



July 12, 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:

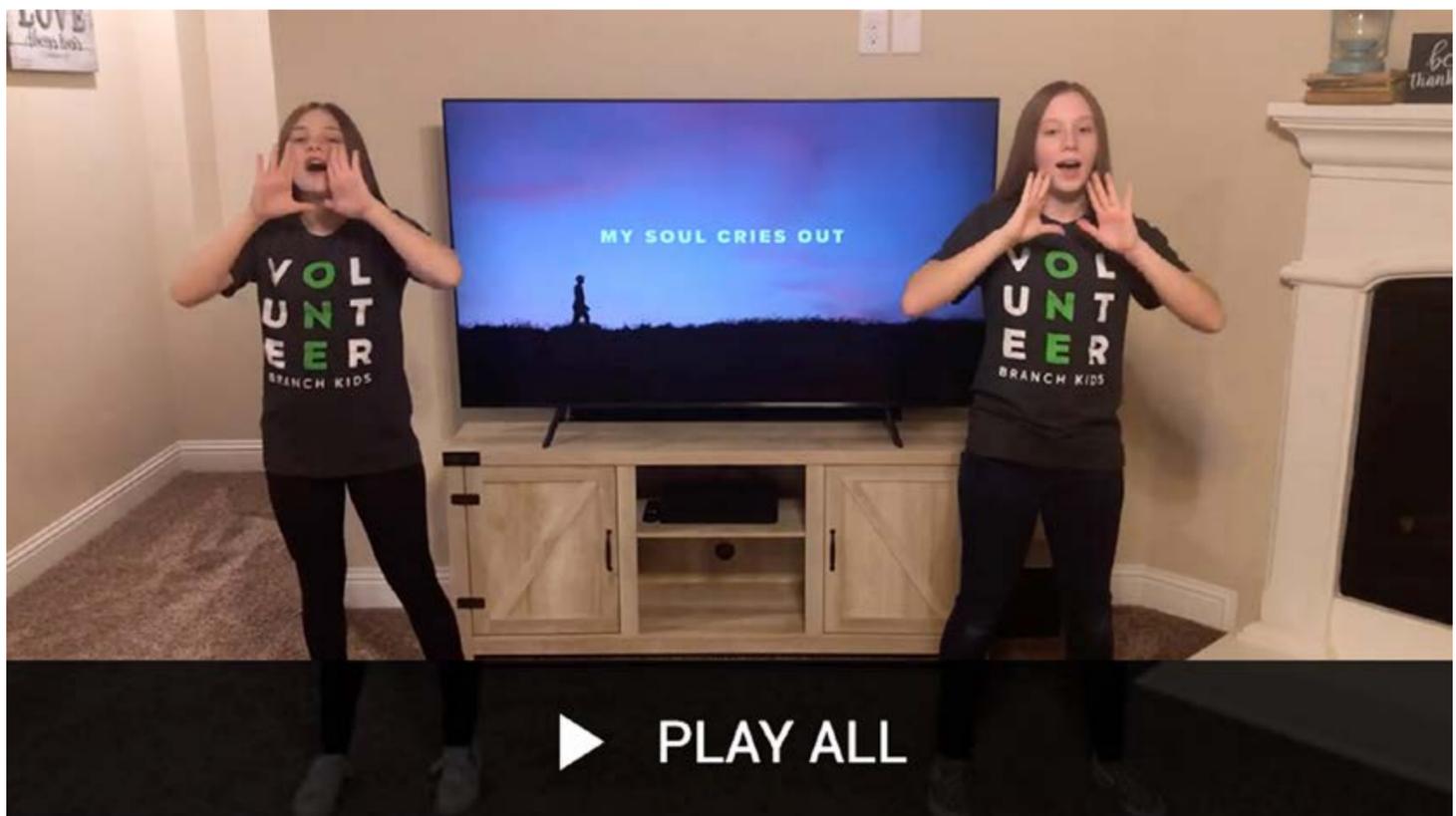


Branch Kids Worship Motions



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 2:13-17

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' message is for everyone. He teaches us how to love and include others.

Encourage active listening:

- What job is talked about in this passage?
- Listen for the word "tollbooth."



4. Discuss the Passage

Jesus loves all the people in the world. The Pharisees thought that Jesus should have only been with the people that were like them - following all the rules - but Jesus knew that everyone needs him -even those who were outcasts, like Levi. So Jesus went to Levi and said, "Follow Me." Levi agreed and you probably know him as Matthew - a disciple! This teaches us that the message of Jesus is for everyone.

Discussion Questions

- Who are the Pharisees? **The Pharisees were religious leaders in the church - they often cared more about loving the rules than they cared about loving God and loving others.**
- Why were the Pharisees upset with Jesus? **He was eating with Levi, who was a tax collector - an outcast.**
- How did Levi respond to Jesus when he was asked to follow Jesus? **He immediately followed Jesus and believed in Jesus.**
- What did the Pharisees say to Jesus when they saw Him eating with Levi? **They told Jesus that He should not hang out with Levi, but instead only hang out with the Pharisees or people who follow their rules.**
- What did Jesus mean when he said that the sick need a doctor, not the healthy? **He means that everyone needs Jesus, not just the church people or people like the Pharisees, but those who are different, too. It is important to share the message of Jesus with everyone and include others.**
- Who is the message of Jesus for? **Everyone!**
- How can you work to include others who may be different from you this week?

5. Summarize

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

Say: It is really easy to only include people who look and sound and play and do things just like you. And it is okay to include those people. But in the story today, Jesus showed us that He came for everyone, and that includes those who are different - just like Levi (Matthew).

- God made us all different - on purpose!
- God loves us all and Jesus offers forgiveness to ANYONE who trusts Him as their Savior. He came for us all!
- Loving God and loving others means that we include others, even and especially if they are different than us!



6. Experience the Story

Use an activity to help reinforce what you learned today.

Activity Squish Game

Notes:

- Tape several shapes on the floor for everyone to stand inside - one person per shape. The shape needs to be big enough to eventually hold everyone.
- This game encourages all of the children to work together to include everyone in the game.
- Remove one shape at a time and as you do the person in the shape must squish together in another person's shape.
- Keep going until everyone is in one shape.

Say:

- This is a silly game - but it is a fun way to practicing including others and inviting them to join you.
- Sometimes inviting other people is a little hard - just like this game. Sometimes it makes us uncomfortable - but when we remember that God made us all, and Jesus came to save us all, we can remember that everyone needs to know about Jesus.
- One of the best ways to share Jesus with others is by getting to know them and including them!
- How can you include others this week?

**Sometimes kids do not want to include others because they feel unsafe - obviously this is to be heard and respected. Consider having a conversation about this and how to handle these situations.

7. Pray Together

The Levi in our story did follow Jesus.

When we decide to follow Jesus that means we choose to love God and love others.

Consider these prayers

- **God, thank you for loving us all and sending Jesus to save us.**
- **God, please show me when I am excluding others and help remind me about Jesus' example.**
- **God, help us tell others about Jesus and to include others.**
- **God, help _____ love You and love others every day of their life.**

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!**