



## Elementary Leader Guide

March 1 –**The Clubhouse 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monthly Theme:** I Am Meant to Know God

**Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie:** God is Holy

**Bible Story Reference:** God Spoke to Isaiah (Isaiah 6)

*\*Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

### Arrival & Small Groups

Upon arrival children will go to their designated pod based on their grade level for small group connections time. Each "pod" will have a leader waiting for them to begin connections conversations to start the morning.

**Small Group Leaders:** Introduce yourself to families you don't know and use this time to welcome kids as they arrive.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- *What was the best part of your week?*
- *What do you like to do when you get a chance to relax before bedtime?*
- *If you could be in a really crowded place or a spot all by yourself, which would you choose and what would you do?*
- *What hobby or activity can you see yourself doing even when you grow up?*
- *If you could be any sea creature, which one you like to be and why?*

## Countdown Video/ Leader Welcome:

*\*Tweens arrive as countdown video begins.*

Play Countdown Video.

**Script:** Hi, everyone! My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am so glad you are here today! Turn to a neighbor, give a high five, and say, "I am glad you are here!" (*I am glad you are here!*) Today we get a chance to talk about how we can be plugged in by knowing God. Just like light bulbs, computers, and other electronic items get their power from being plugged in, we can get power and grow by knowing God. Everyone, say, "Plugged in!" (*Plugged in!*) Let's get started!

## Theme Song/Offering/Worship Song:

Between songs remind children of the purpose for giving an offering. Give them examples of ways the offering contributes to the church and community. Ask students if they know how else our giving reaches out. Then remind them that during the next worship song they can bring their offering forward and drop it into the basket.

*\*Tweens Leave After Worship Song*

## Stage Game:

**Leader Prep:** None

**Game Rules:**

1. Play the video.
2. Direct kids to spot the one person on the screen who does not belong with the others and begin performing the same action as that person.
3. Point out the correct answer when it appears and encourage kids to cheer and give themselves a point.

**Script:** Now it is time to play "Find the Difference!" What are we going to find? (*The difference!*) In our video, you will see several people who all have something in common and one who is different. Once you find the person who is different, start acting like you are doing the activity that person is doing. When the answer is revealed, cheer and give yourself a point if you got it right. If you are ready, stand up and say, "Let's find the difference!" (*Let's find the difference!*)

Play Stage Game Video.

**Script:** Great job finding the difference! As you sit down, show me on your fingers how many differences you found! (*Allow time.*) Once you spotted what the people in each picture had in common, you may have realized pretty quickly what was different than the rest. You knew who went together and who did not. We all know a lot about the things around us in the world, and that is a great thing. Today we will talk about something else that is true for all of us: we are meant to know God. Everyone, say, “I am meant to know God!” (*I am meant to know God!*)

It is time for something zany, something funny, and something unforgettable! Ask, “What is it?” (*What is it?*) I am so glad you asked! It is time for *The Get-to-Know-You Show!* Get our video started by saying, “Let’s go!” in 3-2-1! (*Let’s go!*)

Play Main Idea Video

**Script:** “Holey” cheese is totally different than the type of “holy” that we get to learn about today. When we say **God is holy**, we are saying that He is totally different and special from anything else in all of creation and that He is perfect and good. That is *way* better than cheese with holes in it! Everyone, say, “**God is holy.**” (*God is holy.*) That is right! We are meant to know God, and one thing we can know about God is that He is holy.

## Object Lesson:

### Supplies:

Bible 1 per group

Library card with a barcode 1 per group

**Script:** Take a look at this library card. When you scan your library card, the barcode tells the library that your card belongs to you. Your library card is one of a kind. It is special and different from all the other library cards. No one else has a library card with a barcode exactly like yours. When it comes to God, we can know that He is one of a kind. He is special and different than anyone else and anything else. We call this *holy*, meaning that God is special and different from what He created. He is perfect and good. Nothing and no one is like God! Everyone, say, “**God is holy!**” (*God is holy!*)

A unique barcode on a library card can remind us that God is unique and one of a kind. **God is holy**—different from everything and everyone He created—yet He wants all of us to know Him. Everyone, say, “I am meant to know God!” (*I am meant to know God!*)

## Bible Story Video:

**Script:** *(Open the Bible.)* Today we are going to look at a story from the Bible. God gives us the Bible to help us know Him because it is His true message to us about Himself. Everyone, say, “I am meant to know God!” *(I am meant to know God!)* The Bible is 1 book that is made up of 66 smaller books. Today our story comes from the book of Isaiah in the Old Testament, which is the first part of the Bible. Our Bible story focuses on a man named Isaiah, who knew and loved God. Let’s get started!

Play Bible Story Video.

## Make the Connection:

**Script:** Isaiah saw God high and lifted up, sitting on a throne as the King. He saw heavenly creatures flying around God’s throne and calling out about God’s holiness. Isaiah realized that **God is holy**, meaning He is unique, perfect, and good. Everyone, say, “**God is holy!**” *(God is holy!)* When Isaiah recognized God’s holiness, he did not feel worthy to be in God’s presence. Isaiah recognized that he was *not* holy and thought he would be ruined, because God is so holy and He cannot be around sin.

But it was an exciting thing for Isaiah to know that **God is holy** and to know that God wanted Isaiah not just to know and love Him, but that He had something special in store for Isaiah. God cleansed Isaiah’s sin and invited Isaiah to trust and follow Him. We can also know that **God is holy** and that He has something special in store for us!

*(Circle 1)* God has always been holy, unique, and separate from what He created. Even though He is holy and separate, He created people to know Him and to have a relationship with Him. The first two people God created, Adam and Eve, did not have any fear or shame when they were in God’s presence. They knew God and had a perfect relationship with Him.

*(Circle 2)* Adam and Eve’s perfect relationship with God did not last long, though. Sin came into the world, and everything changed. *Sin* is when we choose to do what *we* think is best rather than follow what *God* says is best. Sin separated people from God because **God is holy** and has no sin. Sin breaks our relationship with God. No matter how hard we try, we cannot fix our sin problem on our own because we are not holy and perfect, like **God is holy** and perfect. Our sin deserves to be punished. Isaiah recognized that issue when He was in God’s presence.

*(Circle 3)* God made a way for Isaiah to be in His presence, and God makes the way for us to have a relationship with Him. God is special, different, and set apart from everything else in the world. He is the only One who can fix our sin problem and repair our relationship with Him. God sent His only Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sin by dying on a cross. Jesus did not stay dead though. He rose again and now gives life forever to everyone who trusts in Him! When we *repent* from our sins, which means we admit our sins and turn away from them, and trust in Jesus, God says we are special and different too. We are His holy people—set apart to point people to Him, like Isaiah did. We are meant to know God, and we can know **God is holy**. God wants us to be holy like He is holy.

What makes someone really special? It is not the things we do or even what other people think about us. We can know that God is special and one of a kind, and He made us in His image. We can know that **God is holy**, and He calls us to be holy like Him. When we trust in Jesus, He helps us be like Him. That means He helps us do what is right and good. That is what makes us really special! Those are some really great things to know. Everyone, say, “I am meant to know God!”  
*(I am meant to know God!)*

If you want to talk more about what it means to know God, talk to me or your Team Leader. We would love to talk with you about how you can know God!

## Team Game:

**Big Goal:** Know that **God is holy**, meaning He is special, one of a kind, separate, perfect, and good.

**Leader Prep:** Place five items (such as hula hoops, pool noodles, pit balls, playground balls) of four different colors (four red, four blue, four green, and so forth) throughout the room.

