



COMMITMENT | WEEK 5 | MAY 29-30, 2021

## 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson

# Gotta Live

**Life App:** Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

**Bible Story:** Gotta Live (Widow's Mite) • *Mark 12:41-44*

**Bottom Line:** Practice living for God.

**Basic Truth:** I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

**Memory Verse:** "Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come." 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

**KID CONNECT:  
10 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:  
30 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:  
20 MINUTES**

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*Growing in faith is not something that happens by merely cramming more information about the Bible into a child's brain. All of that knowledge in their head means nothing if we don't help kids experience what that knowledge can do in their hearts. To fully experience faith, we want kids to practice their faith. And that takes commitment.*

*God keeps all His promises and puts His plans into action. Because God has followed through on those plans, we get the chance to be with God forever. We reflect God's commitment to us when we can make a plan and stick to it. This month, we'll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. Commit to practicing faith by reading God's Word, praying to Him consistently, talking about Him with friends, and living out that faith every day.*

We finish the month in **Mark 12:41-44**. Jesus is with His disciples and notices how wealthy people are giving lots of money, but then came a poor widow. She gave just two small coins. While this seemed like such a small gift, Jesus says this woman gave more than the rich people because she gave everything she had.

**Bottom Line: Practice living for God.** We know that many kids love to sing and worship God. But worship isn't just something we do when we sing at church; worship is how we honor God with

our whole lives— through how we love others and serve them, how we give of our time and talents, how we obey and praise God, even how we rest. We want kids to practice the faith skill, LIVE, and discover that worship isn't just singing loud. It's living loud.

## KID CONNECT

### WELCOME TIME

#### (VIDEO: INTRO MUSIC)

**Play** intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group.

### OPENING ACTIVITY:

#### (Coins)

#### What You Do:

- Give each kid a coin.
- Instruct them to do the following steps in preparation for the Coin Catch Challenge.
  - Bend one arm at the elbow so that their forearm is horizontal to the floor and their hand is touching their opposite shoulder.
  - With palm facing up, place the coin on top of their elbow so it is facing the ceiling. They are now ready for the challenge.
- Tell kids to quickly snap their arm downward as they try to catch the coin before it hits the ground.
- Encourage kids to keep practicing until they can catch the coin several times in a row.
- Stack a second coin on top of the first once they can easily catch one coin then let them try again. As they succeed, keep giving them more coins to see how many they can catch.
- Suggest other coin challenges as time allows.
  - Coin Spin: How long can kids spin a coin on a flat surface such as an uncarpeted floor or table.
  - Coin Stack: How many coins can kids stack on their forehead while standing with head tilted back?
  - Coin Tower: How many coins can kids stack in one minute using only one hand?

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME

#### (VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

**Show** the countdown video as you transition to Large Group. Set it to end as the session begins. *The Large Group Leader has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to KidCity. The LGL is relatable and inviting. LGLs can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, holiday, etc. The LGL tells*

*them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.*

**LGL:** Welcome everyone! I'm so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today by playing a game, singing some incredible songs that worship God, and then we are going to hear an amazing true story from God's Word, the Bible.

But first, let's quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don't dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind – We need to be kind with our words and actions to our friends, leaders, and the space that we are using
2. Be Safe – Make wise choices with your actions and words
3. Have Fun – Participate in what we are doing! It's no fun just sitting there...

Now that we know our expectations, let's kick off our day with a game!

## **LARGE GROUP GAME**

### **THE FINAL COUNTDOWN**

**(Card for Each Small Group, Streamer)**

**LGL:** “Hello, fun people! I'm so pumped for my race today! I'm finally ready. All of you have helped me train along the way, and together we've learned a lot about commitment.

**(SLIDE: LIFE APP)**

“Commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.

**(SLIDE: THEME)**

“We've done some agility training. We've fueled up with some water bottle flipping. And we've even worked on our communication skills. Thank you for helping me put my training plan in practice!

“Of course, that's not the ONLY training plan we've practiced this month. We've also learned how we can grow stronger in our relationship with God.

**(SLIDE: FAITH SKILLS)**

*(Reference the screen.)* “We can HEAR from God when we read the Bible. We can PRAY and talk to God—anytime, anywhere, about anything! We can TALK to other people about God. And look at that last one—we can LIVE for God. That's what we will talk about later today. If we put our training plan into practice, we'll be able to do what Jesus said is most important: love God and love other people.

**(SLIDE: THEME)**

“I’m just about ready to start my race—and I need YOU to help me pull it off. I’ve got an important job for each small group. Here are your instructions. Don’t let any other group see what it says!

*Pass out a card to each Small Group Leader.*

“First, take a look at the symbol on your card. When you see that symbol on the screen, that’s your cue to jump up and do whatever it says on your card. Leaders, you can take 30 seconds to explain to your group what it says on your card and figure out how you’ll do it. Ready? Go!

