

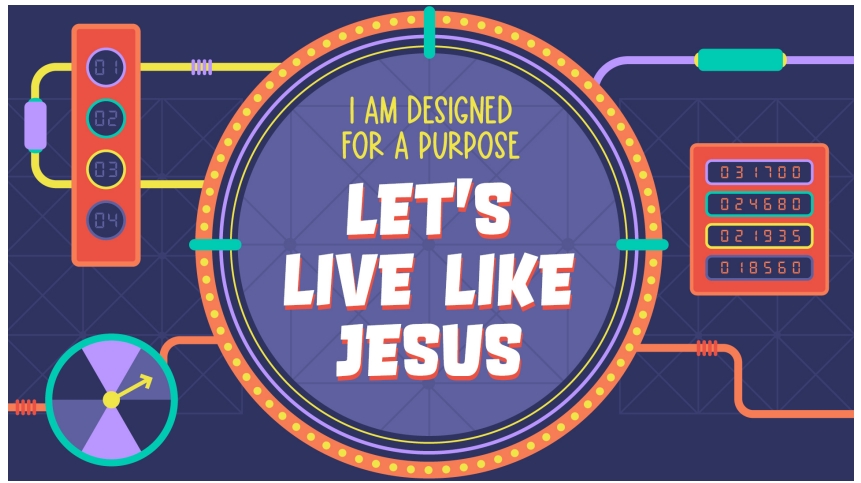


I Am Designed for a Purpose — Let's Live Like Jesus

Leader Guide • All Leaders

8/02/2026

Center Grove Kids Ministry



Bible Story: The Wise and Foolish Builders (Matthew 7:24-29)

Theme Verse: “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16b)

Small Group

1. Connection Questions / Small Group Leader

Leader Tip

Upon arrival children will go to their designated pod based on their grade level for small group connections time. Each “pod” will have a leader waiting for them to begin connections conversations to start the morning.



Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning of the session, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- What was the best part of your week?
- Who is an adult who is a big part of your life?
- If you could learn just one subject at school, which would it be?
- Which would you choose to ride in—a motorcycle, a boat, or a helicopter? Where would you go?
- Would you rather jump really high but land in the same place or go really far but slide across the ground? Why?



2. Countdown Video / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

The Countdown Video is meant to be played as a signal to transition to Large Group. The video is fun and interactive with opportunities for the kids to respond and cheer.



Leader Tip

Help kids engage and interact with the video by calling out what is happening, asking for their guesses, and cheering with them.



Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_CountdownVideo_Kids



3. Welcome / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

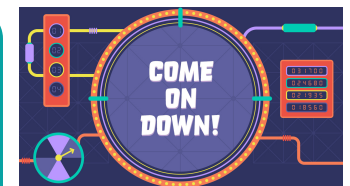
Leader Tip

Between songs remind children of the purpose for giving an offering. Give them examples of ways the offering contributes to the church and community. Ask students if they know how else our giving reaches out. Then remind them that during the next worship song they can bring their offering forward and drop it into the basket.

**Warehouse Kids Leave After Worship Song*

Script

(Speak in an announcer voice, like the host on a game show.) Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls! Welcome to Large Group! If you can hear me, say, “Hey, hey, hey!” *(Hey, hey hey!)* My name is ____, and I am your host for today! On game shows, the host is always introducing the next contestant or next game. They will say, “Next up is ...!” and tell you what will happen next as a way to get everyone excited. In the same way, we can know and be excited that God had amazing plans for what is up next in our lives! Say, “Next!” *(Next!)* Say, “Up!” *(Up!)* Say, “Next Up!” *(Next Up!)*



4. Stage Game — People Say / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Supplies

☐ Handheld dry erase board, eraser, and marker 6 per group ☐ Paper

6 per group (optional)

☐ Pencils 6 per group (optional)

Leader Prep: None

Game Rules:

1. Distribute a handheld dry erase board, marker, and eraser to one Team Leader from each Color Team. Alternatively, use paper and pencils instead.
2. Start the video.
3. Challenge teams to list five answers that match the prompt before the countdown ends.
4. Call time and display the answers.
5. Award points for each answer that matches what is on the screen.
6. Play for five rounds.
7. Tally points at the end and declare a winner.

