

Lesson Plan

April 26th, 2026

This Month's Truth: I Am Set Apart

Bible Story: Humble actions (Philippians 2:1-18)

Theme Verse: "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me." (John 6:38)

Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive: Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day! Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus!

Share: Paul wrote to encourage believers that Jesus sets the best example for what it means to live with love and humility. (Read Philippians 2:3-4.) We get to teach kids today that God cares about our actions because He works through them to point others to Him. We can trust and follow the example of Jesus in how we live our lives.

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, inviting God to move your team to actions that will help kids know they are loved by God and by the people at church.

Pre Service

Arrival time, please use this time to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.

Service

What To Do:

- **Teacher** Start 5-minute countdown **5 minutes prior to service start time.** 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. Help kids engage and interact with the video by calling out what's happening, asking for their guesses, and cheering with them.

Community Big Kids

Teacher Opener: Hi, everyone! My name is _____. Turn to someone, and tell that person, “I am so glad you are here today!” (I am so glad you are here today!) That statement is so true. We are glad all of you are here! Today we get to have fun as we talk about how we can show on the outside what we believe on the inside. When we do, we call that living it out! Everyone, say, “Live it out!” (Live it out!)

Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup

What To Do: We are going to play a game called “Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup!” Head, shoulders, knees, what? (Cup!) Find a friend, grab a cup, and then move around the room so you and your teammate have enough space to place the cup on the floor between you and you can both take a step back without bumping into anyone. (Allow time.)

Leader Tip: If space does not allow with how many kids you have you can do rounds. Only half or less go then the next group. Then have the winners play to get a winner over all.

Great job! I will call out different words, and you will follow the prompt. If I say, “Head,” you will put both your hands on your head. If I say, “Shoulders,” you will put both your hands on your shoulders. If I say, “Knees,” you will put both your hands on your knees. But when I say, “Cup,” you will try to be the first person to grab the cup between you and your friend. Whoever grabs the cup the fastest will be the winner and will play the winner of another group.

Keep It Going: Consider playing where they stay in the same group and tally how many cups they get. Then announce a winner from tallies.

Leader Tip: Say the words quickly and slowly. For example, say, “Head, knees, shoulders, knees! (fast) Head, knees, shoulders, Cup!” (Slow)

Loud And Clear: Let’s all give one another a hand as we return to our seats.

Transition Script to go into the Intro Video: Get ready for a virtual trip to a place called Weirdlin National Park. We get to hear from a guy by the name of Hiker Rob, who is going to find out that things are not always what they seem. Say, “Let’s go, Hiker Rob!” to get our video started in 3-2-1! (Let’s go, Hiker Rob!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: It would have really helped Hiker Rob to listen to his echo. Everyone, say, “OK, echo!” (OK, echo!) Yes, that would have kept Rob going in the right direction. But Rob taught us all something important to remember—God cares about our actions. He cares so much that He gives us the right way we should go. God tells us in the Bible how we can live out our lives in the best way, which means His way. Let me hear you say, “God cares about my actions!” (God cares about my actions!) When we trust and follow God, we live out the truth that we are set apart! Say, “I am set apart!” (I am set apart!)

Worship

What You Say: I’m so excited to worship with you all!

What To Do:

- Turn lights off
- 2-3 songs of worship
- **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**
- Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

What To Do:

- Have the kids **open up** a physical Bible and find the Bible story for that day.
- Use the Bibles provided in the classroom if a kid does not have their own Bible with them.

Transition Script to go into the Bible Story Video: (Open the Bible to Philippians 2:1-18) We are going to hear a story from the Bible. The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. Repeat after me: “The Bible is” (the Bible is), “God’s true message” (God’s true message), “to us about Himself.” (to us about Himself.) Awesome! Today’s Bible story comes from a man named Paul who wrote a letter to people living in a place called Philippi (FIH lih pigh). Paul encouraged people to live with humility. If you are ready to hear what Paul has to say about living it out, say, “Live it out!” (Live it out!)

Play Bible Story Video

Questions to consider asking after the video:

- What is something that you learned about God from the video?
- What is something that you learned about people?
- What can you take away from the video?
 - How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

Making The Connection Script: Paul wrote that if we love and follow Jesus, the way we live changes. Other people may look out for themselves first and only want to take care of themselves. Sometimes, we may even feel that way. But this Bible story teaches that we can be different when we live with humility by putting other people first. Paul did not say we have to figure this out for ourselves! He wrote that we live this way by having the same attitude as Jesus. Paul wrote that Jesus obeyed God in everything He did—and we can too! Say, “God cares about my actions!” (God cares about my actions!)

Use the Three Circle Graphics on the Playlist

(Circle 2) Paul knew that people would struggle with their actions, even when they trusted and followed Jesus. We want to put ourselves first and go our own way because of sin. Sin is when we do what we think is best rather than follow what God says is best. Everyone in the world struggles with sin. Not only does sin lead to selfish and unkind actions, sin separates us from God. Even when we try hard to have “good” actions, we can never be good enough to fix our relationship with God. Our sin deserves punishment.

(Circle 1) Paul wrote that we are to shine like stars when we trust and follow God’s way. That is the way God designed the world to be from the beginning! God made the world perfect and made people to love, trust, and follow Him. So when sin broke God’s perfect creation, He made a plan to love and rescue people.

(Circle 3) God sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve for sin. Jesus lived a perfect life and always obeyed God. Even though Jesus did not deserve to die, He did die for us. It was the only way we could have a relationship with God. When Paul writes that we can have the same attitude as Jesus, Paul is saying we can also obey God and do things that are caring and kind for other people. When Jesus died, He did not stay dead. He rose again and showed that He is more powerful than sin and death! When we admit that we are sinners, ask Jesus to forgive us, and turn away from sin to follow Him, He changes us. He helps us live like Him, and He promises that, one day, we will get to live with God forever.

