



WEEK
THREE
OCTOBER 2021

SMALL GROUP
K-5
STARTER

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and kids. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your kids in both Large and Small Group time.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Hey, Sew Sister

Lydia
Acts 16:13-15

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Use your gifts to help others.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.

Psalm 139:14, NIRV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Individuality—Discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("You Are Faithful" from *This Love* and "Gloriously Free" from *Make a Move*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Ingredients May Contain
Application Activity: Candy of Character
Memory Verse Activity: Curious Candy Creations
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that God will prepare the kids' hearts to hear what He wants to teach them this week. Ask God to help you show kids the ways in which He has gifted them to help others and point back to Him. Pray that kids would have plenty of opportunities in the near future to use what God has given them to make someone else's life better.

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BASIC TRUTH

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1. EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, drawing paper, colored pencils or crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids to Small Group as they arrive.
- Invite kids who brought an offering to put it in the container.
- Give each kid a piece of drawing paper and ask kids to choose their favorite color of crayon or pencil.
- Invite the kids to draw a picture—the more detailed the better—with just their favorite color.
- If you have several shades in the same color family, allow older kids to use those for a little more nuance in their drawings.
- Ask:
 - What would the world be like if it were just one color?
 - What does it say about God that He made the world with so many colors?
 - What does it say about people that we all have colors we love or are drawn to?
 - How do you decide on your favorite color?
 - Has your favorite color ever changed?
 - What are some ways we use colors? (as warnings, to communicate information, in our food, in our buildings, in our clothes, etc.)

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Drink powder or Fun Dip®; clear plastic cups, spoons, pitcher of water, small bowls, drop cloth, towels

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you have mostly older kids, set up stations.
- At each station, set out several powdered drink mixes, cups, spoons, and water pitchers (enough for two to three kids to mix independently).
- For mostly younger kids, give each kid a small cup of water and two small bowls of mix.
- Let older kids experiment with the powders and water.
- Ask them questions.
 - Who can get the darkest mix?
 - Who can get the sweetest mix?
 - Who can get the brightest mix?
 - Whose mix is the thickest?
 - Which mix tastes the best?
 - What happens if you mix all the powders at once?
- Let younger kids mix a couple of powders in the water and help them notice how it looks.
- Ask them questions.
 - Does it look cloudy or clear?
 - Does it look bright or dark?
 - How does it taste when you add more of one powder?
 - What about adding more water?
- Let kids experiment either independently or with your help as long as time allows.
- Be sure to clean up any spills immediately and lead kids to stay still and calm as they work with the colored powder and water.

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BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"These powders are cool to experiment with! Not only are they yummy to drink, their colors are strong enough to stain fabric or even our hands! That's why we needed drop cloths and to clean up right after we finished. **[Transition] But let's go hear about someone who stained and dyed clothes on purpose and the incredible way she used her skills!**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MADE TO IMAGINE
an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



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MONTHLY LIFE APP
Individuality—Discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference

BASIC TRUTH
I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

*** 1. INGREDIENTS MAY CONTAIN**
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Ingredients May Contain" Activity Pages, colored pencils or markers, scissors, tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out the Activity Pages and set out the colored pencils and markers.
- Instruct kids to think of a candy that might represent Lydia from the Bible story.
- Ask prompting questions.
 - Would a candy that represented Lydia have purple sprinkles?
 - Would it have fluffy nougat because she was comforting and hospitable?
 - Would it be mint flavored—like the herbs she could gather in the place where the women prayed and met Paul?
 - Would it have something new and exotic that would make the candy bar a best-seller?
- Once kids decide about the details of their candy, invite them to name the candy they invented.
- Instruct the kids to design and color their wrapper on the blank side.
- Direct them to fill in the "May Contain" section on the back of the wrapper.
 - Help younger kids by asking questions.
 - Would a candy bar inspired by Lydia contain a ton of Awesomeness?
 - Would a candy bar inspired by Lydia contain Helpfulness, Business Sense, Generosity, or Artistry?
 - Would a candy bar inspired by Lydia give you extra Creativity for the day or provide all the Kindness you need?
 - Does this candy bar need a warning? May cause extra Hospitality. Could make you Thoughtful and Unselfish. May increase Curiosity. Eater could develop Keen Business or Leadership Skills.
 - Older kids might approach this as if Lydia was a social media influencer who created a sponsored post or who collaborated with a candy company.
- When kids have filled out both sides of the candy wrapper, give each kid a pair of scissors and direct them to follow the lines to cut out their wrapper.
- Instruct the kids to fold the wrapper on the fold lines.
- Set out the tape.
- Direct the kids to tape the top of the wrapper to the bottom and seal up the sides.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"These are some delicious—and inspiring—candies! Lydia sure had a lot of gifts! She had skills—those are things she learned to do. Can you name some of the skills Lydia had? (*dying cloth, running a business, and organizing people*) She also had unique inner characteristics. Do you have any idea what those could have been? (*curious, spiritual, generous, smart*) She had a specific life experience: she was a wealthy businesswoman and had a group of friends.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(* 1. INGREDIENTS MAY CONTAIN, CONTINUED)

“All those pieces—skills, character, and experience—made her unique and combined to make the gifts she used in our Bible story. She used her home and her business to help Paul and the church. She used her generosity and her friend connections to help the church.

“You, too, have those pieces. You have skills like . . . *(invite kids to name their skills or even those of their friends)*. I have seen much of your inner character, like being smart and brave and kind. And you have a specific experience in your life! You’re a brother or sister or cousin or neighbor, a teammate, a classmate, a friend. When those things combine, your gifts are beautiful and unique.

“And just like Lydia, you can **use your gifts to help others**. I can’t wait to see how you choose to do that!”

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



2. CANDY OF CHARACTER
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Large pile of candy and small bags

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a small bag for their candy.
- Explain that the candy is for later.
- Gather the group in a circle and dump the pile of candy in the middle.
- Instruct the kids to take a piece of candy if . . .
 - They have ever helped someone at school with homework or classwork.
 - They have ever let someone go first in line.
 - They have ever cleaned up after a little sibling.
 - They have ever cleaned up after a big sibling.
 - They have ever done chores with a good attitude.
 - They have scored a point in a sports game.
 - They have assisted someone to score a point in a sports game.
 - They have helped a neighbor with yard work or snow shoveling.
 - They are good at math.
 - They are good at reading.
 - They are a good sport (have a good attitude) in gym class.
 - They can do a cartwheel.
 - They have ever tried to teach a friend to do a cartwheel.
 - They let their friend try to teach them how to do a cartwheel and fell.
 - They have ever donated clothes or handed them down to a sibling or neighbor.
 - They have ever bought—or picked out—a birthday present for someone else.
 - They have held the door for someone.
 - They waited to use the tablet while their sibling was on it.
 - They have a high score on any video game ever.
 - They love to talk!
 - They love to dance!
 - They love to draw!
 - They love to wrestle with their siblings without actually hurting anyone!
 - They love to swim!
 - They love to bike!
 - They can play a musical instrument.
 - They are good at making a playlist.
 - They are kind to their families in public.
 - They are kind to their families at home.
 - They are good at sharing.
- Make sure all the kids have a good stack of candy!

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY LIFE APP

Individuality—Discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way I want to be treated.



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SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(2. CANDY OF CHARACTER, CONTINUED)

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You all have different gifts! They are all useful and special to God, and you can all **use your gifts to help others**. You might not think that being a good friend or being talkative or good at video games can help other people, but you'd be in for a surprise.

"If someone is lonely, who do they need? A good friend. If someone is upset or angry and can't think of the way to say it, they need a talkative person to help them figure out their feelings and what to do with their situation. If a little kid is getting teased because they just aren't great at the games their friends play online, you could make their world better by teaching them some tips and sharing your video game skills.