### **Supplies:**

Items in four colors 20 per group

Blindfolds 2 per group

Timer or stopwatch 1 per group (optional)

**Script:** Everyone, say, “That Is Separate!” (*That Is Separate!*) In this game, you and a teammate are going to look for certain color items and separate them from the other objects in the room. It sounds easy, but there is a catch. Say, “Ooo, a catch!” (*Ooo, a catch!*) The player collecting the objects will be blindfolded! Your teammate will give you verbal directions to an object. You will pick up the item and take it to your teammate, then go out to collect the next one.

Two teams will play at the same time, one team collecting one color item while the second team collects the other color item. We will see which team can collect all four of their items first. When you are blindfolded, move slowly with your arms outstretched so you do not hurt the other player or yourself. Everyone, say, "Let's play!" (*Let's play!*)

*(Provide blindfolds for the first two teams and assign them colors to find once the blindfolds are on. Play multiple rounds, allowing all kids to play as the blindfolded player and the direction giver.)*

**Keep It Going:** Challenge teams to gather the same color (rather than each team gathering different colors), seeing which team can get the most items.

**Script:** You did an amazing job separating the items! Was it hard to identify which items needed to be separated? (*Allow kids to answer.*) It would have been easier to reach down and grab anything, but you needed to find and separate something special and unique. When we know God, we know He is Someone separate, special, and unique. He isn't like anyone or anything else. We can recognize that **God is holy**; we see how He is unique, one of a kind, and separate from anything or anyone else in this world. Say, "**God is holy!**" (*God is holy!*)

## Theme Verse Video:

### **Theme Verse Motions:**

This is eternal life: (*Bring both your hands around in front of you with palms up, then drop them.*)

that they may know you, (*Bring your right hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*)

the only true God, (*Bring your left hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*)

and the one you have sent—Jesus Christ. (*Bring your right hand around with one finger up, then point up to sky.*)

John 17:3 (*Hold both your hands out like a book.*)

**Script:** Now we get the chance to learn a verse from the Bible to help us remember that we are meant to know God. Let's give it a try!

Play Theme Verse Video.

**Script:** God sent Jesus to make the way for us to know the only true God. We can know God and enjoy His holiness forever when we trust and follow Jesus! Everyone, say, "I am meant to know God!" (*I am meant to know God!*)

## Theme Song:

**Script:** We are plugged in to God when we know Him and have a relationship with Him. Everyone, say, “Plugged in!” This means that God teaches us, changes us, and works through us. Let’s take some time now to sing about knowing God and being plugged in!

Play Theme Song Video.

## Small Groups:

\*Big Deal/Key Verse Review & Prayer Requests/Prayer Time

Finish up time in your small group pod by reviewing the Theme for the month, the verse and the “Big Deal” for today’s lesson. Ask for prayer requests, pray and wrap up.

## Pick Up Time:

*During this time children may wait around the room while videos play on the screen. There must be a leader at the door to receive parents and a second leader checking tags as they exit the room.*



## Elementary Leader Guide

March 8 –The Clubhouse 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>

**Monthly Theme:** I Am Meant to Know God

**Today’s “Big Deal” Theme Tie:** God Never Changes

**Bible Story Reference:** God’s Faithful Promises (Genesis 1–3; 9:1-17; 12:1-3; 15:1-6; Deuteronomy 29:1-15; Hebrews 8:7-13)

*\*Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

## Arrival & Small Groups

Upon arrival children will go to their designated pod based on their grade level for small group connections time. Each “pod” will have a leader waiting for them to begin connections conversations to start the morning.

**Small Group Leaders:** Introduce yourself to families you don’t know and use this time to welcome kids as they arrive.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- *What was the best part of your week?*
- *What is your favorite day of the week, and what do you like about it?*
- *If you could have ice cream or cake for dessert, which would you choose and what flavor?*
- *Which subject in school would you want to learn if you could pick just one?*
- *If you could transform into any insect, which one would you transform into and why?*

## Countdown Video/ Leader Welcome:

*\*Tweens arrive as countdown video begins.*

Play Countdown Video

**Script:** Hello! My name is \_\_\_\_ ! Today we are going to talk about what it means to be plugged in. Everyone, turn to a friend, give a fist bump, and say, “Plugged in!” (*Plugged in!*) We see lots of things around us every day that get their power by being plugged in, like TVs, microwaves, and phone chargers. We get our power when we are plugged in too. Our power comes from knowing God, and today we will talk about what that means. If you are ready, say, “Let’s go!” (*Let’s go!*)

## Theme Song/Offering/Worship Song:

Between songs remind children of the purpose for giving an offering. Give them examples of ways the offering contributes to the church and community. Ask students if they know how else our giving reaches out. Then remind them that during the next worship song they can bring their offering forward and drop it into the basket.

*\*Tweens Leave After Worship Song*

## Stage Game:

**Leader Prep:** None

### **Game Rules:**

1. Display the options on the screen.
2. Move to the side of the room that matches your option, following the instructions of what to do upon arrival.
3. Return to the center of the room.
4. Continue moving to the right or left sides of the rooms based on the chosen preferences each time.

**Script:** You all know a lot of things. Turn to a friend and say, "I Know a Lot!" (*I Know a Lot!*) We all have our own ways we like to learn. Today you will get a chance to tell others all about it. On the screen, you will see two different options about how you like to learn in different situations. You will move to either the right or left side of the room based on the option you prefer. Each time I will tell you a different way to move and something different to do when you get to your side. When you make your choice and move, try and talk with different friends each time. I am excited to learn about how you all like to get to know things! Stand up and let's play!

Show Stage Game Slide 1

**Script:** If you would rather talk with your friends to get to know them, hop to the left side of the room. Hop to the right side if you would rather get to know them by doing activities together. When you get there, find two people and tell them what you like to eat for breakfast. Ready? Go! (*Allow response.*)

Great job! Now come back to the middle, and let's see the next option.

Show Stage Game Slide 2

**Script:** Skip to the left side of the room if you would rather read a book to learn about history. Skip to the right side if you would rather learn history by watching a movie. When you get there, give three friends a fist bump and tell them your favorite color. Ready? Go! (*Allow response.*)

Come back to the middle now so we can check out our next set of options.

Show Stage Game Slide 3

**Script:** Walk with high knees to the left side of the room if you like to look at instructions to know how to make something. Walk with high knees to the right side if you like to figure it out as you go. Once you are there, shake two friends' hands and tell them your favorite dessert. Ready? Go! (*Allow response.*)

Now walk back to the middle so we can look at the next options.

Show Stage Game Slide 4

**Script:** Everyone who likes to *watch* friends play a game to learn how to play it, take lots of little steps to get to the left side of the room. Everyone who would rather *listen* to friends tell you all the rules to learn how to play, take lots of little steps to the right side of the room. Then give three friends an elbow bump and tell them what you like to do for fun. Ready? Go! (*Allow time.*)

Fantastic! Come back to the middle so we can see our last set of options.

Show Stage Game Slide 5

**Script:** If you would rather watch a video to learn how to play a new instrument, walk to the left side of the room and pretend to play any instrument you would like. If you would rather have in-person lessons from a teacher, pretend to play an instrument as you walk to the right side of the room. When you get there, wave hello to two friends and tell them an instrument you would want to learn to play. (*Allow time.*)

Awesome! Come back to the middle and return to your seats.

It was great to see how everyone likes to learn! Like I said earlier, all of you already know a lot. Some of us know more about music; some of us know more about sports; some of us know

more about video games. The list could go on and on! You also met other friends who like to learn the same way that you do. Today we get to talk about something we all have in common: We are all meant to know God. Everyone, say, "I am meant to know God!" (*I am meant to know God!*) This is true for all of us!

