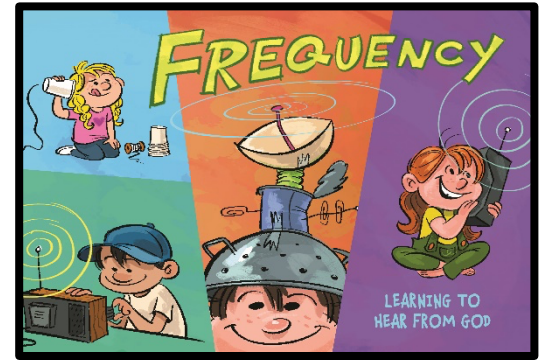


Kinder & 1st Grade

WEEK 1 - STARTER



Activity Name: Silent Motions

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Invite kids to stand in a circle.
- Say, “We’re going to play a game where you have to pay close attention, but there’s a twist. I’m not going to use my voice.”
- Explain that you will silently do a motion, and the kids should copy the motion as quickly as they can.
- Start with simple motions, such as thumbs up, hands on head, touching your shoulders, or sitting down.
- After a few rounds, make the motions smaller, slower, or faster, so kids have to watch carefully.
- Invite one kid at a time to be the leader and choose a silent motion for the group to copy.
- Gather kids back together.

What You Say:

Great job watching closely! That game was tricky because I wasn’t using my voice. You couldn’t just listen with your ears. You had to slow down, pay attention, and notice what I was doing.

Today we’re learning that God speaks to us, but He doesn’t always speak in a voice we hear with our ears. Sometimes God speaks to our hearts. Sometimes He speaks through the Bible. Sometimes He speaks through trusted people who follow Him. And sometimes He helps us notice Him through the world He made. God wants to speak to us, and we can learn to listen. Today’s Bottom Line is: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.** Let’s go check out our story!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: How to Hear from God • John 10:1-4, 14-16; Psalm 1:1-3; Romans 1:19-20

Bottom Line: I can hear from God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **How can we listen to God?**
- Why is it good to listen to God?
- What noises can make it hard to listen?
- Read John 10:3. Whose voice do the sheep know?
- What helps us hear from God?

Activity Name: Big Ears

What You Need: ☐ Ear cutouts ☐ Stapler or tape ☐ Coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Give each kid one sentence strip and 2 ear cutouts.
- Ask kids to tell you something they want to **tell** God.
- Encourage kids to write or draw their answers on the front of one of the ears.
- Ask kids to tell you a way they can **hear** from God (e.g., Bible, their mom or dad, church, nature), and write or draw their answers on the other ear.
- Measure the sentence strip to fit each kid's head, and staple the ends together. Staple one ear on each side of the headband.
- Allow kids to wear the headband for the rest of the activity through dismissal.

What You Say:

These listening ears look fantastic! *(Point to "tell" ear.)* This is the ear filled with things we want to tell God about. *(Turn head and point to the "hear" ear.)* And this is the ear we filled with ways we can hear from God. These ears are a great way to remember that prayer isn't just about talking, it's also about listening. We can tell God anything, and we can listen for His voice. Let's pray for the things on our ears right now.

Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You that You want to talk with us. Please help us with all the things we want to tell You. And please help us to listen for Your voice this week when we read our Bibles and talk to people who love You. Help us remember that You and **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

As adults arrive to pick up, remind kids to take time to be quiet and still this week so they can hear His voice through the noise of the world around us.