

Preteen | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—August 2026, Week 3

Bible Story: In All Things God Works for Good • Romans 8:28-29

Bottom Line: God can use all things.

Conversation Starter: What do you need to trust God with?

Monthly Memory Verse: How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well • Psalm 139:14 Nlrv

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.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- Opening Activity

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

- Opener
- Worship
- Bible Story
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot

Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions

Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You

Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
- Devotionals for Kids
- Parent Cue App



Bible Story

In All Things God Works for Good • Romans 8:28-29

Conversation Starter

What do you need to trust God with?

Bottom Line

God can use all things.

Memory Verse

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well • Psalm 139:14 Nlrv

5 min

Social

5 min

Preteen - Opening Activity | Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies*

What You Need

	Offering container	1
	Index cards	1
	Safety scissors	1

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

What You Do:

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 an index card and a pair of scissors.
- Present them with a seemingly impossible challenge: "Can you cut this single index card in a way that creates a hole big enough for your entire body to fit through without breaking the loop?"
- Give them a few minutes to try and figure it out on their own. They will likely try cutting a simple hole in the middle, which won't work.
- After they've experimented, reveal the secret method:
- Fold the index card in half lengthwise.
- Cut a series of alternating slits from the folded edge and the open edge, being careful not to cut all the way through to the other side.
- Finally, carefully cut along the folded edge *between* the first and last slit.
- Carefully unfold the card to reveal a large paper chain loop they can step through.
- See our [Pinterest page for an example](https://www.pinterest.com/pin/4bysH0L): [bit.ly/4bysH0L](https://www.pinterest.com/pin/4bysH0L)

What You Say:

"That was pretty cool, right? At first, it seemed impossible. You had to look at the card in a totally new way to see its potential. That's a great picture of what we're talking about today. Sometimes our situations look messy or like they could never be used for anything good. But God sees things differently. In our Bible Story today, we'll see how God took all the confusing pieces of someone's life and used them for an incredible purpose. Let's go find out more!"

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

25 minutes

Groups 1/5

5 min

Bible Story Review

5 min

Preteen - Bible Story Extension | Made to Play

What You Need

 Bible	1
 "Story Pictures" Activity Page	1
 Cardstock	1
 Scissors	1
 Floor tape	1



EveryChild tips

- Set this activity on a table or space where all kids can access and participate.
- Groups 3/5

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Story Pictures" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Create a long timeline on the floor with tape.
- Place ONE piece from each of the four pictures along the timeline in the correct story order. This piece will act as the "clue."
- Create a large, mixed-up pile of all the other picture pieces on a table or in the center of the room.

During the Activity:

- Explain the game: "On the floor is a timeline of Moses' life, but the pictures are incomplete. Your job is to work together to find the missing pieces from the pile and complete each picture on the timeline to build the story."
- On "Go," have kids look through the pile to find the pieces that match their clues on the timeline and assemble the full pictures in the correct order.
- Open the Bible and read Romans 8:28-29.
- Share the following key points:

- o These verses are part of a letter that Paul wrote to the followers of Jesus who lived in Rome.
- o Paul was sharing an important truth about God: In the life of a Jesus-follower, God works all things for good!

What You Say:

"Great job! Look at this timeline. Moses' life had a lot of different pieces, right? Some were good, and some were really hard. But did God use all of those pieces? Absolutely. Every single part of his story was used by God to prepare him for his purpose. God used all the experiences Moses faced to bring about good!

"You may know people who have seen God work something good from the hard things they faced. You may have even experienced it yourself. Perhaps you were super-anxious about starting at a new school—but then, you made a new friend you wouldn't have met without moving schools. Once you see where God has worked in your life before, you can trust that He will continue to be at work when you face something new.

"When we choose to love God and give our lives to Him, we can be confident that He will bring good out of everything we've experienced and everything we've done. This doesn't mean God *causes* hard things

to happen—but it does mean that God is so good and powerful, He can work good through every single thing in our lives. No matter what pieces are in our story, **[Bottom Line]** **God can use all things** for good for those who love Him."

