



UPPER ELEMENTARY

FEBRUARY 2026

WEEK 3

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

Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

Bottom Line

The love of Jesus changes people.

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

WELCOME

(Welcome kids)

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

Show Series Graphic: Like and Subscribe

I LOVE that I get to hang out with all of you here today as we continue to talk about ways to share the love of Jesus. Our series is called 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus' because when you see something awesome online, you like it and subscribe to it because you don't want to miss a minute of awesomeness. And you want to share that awesomeness with your friends and family too!

This month we're talking about the love of God! That's definitely not something you want to miss a second of! And it's so amazing that you so want to share it!

GAME TIME

Before we hear an amazing true story from the Bible about the love of Jesus, I thought we should play a little game called 'Like or Dislike!'

Show Game Slide: Like or Dislike Challenge

Okay, everyone, warm up your thumbs. (Wiggle your thumbs.) Are you ready? Okay, let's go! In a few moments, I'm going to call out the name of something. If you like that thing, give me a thumbs up, raised high. (Do a thumbs up.) YAY! But if you do not like that thing, I want to see a thumbs DOWN. (Do a thumbs down.) BOOOO. Let's try one to practice!

Watching football. Like or dislike?

Encourage kids to give a thumbs up or thumbs down. Comment on the split.

Everyone, have your thumbs at the ready? Let's go!

Work through the following list—or add your own, based on the likes and dislike of the kids in your ministry. Feel free to include current trends, sports rivalries, etc.

Comment on the responses as you go.

- Radishes
- LEGOs®
- The color orange
- Salt on watermelon

- Cleaning your room
- Camping
- Snakes
- Homework
- Chewing gum
- Gum on your shoe
- Waking up early
- Road trips
- Thunderstorms
- Dark chocolate
- Your birthday

Great job, everyone! You can give your thumbs a rest now. It was so much fun to see all the things that you like ... and dislike! 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: The Joy

Show Worship: Praise

You all did an amazing job singing! Those songs remind us that God's love isn't something we just keep to ourselves; it's something we live and share. 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.

Have you ever done something that made people not like you very much? Maybe you said something mean or took something that wasn't yours. **(HOLD UP BIBLE.)** Today's Bible story is from the book of Luke. It starts with a man who wasn't very popular because he had made a lot of bad choices. But Jesus loved him anyway, and Jesus' love completely changed him! Let's check out our video!

BIBLE TRUTH

Show Video: Wk3 So&So Show

APPLICATION

Show Series Graphic: Like and Subscribe

The love of Jesus changes people from the inside out. When we understand how much Jesus loves us, we start to love others the same way. We forgive, we share, and we choose what's right, because His love fills our hearts. So don't forget what we've learned today. Our Bottom Line for this week says:

Show Graphic: WK 3_Bottom Line

[BOTTOM LINE] The love of God changes people.

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

Let's take a moment to look at our Memory Verse for this month. It's such a good reminder that love isn't just a feeling, it's something we do.

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.'

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

The same love that Zacchaeus experienced, we can too! And the people we know and meet can experience that love as well! "Jesus sees us when we mess up. He knows when we make selfish choices. And still, He loves us right where we are—just like He loved Zacchaeus. But Jesus' love doesn't stop there. His love changes us from the inside out. When we start spending time with Jesus, talking to Him learning about Him, following His example, we begin to change too!

When you meet Jesus and learn just how much He loves you, His love will change your heart, your choices, and your life. And then it's easier to show God's love to other people too. Showing the love of Jesus to someone doesn't guarantee that they'll change, but it does open the door. So where do we start? Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with God's love and show you ways to love others during your day! And pray that they will experience the love of Jesus that will change their life!

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

SLIDE: Wk 3 Conversation Starter

How can love change things? God's love didn't just make Zacchaeus feel better; it completely changed his heart and his life. How can love change things? When have you seen God's love make a difference for you, or through you? And what would it look like to let Jesus' love change the world around you this week?

PRAYER

INVITE A KID UP TO PRAY!

SMALL GROUPS

Show Graphic: Small Group

(Dismiss kids to their small groups)