



## LOW-ENERGY GAME

### Who Gave the Gift?

[10 min]

#### Supplies

- small box
- wrapping paper
- scissors
- tape
- gift bow

#### Easy Prep

- Wrap the small box like a gift, and place the bow on top.

#### Play a Version of Doggy, Doggy, Where's Your Bone?

Say: **Today we read in the Bible about how Jesus is different in really good ways. Let's play a game about being different like Jesus!**

- Have everyone sit close together in a circle facing each other.
- Have an adult or teen helper sit in the center of the circle, and place the wrapped gift in front of him or her.
- The person in the center will close his or her eyes and count to 10.
- While the center person's eyes are closed, kids will stomp their feet on the floor (while sitting) and clap and cheer to make lots of noise. Do a practice run of noise-making with everyone.
- You'll choose one child to sneak up to the center person and take the gift; then that child will go back to his or her seat to hide the gift box behind his or her back.
- When the center person calls out "10" and opens his or her eyes, he or she will try to guess who took the gift. You can give kids turns in the middle once they understand the process of the game.
- Play a couple of rounds this way, and then play a few rounds in reverse where the goal will be to place the gift in front of the person in the center instead of taking it away, and he or she will try to guess who gave the gift.

#### Talk About It

Ask: • **What did you like about giving the gift?**

Say: **Jesus did things differently. Instead of taking for himself, Jesus gave and gave. Everything Jesus did was to help others and give love and kindness.**

Share a practical, simple example of how you show kindness to others, such as letting a friend choose what movie to go to or giving a long hug to someone who's sad.

Ask: • **What are ways we can share kindness?** Kids might share about giving hugs or playing with a friend and sharing even their most favorite toys.

Say: **Jesus is different, and he shows us how to live differently like him. We can love like Jesus does when we give instead of taking, and we can always ask Jesus for help in loving like he does.**



## TALK-ABOUT VIDEO Fruit Basket Upset

[10 min]

### Supplies

- “Fruit Basket Upset” teaching video

### Discuss and Watch “Fruit Basket Upset”

Say: **Today we’re learning that Jesus is different, so we live differently. Sometimes living differently isn’t the easiest choice! Let’s watch some fruity friends and see how they learned to live differently.**

Watch “Fruit Basket Upset.”

Ask: • **Which excuses did you hear that you thought were good excuses?**

- **What are some excuses you’ve made to take the easier way?**
- **The wise potato said, “A lot of fruit would just choose the easy way, but Jesus wants us to live differently.” Why is Jesus’ way not always the easy way?**

Say: **Jesus is different, so we live differently. Jesus asked us to do some hard things, like love our enemies and treat others the way we want to be treated. That’s hard to do on our own! But the good news is, Jesus is here to help us live his way.**



## DEEPER BIBLE Live Differently

[15 min]

### Supplies

- Bible
- paper (1 sheet per child)
- crayons
- classroom chairs (1 per child)

### Walk and Wear Shoes Differently

Say: **Today we're talking about how Jesus is different, so we can live differently, too. Let's think of some ways we can do things differently! First, let's all try walking backward.** Lead kids in walking backward across your room.

Say: **Let's try something else! Instead of wearing our shoes on our feet, let's wear our shoes on our hands!** Lead kids in taking off their shoes and slipping their hands inside. Kids can try "walking" on their hands, high-fiving a friend with a shoe, or picking up a classroom toy with their shoes. After a few minutes, help kids put their shoes back on their feet.

### Color Differently

Say: **Now let's try coloring a little differently. Instead of sitting in our chairs and drawing on tables, let's sit on the floor and color on our chairs!** Have each child sit on the floor in front of a classroom chair. Give each child a sheet of paper and a crayon, and hold one crayon yourself. **I have one more challenge for you! Everyone hold up your crayon.** Pause. **Now switch the crayon to your other hand.** Switch the crayon you're holding to your other hand. **Let's try coloring on the chairs instead of the tables while we hold the crayon in this hand—it will feel funny!** Allow kids a couple of minutes to draw, using the chairs as a writing surface. Then collect the coloring supplies.