Script

Let's play a game called "People Say!" What is it called? (*People Say!*) We will have a little bit of friendly competition between our teams. In "People Say," I will show a prompt like "Words that Describe ____ (*Host's Name*)."

Your team will have 30 seconds to list 5 words that match the prompt. After 30 seconds, I will show the answer with the top 5 words other people have put together. While your team may come up with other words that may match the prompt, only words that match what is on the screen count. Give your team one point for every word on your list that matches a word on the screen.



Leader Tip

Remind kids that if they shout words, the other teams might hear their answers.

Script

Let's play "People Say!" People what? (*Say!*) You will have 30 seconds to write 5 answers for the first prompt, which is your favorite pizza toppings! Go!



Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_StageGame_Video1_Kids



Script

(*Begin when the video ends.*) Time is up! Here is the list! Favorite pizza toppings are pepperoni, cheese, mushrooms, onions, and sausage. Give yourselves a point for each matching answer. (*Allow time.*) Great! It is time for round number 2. Your prompt is the best part of preschool! Go!





Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_StageGame_Video2_Kids

Script

(Begin when the video ends.) That is time! Let's see those answers! The best parts of preschool are taking a nap, playing with toys, recess, coloring or painting, and snack time. Give yourselves a point for each matching answer. (Allow time.) Great! It is time for round number 3. Your prompt is events when kids wear special clothes! Go!



Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_StageGame_Video3_Kids

Script

(Begin when the video ends.) That is time! Show us the answers! Events when kids wear special clothes are a performance or play, Easter, the first day of school, Christmas, and school pictures. Give yourselves a point for each matching answer. (Allow time.) Great! It is time for round number 4. Your prompt is ways to cook eggs! Go!

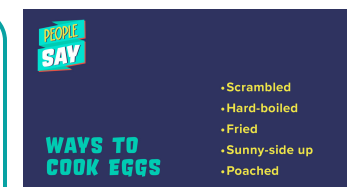


Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_StageGame_Video4_Kids

Script

(Begin when the video ends.) Time is up! What are the answers? Ways to cook eggs are scrambled, hard-boiled, fried, sunny-side up, and poached. Give yourselves a point for each matching answer. (Allow time.) Great! It is time for the final round! Your prompt is words that rhyme with "grow!" Go!

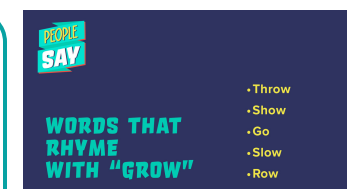
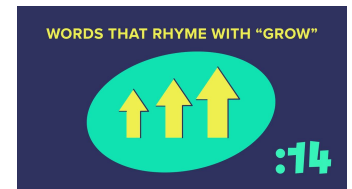


Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_StageGame_Video5_Kids

Script

(Begin when the video ends.) Time! Let's see those answers! Words that rhyme with "grow" are throw, show, go, slow, and row. Give yourselves a point for each matching answer. (Allow time.) Color Teams, show me how many points your team got! (Allow teams to hold up their



dry erase boards with their points.) Way to go, everyone!

Script

That was so much fun! I hope you enjoyed “People Say!” People what? (*Say!*) A lot of the answers you saw may have seemed random—onions, poached, and taking a nap! But all of these lists were purposefully designed! Onions really are a favorite pizza topping. Poached really is a way to cook eggs. What might seem unplanned was actually designed with a purpose.

