

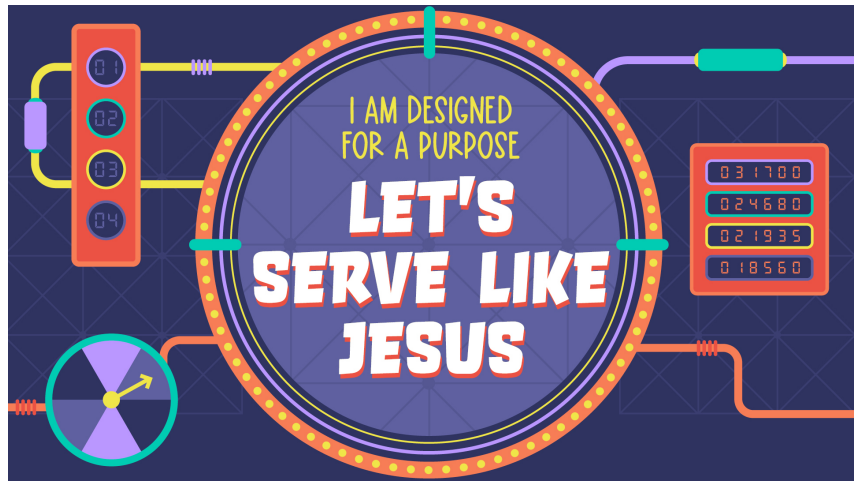


I Am Designed for a Purpose — Let's Serve Like Jesus

Leader Guide • All Leaders

8/09/2026

Center Grove Kids Ministry



Bible Story: How to Serve (Matthew 5:38-42; 6:1-4, 19-24)

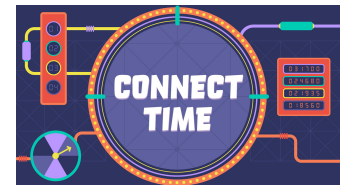
Theme Verse: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."
(Matthew 5:16b)

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?
- What pet or pets do you have at home? If you do not have a pet, then what pet do you wish you could own?
- If you could always have the temperature be hot or cold, which would you pick and why?
- What do you think is the best food to eat for breakfast?
- Imagine you could give a friend a superpower. What power would you give and 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.



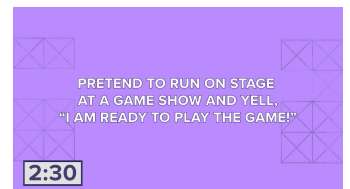
Leader Tip

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_S2_CountdownVideo_Kids



3. Welcome / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

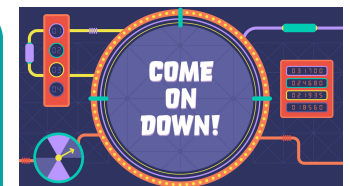
Leader Tip

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

Hello, hello, hello! If you can hear me, say, "Next Up!" (*Next Up!*) I am ____, and I will be your Host for today! Our Theme this month is *Next Up!* When we go through life, we might wonder what is going to happen next—like on a game show! However, there is Someone who always knows what is next up—God! He designed us for a purpose, and He always knows what is next. Repeat after me, "Next!" (*Next!*) "Up!" (*Up!*) "Next Up!" (*Next Up!*)



4. Stage Game — Parody / Large Group Leader

10 minutes

Supplies

☐ No supplies needed

0 per child

Leader Prep: None

Game Rules:

1. Invite one player from each team to the front.
2. Show the category to the players.
3. Direct players to shut their eyes.
4. Show the charade prompt to the audience.
5. Instruct players to open their eyes.
6. Invite the audience to act out the prompt.
7. Award the points on the slide to the first player who guesses correctly.
8. Invite new players to the front after three rounds and repeat.

Script

Turn to your neighbor and say, "I'm ready for a game!" (*I'm ready for a game!*) Excellent! Because next up is "Parody!" Everyone, say, "Parody!" (*Parody!*) In "Parody," it is your job to parody—or act like—the prompt on the screen with the hopes that your teammate at the front can guess it and win the "Parody" points!

First, let's have one player from each team come to the front. (*Select players and invite them to the front.*) I will tell you the category. Then the players will close their eyes while I show the prompt to the audience.

Audience, your job is to act out the prompt so that your player can guess what it is. Also audience, you have a big rule! Say "Big rule!" (*Big rule!*) The big rule is that you cannot make a sound! You cannot make what? (*A sound!*) Team Leaders, keep track of how many points your team wins. After three rounds, we will select new players. The team with the most points at the end wins. If you are ready, let me hear you say, "Let's play!" (*Let's play!*)

A stylized logo with the word "PARODY!" in a bold, yellow, bubbly font. The letters are outlined in black and set against a red, oval-shaped background that has a slight gradient and a drop shadow.

