



SEPTEMBER 2024

September 8

I am Known

Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: The Tower of Babylon- Genesis 11:1-9

Bottom Line: God knows my real mistakes.

Leader Context: In the story of the Tower of Babylon from Genesis 11:1-9, people made plans to build a large tower to make a name for themselves and avoid being scattered throughout the earth. This went against God's command to fill the earth (Genesis 9). God saw their real mistakes and stepped in because He knew what was best for them. God knows our real mistakes too. When kids are asking, What happens when I mess up? we get to share the good news that God stepped in because of our sin and sent Jesus. When we mess up, we can always find forgiveness in Him.

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, Blank paper (1 per child), Pencils (1 per child), Markers or crayons (several), Masking or painter's tape (1 per group)

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

We're going to learn a story from the Bible, which is God's true message to us about Himself. Today's Bible story is from the Old Testament. Everyone, say, "Old Testament!" (*Old Testament!*) The Old Testament is the first part of the Bible. The beginning of the Old Testament tells about the creation of the world and people. Our Bible story focuses on people who made a mistake, and what happened because of that mistake. People did what they wanted to do instead of what God told them to do. God knows our real mistakes and that makes a real difference. Let's see this in our Bible story.

In our Bible story, people came together to build what they thought would be an amazing tower. They wanted to make a name for themselves and stay together. But that wasn't what God wanted. Real talk: they weren't just making a huge tower. They were making a huge mistake. They made a mistake big enough for God to step in and stop them.

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

(Circle one) Everyone look at the first circle and say, say, "God's design!" (God's design!) God designed the world to be perfect, and He made people to know Him and to follow His commands. God's design for the people in the Old Testament was to fill the earth. But the people did not listen.

(Circle two) Like the circle with the squiggly lines, the people were trying to follow what they wanted and not what God wanted. That is sin. They all gathered to build something for their glory and name. They were broken because of sin. Because of sin, we are broken too. All our selfish thoughts and choices are examples of our sin. But there is good news! God knows our real mistakes. He knows everything. He knows every sin we have committed and every sin we will commit. But He forgives us. God doesn't step away when we make mistakes, He steps in.

(Circle three) God stepped in and sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins. Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. Jesus is the only person who never made a mistake and never sinned. Jesus never sinned, but He took the punishment for our sin. He made a way for us to be forgiven. When we admit that we sin, believe in Jesus, and confess our faith in Him, God forgives us.

(Circle Four) God's love does not depend on your behavior. You will all make mistakes, but that does not make God love you any less. God knows your real mistakes and has made a way for you to be part of His family. Say, "I am known!" (I am known!) Say, "God knows my real mistakes!" (God knows my real mistakes!) If you have questions about how to receive forgiveness from God or how to be a part of God's family, let's talk some more.

Search for The Word (15 minutes)- Adjust for younger kids by doing this together as a group on a poster board.

Kids will create their own word search. Know there is nothing is hidden from God.

What You Need: “Search for the Word” printable (1 per child), Blank paper (1 per child), Pencils (1 per child)

Leader Prep: Print copies of the “Search for the Word” printables for each child. Set out the supplies. For younger kids use the same instructions but use the poster and do the activity as a group.

1. Write a list of 10 words to hide in the word search.
2. Place the words into your grid, making sure to place one letter in each square, mixing up the location and direction of the words.
3. Fill in all other empty squares with random letters.
4. Trade word searches and complete each other’s puzzles.

What You Do: Today, we will be creating our own word searches. The first thing we need to do is write 10 words to hide in our word search. Write your 10 words at the top of your blank paper. Include God knows my real mistakes as 5 of your 10 words. Once you have 10 words, you will hide the words in your grid.

Place words going up and down, side to side, or diagonally. Make sure that you place only one letter in a grid space. Now it’s time to hide the words. In the empty grid spaces, write any letters you want. To make your word search more difficult, use letters from the words that you are hiding. Once all your grid spaces have a letter, trade papers with a friend and see if you can find the hidden words.

Safety Tip: Monitor the kids to ensure they are using appropriate words.

Loud And Clear: Wow, some of you hid the words really well! Do you ever feel like you need to hide your mistakes? (Allow kids to answer.) Real talk: there is no need to hide our mistakes because God already knows them. He knows the mistakes we have already made and the mistakes we will make in the future. We don’t have to hide from God because He already knows us, and He still loves us. When we do make mistakes, we can always turn to God and ask for forgiveness.

Discussion Questions (10 minutes)

What To Do: Let's get ready to have some real talk and answer a few questions together.

- What is a silly or funny mistake you have made? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
- How would you feel if you got bad grades on a report card? How does it make you feel knowing you never have to be worried about hiding your wrong choices from God? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
- The Bible tells us we are known, and that God knows our real mistakes. Let's open our Bibles to Genesis 11:6-7 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.)* How does God respond when we sin and make mistakes? *(God steps in and offers forgiveness and a way to rescue us.)*
- God knows our real mistakes, and He keeps on loving us. Because of this, what are some things we can do when we make wrong choices? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
- The Bible tells us that God knows us, and He knows our real mistakes. Real talk: God knows the real you—the good and the bad, the wins and the mistakes. He steps and gives us what we need—Jesus. What is something you learned today? Or 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 knowing our real mistakes. Thank You that you don't reject us, but instead, You love us. Help us remember Your love, especially when we make mistakes. Let us ask You for forgiveness. Thank You for being so good to us, even when we don't deserve it. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

The people made a mistake by doing building a tower and not following what God said. The consequence of their sin was that God stepped in and mixed up their language. The consequence for our mistakes is separation from God. But we can have faith and know that God knows our real mistakes, and He offers us love and forgiveness no matter what mistakes we make!

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.