

Today's Suggested Schedule—July 5, 2026

Today's Bible Story: The Story of the Farmer • Matthew 13:1-23

God's kingdom grows when you hear and do what He says.

Key Question: Who teaches you about God's kingdom?

Bottom Line: Jesus teaches me about God's kingdom.

Memory Verse: "Put God's kingdom first." • Matthew 6:33 NIV

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. bit.ly/FL_KingdomQuest_July

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

SERVICE DURATION (75-80 MINUTES)

9:15am/11:00am thru 10:35am/12:20pm

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SMALL GROUP (30-35 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver /
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (10-15 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Bottom Line Poster
- Play video:
 - a. Worship (Songs-Video)
 - b. Teaching (Clubhouse - Video)
 - c. Review Monthly Memory Verse

SMALL GROUP: (25-30 minutes)

- Reinforcement Activities

TAKE HOME:

Monthly Placemat

Social

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

15 minutes

1. Listen to the Sound

Made to Move

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- “Sound Pictures” Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Smartphone or music player
- Painter’s tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print “Sound Pictures” on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape each picture to a different surface around the room. (The wall, the floor, a table, a door, etc.) Cue your sound effects.

During the Activity: Explain that you will play a sound for everyone to listen to, then the children will run to stand by the picture that matches the sound. Continue with each of the sounds. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hello, friends! Let’s play a listening game today! You’ll need to turn on your super-listening ears.”

During the Activity: “I’m going to play a sound. I need you to listen very carefully and then run to the picture that matches the sound! Ready? Listen ... *(Play a sound, e.g., ‘Moo’)*. What was that? *(Pause for responses.)* A cow! That’s right! Run to find the cow! *(Pause.)* You did it! You are great listeners! Let’s try another one.” *(Continue with each of the sounds. Repeat as desired.)*

After the Activity: “You all did an amazing job with your listening ears! In our Bible Story, Jesus tells a special story called a parable. A parable helps us think and feel and understand big things about God. His story today is all about how important it is to listen to what He says. Let’s go hear the story!”

Move to worship and story and play July 5th Videos

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

1. Memory Verse with Motions

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review
Made to Move

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

During the Activity: Teach the Memory Verse motions. Invite the children to do them with you several times.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come stand with me! Let’s learn our brand-new Memory Verse. It tells us about God’s kingdom, and it goes like this: ‘Put God’s (*point up with two hands*) kingdom (*make crown on head with hands*) first.’ (*Hold up one finger.*) Matthew 6:33 (*open hands like a book.*)”

During the Activity: “Now, let’s learn the motions! The first part says, ‘Put God’s.’ Everyone, point up in the air with both hands. (*Point up.*) Great! The next part says, ‘kingdom.’ Make a crown with your hands over your head like this. (*Make a crown on head with hands.*) The next part says, ‘first.’ Point up with one finger. (*Hold up one finger.*) Super! And the last part says, Matthew 6:33. (*Open hands like a book.*) Let’s put it all together! Ready? ‘Put God’s (*point up with two hands*) kingdom (*make a crown on head with hands*) first.’ (*Hold up one finger.*) Matthew 6:33.” (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job!” (*Repeat several times.*)

After the Activity: “You’ve got it! Our Memory Verse teaches us to put God’s kingdom first. When we learn verses from the Bible, it helps us remember God’s words all week long! When we are at the playground, we can remember to ‘put God’s kingdom first.’ When we are at home, we can remember to ‘put God’s kingdom first.’ When we are at the library, we can remember to ‘put God’s kingdom first.’ I’m so glad we have the Bible and Jesus to teach us about God’s kingdom. **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom.**”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Invite children to say it with you or repeat words after you.
- Set out the picture cutouts made from the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF for children to hold up or point to as an alternative to saying or repeating the verse out loud.

2. The Growing Seed

Talk about God | Bible Story Review

Made to Create

***Uses Minimal Supplies**

What You Need:

- “The Growing Seed” Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Brown tissue paper
- Crayons or washable markers
- Glue sticks
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- Baby wipes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print “The Growing Seed” on cardstock, one per child. Write each child’s name on their paper. Cut brown tissue paper in one-inch squares, ten per child.

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page. Point out the line across the middle. Explain that below the line is the ground/dirt, and above the line is the air. Point to the seed in the ground and ask children to color it in, then glue brown tissue paper squares to fill in the dirt/ground area. Ask children to trace the line in green for the stem. Then encourage children to make a pretty flower at the top of the stem.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come to the table and let’s make some neat story art to help us remember today’s Bible Story.”

During the Activity: “Jesus told a story about a farmer. The farmer threw seeds on the ground! See this line on your paper? *(Point)* This part down here is the ground, and the part up here is the sky. See the seed in the ground? *(Point)* Color the seed. *(Pause.)* Great! Now, glue some of these pieces of brown tissue paper for the soil. For a seed to grow into a big, strong plant, it needs good soil. When the seed is in good soil, and it gets water and sunshine, it starts to grow! Take a green crayon or marker and trace this line. *(Point.)* That’s your seed growing. *(Pause.)* Now you can draw a pretty flower at the top of the stem, and some leaves too. *(Pause.)* Everyone’s seed grew into something amazing!”

