



I AM MADE FOR COMMUNITY
HUDDLE UP
Elementary



Nov
2025

November 23, 2025

I Am Made for Community
Elementary Leader Guide

the place for kids to take
their first steps with jesus.



WIN

God includes everyone when He offers salvation and a relationship with Him through Jesus. Kids will be encouraged to know they can have a forever relationship with God and that they can include others as God has included us.

BIBLE- Ruth, Naomi and Boaz- Ruth 1-4

TOOLS

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SOCIAL TIME

The first 10 minutes as kids arrive is a very important time in your small group. Because of this, we provide you with intentional activities to engage their interests and help lead into a great discussion. All of this is so that “boredom” is not an excuse. Everything is only available one time.

Every week you have:

- Roku Games to play together that are changed out monthly.
- 2 month specific games or group activities.
- Plus 2 Social Activities. ** Use one now and save the other for an incentive to participate in all the activities.

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, Blank paper (11 per group), Markers (1 per group) Coin (1 per group), Bible (1 per group)

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

Ruth had a choice—return to her homeland and what was familiar or to stay with her mother-in-law, Naomi, and be an outsider. Ruth chose to stay with Naomi and to follow Naomi's God, the one true God. It is amazing that Ruth found family and belonging with Boaz and God's people. Ask, "Why?" (Why?) She moved from being an outsider to being included because God included her with His people. She even ended up in the family line of David, which is the family line of Jesus. Ruth was included, and God includes us too. Let me hear you say, "God includes us!" (God includes us!)

Gospel Connection: (refer to the 4 Circles poster in your small group spaces)

(Circle two) Like Ruth, we might feel left out or alone because of the brokenness sin causes. Sin breaks our relationship with God and others, and nothing we do on our own can fix it.

(Circle three) God loved us so much that He sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus died on the cross, came back to life, and now everyone who trusts and follows Him gets to be part of God's family!

(Circle one) When God created the world, He created us to have a relationship with Him. When we ask Jesus to forgive our sins and choose to follow Him, we become part of God's family. One day Jesus will come back to get rid of sin forever, and He wants everyone to be part of His family!

(Circle four) God sent Jesus so everyone can be part of His family and enjoy friendships with others who follow Him.

Talk to a leader if you want to know more about following Jesus!

We can always celebrate that **God includes us**. Everyone, say, "**God includes us!**" (**God includes us!**) Before you leave today, know that you are so loved by God, and He made you for community. He made you for a relationship with Him. The world outside these walls can feel really scary, but you are not alone. You have a strong and mighty God who wants you to walk through life with Him. Hard things may still come, but God is greater. When you trust in Him, He will never leave you! He includes you in His family and includes you in a community with others who love and follow Him. Let's pray and talk with God in 3-2-1.

God, thank You for including us in Your family. Your love is so amazing! Thank You for sending Jesus to make the way for us to have a forever relationship with You and others who love and follow You. Help us to share Your love with others so they can know that You want to include them in Your family too. Thank You for giving all of us a community where we can know we belong. Amen.

Sort and Order

Kids will sort through Theme verse balloons and place them in order.

Big Goal: Learn the Theme verse and know that **God includes us.**

Leader Prep: Write one phrase from the Theme verse on each balloon: *Encourage one another / and build each other up / as you are already doing / 1 Thessalonians 5:11.* On the extra balloons, include phrases not found in the Theme verse: *Huddle Up / I am made for community / God includes us / Ruth and Naomi.* Print the “Allergy Alert” printable, drawing attention to a potential latex allergy. Use the Theme Verse Poster, Theme Verse Slide, or display the Theme verse in a visible location for the kids to see. *“Encourage one another and build each other up as you are already doing.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11)* Scatter the balloons on the floor.

Supplies: “Allergy Alert” printable (1 per group), Inflated balloons (8 per group), Permanent marker (1 per group), Pool noodles (1 per group), Timer or stopwatch (1 per group; optional), Theme Verse Poster (1 per group)

What To Do: Today let’s work together to “Sort and Order” these balloons! We call them our Theme verse balloons! Theme verse, what? (*Balloons!*) Yes! Notice that every balloon has a phrase written on it. Here is the tricky part! We will collect *only* the balloons that have the words to the Theme verse written on them. One at a time, you will use the pool noodle to knock a balloon toward the front. You will only get one knock, and we want to go as fast as we can. So as soon as you knock a balloon, pass the pool noodle to the next person. I would love to hear you cheering for each other as you work together! If you are ready, say, “Huddle Up!” (*Huddle Up!*)

Keep It Going: Play multiple rounds, challenging kids to beat their previous time.

Leader Tip: Younger Option: Recite what is on each balloon that kids are knocking.

Safety Tip: Ensure kids with latex allergies do not touch the balloons.

Loud And Clear: This Bible verse tells us to encourage one another. It tells us to what? (*Encourage one another.*) It also says to build each other up. Build each other what? (*Up!*) That’s right! We are to encourage one another and build each other up. How does it feel when people are encouraging you? (*Allow responses.*) When people encourage us, we feel included and know we belong. We have been made for community, and in that community, we can encourage each other and build each other up. Let’s practice by turning to a friend and saying something encouraging. (*Allow responses.*)

Let’s chat about this more by looking at some questions that make us think deeper.

TALK ABOUT IT

Discussion Questions:

- What are ways you can help others be included in what you are doing? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
- How can being listed on a team roster or a schedule make you feel included? What is different about how **God includes us?** (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer. You may or may not make it on a team roster, but God includes everyone who believes in Jesus in His family.)
- The Bible tells us that **God includes us** because He made us for community. Let's open our Bibles to **Ruth 1:16** and read it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verse aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verse aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verse so everyone can follow along together.) Ruth made the choice to follow Naomi and Naomi's God, and she was then included as part of God's family. How can we include people like how Ruth was included with God's people? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
- Even though we are sinners, God sent Jesus to rescue us from the punishment for our sin. How does it make you feel to know you are included in God's family when you believe in and follow Him with your life? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)
- The Bible tells us we are made for community. **God includes us** in His family when we admit that we are sinners, and ask Jesus to remove our sins. When we put our trust in Him, we are included in the forever family of God. What is something you learned today?

WRAP UP

Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.) Let's pray and talk to God. (Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)

God, thank You for knowing how we need each other but more importantly how we need You. Thank You for sending your Son, Jesus, to rescue us from our sins so that we could be included in Your family forever. Open our eyes to others who need to know about Your love today. Amen.

God includes us and sent Jesus to rescue us from our sin so we can be a part of His family forever. We were not made to be alone. We were made for community with each other and, more importantly, for community with God!

GOING HOME

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.