

CITY LG – March 7th- 8th, 2026

Bible Story: A Roman Commander Has Faith • *Matthew 8:5-13*

Bottom Line: Remember God is most important.

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: 1 rubber chicken

WORSHIP

Live Differently

He Has Won

SLIDE: Theme

Hey, everyone! Welcome back to another incredible week of our series called 'Upside Down!' All month long, we're learning how Jesus flips things around and shows us a totally different way to live—HIS way!

"And speaking of upside down ... today's game is completely ridiculous in the best way. It's called 'Upside-Down Trivia'!

SLIDE: "Upside-Down Trivia Title"

In this game, the WRONG answer is the RIGHT answer. You score points by giving the silliest, craziest, most upside-down answer you can think of!

"But before you can answer, you have to race for THIS rubber chicken. Each round, I'll call up two players. When I ask the question, those two players will run to the chicken. Whoever grabs it first gets to give the upside-down answer. That means your answer should be incorrect, not correct. It should be something that DOESN'T make sense. For example, if I asked, 'What do you use to keep the rain off you?' you might say, 'Swiss cheese!'

Okay, let's pick our first two players! If you'd like to volunteer to play, raise your hand!

*Choose two volunteers from the kids who have their hands raised.
Position each kid at the start lines on either side of the rubber chicken.*

ROUND 1

All right, here we go. Remember, I will ask the question first, and when I shout, 'Upside down,' you will race to the chicken! Ready? Here's the first question: What do you use to brush your teeth?

Ready ... set ... UPSIDE DOWN!

The kids race. First kid grabs the chicken.

Okay, [kid's name] grabbed the rubber chicken first. So what's your upside-down answer?"

Kid who grabbed the chicken gives their upside-down answer.

Respond to the kid's upside-down answer. For example, if the kid responded with "Breadstick," you could say something like: "A breadstick? I'm pretty sure that's not dentist-approved ... but that IS an upside-down answer!" Then give them a ridiculous point amount for their answer.

Great job! Okay, let's bring up two different players! Raise your hand if you'd like to volunteer!

Pause to select two new volunteers from the kids who have their hands raised. Position each kid at the start lines.

ROUND 2

Okay, next question: What do you wear on your feet? Ready ... set ... UPSIDE DOWN!

The kids race to grab the chicken.

What's your upside-down answer?"

Kid who grabbed the chicken gives their upside-down answer.

Great job!

If time allows, continue with more rounds of new questions.

Ideas for Possible Future Rounds (Feel free to come up with your own!)

- What do you sleep on at night?
- What do you put on a sandwich?
- What do you write with?
- What do you drink?

Wow, you all rocked those upside-down answers! I love how your brain can flip things around so fast. And THAT is exactly what this month is all about. We're learning how living for Jesus sometimes feels upside down or different from what everyone else expects.

Like when we choose kindness ... when we choose forgiveness ... when we choose to follow Jesus, it might not always be what everyone else is doing, but it's always the BEST way. Today, we'll be learning how someone who was very important realized that God is the One who is MOST important.

Let's take a few minutes to look at our Memory Verse for this month. This verse is such an important part of what we're learning, because when we live the way Jesus teaches us to live, it can look a little upside down compared to what the world expects.

This verse reminds us that following Jesus isn't about trying to be the greatest, the fastest, or the most important. It's about choosing humility, choosing to put others first, and remembering that God is the MOST important of all.

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 NIV"

SLIDE: Theme Background

Today, we're going to hear about someone who understood something really important about Jesus. He was a Roman commander—a big, powerful leader who gave orders to lots of soldiers. Everyone expected someone like him to be the most important person in the room. But when this commander met Jesus, he showed that Jesus is the most important! He is in charge!

But before we get into our true story about what we can learn about God today, let me tell you about something amazing that we're doing this year!

We're going through the key stories of the Bible! By the end of the school year, we'll have looked at the key stories of the Bible from cover to cover!

Why are we doing that? Well, part of the reason God gave us the Bible is so we could know Him! He wants to be our close, close friend. So as we go through the Bible this year, our hope is to learn more about God!

We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! (*Gesture to slide.*)

SLIDE: God's Big Story

We're continuing right in our journey through the Bible. We are right at the part where Jesus was on Earth!

VIDEO: Bible Story

Jesus showed the Roman commander, and all of us, that real power belongs to God. When we try to be the most important, it's like standing far from the light and making our shadow look big. But when we come close to Jesus and trust Him, we remember what's true: God is the most important. He's the One we can rely on, the One who leads us, and the One who can do what we can't. Let's learn today's bottom line.

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Remember God is most important.

When we hear a story like this, it helps us remember something really important: God isn't just powerful in the Bible, He's powerful in *our* lives too. And our part in the story is to remember that God is most important every day. That means we can choose to trust Him when things feel big or confusing. We can pray and ask for His help instead of trying to figure everything out on our own. It means we can let God lead us—at school, at home, with our friends—because He knows what's best. When we put God first, we're choosing to live in a way that might look a little upside down to others, but it's the best way to live.

Let's talk to the God who is in charge together. Everyone, close your eyes.

God, You are the most important One in our lives. Sometimes we forget, and we try to do everything by ourselves. But You are strong, You are good, and You always know what we need. Help us remember to come to You first. Help us trust You when things feel big or confusing. And help us live in a way that shows You are the most important and have all power. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

SLIDE: Theme

OFFERING

Do you remember what we are raising money for this year? Yep, Clean water wells in Malawi, which is a country in Africa. 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 then they don't have to walk back with heavy containers. Let's watch a video that will show women filling their bins with clean water from a brand new well that was just installed in their village!

Missions video 1

Amazing right? Can't wait to see how these wells impact the villages in Malawi!