

K-5TH

LARGE & SMALL GROUPS

MARCH 1ST, WEEK 1

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

PRE-SERVICE

ACTIVITIES 15 MIN

LARGE GROUP [33 MIN]

OPENING GAME 10 MIN

WORSHIP 5 MIN

STORY VIDEO 13 MIN

BOTTOM LINE

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY

SALVATION MOMENT 5 MIN

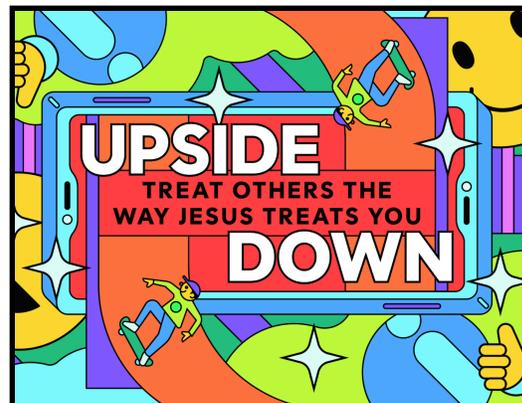
SMALL GROUP [30-35 min]

ACTIVITY 1 12 MIN

ACTIVITY 2 12 MIN

CLOSING PRAYER 6 MIN
& ACTIVITY 3

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

John the Baptist Is a Witness
about Jesus
John 3:22 36

Bottom Line

Jesus must increase. I must
decrease.

Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get
ahead. Don't do it because you are
proud. Instead, be humble. Value
others more than yourselves.
Philippians 2:3 NIrV

Please go over the
memory verse with the
class every Sunday.

PRE-SERVICE Activity Pages

What you need:

- "Bible Bookmark" Activity Page,
 - Watercolors & Brushes
 - Hole Punch
 - String
 - Clips to dry bookmarks
 - 1 full Water Container
 - 1 Empty Water Container
 - Baby Wipes
 - Paper Towels
 - Sharpie (to write names)
 - Watercolor Paper (for those who wish to continue to paint)
- "Foam Finger" Activity Page
 - Crayons
 - Foam Stickers
 - Craft Stick
 - Tape
 - Scissors
 - Sharpie
- Coloring & Activity Pages

3rd Service Extra Activity

- Prayer Cube (3-5)
 - Markers
 - Small Stickers
 - Scissors
 - Tape
 - Double Sided Tape
 - "Prayer Cube" Activity Page
- "Jesus Puzzle" Activity Page

Set Up

- Put out dishes with water for the children to share, water colors, paint brushes, hole punch, clips, string, "Bible Bookmark Activity Page on one table. (**Note:** You have two pitchers for water; one for dirty water and the other is full of clean water and watercolor paper for those who want to continue to paint after their bookmark.)
- On another table put crayons, craft sticks, tape, stickers and "Foam Finger" Activity Page. Also the Coloring & Activity Pages.
- You have samples of each one to put on the tables as well.
- Everything should be ready so it is waiting for the children as they come in.
- Explain that they can choose to work on whatever they want and can move between the activities if they wish.

Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high five, fist bump, or a wave!

Bible Bookmark

Give the kids a bookmark and let them decorate it with water colors. If they want they can punch a hole in the top and put a string on it with your help. There is a sharpie to write their name on the back and the clips are to put it on the grid to dry.

Foam Finger

Give kids the "Foam Finger" Activity Page to decorate with crayons and foam stickers. Then cut it out. Have them tape a craft stick to the back so they can wave their "Foam Finger" and praise Jesus. Tell the kids their foam finger shows that Jesus is number one! Help them practice holding it up and cheering, "Jesus is number one!"

Extra Activity for 3rd Service

Prayer Cube (3-5)

Have kids decorate, cut out, fold and assemble the cube from the "Prayer Cube" Activity Page. Start with double sided tape on the inside of three sides and then use the regular tape to close the final side. Encourage kids to pray at home using their cube. Roll their cube and when the cube lands, read the prayer prompt on the top side. (e.g., "Pray for a family member." "Pray for a friend.") and use it to guide your prayer.