Now we get to plug in and watch a talk show called *The Get-To-Know-You Show*, featuring a host named Joseph Falcone. If you are ready for the show, say, "Let's go, Joe!" (*Let's go, Joe!*)

Play Main Idea Video.

**Script:** That guest rocked! Let me hear you say, "You rock, Rocky!" (*You rock, Rocky!*) Rocky serves as a good reminder of something that is rock solid and never changes—like how **God never changes!** Say, "**God never changes!**" (*God never changes!*) We are meant to know God, and something we can know about God is that He never changes. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That *totally* rocks!

## Object Lesson:

### Supplies:

Bible 1 per group

History book 1 per group

**Script:** Here is a history book. Everyone, say, "Ooo!" (*Ooo!*) Say, "Ahh!" (*Ahh!*) What can we learn from reading this book? (*Allow kids to answer.*) Right! We can learn about *history*—a record of events from the past and the different people, places, and things involved. Just think that in 100 years, history books will include things about what is going on in our world right now! Over time, the world changes and people change, but **God never changes.** He is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. Everyone, say, "**God never changes!**" (*God never changes!*)

We are meant to know God, and one thing we can know is that He never changes. He is always loving, always in control, and always fulfilling His plan. All the history books in the world are not big enough to include everything about God. And even when things in our world and throughout history are always changing, **God never changes.** Say, "**God never changes!**" (*God never changes!*) We can know and trust that who God is never changes throughout time!

## Bible Story Video:

**Script:** (*Open the Bible.*) Now we are going to learn from the Bible. Reading the Bible helps us know God because the Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. And knowing God helps us be plugged in to a relationship with Him. Everyone, say, "Plugged in!" (*Plugged in!*) The Bible has two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. Our story today comes from both of these parts. We will look at stories from both the Old Testament and New Testament to learn about God's faithful promises to His people. Say, "I am meant to know God!" to get our Bible story started in 3-2-1! (*I am meant to know God!*)

Play Bible Story Video.

## Make the Connection:

**Script:** The Bible is full of God's promises. We see His promise He gave to Adam and Eve to send someone to rescue His people. We see His promise to Noah that He would never destroy the earth with a flood again. He promised to make Abraham's family into a great nation. We see His promise He made to His people through Moses: that they would be His special people.

We also see His promise to forgive the sins of His people through Jesus. God said that He would write His laws on His people's hearts and minds. This happens when we know God. He sends us the Holy Spirit, who is God living in us. The Holy Spirit teaches us, guides us, and changes us. We are all meant to know God, and one thing we can know about Him is that He never changes. Everyone, say, "**God never changes!**" (*God never changes!*) He is always faithful and will always keep His promises. That truth will never change. Even though things are different now than they were during the events in the Bible and even though things will be different in the future, we can always trust and follow God because He is never different.

(*Circle 1*) Today's Bible story shows that God is faithful, and He never changes. From the beginning, God had a plan to have a relationship with people and for people to know and follow Him. When God created the first people, Adam and Eve, they knew God and had a relationship with Him.

(*Circle 2*) God's relationship with Adam and Eve and the whole world changed, though, when sin entered the world. *Sin* is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than follow what *God* says is best. Sin separated people from God, and people changed. They began to live differently than the way God designed. *All* people sin, including all of us here today, and our sin deserves punishment. No matter how hard we try, there is nothing we can do to fix our problem with sin on our own.

(Circle 3) Thankfully, **God never changes**. Say, “**God never changes!**” (*God never changes!*) Just like He keeps all His promises, He kept His promise to Adam and Eve to send Someone to rescue His people from sin. God sent His only Son, Jesus, to rescue us. Jesus made the way for us to be forgiven for our sins and to know God. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on a cross to take the punishment for our sins, and rose to life again. Jesus showed that He is the true King of everything. He also promised to return again and to wipe away sin forever!

God always keeps and fulfills His promises because He is faithful, and **God never changes**. He has made a promise that we can have a relationship with Him forever. We can admit our sin and turn away from it, which is called *repentance*, believe in Jesus, and trust and follow Him.

Throughout the Bible, we see that people sin and follow what they think is best rather than what God says is best. But we also see that God loved and forgave them over and over. We can count on and trust God because He never changes. Even though things are different now than in the Bible, God’s love and forgiveness never change because **God never changes**. We can know God through the Bible and trust what the Bible says, because **God never changes**. Say, “**God never changes!**” (*God never changes!*)

If you have questions about what it means to know God, talk with me or your Team Leader. **God never changes**, and He always keeps His promises. We would love to talk with you more about who God is and what He has done for you!

## Team Game:

Two teams will race to determine what changed in a hula hoop filled with objects.

**Big Goal:** Know that we can count on God because He never changes.

**Leader Prep:** Gather game items such as beanbags, pit balls, plastic spoons, and so forth. Place 10 items in 1 hula hoop and 10 in another.

### **Supplies:**

Hula hoop 2 per group

Game items (beanbags, pit balls, plastic spoons, and so forth) 20 per group

Timer or stopwatch 1 per group

**Script:** Sometimes it is easy to discover when something has changed, and sometimes it is not so easy. Today’s game will give you a chance to figure out “What Changed?” What will you try to figure out? (*What Changed?*) You will form two teams. You and your teammates will stand

around your hula hoop and examine what is inside for one minute. How long will you have? (*One minute!*) Right! When the minute is up, your team will turn around (facing away from the hula hoop) and close your eyes. I will be busy making some changes to each hula hoop by adding objects, taking objects away, or both.

When I say, “Turn around and look!” turn around and examine the hula hoop again. Your team will guess what changed. The first team to correctly guess gets a point. But there is a twist! Everyone, say, “Ooo, a twist!” (*Ooo, a twist!*) If you guess wrong, you do not get to guess again that round. So make sure your whole team agrees *before* you raise your hand and give your answer. Let’s get ready to find what changed!

**Keep It Going:** Play another round in which teammates on each team make the changes inside the other team’s hula hoop.

**Script:** What was it like to search for what changed? (*Allow kids to answer.*) Some of the changes might have been easy to spot, but some might have been difficult. Sometimes it seems like our world and the things around us constantly change. One thing we know for sure though is that **God never changes**. We can take comfort in knowing that everything about Him is always the same. Say “**God never changes!**” (*God never changes!*)

## Theme Verse Video:

### **Theme Verse Motions:**

This is eternal life: (*Bring both your hands around in front of you with palms up, then drop them.*)

that they may know you, (*Bring your right hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*)

the only true God, (*Bring your left hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*)

and the one you have sent—Jesus Christ. (*Bring your right hand around with one finger up, then point up to sky.*)

John 17:3 (*Hold both your hands out like a book.*)

**Script:** Let’s take some time now to learn a Bible verse to help us remember that we are meant to know God. But before we learn it, say, “I am meant to know God!” (*I am meant to know God!*)

Play Theme Verse Video.

**Script:** Just like God was faithful to fulfill all the promises we learned about today, He is faithful in giving life forever to everyone who knows and follows Him. He sent Jesus to make the way for all of us to know Him! We can trust in this promise because **God never changes**. He will always be faithful to fulfill all His promises. Everyone, say, **“God never changes!” (God never changes!)**

## Theme Song:

**Script:** Remember that knowing God gets us connected and plugged in to Him. Everyone, say, **“Plugged in!” (Plugged in!)** When we are plugged in to God, He changes us and works through us for the rest of our lives. Let’s sing about being plugged in to God!

Play Theme Song Video.

## Small Groups:

\*Big Deal/Key Verse Review & Prayer Requests/Prayer Time

Finish up time in your small group pod by reviewing the Theme for the month, the verse and the “Big Deal” for today’s lesson. Ask for prayer requests, pray and wrap up.

