

CITY SG – May 3-4, 2025

Today's Bible Story: Living Hope (God So Loved the World) • *John 3:16-17*

Today's Bottom Line: God took care of our greatest need.

Monthly Memory Verse: *None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others.* Philippians 2:4 (NIRV)

Monthly Virtue: Initiative—Seeing what needs to be done and doing it

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: “Seek and Find” Activity Page (one per kid), “Seek and Find Answer Key” (2 per group), and magnifying glasses (some cheap ones to share)

What You Do:

- Welcome each kid by name as they arrive.
- Introduce yourself to any kids visiting your group for the first time!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid a “Seek and Find” Activity Page and a magnifying glass.
- Using the magnifying glass, encourage the kids to search for images listed in the word bank.
- *NOTE: they may have to share the glasses.*
- After the kids finish searching, use the “Seek and Find Answer Key” to review the hidden images with them.

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Eye Spy

Bible Story Review

What You Need: flashlights (two per group), “Eye Spy” Activity Page (1 set per group), and “Eye Spy Leader Guide” (one per group)

What You Do:

- Place the “Eye Spy” Activity Page images around your group space.
- Share with kids that Jesus met with Nicodemus at night.
- Give a couple kids the flashlights.
- Retell today's Bible Story using the “Eye Spy Leader Guide” Activity Page.
- As you read, pause frequently, giving the kids a moment to “spy” the correct picture and shine their light on it.
- Have the kids pass the flashlight to the next person before the next picture)
- *Extension: Ask kids questions about the Bible Story and have them shine their flashlights up to*
- Ask, “Have you ever had a problem you couldn't solve? (*Invite responses.*)
- Say, “Well, sin is a big problem that none of us can solve alone. So, God made a move and made a way! God sent Jesus to give up His life for our sins—and when we choose to believe in Jesus, we can live with God forever. That's really, really good news—the best news ever!

2. Trust and Believe

Application Activity

What You Need: Prepared “Salvation Cards” (one of each per kid, hole punched), and a piece of ribbon (or yarn)

What You Do:

- Give each kid one of each of the 4 cards from the “Salvation Cards” set.
- Explain to the kids that God took care of our greatest need through Jesus.
- Walk through John 3:16 with the kids using the cards and pausing for discussion.
 - God loved: God loves us SO much, more than we could ever fully understand.
 - God gave: God knew our sins, the wrong things we do that hurt God and others, would keep us from being with God forever. So, God gave us what we needed most: a Rescuer named Jesus!
 - Whoever believes: We can choose to believe in Jesus, ask Him to forgive us for the wrong things we’ve done, and try to live the way He shows us.
 - Lives forever: When we believe in Jesus, we get to live with God FOREVER in heaven!
- Give each kid a piece of ribbon (or yarn).
- Direct the kids to string the ribbon (or yarn) through the punched hole on the cards in verse order.
- Encourage kids to take these home and talk through these cards with someone from their family.

3. Make the First Move

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, and “Make the First Move” cards (1 set per group)

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse from a Bible aloud to your group.
 - *“None of you should look out just for your own good. Each of you should also look out for the good of others”*. Philippians 2:4
- Divide the kids into four groups.
- Give each group one of the four cards from the “Make the First Move” Activity Page that outlines a part of the Memory Verse and motions to go along with it.
- Give the groups time to work together to practice and memorize their part of the Memory Verse.
- Once the time is up, gather your entire group together.
- Invite each group to teach their portion of the Memory Verse to the rest of the kids.
- Then, practice repeating the verse and motions together several times.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? (*Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises*)
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...
“God, we have SO much to be thankful for! Thank You for loving us more than we could ever fully understand. Thank You for making us in Your image and taking the first step to restore our relationship with You by sending Jesus. You took care of our greatest need, and we are SO grateful! Help us to believe and trust in Jesus. Help us share Your love with others by seeing the needs of others and doing something about them. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to share and explain their Salvation Cards!