



**August 9, 2026**

**I Am Designed for a Purpose  
Elementary Leader Guide**

the place for kids to take  
their first steps with Jesus.



**WIN**

Jesus taught us to choose kindness over anger and to care for others, even when it is difficult. We serve because we love God, not for attention or praise. Jesus is our greatest example, and part of God's purpose for our lives is to serve others like He did.

*BIBLE- How to Serve- Matthew 5:38-42; 6:1-4, 19-24*

**TOOLS**

**Scan QR**



**ASK Leader**



**Leader Devos**



**Like It Counts**

**SOCIAL TIME**

**The first 10 minutes as kids arrive is a very important time in your small group. Because of this, we provide you with intentional activities to engage their interests and help lead into a great discussion. All of this is so that “boredom” is not an excuse. Everything is only available one time.**

Every week you have:

- Roku Games to play together that are changed out monthly.
- 2 month specific games or group activities.
- Plus 2 Social Activities. \*\* Use one now and save the other for an incentive to participate in all the activities.

### **Games and Music (10 minutes)**

*What You Need:* Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, Dry erase board and marker (1 per group), Masking tape (1 per group), Beanbag (1 per group), Toss and Answer Questions (1 per group), Construction paper (1 of 4 different colors 1 set per group), Blindfolds (3 per group)

#### **What You Do:**

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

**Say:** That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

## Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

### Bible Story Recap- Say This

We believe that God designed us for a purpose. Turn to your neighbor and say, "You are designed for a purpose." (*You are designed for a purpose.*) Point to yourself and say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (*I am designed for a purpose!*) Like we heard in our Bible story, Jesus taught that to live as part of God's family means to serve others, to choose kindness, and to love God above everything else. Living according to God's purpose and how He designed us is the best way to live. This includes serving others, no matter how we feel or what they have done. This can be hard to do! Thankfully, we have the best example—Jesus. Let me hear you say, "Let's serve like Jesus!" (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)

### Gospel Connection: (refer to the 4 Circles poster in your small group spaces)

**Circle 3-** Jesus showed us what it means to honor God by serving others with love, patience, and kindness. He served us in the greatest way by dying on the cross for our sins and rising again so that anyone who trusts in Him can be forgiven and have a relationship with God.

**Circle 2-** Because sin has broken our hearts and our world, we need Jesus to forgive us and make us new. As we follow His example, He helps us choose kindness, serve others, and show love—even when it's difficult or when people do not seem to deserve it.

**Circle 1-** When we believe in Jesus, He makes us new and restores our relationship with God, helping us serve others with the right heart—not for recognition, but because we love Him and want to live the way He designed us to live.

**Circle 4-** One day, Jesus will come back to earth and make everything new! Sin will be no more. Until then, we can live the way God made us to live by serving others and pointing them to Him.

Jesus is our perfect example of serving, but we cannot follow His example in our own strength. We need Him to heal our hearts so we can follow Him. Let us tell you how He can do that!

When we serve like Jesus, we are living in God's best design and purpose! Say, "I am designed for a purpose!" (*I am designed for a purpose!*) Say, "Let's serve like Jesus!" (*Let's serve like Jesus!*)

## “Dice” to be on Our Team

**Big Goal:** Remember that we help others because God made us to serve like Jesus.

**Leader Prep:** Tape a start line on the floor. Place two buckets on the line. Fill these buckets with an equal amount of cotton balls. Place two more buckets across the room.

**Supplies:** Masking or painter’s tape (1 per group), Buckets (4 per group), Cotton balls (50–60 per group), Dice (2 per group), Stopwatch or timer (1 per group; optional)

**What To Do:** Turn to your neighbor and give a high five while saying, “It’s ‘dice’ to have you here today!” (*It’s “dice” to have you here today!*) This game is called “‘Dice’ to Be on Our Team!” We will form two teams, and each team will race to move its team’s cotton balls from one bucket to the other. On your turn, roll a dice. Whatever number you roll, ask that many people to help move cotton balls with you by saying, “I need your help!” What do you say? (*I need your help!*) Only one cotton ball per person. Your goal is to move all your team’s cotton balls before the other team! (*Ask kids to get into two teams and line up behind the first buckets. Give the first person in line a dice.*) When I say, “Go,” roll your dice and move those cotton balls! 3-2-1 Go!

**Keep It Going:** Challenge kids to move in different ways, such as hopping, skipping, and so forth. Direct kids to link elbows as they travel back and forth.

**Leader Tip:** Monitor the game to make sure all kids get to help at some point.

**Smaller Group Option:** Play as one team, timing the team to see how quickly kids can move all the cotton balls.

**Loud And Clear:** We all need help sometimes. That is why God designed us to serve others like Jesus did. When we serve and help others, we are sharing the love of Jesus with those we serve. He is our ultimate example! Say, **“Let’s serve like Jesus!” (Let’s serve like Jesus!)**

Let’s chat about this more by looking at some questions that make us think deeper.

## TALK ABOUT IT

### Discussion Questions:

- What are some jobs where people serve and help others, and how do they serve others? *(Allow kids to answer and include your own.)*
- Think back on our Object Lesson from Large Group. How can we serve others when we find a dirty sock in our homes? How can we serve others when we see them in need? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own. Answers may include pick it up, help them out, serve them, and so forth.)*
- The Bible tells us that when we serve like Jesus, we are living out God's best purpose and design for our lives. Let's open our Bibles to **Matthew 5:42 and 6:3-4** (pg. 1053) so we can 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.)* This passage tells us how to live out part of God's purpose for our lives—to serve others, to choose kindness, and to love God above everything else. We do that when we serve everyone with an attitude that honors and obeys God instead of an attitude of wanting attention from people. What are some ways we can serve others without seeking applause or pats on the back from other people? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own. Answers may include I can serve even when no one is watching; I can encourage someone by leaving a note without signing my name; and so forth.)*
- Jesus served us when He took the punishment for our sins by dying on a cross and coming back to life. When we ask Jesus to forgive our sins, He does! And He gives us a forever relationship with God. What changes in your life when you have a relationship with God? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own. Answers may include I will want to obey my parents, read my Bible more, or pray and talk with God more, and so forth.)* It is OK if you do not know what a relationship with God might look like in your life! But if you want to know more, please come ask me. I would love to tell you about my relationship with God and how you can have one too!
- The Bible tells us that when we serve others, we are living in God's purpose that He designed for us. So next up is to serve like Jesus! What is one way you can serve like Jesus this week? What is something you learned today?

## WRAP UP

Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)* Let's pray and talk to God. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

*God, thank You for serving us by sending Your Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins by dying on a cross and coming back to life. Thank You for Jesus's example of helping and serving others. Help us choose to trust Him. Give us the courage to serve others the way You served us. Amen.*

Jesus served others with kindness and pointed them to God. We can follow the example of Jesus by serving all people in order to obey and please God rather than ourselves. Let's show others who Jesus is by serving them. Say, **"Let's serve like Jesus!" (Let's serve like Jesus!)**

## GOING HOME

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.