



August 30, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING
at home

Parent Guide For
KIDS

1. Start with Worship

Begin your time with praise and singing. Reinforce the lyrics with motions.

We've made Youtube video playlists for:

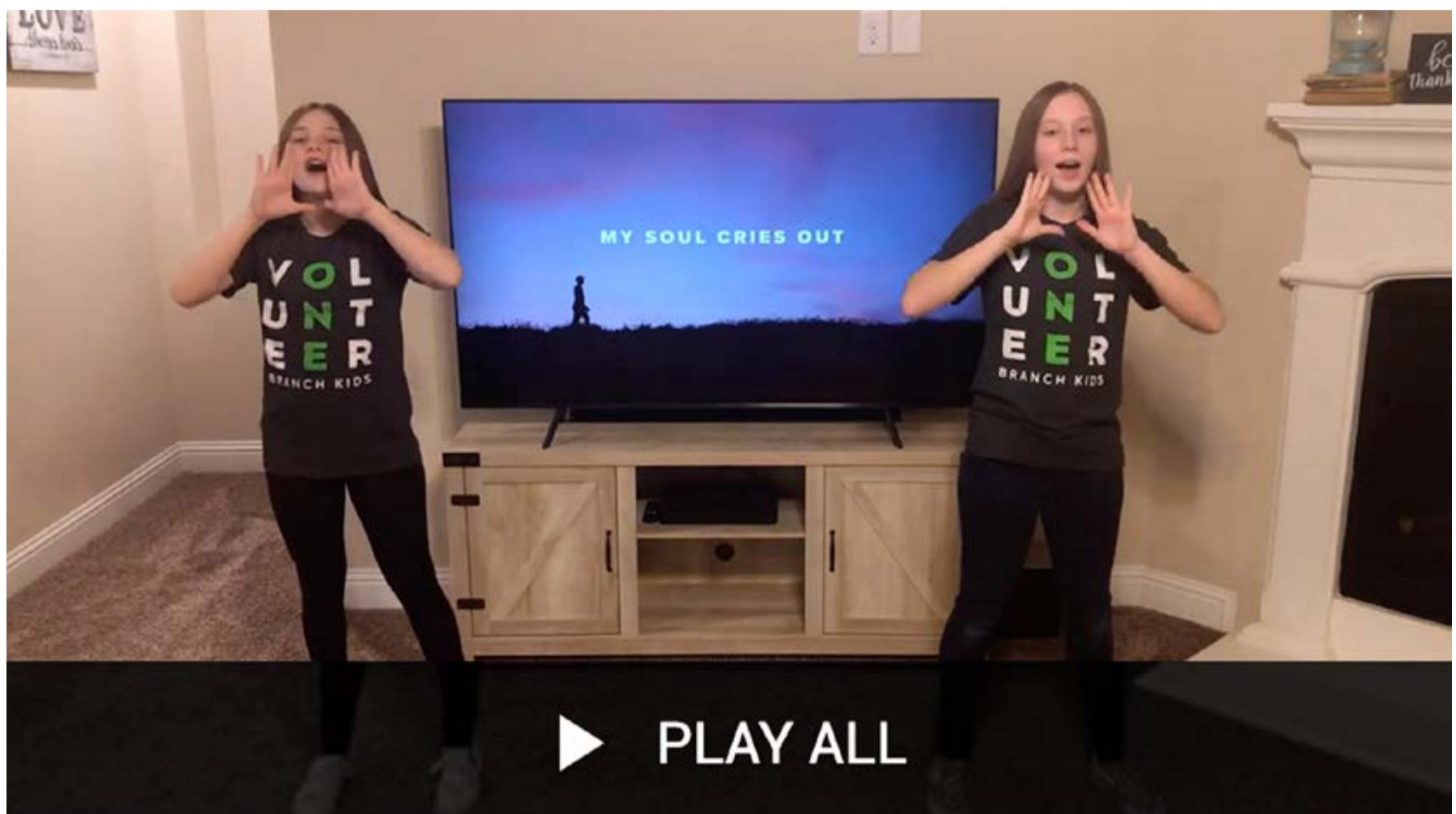


Branch Kids Worship Motions



Branch Kids Worship Lyrics

You can also search on your mobile device or smart TV by opening the Youtube app. Search for: "Branch Kids Worship Motions"



We recommend installing YouTube's TV app on your living-room device of choice if it's not there already. Roku, Apple TV, and Android TV usually have YouTube pre-installed, as do many smart TVs and Blu-ray players. If not, you can download it from your streamer's app store. ([Check YouTube's website for a full list of supported devices.](#)) If you have a home-theater PC or a Chromebox—you can access the TV-friendly version of YouTube through your web browser at youtube.com/tv.