Script

Our categories are "Animals," "Sports," and "At Home." Each category has a prompt that is worth 100, 200, or 300 points. I will tell you the category and amount before each round. Let's play "Parody!" Your first category is:

PARODY CATEGORIES

ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"Animals" for 100 points! Players, close your eyes!

ANIMALS FOR \$100

\$100

\$200

Script

Audience, here is your prompt!

RABBIT



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! (*Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help teams keep track of their points.*) Awesome parodies, people! Next up, your category is:

PARODY CATEGORIES

ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"Sports" for 100 points! Players, close your eyes!

SPORTS FOR \$100	SPORTS
	\$100
	\$200

Script

Audience, here is your prompt! Remember, you must be silent!



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up is ...

PARODY CATEGORIES		
ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"At Home" for 100 points! Players, close your eyes!

AT HOME FOR \$100	AT HOME
	\$100
	\$200

Script

Audience, here is your prompt!



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up, new players please! *(Allow one kid from each team to come on stage.)* Your next category is ...

PARODY CATEGORIES		
ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"Animals" for 200 points! Players, close your eyes!

ANIMALS FOR \$200	\$100
	\$200
	\$300

Script

Audience, here is your prompt!



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up!

PARODY CATEGORIES		
ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"Sports" for 200 points! Players, close your eyes!

SPORTS FOR \$200

\$100
\$200
\$300

Script

Audience, here is your prompt!

SWIMMING



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up, your category is ...

PARODY CATEGORIES

ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"At Home" for 200 points! Players, close your eyes!

AT HOME FOR \$200

\$100
\$200
\$300

Script

Audience, here is your prompt!

VACUUMING



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up, new players please! *(Allow one kid from each team to come to the front.)* Your next category is ...

PARODY CATEGORIES

ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"Animals" for 300 points! Players, close your eyes!

ANIMALS FOR \$300

\$200
\$300

Script

Audience, here is your prompt!

PUFFER FISH



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up, your category is ...

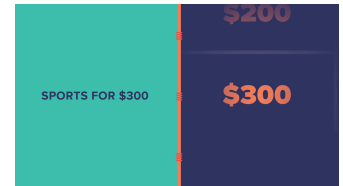
PARODY CATEGORIES

ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

...

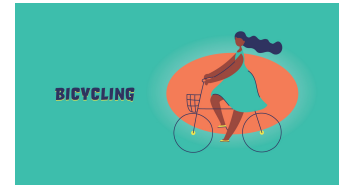
Script

"Sports" for 300 points! Players, close your eyes!



Script

Audience, here is your prompt!



Script

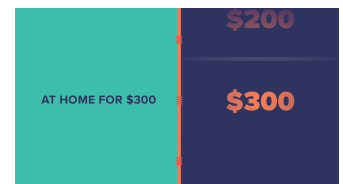
Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies, people! Next up, your category is

...

PARODY CATEGORIES		
ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

"At Home" for 300 points! Players, close your eyes!



Script

Audience, here is your prompt!



Script

Players, open your eyes! Audience, let's parody! *(Allow the audience to act out the prompt. Help groups keep track of their points.)* Awesome parodies people! Let's have our players sit down and total up the points to see our winner! *(Allow Team Leaders to share their totals and announce the winner.)* Let's cheer for our "Parody" winners, the ____ Team!

PARODY CATEGORIES		
ANIMALS	SPORTS	AT HOME
\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300

Script

These prompts were designed to be acted out. And you know what else? God has designed you for a purpose! Point to yourself and say, "Who, me?" *(Who, me?)* Yes, you! God has a plan for your life. He has a purpose for everything. And His purpose is good! So when you want to ask, "What is next up?" remember that God knows the best way forward. Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" *(I am designed for a purpose!)*



Script

Turn to a neighbor and ask, "What is new?" (*What is new?*) Your neighbor might be able to tell you what is new, but I know someone who can tell *all* of us the newest and latest news. Her name is Nikki Nevada! To hear today's nifty stories, say, "What's new, Nikki?" (*What's new, Nikki?*)

**Presentation**

Play Aug2026_S2_MainIdeaVideo_Kids

**Script**

Does a good tennis serve mean you are good at serving others? Everyone, say, "No way!" (*No way!*) Does singing a song about sponges and bathtubs that smell like trash cans mean you are good at serving others? Say, "No way!" (*No way!*) Does helping others, choosing kindness, and putting others first mean you are good at serving others? Say, "Yes way!" (*Yes way!*) That is right! God has an amazing purpose and plan for our lives. Part of His plan is that we love and serve others. And we can do that when we learn from and follow the example of God's Son, Jesus. Say, "**Let's serve like Jesus!**" (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)

**Supplies**

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| ☐ Bible | 1 per group | ☐ Dirty sock | 1 per group |
| ☐ Tongs | 1 per group (optional) | | |

Leader Tip

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

Script

Do you smell something? (*Sniff the air and make a disgusted face.*) Ew, gross! What is that? (*Pull out the dirty sock and hold it up between two fingers or use a pair of tongs to hold up the sock.*) Say, "Eeeewwww!" (*Eeeewwww!*) Dirty socks can definitely gross us out!