After the Activity: “In our story today, Jesus talked about a farmer planting seeds. Some seeds fell on the path, some on rocks, and some in thorns, and they didn’t grow. But the seeds that fell on the good soil grew into big, healthy plants! Jesus wants us to be like the good soil. When we listen to Jesus and learn that He loves us, we grow! And do you know what else? When we tell others that Jesus loves them, we help God’s kingdom grow, too. **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom.**”

3. Good Soil, Good Choices

Live for God | Application Activity
Made to Think

What You Need:

- “Allergy Alert Poster”
- “Good Soil, Good Choices” Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Plastic trays
- Potting Soil
- Small river rocks or aquarium gravel
- Little People®
- Scissors
- Plastic tablecloth

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print “Allergy Alert Poster” on cardstock, list potting soil and post at the door. Print “Good Soil, Good Choices” on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Spread out the tablecloth on a table or on the floor. Fill one tray with potting soil for the “Good Soil” and fill the second tray with river rocks or gravel for the “Rocks.” Place the two trays in the center of the tablecloth.

During the Activity: Let children pick a Little People figure. Hold up a choice card and describe the action. Ask if it’s a “Good Soil” choice (listening to Jesus) or a “Rocky” choice. Have children move their figure to the tray they feel the choice represents. Repeat with each choice card.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Let’s play a game about making good choices. When we listen to Jesus, our hearts are like good soil. When we don’t listen, it’s like the rocks.”

During the Activity: “Pick a person to help you play our choices game. I’ll show you a picture. If it’s a good choice, put your person in the good soil. If it’s not, put your person on the rocky path. Ready? First choice is ... listening ears! Is it good to listen? *(Pause.)* Yes! That’s good soil! Put your person in the soil. *(Pause.)* Okay, next is ... yelling. Is yelling a good soil choice? *(Pause.)* No. That’s a rocky choice. Move your person. *(Continue with all cards.)* Great job!”

After the Activity: “Jesus teaches us so we can make good choices! When we choose to listen and do what Jesus says, we are like the good soil, and God’s kingdom grows! When we share our toys, God’s kingdom grows. When we use kind words, God’s kingdom grows. When we help our friends, God’s kingdom grows. Jesus is the best teacher! I am so glad we have Jesus to teach us! **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s Kingdom.**”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- For children with sensory sensitivities, they can place their figure just beside the tray instead of in the soil or on the rocks.
- Use a thumbs-up for “good soil” and thumbs-down for “rocky path” as a strong visual cue to help with their decision.

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- “Memory Verse Card”
- Cardstock
- Bible
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen
- Scissors

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print “Memory Verse Card” on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 6:33. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Encourage the children pretend they are watering plants as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story and the Memory Verse Hand Motions. Ask the children to list ways we can grow God’s kingdom.

After the Activity: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “It’s Small Group time! Let’s get our little watering cans ready so we can help all the seeds grow. (*Pretend to hold a watering can.*) We have to water all the little seeds so they can grow big and strong! Let’s walk to our spot and water everything we see! (*Pretend to sprinkle water as you lead the children.*) Here we are! Now let’s put our watering cans away and sit down together to talk about today’s Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) “In our Bible Story today, Jesus told a story about a farmer who planted seeds. Some seeds fell on a hard path where they couldn’t grow. Some fell on rocks. And other seeds fell on the good, good soil! Those seeds grew into big, strong plants! Jesus said our hearts can be like that good soil when we listen to Him and do what He says. When we do that, God’s kingdom grows! **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom.**

“The Bible verse we are learning helps us remember what to do. It says: ‘Put God’s (*point up with two hands*) kingdom (*make crown on head with hands*) first.’ (*Hold up one finger.*) Matthew 6:33 (*open hands like a book*). Now do what I do and say what I say. ‘Put God’s (*point up with two hands*) kingdom (*make crown on head with hands*) first.’ (*Hold up one finger.*) Matthew 6:33 (*open hands like a book*). Great job, everyone! When we listen to Jesus and do what He does, God’s kingdom grows. I am so glad we have Jesus to teach us! **Who teaches you about God’s kingdom? [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom.**

(Open journal.) “Since Jesus teaches us how to help God’s kingdom grow, let’s make a list in our journal of all the ‘good soil’ things we can do! These are things that show we are listening to Jesus and putting Him first. When I say your name, tell me one good thing we can do to help God’s kingdom grow, and I will write it in our journal.” *(Write down their answers. If a child gets stuck, offer one of these suggestions: We can pray and talk to God. We can read the Bible and listen to His stories. We can sing songs to God. We can share our toys. We can help our friends. Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

After the Activity: (Hold up the journal.) “This is a wonderful list of ways we can be like good soil! Let’s pray and talk to God about it. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, thank You for teaching us about Your kingdom in the Bible. Thank You that **[Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me about God’s kingdom.** Please help us have hearts like good soil. Help us to hear what You say and then DO it. Help us to *(read the list the children made: pray, read the Bible, sing songs, share, and help)*. Please help my friends *(say each child’s name)* to grow big and strong for You this week, just like the seeds in the good soil. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”