Jesus Floor Puzzle

Lay each of the puzzles (you have 2) face down in different parts of the room for kids to work on as they arrive. Invite them to work together, flipping each piece over and rearranging as needed, to complete the giant picture of Jesus.

Encourage children to take home their masterpieces.

LARGE GROUP

OPENER GAME

“Flip It”

What You Need:

- 20 Paper Plates with Red Dots
- 20 Paper Plates with Blue Dots
- Timer (or smartphone or watch or countdown)
- Floor Tape

WORSHIP

STORY VIDEO

SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

SET UP: *Before you begin, use the tape to make a start line on one side of the room so you have an open space to play the game. Place the plates, dots to the floor, around the empty space.*

HOST: *“Hey, everyone! I’m so glad you’re here today! This month, we’re starting a brand-new theme called Upside Down! Everyone say: Upside Down!”*

KIDS: *“Upside down!”*

“Great job!! The full title of the series this month is: Upside Down: Treat others the way Jesus treats you!”

“So this month, we’re going to learn how to live the way Jesus did, to treat others the way He treats us. And that might look a little different from what we’re used to. It might even look ... upside down!”

“Now, to kick things off, I have a super fun game called Flip It!”

SLIDE: Flip It! Title

“I need two teams of five people to play our game. If you’d like to volunteer, raise your hand!”

Choose 10 children from the kids who have their hands raised. Invite them to stand and create two teams. Designate one team as Team Red and the other as Team Blue. Encourage both teams to form two separate lines behind the start line.

“Here’s how this game works. On the floor, you can see a bunch of paper plates scattered all over. Some have red dots on them, some have blue dots on, All are flipped over so you can’t see the dots.. We’ve got two teams, Team Red and Team Blue.

“When I say Go, one kid from each team will run out, flip over one plate till they find one that matches their team color, (if it isn’t their color they have to flip it back over) and then run back to tag the next person. Then the next kid on that team gets to go! You’ll keep flipping plates until time runs out. When the timer ends, we’ll see which team has the most plates showing their color! Sound good?”

“Awesome! Everyone, find your team and get ready. We’ll have two minutes on the timer. Everybody else, let’s cheer them on!”

“Is everybody ready? (Make sure the two teams are lined up and ready to go.) Awesome! Let’s get our game started! Ready ... set ... GO!”

(CONT.)

OPENER GAME (CONT.)

AUDIO: Upbeat music

Start the timer (or smartphone or watch or countdown) and start the game. After two minutes, stop the music and say:

“And STOP! Everyone, freeze where you are. Let’s count and see which team flipped the most plates.”

Invite the audience to help count with you as you are counting. Reset for another round if time allows.

“You know, that game reminded me of what we’re learning today. Everything kept flipping back and forth, down to up, and that’s kind of like what happens when we follow Jesus.”

“We are going to unpack all this month on how to live Upside Down! It’s going to be great!”

“Today’s Bible Story is about a man named John the Baptist. He was really popular; everyone came to hear him speak. But when Jesus showed up, John showed us something important: Jesus must increase, and I must decrease. That’s our Bottom Line for today!”

SLIDE: Bottom Line

“Can you say that with me?”

KIDS AND HOST: [Bottom Line] *“Jesus must increase, I must decrease!”*

“That means more of Jesus in our lives, and less of us trying to be the most important. When we put Jesus first, everything else in our lives starts to make sense!”

WORSHIP

STORY VIDEO

SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

SMALL GROUP

ACTIVITY 1

“Jesus at the Top”

What You Need:

- 10-12 Plastic Cups for each group
- “Jesus at the Top” Activity Page printed on Avery labels

What You Do

- Divide the kids into groups of 4.
- Give each group a stack of plastic cups, including one cup with a sticker of Jesus on it.
- Challenge them to work together to build the tallest tower they can.
- Once they’ve built their tower, instruct them to carefully place the cup with the picture of Jesus right at the very top.
- Walk around and admire their towers, pointing out how Jesus is at the top of every one.