"Even if you think your skills or talents aren't 'gifts,' be on the lookout for ways you can use them to help others. There are no empty candy bags in this whole group! We have TONS of gifts to share with others.

[Make It Personal] (Share a way you used one of the things mentioned during the game as a gift to help someone out—even as small as cleaning up a mess at work or texting a friend who's having a bad day and using your awesome GIF skills to send the perfect cheer-up.)

"There are all kinds of ways to **use your gifts to help others**."

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



3. CURIOUS CANDY CREATIONS
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Curious Candy Creations" Activity Page, Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Look up and read Psalm 139:14 out loud together.
- Divide your group into two teams.
- Instruct both teams to stand on one side of the room.
- Put a set of cards ingredient side up, on the other side of the room, opposite each team.
- Direct the first kid to run, grab a card, and return to their team.
- Once the first kid returns to their team, the second kid takes off and gets another card.
- As soon as a team has all of the cards, direct them to make a few "Candy Creations" with the ingredients printed on the cards.
- Give them a chance to "leave out" any candy creation ingredients they think are unnecessary or unpleasant.
- Once all the teams have their candies ready, look over the creations, but point out that they are missing something—if they left any of the "undesirable/unnecessary" cards out, the verse isn't complete.
- Give teams a second shot at making an interesting candy creation combination that reveals the verse in order on the other side of the cards!

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Our Memory verse reminds us that God made each of us unique, one-of-a-kind, and for a purpose. Some of these ingredients you didn't know had a necessary purpose in your candy creations, but they are taken from actual candy recipes around the world.

"Your gifts might not always make sense to you, and people might not always value them the way that God does. You might wish you had someone else's gift, or you might hear that your gift isn't valuable. That is not true!

"Don't let anyone's bad attitude get in your way when you **use your gifts to help others**. If you're good at math, use that to help others. If you make the best PB and J in the neighborhood, use that to help others. If you are cheerful in the morning, use that to help others. You have valuable and necessary gifts to share with the world!"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids

If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

- What do you think is the strongest or most obvious gift that you have? Is it a skill, a character trait, or a life experience?
- How could you **use your gifts to help others**, in small or big ways, this week?
- What can you do when you're tempted to compare your gifts with the gifts of others?

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Candy Inserts" Activity Pages, candy wrappers from "Ingredients May Contain" Activity, colored pencils or markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each child their Candy Wrapper from "Ingredients May Contain" Activity.
- Give each kid a blank "Candy Inserts" Activity Page.
- Set out the colored pencils or markers.
- Instruct the kids to write their name and some of their gifts on the front side of the Candy Insert.
- Direct the kids to fill out the back of the "Candy Insert" with a way to use their gifts to help others this week.
- When they're finished, they can put their inserts inside the wrappers and set them aside to take home.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for giving us such special and awesome gifts—ways to help and serve those around us. Please help us use them this week in the way You want us to, and please help us reflect the special way You've made us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, make sure kids take home their bags of candy and encourage them to share them with others this week. Send home the Candy Wrappers and Candy Inserts, too. Ask adults to affirm kids' gifts this week.

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.
(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. EARLY ARRIVER

Made to Create: an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container
- Drawing paper
- Colored pencils or crayons

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Drink powder in various colors or Fun Dip® candy
- Clear, plastic cups; two to three for each kid
- Spoons; two to three for each kid
- Pitcher of water
- Small bowls (for younger kids)
- Drop cloth
- Towels (for clean-up)

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.

* 1. INGREDIENTS MAY CONTAIN [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Ingredients May Contain" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Colored pencils or markers
- Scissors
- Tape

2. CANDY OF CHARACTER [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large pile of candy
- Small bags

3. CURIOUS CANDY CREATIONS [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Curious Candy Creations" Activity Pages double-sided on paper and cut apart; two sets for each small group
- Bibles

4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Candy Inserts" Activity Page on cream or light brown cardstock and cut apart; one for each kid
- Candy Wrappers from "Ingredients May Contain" Activity
- Colored pencils or markers

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**