

Lower Elementary

WEEK 2 - STARTER



Activity Name: King May I

What You Need:

- ☐ None needed

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to stand in a straight line, shoulder to shoulder, on one end of your group space.
- Stand across from them on the other end of your group space.
- Demonstrate and explain how to play:
Okay, friends, we're going to play a game called 'Leader, May I?' Here's how it works: I'll call on someone and give you a fun movement to do like tiptoeing, jumping, or taking baby steps. But before you move, you must remember to ask, 'Leader, may I take [number] [type of step]?' Then I'll say, 'Yes, you may,' or 'No, you may not.' If you forget to ask the right way, you'll go back to the starting line! We'll keep playing until someone makes it all the way to me!
- Continue playing until someone reaches you. Play again if time and interest allow.

What You Say:

I loved playing that game with each of you! You really had to listen carefully and remember the right way to respond. And you couldn't just do whatever you wanted—you had to ask! In our Bible Story today, Jesus told a story, or parable, about what we're supposed to do with the things God has given us. Let's go learn more!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: The Parable of the Bags of Gold • *Matthew 25:14-30 NIV*

Bottom Line: God's kingdom grows when you use what He has given you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit.* • Romans 14:17 NIV

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did the master give things to his helpers?
- What made the master happy?
- What can make us feel scared?
- What has God given you?
- How can trusting God help you be brave?

Activity Name: Talents Door Hanger

What You Need: ☐ Door hangers ☐ Coloring supplies ☐ (option: watercolor paints)

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to share about the special things God has given them. Are they a good artist? A fast runner? A kind friend? A great helper?
- Give each kid a “Talents Door Hanger”.
- Encourage them to draw a picture of one of their gifts on the front of their door hanger with a pencil.
- Let them color or paint their entire door hanger with watercolors any way they want to.
- Send the door hanger home, and encourage them to ask a parent or adult to write down ideas for how they can use their gifts.

What You Say:

These door hangers are fantastic! When you hang this on your door at home, it will be a great reminder of all the special things God has given you. You might not have bags of gold, but those bags in the parable represent the unique gifts God has given to each of His followers.

Maybe you're great at listening when someone is sad and sharing the love of Jesus with them. Maybe you can show how Jesus helps you persevere when you stick with it and keep going, even when learning to read is really hard. Maybe you love to bake and can take cookies to a lonely neighbor, letting her know God is always with her. Whoever you are and wherever you live, God wants you to use everything He's given you. It makes Him so happy when you do, and He will do great kingdom things with what you do! **[Bottom Line] God's kingdom grows when you use what He has given you.**

Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray as well.