

# Upper Elementary

WEEK 5 - STARTER



## Activity Name: Human Knot

What You Need:  None needed

### What You Do:

- Instruct the group to stand in a circle, shoulder to shoulder.
- Instruct everyone to reach into the circle and grab the hands of two different people, but not the people standing directly next to them. The result will be a large, human knot.
- Explain the challenge: “Without letting go of the hands you are holding, work together to untangle yourselves and form a single, unbroken circle.”
- This will require a lot of communication, twisting, turning, and stepping over and/or under arms.
- Encourage kids not to give up, even when it seems impossible.

### What You Say:

That was seriously challenging! There were moments when you felt completely stuck, right? But you had to persevere and talk to each other to figure it out. You couldn't give up. Our journey through life can sometimes feel like a tangled knot, especially when things are confusing, and we don't know the way out. But today's story gives us the ultimate hope for how God will untangle everything in the end. Let's go hear more!

**Lead your group to the Large Group area.**



**Bible Story:** Heaven • *Revelation 21:3-5*

**Bottom Line:** God will make everything right in the end.

**Conversation Starter:** What do you think heaven will be like?

**Memory Verse:** Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up. • Galatians 6:9 NIV

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- If you were John, alone on an island, and suddenly saw Jesus in a bright and powerful way, how do you think you would feel? Why do you think Jesus said, "Do not be afraid"? What does that show about how Jesus cares for us?
- God promises to wipe away every tear, stop all pain, and make everything new. How can that promise help you when things are hard right now? Why do you think God wants us to remember this?
- Revelation shows a time when God will live with His people again, like in the Garden of Eden. What do you think it will be like to see God face-to-face? How does that change how you think about heaven?
- John saw things that were amazing, confusing, and even a little scary. What does this teach us about trusting God, even when we don't understand?
- If you really believe that God will make everything right one day, how could that change the way you handle sad or unfair things now? What choices might you make differently?

## Activity Name: Something New

**What You Need:** ☐ Bible ☐ 'N' activity page ☐ coloring supplies

### What You Do:

- Open your Bible and read Revelation 21:3-5 out loud to the kids.
- Share the following points:
  - This is your future that's coming!
  - God is going to move His home, heaven, down to earth, and we will live with Him forever!
  - There will be no more sadness, crying, or pain in our forever home.
  - God's going to fix everything that's broken, making it new!
- Give each kid a piece of paper and a marker.
- Say, "Our story today is about our forever home! There are a lot of things that we don't know about our forever home. But God did tell us some things about it in these verses! We do know that God is going to fix what's broken and make it new! 'New' starts with the letter N! See the letter N."
- Say, "Now use your imagination and turn your letter N into something brand new!"
- Give the kids a few minutes to use their imagination.
- Let the kids who want to share show their new drawing to the group.
- Remember, our forever home is the new earth where God has fixed what is broken. And the New Jerusalem has come down too!

### What You Say:

Wow, look at all these creative pictures! They look brand new! They don't even look like the letter N anymore! "Our true story from the Bible tells us that in our forever home, there will be no more crying or sadness. One of our Bible verses from today says, He who was sitting on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' (Revelation 21:5a NIV). How incredible is that? At the end of time, God's rescue plan will be complete. He will make things exactly as He always wanted. God will live with people, just like in the Garden of Eden! And God will take away all the sadness, sickness, and death that entered the world after the fall. He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Everything that's hard and painful will be made right again. **[Bottom Line] God will make everything right in the end.**