



SEPTEMBER 2024

**September 29**

**I am Known**

**Kindergarten - 5th grade**

**Leader Notes**

**Bible Passage:** Jesus and the Children- Matthew 19:13-15, Mark 10:13-16

**Bottom Line:** God values you!

**Leader Context:** We have spent the last month teaching kids they are known and this week we get to teach kid that God values them. In our Bible story from Matthew 19:13-15 and Mark 10:13-16, we will see that Jesus valued children. Jesus' friends, the disciples, were trying to keep children away from Jesus. They wanted Jesus to be able to focus on more "important" things. But Jesus welcomed the children, showing His love and care for them. When kids are thinking, I'm just a kid- do I really matter? we get to teach them, "Yes! You do matter!" Jesus loves, values and welcomes them to trust and follow Him. They don't have to wait until they are adults. Jesus invites them into a relationships with Him right now!

**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, Chenille stems (3 per child), Cotton balls (5 per child), Paper bag (1 per child), Tissue paper (2 per child), Plastic cups (2 per child), Paper plates (1 per child), Clear tape (several), Markers or crayons (several)

**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**

Today we are going to read from the Bible—God's true message to us about Himself. The Bible shows us exactly what we've been talking about—God knows you and values you. Today, we're going to see that in our Bible story! People wanted to bring their kids to Jesus because they knew Jesus was important. But Jesus' friends, the disciples, thought Jesus was too busy, so they tried to keep the kids away from Him. Not cool! You're going to like what Jesus did after that though, so let's see what happens! If you're ready, say, "I'm ready!" (I'm ready!)

“God values you!” (*God values you!*) Jesus showed that He valued the kids in the story. The disciples were friends who followed Jesus, but even they thought Jesus was too busy or too important to spend time with kids. Jesus didn’t believe that though! He loves and values all people—including kids just like you! You matter to Him! What some people call *ordinary* or *overlooked*, Jesus calls valuable and special. Jesus helped the disciples realize just how valuable all people are. Jesus even said grown-ups should be more like children with a faith that believes and trust in Him! Jesus said the kingdom of God belongs to people who trust Him like children. If you think that’s awesome, say, “That’s awesome!” (*That’s awesome!*) God knows you. God values you. You are important to Him. Even when you might feel overlooked or not very special, you can remember that you are loved by Him. You are special because God, who created the whole world and everything in it, knows you and loves you. He wants a relationship with you. He wants you to know Him and love Him too. That’s why Jesus came to earth. Jesus changed the game by coming to make a way for us to have a relationship with God and making us new in Him. God sent Jesus to take the punishment for sin. *Sin* is when we choose to do what we think is best rather than follow what God says is best. Because of sin, we are separated from God and our sin deserves punishment. Jesus died and took the punishment for our sin, then came back to life! That’s how much God values us! Because of what Jesus did, we can live a new life. We can confess our sin and ask Jesus to forgive us, then He says yes, and He gives us new life. We can celebrate that God values us and help others know that truth too! What a game changer!

If you have any questions about what it means to have a relationship with God or want to know more about how awesome it is that Jesus changed the game for us, come talk to me or your Team Leader. We would love to talk with you more and help you know how much God values and loves you.

**Gospel Connection:** *Using the Gospel 4 Circles guide kids to see how the Bible story relates to the four circles.*

It’s such good news for us that Jesus changes everything. Without Him, we can’t have a relationship with God, like He designed. God is perfect, but our sin separates us from Him. That’s why He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth! While Jesus was on earth, He showed people how much He valued all people—including kids. He loved us enough to die in our place and give us new life!

This is a gift Jesus invites us all to receive! If you want to know more about what it means to trust and follow Jesus, talk to me.

