



## 8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | 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 few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Pray for those who have already discovered a relationship with Jesus and are following Him. Pray that the Spirit would change them, continuously renewing their hearts and minds so they can be more like Jesus. Pray for those who haven't yet taken a step of faith. Ask God to begin to draw them in and to use the time your group spends together to reach those who don't yet have a relationship with Jesus.**
- *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 fun or surprising that happened to you this week?**
    - **If today had a weather forecast, would it be sunny, cloudy, or stormy? Why?**
    - **What's one thing you're really good at or getting better at?**
    - **Would you rather have a day with no bedtime OR a day with no homework? Why?**

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

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## **OPENING ACTIVITY**

**What You Need:** “Follow the Plan” Activity Page

### **What You Do:**

- Welcome the kids with a high-five or fist bump.
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Place the four pictures from the “Follow the Plan” Activity Page in a row on the table to make a pattern (e.g. fists, hand roll, fists, hand roll)
- Point to each picture and demonstrate the motion (fists = pound the table with 2 fists, hand roll = roll hands one above the other)
- Show the kids the pictures of a hand pattern (e.g., fists, hand roll, fists, hand roll).
- Say, “Follow the plan!” and lead the kids in doing the actions in the order on the table. Continue with each child.
- Change the pattern and repeat.

### **Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- Allow kids to create the plan by arranging the pictures instead of doing the motions.

### **What You Say:**

“You are great at following the plan! It’s important to pay attention to the directions to get it right. **[Transition]** In our true story from the Bible today,

**Jesus tells us about a plan that is the most important one to follow. Let's go find out what it is!"**

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

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We're staying in The Sermon on the Mount, where Jesus wraps up his teaching with the story of the Wise and Foolish Builders. Anyone who hears Jesus' words and actually DOES them is like a wise man who built his house on a solid foundation of rock. When a wild storm whipped up, that house stood strong. But people who hear Jesus' words and don't follow through are just like a foolish man who slaps together a home on the sand—one that collapses when the wind comes. Truly hearing from God means putting what you hear into action. Kids can be confident that God does speak to them because, as we read in John 10:27-28, Jesus is the good shepherd and we are His sheep. And a sheep KNOWS the shepherd's voice. [BOTTOM LINE] Practice hearing from God.

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

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**WISE HOUSE**

**[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

**What You Need:** Bibles; “Wise House” Activity Page; Coloring Supplies; Scissors

**What You Do:**

- Open the Bible to Matthew 7:24-27 and read the story to the kids.
- Give each kid a “Wise House” Activity Page and make coloring supplies available.
- As they color the house and the foundation on the rock, review the Bible Story. Ask questions like:
  - “Who remembers what the wise builder built his house on?” (*the rock*)
  - “And what did the foolish builder build his house on?” (*the sand*)

- “What happened when the big storm came?” (*The house that was built on the sand fell, but the house built on the rock stood strong!*)
- Make the scissors available.
- Once the kids are done coloring, guide them through the steps of cutting and folding to create their own pop-up house.

### **What You Say:**

“These look amazing! You all built a strong house on a rock, just like the wise builder.

“Jesus told this story to teach us that listening to His words and doing them is like building on a rock. When we read the Bible and do what it says, we are building a strong faith. And the first step to doing what God says is hearing what God says. So, we can [Bottom Line] practice hearing from God.”

### **Inclusive Pro-Tips**

- Pre-cut a few “Wise House” Activity Pages for kids who may struggle with scissors.

## **CUP TOWER**

**[Live For God | Application Activity]**

**What You Need:** Paper Cups; Paper Plates

### **What You Do:**

- Divide the kids into two teams.
- Give each team a stack of plastic cups.
- Challenge them to work together to build the tallest tower they can.
- After they have built their towers, give one person from each team a paper plate.
- Explain that a big “storm” is coming.

- Have the kid who has the paper plate use the paper plate to fan their tower and see how strong it is.
- Talk about what made their towers strong or what made them fall over.
- Let them try to build again, using what they learned to make their tower even stronger.

**Inclusive Pro-Tips:**

- *Provide noise-canceling headphones for kids who may be sensitive to the noise of falling cups.*

**What You Say:**

“Great job, builders! It took teamwork to build those towers. We learned that a strong base is really important!”

“In our story, Jesus said that hearing His words and doing them is like building your life on a rock—a strong foundation.

“And the first part of doing what God says is hearing what God says! We learned today that there are three main ways God speaks to us: God speaks to us and tells us who He is through the Bible. He speaks to us through other people who love Him. And He speaks to us through His Holy Spirit, who lives inside of us and tells us ways to make our world look more like God’s Kingdom. Like when He says, ‘That girl looks lonely. Why don’t you invite her to play with you?’

“God wants us to **[Bottom Line] practice hearing from God.** And we can hear from Him in so many ways!”

**STACK IT**

**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

**What You Need:** Bible; Index Cards; Markers

**What You Do:**

- Lay your Bible in the center of your group circle.

- Give each kid an index card and a marker.
- Ask them to think of one way they can listen to God this week. (e.g., “Listen to my mom and dad when they share about God,” “Read my Bible,” “Listen during Large Group,” “Listen when the Holy Spirit tells me that God is the strongest when I am feeling scared.”)
- Help them write or draw their ideas on their card.
- When they’re done, invite them one by one to share what they wrote or drew.
- After they share, have them fold their card in half and carefully stack it on top of the Bible.
- Continue until you have a stack of prayer cards on the Bible.

**What You Say:**

“Look at this great stack of ideas for how we can hear from God! We're building our lives on what He says and doing what He says. Let's pray and ask God to help us listen to Him this week.”

*“Dear God, thank You that You speak to us in lots of ways. Teach us to listen to You and to do what You say. We love You so much, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*