

## Today's Suggested Schedule—June 21, 2026

**Bible Story:** The Story of the Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-32*

**Bottom Line:** God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *"May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven."* (Matthew 6:10 NIRV)

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZj> for a visual on some of the activities.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### **OPENING SMALL GROUP (20 minutes)**

**SOCIAL:** Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver /

Opening Activity

### **LARGE GROUP (30-35 minutes)**

**WORSHIP:** Inviting People to Respond to God

**STORY:** Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Memory Verse Poster
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster
- Teaching (Video)
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster

### **SMALL GROUP (25-30 minutes)**

**GROUPS:** Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Reinforcement Activity

Prayer Journal

### **TAKE HOME**

Devotional Page

**Social**  
**Opening Activity**  
**Made to Explore**

**What You Need:**

- Plastic tablecloth
- Clear plastic bin
- Clear short glass or jar
- Water
- Coins
- Paper towels

**What You Do:**

*Before the Activity:*

- Spread out the tablecloth on the floor or table.
- Place the bin on top of the tablecloth, and place the glass/jar on the bottom of the bin.
- Fill the bin more than halfway with water.

*During the Activity:*

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Give each kid a few coins.
- Challenge kids to take turns dropping one coin at a time into the water to try and get it into the glass/jar.
- After everyone has had several turns, count how many coins made it into the glass/jar.

**What You Say:**

“Great job trying to get those coins in the cup! It was a fun challenge. In our Bible Story today, we’re going to hear about a son who took a lot of money and made some not-so-great choices with it. Let’s go find out what happened.”

## **LARGE GROUP**

**What You Need:** TV, Pre-Loaded Video Content

**What You Do:**

1. Introduce/Remind kids about the
  - a. Monthly Theme
  - b. Monthly Memory Verse
  - c. Today's Bottom Line
2. Play Worship Songs
3. Allow kids to grab a snack
4. Play Teaching Video
5. Review Today's Bottom Line

**Lead your group to the Small Group activity.**

## Groups (After Videos)

### 1. Hand Clap Game

Live for God | Application Activity  
Made to Play

#### What You Need:

- No supplies needed

#### What You Do:

*During the Activity:*

- Invite the kids to join you sitting in a circle on the floor or around a table.
- Teach them a simple, repeating hand-motion pattern. For example: Slap your lap twice, clap your hands twice, snap your fingers twice. (*Slap, Slap, Clap, Clap, Snap, Snap.*)
- Practice the pattern together until everyone gets the rhythm.
- Explain the challenge: “We’re going to pass the motion around the circle. We can’t stop until everyone has done it!”
- Start the motion. The person to your right joins in on the next beat, then the next person, and so on, until the whole circle is doing the hand motions together.
- Try it a few times, and celebrate when the whole group is moving together.

#### What You Say:

“That was awesome! Look how we all worked together to do the same motion. Our circle wasn’t complete until everyone joined in. That reminds me of God’s kingdom. God wants everyone to be in His family. He doesn’t want anyone to be left out.

“Sometimes, we’re like the younger son from the Bible Story. We do what we want instead of what God wants. We don’t feel like we’ve earned God’s love. But that’s the whole point! You can’t earn God’s love. God’s love is deeper than your greatest sins or your biggest mess-up. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any less. And the moment you turn back to God, you’ll find that He’s running to meet you. God is so excited when you return to His love that all of heaven celebrates!

“And sometimes, we’re like the older son from the Bible Story. We feel like we’ve done all the right things and earned God’s love, so we deserve for Him to give us what we want. But you can’t earn God’s love in those times either! God wants you to rest in His love and all the good things He’s already given you. And then you can pass on that love to other people when they mess up. Remember, God loves everyone, no matter what! And **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**”

## 2. Pass the Ring

### Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity

#### Made to Move

#### What You Need:

- Bibles
- Plastic toy ring
- Music player
- Fun, upbeat worship music

#### What You Do:

##### *During the Activity:*

- Invite kids to sit in a circle.
- Give every kid a Bible, and direct them to look up Matthew 6:10.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

***Finding verses for 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders:** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.*

- Repeat the verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Remind kids of the part in the parable when the father gave the son a special ring when he came home.
- Explain that you're going to play a game like "Hot Potato" with the ring.
- Play the music and have the kids pass the ring around the circle.
- When the music stops, the person holding the ring gets to say the Memory Verse: "May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven" (Matthew 6:10 NIV).
- Help kids if they need it, then have the whole group say the verse together.
- Start the music and continue playing until several kids have had a turn to say the verse.

#### What You Say:

"Great job! That ring reminds me of the story Jesus told. When the son came home after making some pretty bad choices, the father didn't lecture the son or give him a list of ways to pay for his bad choices. Instead, the father honored the son with a robe, ring, and sandals and threw an epic welcome home party!

"The father in the Bible Story showed us what God's love is like. There is nothing you can do that will make God love you any less. And the moment you turn back to God, you'll find that He's running to meet you. God is so excited when you return to His love that all of heaven celebrates!

"God's love is greater than any love, and God loves us no matter what! When we pray our Memory Verse, we're asking for God to spread His love everywhere on earth. **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.**"

### 3. Pray and Dismiss

#### Pray to God | Prayer Activity

#### Made to Reflect

*\*Uses Minimal Supplies\**

#### What You Need:

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Coloring supplies
- Clear tape

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:*

- Cut paper into one-inch to two-inch wide strips, one per kid.

*During the Activity:*

- Give each kid a strip of paper, and ask them to write or draw someone from their school or neighborhood who needs to know about Jesus.
- Take one kid's strip, loop it through one of the end circles of the paper form it into a circle, and tape it closed.
- Take the next kid's strip and loop it through the first circle before taping it, adding to the chain.
- Continue with each kid's strip of paper.

#### What You Say:

"Look how long our prayer chain has gotten! Every loop is someone God loves. God loves every single one of them. **[Bottom Line] God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.** A lot of loops on our chain means a lot of people to pray for. Let's pray and ask God to help us show His love to the people on our prayer chain."

#### Prayer:

"Dear God, thank You for being like the father in the story and always waiting for us with a big hug. Thank You that no matter what we do, You still love us. Help us to remember that You want everyone to be in Your family. Help us to be welcoming to others, just like You are to us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

*As adults arrive to pick up, remind kids that **[Bottom Line] God wants EVERYONE to be part of His kingdom.***

***As adults arrive to pick up, give each kid a copy of the weekly devotional page.***