

BELIEVE

God Story:

Paul in Antioch | Acts 13:13-43

Big Idea:

Following Jesus means that we believe Jesus is Lord.

Key Verse:

Say with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord." Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved. | Romans 10:9 (NIRV)

Leader Tips:

- Pray for the kids in your group before they arrive. Pray that Jesus would be real to them and meet them wherever they're at.
- Make sure everyone knows the good news: Jesus came to show us God's love, save us from sin, and share his peace.
- Encourage the kids to consider what it means to make Jesus the Lord of their lives.

Ms My Story

- 1. Conversation Starter** **2 minutes**
Talk about who the kids look up to and why. Explain what it means for Jesus to be Lord of our lives and introduce the Big Idea.
- 2. Intro Activity** **5 minutes**
Divide into pairs and practise mirroring each other's actions. Connect the activity to following the example set by Jesus.

Gs God Story Ls Life Story

- 3. Weekly Video** **12 minutes**
The video includes host, God Story, Life Story, and Key Verse segments.

Ms My Story

- 4. Small Group Activity** **12 minutes ***
Discuss the video teaching, then brainstorm ideas about what Jesus is like. Fill in an activity page that highlights qualities the kids can follow.
- 5. Prayer Activity** **8 minutes**
Encourage the kids to focus on one idea from the previous activity. Invite them to pray and ask for God's help with it. Wrap up by praying for your small group.

Os Our Story

- 6. Dismissal**
Connect with parents and give them the take-home materials.

* Extendable activity

Ms My Story

1. CONVERSATION STARTER

Supplies:

- None

Leader Tip:

- The Conversation Starter is a great way to make everyone feel welcome and build community! Use it to set the tone for your group's time together.

Instructions:

- As the kids arrive, welcome them and gather everyone together.
- Ask: Who's someone you look up to? Why do you look up to them?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Point out that sometimes when we look up to people, we copy what they do and follow their lead. That's exactly what we should do with Jesus! When we follow him, we allow him to be the boss of us. The Bible calls this making him Lord of our lives.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Following Jesus means that we believe Jesus is Lord.**

2. INTRO ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- None

Instructions:

- Guide the kids to find a partner. Groups of three people will work, too.
- Ask them to choose one person to be the leader.
- Direct the leaders in each pair to do a series of movements in silence.
- Guide their partners to pretend they're looking in the mirror and copy the actions exactly.
- After a couple of minutes, have the kids switch roles.
- To wrap up, note that the leader was like the boss, or lord. Their partners had to follow them carefully. If we follow Jesus and make him Lord of our lives, we must look closely at his example and be like him.

Gs God Story Ls Life Story

3. WEEKLY VIDEO

Supplies:

- Video file

Leader Tip:

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video as necessary.

Instructions:

- Play the video. It contains:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Paul in Antioch | Acts 13:13-43)
 - Life Story (Danielle organized a fundraiser to raise money to help less fortunate kids.)

4. SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Bibles
- Whiteboard or craft paper
- Small Group activity pages
- Markers
- Pens

Leader Tip:

- Make sure everyone's names are on their pages.

Instructions:

- a. Gather your small group to sit together.
- b. Discuss:
 - What was the Life Story about in today's video?
 - What was the God Story about?
- c. Make sure everyone has a Bible.
- d. Help the kids look up Romans 10:9, the Key Verse for this month.
- e. Read the verse out loud.
- f. Remind everyone that **following Jesus means that we believe Jesus is Lord**. In order to follow him and do what he wants us to do, we need to know what Jesus is like.
- g. Write "Jesus is..." at the top of the whiteboard or craft paper.
- h. Encourage the kids to finish the sentence with a quality or character trait of Jesus.
- i. Record their ideas if they are biblical (e.g., loving, kind, truthful, generous, etc.).
- j. Give each person an activity page.
- k. Place the markers and pen where everyone can reach them.
- l. Direct the kids to write "Because Jesus is Lord" at the top of their page. Help with spelling if needed.
- m. Guide them to fill in the blanks on their page with qualities and traits (e.g., "I will be kind."). Refer them to the brainstorming list for ideas. They could also draw pictures and decorate their pages.
- n. Ask everyone to think of ways they could model themselves after Jesus. Discuss when they find it difficult to follow him and encourage them.

5. PRAYER ACTIVITY

Supplies:

- Activity pages from Small Group Activity

Instructions:

- a. Remain in your small groups.
- b. Direct everyone to review their pages and choose one crown/trait.
- c. Ask them to sit quietly and consider how they will follow Jesus' example. They can look at the page or close their eyes. Encourage them to be still.
- d. After about one minute, go around the circle and invite the kids to take turns praying: "Help me to be [trait they just focused on]."
- e. Pray for everyone in your group by name. Thank God that Jesus wants to be our Lord and ask for his help in the week ahead.

Os Our Story

6. DISMISSAL

Supplies:

- Kids' crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verses colouring pages
- Key Verses cards

Before Dismissal:

- Place any crafts and take-home materials where everyone can access them easily.

Leader Tip:

- Take a moment to share with parents about their kids' experiences. Many parents will only hear about the morning from you.

Instructions:

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids.
- b. Give everyone take-home cards and a Key Verses colouring page.
- c. Offer Key Verses cards to anyone who has not gotten one this month.
- d. Remind them to take any crafts.
- e. Make sure the security numbers match before the kids leave with their parents.