## Pick Up Time:

*During this time children may wait around the room while videos play on the screen. There must be a leader at the door to receive parents and a second leader checking tags as the exit the room.*



## Elementary Leader Guide

March 15 –**The Clubhouse 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monthly Theme:** I Am Meant to Know God

**Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie:** God Is Just and Kind

**Bible Story Reference:** Noah and the Ark (Genesis 6–9:17)

*\*Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

## Arrival & Small Groups

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**Small Group Leaders:** Introduce yourself to families you don't know and use this time to welcome kids as they arrive.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- *What was the best part of your week?*
- *What's your favorite food to eat for lunch?*
- *If you could spend all day inside or outside, which would you choose and what would you do?*
- *What would you do if you could plan one day to do whatever you want?*
- *If you could fly like a bird, where would you go first and why?*

## Countdown Video/ Leader Welcome:

*\*Tweens arrive as countdown video begins.*

Play Countdown Video.

**Script:** Hello! I am \_\_\_\_\_. I am so glad you are here today! We get the chance to talk about what it means to be plugged in. Everyone, at the same time, let's call out our favorite things we use that are plugged in. Ready? 3-2-1 Go! *(Allow kids to answer.)* Today we will talk about what it means to be plugged in to God and how we are meant to know Him. If you are ready for more, say, "I am ready!" *(I am ready!)*

## Theme Song/Offering/Worship Song:

Between songs remind children of the purpose for giving an offering. Give them examples of ways the offering contributes to the church and community. Ask students if they know how else our giving reaches out. Then remind them that during the next worship song they can bring their offering forward and drop it into the basket.

*\*Tweens Leave After Worship Song*

## Stage Game:

### Game Rules:

1. Select one player from the Red and Yellow Teams to come to the front.
2. Display the first slide, directing kids on those teams to stand and act in a way that helps their teammates at the front guess the object on the screen.
3. Award a point to the first player to correctly guess the object.
4. Direct those players to sit down and repeat the game for five more rounds, inviting new players from other teams each time.

**Script:** Do you think you know about things that you plug in, like what they are used for and how you use them? *(Allow kids to answer.)* Today you will get a chance to find out! Everyone, say, "What is plugged in?" *(What is plugged in?)*

In this game, one player from two teams will come to the front. Their backs will be toward the screen. When your teammate is at the front, that means the rest of you on that team get to stand up and be actors! When I show an object on the screen, you will act out something to help your teammate guess what that object is. Here is a hint: It will be something that only works or gets charged when it is plugged in. Whichever team guesses correctly first wins a point! Give me a thumbs-up and say, "I've got it!" *(I've got it!)*

Let's have one player from the Red Team and one player from the Yellow Team come to the front first. Everyone else on the Red Team and Yellow Team, get ready to look at the first picture and pretend like you are using this object! *(Select players and allow time.)* Start acting in 3-2-1!

Show Stage Game Slide 1.

**Script:** *(Allow time, stopping when a player guesses correctly.)* It is a phone! Great acting skills and great guessing! That is one point for the \_\_\_\_ Team! Go ahead and take a seat. Let's have a player from the Blue Team and a player from the Green Team come to the front! *(Select players and allow time.)* Everyone else on the Blue and Green Teams, stand up. Take a look at the picture and start acting in 3-2-1!

Show Stage Game Slide 2.

**Script:** *(Allow time, stopping when a player guesses correctly.)* It is a microwave! It will not get our food very warm without being plugged in. That is one point for the \_\_\_\_ Team! You can sit down. Time for a player from the Orange Team and a player from the Purple Team to come to the front! *(Select players and allow time.)* Everyone else on the Orange and Purple Teams, stand up. Here is your object to act out in 3-2-1!

Show Stage Game Slide 3.

**Script:** *(Allow time, stopping when a player guesses correctly.)* A video game system! Good job! The \_\_\_\_ Team gets one point! Players, you can sit down. This time let's have players from the Blue Team and Yellow Teams come to the front. *(Select players and allow time.)* Everyone else on the Blue and Yellow Teams, stand up. Here is your object to act out in 3-2-1!

Show Stage Game Slide 4.

**Script:** *(Allow time, stopping when a player guesses correctly.)* It is a washing machine! Getting our clothes clean is a lot easier when we have something like this. The point goes to the \_\_\_\_ Team! You can sit down. Now our next players from the Red Team and Purple Team, come on up! *(Select players and allow time.)* Red and Purple Teams, stand up. Here is our next object for you to act out in 3-2-1!

Show Stage Game Slide 5.

**Script:** *(Allow time, stopping when a player guesses correctly.)* A lamp! These are great for helping us see in a dark room. You get a point, \_\_\_\_ Team. Take a seat. OK, now let's have our next players from the Orange Team and Green Team come up! *(Select players and allow time.)* Everyone else on the Orange Team and Green Team, stand up. Take a look at this object on the screen and get ready to act in 3-2-1!

Show Stage Game Slide 6.

**Script:** *(Allow time, stopping when a player guesses correctly.)* It is a fan! They help keep us cool when it gets hot. Congrats on winning the final point, \_\_\_\_ Team! Everyone can sit down.

If we had some of those objects but nowhere to plug them in, what would happen? *(Allow responses.)* Right! If something is made to be plugged in, it only works when it is plugged in. The same is true about us! Point to yourself and say, "Who, me?" *(Who, me?)* Yes, you! All of you! God made all of us to be "plugged in" to Him, which means that we are made to know God and be connected to Him. Then we can live and function the way God made us to live. Say, "I am meant to know God!" *(I am meant to know God!)*

It can be fun to get to know people. Turn to a neighbor and say, "Let's get to know someone!" *(Let's get to know someone!)* Great! We will get to watch a talk show host named Joseph Falcon get to know someone on his talk show. Clap and cheer to get our video started in 3-2-1! *(Allow response.)*

Play Main Idea Video.

**Script:** Make a fist and bang it on your other hand, like Judge Grumbleton banged his gavel. *(Allow response.)* It is important for judges to uphold what is right, which is justice. God *always* does what is right and good, which means God is just. Say, "God is just!" *(God is just!)* God also always does what is loving and kind. Say, "God is kind!" *(God is kind!)* Use your fist as a gavel again, but this time say, "God is just and kind" *(God is just and kind!)*

## Object Lesson:

### **Supplies:**

Bible 1 per group

Coins Several (optional)

**Script:** I have a coin here. Everyone, say, "Ooo!" *(Ooo!)* Say, "Ahh!" *(Ahh!)* Like every coin, this coin has two sides: heads and tails. The two sides look different from each other and may seem like opposites, but they are both equally important, because you need both sides to make up the same coin.

When it comes to God, we can know two important features about Him that make up who He is. One feature is that God is just. God is what? *(Just!)* When we say that God is just, that means He always does what is right. The other important trait is that God is kind. God is what? *(Kind!)* When we say that God is kind, it means He always does what is loving and helpful.

Sometimes what is just and right does not always feel kind, like when someone gets punished for making a wrong choice. Also, there are times when what is kind does not always feel just and right, like when someone does *not* get punished when we think that person deserves it. But just like this coin has both heads and tails, we can know that God is always both just and kind in everything He does. Say, "Why?" (*Why?*) Because that is who God is! We can always trust Him, even when we may not understand or if things do not seem just and kind. Everyone, say, "**God is just and kind!**" (*God is just and kind!*)

## **Bible Story Video:**

**Script:** (*Open the Bible.*) Let's take some time to look at our Bible story. The Bible is God's true message to us about God Himself, so we can read it to help us know Him. When we know Him, we are plugged in and connected to Him. Everyone, turn to a neighbor and say, "Plugged in!" (*Plugged in!*) The Bible is one big book that's made up of a lot of smaller books. Our story today comes from the book of Genesis, which is the very first book in the Bible. We will learn about God being just and kind as we hear the story of a man named Noah. If you are ready for this awesome Bible story, let me hear you say, "I am ready!" (*I am ready!*)

Play Bible Story Video.