**(AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC)**

*Set a timer on your phone for 30 seconds.*

“Okay! Does everyone know what to do? *(Pause for response.)* Great! *(Do some runner’s stretches.)* Then I think it’s time to begin. After all that training, it comes down to this!

*Get into a runner’s starting stance, facing the audience.*

“First group, you’re up!

**(SLIDE: HORN SYMBOL)**

*The first group should stand up, raise their arms then make a horn sound (as explained on their card).*

*LGL: As soon as they do, start slow-motion running while facing the audience—i.e. pretend like you’re actually running in a race.*

**(AUDIO: CHARIOTS OF FIRE)**

*Tech team: Let the Host slow-motion run for a few steps then put up the next symbol on screen to cue the next group to do the task on their card.*

*(“Rainstorm,” “Wind gust,” “Huge hill,” “Crowd wave,” “Shoe’s untied,” “Leg cramp shake-out,” “Hydration station,” or “Dance it out”)*

*LGL: React to what the small group does for each one, while still running in place with the music in the background. For example, if it’s “Leg cramp shake-out,” start shaking your legs and commenting so the rest of the audience knows what’s happening. (“Oh no! Leg cramp! Better shake it out.”)*

*Repeat the process until you’ve gone through the symbols for all the groups, ending with the “Big finish” symbol.*

*Tech note: Only show the symbols on screen that match the actual cards that the LGL passed out to the groups. This might mean that you don’t use all of the slides.*

**(SLIDE: OTHER SYMBOLS AS NEEDED)**

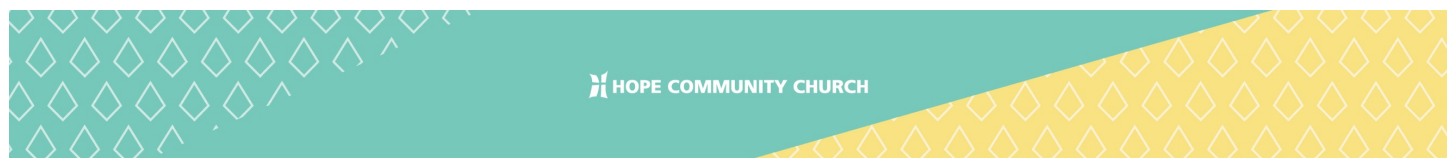
**(SLIDE: FINISH LINE SYMBOL)**

*The last group should come on stage, find the streamer, and hold it up in front of the LGL (with half of the group holding each side).*

**(AUDIO: OLYMPIC FANFARE AND THEME)**

*LGL: Burst through the streamer then make your way around the perimeter of the room, thanking the kids along the way.*

**(SLIDE: THEME)**



*(back on stage)* “Amazing! I can’t believe I finished! And I think I did really well, too—912<sup>th</sup> place. Thank you all for helping me train and succeed.

“Now let’s all stand up and get ready to worship God. He’s the One who gives us the strength we need to stay committed in ANY situation!”

## WORSHIP

**(VIDEO: RISE AND SING, THIS IS LIVING NOW)**

## BIBLE STORY

**(SLIDES: LIFE APP, BOTTOM LINE, MEMORY VERSE, BASIC TRUTH, FAITH SKILLS; VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)**

**(Bible)**

**LGL:** We’ve had a great month learning how we can show commitment—not only in a race, but also in our relationship with God. Remember that we are defining it this way...

**(SLIDE: LIFE APP)** “Commitment is making a plan and putting it into practice.

There are some important things we can practice that will help us get to know God better—like hearing what God has to say to us by reading the Bible, praying to God, and talking about what we believe. If we can do those things regularly, they’ll change the way we live every day!

**(SLIDE: FAITH SKILLS)**

Funny enough, that’s our last skill that we are talking about! How can we LIVE for God? Well, when Jesus was on earth, he and his disciples witnessed someone who truly understood what it meant to live whole life for God. Let’s see who that was!

**(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY)**

“Wow! Jesus saw the small gift the widow gave as her offering. But He didn’t see it as small. He saw how big it was, because it showed how much the widow trusted God!

“If you think about it, the widow’s offering was actually a way for her to worship God. After all, worshipping God is about more than just singing songs. It’s about LIVING life in a way that honors God. We can show God how much we love Him with the choices we make . . . the way we treat other people . . . and the way we live our lives each day. So remember our Basic Truth...

**(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH)** “I am made by God to worship Him.

“What makes it easier to remember to worship God with our lives? Well, let’s check out our Bottom Line.

**(SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE)** “Practice living for God.”

“If you ever wonder what it looks like to live for God, look at the way Jesus lived. Look at the way Jesus treated people—with love and compassion. Look at the way Jesus went to the cross for us, so that we could have a relationship with God that will last forever. Jesus saw things that were wrong, and He made them right. He can help US do that, too. We can LIVE for God every day when we put what we believe into action.

