

8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | 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, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Pray that as kids learn more about Jesus, they'll be drawn to a relationship with Him and have a desire to follow Him. Ask God to guide you as you encourage your few in their relationships with Jesus. Pray that you would be able to model this for them in a real, authentic way.**
- *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 :
 - *Show me with your hands—big or small—how your day is going so far.*
 - *If you could have any animal as a pet, what would it be?*
 - *When do you like to pray? (Morning, night, anytime!)*
 - *Can we pray quietly or out loud—or both?*
 - *Would you rather play outside or stay cozy inside when it's cold?*
- *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

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Tell the kids you're going to practice some "get strong" moves together.
- Call out different moves and have the kids do them with you.
- Say, "Show me how you get strong by lifting heavy weights!" (Pretend to lift weights.)
- Say, "Show me how you get strong by doing jumping jacks!" (Do 10 jumping jacks together.)
- Say, "Show me how you get strong by doing push-ups!" (Do 3 push-ups or knee push-ups.)
- Say, "Show me how you get strong by running in place!" (Run in place for 20 seconds.)
- Ask: "What are some other moves that make our bodies strong?" (If you can, do the move the kids suggest!)

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Select "get strong" moves so all kids can participate. Some moves may be done in a seated position.

What You Say:

“Great job with all those moves! It takes practice to make our bodies strong. Did you know we can practice to make our faith strong too? Our faith is our friendship with God! [Transition] **Today, we’re going to learn about one of the most important ways we can make our friendship with God stronger! Let’s go!**”

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

In Week 2, we follow Jesus to a mountainside where he taught what’s known as The Sermon on the Mount. At the heart of the sermon, we find the Lord’s Prayer. Jesus shared this simple, but profound, way for His followers to talk to God—acknowledging who God is, asking for God’s Kingdom to come and requesting what we need, like forgiveness and provision and protection. It’s both a beautiful link to the church throughout the ages and a template that kids can use to talk to God in their own words. [BOTTOM LINE] Practice praying to God.

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

PRAYERS ON THE WALL

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: Prayer Wall Paper; Sticky Notes; Coloring Supplies

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in front of the “Prayer Wall.”
- Encourage them to sit down.
- Ask: “What do you remember about the prayer Jesus taught His friends?”
(In the prayer Jesus taught His friends to praise God, to ask Him to bring His Kingdom, to ask Him for what they need, to ask Him for forgiveness, and to ask Him to help them follow His ways.)
- Give each kid a sticky note.
- Set out the coloring supplies.

- Invite the kids to think of one thing they want to talk to God about. (It could be something they are thankful for, something they need help with, or someone they want to pray for.)
- Instruct them to draw a picture of their prayer on their sticky note.
- When they are finished, invite each kid, one at a time, to tell the group what their prayer is about (if they want to), and stick it on the Prayer Wall.
- Fill the wall with all their prayer pictures.

What You Say:

“Look at our amazing Prayer Wall! This helps us remember that God hears every single one of our prayers. He does!

“In what we learned from the Bible today, Jesus taught His friends a special prayer they could pray to God, and it was about so many different things. That means that we can talk to God about anything!”

“Let’s [**Bottom Line**] **practice praying to God** by talking to Him about absolutely anything. He is our friend, and He loves it when we talk to Him!”

BOP THE VERSE

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Activity]

What You Need: Bibles; Balloon

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two.
- Give each pair of kids a Bible marked at 1 Timothy 4:8.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips.
 - Finding verses with kindergartners: Guide children to open their Bibles to the marked page. Point to the book name at the top of the page as you say it aloud. Then, guide children to find the big number on the page—this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big number for the little number; this is the verse number.

Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then, lead everyone to say the verse together.

- Finding verses with 1st 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 the name of the book in the list. You can help by pointing out the first few letters of the book’s name. When the kids find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the right chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
 - Share that “being godly” means getting to know God and following His good ways!
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Give each pair of kids an inflated balloon.
- Explain that they will practice this month’s Memory Verse while trying to keep the balloon from touching the floor.
- Lead the whole group in saying the verse slowly one time: 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.
- Challenge the pairs to say the verse together while they bop the balloon back and forth. Encourage the kids to try to say one word for each time they bop the balloon.
- Let them practice for a few minutes.
- Gather the group back together and try to say the verse all together one more time.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- This game can be played while seated.

What You Say:

“Great job! That took a lot of focus!

“Our verse from the Bible reminds us that being godly—that’s getting to know God and following Him because you love Him—is so valuable. It’s valuable for this life and when we are living with God forever in eternity! Getting to know God and following Him is one of the best things you can do with your whole life!”

PRAYER TIME

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: Paper bracelets; Coloring Supplies

What You Do:

- Give each kid a paper bracelet.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Instruct the kids to decorate their bracelet.
- While they decorate, talk about people or things they can pray for this week. (e.g., family, friends, pets, teachers, people who are sick.)
- Encourage the kids to draw small pictures or symbols on their bracelet to remind them of things to pray for.
- When they’re finished, help each kid put on their prayer band.

What You Say:

“These prayer bands look amazing! When you look at your prayer band this week, let it remind you to talk to God. You can tell Him ‘thank You,’ ask for help, and pray for the people you drew on your band. Let’s pray together now. God wants to hear from you!”

“Dear God, thank You for teaching us how to pray. Thank You that we can talk to You about anything. Please help us remember to pray for the people and

things on our prayer bands this week. We love being Your friend. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.”