In our homes, lots of dirty clothing can be lying around, like this dirty sock. But there are kind people (like an adult or maybe even you) who go through and clean up everything—even dirty socks. These people did not necessarily make the sock dirty, but they still help clean up.



Like picking up dirty socks, God calls us to be kind and serve people by helping. When we live life the way God designed, we become helpers! We do not just help ourselves—like if you only wash your own dirty socks. We do not just help our friends—like washing only their dirty socks. And we do not help so people will tell us thank you—like washing a famous person's socks so we can get credit. We are made to help and serve others like Jesus did, which means helping *whoever* and *whenever* we can. So whether the dirty sock is yours, your friend's, or even someone else's who has been unkind, God wants us to pick up that sock and serve them! We can follow the example of Jesus by being kind and helping *all* people. Say, **"Let's serve like Jesus!"** (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)

7. Bible Story Video / Large Group Leader

10 minutes

Supplies

- ☐ "Session 2 Bible Story" printable 1 per group (optional)

Script

(*Open the Bible.*) Next up is our Bible story! Turn to your neighbor and say, "I am designed!" (*I am designed!*) Turn to another neighbor and say, "For a purpose!" (*For a purpose!*) That is right! God has designed you for a purpose! Part of that purpose is to serve others like Jesus. We are going to learn more about that from the Bible. Learn from the what? (*The Bible!*) The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself, including what it says about His Son, Jesus. Today, our Bible story is from the book of Matthew. Which book? (*Matthew!*) Jesus taught how we should serve and who we should serve. Say, **"Let's serve like Jesus!"** (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)



Presentation

Play Aug2026_S2_BibleStoryVideo_Kids

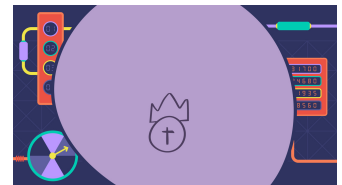


Script

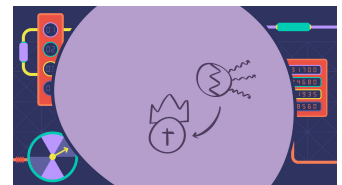
We believe that God designed us for a purpose. Turn to your neighbor and say, “You are designed for a purpose.” (*You are designed for a purpose.*) Point to yourself and say, “I am designed for a purpose!” (*I am designed for a purpose!*) Like we heard in our Bible story, Jesus taught that to live as part of God’s family means to serve others, to choose kindness, and to love God above everything else. Living according to God’s purpose and how He designed us is the best way to live. This includes serving others, no matter how we feel or what they have done. This can be hard to do! Thankfully, we have the best example—Jesus. Let me hear you say, **“Let’s serve like Jesus!”** (*Let’s serve like Jesus!*)

**Script**

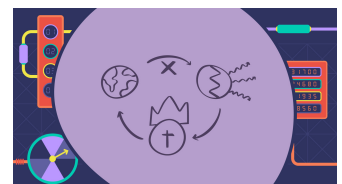
(Circle three) Jesus taught what it means to honor God by serving others. He chose to love a world that hated Him by serving the world in a very special way. In our Bible story, Jesus told His followers to “turn the other cheek” when someone got angry with them. He meant that when someone gets angry with us, we turn and offer patience and kindness rather than getting angry in return. Jesus took this even further. He died on a cross to take the punishment we deserved for our sin. *Sin* is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than following what God says is best. Sin breaks our relationship with God and requires a punishment. Jesus served us by taking that punishment Himself by dying on a cross. But He came back to life on the third day after He died. Because Jesus died and rose again, we can have a relationship with God. This happens when we ask Jesus to forgive our sins and turn from our sin to follow Him.

**Script**

(Circle two) In our lives, we meet people who are unkind or mean. We ourselves can be unkind and mean to others! This happens because we—and our entire world—are broken because of sin. We need Jesus to forgive our sins, heal our hearts, and fix our relationship with God. Jesus is our example. So when we ask ourselves, “Why should I help others?” we can look to Jesus for the answer. We help others because that is God’s purpose and design for us. Jesus helps us to choose kindness over anger, to care about people, and to serve them even when we do not think they deserve it. Jesus served people who were kind and generous, but He also served people who were unkind and mean. Jesus set an example of serving people by helping, even when it was difficult.

