

CITY LG – June 20th- 21st, 2026

Bible Story: The Story of the Lost Son • *Luke 15:11-32*

Bottom Line: God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.

Monthly Memory Verse: “*May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven.*” • Matthew 6:10 NIV

WORSHIP

So So Good

Can't Steal My Joy

SLIDE: Theme

Hello, everyone! I'm so glad you're here today. This summer, we've been on a Kingdom Quest! We've been learning about God's kingdom all month long. The full title of our series this month is 'Kingdom Quest—Seeking the Greatest Treasure.'

God is good, kind, just, trustworthy, and patient—among other things! And His kingdom is anywhere where He reigns. The kingdom is where the ways of the King are the way things run! And we want Him to spread that good kingdom everywhere!

We're going to get started our journey of learning about God's kingdom, but before we jump into our story today, let's get our bodies and brains ready. Go ahead and stand up in your spot.

Let's take a deep breath in ... and let it out. Nice. Now let's wake up our bodies a little. When I count to three, I want you to do one big jump. Ready? One ... two ... three!

(Pause while kids jump.)

Great job! Now let's do a stretch. *(Demonstrate the stretches as you say them.)* Reach your hands high up toward the ceiling ... hold it ... and bring them back down. Perfect!

Last thing, go give three people you don't know a high-five.

(Pause while kids high-five each other.)

Great! You can take a seat!

Before we read our Memory Verse, I want to tell you something important. In heaven, everything happens exactly the way God wants; there is no hurting, no unkind words, no being left out. It's full of love and joy and peace. And Jesus tells us we can ask God to help our world look more like that. Every day, in every place we go, we can ask for God's kingdom to come. May what God wants to happen be done here on earth.

Our Memory Verse this month is a prayer that Jesus taught His followers to pray that asks for just that. It's found in Matthew 6:10.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven' (Matthew 6:10 NIV).

And God wants to bring His kingdom everywhere, as more and more people are a part of it. That's what we're going to talk about in our Bible Story today, but before we get started, let's play a quick game together. I'm going to make a face, and you guess the feeling that goes with that face. Ready?

(Make a surprised face.)

What feeling is this?

Good! How about this one?

(Make a sad face.)

Nice job! I did make a sad face! One more.

(Make an excited face.)

You got it again! You guys are really good at understanding feelings!

Now let's get a little silly. I'll make a face, and YOU copy it! Ready?

(Make a tired face.)

(Make a silly face.)

(Make a shocked face with a little gasp.)

That was amazing! You all should be in the movies!

Today's Bible Story is filled with all kinds of feelings—happy feelings, sad feelings, angry feelings, and big, surprised feelings.

And the best part? This story shows us who God is. Let's check it out.

VIDEO: Bible Story

When Jesus told this story, He wanted everyone listening to understand something really special: God's love doesn't stop. God's love doesn't run out. And God's love doesn't play favorites.

Wherever we are, whatever we've done, whether we feel near to God or far away ... God wants us to come close.

And that's what our Bottom Line today is all about! Let's check it out.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom.

Sometimes we might feel a little like the younger son in the story. We might make a choice, or a lot of choices, we wish we hadn't made. We might feel far away from God or think, 'Maybe I've done too many wrong things for God to want me.'

But Jesus wants us to know the truth: the very moment we turn toward God, He runs to us with open arms, just like the father in the story. He is never too far away.

And sometimes we might feel a little like the older brother. We might feel like we worked hard or did everything right, and we wonder why someone else is getting kindness. Jesus wants us to remember that God's love is a gift, not something we work for.

We can remember that God loves us no matter what. We can come close to God anytime. And we can show God's love to others because in God's kingdom, there is always room for everyone.

Let's take a quiet moment to pray together, friends. You can close your eyes and get still as we talk to God.

God, thank You for loving us so much. Thank You that Your arms are always open, just like the father in the story. Help us show Your love to others so everyone can know there is a place for them in Your kingdom. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen

OFFERING

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!

Slide: Theme