

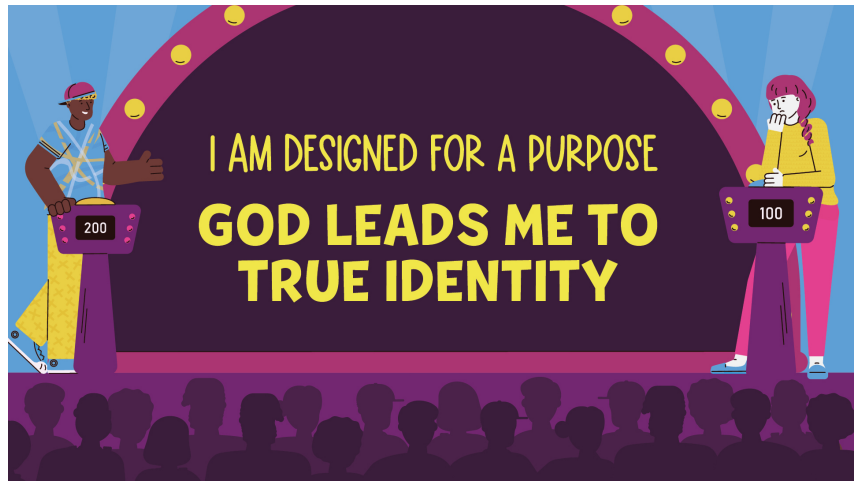


I Am Designed for a Purpose — God Leads Me to True Identity

Leader Guide • All Leaders

8/30/2026

Center Grove Kids Ministry



Bible Story: Known by God (Psalm 139)

Theme Verse: “Search me, God, and know my heart ... lead me in the everlasting way.” (Psalm 139:23-34)

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?
- What is one of your favorite memories from this summer?
- What is something you like about going back to school?
- What is a new hobby you would like to try?
- If you could travel in a time machine to one place in time, where would you go and what would you do?



Large Group

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.

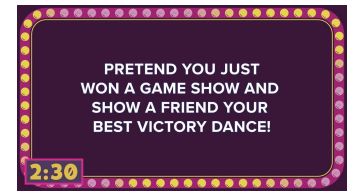
Leader Tip

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_S5_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.

💬 Script

Welcoooooome to Large Group, friends! Today is my favorite kind of day because it is a Game Changer day! Game Changer is an incredibly fun, super amazing, mind-blowing day of awesomeness, so I could not be happier that you are here to experience it! If you are as excited as I am, let me hear you say, "Game Changer," on 3. 1-2-3! (*Game Changer!*)



4. Stage Game 1 — Terrific Trivia / Large Group Leader

9 minutes

Supplies

☐ No supplies needed 0 per child

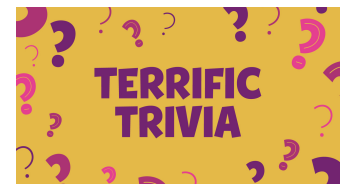
Leader Prep: None

Game Rules:

1. Read the question on the screen and guide kids to lock in their answers by doing specific motions for each answer option.
2. Show kids the correct answer and lead them to high-five those who guess correctly.
3. Continue playing until all the questions have been answered.

💬 Script

Who is ready for some Terrrrrrific Trrrrrivia? When we begin, a question will pop up on the screen, and you must lock in your guess by doing the action that matches the answer you are choosing. Keep track of how many you get correct because you are earning points for your team. Get to your feet and say, "Terrific Trivia!" (*Terrific Trivia!*)



💬 Script

What are the three primary colors?

A. Blue, Yellow, Green

B. Yellow, Red, Blue



- C. Red, Purple, Yellow
D. Blue, Yellow, Orange

Clap if you think it is A. Stomp if you think it is B. Snap your fingers if you think it is C. Try to whistle if you think it is D. *(Allow responses.)* Keep it up while we see the answer!

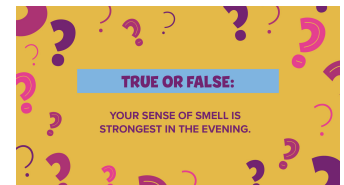
 Script

B! Yellow, red, and blue are the primary colors. If you were stomping your feet, give yourself a point. Let's see the next one.



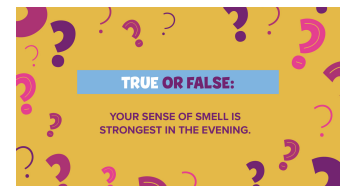
 Script

True or False: Your sense of smell is strongest in the evening.
If you think this is true, go to the left side of the room. If you think this is false, go to the right side of the room. *(Allow responses.)* OK, let's see who got it right!



