

# K3 | W3

## Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 3

**Bible Story:** Be Humble/Love Your Enemies • *Matthew 5:38-48*

**Bottom Line:** Love like Jesus even when it's hard.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

### **Prelude: Setting the Tone for the Experience**

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

Note: This leader guide is created with inclusion in mind. It supports children with learning differences, disabilities, or special needs as they participate alongside their peers. Look for the highlighted sections for extra tips to help welcome and include every child. For more resources, check out our free *A Place at the Table* course with Kim Botto and EveryChild Curriculum. ([joinamazing.com/everychild](http://joinamazing.com/everychild))

### **Small Group (15 minutes)**

#### **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction**

Opening Activity

### **Large Group (35 minutes)**

#### **Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways**

#### **Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God**

Opener

Worship

Bible Story (sections about God's Big Story are listed as optional)

Prayer

### **Small Group (25 minutes)**

#### **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect**

Bible Story Review: Light the Story

Application Activity: Upside Down Hearts

Memory Verse Activity: Prayer Chain

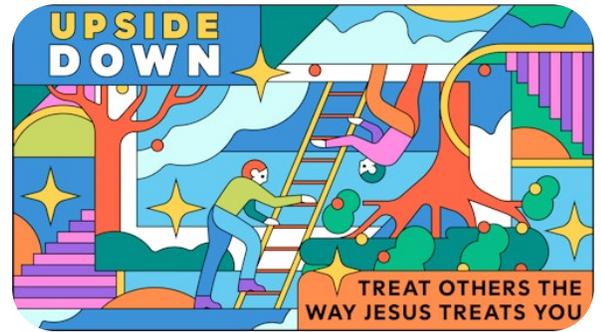
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### **Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience**

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



### **Bible Story**

Be Humble/Love Your Enemies • *Matthew 5:38-48*

### **Conversation Starter**

How can you show kindness to someone who makes you mad?

### **Bottom Line**

Love like Jesus even when it's hard.

### **Monthly Memory Verse**

*Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

5 min

# Social

5 min

## 23 Social Activity | Made to Play

### What You Need

-  Offering Container 1
-  Hula Hoops® (1 for every 5 kids) 1



### EveryChild Tips

- *If a kid has mobility challenges, the group can gently help guide the Hula Hoop over them while they remain stationary.*

5 min

# Bible Story Review

5 min

## 23 – Bible Story Telephone | Made to Play

### What You Need

No supplies needed

### What You Do:

- Welcome the kids by name with a high five or fist bump!
- Invite the kids who brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- Instruct the kids to stand in a circle, holding hands.
- Place a Hula Hoop over one pair of clasped hands.
- (If you have a larger group, feel free to make smaller groups and give each group a Hula Hoop. Groups of five work great!)
- Challenge the group to move the Hula Hoop all the way around the circle without anyone letting go of their friends' hands. (The kids will have to step through the Hula Hoop and move their bodies to pass it along.)
- Cheer them on as they work together to get the Hula Hoop all the way around the circle.

### What You Say:

"You did it! That was a real challenge, but you worked together! Sometimes, being friends and loving each other can be a little tricky! **[Transition]** Today, in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is going to teach us a brand-new way to do something that can feel upside-down: how to love people who are unkind to us. Let's go listen!"

### What You Do:

- Encourage the kids to join you and sit in a circle.
- Explain the game of Telephone. You'll whisper a short sentence from the story into one kid's ear, and they'll whisper it to the next, and so on.
- Use these simple sentences from the story:
  - "Jesus said, 'Love your enemies.'"
  - "Be kind to people who are mean."
  - "Pray for people who hurt you."
  - "This shows you are children of your Father in heaven."
  - **"[Bottom Line] Love like Jesus even when it's hard."**
- Whisper the first sentence to the first kid.
- When the sentence gets to the end of the circle, encourage the last kid to say it out loud.

5 min

# Application Activity

5 min

## 23 – Rhythm Repeat | Made to Play

### What You Need

No supplies needed

- Talk about whether the message stayed the same. Play again with the next sentence.

### What You Say:

"Great job! It can be tricky to get the message right. The message Jesus gave us in our story is so important, we want to get it right! Jesus said: *'Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you. Then you will be children of your Father who is in heaven. He causes his sun to shine on evil people and good people. He sends rain on those who do right and those who don't'* (Matthew 5:44-45 NIV).

"Did you hear that? Jesus didn't just say: 'Don't be mean to your enemies.' He told us to love our enemies. That's completely upside down, right?! But showing love to an enemy—that's just what God does. God shows kindness to everyone. And God says He wants us to show the world that we are His children by doing the same. He wants us to **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard.**"

### What You Do:

- Encourage the kids to join you in a seated circle.
- Explain that you are going to build a rhythm together.
- Start by doing one simple action, like clapping twice.
- The kid to your right is to repeat your action (clapping twice) and add their own simple action (like snapping once).
- The next kid in the circle is to do both actions in order (clapping twice, snapping once) and add a new one (like patting their knees twice).
- Continue around the group, with each kid repeating the whole pattern and adding one new move.
- See how long you can keep the pattern going!

### What You Say:

"That was amazing! It got really hard to remember the whole pattern! It can also be hard to remember to be kind when someone is not kind to us. Showing love to someone you don't get along with feels upside-down. But that's why it's so important and so powerful. God loves everyone. When people see you choosing to love when it's hard, they'll know that you're different. They'll see that you're a follower of Jesus.

"Loving people who are hard to love is one of the most powerful ways that you can live like Jesus. It's not always easy, but you can pray and ask God for help. When you began to follow Jesus, His Holy Spirit, Jesus'

5 min

# Prayer

5 min

## 23 – Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect

### What You Need

No supplies needed

very Spirit, who loves His enemies, moved inside of you. And He can help you so you can **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard.**"

### What To Do:

- Say, "Let's take a minute to have a quiet talk with God. I want you to think about one person who is sometimes hard to love. You don't have to say their name out loud. Just picture them in your mind."
- Give the kids a few moments of quiet.
- Say, "Now, let's ask God to help us love that person. You can just think the words in your heart."
- After another moment of quiet, close the time in prayer.

### What You Say:

"It can feel really hard to love people who are not kind to us. But Jesus told us to '*pray for those who hurt you*' (*Matthew 8:44 NIV*). He gives us the strength to love even our enemies. And we can ask Him for help! Let's finish praying."

"Dear God, thank You for loving us. Please help us to love others the way You do, sending sun and rain on everyone. Give us Your strength so we can **[Bottom Line] love like Jesus even when it's hard.** We need Your help! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

# Supplies

23 Social Activity | Made to Play

Quantity

- |    |                                  |   |
|----|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Offering Container               | 1 |
| 2. | Hula Hoops® (1 for every 5 kids) | 1 |