

Today's Suggested Schedule—February 2026, Week 2

Bible Story: The Most Important Commandment • *Matthew 22:34-40*

Bottom Line: Love God. Love others.

Monthly Memory Verse: *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you."* • John 13:34 NIV

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SMALL GROUP (20 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver /

Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (30-35 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Memory Verse Poster
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster
- Teaching (Video)
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster

SMALL GROUP (25-30 minutes)

GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Reinforcement Activity

Prayer Journal

TAKE HOME

Devotional Page

Social
Opening Activity
Made to Play

Uses Minimal Supplies

Before kids arrive, pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time! Thank God that He told us that the most important commands are loving Him and loving others. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time when it was hard to love someone, but you chose to do it anyway because you love God. Ask God to help the kids in your group love Him with their whole heart—with what they think, say, and do. Pray that this love for God would overflow into loving others, even when it's not easy, like on the playground or with a sibling.

What You Need:

- "People Picture" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five or fist bump!
- Explain to your group of kids that you're going to play a guessing game.
- Choose one kid to start.
- Tell the kid to pick a picture and hold it up to their forehead, facing out, so everyone else in the circle can see it, but they cannot.
- Instruct the kid to ask "yes" or "no" questions to figure out who is on their picture. (e.g., "Do I wear a uniform?" "Do I work in a school?")
- Share that the other kids can only answer "yes" or "no."
- Help the kids guess and then let the next kid have a turn with a new picture.

What You Say:

"Great guessing, everyone! There are so many different kinds of people in the world, and they all do important jobs. **[Transition]** In our true story from the Bible today, Jesus is going to talk about something that's important for ALL people to do. Let's go find out what it is!"

[Lead your group to the Large Group area.]

LARGE GROUP

What You Need: TV, Pre-Loaded Video Content

What You Do:

- Introduce/Remind kids about the
- Monthly Theme
- Monthly Memory Verse
- Today's Bottom Line
- Play Worship Songs
- Allow kids to grab a snack
- Play Teaching Video
- Review Today's Bottom Line

Lead your group to the Small Group activity.

GROUPS

1. Like and Subscribe

Live for God | Application Activity

Made to Connect

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- "Like and Subscribe" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Give each kid two cards from the "Like and Subscribe" Activity Page.
- Explain that you are going to say some things people might do.
- If it's something that shows love to God or others, the kids are to hold up their "Like" (*thumbs up*) and "Subscribe" buttons.
- If it's not a loving choice, instruct the kids to turn their thumbs-up button upside-down and hold it up as a "Don't Like" (*thumbs down*) button.
- Read the following scenarios:
 - "This week, I will help my mom unload the groceries." (*Like/Subscribe*)
 - "This week, I'm going to fight with my brother over the remote." (*Don't Like*)
 - "This week, I will share my snack with a friend." (*Like/Subscribe*)
 - "This week, I will say 'thank you' to God for my food." (*Like/Subscribe*)
 - "This week, I'm going to leave my toys out for someone else to clean up." (*Don't Like*)
- Talk about why each choice is loving or not.

What You Say:

"Great job! It's easy to see which choices show love. Jesus made it simple for us. He said that if we focus on loving God and loving others, then we'll be living how He wants us to live. The best way to live is to **[Bottom Line] Love God. Love others.** When we follow Jesus, God sends His Holy Spirit to live inside of us, and the Spirit can nudge us with ways to show love to others. Let's try to 'Like and Subscribe' to that idea all week!"

GROUPS

2. Pray and Dismiss

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- Prayer jar from Week 1
- Bag of candy hearts
- Plastic spoons

What To Do:

- Invite the kids to sit with you in a circle.
- Give each kid a spoon.
- Hold a spoon yourself, but put a candy heart on it.
- Start by passing your candy heart from your spoon to the spoon of the kid next to you without it falling.
- Encourage the kids to pass it to the next kid, and so on around the circle.
- Once the heart has made it all the way around, say, “Great job sharing the love! Now, let’s pray.”
- Ask each kid to think of one person they want to show love to this week.
- As each kid names their person, let them add a candy heart to the prayer jar.
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

“Our prayer jar is getting so full! That means we are doing one of the most important things—loving people by praying for them! Let’s pray for the people we named.

“Dear God, thank You for loving us. Help us to love You back with everything we are. And help us to love the people around us, especially [name a few people the kids mentioned]. Show us how to be kind and loving this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”