 Script

It is true! All of you on the left side of the room give yourselves a point, and everyone, come back to the middle. What do we have next?

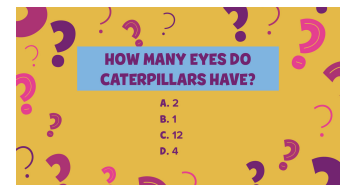


 Script

How many eyes do caterpillars have?

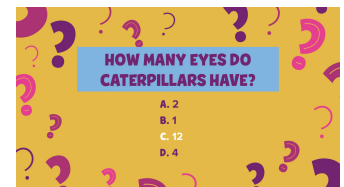
- A. 2
B. 1
C. 12
D. 4

Pat your head for A, pat your shoulders for B, pat your knees for C, and pat your toes for D. *(Allow responses.)* Keep patting while we see the answer!



 Script

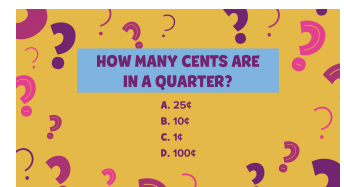
The answer is C, 12! Knee patters just earned themselves a point. Stop patting and start looking because here comes the next one!



 Script

How many cents are in a quarter?

- A. 25
B. 10
C. 1
D. 100



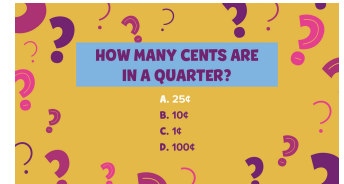
If you think it is A, hop on your right foot. If you think it is B, hop on your left foot. If you think it is C, hop back and forth from foot to foot. If you think it is D, jump up and down with both feet. (*Allow responses.*) Keep moving while we see the answer!

Leader Tip

Invite kids who are unable to hop or jump to wave their arms instead.

Script

A, 25 cents are in a quarter! All of you right-foot hoppers just earned a point. On to the next question!

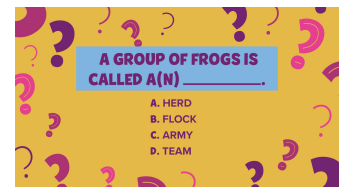


Script

A group of frogs is called a(n) ____.

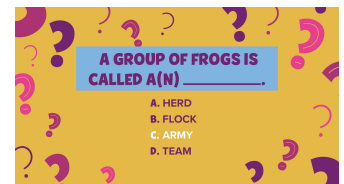
- A. Herd
- B. Flock
- C. Army
- D. Team

Frog jump for A, make a rabbit sound for B, stick your tongue out like you are catching flies for C, and do all three of those motions for D. (*Allow response.*) All right, froggy people, let's see that answer!



Script

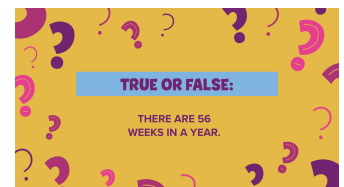
The answer is C, an army! If you were catching flies and only catching flies, give yourself a point. We have two more questions, so you have a chance to earn two more points. What do we have next?



Script

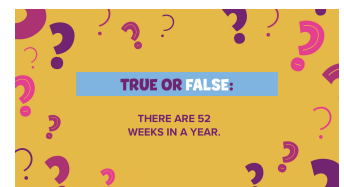
True or False: There are 56 weeks in a year.

Skip to the left if you think this is true and skip to the right if you think this is false. (*Allow responses.*) What is the answer?



Script

It is false! There are only 52 weeks in a year. All of you on the right, give yourselves a point as everyone moves back to the middle for our last question.

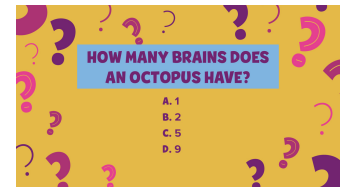


Script

How many brains does an octopus have?

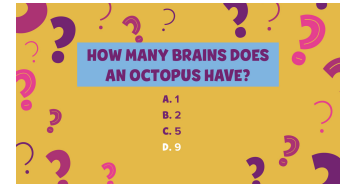
- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 5
- D. 9

Pretend to swim forward if you think the answer is A. Pretend to swim backward if you think the answer is B. Pretend to sink, then pop back up if you think the answer is C. And wiggle your arms like an octopus if you think the answer is D. *(Allow responses.)* Just keep swimming as we see our final answer.



