



## Older IK Groups- 2nd - 5th Grades

**February 26, 2025**

**Bible Story:** Salt and Light- Matthew 5:13-16

**Big Idea:** God shines His light through us.

**The Win:** Kids who can identify and take their next step of discipleship by embracing a preschooler's physical needs or engaging an elementary kid in things that interest them.

### Wednesday Share:

Tonight during Impact Kids, we looked at Matthew 5:13-16. Jesus says to be the salt of the earth, bringing flavor to the world around us. He also says to be the light of the world and not to hide our lights. Our good deeds can be like lights that point out God's glory and bring him praise. Talk about this as a family: When have you seen God's light through someone else?

### Leader Devo:

<https://parkwaychurch.tv/blog/2025/02/19/feb-26>

### Dig In to Prayer:

Ask God to use your kids in mighty, amazing ways by shining his light through them.

### Quick Tip:

You may be the only light in a child's life. Thank you for being there and building relationships with your kids!

### Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM  
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM  
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM  
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM  
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM  
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM  
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM

## Low Energy Game:

### Supplies

- index cards (3 cards for every 4 kids)
- 1 sheet of blue or purple paper
- black marker
- masking tape
- high-intensity (LED) flashlight (1 for every 4 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

**Easy Prep:** On the blue or purple paper, draw a 3-inch-diameter circle in the center as a target. Tape the paper to a wall. Use a sharp pencil or hole punch to create a small hole in each index card.

Line Up Sheets of Paper so Light Can Shine Through

**Say:** Today we're talking about God shining his light through us. Let's get a little practice helping light shine through something else: index cards!

- Form kids into teams of four, and give each team a flashlight and three cards.
- Have teams stand side by side, about 5 feet from the sheet of dark paper.
- Turn off the lights.
- Explain that the flashlight-holder on each team will aim a beam of light at the target circle on the dark paper. The other three team members will line up their index cards so the beam shines through the holes and lands on the target.
- Have teams stand side by side with the flashlights off to start. Say "Go!" and have teams compete to see how quickly they can align cards and land a beam on the target.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.
- If time allows, mix and match players and try this several times!

### Talk About It

**Ask:** • What were the easiest and hardest parts of this game?

**Say:** It was hard to not block the light on its way to the target. God wants to shine his light through us so other people can see it.

• In what ways do we sometimes block God's light from shining through?

**Say:** I love that God shines his light through us. What a joy to share that light with others! Let's not cover God's light under baskets or block it with cards. Let it shine!

## Talk About Video:

### Discuss and Watch "Light and Space"

**Say:** We're learning that God shines his light through us. But what does that really mean? Well...let's think about light.

**Ask:** • What are some fun facts you know about light?

**Say:** Let's take a trip into space to find out more about light.

### Watch "Light and Space."

**Ask:** • What new things did you learn about light?

• How do you think the sun can provide power?

• Why do you think light refraction can change the way we see something?

**Say:** Light can do a lot of cool things. It helps us see, and even changes the way we see something when we look through water! Light can power a space station and provide heat. God's light provides us with power and brings warmth to our lives. And just as light helps us see, God shines his light through us so other people can see him.

## Deeper Bible:

### Supplies

- Bibles
- “Join the Crowd” handouts (1 set for every 10 kids)

**Easy Prep:** Cut apart the cards on the “Join the Crowd” handouts, making a stack from each page. Each stack will have 9 matching cards and 1 that names a different task. If you have more than 10 kids, add additional cards to the set, but leave out the different task from each additional page so there’s only 1 task that’s different in the whole set.

### Follow Directions

**Say:** We’re going to play a simple instructions game. I’ll give you each a task to do. Don’t let anyone else see your paper. On the count of three, you’ll all do whatever your paper says to do. Distribute the first set of papers, count to three, and let everyone do what the paper says.

Play two more rounds with the remaining sets of paper.

**Ask:** • How did you feel completing your task?

• What difference did it make if you were doing the same thing as everyone else or something different?

**Say:** We’ve been talking about God shining his light through us. But sometimes living differently from everyone else can make us feel like we’re...well, weird. Does being a light mean people will think we’re weird? Let’s dig in to that.

### Dig Deeper

**Say:** Here’s one thing the Bible says about living differently from everyone else.

**Read Romans 12:2.** Form two groups. Have one group talk about the first question below and the other group talk about the second question.

**Ask:** • What would it look like to copy the behavior of the world?

• What would it look like to let God transform the way you think?

Have groups share what they discussed.

**Say:** Being a light does mean being different from the world. And sometimes that might look weird to other people. But different doesn’t always have to mean weird. After all, God shines his light through us, but he doesn’t tell us to shine it in people’s eyes! Here are a few things that being a light might look like.

**Read John 13:35.**

**Ask:** • How could being loving shine God’s light?

• Have you ever felt weird when you showed love to someone? Tell about that.