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Preteen - Take a Snapshot | Made to Create

What You Need

	"Bubble Art" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Smoothie straws	1
	Paper towels	Several
	Mini rubber bands	Several
	Inexpensive paint pallets	1
	Water	1
	Dish soap	1
	Food coloring	1
	Plastic tablecloth	1
	Scissors	1

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Bubble Art" on cardstock, one per kid
- Spread out the tablecloth on the floor or table.
- Mix a pea-sized amount of dish soap with water in each pallet cup. Add several drops of different colors of food coloring in each spot. Create one pallet for every three kids.
- Cut paper towels into approximately 3-inch squares, five per kid.

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a paper, five straws, five paper towel squares, and five rubber bands.
- Instruct kids to center each straw in a paper towel square, pull ends up around the straw, and secure with a rubber band. Repeat with each straw.
- Instruct kids to dip the paper towel end into one color, then gently blow through the straw over their paper. A long, colorful snake of bubbles will come out and create a beautiful design on their paper. Continue with each color.

What You Say:

"Look at that! You took simple things—soap, water, and your breath—and created this amazing rainbow art. The colors might seem messy at first, but they come together to make something really cool. That's a perfect picture of what God does in our lives. He can take all the different situations—the easy ones, the messy ones, the confusing ones—and blow His goodness through them to create something beautiful.

"As you're going through something hard, ask God to help you trust His goodness in it. While God works all things for good, He never causes your hardship. He is good all the time. Trust that God is working for good in the hard parts of your life. You may not see how it all works out right away. It may take a long time. But you can trust that God is forming you to be more and more like Jesus. And that's ALWAYS good! Remember, **[Bottom Line] God can use all things.**

"If you are going through something difficult, and you are having a hard time trusting that God is working for good in it, just talk to Him about it. You can tell Him, 'God, I don't like this, and I don't understand it, but help me trust that You are good and You are working for good.'"

[Make It Personal] (Share a kid-appropriate time when you learned that God used something difficult in your life for good. You can share something like: "There was a time I failed at something I thought was really important. It felt messy and like a total waste. But looking back, I can see how God used what I learned from that failure to help me succeed at something else later on. He really can use all things for good.")

Groups 2/5

5 min

Memory Verse Activity

5 min

Preteen - Verses to Take with You | Made to Move

What You Need

	Bibles	1
	Index cards	1
	Painter's tape	Several

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Create two sets of playing cards by writing each word or phrase of the Memory Verse on index cards.
- Place a loop of tape on the back of each card.

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible.
- Invite them to look up Psalm 139:14 using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

- Read the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Divide the group into two teams, and have them form lines on one side of the room.
- Give each team their shuffled set of verse cards.
- Explain the rules: "This is a relay race to build our Memory Verse on the wall. The first person in line will take their word of the verse, run to the wall, and stick it on where they think it goes. Then they'll run back and tag the next person, who will run and place their word on the wall where they think it goes in the verse, and so on. Once all the cards are on the wall, each team will send one teammate to the wall to rearrange any words of the verse."
- The first team to get the whole Memory Verse on the wall in the correct order wins!
- The verse to assemble: *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well (Psalm 139:14 NIV).*

What You Say:

"Awesome job! That took speed and teamwork! Knowing this verse is like having a secret weapon. When things get hard or confusing, you can

remember that God made you one of a kind! Our Memory Verse says: *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well (Psalm 139:14 NIV).*

"When we choose to love God and give our lives to Him, we can be confident that He will bring good out of everything we've experienced and everything we've done. This doesn't mean God *causes* hard things to happen—but it does mean that God is so good and powerful, He can work good through every single thing in our lives."