## **Make the Connection:**

**Script:** Two things we can know about God are that He is just and kind. Say, "**God is just and kind!**" (*God is just and kind!*) We see examples of both of these truths about God in our story. All people on the earth sinned. They chose to do what they thought was best instead of what God said was best. God is perfect, and He does not ignore sin. God *had* to punish people for their sin because He is just and always does the right thing. We see God's kindness in how He saved Noah and Noah's family. God told Noah to build an ark to save himself, his family, and some of the animals, and Noah obeyed. He also promised Noah that He would never flood the earth again. God gave Noah and his family a rainbow in the sky as a sign of that promise.

(*Circle 2*) We see in our Bible story today that God wanted people to have a relationship with Him, but people did not obey Him. They chose to do what they thought was best instead of what God said was best. That is called *sin*. Sin separates us from God, and no matter how hard we try, we cannot fix our sin problem ourselves. We *all* sin, and our sin deserves punishment. That is what is just and right.

*(Circle 3)* While that is some bad news, the good news is that God loved us so much that He sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sin. What is just and fair is that our sin gets punished. However, God shows that He is kind because He made the way for us to have a relationship with Him through Jesus. Through whom? *(Jesus!)* Jesus lived a perfect life, like we never could. Jesus never sinned. Even though He did not deserve it, Jesus died on a cross to take the punishment we deserved for our sin. But Jesus did not stay dead! He came back to life on the third day, showing that He is more powerful than sin and death. Because Jesus died and rose again, we can have forgiveness for our sins. God forgives all our sins when we admit we sin, believe in Jesus, and confess our faith to Him. We are no longer separated from God, and He gives us life with Him forever.

*(Circle 1)* When God created the world, He made it perfect, and He made people to know Him and have a relationship with Him. In the Bible story today, God sent a flood to punish the people because of their sins. That was just. He also rescued Noah and Noah's family, and God fixed the earth, which was kind. God put a rainbow in the sky to remind Noah and all people of His love and promise never to flood the whole earth again. God also promises that one day Jesus will return and make everything new. When this happens, sin will be defeated forever. Everyone who has a relationship with God will live with Him forever—the way He designed it when He made the world.

It may not always seem like things are fair, but we can know **God is just and is kind**. When the whole world deserved to be punished because of sin, God was kind and rescued Noah and his family. What is fair is that we would be punished for our sin, but God was kind when He sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sin. When things do not seem right or fair, we can know that God always does what is just and right, and He always shows kindness and love. Everyone, say, **"God is just and kind!"** *(God is just and kind!)* We are all meant to know God and enjoy God's justice and kindness.

Come talk with me or your Team Leader if you have any questions about how you can know God. We would love to talk more about it with you!

## Team Game:

Kids try to avoid being tagged by having two of the same objects in their hands.

**Big Goal:** Remember that God is both just and kind in everything He does because it is who He is.

**Leader Prep:** Scatter objects around the room so that the same types of objects are not next to each other.

**Supplies:**

Beanbags 4 per group  
Hula hoops 4 per group  
Pit balls 4 per group  
Playground balls 4 per group  
Pool noodles 4 per group  
Timer or stopwatch 1 per group

**Script:** Now we get to play “Timed-Two Tag!” What are we playing? (*Timed-Two Tag!*) The key word in the name is *two*. What is the key word? (*Two!*) I will set a two-minute timer for each round of tag. How many minutes is the timer? (*Two!*) I will also assign two people to be “taggers.” How many taggers? (*Two!*) Everyone else will try *not* to get tagged by holding two of the same objects in your hand.

The taggers cannot tag you if you have two of the same objects in your hands, like two hula hoops or two playground balls. But you can only hold the objects for four seconds. Four is two times two. Four is two times what? (*Two!*) When the timer starts, walk around the room and try to get two of the same objects as quickly as you can so you can avoid being tagged. If you *do* get tagged, you must put your objects down and walk around the space two times before you can get back in the game. How many times? (*Two!*) Once the timer goes off, put your objects down so a new round can be played with new taggers. Let’s play tag!

Was it hard to grab two of the same objects before getting tagged? (*Allow kids to answer.*) Today we talked about how God is both just and kind—two different things that are both equal and important parts of who He is. Everyone, say, “**God is just and kind!**” (*God is just and kind!*) While you needed both things to be safe in each round, God already is and will always be both just and kind—two important parts of God that keep those who believe in Him secure.

## Theme Verse Video:

**Theme Verse Motions:**

This is eternal life: (*Bring both your hands around in front of you with palms up then drop them.*) that they may know you, (*Bring your right hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*) the only true God, (*Bring your left hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*) and the one you have sent—Jesus Christ. (*Bring your right hand around with one finger up, then point up to sky.*)

John 17:3 (*Hold both your hands out like a book.*)

**Script:** We are all meant to know God. Give a neighbor a high five and say, "I am meant to know God!" (*I am meant to know God!*) Let's learn our Theme verse to help us remember that we are all meant to know Him.

Play Theme Verse Video.

**Script:** **God is just and kind.** He is just because He punished sin, yet He is also kind because He sent Jesus to take that punishment for us. Jesus makes the way for us to know God, be forgiven for our sins, and have life forever with God! Say, "I am meant to know God!" (*I am meant to know God!*)

## Theme Song:

**Script:** Let's sing about being plugged in to God! When we know God, we get plugged in as we connect to and follow Him. Everyone, say, "Plugged in!" (*Plugged in!*)

Play Theme Song Video.

## Small Groups:

**\*Big Deal/Key Verse Review & Prayer Requests/Prayer Time**

Finish up time in your small group pod by reviewing the Theme for the month, the verse and the "Big Deal" for today's lesson. Ask for prayer requests, pray and wrap up.

## Pick Up Time:

*During this time children may wait around the room while videos play on the screen. There must be a leader at the door to receive parents and a second leader checking tags as they exit the room.*



## Elementary Leader Guide

March 22 –**The Clubhouse 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monthly Theme:** I Am Meant to Know God

**Today's "Big Deal" Theme Tie:** God Is Wise

**Bible Story Reference:** God's Wisdom on Display (Daniel 2:1-30)

*\*Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

## Arrival & Small Groups

Upon arrival children will go to their designated pod based on their grade level for small group connections time. Each "pod" will have a leader waiting for them to begin connections conversations to start the morning.

**Small Group Leaders:** Introduce yourself to families you don't know and use this time to welcome kids as they arrive.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- *What was the best part of your week?*
- *What do you like to do on a warm and sunny day?*
- *If you could take a big trip around the world or stay home and relax, which would you choose and why?*
- *What animal would you most want to have as a pet?*
- *If you were stranded on an island all by yourself, what three things would you most want to have with you and why?*

## Countdown Video/ Leader Welcome:

*\*Tweens arrive as countdown video begins.*

Play Countdown Video.

**Script:** Hi, everyone! My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am so glad to see you here! High-five a neighbor, and say, "It is good to see you!" (*It is good to see you!*) We are going to talk about being plugged in. Ask, "Plugged in to what?" (*Plugged in to what?*) I am so glad you asked! The same way an electronic device was made to be plugged in to work, we are meant to "plug in" to God and know Him. Everyone, say, "Plugged in!" (*Plugged in!*)

## Theme Song/Offering/Worship Song:

Between songs remind children of the purpose for giving an offering. Give them examples of ways the offering contributes to the church and community. Ask students if they know how else our giving reaches out. Then remind them that during the next worship song they can bring their offering forward and drop it into the basket.