Script

The correct answer is D! Wow! That is surprising! Tell your Team Leader how many points you earned. Then leaders, tell me so we can award your team points! *(Allow time and celebrate the winning team.)*



Script

Great job, everyone! That was truly some terrific trivia! Some of those questions seemed a little crazy. Did you know an octopus has nine brains? We may not know the answer to that question, but what we can know is that God created and designed the octopus, the days and nights that make up the weeks of the year, the caterpillars with all their eyes, and everything else in all of creation.

And guess what? He created each of us too! Today we get to learn about how God designed us for a purpose. Let me hear you say, "I am designed for a purpose!" *(I am designed for a purpose!)* When we understand that truth and live out God's purpose for our lives, it changes the game for us forever! Let me hear you say, "Game Changer!" *(Game Changer!)*



5. Main Idea Video / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Script

You are designed for a purpose by God, and that is a Game Changer! Speaking of Game Changers, we get to watch a video of a very special Game Changer Game Show! Get our video started by saying, "Roll that video!" in 3-2-1! *(Roll that video!)*





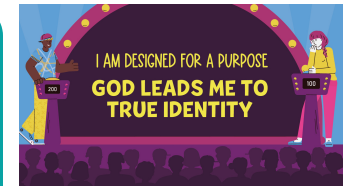
Presentation

Play Aug2026_S5_MainIdeaVideo_Kids



Script

Sally did a great job playing “Identity Identify!” Say, “Way to go, Sally!” (*Way to go, Sally!*) Sally not only won the game, but she also helped us see something very important. God designed us for a purpose. He is the One who designed who we are and who we will be—our true identities! We can trust what He says about us. Who He designed us to be is right and good because *He* is right and good. Everyone, say, “**God leads me to true identity!**” (**God leads me to true identity!**) We can know who we are because of who God is, and that is a Game Changer!



6. Host Object Lesson / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Supplies

☐ Recipe

1 per group ☐ Bible

1 per group

Leader Tip

Bring the recipe out with you to use as an object lesson. A small table to hold your Bible and the recipe may be helpful as you teach.

Script

Does anyone here like to cook? Give me an “Oh yeah!” If you like to cook! (*Oh yeah!*) When you are cooking, you follow the directions written in a recipe. The directions written in a what? (*Recipe*) That is right! You follow a recipe! Why is it important to follow a recipe? We follow recipes to make sure the food tastes right! Recipes tell us how much of each ingredient to add, how to put the ingredients together, and how to prepare the food with temperature and time. Has anyone ever messed up a recipe? (*Allow answers and tell about a time you or someone you know messed up a recipe.*)

People create recipes because they know exactly what is needed to make something delicious and amazing. They know all the right ingredients, measurements, and steps you need to take. When we follow the recipe, the food can turn out exactly like it was meant to be!

God made us and He knew exactly what He was doing. Point to yourself and say, “Who, me?” (*Who, me?*) Yes, you! Before we were even born, God knew exactly what we would look like and how we were meant to live like because He is our Creator. We can know our true identity by knowing what God says and thinks about us. Say, “**God leads me to true identity!**” (**God leads me to true identity!**) When we worry about who we are or what others think of us we can know that God designed us for a purpose, and He has a good plan for us! His recipe for each one of us is perfect because He is perfect! Say, “I am designed for a purpose!” (*I am designed for a purpose!*)



Supplies

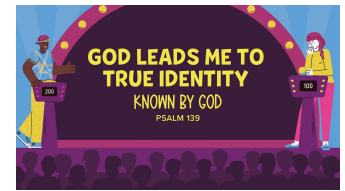
 Script

(Open the Bible.) Now we get to learn from the Bible—God’s true message to us about Himself. There was a king in the Bible named David. David followed God and trusted Him even in difficult times. While David was not a perfect king, he knew his true identity was found in God. Let’s see how this Bible story helps us know more about our true identities as well! Say, “Game Changer!” to get our Bible story started in 3-2-1! (*Game Changer!*)



Presentation

Play Aug2026_S5_BibleStoryVideo_Kids



8. Make The Connection / Large Group Leader

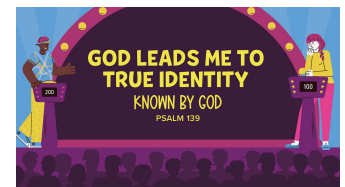
 Script

When you think of designers—maybe people who create and design graphics like the ones on our screen or interior designers who design beautiful rooms in homes—do you think they just throw things together and hope for the best? (*No!*) Do you think they plan each piece they are designing perfectly? (*Yes!*) Designers care about their work; they care about getting each detail just right!

