



October 18, 2026

I Am Forgiven Elementary Leader Guide

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

WIN

Hope means trusting God and believing that Jesus' love and forgiveness bring healing and good things.

BIBLE- *The Bronze Snake - Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-17*

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, Roll Three in a Row" printable(1 per group per service), two dice, two different-colored markers, "Chalky Matches" video on Roku

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."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

The Israelites were punished for their wrong choices, but God gave them hope and healing when they looked at the bronze snake Moses lifted up. Jesus said this points to Him because everyone who looks to Jesus and trusts Him can be rescued from sin. We can have hope because God loves us and offers us forgiveness and a fresh start through Jesus.

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

Circle 2- Like the Israelites, we all sin when we choose our way instead of God's, and our sin separates us from Him. We cannot fix sin ourselves, but God provides a way for us to be rescued, and that gives us hope!

Circle 1- God created a perfect world and made people to live close to Him, loved, whole, and full of hope. Sin broke that relationship, but God's plan has always been to make a way for us to be with Him again.

Circle 3- God created people to live close to Him, loved, whole, and full of hope. Sin broke that relationship, but God always planned to make a way for us to be with Him again.

Circle 4- Jesus died to take the punishment for our sin and came back to life, showing His power over sin and death. When we look to Jesus and trust Him, we can be forgiven and have life with God forever.

The people who looked at the bronze snake were rescued for a time, but Jesus offers a greater rescue and eternal life with God. When we turn from sin to trust and follow Jesus, God forgives us and gives us hope. When we sin, we can ask God for forgiveness and trust that He still loves us and offers us a fresh start. If you have questions about Jesus, forgiveness, or hope, talk with a trusted leader.

If you have questions about what all of this means or why it is important, find me or one of your Campus Leaders. We would love to talk with you more about how Jesus gives us a fresh start.

To mark your belief in Jesus today say this prayer with me:

Jesus, I believe. I believe that I am a sinner who needs a Savior and you are the Savior of the world. Thank you for coming for me, for dying in my place and being raised from the dead.

Today I believe. Thank you for giving me life. Amen!

Congrats on your new life with Jesus.

Let's all pray this together:

God, thank You for loving us and forgiving us when we sin and make wrong choices. Whatever we face in life, we can have hope in You and Your love and forgiveness. Thank You for always giving us a fresh start. Amen.

Hold on to Hope (20 minutes)

Big Goal: Learn that hope is trusting God and believing that He will do what He promises.

Supplies: One plastic cup per child, music and music player

Leader Prep: Have kids sit in a circle with enough space to balance their cups safely.

How to Play

1. Kids balance a cup on their hand, knee, or head while the music plays.
2. When the music stops, everyone freezes. If a cup falls, the group says, "Hold on to hope!" and the child replaces it and keeps playing.
3. Continue with different balancing positions. Remind kids that no one stays out because everyone gets another chance.

Keep It Going: Invite kids to balance the cup on their palm, elbow, shoulder, knee, or head. Older kids can slowly pass their cups from one hand to the other.

Connect It: Hope means trusting God and believing that He will do what He promises. When we sin, we can turn to Jesus and ask for forgiveness, trusting that He loves us and offers us a fresh start. Say, "God can give me hope!"

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

TALK ABOUT IT

Discussion Questions:

- If you had chalk and could draw something on the ground outside, what would you draw? Pretend to draw it and see if we can guess it! *(Allow responses.)*
- When you play with magnetic tiles, it is cool to build something because of the way the tiles stick together. How can the way magnetic tiles stick together remind us about how God forgives us? *(God “sticks” with us because He loves us. We can have hope that He will always forgive us when we ask.)*
- The Bible tells us God can give us hope that He will forgive us when we ask. Let's open our Bibles to **John 3:14-15 (pg. 1164)** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* Jesus said that just as Moses lifted up the bronze snake statue to save the Israelites, He would be lifted up so that anyone who believes in Him can be rescued from sin and enjoy life with God forever. How can what Jesus said help us have hope? *(We can trust that God will love and forgive us—now and in the future—so that we can have a relationship with Him forever.)*
- The Israelites had hope that God would rescue them, even when they made wrong choices. What can we do when we make wrong choices? *(Tell God we are sorry and ask for His forgiveness. Remember that God will always love and forgive us.)*
- We get a fresh start from God when He forgives us. And that is a reason for great hope! What is something you learned today?

WRAP UP

Is there anything you have questions about? *(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 loving and forgiving us when we make wrong choices. Thank You for giving us hope every day and helping us have a start fresh. Help us remember that, like You forgave the Israelites, You forgive us and invite us to trust You. We love You, God! Amen.

When we sin, we can become discouraged. But we can know that God forgives us when we ask and gives us a fresh start. No matter what happens, we can have hope that God can and will forgive us. God sent His Son, Jesus, so we could be forgiven and have a forever relationship with Him. That is hope we can count on every day!

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.