

K-3rd

Large Group

March — Week 4

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

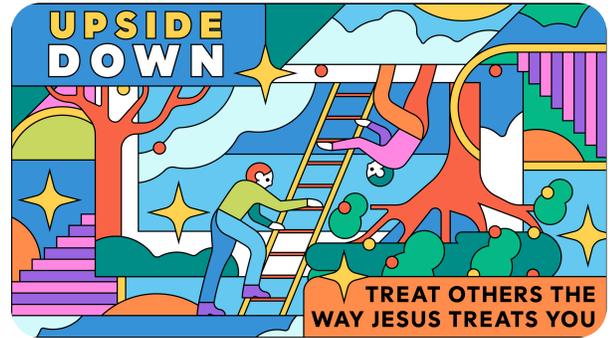
Kids move with their leader to small groups

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



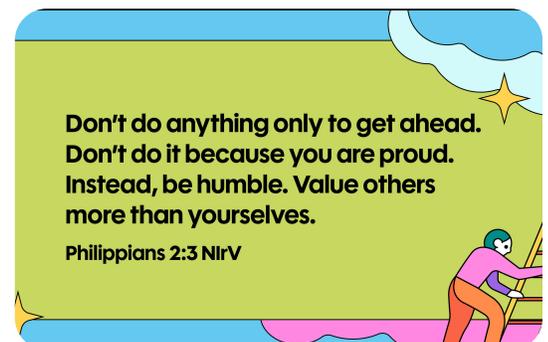
Today's Bible Story

Mary and Martha Luke 10:38-42

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 back to another week of this month’s theme, ‘Upside Down!’ I’m so glad you’re here today. This whole month, we’ve been learning that following Jesus sometimes means living in a way that looks totally different from what everyone else does. It’s upside down, but it’s the best way to live! “Now, we’re going to start today with a game that’s all about doing things the opposite way. It’s called ‘Backward Freeze Dance!’

SLIDE → Game_Backward Freeze Dance Title

““Here’s how it works: when the music is playing, you freeze! Don’t move a muscle! But when the music stops ... that’s when you dance like crazy! You’ve got to move, groove, and go all out, because that’s the backward, upside-down part!

“Got it? Music plays, you freeze. Music stops, you dance. Let’s give it a quick practice round.

Practice Round

“Okay, let’s try it out. Everyone, spread out and get some space!

“Music ON!

10 MINUTES

OPENER

AB_Upbeat Music

“Freeze!

Walk around the room, look, and enthusiastically comment on the kids frozen in funny poses.

“Wow, these are some statues! It’s so hard not to dance when the music is playing, right?”

“Music OFF, dance!

Pause the music and enthusiastically comment on the kids’ dancing.

“Yes! You got it! You guys are ready for the real thing.

Round One

“All right, here we go. When the music’s on, freeze. When it’s off, dance like you mean it!

Round One

“All right, here we go. When the music’s on, freeze. When it’s off, dance like you mean it!

AB_Upbeat Music

Music plays, kids freeze. Music pauses, kids dance. Go back and forth several times, mixing up the length of the pauses.

“Freeze!

“Dance!

“Freeze!

“Dance!

“Awesome job, everyone! You nailed it! Let’s all take a breather, and we can get instructions for the next round!

10 MINUTES

OPENER**Round Two: Silly Dance Moves**

“All right, this round, let’s add some silly moves. When you dance, I’ll give you some crazy moves to do. The sillier, the better!

“Ready? The music is OFF—so dance like you’re made of JELLY!
Start the music.

“And music ON ... everybody freeze!

Walk around the room, look and comment enthusiastically at the kids frozen in funny poses. Stop the music.

“Okay, music OFF—dance like a CHICKEN!

Music plays, kids freeze. Music pauses, kids dance. Go back and forth several times, mixing up the length of the pauses. But this time, share the silly dance moves you’d like to add when the music is off.

“Music OFF—dance like a sleepy sloth!

Music ON—kids freeze.

“Music OFF—dance like you just won a gold medal!

Music ON—freeze.

“Great job, everyone! You can take a seat.

“That game sure was backwards, wasn’t it? It felt funny to freeze when the music played and dance when it stopped. It didn’t work the way we expected!

“But that’s kind of what Jesus teaches us to do too. Sometimes, His way feels upside down compared to what we’re used to. Everyone around us might be rushing around trying to do other things first, but Jesus said something different. He said the most important thing we can do is make time for Him first.

“When we slow down and spend time with Jesus, it helps everything else in our day work better!

It is today’s Bible Story Time. Are you ready to hear from God?

10 MINUTES

Story

③

Bible Story

SLIDE -> Story Lab W4

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Both Mary and Martha loved Jesus. Martha showed her love by serving and working hard. Mary showed her love by stopping and spending time with Him. Jesus loved them both, but He reminded Martha that before we do anything for Him, we need to take time to be with Him.

“This lamp helps us remember that. When it’s plugged in, it shines bright. But when it’s unplugged, no matter how hard it tries, it can’t light up. We’re the same way. When we stay close to Jesus, when we read His Word, pray, or even just take a quiet moment with Him, our hearts stay connected. We shine the way we’re meant to.

“So, before we jump into our busy days, let’s remember to make time for Jesus first. Because when we stay plugged in to Him, everything else starts to fall into place.

“That reminds me of our Bottom Line for today!

10 MINUTES

Story

③ Bible Story

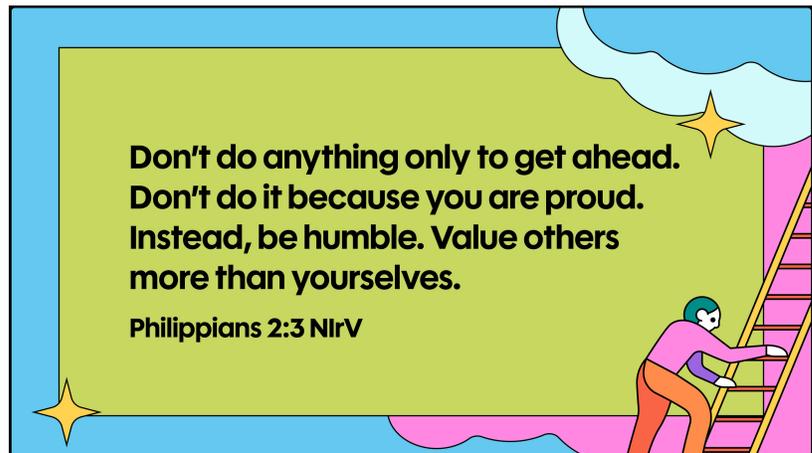
SLIDE -> Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Make time for Jesus first. Say that with me.”

Host enters and joins in.

KIDS, STORYTELLER, AND HOST: [Bottom Line] “Make time for Jesus first.”

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) Who were the sisters in this story?

✓ Answer: Mary and Martha

2) What was Mary doing while Jesus was visiting?

✓ Answer: Sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to Him

3) What was Martha doing while Jesus was visiting?

✓ Answer: Preparing food and cleaning the house

4) What did Jesus say was the better choice?

✓ Answer: Being with Jesus first, like Mary

5) What should we do first every day according to this story?

✓ Answer: Spend time with Jesus—listen, pray, and read the Bible

5 MINUTES

Prayer

Prayer

“Dear Jesus, thank You for showing us what really matters. Sometimes, we get so busy doing things that we forget to stop and spend time with You. Help us to make time for You first, before we start our day, before we make decisions, and even when we feel too busy. Thank You for loving us, for giving us peace, and for helping our hearts stay connected to You. We love You, and we want to stay plugged in to You every day. 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