

I AM MADE FOR COMMUNITY

SIDE-BY-SIDE

Elementary

all star kids Nov 2026

November 15, 2026

I Am Made for Community
Elementary Leader Guide

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

WIN

Paul teaches that everyone is invited to follow Jesus and that, despite our differences, we are connected and united in Him.

BIBLE- *Unity in Jesus- Ephesians 2:11-22*

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, plastic cups (15-20 per group), timer, paper (1 per kid) cotton balls (20 per group), craft sticks (20 per group), markers, masking tape, plastic cups (20 per group), paper plates (20 per group), table

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

Say, The Christians in Ephesus came from different backgrounds, and some thought others had to be like them to follow Jesus. Paul reminded them that Jesus died and rose again to bring everyone who trusts Him into God's family. Our differences do not keep us from belonging together. God unites us to follow Him, worship Him, and tell others about Him. We can do all of that side by side!

GOSPEL CONNECTION

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

Circle 1- When God created the world, there were no disagreements between people. Adam and Eve, the first people God created, lived in unity and harmony with each other. Adam and Eve also walked and talked with God. The world was perfect, their relationship with God was perfect, and their relationship with each other was perfect.

Circle 2- When Adam and Eve chose their own way instead of God's way, they sinned and broke their relationships with God and each other. We all sin too, and it hurts our relationships with God and others in ways we cannot fix on our own.

Circle 3- God sent Jesus to rescue us from sin: He lived a perfect life, died for our sins, and rose again. When we trust Jesus, we become part of God's family forever, and He helps us live together in community.

Circle 4- Through Jesus, God brings people from every background into His family. We won't always agree, but we can ask God to help us be kind, care for one another, and forgive. We are connected because we follow Jesus—say, "I am made for community!"

If you have questions about what this means or why it matters, find one of your Campus Leaders or me. We would love to talk with you about how you can have a relationship with Him. We are made for community, and being in community means helping others have a relationship with God.

God, thank You for connecting us when we trust and follow You. Thank You that You planned to connect us with You and each other before You even made the world. Help us remember that ***we are connected*** *forever as part of Your family. Even during disagreements, arguments, and hard times, You help keep us connected. Amen.*

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Pass The Pattern — 12 minutes
Kids will race to pass a series of shoulder taps in a line.
Big Goal: Celebrate that we are made for community.
Leader Prep:

1. Direct kids to form two lines while you stand at the back of the lines.
2. Tell kids that you will tap the shoulder of the teammate in front of you in a specific pattern.
3. Explain that once the teammate receives the pattern, that teammate passes the pattern on by tapping the pattern on the next teammate in line.
4. Guide the final teammate in line to walk to the back of the line and tap the pattern on your shoulder, and then you announce whether the pattern was passed successfully.

Supplies: None

What To Do: Today we are playing "Pass the Pattern." Pass the what? *(Pattern!)* To start out, let's make two teams and have each team line up, facing the front of the room. *(Allow time.)* I'm going to tap a pattern on the shoulders of each player in the back. Those players will pass the pattern forward by tapping. Once the pattern is passed to the first player in your line, that player will hurry back to me and tap the pattern on my shoulder. The first team to pass the pattern correctly wins a point! Then we'll switch the orders of the players and play again. Let's see if we can get our pattern through the line! If you're ready, clap your hands and say, "Go!" *(Go!)*

Keep It Going: Play additional rounds by allowing kids to create the patterns. Direct the teammates creating the patterns to show the patterns to a leader first to ensure accuracy.

Leader Tip: Consider playing this game while sitting at tables. Direct kids to close their eyes and pass the pattern. Instruct kids to stand one at a time, open their eyes, move to pass the pattern, then sit back down.

Loud And Clear: How many patterns made it successfully to the front of your team? *(Allow kids to answer.)* We all played a part in passing the patterns around the team. We were connected with one goal and one pattern for each round. When we trust and follow Jesus, God helps unite us with others who follow Jesus. He helps us live as one family, and we can work together to help, support, and love each other. Say, "I am made for community!" *(I am made for community!)*

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

TALK ABOUT IT

Discussion Questions:

- What are some things that go together that you use a lot, like shoelaces and shoes, paintbrushes and paint, or basketballs and hoops? *(Allow kids to answer and share your answer.)*
- What is a quilt? *(Allow responses.)* A quilt is one blanket with lots of different pieces of fabric connected together. How can a quilt remind us of the way God made us to live? *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that God made us to be connected with each other when we trust and follow Jesus.)*
- The Bible tells us that we are made for community, and we become connected as a community of God's household when we trust and follow Jesus. Let's open our Bibles to **Ephesians 2:19** (pg.1299**)** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the Bible 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 Bible verse so everyone can follow along together.)* God makes everyone who trusts and follows Jesus a part of His household, or family. Jesus is the One who connects the people in God's family. We say Jesus is the *cornerstone*—which means He is the most important part of the household—because He is the foundation where everything else is built. When you follow Jesus, what are things you have in common with other people who are part of God's family? *(Allow kids to answer. We all love and follow God. We want to point others to God. We help each other follow God.)*
- What are ways that we can be united as we follow Jesus? *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that God helps us care for and forgive each other. We can treat each other in ways that honor and obey God. We can help each other.)*
- The Bible tells us that God helps us live in unity and harmony with our community. What is something you learned today?

WRAP UP

Do you have any questions? (*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 making the way for us to be part of Your family. Thank You that it doesn't matter who we are, where we are from, or what we are like before we follow You—we are still made for community. Help us remember that we are connected with everyone who loves and follows You as part of Your family. Amen.

Paul sent his message to the Christians in Ephesus because they needed to know that Jesus connected them, no matter their past differences. God connects all of us when we follow Jesus, no matter who we are, where we're from, or anything else that may make us different.

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.