

# 2-3 | W3

## Today's Suggested Schedule—June 2026, Week 3

**Bible Story:** The Story of the Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-32*

**Bottom Line:** God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven."* • Matthew 6:10 NIRV

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

### **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 (15 minutes)**

#### **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction**

Opening Activity

### **Large Group (35 minutes)**

#### **Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways**

#### **Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God**

Opener

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

### **Small Group (25 minutes)**

#### **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect**

Bible Story Review: Act Out the Story (K–1st grade), Road Map (2nd–3rd grade), Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions (Preteen)

Application Activity: Memory Match (K–1st grade), Hand Clap Game (2nd–3rd grade), Take a Snapshot (Preteen)

Memory Verse Activity: Pass the Squeeze (K–1st grade), Pass the Ring (2nd–3rd grade), Verses to Take with You (Preteen)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss (K–1st grade, 2nd–3rd grade), Make It Personal with Prayer (Preteen)

### **Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience**

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

Devotionals for Kids

Parent Cue App



### **Bible Story**

The Story of the Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-32*

### **Bottom Line**

God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.

### **Monthly Memory Verse:**

*"May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven."* • Matthew 6:10 NIRV








5 min

# Social

5 min

## 23 Social Activity | Made to Explore

### What You Need

 Offering container	1
 Plastic tablecloth	1
 Clear plastic bin	1
 Clear short glass or jar	1
 Water	1
 Coins	Several
 Paper towels	1

### What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Spread out the tablecloth on the floor or table.
- Place the bin on top of the tablecloth, and place the glass/jar on the bottom of the bin.
- Fill the bin more than halfway with water.

*During the Activity:*

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid a few coins.
- Challenge kids to take turns dropping one coin at a time into the water to try and get it into the glass/jar.
- After everyone has had several turns, count how many coins made it into the glass/jar.

### What You Say:

"Great job trying to get those coins in the cup! It was a fun challenge. In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear about a son who took a lot of money and made some not-so-great choices with it. Let's go find out what happened."











5 min

# Bible Story Review

5 min

## 23 – Road Map | Made to Create

### What You Need

 Bible	1
 Cardstock	1
 Magnetic tape	1
 Scissors	1
 Coloring supplies	Several
 Paperclips	1
 Clear tape	1
 Craft stick	1
 "Road Map" Activity Page	1
 "Lost Son" Activity Page	1

### What You Do:

#### Before the Activity:

- Print "Road Map" on cardstock, one per kid
- Print "Lost Son" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per kid.
- Cut the magnetic tape into one-inch sections, one per kid.

#### During the Activity:

- Ask kids to color their "Road Map" and "Lost Son" cutout.
- Show kids where to fold the tab at the bottom of their son cutout and tape a paperclip to the bottom of the tab.
- Ask kids to remove the backing of the magnetic strip and attach it to the end of a craft stick.
- Invite kids to hold their map flat in front of them and stand their son cutout on their map.
- Show kids how to hold the craft stick under where the son cutout is on their map and move it around the map. Make sure the magnet is facing up.
- Open the Bible to Luke 15:11-32. Show the kids where the story is in the Bible.
- Retell the story, having the kids move the son along the path as you go.
- "The younger son asked for his share of the family's money and left his father's house." (*Kids move their puppet away from the house.*)
- "He went far away and spent all the money."
- "He got so hungry, he had to get a job working with pigs!" (*Kids move puppet to the pigs.*)
- "He was so sad. He decided to go home." (*Kids start moving the puppet back to the house.*)
- "His father saw him, ran to him, and gave him a big hug!" (*Kids move the puppet back to the house.*)

### What You Say:

"You did a great job showing the son's journey! In the story that Jesus told, the younger son took his part of the family money and left home. He used the money to buy whatever he wanted when he wanted it. So when a famine came, and there was very little food, the young man had no money left. He couldn't buy food to eat. He went from living the party life to starving in a very short time. In fact, the younger son became so desperate that he went to work feeding pigs. This was one of the worst jobs a Jewish young man could do, since pigs were considered to be 'unclean.' But the son was so very hungry that he actually wanted to eat the slop he gave to the pigs! That's when he hit rock bottom.

