TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

By Your Side

Jesus Talks with a Woman from Samaria John 4:1-30, 39-42

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Show others that they matter.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"The Lord has shown you what is good. He has told you what he requires of you. You must act with justice. You must love to show mercy. And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God."

Micah 6:8, NIrV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone else's need

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35 MIN STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener

Worship ("Made in the Image" from Little Praise Party: Ready Set Go and "Love One Another" from Make a Move) Bible Story

Bottom Line

Praver

Closer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Freeze Walk

Application Activity: Who's in Your Circle?
Memory Verse Activity: Memory Verse Flag Race

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that each of your kids would feel like they matter. Ask God to help you be a part of making your kids feel important and like they matter to God. Pray that kids would notice those around them who might be overlooked and feel like they don't matter. Pray that they will also be use by God to help those people know that they matter.

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1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, butcher paper or whiteboard, markers or dry erase markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Write a story together.
- Instruct each kid to add one word to the story at a time.
 - For example, start the story by saying the word, "Once" and writing it on the paper or whiteboard.
 - Invite a kid to choose the next word and write what they say.
- Continue until the story ends or you run out of room.
- Continue writing stories as long as time and interest allow.

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

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2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- (Note: If necessary, prompt kids to adjust their face masks before beginning this activity.)
- Direct the kids to stand in a circle and face each other.
- Instruct the kids to look around the circle and pay close attention to the other kids.
- Ask them to turn around and face the outside of the circle so they can't see each other.
- Ask questions:
 - Raise your hand if you can tell me someone other than you who is wearing a red shirt.
 - Who can name someone other than you who is wearing a sweater?
- Call on a kid who has their hand raised.
- If the kid answers correctly, instruct the kids to turn around and look around the circle again to notice more details then continue the game as before.
- If the kid doesn't answer correctly, call on someone else who has their hand
 raised.
- Once you have a correct answer, congratulate that kid, and move on to the next round.
- Continue asking similar questions about items of clothing kids are wearing.
- Repeat for as long as time and interest allow.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You guys were very observant today by paying attention and seeing who was wearing what. [Transition] Let's head to Large Group and hear about a time Jesus saw a woman and showed her that she mattered."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

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1. FREEZE WALK [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite the kids to gather around you.
- Tell them you'll read today's Bible story to them.
- Instruct the kids to start hopping when you start reading.
- Direct the kids to freeze when they hear the name "Jesus" in the Bible story.
- Read John 4:1-30, 39-42.
- Pause each time you say, "Jesus," and give the kids another action: walk, dance, skip, etc.
- Continue until you've read the entire Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You did a great job of listening today. You all listened really well for 'Jesus.' Who can tell me one way Jesus showed the woman at the well that she mattered? (He saw her; He talked to her; He told her He was the Messiah.) How did the woman respond to Jesus' kindness? (told her neighbors about Jesus; couldn't believe He took time to talk to her) What happened as a result of Jesus being kind and speaking to the woman? (many people in her town came to believe in Jesus) You never know what could happen by being kind to someone. Making sure to notice others and pay attention to what they might need makes them feel like they matter. Being like Jesus means we can **show others that they matter.**"

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

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*2. WHO'S IN YOUR CIRCLE? [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Who's in Your Circle?" Activity Pages, pens or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

• Give each kid a "Who's in Your Circle?" Activity Page and a pen or pencil.

- Instruct the kids to write two or three names of people in their life who fit in each category of the circle.
- Explain what each circle means.
 - The smallest circle is for the people closest to them, i.e., the people they live with
 - The next circle is for their friends—people they choose to hang out with and spend time with.
 - The next circle is for their classmates, teammates or activity mates;
 people they see on a regular basis but aren't close enough friends to hang out with outside of the activity or sport.
 - The outside of the last circle is for people they see on a regular basis but don't interact with or notice much. This could be someone at school, church, the park, etc.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"We can spend a lot of time with someone and not take time to show them that they matter. Maybe you wrote down your sister or brother's name in the first circle. How can you show someone you live with that they matter? (Allow time for kids to answer.) Those are some great ideas. What about our next circle? What are some ways you can show your friends they matter? (Allow time for kids to answer.) Those are some good ideas, too. What about your classmates? Based on who you wrote down, how can you show them that they matter? (Allow time for kids to answer.) Fantastic job!

