

4TH-5TH | JULY 5TH WK1

Elementary Service Flow

- Pre-Service Activities
- Opener
- Worship
- Story Time
- Salvation Moment
- Application Activity #1
- Application Activity #2
- Closer & Prayer



Bible Story

**The Story of the Farmer •
*Matthew 13:1-23***

Bottom Line

**God's kingdom grows when you
hear and do what He says.**

Conversation Starter

**What are you going to do with
what you've heard?**

Monthly Memory Verse

***God's kingdom is not about
eating or drinking. It is about
doing what is right and having
peace and joy. All this comes
through the Holy Spirit. • Romans
14:17 NIV***

5 min

Pre-Service Activity

5 min

Pre-Service Activity

What You Need

-  Floor tape 1
-  Random things that are available in Several your Small Group area

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Use floor tape to create a large square on the floor (about 2 x 2 feet).

During the Activity:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Challenge the group to see how many people they can fit inside the square at one time. They can stand, sit, or get creative, but everyone's whole body must be inside the lines.
- After they set their first record, challenge them to do it more quickly the next time.
- Then, play again, but this time, see how many *things* they can fit in the square, along with themselves (shoes, backpacks, Bibles, etc.).

What You Say:

"Great teamwork! It's amazing how much you can fit into a space when you plan it out. We have to be intentional about what we make space for in our lives too.

"When Jesus taught, He often used parables. A parable is a short story using everyday objects and situations to help explain something about God and His kingdom. A parable makes you think and feel. It helps you understand something true for yourself instead of just repeating what someone else told you. Today, we're going to hear a story or parable Jesus told to teach us about making space in our hearts for something really important. Let's go hear this parable Jesus taught!"

10 min

Large Group Opener

5 min

Opener

What You Need

-  Floor tape 1
-  4 frisbees or 4 paper plates (If you use paper plates, have enough for multiple rounds in case some get crushed during the game.) Several
-  4 kid volunteers (Ask for new volunteers at the start of each round!) 1
-  Optional: 4 Hula Hoops® 1

HOST: “Hey, everyone! Welcome back to Kingdom Quest! I’m your host, [Your Name], and I’m seriously so glad you’re here. Whether your week was awesome, weird, stressful, or you barely made it out of bed this morning, you made it here, and that’s a win.

“You’re stepping into a room full of people who are on a mission this month, not to find pirate treasure, not to level up in a video game, but to discover the greatest adventure ever: living in God’s kingdom!

“But what is God’s kingdom? It’s anywhere God reigns as King. And He is loving, trustworthy, good, and lots of other awesome things. God’s kingdom is full of the good qualities of God’s character because it’s where He reigns as King.

“We want this kingdom to spread everywhere. We want everyone to submit their hearts to Him as King.

“This month, we’re talking all about God’s kingdom. We’re going to explore what it’s like, how it grows, and what it means for YOU. The full name of our series this month is ‘Kingdom Quest—Living the Greatest Adventure.’ And we’ve got a pretty epic day ahead.

“BUT before we jump into the adventure, we’re kicking things off with a challenge. And not just any challenge—this will challenge your ability to not throw things wildly across the room.

5 min

Large Group Game | The Landing Zone!

What You Need

 Floor Tape	1
 4 frisbees or 4 paper plates	1
 4 kid volunteers	1
 (optional) 4 Hula Hoops	1

What You Say:

Today's game is called 'The Landing Zone!'

SLIDE: "The Landing Zone!" Title

"Okay, here's how the game works. Four volunteers will stand behind this line right here.

(Gesture to the start line.)

"Across the room, you'll see our four Landing Zones.

(Gesture across the room to the Landing Zones.)

"Each person will get one frisbee. Your goal is to toss your frisbee so it lands inside one of the Landing Zones. If it lands in, great! If it misses, no problem. Just run and grab it, come back to the start line, and try again.

"Everyone else in the room, your job is simple: cheer loudly, of course!

"Let's pick our volunteers! Raise your hand if you'd like to play!

(Pick four volunteers from the kids who have their hands raised, line them up side by side behind the start line, and give each kid a frisbee or paper plate.)

"Volunteers ready? Crowd, are YOU ready? When I say, 'GO,' start aiming for the Landing Zones!

"Here we go in: 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... GO!

AUDIO: Upbeat music

"Ooh, that was close! Nice throw! We've got some serious aim happening over here!

(Play the game until one of the kids successfully throws their frisbee or paper plate into one of the Landing Zones. Declare the winner.)

"YES! That one's in the Landing Zone! Excellent job! Let's hear it for our winner!

(As time allows, continue with more rounds. Pick four new volunteers at the start of each round. If you use paper plates, give each player a new one as needed.)

"Awesome job! Let's give a big hand for all our volunteers! You can head back to your seats.