"The younger son finally understood how he had messed up. But he thought he would need to earn his way back into his father's house. He probably practiced his speech all the way home. But when he approached his father's house, his father ran to him and welcomed his son home before even hearing a word of apology.

"Even though the son made bad choices and got lost, the father honored the son with a robe and ring and sandals and threw an epic welcome home party. The father in the story was so happy because his lost son came home! Jesus told this story to show us that's what God is like. No matter what we do, God always wants us to come back to Him. **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**"

5 min

# Application Activity

5 min

## 23 – Hand Clap Game | Made to Play \*Uses Minimal Supplies\*

### What You Need

No supplies needed



### EveryChild tips

- Encourage kids to carefully select motions so all kids can participate.

### What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Invite the kids to join you sitting in a circle on the floor or around a table.
- Teach them a simple, repeating hand-motion pattern. For example: Slap your lap twice, clap your hands twice, snap your fingers twice. (*Slap, Slap, Clap, Clap, Snap, Snap.*)
- Practice the pattern together until everyone gets the rhythm.
- Explain the challenge: "We're going to pass the motion around the circle. We can't stop until everyone has done it!"
- Start the motion. The person to your right joins in on the next beat, then the next person, and so on, until the whole circle is doing the hand motions together.
- Try it a few times, and celebrate when the whole group is moving together.

### What You Say:

"That was awesome! Look how we all worked together to do the same motion. Our circle wasn't complete until everyone joined in. That reminds me of God's kingdom. God wants everyone to be in His family. He doesn't want anyone to be left out.

"Sometimes, we're like the younger son from the Bible Story. We do what we want instead of what God wants. We don't feel like we've earned God's love. But that's the whole point! You can't earn God's love. God's love is deeper than your greatest sins or your biggest mess-up. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any less. And the moment you turn back to God, you'll find that He's running to meet you. God is so excited when you return to His love that all of heaven celebrates!

"And sometimes, we're like the older son from the Bible Story. We feel like we've done all the right things and earned God's love, so we deserve for Him to give us what we want. But you can't earn God's love in those times either! God wants you to rest in His love and all the good things He's already given you. And then you can pass on that love to other people when they mess up. Remember, God loves everyone, no matter what! And **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**"





5 min

# Memory Verse Activity

5 min

## 23 – Pass the Ring | Made to Move

### What You Need

-  Bibles 1
-  Plastic toy ring 1
-  Music player 1
-  Fun, upbeat worship music 1



### EveryChild tips

- Allow kids to ask a friend to say the Memory Verse with them to reduce anxiety.

### What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Give every kid a Bible, and direct them to look up Matthew 6:10.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

**Finding verses for 2nd-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 the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.

- Repeat the verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Remind kids of the part in the parable when the father gave the son a special ring when he came home.
- Explain that you're going to play a game like "Hot Potato" with the ring.
- Play the music and have the kids pass the ring around the circle.
- When the music stops, the person holding the ring gets to say the Memory Verse: "May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven" (Matthew 6:10 NIV).
- Help kids if they need it, then have the whole group say the verse together.
- Start the music and continue playing until several kids have had a turn to say the verse.

### What You Say:

"Great job! That ring reminds me of the story Jesus told. When the son came home after making some pretty bad choices, the father didn't lecture the son or give him a list of ways to pay for his bad choices. Instead, the father honored the son with a robe, ring, and sandals and threw an epic welcome home party!"

"The father in the Bible Story showed us what God's love is like. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any less. And the moment you turn back to God, you'll find that He's running to meet you. God is so excited when you return to His love that all of heaven celebrates!