Much like our game, God designed you with a purpose! You are not a person with a list of random characteristics. You have been purposefully designed by God, your Creator, for a reason. We are going to learn more about this today, but for now, repeat after me: “I am designed for a purpose!” (*I am designed for a purpose!*) Excellent! Let’s remember that as we see what is next! Say, “Next!” (*Next!*) Say, “Up!” (*Up!*) Say, “Next Up!” (*Next Up!*)



5. Main Idea Video / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Script

This just in! It is time for an update from the best newscaster around, Nicki Nevada! Nicki’s news is always nifty. Everyone, say, “That is nifty!” (*That is nifty!*) That is right! I will count down, then you say, “Roll it!” Ready? 3-2-1! (*Roll it!*)



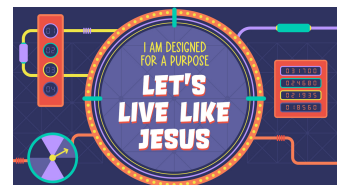
Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_MainIdeaVideo_Kids



Script

Gee, that news was nifty! Neena and Neemee really needed to work on their listening skills. If you can hear me, touch your ears and say, “I’m listening!” (*I’m listening!*) When it comes to God, we can also work on our listening skills. God has amazing plans for our lives, and we can live them out when we listen to and follow what He says. God gives us an amazing example of how to live through His Son, Jesus. We can read about Jesus in the Bible, listen to and follow what the Bible says, and live like Jesus. Say, “**Let’s live like Jesus!**” (*Let’s live like Jesus!*)



6. Object Lesson / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Supplies

☐ White poster board

2 per group ☐ Marker

1 per group

☐ Bible

1 per group

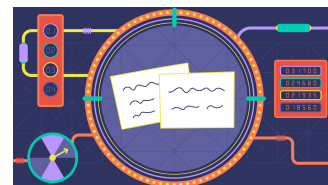
Leader Tip

Prepare cue cards by writing two simple sentences in large letters, one on each piece of poster board. Write *I am designed for a purpose* on one and **Let's live like Jesus!** on the other. Bring the cue cards out with you to use as an object lesson. A small table to hold your Bible and the cue cards may be helpful as you teach.

Script

(Hold up cue cards.) These are cue cards! What are they? (Cue cards!) When you see a Host on a game show, that person always seems to know the right thing to say. Did you know that Hosts are not always just making things up as they go along? Hosts on shows read from prompters or things like cue cards. Writers create cue cards so Hosts know the right thing to say at the right time. Hosts trust what is written on the cue cards because they trust that the writers know what they are doing.

In a similar way, we can trust and follow Jesus because He is God's only Son. How do we know? (Hold up your Bible.) Because God gave us the Bible, His Word. The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. We can trust what is written in the Bible because we can trust the One who gave it to us—God. We never have to doubt Him or wonder if He is actually right. And the best news is that Jesus gives us an example to follow in the Bible! We do not have to guess what to do next. We can follow Jesus and live like Him because God made us, and God knows that He is doing. Repeat after me: **"Let's live like Jesus!" (Let's live like Jesus!)**



7. Bible Story Video / Large Group Leader

10 minutes

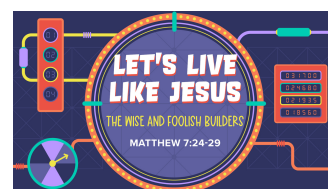
Supplies

☐ "Session 1 Bible Story"
printable

1 per group (optional)

Script

(Open the Bible.) Next up are two contestants! Wait, I mean two people from today's Bible story. Next up are two builders in a story Jesus told. Jesus told *parables*, which were stories to help people understand the kingdom of God. Today's Bible story comes from the book of Matthew. Which book? (Matthew!) Let's see what comes next! Say, "Next!" (Next!) Say, "Up!" (Up!) Say, "Next Up!" (Next Up!)