*\*Tweens Leave After Worship Song*

## Stage Game:

### **Supplies:**

Large cardboard box 1 per group  
Pair of jeans 1 per group  
Pencil 1 per group  
Extension cord 1 per group  
Spoon 1 per group  
Water bottle 1 per group  
Stuffed animal 1 per group  
Timer or stopwatch 1 per group  
Table 1 per group  
Adult scissors or box cutter 1 per group (adult-use only)

**Leader Prep:** Cut two holes on opposite sides of the box. Make the holes large enough for kids' arms to fit through. Place the box on a table with the open end facing the audience and the

holes on the left and right sides of the box. Gather the items to be guessed and place them in an out-of-sight spot.

### Game Rules:

1. Invite one player to the front.
2. Prompt the player to turn around as you get out the box. Place the open front of the box toward the other kids so they can see the object inside.
3. Start a 45-second timer.
4. Instruct the player to reach into the box and guess the object.
5. Stop the round either when the time runs out or when the object is guessed, whichever comes first. Award a point to the team of the player who is able to guess correctly before time runs out.
6. Repeat the process with players from each team using different objects each round.

**Script:** *(Hold up the box.)* It is time for the “Mystery Box!” Everyone, say, “Ooo!” *(Ooo!)* Say, “Ahh!” *(Ahh!)* With this Mystery Box, we will see how well some of you know different objects. These are objects that many people use in everyday life. One at a time, a player from each team will come to the front. You will have 45 seconds to reach your hands through the holes in the box and guess what is inside by feeling it. These are very common objects, so nothing is strange, scary, or weird. If you guess correctly before the time runs out, you get a point for your team! When your teammate is playing, cheer! Everyone, say, “Let’s go!” *(Let’s go!)*

*(Invite one player from one team to the front, instructing that player to turn around so you can show the audience the object before putting it in the box. Set the timer for 45 seconds and lead the game. Repeat with the players from each team, changing the object each time: a pair of jeans, a pencil, an extension cord, a stuffed animal, a spoon, and a water bottle.)*

Let’s cheer for all our players who earned points and played our game! *(Allow time.)* For the players who came to the front, what was it like to try and guess the object in the Mystery Box? *(Allow kids to answer.)* You may have easily known the object if you were already familiar with the object.

We can know a lot of people, places, and things around us. It is great to know our friends, our family members, and people in our communities. We also enjoy knowing about facts and activities we enjoy. Today we are going to talk about Someone we can all know. Ask, “Who is it?” *(Who is it?)* I’m glad you asked! We are all meant to know God. He made all of us to know Him and connect with Him by learning more about Him. That is how we get plugged in! Let me

hear you say, "Plugged in!" (*Plugged in!*) Now say, "I am meant to know God!" (*I am meant to know God!*)

When I say, "Get to Know!" you say, "You Show!" "Get to Know!" (*You Show!*) "Get to Know!" (*You Show!*) That is right! It is time for a talk show called *The Get to Know You Show!* Get our show started by saying, "Plugged in!" in 3-2-1! (*Plugged in!*)

Play Main Idea Video.

**Script:** Ms. Minnie sure was classy, sassy, and sweet! She gave Bobby some really good advice because she is one wise grandma. We have Someone even more wise we can trust and listen to. Ask, "Who?" (*Who?*) I am glad you asked! **God is wise!** He is wiser than anyone else, and we can always trust and follow Him. Everyone, say, "**God is wise!**" (*God is wise!*) We are meant to know God, and we can know that **God is wise.**

## Object Lesson:

### **Supplies:**

Bible 1 per group

Smart home device 1 per group

**Script:** Look at this smart device here. If we have a question, we can ask a smart device like this. For example, if I ask what the weather forecast is for our area tomorrow, it will probably give me a pretty accurate answer. (*Ask the smart device about tomorrow's weather forecast, if it is connected.*) These devices have access to so much information! They "know" a lot about news, history, facts, and so much more. Ask, "Why?" (*Why?*) Smart devices have access to the internet, so they can gather information from a *lot* of different sources to try and find answers.

But smart devices do not know everything. Sometimes they can get stumped and say something like, "Hmm, I am not sure about that." Like if we asked, "What am I thinking about right now?" A smart device knows a lot of things, but God knows *everything!* God knows what? (*Everything!*) **God is wise** and knows everything about everyone and everything! God always knows what is best, right, perfect, and good. Everyone, say, "**God is wise!**" (*God is wise!*) We may trust what we hear from a smart device, but we can trust God even more because of His wisdom. We are meant to know God, and we can know that He is always wise.

## Bible Story Video:

**Script:** *(Open the Bible.)* Reading our Bibles is one way we can know God and get plugged in to Him. Everyone, say “Plugged in!” *(Plugged in!)* The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. Our story today comes from the first part of the Bible called the Old Testament in the book of Daniel. What book? *(Daniel!)* Daniel was a man who was plugged in to God and knew **God is wise**. We will see how God worked through Daniel to show His wisdom to others. If you are ready for our Bible story, say, “I am ready!” *(I am ready!)*

Play Bible Story Video.

## Make the Connection:

**Script:** Daniel knew God, and He knew that **God is wise**. Say, “**God is wise!**” *(God is wise!)* He knew that God always has perfect knowledge and good judgment. Not only did the king want Daniel to interpret his dream, but he wanted Daniel to tell him what his dream actually *was* too! That is a pretty big assignment. Faced with this seemingly impossible task of telling the king his dream *and* interpreting it, Daniel and his friends turned to God and asked Him for help. They knew that **God is wise** and knows everything. Daniel trusted in God’s wisdom and prayed for God to reveal the mystery, and God did! Daniel praised God and told the king that God was the only One who could reveal the mystery of the king’s dreams.

Like Daniel, we can also know that **God is wise** and knows everything, so we can always trust Him. Again, let me hear you say, “**God is wise!**” *(God is wise!)*

*(Circle 1)* **God is wise**, and He knows everything because He is the One who created everything. God created the world and everything in it, including people. They knew that **God is wise** because He walked with them and talked with them here on earth.

*(Circle 3)* But **God is wise**. He knew we would all sin before He created any of us because He knows everything. God knew we would need help to know and follow Him, so He sent His Son, Jesus, to rescue us from sin and make the way for us to have a relationship with Him. Jesus took the punishment we deserved because of sin by dying on a cross. He rose again and came back to life on the third day, showing that He is more powerful than sin and death.

God forgives all our sins when we admit our wrong choices and repent. *Repent* means to turn away from those wrong choices so we can follow and obey God. When we believe in Jesus and confess our faith in Him, we can have a relationship with our wise God forever. He calls us children of God, and He leads us with truth and wisdom. We are meant to know God. One thing

we can know is that **God is wise**. Say, **“God is wise!” (God is wise!) We can trust God to lead us and help us because of who He is.**

So what can we do when we are not sure what to do? Like Daniel, we can turn to God and ask for His wisdom. God knows everything, and He always leads us in what is right and true. We are meant to know God, and we can trust that what He says is right because He is wise. Everyone, say, **“God is wise!” (God is wise!) If you want to talk more about what it means to know God and have a relationship with Him, come talk to me or your leader. We are ready and happy to take some time to talk more about how you can know God and have a relationship with Him!**

## **Team Game:**

Kids wear blindfolds and follow vocal prompts to walk from one side of the room to the other without stepping on obstacles.

