John 1, “And So On” Activity Page, and Wikki Stix

#### **What You Do:**

- Gather your group together.
- Invite the kids to recall as much of the Bible Story as they can.
- Give each kid an “And So On” Activity Page.
- Direct the kids to point to the picture with the number 1.

- Invite the kids to share what they remember about John the Baptist from today's story. (*Mention that John the Baptist told Andrew and John about Jesus.*)
- Give each kid four Wikki Stix
- Direct kids to use a Wikki Stix to trace the path from John the Baptist, Andrew, and John to the picture of Andrew and John with Jesus.
- Instruct kids to continue using the Wikki Stix to connect the remaining pictures in order.
- Invite a kid to open the Bible marked at John 1.
- Instruct kids to put their fingers on the picture of John the Baptist, Andrew, and John.
- Recap the story using the points below. Direct the kids to follow along by tracing the Wikki Stix with their fingers.
  - One day, John the Baptist was with two of his followers, Andrew and probably John. They were both fishermen. When John the Baptist saw Jesus walking by, he pointed Jesus out to Andrew and John. He said, *"Look! The Lamb of God!" (John 1:36, NIV).*
  - Andrew and John followed Jesus and spent the day with Him. They were SO AMAZED by Jesus that they couldn't help but tell others about Him.
  - Andrew ran to tell his brother, Peter, who was also a fisherman: *"We have found the Messiah!" (John 1:41, NIV).* Right away, Andrew took Peter to meet Jesus.
  - The next day, Jesus called a man named Philip to follow Him, and Philip too, couldn't help but tell someone.
  - Philip found his friend Nathanael and told him: *"We have found the one whom Moses wrote about in the Law. The prophets also wrote about him" (John 1:45, NIV).*

### **What You Say:**

*"Way to follow along, friends! Jesus is God's Son, and He cared deeply about EVERYONE He met. Jesus was SO special that people who met Him wanted to tell others about Him right away! We can tell others about Jesus too. We can tell people about the AMAZING things Jesus did. We can tell people that Jesus is*

*God's Son and that He came to make a way for us to live FOREVER. And, we can tell people that Jesus LOVES them more than they could ever imagine! So **[Bottom Line]** look for ways to tell others about Jesus!"*

***[Make It Personal]** (Share about an age-appropriate time when you were so excited about Jesus that you couldn't wait to tell someone Who He is or what He did.)*

## **Go Tell 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: Ball**

### **What You Do:**

- Direct the kids to line up, shoulder to shoulder.
- Give the first kid in line the ball.
- Explain to kids that they will practice telling others in their group about Jesus.
- At your signal, direct the kids to pass the ball to the next kid in line as they say, "Jesus loves you!"
- When the ball reaches the last kid in line, direct that kid to pass the ball back down the line, continuing to say, "Jesus loves you!" each time they pass the ball to another kid.
- Play additional rounds. Add a challenge:
  - Challenge the kids to pass the ball faster each round

### **What You Say:**

*"Great job telling others about Jesus! You did just what John the Baptist, Andrew, John, and Philip did. When they met Jesus, they didn't wait around for someone to ask them about Jesus. They were SO excited that they started looking*

*for ways to tell people about Jesus right away. That's what taking initiative is all about—initiative is seeing what needs to be done and doing it!*

*“Telling others about Jesus looks like sharing today's Bible Story with your sibling. Or, if a classmate is sad, you can offer to pray with them or give them an encouraging card! How else can you tell others about Jesus? (Invite responses.) Those are great ideas! Let's **[Bottom Line]** look for ways to tell others about Jesus and do it!”*

*As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share today's Bottom Line: **[Bottom Line]** look for ways to tell others about Jesus or this month's Memory Verse.*