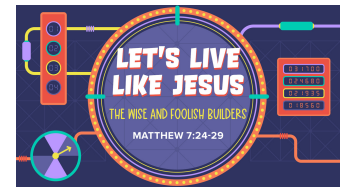
Presentation

Play Aug2026_S1_BibleStoryVideo_Kids

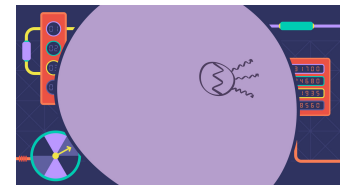


Script

Turn to your neighbor and say, "You are designed for a purpose." (*You are designed for a purpose.*) Point to yourself and say, "I am designed for a purpose." (*I am designed for a purpose.*) God has a plan and purpose for each of us. In fact, everything Jesus said had a purpose behind it. In today's Bible story, Jesus explained that when we listen to Him and do what He says, we are like the builder who built his house on the rock—the strong foundation. Jesus taught that wise people choose to trust Him, listen to, and obey His commands. Jesus calls us to live like Him, and that starts with having the right foundation—a relationship with Him. Say, "**Let's live like Jesus!**" (*Let's live like Jesus!*)

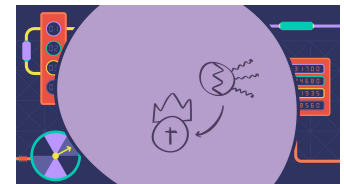
**Script**

(Circle two) Like in Jesus's story, our lives will have winds and storms because of sin. *Sin* is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than following what *God* says is best. Sin separates us from God and keeps us from living out our purpose the way He designed. Sin deserves to be punished, and no matter how hard we try, we cannot fix our sin problem on our own. Maybe your family has gone through a hard time. Maybe you made a bad decision and have to face the consequences. Those are all storms. Repeat after me, "We all face storms!" (*We all face storms!*)

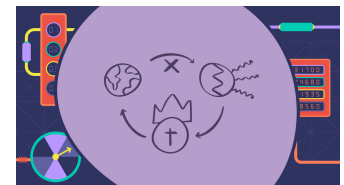
**Script**

(Circle three) But just like a house stands strong because it is built on the right foundation, we can stand strong when we stand on our foundation with Jesus. How do we know we have a foundation with Jesus? Ask, "How?" (*How?*) The Bible tells us that when we ask Jesus to forgive our sins and trust Him, He will forgive our sins! Jesus can forgive us because He paid the price for our sins when He died on a cross and came back to life.

Jesus took the punishment we deserved for sin when He died, but He showed He is more powerful than both sin and death when He came back to life! When we trust in Jesus, we are no longer separated from God and can live in the way He designed. He changes our hearts, helping us want to follow and obey His words. This is how Jesus wants us to live—to do what He says out of a heart that loves and follows Him. Say, "**We can live like Jesus!**" (*We can live like Jesus!*)

**Script**

(Circle one) And that starts with having the right foundation—a relationship with Jesus. When we are in a right relationship with God—the relationship that He designed from the beginning—we can know that we can survive anything the storm throws at us! When God made the world, He made people to know, love, trust, and follow Him. Jesus promised that one day He would return and make everything new! Everyone who trusts and follows Jesus will get to enjoy a perfect relationship with Him forever. But for now, we can enjoy following Him and living like Him! Living right with God is living in God's design and purpose. And that is the best place to live! Everyone, say, "**Let's live like Jesus!**" (*Let's live like Jesus!*)



If you have any questions about what it means to ask Jesus for forgiveness or have a relationship with Him, please come talk to me or your leader! We would love to share how much Jesus loves you and what He has done for you.

So if you ever wonder, *Who should I look up to?* think of the foundation the wise builder built upon—think of Jesus! Remember that life works best when we live according to God's purpose and plan for our lives. Jesus is our ultimate example, and we can live like Him when we trust, listen to, and follow what God says. Repeat after me, **"Let's live like Jesus!" (Let's live like Jesus!)**

Small Group

9. Crazy Count — Older Game / Small Group Leader

5 minutes

Kids will swap random words for numbers as they count from 1 to 12.

Big Goal: God made us to obey what He says.