“Did you know that you have lots of chances to live for God, every single day? It’s true! Before you do something, first stop and ask yourself if it will honor God. Does it honor God to play that certain video game even though your parents told you not to? Does it honor God if you’re mean to your friend because they said something unkind to you? We can honor God and live for Him when we choose to love the people around us. Remember our memory verse says...

## MEMORY VERSE

**(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE)**

*Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come. 1 Timothy 4:8 (NIV)*

“So let’s train hard in LIVING our lives in a way that worships God!

## PRAYER

“Let’s pray together.

“God, You are so good to us! You provide what we need. You are worthy of all we have to give. Thank You for this story that shows us how we can live for You with our whole hearts. We don’t want to just SAY that You’re important in our life. We want to LIVE for You each day. Help us have the commitment to trust You and follow You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

## DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS

## SMALL GROUP

**Life App: Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice**

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**Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.**

**Memory Verse: "Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come." 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV**

## COIN RUBBINGS

**(Bible, Pennies - 1 Per Kid, Paper, Crayon)**

**What You Do:**

- Give each kid a penny, a piece of paper, and a crayon.
- Review the Bible story with the questions below.
  - As Jesus and the disciples watched people bring their offerings, what did they notice the rich men do? (*dropping handfuls of coins in; making a big show of the large amount of money they gave*)
  - What did they see the widow give? (*two coins*)
  - Who impressed Jesus more: the men who gave large amounts or the widow who gave so little? Why? (*the widow because she showed she trusted God by giving ALL she had*)
  - What are some ways we can **[Bottom Line] practice living for God** that don't involve money?
- Show the kids how to place their penny on a hard surface (like a tabletop or whiteboard), lay the piece of paper over it, and use the side of the crayon to rub over the penny. What happens?
- Encourage the kids to create a title for today's Bible story and write it at the top of the page.
- Instruct the kids to write **[Bottom Line] "practice living for God"** at the bottom of their paper.

**What You Say:**

"If I put a bag of gold next to this penny, which amount is greater? (*Pause.*) The bag of gold, of course. But on that day when Jesus watched the people bring in their offerings, which one cost the giver MORE: the bags of gold or the two coins? (*Pause.*) Yes, the two coins. The rich men made a big show of their giving that day, when in fact it didn't really affect them. They still had plenty of money left to spend. While the widow, whose husband had died and who didn't have any way to make money, quietly gave ALL she had. She chose to trust God completely, believing that He would provide all she needed. And THAT—her complete trust and faith in God—is what impressed Jesus.

"There are so many ways we can **[Bottom Line] practice living for God** that don't have anything to do with money. We can help. We can serve. We can make wise choices that protect us and the people around us. Every time we have a choice, we can ask ourselves: Does this choice honor

God? Does what I'm about to do show love to others? These questions will help you as you make a commitment to *[Bottom Line]* practice living for God."

*[Make it Personal]* (What are some choices you've made in the past that you know honored God—especially those that might seem silly to others? How did those choices protect you and strengthen your faith and trust in God?)

## SLAP BRACELET

(Blank Slap Bracelets - 1 Per Kid, Permanent Markers of Different Colors)

### What You Do:

- Tell kids that they are going to be creating a way for them to remember during the week to LIVE for God.
- Review the 4 Faith Skills (Hear, Pray, Talk, Live). Emphasize that these skills are sometimes hard to remember when we aren't at church, but not to get discouraged, all it takes is practice!
- Pass out the slap bracelets and put the permanent markers in the middle so kids can reach them (give a gentle reminder that "permanent" means "permanent"! ). Have the kids write the 4 Faith Skills on their bracelet and then decorate it however they want.
- While they are doing so, review the monthly verse.

### What You Say:

"This month, we've learned all about commitment—making a plan and putting it into practice. Just like you make a plan to grow healthy physically, we need to make a plan to grow in our faith! So far, we've learned that we can practice hearing from God, praying to God, and talking about God. But we actually need to *[Bottom Line]* practice living for God! As our verse reminds us, growing in faith isn't just good now, it makes a difference forever!"

## DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- Finish the following sentences:
  - Living for God is easiest when . . .
  - Living for God is hardest when . . .
- Is there a difference between KNOWING God and LIVING for God? Explain.
- If someone said they wanted to live for God but didn't know how, what would you tell them? What's the first step you'd tell them to take?

## PRAY AND DISMISS

(2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> GodTime Card - 1 per kid)

### What You Say:

"God, we know we won't grow in our faith if we don't actively practice hearing from You, praying to You, talking about You, and living for You. Help us continue to practice every single day so we can grow. We love You and are so grateful for the greatest gift ever—Your Son, Jesus. It's in Jesus' name we ask all these things. Amen."

Pass out the GodTime Cards to each kid. If there's spare time, encourage kids to start looking over their GodTime card and point out how it relates to today's lesson.