



WEEK ONE – JULY 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *Jesus Forgives Peter* | Colossians 3:13 (suppt. John 13:36-38; 21:1-19)

Bottom Line: *Forgive one another*

Memory Verse: “Our God is a God who strengthens and encourages you. May he give you the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had.”- Romans 15:5 (NIRV)

Virtue: *Live It Out – Discover how to love like Jesus*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated*

Series Overview: Jesus is the greatest example of what it looks like to value others. Through the way He lived His life, Jesus taught us how to value one another. And when we follow Jesus, God’s Spirit helps us to live like Jesus—transforming not only us but the world 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 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*
 - 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 been your favorite part of summer so far?”
 - “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

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

What You Need: Bracelet-making kit, prepared elastic string, and prepared “Live It Out” bracelet

What You Do:

- Gather your group in a circle.
- Set the bracelet-making kit in the center of the circle.
- Give each kid an 8-inch piece of elastic string.
- Explain to the kids that they’ll be making friendship bracelets!
- Encourage kids to make a bracelet using the letters to spell their names, favorite Bible verse, or encouraging words.
- Assist the kids with tying off their bracelets.
- Once everyone is finished, show the kids the “Live It Out” bracelet you made.

What You Say:

“Okay, I love ALL of your bracelets! This one I made says ‘Live It Out,’ because all summer long we’re discovering how to love like Jesus in the way we treat others. *[Transition]* **Today, we’re looking at a true story from the Bible, when Jesus showed love in a way that might surprise you, but we should all learn from it—let’s go!”**

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

Path to Forgiveness

[Live for God | Application Activity]

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

What You Need: Bible, “Forgiveness Path” Activity Page, pens (or pencils), and coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each kid a “Forgiveness Path” Activity Page and a pen (or pencil).
- Instruct the kids to write their names on the page.
- Set out the coloring supplies for the groups to share.

- Explain to the kids that they will complete a forgiveness adventure!
- Refer to your own “Forgiveness Path” Activity Page as you ask the following questions and prompt them to do the following.
 - *“Think about a time someone hurt you. Tell God about it. Draw a picture in that first box to tell God about it.” (Give the kids a few minutes to draw.)*
 - *“How did it make you feel?” (Lead the kids to circle the feelings that apply to them in prompt 2.)*
 - *“Do something that helps you feel calm.” (Point out the “Do something that helps you feel calm” section, read it to the kids, and give the kids a few moments to draw their response.)*
 - *“What helps you remember that Jesus forgives you?” (Direct the kids to the fourth circle. Read the section. Point out the QR code for the Orange Kids Music song: “Lift My Voice” and ask the kids to have a parent help them scan it at home. Also, look up the 1 John 1:9 in the Bible and help kids fill in the blank.)*
 - *“Remember this . . .” (Point out the “Remember this . . .” section and read it to the group.)*
- Direct the kids to the last box.
- Encourage the kids to write or draw how it makes them feel to know that Jesus forgives them no matter what!
- If the kids need more time, give the kids more time to fill out their “Forgiveness Path” Activity Pages.
- Once they’re finished, encourage the kids to share what they wrote and drew with the kid(s) in their group.
- Explain to the kids that they can use the prompts on this sheet at home to help them navigate forgiveness.
- Invite the kids to decorate their page using the coloring supplies.
- Encourage the kids that God can handle all of their big feelings and wants to help them **[Bottom Line] forgive one another!**

What You Say:

“Forgiveness isn’t always easy, and sometimes we’re not sure what to do. But guess what? We don’t have to figure it out alone. God sends the Holy Spirit to live

with us and guide us when we choose to follow Jesus! We can ask God to help us forgive and focus on Jesus' love for us.

*“I want to encourage you to use this Activity Page throughout the week! When forgiving someone feels tough, remember that God is with you and wants to hear all about it. Remember Jesus forgave us first, so we can work to forgive others. Trust God to help you navigate those feelings and help you **[Bottom Line] forgive one another!**”*

Live It Out Motions

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

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

What You Need: Bibles, and “Verse Motions” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a Bible.
- Direct them to look up this month’s Memory Verse, Romans 15:5 using the Bible Navigation tips below.
 - ***Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders:*** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Romans in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find Romans, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Romans. Help the kids find the page. When they find Romans, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 15. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 5 in chapter 15.
- Recite the verse together several times.

- Teach the kids Memory Verse motions from the “Verse Motions” Activity Page
- Repeat the verse motions with the kids several times.
- For a challenge, invite the group to perform the verse motions without your direction!

What You Say:

“Way to go, friends! You all memorized our verse this month SO fast. Basically the verse is saying this: God loves to help and encourage us! And, God wants us to do the same for others. God wants us to treat others with kindness and patience, just like Jesus did.

*“So, if someone messes up or hurts your feelings, you can choose to forgive them instead of staying upset. It doesn’t mean that you let someone keep hurting you (you should talk to a grown-up if that happens!). But forgiveness is a choice we can make that changes everything! It frees us from feeling bitter and thinking about it all the time. We show others what Jesus is like when we **[Bottom Line] forgive one another!**”*

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show off their “Forgiveness Path” Activity Page. Share with the adults that kids can use this page to remind them who Jesus is, help them navigate forgiveness, and love like Jesus!