



I Am Loved

MARCH 2024

March 17

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Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: Jesus Raised Lazarus- John 11:1-44

Bottom Line: God's love is powerful.

Leader Context: God's love is powerful, and we see that when Jesus brought Lazarus back to life. God's love is more powerful than we could ever imagine, which means it is big enough and great enough to handle whatever comes our way.

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 per kid) markers or crayons

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

That was amazing! Lazarus died and Jesus showed that He has the power to bring Lazarus back to life! Wow! With that kind of power, we can know that God's love is more powerful than anything! When things are going well- He's powerful. When things are hard- He's powerful. God's amazing love is more powerful than we can possibly imagine.

We've all felt helpless. So what happens when we feel helpless? Sometimes we might struggle to understand something in school. Or sometimes we might have a problem with a friend, and we don't know how to fix it. Sometimes we see things happening with people we love or in the world around us that worry us or make us wonder how things will ever be better- but there doesn't seem to be anything we can do about it.

Even when things are hard and we feel helpless, we can always know that God is powerful, and His love is powerful.

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

God, it is amazing that you are so powerful! Nothing is more powerful than You- not even sin or death! Thank You for sending Jesus and for giving us a chance to love You and believe in Jesus. When things are sad, scary, or hard, may we always know that You are more powerful than everything and that we can always count on You. Amen.

Tower of Power (20 minutes)**What You Need:** empty plastic Easter egg halves, plastic cups (1 per kid)**What You Do:**

Set out the supplies. Start by allowing kids to stack as many Egg halves as they can before it crashes. What is the top number of egg halves before it falls?

Today, we are going to work together to make a cup tower as tall as we can. One at a time, each of you will take a cup and add it to the tower. The first cup will be right side up. The second cup will balance on the first one upside down. Then the third one will be right side up. Switch the directions of the cups as you build until the tower falls or you run out of cups. How many cups do you think we can stack? (Allow kids time to answer.) Well let's start building and see!

Leader Tip: TPlay again but instruct kids to use their non-dominant hands.

Say: "No matter how hard we try, we could never get this tower to reach the ceiling- let alone all the way to the sky! We just aren't powerful enough. But God is all powerful! Today we heard about His powerful love that raised Lazarus from the dead. That same love is offered to you and me. When we begin to understand how much He loves us, we can't help but love God more. His love is powerful, and I hope you can remember this throughout the week."

Discussion Questions:

- Which superhero do you think has the coolest powers and why? If people could have superpowers, which ones do you think would be the most helpful to the world?*(Allow kids time to answer and share your own answer.)*
- Superhero capes make superheroes stand out as superheroes! But God is even more powerful than any superhero. What are some things about God that stand out more than anyone or anything else?*(Allow kids time to answer and share your own answer.)*
- The Bible tells us that we are loved, and that God's love is powerful. Let's open our Bibles to John 11:25-26 and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open up their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* What is this passage teaching us?
- God's love is powerful enough to defeat anything! God loves us and is with us even in sad and hard times. How can knowing about the powerful love of God help someone who is hurting like Mary and Martha were when their brother, Lazarus, died?*(They can trust that God is powerful; They can know that Jesus is the Son of God and is taking care of them; They can trust that nothing is more powerful than God.)*
- God's love is with us no matter what. Because of sin, there is brokenness, sickness, and even death. Sin is when we choose to do what we think is best instead of following what God says is best. But God's love is unlimited! Even sin can't stop God's love! That's why God sent His Son, Jesus to die on a cross to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus came back to life and showed that He's more powerful than anything- even death! We can trust God with everything in our lives because of His powerful love. Do you have any questions about believing in Jesus? Is there anything you want to share about the powerful love of God? *(Allow kids time to answer and share your own response.)*
- How can knowing about God's power and love help people who are feeling helpless? *(It can give them confidence and peace; They know they are not alone; They know that God is bigger than their problems.)*

One day, Jesus will return and make everything new again, just like He made it at the beginning. But right now, we still live in a broken world. God doesn't just take away all of the difficult things in our lives. Even Mary and Martha, friends of Jesus, experienced difficulty when their brother died. But they also got to see God's powerful love.

Even though God might not take away the hard things in our lives, He is still there with us. He never leaves us. He wants a close relationship with us. He listens to our prayers. He speaks through the Holy Spirit.

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.