What You Say

“Wow! Great building! You all put Jesus right at the top of your towers! That’s exactly what John the Baptist was teaching his friends. John said that Jesus is from above (John 3:31 NIV) and is above everything (John 3:31 NIV). Putting Jesus at the top shows what John the Baptist meant. No one else is more important for people to know or see than Jesus. Jesus offers to be each person’s Savior, their Rescuer forever, and their eternal Friend.

“So make a big deal of Jesus in your life. Try to point to Jesus in everything you do. People will see His love when you are kind and helpful. People will see His forgiveness when you forgive. People will see His justice when you’re fair. When we remember that Jesus is the most important and put Him first, we are showing that [Bottom Line] Jesus must increase. I must decrease.”

SMALL GROUP

ACTIVITY 2

“Bible Story Ring Toss”

What You Need

- “Bible Story Questions” Activity Page
- “Yes and No Images” Activity Page
- Rings
- 2 Cones
- Floor Tape

What You Do

- Place the cones (with the “Yes” image on one, and the “No” image on the other, about three feet apart.
- Create a line a few feet away from the cones using floor tape that the kids will stand behind to toss their ring.
- One at a time, read one question from the “Bible Story Questions” Activity Page to one child.
- Encourage the child to stand behind the tape line and toss their ring onto the “yes” cone if the answer is yes and the “no” cone if the answer is no.
- Once the child has made their choice and successfully landed their ring on the cone, instruct them to collect their ring and pass it on to another child.
- Continue with a new child until you’ve read all of the questions on the “Bible Story Questions” Activity Page. (Make sure all of the “Bible Story Questions” are discussed. Some children will go twice, and that’s okay!)

What You Say

“Great job! You listened well and really know our story! When John the Baptist’s friends saw people following Jesus, they complained. But John the Baptist wasn’t upset at all! He was filled with joy! He was so happy because he knew that Jesus was the most important! John the Baptist wanted people to follow Jesus and celebrate Jesus. “Have you ever been to a wedding? John the Baptist said he was like the friend of a groom. The groom is the man getting married at a wedding. And at this time, a close friend of the groom would arrange everything and get everyone ready for the wedding. So John was saying that he was like the friend getting everyone ready for Jesus. That’s why he was filled with joy when Jesus showed up! John the Baptist’s whole job was to get people ready for Jesus. That’s why he believed [Bottom Line] **Jesus must increase. I must decrease.**”

SMALL GROUP

ACTIVITY 3 Prayer Activity

“S’Mores Prayer”

What You Need

- Sm. Zip-Loc Bag (one for each Child)
- S’Mores Prayer Sheet
- Graham Cracker Square (1 for Each Child, Broke in Two)
- Chocolate Square (1 for each child)
- Marshmallow (1 for each child)

PRAY AND DISMISS

What You Do

- Give each child a small zip-loc bag filled with S’More items.
- As you are talking (**What You Say**) show the group each piece that you are referring to and have them locate it in their bag.

What You Say

“Has anyone made a s’more before? They are ooey gooey and delicious! Let’s use the s’more ingredients to help us pray.

Let’s start with a graham cracker and say, Dear God, thank You loving us even when things get hard or messy.

Then comes the sweet chocolate, God, thank You for sweet moments and people who bring joy to our days.

Next is the ooey, gooey warm marshmallow, God, help us spread Your love to others.

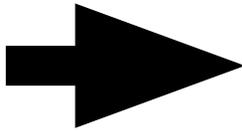
Now the other graham cracker, and thank God for sending Your Son, Jesus, so we can live forever with God.

Prayer

“Dear God, thank You for our families and friends. Most of all, thank You for Jesus, who came from above to save us. Help us to be like John the Baptist and have joy when we point others to You. Help us to remember that [Bottom Line] **Jesus must increase. I must decrease.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

GETTING READY

What You Need



PRE-SERVICE

What you need:

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SALVATION MOMENT

- Salvation cards
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ACTIVITY 1

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- "Jesus at the Top" Activity Page printed on Avery labels

ACTIVITY 2

- "Bible Story Questions" Activity Page
- "Yes and No Images" Activity Page
- Rings
- 2 Cones
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ACTIVITY 3 & PRAY AND DISMISS

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- Chocolate Square (1 for each child)
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