In our Bible story, we learned that King David was a man who loved and followed God. David knew God made him on purpose. David knew he was God’s remarkable design and that God cared about him—just like a designer cares about his masterpiece. God made David to know Him and have a relationship with Him.

And the same is true for us! God made every single one of us. He spent time on each of us—creating us to be exactly who He made us to be. Say, “**God leads me to true identity!**” (*God leads me to true identity!*) We are remarkably made by a God who loves us!

God made us, and God knew we would need help to have a relationship with Him. We all struggle with something called *sin*, which is when we follow what we think is best rather than follow what *God* says is best. Even though God tells us who we are, sin can make us question and doubt that true identity. But God loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to make the way for us to know God and know who God made us to be. Let’s watch this video to learn more.





Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThreeCirclesVideo_Kids



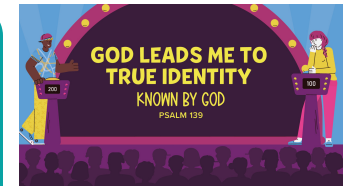
Script

We are remarkably made by a God who loves us, which is a game changer! And Jesus is the One who changes the game. Let me hear you say, "Jesus changes the game!" (*Jesus changes the game!*) God loves us so much that He made the way for us to know Him through His Son, Jesus. Jesus lived the perfect life we could not live, died the death we deserved so our sins could be forgiven. Then He came back to life, defeating sin and death. Because of Jesus, we can have a relationship with God and can live the way God created us to live.

In a relationship with God, we see who we are and what He has designed us to do. We are His children, remarkably and wondrously made. We are designed to trust, follow, and love God and to point others to Him. This is our purpose, and this changes everything! On our own, we are separated from God because of our sin. But God loves us so much that when we trust and follow Jesus, we get to live out our true identities both now and forever. Say, "Jesus changes the game!" (*Jesus changes the game!*)

Jesus is our Game Changer. If you have any questions about trusting and following Jesus, please find me or one of your leaders today. We would love to talk with you more about how Jesus changes the game in our lives.

And now, let's play our final game of Large Group! Our Game Changer Game! If you are ready, say, "Let's go!" (*Let's go!*)



9. Gospel Response / Large Group Leader

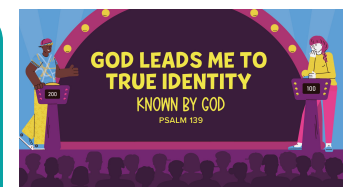
3 minutes

Script

In today's Bible story, found in Psalm 139, King David wrote that God knew him. God remarkably and wondrously made David. God planned out David's life before it even began! God designed *us* with a plan and a purpose in mind too. He created us to love Him and to help others do the same. He sent Jesus to make the way for us to know God and know who God made us to be. Whenever we wonder who we are supposed to be, we can know that God made our true identities. Say, "**God leads me to true identity!**" (*God leads me to true identity!*)

We can read the Bible to learn about the plans and purposes God has for us. We can pray and ask God to help us believe and trust who He made us to be. We can learn from other people who follow God and what they know about our God-given identities. And we can trust that what God made is good and right because God is good and right!

God loves you so much that He made the way for you to know Him. Jesus is that way. Say, "Jesus changes the game!" (*Jesus changes the game!*) When you want to have a relationship with God, it starts with admitting to God that you are a sinner and need Him to rescue you from sin. You *repent* by turning away from sin and following God instead. And you ask Jesus to forgive your sin and help you follow Him. When you trust and believe that Jesus is the only One who can forgive your sin, He makes the only way for you to have a relationship with God. You get to enjoy that relationship with God forever!



If you have questions about God's love or how Jesus made the way for you to know Him, find me or one of the other leaders. We would love to talk with you more about this!

Small Group

10. Recipe Roundup — Older Game / Small Group Leader

13 minutes

Kids will take paper from one side of the room to the other, trying to avoid being tagged.

Big Goal: See that we are designed for a purpose.

Leader Prep: Tape two lines on opposite sides of the room, creating "safe zones." Cut the construction paper in half and set the stacks of construction paper (one of each color per kid) in one of the safe zones: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple.

