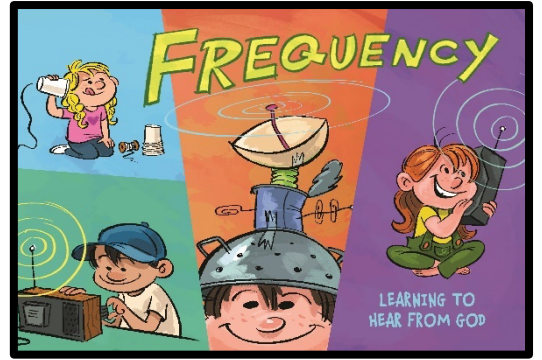


2nd & 3rd Grade

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 to God?
- Read John 10:3. Whose voice do the sheep know?
- What helps us hear from God?

Activity Name: Ways God Speaks

What You Need: ☐ 'Ways God Speaks' activity page ☐ Coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page and something to draw with.
- Say: "In our Bible Story, we learned that God speaks to us in different ways. We're going to think about each one and draw or write an example."
- Hold up your copy of the "Ways God Speaks" Activity Page, and point to the first box.
- **Box 1: God Speaks Directly to Your Heart**
 - Say: "Sometimes, God speaks directly to your heart. That might feel like a thought to be kind, tell the truth, help someone, or say you're sorry—especially when it feels hard to do. Draw or write a time when God might speak to your heart."
 - Give examples if needed: Helping a friend, telling the truth, sharing, including someone
- **Box 2: God Speaks through the Bible**
 - Say: "God also speaks through the Bible. When we read the Bible, we learn what God is like and what He wants us to know. You can open up His Word with a grown-up or read it on your own, and God will speak to you. Draw or write something you might learn from the Bible."
 - Give examples if needed: Love others, God tells us to forgive, God loves me, God says that we should honor our parents.
- **Box 3: God Speaks through Other People**
 - Say: "Sometimes, God speaks through other people who also know and follow Him. He might use people in your life like a parent, teacher, friend, or leader to help you know what He would want you to do. Draw or write someone who might help you hear from God."
 - Give examples if needed: A parent reminding you to be kind, a teacher helping you tell the truth, a friend encouraging you
- **Box 4: God Speaks through the World He Made**
 - Say: "God also speaks through the world He made. When we look at what God made, it reminds us how big and amazing He is. He is an amazing Creator. Draw something God made that reminds you of Him."
 - Give examples if needed: Animals, the mountains, the ocean, the sun, moon, and stars

What You Say:

God speaks in many ways—to your heart, through the Bible, through other people who know and follow Him, and through what He made. As you worked on your page, you were thinking about real ways God can speak to YOU! Choose one and really pay attention to it this week. Look for moments when God might be speaking to you in that way. The more you notice, the more you'll begin to recognize how God is speaking to you. Now, let's say our Bottom Line together: **[Bottom Line] I can hear from God.**

Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray as well.