**Big Goal:** Learn that we can turn to God, ask Him for wisdom, and trust His wisdom when we are not sure what to do.

**Leader Prep:** Scatter several large obstacle items throughout the room, such as hula hoops and chairs.

### **Supplies:**

Blindfolds 1 per group

Large obstacle items (hula hoops and chairs) Several per group

Timer or stopwatch 1 per group

**Script:** Today we get a chance to **“Follow the Wise.” Who are we going to follow? (The Wise!) You and a teammate will work together in this game. One of you will wear a blindfold. When it is your turn to wear the blindfold, you will try and make it from one side of the room to the other without touching any of the obstacles. Your teammate (who cannot see) will be right next to you, giving you directions the whole way. When you are the guide, give all the helpful tips you can to help your teammate avoid objects in the way. We will time you to see how quickly you can make it to the other side of the room. If you *do* touch an obstacle, we will add five seconds to your time. Trust your teammates and “Follow the Wise!”**

**Keep It Going:** Challenge kids try to walk across the room by themselves with all of their teammates giving them verbal tips to avoid obstacles. Discuss which way was more difficult.

**Script:** What was it like walking with your blindfold on? (*Allow kids to answer.*) It may have been a bit difficult to dodge the obstacles, but hopefully the task was made a lot easier with your guide helping you out. Sometimes we do not know what to do or where to turn, but **God is wise**. He knows everything and will always lead us in what is right and true. No matter what we are facing, we can turn to God, ask Him for wisdom, and trust that He is wise. Everyone, say, **“God is wise!”** (*God is wise!*)

## Theme Verse Video:

### Theme Verse Motions:

This is eternal life: (*Bring both your hands around in front of you with palms up, then drop them.*)

that they may know you, (*Bring your right hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*)

the only true God, (*Bring your left hand around with your palm up, then drop it.*)

and the one you have sent—Jesus Christ. (*Bring your right hand around with one finger up, then point up to sky.*)

John 17:3 (*Hold both your hands out like a book.*)

**Script:** Everyone, say, “I am meant to know God!” (*I am meant to know God!*) Let’s take some time now to learn our Theme verse. This verse helps us remember that we are all meant to know God. And when we know God, we are plugged in to Him!

Play Theme Verse Video.

**Script:** We are meant to know God. One thing we can know is that **God is wise**. He knew we would need help to know Him and follow Him. God sent Jesus so that we can know Him and have eternal life with Him; that means life with Him forever!

## Theme Song:

**Script:** When we know God, we are plugged in to Him. Everyone, say, “Plugged in!” (*Plugged in!*) This means we get to know and connect with God as we trust and follow Him. So let’s sing our Theme song about being plugged in!

Play Theme Song Video.

## Small Groups:

### \*Big Deal/Key Verse Review & Prayer Requests/Prayer Time

Finish up time in your small group pod by reviewing the Theme for the month, the verse and the “Big Deal” for today’s lesson. Ask for prayer requests, pray and wrap up.

## Pick Up Time:

*During this time children may wait around the room while videos play on the screen. There must be a leader at the door to receive parents and a second leader checking tags as they exit the room.*



## Elementary Leader Guide

March 29 –**The Clubhouse 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Monthly Theme:** I Am Meant to Know God

**Today’s “Big Deal” Theme Tie:** God Leads Me to Hope

**Bible Story Reference:** Jesus Entered Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-10; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-19)

*\*Previews of all videos listed below can be found on the Teacher Resource Page in the corresponding digital media folder.*

## Arrival & Small Groups

Upon arrival children will go to their designated pod based on their grade level for small group connections time. Each “pod” will have a leader waiting for them to begin connections conversations to start the morning.

**Small Group Leaders:** Introduce yourself to families you don’t know and use this time to welcome kids as they arrive.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- *What was the best part of your week?*
- *Where do you feel happiest?*
- *If you had to be a dog or a cat for the day, which would you choose and what would you do?*
- *What would be the perfect gift for you?*
- *If you were a type of dessert, what would you be and why?*

## Countdown Video/ Leader Welcome:

*\*Tweens arrive as countdown video begins.*

Play Countdown Video.

**Script:** Helllloooooo, everyone, and welcome to an unbelievably spectacular day that we like to call Game Changer! Everyone, say, "Oh yeah!" (*Oh yeah!*) My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and we are going to have the best game-changing day of all time as we talk about how Jesus changes the game! If you are ready, say, "Let's gooooo!" (*Let's gooooo!*)

## Theme Song/Offering/Worship Song:

Between songs remind children of the purpose for giving an offering. Give them examples of ways the offering contributes to the church and community. Ask students if they know how else our giving reaches out. Then remind them that during the next worship song they can bring their offering forward and drop it into the basket.

*\*Tweens Leave After Worship Song*

## Stage Game:

**Game Rules:**

1. Start the video.

2. Challenge kids to match one of the three poses on the screen, locking in their pose before the seven-second timer runs out.
3. Ask kids who did *not* match the pose to quickly sit or bend down so Team Leaders can count how many kids on their teams *did* match the pose. Each correct match is worth one point. Leaders will keep track of their teams' points.
4. Instruct all kids to stand again and choose their next move. Continue playing until the video ends (seven rounds total).

**Script:** Let's play a game called "Guess the Move!" Guess the what? (*Move!*) In this game, you will choose a move or pose, like the figures you see on the screen. You will have seven seconds to choose and lock in your move. How many seconds? (*Seven!*) Right! At the end of seven seconds, one of those figures you see will be the only one on the screen. If you did not guess the move by matching it, you will hurry to bend down or sit. If you *did* guess the move by matching it, stay in that pose! Team Leaders, you will count all the players on your team who guessed the move and give your team a point for every matching player. Keep track of your team's points! Let's stand up and go over those moves right now. (*Allow time.*)

You can choose a move like the first figure by lifting your arms high in the air. Let's try! (*Demonstrate and allow kids to copy.*)

You can choose a move like the second figure by reaching your hands out to the sides. Go ahead and try. (*Demonstrate and allow kids to copy.*)

Finally, you can choose a move like the third figure by reaching your hands down low. Try it with me. (*Demonstrate and allow kids to copy.*)

Great job! Remember, you will only have seven seconds to lock in your move. Then you cannot change it. If you do not match the move, bend or sit down quickly so your Team Leaders can count the points. Say, "Guess the Move!" to get our game started in 3-2-1! (*Guess the Move!*)

Play Stage Game Video.

**Script:** Well done, everyone! You guessed the moves! Take a seat. Team Leaders, how many points did your teams earn? (*Allow Team Leaders to share their points.*) Great job! Looks like the \_\_\_\_ Team got the most points. Do not worry, though—this is our Game Changer, and there are more games in store, so you can win more points! Say, "Game Changer!" (*Game Changer!*) In our game, we had to guess what pose was coming up next, but in life, we do not have to guess who God is. Ask, "Why?" (*Why?*) Because we are all meant to know God! He

makes the way for us to know Him through His Son, Jesus! That is why Jesus changes the game. Everyone, say, “I am meant to know God!” (*I am meant to know God!*) Say, “Jesus changes the game!” (*Jesus changes the game!*)

**Script:** What do you think would help more if you were on a game show—being fast or being patient? Let me hear your answer in 3-2-1! (*Allow responses.*) Well, we will get to find out in the *Game Changer Show!* Get our video started by calling, “Game Changer!” in 3-2-1! (*Game Changer!*)

Play Main Idea Video.