### Practice Living Differently

Say: **It was fun doing things differently and being silly! But wearing our shoes on our hands and coloring on our chairs wasn't what Jesus meant when he taught us about how to live differently. Jesus lived differently by being kind to his friends *and* to people who were mean to him. Jesus lived differently by doing kind things for others but not bragging or showing off. Jesus lived differently by not worrying. Instead he trusted God and God's good plan. Let's practice a few ways we can live differently like Jesus, too.**

Have kids stand in a circle.

Say: **Instead of running away from our moms and dads when they say it's time to leave the playground (lead kids in taking three steps backward), we can listen and obey and stay with them.** Lead kids in taking three steps forward.

Say: **Instead of being mean when someone takes the toy we were playing with (lead kids in making an angry face), we can show God's love by letting that person play with the toy, and we can choose a different toy to play with.** Lead kids in high-fiving a friend.

Say: **Instead of talking with a friend when the teacher's talking (lead kids in pretending to whisper to the person next to them), we can have good listening ears, so we'll have more time to do fun things with our class!** Lead kids in holding their ears out to look like monkey ears.

Say: **Jesus gave us a handy rule to remember so that we can always know the best way to live differently like him.**

Read Matthew 7:12.

Say: **We want others to be kind to us and show us love, so Jesus asks us to be kind to others and show them God's love, too. Jesus is different, so we live differently!**

**LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP****Jesus Is Our Light**

[5 min]

**Supplies**

- flashlight

**Sing a Song**

Dim the lights, and have kids sit in a circle. Say: **Today we found out what it means that Jesus is different. We found out that Jesus is kind, loving, and the best friend we could ever imagine! And we learned that we can live differently, too, when Jesus shows us how. Jesus said we can be a “light” when we tell others about him.** Turn on the flashlight.

Say: **That means we can show them how special it is to be friends with Jesus. Let’s sing a song about that now!** Lead kids in singing the chorus of “This Little Light of Mine” a few times as they pass the flashlight around the circle. Remind kids not to shine the light in other kids’ eyes.

**This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!**

**Pray With the Flashlight**

Say: **Jesus shows us how we can be different and share his love. Let’s thank Jesus now for some of the ways he shows us how to be different like he is.**

Have the children point their feet into the center of the circle. Shine the flashlight on each child’s feet as you say: **Jesus walked all over to tell people about God’s great big love.** Pause. **Jesus, take our feet all around to tell people about God’s and your love, too.**

Have the children hold out their hands, palms up. Shine the flashlight on each child’s palms as you say: **Jesus used his hands to help people all the time, and he was so gentle. He was the best at helping people!** Pause. **Jesus, help us use our hands to help others, too.**

Show the children how to place their hands on their hearts. Shine the flashlight on each child’s heart as you say: **Jesus loved people so well!** Pause. **Jesus, help us love people, too. In your name, amen.**

Say: **Thanks for coming today to do all kinds of different, fun things as we learned that Jesus is different. Come back next week to spend time with all your friends here and learn something new about Jesus.**



## ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT

### Spot the Difference

[10 min]

#### Supplies

- “Jesus Teaches Us to Live Differently” Coloring Page
- pencils
- crayons

#### Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **Jesus is different. In the Sermon on the Mount, he told us how to live differently! When we live Jesus’ way, people will notice that we stand out. Let’s see if you can notice differences.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will find the differences between two pictures.

Ask: • **What differences did you find?**

• **What might people notice that’s different about you because you love Jesus?**

Say: **When we follow Jesus, people can spot the difference in our lives! Jesus is different, so we live differently.**

ANSWER KEY:



**Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page**

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **Jesus is different. He preached a whole sermon about how to live differently. Let's color Jesus teaching.**

Allow time for kids to color.