**Script**

(Circle 1) When we trust in Jesus and ask Him to forgive us, He does! He makes us new and helps us serve others not because of the recognition we might receive, but because we want to please God. When we trust in Jesus, we have a restored relationship with God! And living in right relationship with God is how God designed us to live. One day, Jesus will come back to earth and make everything new! Sin will be no more. Until then, we can live the way God made us to live by serving others and pointing them to Him.



If you want to know more about being forgiven or trusting in Jesus, please come talk to me or your Team Leader. Jesus is our perfect example of serving, but we cannot follow His example in our own strength. We need Him to heal our hearts so we can follow Him. Let us tell you how He can do that!

When we serve like Jesus, we are living in God's best design and purpose! Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (*I am designed for a purpose!*) Say, "**Let's serve like Jesus!**" (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)

Small Group

9. Blindfolded Scavenger Hunt — Older Game / Small Group Leader

13 minutes

Kids will give instructions from across the room to a teammate trying to collect colored cotton balls while blindfolded.

Big Goal: Remember that God made us to help whoever and whenever we can.

Leader Prep: Mark five cotton balls with one color marker for one team, and another five cotton balls with another color marker for the other team. Scatter the cotton balls around the play space.

Supplies

☐ Cotton balls

10 per group

☐ Markers

2 per group

☐ Blindfolds

2 per group

☐ Ball pit balls

10-20 per group (optional)

Script

What To Do: Say, “I’m ready to play!” (*I’m ready to play!*) Next up is “Blindfolded Scavenger Hunt!” We will make two teams, and each team will work together to collect your team’s cotton balls as quickly as possible while blindfolded! While what? (*Blindfolded!*) You will need to listen for instructions from your teammates to find your cotton balls. Listen to them and try to grab the right ones!

When you are not blindfolded, your job is to help your teammates find the right cotton balls by giving instructions and to stay in the play area by standing in a circle around them. After all the cotton balls are collected, we will pick a new teammate to be blindfold and play again! (*Invite kids to get into two groups. Assign each group a color. Blindfold one member of each group. Direct the rest of the kids to stand in a circle around the cotton balls.*) Let’s play “Blindfolded Scavenger Hunt!” (*Allow kids to play several rounds.*)

Keep It Going: Add pit balls to the play area. If blindfolded players accidentally hit a ball, they must pause for 10 seconds.



Leader Tip

Remind kids to walk carefully while blindfolded. For larger groups, add more cotton balls with different colors.

Script

Loud And Clear: Great job playing “Blindfolded Scavenger Hunt!” When your teammates were in the middle hunting for cotton balls, they relied on your help to find them. Your helpful instructions allowed your teammates to find what they were looking for. In God’s design and purpose for us, He made us to help others, no matter who they are. God wants us to help others all the time. When we help people, we are acting like Jesus. Say, “**Let’s serve like Jesus!**” (*Let’s serve 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

When we serve like Jesus, we shine like lights in a dark world. Let's learn our Theme verse that will help us remember we can serve like Jesus.



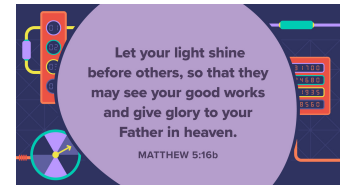
Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThemeVerseVideo_Kids



Script

This Bible verse tells us that we glorify God when we serve like Jesus! That means we honor Him and point others to Him. Sometimes, we want the glory when we do something we think is good. We want people to tell us, "Good job!" or "Way to go!" But when we live in God's best purpose and design, we get to follow Jesus's example and point others to God instead of ourselves. We can do that with Jesus's help as we serve others! Link your elbow with a neighbor and say, **"Let's serve like Jesus!"** (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)



11. Music Option / Large Group Leader

5 minutes

Script

Say, "Next!" (*Next!*) Say, "Up!" (*Up!*) Say, "Next Up!" (*Next Up!*) Next up is our Theme song! Get on your feet if you can and let's sing about God together!



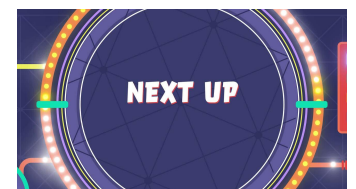
Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThemeSong_LyricVideo_NextUp_Kids



Presentation

Play Aug2026_ThemeSong_MotionVideo_NextUp_Kids



Leader Tip

Consider adding additional video-led worship music for kids.

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.