2. Open Your Bibles

As a family, turn to today's passage in your Bibles.

Today's Bible Passage

Mark 8:34-35

As you turn, ask:



- Is Mark in the old or new testament? **(New)**
- Who is the author of Mark? **(Mark)**
- What book comes before Mark? **(Matthew)**
- What book comes after Mark? **(Luke)**
- Mark is one of the four____? **(Gospels)**
- What does Gospel mean? **(Good news! The gospels tell the good news of Jesus)**

Tip for younger kids:

Help your little ones by reminding them that “big numbers” are chapters and the “little numbers” are verses.

3. Read the Passage

If you have kids who are readers, let them read the story or take turns reading it to the family.

Today's Story Point

Jesus tells us to pick up our cross and follow Him.

Encourage active listening:

- What does Jesus say to pick up?



4. Discuss the Passage

Did you know Jesus predicted his own death and that he would rise again 3 days later! He knew it was going to be hard and painful and still did it anyway!! After Jesus told his disciples he was going to die, they didn't understand, they were confused but he told them to pick up their cross and follow him.

Discussion Questions

- What does taking up your cross or turn away from your ways mean? We all have desires that go against what Jesus wants for us - we do not always want to love God and love others. Jesus says to turn from those selfish ways and to follow Him - loving God and loving others.
- Give example of what it looks like day to day. EX: When I pray everyday, read my bible everyday, tell others about Jesus. It looks like putting God first! When we pick up our cross sometimes we have to give up things that make our life easier.
- What does Jesus mean when He says if you "hang on to your life you will lose it?" When a person is thinking more about their own desires and life than they are about following Jesus (loving God and loving others), they may enjoy everything that comes their way in this life but will be forever separated from God afterward.
- How can you follow Jesus? When you believe in your heart and say with your mouth that Jesus died for your sins and rose again, God forgives you of your sins and you are saved. This makes you a follower of Jesus.
- Giving up our life for the Good News (GOSPEL!) means we do everything we can to love God and Love others!

5. Summarize

Ask your kids to tell you what they learned from your discussion. Review passage as needed.

Say: We have a choice to make good choices or bad choices all day. When we follow Jesus we are making a choice to love God and love others and that can be hard! Sometimes we are distracted, we fail, we are overlooked or have doubts but Jesus loves us and wants us to follow Him!

- God invites everyone to follow Him - no matter who they are, where they are from, or what they look like.
- God loves us all and Jesus offers forgiveness to ANYONE who trusts Him as their Savior. He came for us all!
- Following Him means that we have to choose to love God and love others every day.



6. Experience the Story

Use an activity to help reinforce what you learned today.

Activity - Pick Up Your Cross

Notes:

- Give everyone a piece of paper and have them cut out a cross.
- Have everyone think of things they can do to “pick up their cross” and follow Jesus. How are they going to love God and love others?
- Write (or help write) what they have said on each of their crosses.
- Encourage everyone to put their cross somewhere they can see it every day as a reminder of what it means to follow Jesus.
- Spend time talking about this as a family and share ways you can hold each other accountable.

**God loves you NO MATTER WHAT.
No matter if we feel distracted,
overlooked, like we are failing -
even if we have doubts...
Jesus wants you to follow Him.**

7. Pray Together

Pray out loud together. Even if the room isn't still or quiet - pray out loud anyway! Be a family who prays together.

Jesus wants us all to follow Him. If you or your kids have questions about following Jesus - reach out to us!

Consider these prayers

- **God, thank you for loving us all - even though we make mistakes.**
- **God, help me to follow Jesus. Even when it is hard to give up my own way.**
- **God, help ____ know how much You love them and help them. In Jesus' Name, protect them from any lies from the enemy that tell them they cannot have doubts. You are the God who sees and the God of love!**

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!



If you are reading this and would like more information on building a relationship with Jesus, we would love to talk to you!

Reach out to us at
alexis.hall@thebranch.org

[Want to watch the Sermon and have an option for kids?](#)
[Here's Branch Kids at Home!](#)

[Join our Branch Families Facebook Group!](#)