

## LOWER ELEMENTARY

MARCH 2026

WEEK 1

### Notes

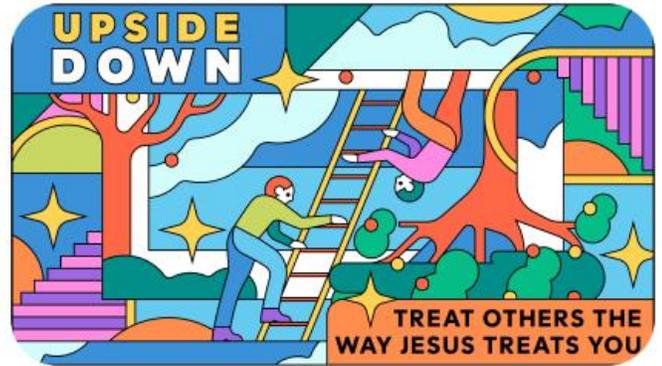
- **Yellow highlighted text** are cues for audio and visual slides.
- Game, Worship, and the Bible verse from the stage
- Intro and Bible story are on video.

### GAME/STORY SUPPLIES

- Bible
- 30 cups

### WORSHIP

- That's Who I Praise
- Reckless Love



### Bible Story

John the Baptist Is a Witness about Jesus •  
*John 3:22-36*

### Conversation Starter

How can I show others that Jesus is better?

### Bottom Line

Jesus must increase. I must decrease.

### Monthly Memory Verse

*Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* •  
Philippians 2:3 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.

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**WELCOME**

*(Welcome kids)*

**Show Series Graphic: Upside Down**

Hey, everybody! Welcome to another awesome day here at Flatirons Kids! We're starting a new month, and that means a new theme! This month, we've got a super-fun theme, 'Upside Down'

Upside Down? That sounds kind of weird, right? But here's the thing, Jesus taught people to live in a way that's a little different, a little unexpected ... a little upside down from what the world says.

That's what we'll learn this month—how to treat others the way Jesus treats us.

To get us started, we're going to play a game that's totally upside down! It's called ... "Cup Up/Cup Down!"

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**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.

To get us started, we're going to play a game that's totally upside down! It's called ... "Cup Up/Cup Down!"

**Show Game Slide: Cup Up/Cup Down**

I need 4 volunteers! If you want to play, raise your hand!

*Choose six volunteers from the kids who have their hands raised.*

*Invite them to come on stage.*

*Divide the kids into two teams of three.*

Here's how it works: when the timer starts, you'll have one minute to flip as many cups your team's way as possible. Team 1, you are Cup Up—you want all the cups facing up. Team 2, you are Cup Down—you want all the cups upside down. When the music stops, we'll see who has more cups their way!" "Think you're ready? Let's go in 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... GO!"

*Start the game and start 1-minute timer (or smartphone or countdown).*

Alright! Everyone, freeze! Let's see who's got the most cups flipped their way. Drumroll, please! And the winner is ... Team \_\_\_\_\_!

*Count the cups that are face up and face down to determine a winner. Reset the cups evenly (so 15 are face up and 15 are face down) and play more rounds if desired.*

That was awesome! You guys flipped those cups upside down and back again superfast. You had to pay attention and decide which way to flip the cups. It was a lot of upside-down thinking!

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## 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: That's Who I Praise**

**Show Worship: Reckless Love**

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.

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## INTRO

**Show Series Graphic: Upside Down**

Remember something really awesome we're doing this year. We're going through the whole Bible together! Why? Because part of the reason God gave us the Bible is that it helps us get to know Him.

**(HOLD UP BIBLE.)** This week, in our true story from the Bible, we're going to hear a story about someone who lived that way. His name was John the Baptist. Lots of people thought John was amazing, but when Jesus came along, John showed us something really special: **[Bottom Line] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.** Let's check out our video!

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## BIBLE TRUTH

**Show Video: Video\_WK1 StoryLab**

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## APPLICATION

**Show Series Graphic: Upside Down**

John wanted everyone to see how amazing Jesus was, not how great he was. That's humility. And because he pointed people to Jesus, people were able to see Jesus! That's living upside down. And when we live like that,

when we make a big deal of Jesus, people don't just see us, they see Jesus through us. And we want everyone to see Jesus!

That's why our Bottom Line for this week is:

### **Show Graphic: WK1\_Bottom Line**

**[BOTTOM LINE] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.**

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

So what about us? Well, John's job was to point people to Jesus —and that's our job too! We can show people who Jesus is by the way we live every day.

So let's point people to Jesus! When we share what we have, we aren't just being kind, we are showing people Jesus! He is kind too! When we tell the truth, we aren't just being honest, we're showing people what Jesus is like! He is truthful too! When we bring a bandage to someone who is hurt, we aren't just showing compassion; we are showing what Jesus is like! He is compassionate too!

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

### **Show Verse: Philippians 2:3**

**Don't do anything only to get ahead. 'Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value other more than yourselves'. Philippians 2:3 NIV**

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

So as you go throughout this week, be like John, and be a big arrow that points to Jesus! In the morning, you can talk to Jesus, and when He nudges your heart throughout the day—at school, at the playground, at home—do what He says. As you are a big arrow that points to Jesus, people will see Him! Let's take a moment to talk to God together. Everyone, bow your heads and close your eyes so we can focus on Him

### **PRAYER**

.Dear Jesus, we want to live with humility. We want to make You number one in our lives every day. We want our lives to be a big arrow that points to you! When we start to think too much about ourselves, remind us to point to You. Thank You for loving us so much. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

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### **SMALL GROUPS**

#### **Show Graphic: Small Group**

(Dismiss kids to their small groups)