

K-3rd

Large Group

March — Week 3

Large Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

Kids arrival : 9:25 / 11:10

Play high-pitch music as kids arrive

Countdown : 9:30 / 11:15

Start the countdown with excitement!

Large Group : 9:30-9:55 / 11:15-11:40

- Opener
- Bible Story
- Talk It Out!
- Memory Verse
- Prayer

Transition to Small group : 9:55-10:00
/11:40-11:45

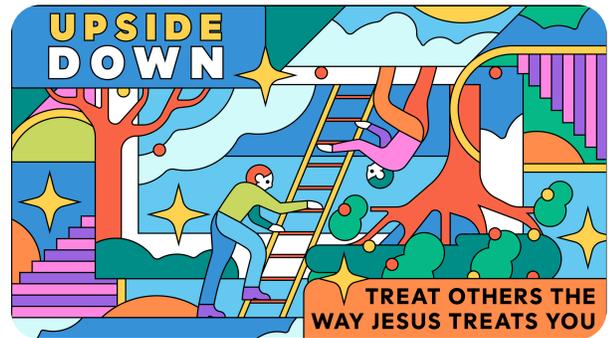
Kids move with their leader to small groups

Small group : 10:00-10:25 / 11:45-12:10

Creating a safe place to connect.

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd guide.

THIS MONTH



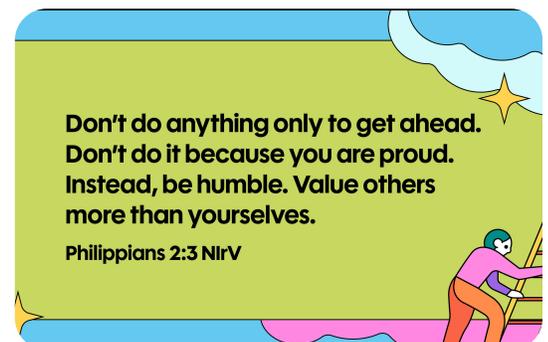
Today's Bible Story

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

Bottom Line



Memory Verse



10 MINUTES

OPENER

① Opener

AUDIO → Play high-energy music as kids enter.
SLIDE → Theme

→ Host enters.

Optional Video → Countdown
Optional Video → Theme Intro

HOST: “Hey, everyone! Welcome! Welcome! I’m so glad you’re here today. We’ve been learning that Jesus turns things upside down! That’s our theme this month—‘Upside Down!’ That means Jesus shows us a brand new way to live. When we follow Jesus, we treat people the way HE treats us. Even when it’s hard, we can love like Jesus.

“Now, I hope you’re ready to be creative, because today we’re starting with something fun! We’re going to make art in a few totally different ways. Each round, we’ll invite a few friends up front to use some supplies and make something awesome. Everyone else can cheer them on, and then I’ll pick our winner!

“Everybody ready? Let’s play the ‘Upside Down Art Challenge’!

SLIDE → Game_“Upside Down Art Challenge Title”

“ROUND 1: BLOCKS—Build a House

“For our first round, I need three volunteers to come up front to help us get started! Raise your hand if you’d like to make some upside-down art!

Pick three kids from the ones who have their hands raised and line them up behind the table.

“Okay, friends, your challenge is to build a house using only these blocks. You can make it tall, short—but it has to be upside down! You’ll have one minute to build before we see your awesome creations.

“Ready ... Set ... Go!

SLIDE → Countdown_60 Seconds

10 MINUTES

OPENER

SLIDE → Countdown_60 Seconds

Start the game and start the timer (or smartphone or countdown).

“Look at that! Wow, that’s so tall! Oh, I see a super-creative roof over there!

After the one-minute timer is up, stop the music, and say:

“And ... time’s up! Great job, you guys! Every single house looks different, but each one is amazing. Now, let’s pick our winner!

Pause briefly while Host looks over each creation. Add encouragement for each creation as you look it over, but pick the one that is the most creative, most resembles the object you asked them to make, and is upside down.

“Congrats, [kid’s name], your creation is the winner! Great job, builders! Everyone, give our volunteers a big cheer!

“ROUND 2: PLAY-DOH®—Make a Taco

“All right, who’s ready for round two? I need three new volunteers to come up and help with our next upside-down art challenge! Raise your hand if you’d like to volunteer!

Pick three kids from the ones who have their hands raised and line them up behind the table.

“This time, you’re making a taco! You can roll, squish, stretch, and shape it however you like. But remember, it needs to be upside down. Maybe you can make it and flip it upside-down at the end? Regardless of what you do, you only have one minute to finish your creation.

“Everybody ready? 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... go!

SLIDE → Countdown_60 Seconds

10 MINUTES

OPENER

Start the game and start the timer (or smartphone or countdown).

