



## WEEK FOUR – MARCH 2026 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Mary and Martha | Luke 10:38-42*

**Bottom Line:** *Make time for Jesus first.*

**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)*

**Conversation Starter:** *How can you make time for Jesus?*

**Application:** *Humility: Putting others first by giving up what you want*

### Series Overview:

Since Jesus instructs us to live in a way that's opposite of culture, this month's theme is "Upside Down: Treat others the way Jesus treats you." Fun upside-down visuals are a great reminder that the way we're called to live and serve with humility may "feel" upside down. But in reality, it's right side up!

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**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, pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time and for the kids that show up each week! Pray over their time here and the lessons they learn, relationships they build.*
- *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 was the best part of your week?*
    - *If you had a whole free day, what would you choose to do first?*
    - *What's something that sometimes distracts you or makes it hard to focus (Games, friends, noise, etc.)*
    - *Who is someone you know is really important to you? How do you make time for them?*
    - *What's one small way you could put someone else first this week?*
- *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**

## OPENING ACTIVITY

**What You Need:** “Spot the Difference” activity pages, Coloring Supplies

**What You Do:**

- Divide the kids into pairs.
- Give each kid a “Spot the Difference” Activity Page and access to coloring supplies.
- Explain that there are two pictures that look almost the same, but some things are different.
- Challenge them to work with their partner to find and circle all the differences.
- Walk around and help pairs that get stuck, giving them clues to help them find the differences.

***EveryChild Pro-Tips:***

- For kids who may be overwhelmed by a busy picture, point to one specific area and ask, “Does anything look different right here?”
- Let kids work individually if they focus better that way, celebrating the differences they find on their own.

**What You Say:**

“Great job, detectives! You had to look very closely to find all the things that were different. Sometimes, two things can look similar, but one is just a little different than the other.”

***[Transition]*** “In our true story from the Bible today, two sisters, Mary and Martha, made two different choices about what was most important when Jesus came to visit their home. Let’s go find out what they chose!”

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

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Week 4 brings us to the story of Mary and Martha. While Martha whips up a frenzy of activity to prepare for their guests, Mary simply sits at the feet of Jesus. When Martha finally explodes about her sister, Jesus doesn't send Mary to work. Instead, Jesus affirms that what Mary has done in spending time with Him is even more important than doing things for Him. [BOTTOM LINE] Make time for Jesus first.

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

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## **JESUS ABOVE ALL**

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

**What You Need:** Prepared images from the “Jesus Above All” Activity Page

### **What You Do:**

- Place the pictures from the “Jesus Above All” Activity Page on the floor, scattered around the room with the pictures of the “distractions” facing up.
- Explain that you're going to play a racing game.
- Challenge the kids to race to flip over all the distraction pictures so they are face down and Jesus is face up.

### **What You Say:**

“Great job! In our Bible Story today, Jesus and His disciples stopped in the town of Bethany at the home of two sisters, Mary and Martha, and their brother, Lazarus. These siblings were close friends of Jesus and super-excited to welcome Him and His friends into their house. Martha was busy doing all of the things to make their visit wonderful. Martha may have been preparing a meal or getting the house ready for all those guests. Mary, on the other hand, took a seat right at Jesus' feet as He spoke. She didn't want to miss a single word. Martha got frustrated because Mary wasn't helping her, but what Mary chose to do was the better thing.

“Spending time with Jesus is most important. We can all get busy and get distracted, like Martha. It's not bad to like playing soccer or watching TV, but our

Bible Story reminds us to put Jesus above everything else. Mary knew what was most important, and that was spending time with Jesus. It's important that we remember to make time for Jesus every day. Now, we still need to go to school, and clean our rooms, and help others, and do our homework, but we also need to remember to make time for Jesus. We can ***[Bottom Line]* make time for Jesus first**. When we make time for Jesus, we remember that He is with us, and we can do all of those things aware that He is right there with us!"

## UPSIDE DOWN DRAWING

[Live for God | Application Activity]

**What You Need:** Paper, Coloring Supplies, Clipboards

### What You Do:

- Tell the kids they are going to draw in a very silly, “upside down” way.
- Tape several pieces of paper to the underside of a table. (If you want each kid to have their own piece of paper, tape that many pieces of paper to the underside of the table.)
- Let kids take turns lying on their backs under the table and drawing on one of the pieces of paper above them.
- Alternatively, let them lie on their backs on the floor and try to draw on a piece of paper on a clipboard held above their heads.
- Instruct them to draw a picture of themselves spending time with Jesus, maybe sitting at His feet, praying to Jesus, or reading the Bible.

### What You Say:

“That was a fun challenge! Drawing upside down is not easy! Sometimes, making time for Jesus when our schedule is already busy can feel ‘upside down.’ But Jesus told us that Mary had chosen what is better. He wants us to ***[Bottom Line]* make time for Jesus first**. Martha was so busy doing good things *for* Jesus that she forgot to simply spend time *with* Jesus. And Jesus said that being with Him is the most important thing. The most important priority of your life, every day, is your friendship with Jesus.”

**PRAYER TIME**

ASK KIDS TO PRAY TO CLOSE SMALL GROUP TIME! IF ONE WANTS TO PRAY, HAVE THEM PRAY! IF THEY ALL WANT TO PRAY, LET THEM ALL PRAY!