

I AM MADE FOR COMMUNITY

SIDE-BY-SIDE

Elementary

all star kids Nov 2026

November 29, 2026

I Am Made for Community
Elementary Leader Guide

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

WIN

Peter teaches that we can encourage one another, live differently, and show God's love to the world because we follow Jesus together.
BIBLE- *Living in Community- 1 Peter 2:1-17*

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, paper plates (1 per kid), markers, 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

Say, Peter wrote to Christians about sin, which means choosing our way instead of God's way. He encouraged them to leave behind harmful habits, love God's Word, and grow together. Peter knew some people might reject them for following Jesus, so he reminded them that God had chosen them. Everyone who trusts and follows Jesus belongs to God's family, which Peter called a spiritual household. Jesus is the cornerstone, the foundation that holds this family together. God calls His people royal, chosen, and holy, meaning they belong to Him and are set apart to show His love. We build each other up when we help, encourage, and show kindness to one another, especially when following Jesus is hard. We follow Jesus together!

Gospel Video (10 minutes)

GOSPEL CONNECTION

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

Say: When you think about today's Bible story, you can remember that Peter wanted Christians to know that they are chosen and honored by God, which means God respects and celebrates us! All of us who follow Jesus are part of God's household. Part of whose household? *(God's!)* Those who do not follow Jesus are not part of God's household, but the good news is that Jesus made the way for anyone and everyone to be a part of God's family.

God designed everyone who follows Jesus to follow Him together! High-five a friend and say, **"We follow Jesus together!"** ***(We follow Jesus together!)*** The friends who follow Jesus are here to help and encourage you through the highs and lows of life—the difficult times and the moments when you struggle with sin. If you would like to talk about what it means to follow Jesus, come talk to me or a Campus Leader. Jesus changes the game, and He made the way for everyone to follow Him! Everyone, call out, "Jesus changes the game!" *(Jesus changes the game!)* Let's take a minute to pray and thank God for allowing us to follow Jesus together.

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 the truth that we don't follow Jesus on our own. Thank You for allowing us to follow Jesus together. Help us support each other and build each other up as we follow You. God, we know You love us more than we can imagine. Thank You for sending Jesus to make a way for us to be with You forever. We love You. Amen.

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Build Up Balance — 10 minutes
Two teams will race to balance cups on a teammate.

Big Goal: Understand that we can build up others who follow Jesus.

Leader Prep: Place cups in stacks of 15. Set out supplies.

1. Form two teams and direct one player from each team to stand on one side of the room.
2. Start a one-minute timer.
3. Challenge kids to race one at a time and balance a cup on their teammates who are on the other side of the room. Cups cannot be stacked on each other. If a cup falls off the teammate, take it back to your team and place it back in the stack.
4. Announce the winning team as the team with the most cups on its teammate at the end of one minute.

Supplies: Plastic cups (30 per group), Stopwatch or timer (1 per group)

What To Do: When **we follow Jesus together,** we get to help and encourage each other. Another way to say this is that we *build each other up*. Say, "Build each other up!" *(Build each other up!)* Remember that as we play "Build Up Balance."

First, let's make two teams and choose one player on each team to go to the other side of the room. *(Allow time.)*

When I start the timer, your team will have one minute to stack cups on your teammate, one person and one cup at a time. When you're getting cups stacked on you, hold out your arms and stay very still so the cups will balance. If a cup falls to the ground, you can pick it up and return it to your team's pile. The team with the most cups balanced at the end wins! Let's build up some cups!

(Play multiple rounds, changing players who are balancing the cups.)

Keep It Going: Play rounds where cups that fall are out of the game.

Leader Tip: Encourage kids to change the way they stand to create more of a surface for stacking, such as bending over. Consider allowing kids to sit in chairs to create an inclusive game for kids who use wheelchairs.

Loud And Clear: Great job working together and building up those cups! Everyone who turns from sin and trusts Jesus is part of God's household, and we can build each other up together. We can encourage, help, pray for, and love each other. Jesus changes the game in our lives when He rescues us from sin, and He changes the game when He helps us build each other up. High-five a different teammate than last time and say, "Build up!" *(Build up!)*

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

TALK ABOUT IT

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some things that are better and more fun to do with other people than by yourself? *(Allow kids to answer and share your answer.)*
2. Plastic building blocks connect with each other to make a strong structure, but the structure won't be very strong or connected if we add a wooden block because it is not the same type of block. In a similar way, God designed everyone who follows Jesus to connect with each other, support each other, and love each other. What are some ways friends who follow Jesus can help, support, and love each other? *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that praying for each other, providing help during hard times, and encouraging each other to do what God wants us to do are some ways we can connect, support, and love each other.)*
3. The Bible tells us **we follow Jesus together** when we live in community and help each other love and follow Him. Let's open our Bibles to **1 Peter 2:9** (pg. 1365) and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open 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.)* Everyone who trusts in Jesus is a royal, chosen, and holy part of God's household and family. *Royal* means that we are the special people who offer worship to God. *Chosen* means that God chooses to work through us to live in unity with others who follow Him. *Holy* means special, set apart, and different from everything else. When you are going through a hard time, how can being a part of God's family help? *(Allow kids to answer. Tell kids that we can take comfort in knowing that we are part of God's household when we trust and follow Jesus. One day, all sadness and suffering will be wiped away for everyone in God's household.)*
4. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on a cross, and rose again to make the way for us to be part of God's household. When we turn from sin to trust and follow Jesus, we get to be a part of His family. What does all that Jesus did for you tell you about His love for you? *(Allow kids to answer. Point out that we can know that Jesus loves us more than we can understand because He died to give each one of us a way to be with Him forever.)* If you want to know more about following Jesus, I'd love to talk more with you about it.
5. The Bible tells us we are made for community, and following Jesus together is the best community to join. We can help each other follow Jesus side by side as we live in 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 letting us follow Jesus together. We are so thankful that we don't have to do it alone. You are with us, and You give us others to help, support, and love us. Jesus changed the game by making the way for us to be part of Your family. Help us live like You made us to live so that other people will see how great You are and how much You love everyone. Thank You for Your great love for us. Amen.

God made us to live side by side in community as **we follow Jesus together.** Jesus changes the game in our lives because He makes the way for us to have a forever relationship with God and live the way God made us to live. In community, we can help each follow God.

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.