"I see some taco shells forming! I'm getting hungry just watching you!"

After the one-minute timer is up, stop the music, and say:

"Stop! Show everyone what you made! These all look delicious, but let's see who our winner is!"

Pause briefly while Host looks over each creation. Add encouragement for each creation as you look it over, but pick the one that is the most creative, most resembles the object you asked them to make, and is upside down.

"Congrats, [kid's name], your creation is the winner! Great job to all our volunteers!"

"Wow, you all did such a great job creating upside-down art today. And you know what? That reminds me of how Jesus helps us see the world in a new way. He teaches us to love others even when they aren't kind. He helps us show kindness and forgiveness instead of getting even. That's what it means to live upside down—to treat others the way Jesus treats you."

It's today's Bible Story time! Yay! Let's close your mouths and open our ears. Eyes on the screen. Let's dive in!

10 MINUTES

Story

③ Bible Story

SLIDE -> Story Lab W3

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “That day on the mountainside, Jesus showed everyone that God’s love turns everything upside down. Instead of getting even, we can choose kindness. Instead of staying angry, we can forgive. Instead of being mean back, we can pray. When we do these things, we show the world what Jesus’ love looks like. But remember, loving your enemies doesn’t mean you ignore it when you are getting hurt. If someone is continuing to hurt you, make sure you talk to a grown-up about it.

“The amazing thing is ... this is how Jesus lived. He didn’t just tell people to do things, He lived it out. When people were mean to Jesus, He did not fight back. Even when they hurt Him, He forgave them. That is the kind of love that changes everything.

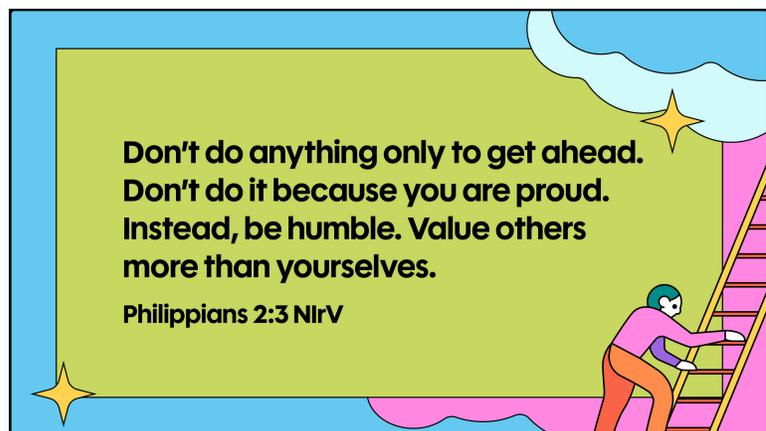
SLIDE -> Bottom Line

[[Bottom Line] “The love of Jesus changes people. Say that with me.”

Host enters and joins in.

KIDS, STORYTELLER, AND HOST: [Bottom Line] “The love of Jesus changes people.”

SLIDE -> Memory Verse



5 MINUTES

TALK IT OUT



Now, before we move on, I have a question for you... (lean in and whisper) do you know what time it is?

It's time to... (pause, cup your hand to your ear) **TALK IT OUT!**

That means it's your turn to do the talking! You get to share your thoughts, ask questions, and see how this story connects to YOUR life.

So, let's put on our 'thinking caps' ... zip up our listening ears... and get ready to Talk. It. Out!"

SLIDE -> Talk It Out

Talk It Out Questions

1) What does "living upside down" mean?

- A) Doing everything in a silly way
- B) Doing things the way Jesus does, even when it feels different
- C) Standing on your head
- D) Ignoring everyone

✓ Answer: B) Doing things the way Jesus does, even when it feels different

2) What did Jesus say we should do when someone is mean to us?

- A) Be mean back
- B) Choose peace and kindness
- C) Yell at them
- D) Walk away and never talk again

✓ Answer: B) Choose peace and kindness

3) What did Jesus say we should do for our enemies?

✓ Answer: Love them and pray for them.

4) "What would you do?" scenario

Someone says, "You can't play with us." What is an upside-down Jesus response?

✓ Answer: Choose kindness (ex: "Okay, maybe next time.")

5) What is today's Bottom Line?

✓ Answer: The love of Jesus changes people.

5 MINUTES

Prayer

Prayer

“Jesus, thank You for loving us no matter what. Thank You for showing us how to love people, even when it’s hard. Please help us this week to love like You. When someone hurts our feelings, help us to stay kind. When someone is mean, help us to forgive. When we want to get even, help us to remember how much You love us. Thank You for always being with us and helping us show Your love to others. We need Your help. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Transition → Dismiss kids to their small groups.
AUDIO -> Play high-energy music as the kids exit.
SLIDE -> Theme
Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE) → Theme Loop