



UPPER ELEMENTARY

WEEK 4- STARTER



Activity Name: Ninja Moves

What You Need:

- 1 tissue per kid

What You Do:

- Give each kid a single tissue.
- Show them how to place the tissue on their head.
- Explain that you are going to call out some ninja warrior moves, and they have to try to do them without the tissue falling off their head.
- Call out simple moves one at a time:
 - “Ninja warrior, walk in a circle!”
 - “Ninja warrior, touch your toes!”
 - “Ninja warrior, turn around!”
 - “Ninja warrior, hop on one foot!”
- If a kid’s tissue falls, invite them to just pick it up and keep playing.
- Celebrate everyone for trying their best.

What You Say:

Great job, ninja warriors! It was tricky to follow the plan and keep that tissue on your head at the same time! In our Bible Story today, we’re going to meet a man named Matthew who made a big move to follow Jesus’ plan for his life. Let’s go find out what he did!

(Inclusive Pro-Tips: Allow groups to simply talk through their two responses or draw pictures instead of creating a full skit.)

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

WEEK 4- SMALL GROUP

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think Jesus chose someone like Matthew, who wasn't very popular, to follow Him?
- What do you think it means to "live for God" instead of living just for yourself?
- What are some ways you can show love for God and others in your everyday life—at school, home, or with friends?
- Romans 12:1 says to offer your whole self to God. What might that look like for you?
- Matthew's life changed when he met Jesus. What's one change you could make this week to live more like Jesus?



Bible Story

Jesus Chooses Levi | Luke 5:27-32 (Supporting: Romans 12:1)

Bottom Line

Practice living for God.

Monthly Memory Verse

Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come. | 1 Timothy 4:8 NIV

Conversation Starter

What does it look like to live for God?

Activity Name: Living for God Scenarios

What You Need:

- Slips of paper with different scenarios written on them

What You Do:

- Divide the group into pairs or trios.
- Give each group a scenario. Here are some examples:
 - *You see the new kid sitting by himself on the playground at recess.*
 - *You see a person trip and drop all their books in the hallway between classes.*
 - *Your friends start making fun of someone you know.*
 - *You know the answer in class, but you also know the kid next to you is struggling to understand.*
- Tell the groups their challenge is to come up with two different ways to respond to the scenario: *one that shows what living for God looks like, and one that doesn't.*
- Give them a few minutes to plan a very short, simple skit for both responses.
- Invite each group to perform their two skits for the rest of the group.
- After each one, discuss: *Which response showed what it means to live for God? Why?*

What You Say:

Great job with those skits. It's pretty clear which choices honor God, right? The Pharisees in our story were focused on who was 'good enough' to be around. But Jesus had a totally different view of things. He came for everyone—especially the people who knew they needed help. Matthew got that. That's why he immediately hosted a banquet to introduce his friends—other 'sinners'—to Jesus. He knew they needed Jesus too. That's a key way we **[Bottom Line] practice living for God**: by introducing people to Jesus.

(Inclusive Pro-Tips: Allow groups to simply talk through their two responses or draw pictures instead of creating a full skit.)

KEEP GROUP TOGETHER UNTIL PICK UP