"God's love is greater than any love, and God loves us no matter what! When we pray our Memory Verse, we're asking for God to spread His love everywhere on earth. **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**"






5 min

# Prayer

5 min

## 23 – Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect \*Uses Minimal Supplies\*

### What You Need

	Paper chain from Week One and Week Two	1
	Construction paper	Several
	Scissors	1
	Coloring supplies	1
	Clear tape	1

### What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Cut paper into one-inch to two-inch wide strips, one per kid.

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a strip of paper, and ask them to write or draw someone from their school or neighborhood who needs to know about Jesus.
- Take one kid's strip, loop it through one of the end circles of the paper chain from Week Two, form it into a circle, and tape it closed.
- Take the next kid's strip and loop it through the first circle before taping it, adding to the chain.
- Continue with each kid's strip of paper.

### What You Say:

"Look how long our prayer chain has gotten! Every loop is someone God loves. God loves every single one of them. **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.** A lot of loops on our chain means a lot of people to pray for. Let's pray and ask God to help us show His love to the people on our prayer chain."

# Getting Ready | 23

## Small Group

### GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

#### SOCIAL:

#### Opening Activity

#### Made to Explore

#### What You Need:

- Offering container, one per Small Group
- Plastic tablecloth, one per Small Group
- Clear plastic bin, one per Small Group
- Clear short glass or jar, one per Small Group
- Water, one per Small Group
- Coins, several per kid
- Paper towels, one roll per Small Group

#### What You Do:

- Spread out the tablecloth on the floor or table.
- Place the bin on top of the tablecloth, and place the glass/jar on the bottom of the bin.
- Fill the bin more than halfway with water.

#### GROUPS:

Choose as many of these activities as you like.

#### 1. Road Map

#### [Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

#### Made to Explore

#### What You Need:

- Bible, one per Small Group
- "Road Map" Activity Page, one per kid
- "Lost Son" Activity Page, one per kid
- Cardstock, one-and-an-eighth piece per kid
- Magnetic tape, one roll per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- Coloring supplies, several per kid
- Paperclips, one per kid
- Clear tape, one roll per Small Group
- Craft stick, one per kid

#### What You Do:

- Print "Road Map" on cardstock, one per kid
- Print "Lost Son" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per kid.
- Cut the magnetic tape into one-inch sections, one per kid.

#### 2. Hand Clap Game

#### [Live for God | Application Activity]

#### Made to Play

#### What You Need:

- No supplies needed

#### 3. Pass the Ring

#### [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

#### Made to Move

**What You Need:**

- Bibles, one per kid
- Plastic toy ring, one per Small Group
- Music player, one per Small Group
- Fun, upbeat worship music, one per Small Group

**4. Pray and Dismiss****[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]****Made to Reflect****What You Need:**

- Paper chain from Weeks One and Two, one per Small Group
- Construction paper, several sheets per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- Coloring supplies, one per kid
- Clear tape, one roll per Small Group

**What You Do:**

- Cut paper into one-inch to two-inch wide strips, one per kid.

**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**.

# Supplies

## 23 Social Activity | Made to Explore Quantity

1.	Offering container	1
2.	Plastic tablecloth	1
3.	Clear plastic bin	1
4.	Clear short glass or jar	1
5.	Water	1
6.	Coins	Several
7.	Paper towels	1

## 23 – Road Map | Made to Create Quantity

1.	Bible	1
2.	Cardstock	1
3.	Magnetic tape	1
4.	Scissors	1
5.	Coloring supplies	Several
6.	Paperclips	1
7.	Clear tape	1
8.	Craft stick	1
9.	"Road Map" Activity Page	1
10.	"Lost Son" Activity Page	1

## 23 – Pass the Ring | Made to Move Quantity

1.	Bibles	1
2.	Plastic toy ring	1
3.	Music player	1
4.	Fun, upbeat worship music	1

## 23 – Pray and Dismiss | Made to Reflect \*Uses Minimal Supplies\* Quantity

1.	Paper chain from Week One and Week Two	1
2.	Construction paper	Several
3.	Scissors	1
4.	Coloring supplies	1
5.	Clear tape	1