

**Upper Elementary
Large Group**

**JANUARY 2026
Week 3**

WELCOME

(Welcome kids)

Hi everyone! Welcome to Flatirons Kids! I'm so excited to see you here today!

Show Series Graphic: Game Plan

This month, we're learning about how we can follow a Game Plan when it comes to getting to know God more! And by following this Game Plan, we'll start growing stronger in faith every day. There are four parts of this Game Plan to help you get to know God better—talking about God, praying to God, hearing from God, and living for God. This week, we're going to look at: **Hearing from God!**

GAME TIME

When we listen to Jesus and do what He says, our lives are strong like a house built on a rock. Let's start off our time learning about hearing from God with a game called 'Rock or Sand'.

Show Game Slide: Rock or Sand

This is a listening game. When you hear the right word, you do the right move."

When I call 'Rock,' you freeze like a strong statue. Feet wide, knees strong, chin up, muscles out. Show me strong like a rock!"

Have kids demonstrate their rock stance.

When I call 'Sand,' you melt safely to the floor like soft sand. Not a crash, just fall gently? Let's try that! Show me soft like sand!

Have kids demonstrate melting safely to the floor.

When the music plays, just dance away. When I call out 'Rock' or 'Sand,' you listen fast and do it. Ready to practice? Let's go!

(PRACTICE ROUND)

AUDIO: Upbeat music

Start the music. After some time of dancing, stop the music and say:

Rock!

Pause as the kids freeze in Rock poses. Start the music again. Then, stop the music and say:

Sand! (*Pause as the kids melt to the floor.*) Nice, soft, landings! Back to standing with space around you. Let's play a few more rounds.

Start the music. After some time of dancing, stop the music and call out "Rock" or "Sand."

Play several rounds. End on "Rock."

Freeze where you are. That was awesome listening. You heard the word and you did the right thing. That's what people who follow Jesus do: they listen and follow. In the true story from the Bible that we're going to read today, Jesus teaches us that when we hear His words and do them, our lives are strong like a house on a rock.

Before we jump into the Bible story, let's stand up and worship together.

WORSHIP

One of the ways we worship is by giving praise and honor to God by singing and dancing. Now, it's your time to jump in and give all you've got as we worship! You can follow along with the moves or worship in your own way. Let's sing!

Show Worship: 2 Songs

Great work, everyone! I love worshipping God with all of you. Let's go ahead and sit down and get ready for our Bible Story today.

INTRO

Show Series Graphic: Game Plan

This year, we're going through the key stories of the Bible from the front to the back! *Hold up bible.*

Has anyone ever wondered, "**how do I HEAR from God? He usually doesn't talk to us the way you and I are talking right now?**" *Raise hand in agreement.* The bible is one way we can HEAR from God, which is why we make sure to open it every single weekend to learn more about what God says.

And that leads us to today's story - we're learning all about how we can use the bible to hear from God and make the right choices.

BIBLE NAVIGATION TIME FROM STAGE: (HOLD UP BIBLE.) If you have your bible, we're going to open them up to the Book of MATTHEW, which is in the New Testament (*Flip to the book of Matthew in your bible on stage.*)

Now, we're going to Chapter 7, the BIG number 7. The verse will be verse 24, so the tiny tiny number 24.

If you don't have a bible with you, share one with your neighbor, and make sure you bring yours next weekend!

Let's keep our bibles open, and let's check out our story!

BIBLE TRUTH

Show Video: Wk3 So&So Show

APPLICATION

Show Series Graphic: Game Plan

To do what God says, we need to hear what God says! There are three main ways God speaks to us:

One of the main ways God speaks to us is through the Bible. God gave us the Bible to teach us who He is. The Bible is also a guide to becoming more like Jesus. As you read the Bible, or listen to it on a Bible app, God will meet with you as you read about Him!

The first step to doing what God says is hearing what God says! And that's what our Bottom Line says for this week.

Show Graphic: WK 3_Bottom Line

***[BOTTOM LINE]* Practice hearing from God.**

Say that with me! *(Repeat with leaders and kids)*

We can practice, just like you practice at a sport you want to be really good at, or an instrument you want to play well, to learn how to HEAR from God.

But this is so much more important than sports or an instrument, and that brings us to our memory verse for this month...

Show Verse: 1 Timothy 4:8

“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..”

Let's say it together! *(Repeat with leaders and kids)*

Now really quiet.

Now as LOUD as you can!

Just like we practiced saying our memory verse, and it got a little easier each time, we can practice hearing from God everyday!

Before we head to our small groups to learn EVEN MORE about this, I'd love for someone to pray for us! Anyone want to be brave and pray for our group?

SLIDE: Wk 3 Conversation Starter

How can you hear from God? This week, choose one real moment to hear and do. Maybe it's at school, at home, with a friend, or online. Be honest about what helps you listen to God and what makes it hard.

PRAYER

HAVE A KID COME UP AND PRAY!

SMALL GROUPS

Show Graphic: Small Group

(Dismiss kids to their small groups)