

CITY LG – February 28th- March 1st, 2026

Bible Story: John the Baptist Is a Witness about Jesus • *John 3:22-36*

Bottom Line: Jesus must increase. I must decrease.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • Philippians 2:3 NIV

LG SUPPLIES: 5 blue paper plates and 5 red paper plates per service, carpet tape

WORSHIP

Live Differently

He Has Won

SLIDE: Theme

Hey, everyone! I'm so glad you're here today! This month, we're starting a brand-new theme called *Upside Down!* Everyone say: 'Upside Down!'"

Great job!! The full title of the series this month is: 'Upside Down: Treat others the way Jesus treats you!' So this month, we're going to learn how to live the way Jesus did, to treat others the way He treats us. And that might look a little different from what we're used to. It might even look ... upside down!

Now, to kick things off, I have a super fun game called 'Flip It!'

SLIDE: Flip It! Title

I need two teams of five people to play our game. If you'd like to volunteer, raise your hand!

Choose 10 kids to come up to the front and divide them into two teams. Have the rest of the kids scoot around the outside of the room. Invite them on stage and create two teams of five. Designate one team of five as Team Red and the other five kids for Team Blue. Encourage both teams to form two separate lines behind the tape start line you have created.

****set out the 5 blue plates and 5 red plates in the center, placed upside down. Place tape down as a starting line for both teams.***

Here's how this game works. On the floor, you can see a bunch of paper plates scattered all over. Some are red, some are blue, and all are flipped over. We've got two teams, Team Red and Team Blue.

When I say 'Go,' one kid from each team will run out, flip over one plate that matches their team color, and then run back to tag the next person. Then the next kid on that team gets to go! You'll keep flipping plates until time runs out. When the timer ends, we'll see which team has the most plates showing their color! Sound good?

Awesome! Everyone, find your team and get ready. We'll have two minutes on the timer. Everybody else, let's cheer them on!

Is everybody ready? *(Make sure the two teams are lined up and ready to go.)* Awesome! Let's get our game started! Ready ... set ... GO!

VIDEO: Two-minute countdown.

Start the timer video. After two minutes, stop and say:

And STOP! Everyone, freeze where you are. Let's count and see which team flipped the most plates.

Invite the audience to help count with you as you are counting.

You know, that game reminded me of what we're learning today. Everything kept flipping back and forth, down to up, and that's kind of like what happens when we follow Jesus.

We are going to unpack all this month on how to live 'Upside Down'! It's going to be great!

Today's Bible Story is about a man named John the Baptist. He was really popular; everyone came to hear him speak. But when Jesus showed up, John showed us something important: 'Jesus must increase, and I must decrease.' That's our Bottom Line for today!

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Jesus must increase, I must decrease!

That means more of Jesus in our lives, and less of us trying to be the most important. When we put Jesus first, everything else in our lives starts to make sense!

Like I said earlier, this month, we're learning how to live *Upside Down!* We're discovering what it means to treat others the way Jesus treats us. When we live with humility, when we think of others first, we show everyone just how much Jesus loves them.

Our Memory Verse for this month reminds us how to do that. It's found in Philippians 2:3.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. —Philippians 2:3

Before we start our story, let's remember something really awesome we're doing this year. We're going to read the key stories from the Bible together as we go through it cover to cover!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God!

SLIDE: God's Big Story

So we're continuing our journey through the Bible. We're right at the part of the Bible when Jesus was on Earth. He came to Earth to show us who God is! So let's see what He had to teach us about living upside down!

VIDEO: The So and SO Show

So what about us? What's our part in this story? Well, John's job was to point people to Jesus—and that's our job too! We can't baptize people in a river like John did, but we can show people who Jesus is by the way we live every day.

So let's point people to Jesus! When we share what we have, we aren't just being kind, we are showing people Jesus! He is kind too! When we tell the truth, we aren't just being honest, we're showing people what Jesus is like! He is truthful too! When we bring a bandage to someone who is hurt, we aren't just showing compassion, we are showing what Jesus is like! He is compassionate too!

So as you go throughout this week, be like John, and be a big arrow that points to Jesus! Jesus is number one! In the morning, you can ask Jesus, 'Jesus, I want to live pointing to You today. Please show me how!' And when He nudges your heart throughout the day—at school, at the playground, at home—do what He says.

As you are a big arrow that points to Jesus, people will see Jesus!"

Let's take a moment to talk to God together. Everyone, bow your heads and close your eyes so we can focus on Him.

Dear Jesus, we want to live with humility. We want to make You number one in our lives every day. We want our lives to be a big arrow that points to you! When we start to think too much about ourselves, remind us to point to You. Thank You for loving us so much. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

SLIDE: Theme

OFFERING

In Parkview Kids, we want to have fun but also be the hands and feet of Jesus by helping others who are in need. This year we are collecting our offering money to help kids all the way on the other side of the world in a country in Africa called Malawi. Did you know that in this area many communities don't have access to clean water?

Slides: 5-8

We are helping a ministry called E3 which helps put in freshwater wells. Having a well with clean water right in their village means women and children don't have to travel far away to other villages to get clean water, and they don't have to walk with heavy containers of water like you see in these pictures. Children help carry water too! They have to travel so far that they have to miss school sometimes. And if they used the dirty water that is in their village, they would get very sick.

Help us raise money to provide clean water wells in the communities in Malawi who need them. We want you to go home and ask what YOU can do to raise money for these families in Africa!