Paul taught that our actions matter. Say, “God cares about my actions!” (God cares about my actions!) When we follow Jesus, we get to shine like stars! If we love Jesus, it shows. Our actions

affect other people because our actions can help point people to God. We live like Jesus when we obey God and help others. We even show that we are set apart when we do not complain and do not argue. Jesus shines through us!

When we struggle with our actions, we can ask God to help us. We can read the Bible and follow the example of Jesus and other amazing people who loved God. We can even learn from and follow the examples of other amazing Christians in our lives.

If you want to know more about trusting and following Jesus, talk with me or your Small Group Leader. We would love to tell you more!

Theme Verse Review:

Theme Verse Motions: For I have come down from heaven, (Start with your arms up to the sky and palms facing inward. Bring your hands to your waist with palms up.)
not to do my own will, (Lower your left hand and bring your right hand to your chest, hand over your heart.)
but the will of him who sent me. (Bring your right hand up to the sky with your palm facing inward.)
John 6:38 (Hold both hands out like a book.)

What You Say: Let's stand up and learn our Theme verse together! The truth from the Bible helps us know how we can live set apart for God.

Play Theme Verse Video

What You Say: This Bible verse says that Jesus came not to follow His own way but to trust, follow, and obey God. Jesus had an attitude of surrender to God and love for other people. When we love and follow Jesus, He helps us obey God and live like Him with awesome actions. Say, "God cares about my actions!" (God cares about my actions!)

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: God cares about our actions! Our actions show others that we love and follow Him. Say, "God cares about my actions!" (God cares about my actions!) Like Paul wrote, if we love Jesus, we can live like Him by obeying God and helping others. When we do, we shine like

stars. We live set apart from the world when we point others to Jesus! Everyone, say, “I am set apart!” (I am set apart!) Let’s pray and talk with God in 3-2-1.

Closing Prayer: God thank You for making us to shine like stars and point others to You. Whenever we wonder how we should live our lives, help us turn to You and follow Your example. Thank You, Jesus, for setting the best example by obeying God and giving up Your life to rescue us from sin. Help us to live like You and have actions that honor You. Amen.

Transition to Small Group Time: Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

Small Group Time:

Option #1: Connection Questions

What To Do: Let’s discuss and discover how we can live it out by living set apart!

1. What are the different ways your friends and family help you? What are the different ways you help your friends and family? (Allow kids to respond and share your own response.)
2. Would you rather be the person who climbs high on a ladder or the person holding the ladder to help keep the climber safe? (Allow kids to respond.) How can thinking about the kind, helpful person holding the ladder help us remember how God made us to live? (God made us to think about others and help them with our actions.)
3. The Bible tells us that God cares about our actions. Our actions show that we love and follow Him. Let’s open our Bibles to **Philippians 2:3-4** and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) Paul wrote that, when people follow Jesus, they are called to have an attitude like Jesus. What specific actions did Paul encourage us to practice? (Do not be selfish or proud. Consider others as more important than ourselves. Look out not just for our own needs but the needs of others.)
4. Jesus put the needs of others before His own as He obeyed God and died to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus rose again, showing that He is more powerful than sin and death. Jesus did this because He obeyed God and loved us. How can we treat and help others with humility like Jesus did? (Focusing on people instead of ourselves helps us live humbly like Jesus.)

Community Big Kids

5. Our actions show we love and follow God. If we follow Jesus, we shine like stars when we live like Him. We live set apart from the world and point others to Jesus! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Live it Out Puzzle

1. Decorate the images on the puzzle.
2. Cut apart the puzzle.

What To Do: Hey, team! We are going to make our very own puzzles today to help us remember what Paul wrote that our actions can help others and point them to God. Say, "God cares about my actions!" (God cares about my actions!)

You will see on our puzzle all things Paul wrote about in Philippians 2. If you look and see the dotted lines on the paper, the point is that, when you cut out your puzzle, all the pieces will be square. It can seem like you can put it together in any random way, but there will only be one correct way. That correct way will be when all the phrases are connected in the right way! (Allow time.)

After you finish your phrases, you can color and decorate your puzzle. Then cut it out and trade puzzles with a teammate. See if you can put that new puzzle together the right way! (Distribute paper clips so kids can keep their puzzle pieces together.)

Loud And Clear: Your puzzles look great! Even though all the pieces are the same shape and look similar, there is only one way to actually put your puzzle together. God made us to live one way. That way is following Him and helping others. When we live the way God made us to live, we help others see how good and amazing He is! We can trust God, live like Jesus, and humbly help others around us. Keep your puzzles as a reminder that you can live it out!

Option #3: Activity Page

What To Do: This activity page helps us remember some big things we have learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

Community Big Kids

Leader Tip: Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story or remind them Jesus helps us live like Him, which means humble actions that point others to God. We shine like stars when we follow Jesus and live like Him.

Loud And Clear: Jesus shows us the best way to live. We can humbly obey God and help others. When we do, we shine like stars and point others to God. God cares about our actions because He works through our actions to help others know and love Him. So let's live it out by following God and living set apart!

Close out in prayer:

What To Do:

- Ask for any specific prayer requests
- Pray with the group
- Lead the group in the prayer below.

What You Say: God thank You for the chance to open the Bible and learn about You. Help us to live set apart and live out the truth that we love and follow You. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from sin and give us the best example of how to live. Help us live our lives with actions that help others and honor You. Amen.

Dismissal:

Leader Tip: Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.