

May 2021, May 30th 2021

Today's Bible Story: Gotta Live (Widow's Mite) • *Mark 12:41-44*

Today's Bottom Line: Practice living for God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises to help for the life you are now living and the life to come.* 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

Monthly Life App: Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that your few would be able to see everything they do as an opportunity to live their faith out loud for all to see. Ask God to be on their hearts and minds this week, gently reminding them to honor Him in everything they say and do.

1. Early Arriver

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

What You Need: "Matching Coins" Activity Page, hand sanitizer,

What You Do:

- Greet each kid by name as they arrive.
- Instruct the kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Explain that you will play a matching game.
- Lay all of the cards face down on the ground or a table.
- On each kid's turn, direct them to turn over two cards.
- Tell the kids that the goal is to remember where each coin is so they can find a match when it's their turn.
- Once a kid finds two matches on their turn, instruct them to keep the cards while play moves to the next kid.
- Challenge kids to find as many matches as possible.

2. Opening Activity

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Buckets, coins (can substitute a different item if needed), and floor tape

What You Do:

- Set the buckets on the ground.
- Tape a line on the floor far enough away from the buckets that it will be a challenge for the kids to toss a coin into the bucket.
- Hand each kid a coin then split kids into three or four teams
- Assign each team a bucket.
- Explain that they will take turns trying to toss the coin into their bucket.
- If a kid makes it in the bucket, invite them to do a victory dance.
- If a kid misses, let them pick up their coin, get back in line, and try again.
- Play at least two rounds, giving kids a new coin each time.

What You Say:

“Do you think the size of your coin mattered? Was a smaller coin easier to get in the bucket or harder? *(Wait for responses.)* What about a coin like a quarter? *(Wait for responses.)* **[Transition] Well, let’s head to Large Group to hear a story about a woman who had some coins and find out what she did with them.”**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)

3. Pass the Chicken

[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bibles, rubber or play food chicken, and hand sanitizer

What You Do:

- Direct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Encourage the kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Use the Navigation Tips from Week 1 to help the kids look up 1 Timothy 4:8 and read it together as a group.
- Reread the entire verse out loud.
- Hand one kid the rubber chicken or play food.
- Direct the kids to pass the rubber chicken around the circle while saying the memory verse.
- Explain that the kid holding the rubber chicken when the group finishes the verse gets to try to say the memory verse by themselves (with your help if needed).
- Continue until all the kids have had a turn to say the memory verse on their own.

What You Say:

“That was pretty silly, passing around a rubber chicken. But you know what has been even more fun? Learning our memory verse with all of you all month long! I love getting to practice hearing from God by reading the Bible out loud together and memorizing Scripture together. That is also one way we can **[Bottom Line] practice living for God.**”

4. Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

What You Need: Goldfish

What You Do:

- Get kids into a small circle and handout goldfish crackers.
- Ask kids to pretend that their goldfish is a bag of seeds! Explain to the kids that the same way these seeds will need sunlight and time to grow, there are things we need to grow in our relationship with Jesus. We need to:
 - Hear Him through His Word (the Bible)
 - Pray to Him
 - Talk about Him with others
 - Live for Him
- Close in prayer, asking God to help the kids practice living for Him every day.

What You Say:

“These “seeds” are pretty special—we just can’t see it yet. As the week goes by, you will see them grow. Just like our faith in Jesus, we will grow when we **[Bottom Line] practice living for God**. Let’s talk to Him together.

“God, we know we won’t grow in our faith if we don’t actively practice hearing from You, praying to You, talking about You, and living for You. Help us continue to practice every single day so we can grow, just like our beans. We love You and are so grateful for the greatest gift ever—Your Son, Jesus. It’s in Jesus’ name we ask all these things. Amen.”

Activity to Close

If time, pick an ‘End of Class’ activity from the activity bin to play with the kids. (ie. Simon Says, etc.)