"Now, this last area is one of my favorites because this is where most people would have written down the woman's name from our Bible story. Lots of people knew who she was, but not many people hung out with her or paid much attention to her. Jesus made a point to show her she mattered even though she felt left out and unnoticed. We can be like Jesus and show the people you wrote down here that they matter, too. What are some ways you can do that? (Allow time for kids to answer—can simply talk to them or invite them to play.)

"You have the opportunity to show people that you see them. Even more than that, because you follow Jesus, you are showing them that God sees them and loves them, too. I hope you take time this week to see the people you wrote down in each circle and make time to show them that they matter.

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(*2. WHO'S IN YOUR CIRCLE?, CONTINUED)

[Make it Personal] (Share a kid-appropriate story of a time a Jesus-follower showed you that you mattered to them and to God. Expand on how you knew they followed Jesus because they treated you with the same love Jesus has for others.) "This person made me realize that because I follow Jesus, I can show others that they matter."

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

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3. MEMORY VERSE FLAG RACE [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Flag Race" Activity Pages in two colors, yarn or string pieces, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

• Mix up and spread out the colored pennants throughout

the room.

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, look up Micah 6:8 with the navigation tips below, then read the verse out loud.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Micah in the list under "Old Testament." When the kids find Micah, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Micah. Help the kids find the page. When they find Micah, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 6. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 8 in chapter 6.

- Ask if any of the kids would like to volunteer to read the verse out loud again.
- Divide the group into two teams—one yellow team and one orange team.
- Give each team a piece of string.
- Instruct each team to find the pennants in their team's color around the room and put them in verse order. (They can use their Bibles as reference.)
- Once each team has all of their phrases in order, direct them to string the pennants together to make a banner.
- The first team to successfully string all of their pennants in the correct order, wins!

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You all did an amazing job. There were a lot of phrases, but both teams did a great job putting them in the right order and stringing them together. Does anyone know how we know what God requires of us? (Allow kids times to answer.) That's right, through His Word, the Bible. We know everything in the Bible is true and really happened. One of the best ways we can know what God requires of us is to read the Bible. Just like we learned through the Bible story today, we can **show others that they matter.** And Jesus taught us how to do that by seeing people and just talking to them, especially when they feel left out or like they don't belong."

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

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4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Who's in Your Circle?" Activity Pages (filled out) and pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

• Instruct the kids to hold their "Who's in Your Circle?"

Activity Page.

- Give each kid a pencil.
- Direct them to turn over their paper and write down two or three ways they can show one of the people on the other side that they matter this week.
- Challenge the kids to do whatever they wrote down this week.
- Close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Today was such a good day as we learned all about Jesus and how He showed the woman at the well that she mattered. If we follow Jesus, we can go out and **show others that they matter.** Can someone share something they wrote down to show someone they matter? (Allow kids to respond.) Those are really great ideas. Let's pray and ask God to help us show others that they matter.

"Dear God, thank You that You notice everyone and that everyone matters to You. We want to show people in our lives that they matter to us and to You. Please help us do what we wrote so we can show the people in our lives that they matter. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to share one thing they notice and love about the adults.

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

Made to Create: an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container
- Large piece of butcher paper or large whiteboard
- Markers or dry erase markers

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

• No supplies needed

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #2.

1. FREEZE WALK

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

• Bible

*2. WHO'S IN YOUR CIRCLE? [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Who's in Your Circle?" Activity Page; one for each kid.
- Pens or pencils

3. MEMORY VERSE FLAG RACE [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Memory Verse Flag Race" Activity Page on yellow and orange cardstock, cut out, and punch holes; one set of each color for each small group.
- Bible
- 15-foot lengths of string or yarn; two for each group

4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Who's in Your Circle?" Activity Pages (filled out)
- Pencils

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**