**Say:** God shines his light through us by helping us love each other. When we show love to other people, that’s different from how a lot of people live...but it’s not weird. Let’s check out another way to shine God’s light.

**Read Philippians 4:5.**

**Ask:** • What are some ways to be considerate?

If kids suggest anything they can try in class, let them try it out!

**Say:** Our world tells us to look out for ourselves first. And usually that’s what comes naturally to people. So being considerate of other people is different! But being considerate isn’t weird—it’s something adults are always trying to get kids to do more. Let’s look at another light we can shine.

## Deeper Bible: cont.

**Read Philippians 2:14-15.**

**Ask:** · What do kids normally do when something doesn't go their way?

· Would people think you're weird if you don't complain or argue? Why or why not?

**Say:** God shines his light through us when we stop complaining and arguing. That's a different way to live...but it's not weird.

Here's one more way to shine our light.

**Read 1 Peter 3:15.**

**Ask:** · What would you say if someone asked why you believe in Jesus?

**Say:** This verse says to be ready to talk about your faith. When you live differently, people will notice! And sometimes they'll ask why. Usually that's not because they think you're weird; it's because they're interested in the hope and light they see in you! God shines his light through us so others can see him and praise him. So you can be ready to share about your light and hope...whether or not people think it's weird.

**Talk About Jesus**

**Say:** When we share the gospel with our friends and our family, we are showing them why the light in us is so important. Today we are going to practice using our Gospel Coins to share Jesus with anyone who asks.

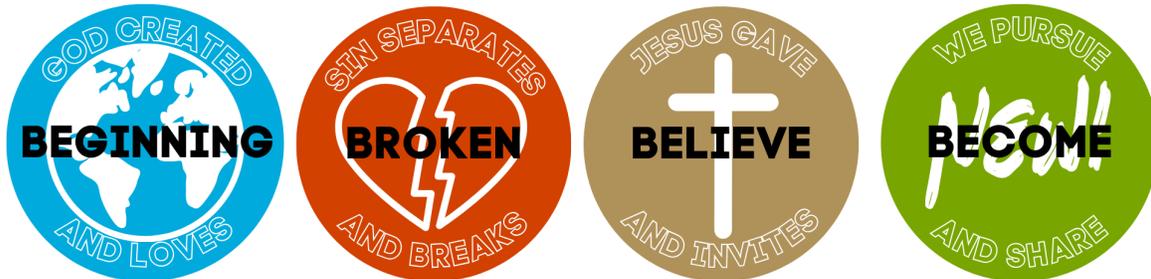
Looking at the Gospel Coins on your poster and the coins for each kid, have each kid repeat these words after you (Beginning, Broken, Believe, and Become). Go over the meaning of the coins several times encouraging kids to use words to explain the picture on the coin. Kids can take a gospel coin bag home. Each bags contains 4 coins and a business card with the Gospel explained.

### THE GOSPEL IN FOUR CIRCLES



## Deeper Bible: cont.

### THE GOSPEL IN FOUR CIRCLES



**In the Beginning**-The Bible teaches that there is one God who created us according to His perfect design to live in a perfect relationship with Him and with each other because He loves us.

**Because of Sin**- All people have chosen to turn away from what God says is best and do what they think is best. This is sin and deserves punishment. Sin messed up God's perfect creation and it breaks our relationship with Him. There is nothing we alone can do to fix the problem of sin.

**God Made a Way**- God loves the world so much that He sent Jesus into the world to rescue people from their sin. God invites us to believe that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and came back to life three days later so that we can have a relationship with Him. When this happens, our sins are forgiven, heaven becomes our forever home, and we have a relationship with God.

**We Get to Live New Lives**- As believers, we have a new identity - child of God. We are new creations who follow Jesus to become more like Him and tell others about Him while we hold onto hope and promise that one day everything will be made new and every wrong will be made right.

## Life Application:

### Supplies

- salt

### Sprinkle Salt

- Have kids sit with their hands cupped.
- Go to each child and give a blessing. Sprinkle a tiny bit of salt into the child's hands as you say: [Name of child], may God help you be the salt of the earth.
- Some kids may brush the salt off their hands, but others might lick the salt from their hands. Let them do whatever comes naturally.
- Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

## Activity Page with a Point:

### Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: We're learning about a time Jesus stood up on a hill to teach a big crowd of people! He taught that God shines his light through us. Let's color a candle lighting up a room.

Allow time for kids to color.

### Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

**Say:** In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught that God shines his light through us. Let's shine the light through our activity pages today and find out what we can see.

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will poke holes in the dots, then hold their papers up to let the light shine through and make a light picture.

**Ask:** • What difference do the holes make in letting the light shine through?

• You poked holes to let the light through the paper. What can you do that will show God's light to other people?

**Say:** When we follow Jesus, God shines his light through us. Then other people can see God's love.