"Now it's time to check out our Bottom Line for today! Let's take a look.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says. Can you say that with me?"

KIDS AND HOST: **[Bottom Line]** "God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says."

HOST: "This is huge! Jesus shows us what God's kingdom is really like—how it works, how it grows, and how we get to be part of it. We'll unpack more of this soon! Thanks for playing our game with me today, friends!"

5 min

Worship | God I'm Just Grateful | Elevation Worship & Chandler Moore

5 min

Memory Verse

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Let's take a look at our Memory Verse. We're going to be learning it all month! Let me give you a little background about it. In it, Paul was addressing something going on in the Roman church. Some people were focusing on what other people were eating and drinking, and saying, 'You can't be a follower of Jesus if you eat a certain way.'

"But Paul answered, 'No, God's kingdom isn't about that silly stuff. It's about things of God—righteousness and joy and peace. And that stuff is going to be like air, all around you, as you spend time with God. The Holy Spirit will just produce that stuff. That's what God's kingdom is about!

"Let me read you this month's Memory Verse. It's Romans 14:17!

SLIDE: Memory Verse

WORSHIP LEADER: *"God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17 NIV)."*

"Now let's all say it together!"

KIDS AND WORSHIP LEADER: *"God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17 NIV)."*

WORSHIP LEADER: "Nice job! I love this verse because it reminds us that God's kingdom is just like He is—full of righteousness, peace, and joy! God's kingdom is good like He is! Thanks for worshipping with me today!"

5 min

Bible Story

5 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

10 min

Closing

5 min

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

Salvation Moment & Prayer

What You Need

No supplies needed

COMMUNICATOR: "Today, we learned that the parable of the farmer isn't really about dirt; it's about people. Some people don't let God's words in. Some people start strong but fade when life gets hard. Some people are too crowded with other things to make room for God. But here's the amazing part: God's kingdom grows when we hear His words and actually do what He says. It starts in your heart, and it can grow through you to make a difference in the world around you.

"And that's what our Bottom Line today is all about! Let's check it out.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says. Can you say that with me?"

What you say:

Leader: Let's talk to God together, friends. You can bow your heads and close your eyes.

Kids, have you ever made a mistake? Maybe you disobeyed your parents, were unkind to a friend, or told a lie.

The bible calls those things sin. Every one of us has sinned- even grown ups! Sin separates us from God, and no matter how hard we try, we can't fix that problem on our own.

That's why we need Jesus. Jesus loves us so much that he came to take the punishment for our sins so we could be close to God and have eternal life with Him.

Maybe you've heard about Jesus before, but you've never personally asked Him to be your forever friend. Today, you can make that choice. If you have never asked Jesus to be your forever friend, and today you want to say "Yes" to Jesus, raise your hand right now."

That's amazing! Let's all pray together. Repeat after me: Read the ABC Prayer

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

APPLICATION ACTIVITY #1**What You Need** Plastic cups

10

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Group the kids into pairs, and instruct them to stand or sit face-to-face with the cup on the floor in between them.
- Call out an action: "Head!" "Shoulders!" "Knees!" or "Cup!"
- The kids are to listen carefully and touch their head, shoulders, knees, or grab the cup.
- When you say, "Cup," the kids try to be the first one to grab the cup.
- The kid who grabs the cup first wins the round.
- Reset cups, and continue to call out the actions: "Head!" "Shoulders!" "Knees!" or "Cup!"
- Increase the speed at which you call out the actions, making it more difficult.
- Repeat as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

"That game takes serious listening skills! You couldn't just guess; you had to wait for me to say, 'Cup' before you could act. It's like that with our faith. Jesus asks us to be people who don't just hear what He says, but who actually do what He says. It takes practice to be a good listener and an obedient follower. You can ask God to soften your heart so His words will take root and grow in your life. When you're sad or afraid or frustrated, you can ask God for help and trust that He's always with you so your heart doesn't become hard or bitter. Over time, as you continue to listen to and follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit will grow good fruit, the good fruit of God's kingdom, in your life.

"God, the King of the kingdom, is loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and He has self-control. As you stay close to Him, He will grow His fruit in you. And as God grows His fruit

in you, the Holy Spirit can work through you to point to God's kingdom in the world around you.

"And as you live out that fruit God will grow in you—as you're kind, or loving, or honest—you're saying: 'Hey, look! This kingdom is awesome! The King who reigns over it is kind, loving, and honest—just like I was. He loves you and wants you to follow Him as King and be your friend. Do you want to be a part of God's kingdom too? You can! The Bible says that everyone who accepts what Jesus did on the cross for their sins is welcomed into God's kingdom—and God's family—with open arms!

"You can point to God's kingdom as you live out the fruit He will grow in you! Remember, **[Bottom Line]** God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says."

