

Today's Suggested Schedule—August 16, 2026

Bible Story: In All Things God Works for Good • *Romans 8:28-29*

Bottom Line: God can use all things.

Monthly Memory Verse: *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.* • Psalm 139:14 NIV

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> 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 Connect

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- ☐ “Circle Creations” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Clipboard
- ☐ Coloring supplies

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Circle Creations” on cardstock, one per kid.

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Give each kid a “Circle Creations” Activity Page and coloring supplies.
- Point out all the empty circles on the page.
- Challenge the kids: “Your job is to turn these simple circles into something totally new and different. What can a circle become?”
- Encourage their creativity by giving a few examples: A circle could become the sun, the wheel on a car, a smiley face, a basketball, or a ladybug.
- Give them several minutes to draw and transform their circles into a page full of unique creations.
- When they’re done, invite them to share their favorite creation with the group.

What You Say:

“These are so creative! You started with just plain circles, and you turned them into all these amazing new things. That’s kind of what God does in our lives. He can take any situation—even a hard or confusing one—and turn it into something good. Today, we’re going to hear a Bible Story that reminds us **[Bottom Line]** God can use all things. Let’s go!”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *Encourage kids to work with a partner to come up with ideas and decorate their page together.*

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.

1. Guess the Story

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Play

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ “Guess the Story” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ File folders
- ☐ Scissors or a craft knife

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Guess the Story” on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
- Cut one one-inch square out of the front of each file folder, and change the position of each square.
- Place one “Guess the Story” picture inside each folder so that only a tiny part of the picture is visible through the cutout. You may need to try out different pictures in each file folder to make sure you have the best fit for each picture.

During the Activity:

- Open the Bible to Romans 8:28-29, and read the verses.
- Share the following key points:
 - These verses are part of a letter that Paul wrote to the followers of Jesus who lived in Rome.
 - Paul was sharing an important truth about God: In the life of a Jesus-follower, God works all things for good!
- Gather the kids around, and hold up the first file folder.
- Explain that the kids need to guess what the story picture is based on the tiny bit of the picture they can see through the square.
- After they lock in their guess, open the folder to see if they guessed correctly.
- Continue with each folder until all six pictures have been revealed.
- As a final challenge, have the whole group work together to place the six pictures in the correct story order.

What You Say:

“That was tricky! It was hard to know the whole story just by looking through that tiny hole, right? Sometimes, our lives feel like that. We only see one small, confusing part of what’s happening, and we can’t see the big picture. But God always sees the whole story. And He promises in these verses that He is using every single thing to make something good.

“God used all the experiences that Moses and Paul faced to bring about good in their lives—and in the lives of many other people too!

“You may know people who have seen God work something good from the hard things they faced. You may have even experienced it yourself. Perhaps you were super-anxious about starting at a new school—but then, you made a new friend you wouldn’t have met without moving schools. Once you see

where God has worked something difficult for good in your life before, you can trust that He will continue to be at work for good when you face something new that's not-so-easy.

“When we choose to love God and give our lives to Him, we can be confident that He will bring good out of everything we’ve experienced and everything we’ve done. This doesn’t mean God *causes* hard things to happen—but it does mean that God is so good and powerful, He can work good through every single thing in our lives. **[Bottom Line] God can use all things.**”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *For kids who struggle with guessing, give them two options to choose from. Say: “Do you think this is the picture of baby Moses in the basket or Moses with the burning bush?”*

2. Bible Story Extension

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

What You Need:

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ “Story Pictures” Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Story Pictures” on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Create a long timeline on the floor with tape.
- Place ONE piece from each of the four pictures along the timeline in the correct story order. This piece will act as the “clue.”
- Create a large, mixed-up pile of all the other picture pieces on a table or in the center of room.

During the Activity:

- Explain the game: “On the floor is a timeline of Moses’ life, but the pictures are incomplete. Your job is to work together to find the missing pieces from the pile and complete each picture on the timeline to build the story.”
- On “Go,” have kids look through the pile to find the pieces that match their clues on the timeline and assemble the full pictures in the correct order.
- Open the Bible and read Romans 8:28-29.
- Share the following key points:
 - These verses are part of a letter that Paul wrote to the followers of Jesus who lived in Rome.
 - Paul was sharing an important truth about God: In the life of a Jesus-follower, God works all things for good!

What You Say:

“Great job! Look at this timeline. Moses’ life had a lot of different pieces, right? Some were good, and some were really hard. But did God use all of those pieces? Absolutely. Every single part of his story was used by God to prepare him for his purpose. God used all the experiences Moses faced to bring about good!

“You may know people who have seen God work something good from the hard things they faced. You may have even experienced it yourself. Perhaps you were super-anxious about starting at a new school—but then, you made a new friend you wouldn’t have met without moving schools. Once you see where God has worked in your life before, you can trust that He will continue to be at work when you face something new.

“When we choose to love God and give our lives to Him, we can be confident that He will bring good out of everything we’ve experienced and everything we’ve done. This doesn’t mean God *causes* hard things to happen—but it does mean that God is so good and powerful, He can work good through every single thing in our lives. No matter what pieces are in our story, **[Bottom Line] God can use all things** for good for those who love Him.”

3. Discussion Questions

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Connect

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- ☐ No supplies needed

What You Do:

- **Ask these questions and discuss:**
 - When something hard happens, why is it difficult to believe that God could bring anything good out of it?
 - Looking at Moses or Paul, how did their hardest moments actually prepare them for something bigger later on?
 - If God's goal is to make us more like Jesus, how could struggles or challenges help shape things like your character, choices, or faith?
 - When you can't see any "good" in a situation yet, what does trusting God actually look like in real life?
 - **[Conversation Starter] What do you need to trust God with?**

4. Pray and Dismiss

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- ☐ “Heart Tangram” Activity Page
- ☐ Red cardstock
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Writing supplies

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Heart Tangram” on red cardstock and cut, one per Small Group.

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a piece of the tangram and a writing utensil.
- If there are extra pieces of the tangram that aren't given out, allow kids to take additional pieces, or feel free to leave some pieces blank. (Or the leader can fill one out too!) Instruct them to write or draw a picture of that thing on their tangram piece. Make sure to have kids write their name as well.
- As you assemble the pieces, talk about each one, and gently remind the kids that God knows about the hard things, and He will use them for good.

What You Say:

“It’s okay to have hard things happen in our lives. Moses did too. But the most important thing to remember is that the very good God is with us, and He is using that hard thing for good. He can take all the different pieces of our life—the happy parts and the sad parts—and put them together to make something beautiful, just like how these pieces make a heart. Let’s pray and ask God to help us trust Him with all the pieces of our lives.”

Prayer:

“Dear God, thank You for being with us in the happy times and the hard times. Please take all the things we drew on our papers and use them for something good. Help us to trust that You are always working for good and that **[Bottom Line] God can use all things**. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

*As adults arrive to pick up, remind kids that **[Bottom Line] God can use all things!***