



UPPER ELEMENTARY

FEBRUARY 2026

WEEK 1

Notes

- Yellow highlighted text are cues for audio and visual slides.
- Game, Worship, and the Bible verse from the stage
- Intro and Bible story are on video.

GAME/STORY SUPPLIES

- Bible

WORSHIP

- The Joy
- Praise



Bible Story

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus • *John 3:1-21*

Conversation Starter

Where have you seen God's love?

Bottom Line

God loves the whole world.

Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34 NIV



Inclusive Pro Tips

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

WELCOME

(Welcome kids)

Show Series Graphic: Like and Subscribe

Hey, everybody! Welcome to another awesome day here at [your environment's name]! We're starting a new month, and that means a new theme! This month, we've got a super-fun theme, 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus!'

This brand-new series is about how God loves us, and how we can share that love with everyone we meet. It's called 'Like and Subscribe'—because when you come across a really cool channel or video, you don't want to miss it ... and you want to let other people know all about it too!

Now, before we get to today's true story from the Bible about God's great love, I've got a challenge for you that's totally on theme.

GAME TIME

If you watch something online with your mom or dad, one way to let the creator know you like their video is with one of these.

Show Game Slide: Thumbs Up Emoji

Yup! It's a thumbs-up emoji. (Do a thumbs up.) It means you like something. But emojis can express a whole lot of other things too. In fact, there are nearly 4,000 official emojis! So right now, we're going to play a game to test your emoji expertise and how well you know a few Bible stories too. It's time to play 9Scripture Symbols.

Show SLIDE: Scripture Symbols

Let's get ready. We're going to see a set of emojis that represent a Bible Story. If you think you know it, put a thumbs up in the air, and I'll call one of you to guess. Everyone ready? Great. Let's see our first set of Scripture Symbols!

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 1 (world, tree, apple)

Who thinks they know what these emojis stand for?

Pick someone to answer. If they get it wrong, give someone else a chance.

When someone gets the right answer, show the answer slide.

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols Answer 1 (Creation)

Yes! You got it. These emojis represent Creation! First, God made light. Then God separated the water from the sky and the water from the land. After that, God created the sun, stars, plants, fish, birds, animals, and finally, people! And then God rested. Let's try another one!

Continue with as many of the remaining emoji challenges as you have time for. Briefly explain each one when someone guesses the correct answer.

Emoji Slide:

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 3 (woman, man, snake, apple)

SLIDE: Scripture Answer 3 (Adam and Eve)

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 4 (boat, rain, dove, rainbow)

SLIDE: Scripture Answer 4 (Noah)

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 5 (basket, baby, water)

SLIDE: Scripture Answer 5 (Baby Moses)

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 6 (praying hands, lion, moon)

SLIDE: Scripture Answer 6 (Daniel)

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 7 (star, camel, crown)

SLIDE: Scripture Answer 7 (Wise Men)

SLIDE: Scripture Symbols 8 (loaf of bread, fish)

SLIDE: Scripture Answer 8 (Jesus feeding the crowd)

Great job, everyone!!! You all know your Bible stories and your emojis!

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: The Joy

Show Worship: Praise

It's so awesome to see the way that you're putting your hearts into worship. The more you see and experience God's love at work in you, the more you can live it out. Let's go ahead and sit down and get ready for our Bible Story today.

INTRO

Show Series Graphic: Like and Subscribe

Before we dive into that true story from the Bible, let me tell you something amazing: we've been doing this year. We're going through the key stories of the Bible! By the end of the school year, we'll have looked at the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

Part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we could know Him! He wants to be our close, close friend. So as we go through the Bible this year, our intention is to learn more about God.

(HOLD UP BIBLE.) Today we're going to look at a conversation Jesus had with a man named Nicodemus. Nicodemus had really big questions about God. And he decided to ask Jesus about them. Nicodemus waited until nighttime to find Jesus. Let's check out our video!

BIBLE TRUTH

Show Video: Video_WK1 So&So Show

APPLICATION

Show Series Graphic: Like and Subscribe

In Nicodemus' conversation with Jesus, we learn something so, so important. **God loves the whole world.** That means every person, everywhere, always.

God's love is so big that He sent Jesus to show us what that love looks like. He sent Jesus to give His life, to pay for our sins, so anyone who believes in Him can be His friend forever. When we believe in Jesus and follow Him, we can have a brand-new kind of life, one that lasts forever and shines with His light because His Spirit lives within us.

When we say yes to Jesus, God's Spirit fills our hearts. The Spirit inside of you will start to change you! You start to care more. You start to forgive faster. You start to love people the way Jesus loves you. Because God's Spirit is inside of you, and He helps you do all of those things. He's Jesus' very Spirit, and He helps you do what Jesus would do!

And this sacrifice that Jesus offers, that He did out of great, great love, is for everyone in the whole world. Hey, that reminds me of our Bottom Line for today!

Show Graphic: WK1_Bottom Line

[BOTTOM LINE] God loves the whole world.

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

God loves us so much that He sent Jesus, who gave His very life to pay for our sins, so we can be God's friend. God's Son gave His life to be your friend. That's a great, great love!

So, live knowing that you're loved. When you fail at something—when you miss a math problem or a basketball shot—know that you're loved. When someone says mean things about you, know that you're loved. When life throws something hard at you, and it will because we live in a broken world, know that you're loved. The King gave His life for you because He wants to be your friend. You are so very loved.

Share that love. As we saw today, this great love, God's great love, is for the whole world.

This month's Memory Verse reminds us how Jesus teaches us to love one another.

Show Verse: John 13:34

'I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.'
John 13:34

Say that with me (repeat several times with kids and leaders)

Every single person you will ever meet is loved by God. So as you live in God's love, ask the Holy Spirit to help you pass that love on to the people around you. God loves you, and He can help you show His love to them!

As you go to your small groups, think about this question:

SLIDE: Wk1Conversation Starter

Where have you seen God's love? Recognizing ways you've seen God's love will help you do those things yourself. It can help you see God and give you ideas on how to share His love! Let's talk to the God who loves you so much He gave His life to be close to you. Would you bow your head and close your eyes?

PRAYER

INVITE A KID UP TO PRAY!

SMALL GROUPS

Show Graphic: Small Group

(Dismiss kids to their small groups)