Groups 5/5

5 min

Discussion Questions

5 min

Preteen Discussion Questions *Uses Minimal Supplies*

What You Need

No supplies needed

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

What You Do:

- **Ask these questions and discuss:**
- When something hard happens, why is it difficult to believe that God could bring anything good out of it?
- Looking at Moses or Paul, how did their hardest moments actually prepare them for something bigger later on?
- If God's goal is to make us more like Jesus, how could struggles or challenges help shape things like your character, choices, or faith?
- When you can't see any "good" in a situation yet, what does trusting God actually look like in real life?
- **[Conversation Starter] What do you need to trust God with?**

Groups 4/5

Getting Ready | Preteen Small Group

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
- Index cards, one or more for every kid and leader
- Safety scissors, one pair for every kid and leader

GROUPS:

Choose as many of these activities as you like.

1. Take a Snapshot

Made to Create

What You Need:

- "Bubble Art" Activity Page, one per kid
- Cardstock, one piece per kid
- Smoothie straws, five per kid
- Paper towels, one roll per Small Group
- Mini rubber bands, five per kid
- Inexpensive paint pallets, one per kid
- Water, some per Small Group
- Dish soap, one bottle per Small Group
- Food coloring, one variety box per Small Group
- Plastic tablecloth, one per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Bubble Art" on cardstock, one per kid.
- Spread out the tablecloth on the floor or table.
- Mix a pea-sized amount of dish soap with water in each pallet cup. Add several drops of different colors of food coloring in each spot. Create one pallet for every three kids.
- Cut paper towels into approximately 3-inch squares, five per kid

2. Bible Story Extension

Made to Play

What You Need:

- Bible, one per Small Group
- "Story Pictures" Activity Page, one set per Small Group

- Cardstock, four pieces per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- Floor tape, one roll per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Story Pictures" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Create a long timeline on the floor with tape.
- Place ONE quarter-piece from each of the four pictures along the timeline in the correct story order. This piece will act as the "clue."
- Create a large, mixed-up pile of all the other picture pieces on a table or in the center of the room.

3. Discussion Questions

Made to Connect

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

4. Verses to Take with You

Made to Move**What You Need:**

- Bibles, one per kid
- Index cards, thirty per Small Group
- Painter's tape, one roll per Small Group

What You Do:

- Create two sets of playing cards by writing each word or phrase of the Memory Verse on index cards.
- Place a loop of tape on the back of each card.

5. Make It Personal with Prayer

Made to Reflect**What You Need:**

- Cardboard hearts (like these: bit.ly/4IKTjjY), one heart per kid
- Yarn in a variety of colors, light and dark; several skeins per Small Group
- Utility knife, one per Small Group
- Scissors, one pair per Small Group
- Safety scissors, one pair per kid

What You Do:

- Create ½-inch slits around the edge of each heart, one per kid.
- Cut yarn into three-foot lengths, several 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

Preteen - Opening Activity | Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies*

1.	Offering container	1
2.	Index cards	1
3.	Safety scissors	1

Preteen - Bible Story Extension | Made to Play

1.	Bible	1
2.	"Story Pictures" Activity Page	1
3.	Cardstock	1
4.	Scissors	1
5.	Floor tape	1

Preteen - Take a Snapshot | Made to Create

1.	"Bubble Art" Activity Page	1
2.	Cardstock	1
3.	Smoothie straws	1
4.	Paper towels	Several
5.	Mini rubber bands	Several
6.	Inexpensive paint pallets	1
7.	Water	1
8.	Dish soap	1
9.	Food coloring	1
10.	Plastic tablecloth	1
11.	Scissors	1

Preteen - Verses to Take with You | Made to Move

1.	Bibles	1
2.	Index cards	1
3.	Painter's tape	Several

Preteen - Make It Personal with Prayer | Made to Reflect *Uses Minimal Supplies*

1.	Cardboard hearts (like these: bit.ly/4IKTjjY)	1
2.	Yarn in a variety of colors, light and dark	Several
3.	Utility knife	1
4.	Scissors	1
5.	Safety scissors	1