Supplies

- | | | | |
|--|---------------|---|-------------|
| ☐ Masking or painter's tape | 1 per group | ☐ Construction paper | 3 per child |
| ☐ Pool noodles | 1-2 per group | ☐ Adult scissors | 1 per group |

Script

What To Do: Ready to get cooking? This game is called "Recipe Roundup!" What is it called? (*Recipe Roundup!*) That is right! Your goal will be to round up all of the items you need for your delicious "recipe." Ask, "What are the ingredients?" (*What are the ingredients?*)

(*Pretend you are reading a recipe card.*) For your recipe, you will need exactly one red paper, one orange paper, one yellow paper, one green paper, one blue paper, and one purple paper. To get those "ingredients," you must run to the paper piles on that side of the room; then bring your ingredients to the "kitchen" on the other side of the room. You can only take one ingredient at a time. The places on the other side of the tape are "safe zones," and you cannot be tagged in a safe zone.

However, you better watch out! Everyone, say, "Ohhhh, watch out!" (*Ohhh, watch out!*) You must watch out because there will be someone trying to stop you from "cooking!" We will have a "tagger" with a pool noodle in the center. If you get tagged while moving toward the ingredients, you must return to the kitchen before trying again. If you get tagged when you have an ingredient in your hand, you must return it to the pile, go back to the kitchen, and try again. Keep trying though because the person who gathers all six ingredients first wins!

Keep It Going: Play multiple rounds with different taggers in the middle.



Leader Tip

Remind taggers that they cannot tag players who are in safe zones.

Larger Group Option: Assign two taggers.

Script

Loud And Clear: In "Recipe Roundup," you had to round up exactly what you needed. You did not need two red papers and zero purple papers. You needed the right ingredients to make the recipe. Like a good chef plans out and designs recipes, God has thoughtfully and perfectly planned out who you will be. We can trust that God's purpose—for us to have a relationship with Him through Jesus—is good and perfect. God designed us to know and love Him and for us to help others know and love Him too. That is a game changer! Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (*I am designed for a purpose!*) Say, "Jesus changes the game!" (*Jesus changes the game!*)

Large Group

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

4 minutes

Leader Tip

Theme Verse Motions:

Search me, God, (*Hold your right hand above your eyes while looking side to side.*) and know my heart ... (*Place both hands over your heart.*)

lead me in the everlasting way. *(Present both arms out in front of you, making circles going out.)*
Psalm 139:23-24 *(Hold your hands out like a book.)*

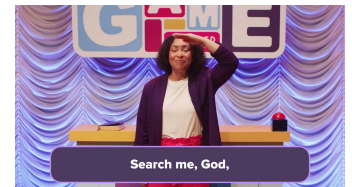
Script

Our Theme verse today comes from today's Bible story! Psalm 139 teaches us that God leads us to our true identities. Stand up and let's learn our Theme verse together!



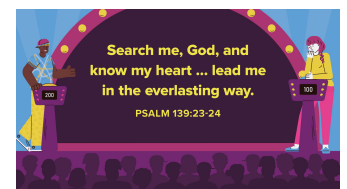
Presentation

Play Aug2026_S5_ThemeVerseVideo_Kids



Script

God searches us and knows us. He created us. He designed us for a purpose, and that purpose is to love Him and help others do the same. We can trust Him to lead us in the best way to live out our true identities. What a Game Changer! Everyone, say, "Game Changer!" *(Game Changer!)*



12. Music Option / Large Group Leader

3 minutes

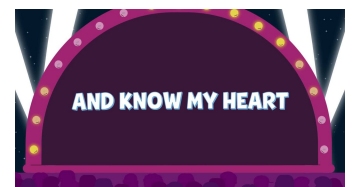
Script

Like David, we can praise God because we have been remarkably and wondrously made. God is a good, loving God, and He deserves all our praise! Let's sing about how Jesus changes the game with our Theme song!



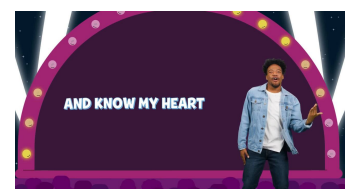
Presentation

Play Aug2026_S5_ThemeSong_LyricVideo_GameChanger_Kids



Presentation

Play Aug2026_S5_ThemeSong_MotionVideo_GameChanger_Kids



Leader Tip

Consider adding additional video-led worship music for kids.

13. 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.

14. 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.