**Script:** “Au revoir” (or-eh vwar) is how to say “Goodbye!” in French. Everyone, let’s say “Au revior, Pauline!” in 3-2-1! (*Au revior, Pauline!*) We will see Pauline later in the bonus round of the *Game Changer Show!* Even better than Pauline making it to the bonus round is learning the truth that God leads us to hope. *Hope* is when we can trust that something good will happen. Let me hear you say, “**God leads me to hope!**” (*God leads me to hope!*) We are all meant to know God, and we can always look forward to and trust who God is and everything He is doing!

## Object Lesson:

### Supplies:

Bible 1 per group

Countdown timer 1 per group

**Script:** Have you ever counted down to something? Maybe you have counted down the number of sleeps before summer vacation, the number of hours before a big sporting event, the days until your birthday, or maybe even the number of minutes before the next *Game Changer* game begins! Call out one of your favorite things to count down to in 3-2-1! (*Allow kids to call out their favorite things.*) We count down to a lot of things—I even counted down before you called out your favorite thing to count down to! And countdown timers like this one (*hold up the countdown timer*) let us know that something is going to happen soon. Countdown timers can get us excited because we cannot wait for what will happen. Count down from 3 with me and say, “Game Changer!” Ready? 3-2-1! Game Changer!

Like a countdown timer, people in the Bible were counting down and waiting for something exciting. God promised that He would send a Savior to free people. All throughout the Old Testament, which is the first part of the Bible, people were waiting for God to fulfill His promise—which He did, through His Son, Jesus. Countdown timers can remind us of the excitement that comes with knowing that God has fulfilled His promise through Jesus. We can

have hope that God is always true, faithful, and keeps His promises. Say, “**God leads me to hope!**” (*God leads me to hope!*) We have so many good things to look forward to when we have a relationship with God through Jesus! Jesus changes the game because, through Him, we can have hope in a forever relationship with God. Say, “Jesus changes the game!” (*Jesus changes the game!*)

## **Bible Story Video:**

**Script:** (*Open the Bible.*) Now we get to hear a story from the Bible—God’s true message about Himself. In the Bible, we can see who God is and how He provides for us. We are meant to know God, and the Bible helps us do just that! I can’t wait for us to know God better as we hear a special story about God’s Son, Jesus. Say, “Game Changer!” to get our Bible story started in 3-2-1! (*Game Changer!*)

Play Bible Story Video.

## **Make the Connection:**

**Script:** What a surprise that God’s Son rode into Jerusalem, not in a chariot or on a big fancy horse. Jesus rode in on a donkey! A what? (*A donkey!*) When He rode in, people called out, “Hosanna!” What did people call out? (*Hosanna!*) They said, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” *Hosanna* means, “Save us!” People were filled with hope because they knew they needed to be rescued, and they knew Jesus was the One who could rescue them!

The people were filled with so much hope when Jesus rode into town. They trusted and were looking forward to God keeping a promise He gave long ago. God promised He would send a Savior, and Jesus was that Savior. But Jesus did not save the people from the things they *thought* they needed saving from. Jesus came to save people from their sins. *Sin* is when we choose to do what *we* think is best rather than follow what *God* says is best. Sin breaks our relationship with God, and sin deserves to be punished. But Jesus came to take the punishment for sin that we deserve by dying on a cross and coming back to life on the third day. Jesus showed that He is more powerful than sin and death and that following Him is the way we can have a forever relationship with God. We are meant to know God, and Jesus made the way for us to do just that!

When we wonder if there is anything we can always look forward to and know for sure will happen, we can remember that God leads us to hope. Our hope comes from knowing that God, who created the world and everything in it, loves us enough to make the way for us to know Him. That is the biggest Game Changer of all! Say, **“God leads me to hope!”** (*God leads me to hope!*)

Let’s watch this video to learn a little bit more about how Jesus changes the game and takes us from a broken relationship with God to a forever relationship with God.

Play 3 Circles Video.

**Script:** It is such a Game Changer that Jesus gave up His life for us so that we could know God and love Him forever. That is worth celebrating, and it definitely leads us to hope! We can always have hope and look forward to the truth that God is with us, He loves us, and one day we will get to enjoy life with Him forever. The people in our Bible story celebrated that God kept His promise and sent a Savior. We can celebrate and have hope that Jesus makes the way for us to have a relationship with God! If you want to know more about this hope that we find in Jesus, ask me or one of our Team Leaders today. We would love to talk with you more about this!

We have one more game to play, so say, “Game Changer!” as we get ready in 3-2-1! (*Game Changer!*)

## Team Game:

Kids will make butcher paper “cloaks,” then compete with their team to make it across the room while only walking on the cloaks.

**Big Goal:** Understand that **God leads us to hope.**

**Leader Prep:** Prepare 6 pieces of 3-foot butcher paper. Place masking or painter’s tape on the floor to mark a starting and finish line.

### **Supplies:**

Butcher paper 6 per group  
Markers or crayons Several  
Masking or painter’s tape 1 per group  
Stopwatch or timer 1 per group

**Script:** In today's Bible story, people laid clothing on the road as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. This was a way to honor Him as Savior and King. Today, we are going to play a game where we "cross a road" on "clothes." This game is called "Cross the Road Relay!" What kind of relay? *(Cross the Road!)*

First things first, you will be on one of two teams. Each team will get three pieces of butcher paper. Take some time to decorate and draw some designs on the paper, making them into your "clothes" for the game. *(Allow time.)*

Now that your clothes are decorated, we can play. The goal of this game is to get your whole team from the starting line to the finish line. Does that sound easy enough? Well, there is a twist! Everyone say, "Ooo, a twist!" *(Ooo, a twist!)* You can only get across by stepping on your butcher paper cloaks! Once the team is past the starting line, if someone on your team steps on the floor, you will need to go back to the beginning and start again. Ready? Let's play "Cross the Road Relay!"

**Keep It Going:** Switch up the teams and play again. Challenge kids to complete the relay without talking. Play a round where teams travel to the finish line, then back to the starting line.

**Script:** Way to relay! You moved quickly to our finish line even while only stepping on the clothes! In our Bible story, the people laid clothes down on the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk across. This was a way to celebrate and honor Jesus because the people were filled with hope that He would be the One to save them. He has come to save us too! God leads us to hope because He sent us Jesus. When we trust, follow, and celebrate Jesus, we can remember that He makes the way for us to have a relationship with God forever. What a Game Changer! Say, "Jesus changes the game!" *(Jesus changes the game!)*

## Theme Verse Video:

### Theme Verse Motions:

Search me, God, *(Hold your right hand above your eyes while looking side to side.)*

and know my heart ... *(Place both hands over your heart.)*

lead me in the everlasting way. *(Present both arms out in front of you, making circles going out.)*

Psalm 139:23-24 *(Hold your hands out like a book.)*

**Script:** We are meant to know God, and we can know God through the Bible! Let's learn our Theme verse, which can help us remember that God leads us to hope.

Play Theme Verse Video.

**Script:** This Bible verse gives us hope! It shows us that not only are we meant to know God, but God also knows us, loves us, and can lead us to everlasting life. God knows what we need, so He sent Jesus. Through Jesus, we can enjoy life with God now and forever! That is such good news! Everyone, say, **“God leads me to hope!”** (*God leads me to hope!*)

## Theme Song:

**Script:** Jesus changes the game! Who changes the game? (*Jesus!*) We do not just have to talk about it—we can sing about it! Stand up and let’s learn our Theme song.

Play Theme Verse Video.

## Small Groups:

**\*Big Deal/Key Verse Review & Prayer Requests/Prayer Time**

Finish up time in your small group pod by reviewing the Theme for the month, the verse and the “Big Deal” for today’s lesson. Ask for prayer requests, pray and wrap up.

## Pick Up Time:

*During this time children may wait around the room while videos play on the screen. There must be a leader at the door to receive parents and a second leader checking tags as they exit the room.*