

Today's Suggested Schedule—August 23, 2026

Bible Story: Woman at the Well • *John 4*

Bottom Line: Jesus values everyone.

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 Explore

What You Need:

- ☐ Three clear plastic cups
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Plastic tray
- ☐ Food coloring
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Index cards
- ☐ Coloring supplies

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Fill two cups halfway with water.
- Mix several drops of one color of food coloring into one cup of water. Mix several drops of the other color of food coloring in the remaining cup of water.
- Arrange the cups on the tray side by side with the empty cup in the middle.
- Fold each sheet of paper towel into thirds lengthwise, and set to the side.

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Place the end of one paper towel into the liquid on the left side and the other end of that paper towel in the middle cup.
- Place the end of the other paper towel into the liquid on the right side, and the other end of that paper towel in the middle cup.
- Give each kid an index card and some coloring supplies. Ask kids to predict what will happen in the middle cup and write or draw it on their index card.
- Invite the kids to watch as the colored water slowly “walks” up the paper towels and begins to drip into the middle cup, mixing to create a new color.

What You Say:

“Look at that! The water is moving and spreading all by itself! It’s sharing its color with the empty cup. In our Bible Story today, we’re going to meet a woman who was so excited about meeting Jesus that she couldn’t wait to run and spread the news of Jesus’ love to her whole town. 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.

1. Trace the Story

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Create

Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ “Trace the Story” Activity Page
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Crayons (especially darker colors)
- ☐ Pencils
- ☐ Hard surface or clipboard

EveryChild Supplies:

- ☐ Clear tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Trace the Story” on paper, one per kid.

During the Activity:

- Open your Bible to John 4, and show the kids where the Bible Story is.
- Review the main points of the story with the kids by sharing points like.
 - Jesus was traveling with His disciples and chose to go the way that led Him into the region where Samaritans lived.
 - Samaritans and Jewish people did not get along.
 - Jesus got tired and sat down by a well outside of a Samaritan town. It was about noon.
 - While Jesus was resting, a Samaritan woman came to the well to get water.
 - Jesus was kind to the woman even though she was a Samaritan and was probably an outcast of her own people. She had also made some bad choices.
 - Jesus knew all about the woman, and she was amazed.
 - Jesus told the woman that He is the Messiah, the Savior of the whole world!
 - The woman was so grateful that Jesus valued her so much, she went and told the people of her town about Him.
 - Many people in her town became followers of Jesus!
- Give each kid a “Trace the Story” Activity Page, a blank piece of cardstock, and let them choose a dark crayon. (Kids can use more than one color if desired.)
- Instruct them to flip their picture over to the back.
- Have them color hard all over the back of the entire picture, creating a thick layer of crayon wax.
- Next, have them flip the picture back over and place it on top of their blank sheet of cardstock.
- Instruct them to firmly trace over the lines of the drawing using a pencil.
- When they’re done, have them lift the picture page to reveal the transferred image on their blank paper.

What You Say:

“Wow, you made a copy of the picture! By tracing over the top, you made the picture show up on the paper underneath. In our Bible Story, Jesus talked with the woman at the well and showed her that He

valued her by talking to her. He even told her who He was—the Savior God had promised! He showed her that even though other people might not have treated her well, He saw her and valued her.

“Through the love of Jesus, her life was changed forever. Because her life was changed, the woman ran to tell others about Jesus because she knew that Jesus valued everyone! Jesus loves everyone so much that He came and gave His life to pay for their sins, so they could be His friends forever! **[Bottom Line]** Jesus values everyone, no matter who they are, where they live, or what they’ve done.”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *For kids who struggle with the fine motor control needed for tracing, allow them to color the original picture.*
- *Taping the corners of the papers together can help prevent them from slipping during the tracing process.*

2. Masterpiece Pose

Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity

Made to Move

What You Need:

- ☐ Bibles

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible, and direct them to look up Psalm 139:14.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

Finding verses for nd2-3rd 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 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.
- Invite the kids to stand up and spread out.
- Explain the game: “You will say the Memory Verse together, and every time you say the word ‘YOU,’ everyone must freeze and strike a pose like a priceless statue in a museum—a masterpiece!”
- Practice a few masterpiece poses together. They can be silly, serious, or strong!
- Lead the group in saying the verse and freezing on each “YOU.”
 - *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).*
- Play several times, challenging the kids to strike a different masterpiece pose each time.

What You Say:

“Awesome job with those masterpiece poses! This game is a perfect way to remember our Memory Verse. Every time we froze, we were reminding ourselves of this amazing truth: God made YOU! The verse says: *How you made me is amazing and wonderful (Psalm 139:14 NIV)*. This verse is not talking about your friend or your brother; it’s talking about YOU! God made you, and He thinks you are amazing and wonderful. You don’t have to do anything to earn it. You just are.

“Always remember, you are God’s masterpiece, and He values you so much. And because **[Bottom Line] Jesus values everyone**, He wants us to share that love with others.”

EveryChild Pro-Tip:

- *For a kid with mobility challenges, they can freeze by making a silly face or striking a pose with just their hands and arms.*
- *If a kid is shy about posing, let them know that simply freezing in place like a guard statue is a perfect way to play. The goal is to participate, not perform.*
- *Allow kids to simply listen and do the freezing motion if they aren’t comfortable saying the verse out loud.*

4. Pray and Dismiss Pray to God | Prayer Activity

What You Need:

- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Markers or pens
- ☐ Hand wipes

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a piece of paper and a marker.
- Show them how to trace their hand on the paper. Offer to help if they need it.
- Explain that you are going to make a “Five-Finger Prayer” to remember that Jesus values all kinds of people.
- On each finger of their traced hand, help them write a category of people to pray for:
 - Pinky Finger: Someone younger than me
 - Ring Finger: A community helper (teacher, firefighter, doctor)
 - Middle Finger: A family member
 - Pointer Finger: A friend
 - Thumb: Someone I don’t know very well
- Once their hand is labeled, go through each finger, and pray together for those people.

What You Say:

“This is a great way to remember to pray for all kinds of people because **[Bottom Line]** Jesus values everyone! Let’s hold our prayer hands and talk to God right now.”

Prayer:

“Dear God, thank You for loving us so much. Thank You for this reminder that You value everyone. Please help us to show Your love to the people we wrote on our hands today—to people who are younger, to our community helpers, to our families, to our friends, and even to people we don’t know very well. Help us to treat everyone like they are Your masterpiece. You value them, and we want to value them as well. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, give each kid a DEVOTIONAL PAGE to take home and remind kids that [Bottom Line] Jesus values everyone, and we should too!