**Wobbly Cup (15 minutes)-**

**Sometimes we wonder if anyone notices us or really knows us. Today we want kids to be heard and seen and to know that God hears and sees them too and loves them.**

**What You Need:** Supplies: Plastic cups (18 per group), Table tennis balls (several), Buckets (6 per group), Table (1 per group)

*Leader Prep: Set the table up diagonally to aid kids being able to see. Place the table tennis balls in the buckets. Place cups in stacks of three on the table, one stack for each team.*

**Game Rules:**

1. Invite two players from each team to the front.
2. Assign one player to be the "Thrower" and one to be the "Catcher." The Thrower and Catcher will stand across from each other with the table in between them.
3. Instruct the Catchers to hold their stack of plastic cups and the Throwers to hold the buckets filled with table tennis balls.
4. Start the video. Throwers will bounce a table tennis ball onto the table and the Catchers will attempt to catch it.
5. Direct successful Catchers to move the cup with the ball to the bottom of their stack with the ball still in it. This will cause the stack to become slightly wobbly.
6. Continue this pattern until the time runs out or until one team catches three table tennis balls.
7. Lead a tie breaker if the game ends with the timer and there are multiple teams who caught the same amount of table tennis balls. Allow the tied teams to continue bouncing table tennis balls until someone gets a ball in a cup.

**Leader Tip:** Note that the winner of this game will determine which final video you show.

**Say:** We're going to play another game, and it's called "Wobbly Cup!" What's it called? (Wobbly Cup!) I will need two players from each team up front for this game! (Invite players to the front.) One of you will be the "Catcher" and one will be the "Thrower." You'll stand across from each other with a table in between them. (Allow players to get in place and hand Throwers their buckets.)

When the timer starts, the Thrower will bounce a ball onto the table and the Catcher will try to catch the ball with the stack of cups. When Catchers succeed, you will take the top cup with the ball in it and put it on the bottom of your stack of cups. The cups will begin to get wobbly! Let me see your best wobbly movement! (Lead kids in pretending to be wobbly.)

Once a team has caught three table tennis balls or when the timer ends, the game is over. If there needs to be a tie breaker, I have a plan. All teams will receive points in this game, but the winning team will win the most! Shout out which team you think will win! (Allow kids to respond.)

Teams (addressing the crowd), are you ready?! (Allow cheers.) Players (addressing the kids on stage), are you ready? (Allow cheers.) This game starts in 3-2-1 Go!

Amazing job, players! Those cups got so wobbly, but you were experts at that game! (Assign points to the teams.) And congratulations to the \_\_\_\_ Team! You get 1,000 points! Well done! (Direct players to sit back down.)

**Keep It Going:** Involve more kids by choosing more throwers per team.

**Say:** What was that game called? (Wobbly Cup!) Yes, those cups got very wobbly! Sometimes our lives can feel kind of wobbly. We can wonder if others know what's really going on or if they care enough to help. But today we are learning that we are known by God. Everyone, say, "I am known!" (I am known!) God knows you, and God values you. Look at a friend and say, "God values you!" (God values you!) Point to yourself and say, "God values me!" (God values me!) You are important to God. God sent Jesus so we could have a close relationship with Him. That changes the game for us! We don't have to face difficult circumstances on our own because God knows us, values us, and loves us. If you think that's a game changer, yell, "Game Changer!" (Game Changer!)

### Discussion Questions (10 minutes)

**What To Do:** Jesus is the true Game Changer! Let's circle up to talk more about this together!

- Who knows the most about you, and why do you say that? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
- What comes to mind when you think about water? How can water help you remember that God values you? *(We learned that water is important and valuable and so are kids. Jesus values each of us.)*
- The Bible tells us that we are known and valued by God. Let's open our Bibles to Mark 10:14-15 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.)* What did Jesus tell the disciples in these verses? Why is that good news for us? *(It's good news because Jesus said everyone should be like children if they want to enter the kingdom of heaven! Jesus showed He knows and values everyone—even kids!)*
- Jesus cares for and values everyone, and He loved us so much that He made a way for us to have a relationship with God. Why is this a game changer for us? *(It's a game changer because Jesus took our place and took the punishment for our sin on the cross. Now we can have a relationship with God and a new life in Him.)*
- The Bible tells us we are known and valued by God. This changes the game for us! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)* Let's talk to God by praying. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

*God, thank You for sending us Jesus to be our Game Changer! We are so glad that You know us and value us. We know You are a good and perfect God who created the whole world and everything in it. Thank You for knowing and loving us. Help us know You more so we can love You more. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.*

Just like we can know our friends well, we can know God well because He knows each of us. God knows and values you! He knows everything about you and loves you more than you can even imagine!

### 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.