Leader Prep: None

Supplies

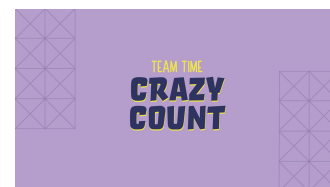
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|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| ☐ Dice | 2 per group | ☐ Paper | 1 per group |
| ☐ Pencil | 1 per group | | |

Script

What To Do: Say, "Next!" (*Next!*) Say, "Up!" (*Up!*) Say, "Next Up!" (*Next up!*) Next up is a game called "Crazy Count!" We will start by standing in a circle, and we will count to 12. We will go around the circle and count from 1 to 12. Whoever says, "Twelve" gets to roll the dice. Whatever number is rolled—like three—you replace it with a random word, like *banana*. Then we will start again, switching the number three for the word *banana*. If you forget and say, "Three" instead, then the count starts again at one. If we count to 12 without making a mistake, we choose another number to replace! Let's see how far we can get in the crazy count!

(Once you have 2 through 12, roll one dice until you land on 1.)

Keep It Going: Invite kids to pick the numbers instead of rolling the dice. Instead of random words, allow kids to assign movements to the numbers.



Leader Tip

Write down the numbers and words to help keep track.

Script

Loud And Clear: That was some crazy counting! Our team needed a lot of concentration to remember which words went with which numbers. You had to obey your teammates when they assigned the number seven to be "hot dog" or something! Life can feel crazy when we are confused or when we are not sure what to do. But Jesus promised that when we obey God, we

live our life on a strong foundation. We can trust and follow what the Bible says and live the way God made us to live. Say, **“Let’s live like Jesus!”** (*Let’s live like Jesus!*)

Large Group

10. Video-Led Theme Verse (Option 2) / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Leader Tip

Theme Verse Motions:

Let your light shine before others, (*Move your arms in a circle toward each other with palms facing forward, crossing in front of your body.*)

so that they may see your good works (*Move your arms in a circle toward each other with palms facing up, crossing in front of your waist.*)

and give glory to your Father in heaven. (*Push your hands up to the sky with palms facing in.*)

Matthew 5:16b (*Hold your hands out like a book.*)

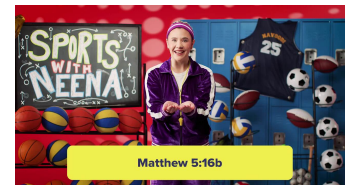
Script

We are going to learn a verse from the Bible that will help us remember that we are designed for a purpose. Part of that purpose is to live like Jesus! Say, **“Let’s live like Jesus!”** (*Let’s live like Jesus!*)



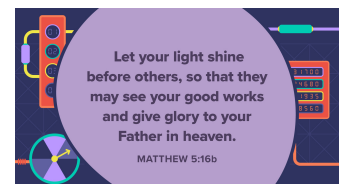
Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThemeVerseVideo_Kids



Script

This Bible verse is awesome because it reminds us that when we follow God’s design and do things His way, we are sharing God with others—like shining a light in the darkness! You know who is perfect at shining God’s light in the darkness? Jesus! He is our greatest example, and He helps us trust, listen to, and obey God. Let’s live like Him! Say, **“Let’s live like Jesus!”** (*Let’s live like Jesus!*)



11. Music Option / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Script

Jesus is our perfect example for how to live in the way God designed! Next up is our Theme



song! Let's stand and sing about how we are designed for a purpose!



Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThemeSong_LyricVideo_NextUp_Kids



Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThemeSong_MotionVideo_NextUp_Kids



Leader Tip

Consider adding additional video-led worship music for kids.

Small Group

12. Team Time Optional Section / Small Group Leader

10 minutes

Supplies



Bibles

1 per child

*Big Deal/Key Verse Review & Prayer Requests/Prayer Time

Finish up time in your small group pod by reviewing the Theme for the month, the verse and the “Big Deal” for today’s lesson. Ask for prayer requests, pray and wrap up.

13. Pickup Time / Small Group Leader

Leader Tip

During this time children may wait around the room while videos play on the screen. There must be a leader at the door to receive parents and a second leader checking tags as they exit the room.

