

DIVE DEEP JULY 2024

July 21

I am Broken- God Cares When I Hurt Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: PreK - God Heard Hannah's Prayer- 1 Samuel 1 -- Elem- The Lord is My Hope- Psalm 42

Bottom Line: God Cares When I Feel Sad

Leader Context: This week as we Dive Deep, we are teaching kids that God cares when we feel sad. Hannah prayed to God while weeping and pleading with God in 1 Samuel 1. We also see the author of Psalm 42 wrote about a time of sorrow that turned to comfort as he remembered God's faithfulness. We want kids to remember how God has helped them in the past and know He will help them in the present and in the future. There is comfort to be found in sadness when we find hope in the faithfulness of God.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, blank paper (1 pr kid), pencils, timer

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."

Videos

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

Wow, that was deep! Everyone, say, "So deep!" (*So deep!*) I'm sure lots of us have felt that kind of sadness before. When we do, we really want to feel better. But it is so good knowing that God cares about us when we are sad. Everyone, say, "God cares when I feel sad!" (*God cares when I feel sad!*) It's amazing that people hundreds of years ago felt the same way we do today. I love how the Bible shows us that, when we're sad, we can always trust that God loves us. His love for us will never change.

Gospel Connection:

(Circle two) Sadness is something we all face because of our broken world. That brokenness is caused by sin. *Sin* is when we do what we think is best instead of what God says is best. Because of sin, it isn't just the world that's broken. *We* are broken. Everyone, say, "I am broken." (*I am broken.*) Our sin and brokenness separate us from God. But God doesn't want us to be apart from Him—He loves us.

(Circle three) He loves all of us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross to take the punishment for our sins. But He didn't stay dead! He rose again, showing that He's more powerful than sin and death!

(Circle one) Because of Jesus, we have the opportunity to follow and trust Him. He fixes our brokenness and makes us new. When we repent of our sin, we turn away from our sin and follow Jesus instead. We get to be who God created us to be and live the way He wants us to live. It's the way He always planned for life to be!

(Circle Four) And we can know that one day, He will fix everything that is broken and make it all new!

Trusting and following Jesus doesn't mean we will never be sad again, but it helps because we know that God cares and that He's with us. When we follow Jesus, we can be confident that He loves us and cares about us no matter what is happening or how we are feeling. If you have questions about how to have that faith, or what it means to become a Christian, talk to one of your small group leaders, your parents, or our pastor. We are always ready to help you dive deep and find out how much God loves you!

Let's pray together. Remember prayer is listening and talking to God.

God, thank You that You care about us when we feel sad. We are broken and live in a broken world, but You give us good news! You loved us so much, You sent Jesus so we could have a relationship with You. Thank You! Help us to follow Jesus and know that we can turn to You whenever we feel sad. You always love us and take care of us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Flash Cards (20 minutes)

What You Need: index cards (8 per kid), Crayons, markers, ziptop bags (2 per kid), Psalm 34:18 Poster

What You Do:

Set out the supplies. Make an example of the craft ahead of time.

Let's get ready to learn a verse together! We're going to create flash cards to help us learn and memorize Psalm 34:18. To do this, you'll write two words of the verse on one side. On the other side, draw a picture of something to help you remember the words on the front. You can use as many or as few cards as you need. To help the cards stay in the correct order, write a small number in the corner of each card. Let's see how creatively you can make your flash cards!

Say: We learned today that God cares when we feel sad. Our verse helps us remember that! It says that God is close to the brokenhearted. This means that He is always with us, even when we are sad. Use this Bible verse to help you remember the truth of God's amazing love for you.

Discussion Questions:

- What are things that make kids your age sad? They can be silly or serious. *(Allow kids time to share. Consider sharing something from when you were their age.)*
- What are different things kids your age think will help them feel better when they are sad? *(Allow kids time to share. Consider sharing something from when you were their age.)*
- Friendship bracelets are a great reminder of friends who care about us. What are ways we can remind ourselves and others that God loves and cares about us? *(Answers may include share Bible verses, pray and talk to God, remind ourselves and friends the truth about who God is and how much He loves us, and so forth.)*
- Today we are learning that **God cares when I feel sad**. Let's open our Bibles to Psalm 42:5 and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open up their Bibles. Read the verse aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verse aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verse so everyone can follow along together.)* What is this verse telling us? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
- The author wrote that he was sad and downcast. But he said that he would still praise God. He had *hope*, which means to trust that something good would happen. How can knowing that God cares when we're sad give us hope? *(Answers may include it can remind us that God always cares for us, we can remember ways He's helped others and us, we can enjoy His love and know that He's always with us, and so forth.)*
- Sadness comes because our world is broken, and we are broken without Jesus. Even when we love and follow Jesus, we still experience sadness because of brokenness. But we can have hope like the author of the Psalm. We can remember that God loved us so much, He sent Jesus to die for our sin and come back to life. Jesus made a way for us to have a relationship with Him. If you have questions about what it means to trust and follow Jesus, come talk with me. Does anyone have any stories about God comforting you and helping you feel better when you were sad? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own story.)*
- Sometimes we can wonder if anyone cares when we feel sad, but today's Bible story shows us that God cares! How can we help our friends who might wonder if anyone cares when they are sad? *(Answers may include we can share with them the truth that God cares, we can pray for them and with them, we can let them talk and be good listeners, and so forth.)*

Our brokenness leads to sadness, but the good news is that God sent His Son, Jesus, so we can have a relationship with Him and know that we're never alone. God cares when we feel sad, and we can put our hope in Him.

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.