[Make It Personal] (Share how you do what you can to make your heart "good soil." You can say something like: "Sometimes when I read the Bible, God shows me something I need to do, like apologize to someone. It's easy to just close my Bible and forget about it. But I've learned that when I actually do what I heard, that's when my faith really grows. It's not always easy, but it's always worth it.")

5 min

Application Activity

5 min

Application Activity #2

What You Need

	Bibles	1
	Spray bottles	Several
	Water	Several
	Lima beans	1
	Paper towels	1
	Resealable sandwich bags	1
	Permanent marker	Several
	EveryChild Supplies: Spoon or pipette	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Fill the spray bottles with water.

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible.
- Invite them to look up Romans 14:17
- 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.
- Give each kid a lima bean. Tell them this bean is like the seed in the parable.
- Give each kid a paper towel, and have them spray their paper towel so it's slightly wet (not dripping).
- Ask kids to fold the paper towel and place it in their bag.
- Ask kids to place their lima bean in the bag on the side of the paper towel, then seal the bag.
- Ask kids to write their name on the bag with the marker.
- Challenge them to take their "seed" home and tape it to a sunny window. Tell them that in a few days, it should start to sprout.
- Invite kids to take an additional lima bean home for a parent or adult as well and see whose lima bean grows first.

What You Say:

"This little seed is a great reminder of our Bible Story. Right now, it doesn't look like much. But if we give it what it needs, water and sun, it will grow. Our hearts are the same. When we give our hearts what they need by reading the Bible, praying, and listening to God, our faith will grow. As you continue to listen to and follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit will grow

5 min

Discussion Questions

5 min

Preteen Discussion Questions *Uses Minimal Supplies*

What You Need

No supplies needed

good fruit, the good fruit of God's kingdom, in your life.

"Our Memory Verse today tells us that God's kingdom is full of good things—righteousness, joy, and peace. That's because the King is good. And that's the good fruit, the good fruit of God's character, that He wants to grow and grow in you.

"As you watch this seed grow, ask God to make your heart good soil, to grow His good fruit in you."

What You Do:

- **Ask these questions and discuss:**
- Why do you think Jesus used a story about farming instead of just explaining about God's kingdom plainly?
- What do the seeds represent in this story?
- What does it mean that the good soil produced 30, 60, or 100 times more?
- **[Conversation Starter] What are you going to do with what you've heard?**

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray and Dismiss

What You Need

 Music player

1

 Soft music

1

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Invite the kids to find a comfortable spot in the room.
- Ask them to close their eyes and think about the four kinds of soil Jesus talked about.
- Lead them through a time of quiet reflection with these prompts. Pause for about 30 seconds after each one.
- Hard path: "When do I ignore God?"
- Rocky soil: "When do I quit when things get hard?"
- Thorny soil: "What distracts me most?"
- Good soil: "Where am I growing?"
- Now invite them to take time to pray quietly for the piece they need to ask God's help with.
- After the quiet time, close in prayer for the whole group.

What You Say:

"Let's pray together and ask God to help us be like the good soil."

Prayer:

"God, thank You for this time to be quiet and listen. We want our hearts to be like the good soil—soft, ready, and prepared for Your words to grow. Forgive us for the times we ignore You, give up too easily, or let other things become more important than You. Help us to be people who not only hear what You say, but actually do it. We want to be part of Your growing kingdom. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Supplies

Pre-Service Activity Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1. | Floor tape | 1 |
| 2. | Random things that are available in your Small Group area | Several |

Opener Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1. | Floor tape | 1 |
| 2. | 4 frisbees or 4 paper plates (If you use paper plates, have (enough for multiple rounds in case some get crushed during the game.)) | Several |
| 3. | 4 kid volunteers (Ask for new volunteers at the start of each round!) | 1 |
| 4. | Optional: 4 Hula Hoops® | 1 |

Large Group Game | The Landing Zone! Quantity

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Floor Tape | 1 |
| 2. | 4 frisbees or 4 paper plates | 1 |
| 3. | 4 kid volunteers | 1 |
| 4. | (optional) 4 Hula Hoops | 1 |

APPLICATION ACTIVITY #1 Quantity

- | | | |
|----|--------------|----|
| 1. | Plastic cups | 10 |
|----|--------------|----|

Application Activity #2 Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Bibles | 1 |
| 2. | Spray bottles | Several |
| 3. | Water | Several |
| 4. | Lima beans | 1 |
| 5. | Paper towels | 1 |
| 6. | Resealable sandwich bags | 1 |
| 7. | Permanent marker | Several |
| 8. | EveryChild Supplies: Spoon or pipette | 1 |

Pray and Dismiss Quantity

- | | | |
|----|--------------|---|
| 1. | Music player | 1 |
| 2. | Soft music | 1 |