



LIVE IT OUT | WEEK 1 | JUNE 1, 2025

Elementary Lesson

I Will Follow

Monthly Virtue: Live it out: discover how to love like Jesus

Bible Story: I Will Follow (Live Like Jesus) • *Philippians 2:5* (Supporting: *Philippians 2:1-8*)

Key Question: How can we live like Jesus?

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

Memory Verse: As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did. *Philippians 2:5 (NIRV)*

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This whole summer you get to lead kids through nine amazing weeks of discovering what it looks like to love like Jesus. Each week will break down a “one another” statement from the Bible. God designed us to be in community with one another even when it’s challenging, and we’ll need God’s Spirit to help guide us as we do. In these nine weeks, kids will learn about difficult concepts such as living in peace with one another or forgiving one another. Invite kids to bring open and honest conversation but be sure to create a safe space for them to process what makes some of those things challenging to do.

As leaders in children’s ministry, we have the incredible privilege of shaping the faith of young hearts. Teaching elementary-aged kids what it means to live like Jesus is crucial because they are forming the foundation of their faith—learning not just what they believe, but how that belief impacts their daily lives. At this age, kids are naturally curious, looking up to role models, and eager to imitate what they see. By helping them understand that following Jesus isn’t just about knowing Bible stories but actually living them out, we set them on a path of faith that is active, personal, and transformative. When we show them that Jesus humbled Himself, put others first, and loved in big and small ways, we give them a model for how to navigate friendships, family relationships, and challenges with Christ-like love.

Kids may not always grasp deep theology, but they do understand what it means to make a choice—choosing kindness over selfishness, choosing to help instead of ignore, choosing to forgive rather than hold a grudge. By teaching them now to ask, “What would Jesus do if He were me?” We equip them with a lifelong framework for faith in action. Our role is to not only teach them about Jesus but to guide them in becoming like Him. The seeds we plant now—helping them choose Jesus and get to know Him—will grow into a faith that lasts well beyond their childhood years. Let’s be intentional in leading them to live it out!

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors
Open
9:15/11:00

Large Group
Starts
9:35/11:20

Small Group
Starts
10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

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, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: 5th SUNDAY FUNDAY) (Once in a while there are 5 weeks in a month instead of 4 – and that’s awesome! It’s worth celebrating. The next 5th Sunday is at the end of this month, and we want you to come and bring your friends!

(SLIDE: BAPTISM) *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, 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
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

ROCK, PAPER, SNAKES

(No Supplies)

We are in June, which means that we are OFFICALLY kicking off our summer series: Live it out!

(SLIDE: VIRTUE) Live it out: discover how to love like Jesus

For the next couple of months, we’re headed to camp Live It Out. We talk a whole lot about living for Jesus, but we may wonder how we can actually do that. At camp Live It Out, we’ll all get a chance to discover what it means for us to live like Jesus and love the people around us. But first, let’s check out our monthly verse!

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did. *Philippians 2:5 (NirV)*

Take a minute to explain that ‘Philippians’ is a book in the New Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘NirV’ is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn’t originally written in English! There are

different translations.

You'll have more time to practice this month's verse, but for now let's play a game!

(SLIDE: ROCK PAPER SNAKES with MUSIC)

HOW TO PLAY

- Have everyone find a partner. Each pair will play a simple game of Rock, Paper, Scissors.
- The winner then moves on to find another player who won their round.
- The player who loses will then put their hands on the shoulders of the player who beat them and follow them around as their snake.
- When a player who has a snake line gets beat, the player and their snake joins the snake of the player who beat them.
- Play until there is one final winner.
- Play again as time allows

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: BURN, FULLY ALIVE [Summer Theme Song])

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

All summer long we are saying Live It Out or to Live Like Jesus. The truth is: it's one thing to read about Jesus, to know all sorts of verses about Jesus, and even to believe what Jesus said is true. It's a whole other thing to live like Jesus. But that might bring up some other questions for you, questions like: how can we live like Jesus if we're not completely sure how Jesus lived when He was on Earth? How can we live like Jesus when we're obviously not Jesus? . . . After all, Jesus is God. We are not. We can't do miracles like Jesus, so how can we even attempt to live like Jesus?

"First of all, if you have these sorts of questions, you're in good company. Almost everyone who chooses to follow Jesus with their life ends up asking questions like these. It's important for us to think about what it really means to Live It Out and follow Jesus. Thankfully, we have a great place to start—the Bible, God's Word. Remember, the Bible is like a library of books that all point to Jesus. When we read the Bible, we can gain some important insight to help us know Jesus and follow Him well. Let's head there now

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 5 MIN)

You might have seen people wearing the bracelets or shirts that say 'WWJD.' Does anyone know what that stands for?" (*Allow for responses.*)

"Exactly! **What would Jesus do?** It is a great thing to ask yourself, but at the same time, it's not always a mystery. Jesus loved God and loved others . . . always. That is *a/ways* the right decision. But as we face SPECIFIC moments and decisions in our lives, we can ask ourselves: 'What would

Jesus do if He were in my shoes right now? How would HE respond to this person who's a bit frustrating? How would He talk to His mom or dad when He wasn't getting His way?' Again, it'll be hard for us to know the answer to this if we don't KNOW Jesus. So, for any of this to work, we have to get to KNOW Him. And the more we stay connected to Jesus, the more we will find that God is working in us and through us to change the world around us. That's also why Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to live inside of us—to help guide us to do what Jesus would do in our daily lives. So, if you feel a nudge to do like Jesus would do, that's very likely His Spirit inside of you! God doesn't want you to do this 'live like Jesus' stuff alone!

Another way to say it is how our Basic Truth for this week says it...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

As we head to Small Groups, we want you to consider this question:

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) 'How can we live like Jesus?

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don't try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

"Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1....

"I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let's pray.

God, I pray that these come to know you better through studying your Word and talking to other people who also know you. I pray that they become young men and women who love you and love others and LIVE LIKE YOU. Amen.

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.

Key Question: How can we live like Jesus?

(Answers will vary, but emphasize that Jesus didn't just DO good things, he also intentionally sought to read the scriptures and pray to God his Father. Living like Jesus isn't all about doing good things, it's doing good things for the right reasons.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: Philippians 2:5-11

Say: The book of Philippians is one of the letters that Paul wrote. Paul was a missionary who planted churches in a bunch of different cities. Philippians was written to the church he planted in the city of Philippi [fill-e-pie]. Paul wrote this letter from prison, likely in Rome or Ephesus, around 62 AD, to the Christian community he founded in Philippi, a Roman colony in Macedonia

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(White Slap Bracelets, Permanent or Washable Markers, Coffee Filter, Tray or Plastic Tablecloth, Prepared Spray Bottle Filled with Water, Washable Markers in Primary Colors)

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Share that we are going to do two activities today. One to take home and one here as a group.
- Explain that you are going to pass around the coffee filter, and they will use washable markers to write their name.
- Draw a cross in the center of the coffee filter with a permanent marker.
- Set out the primary color (red, blue, and yellow) washable markers.
- Instruct the kids to write their names on the coffee filter with a primary color washable marker.
 - NOTE: Make sure the kids use various colors.

- While kids are passing around the coffee filter, ask questions like:
 - What are some ways we can get to know Jesus?
 - How did Jesus live His life?
 - What are some ways we can act and think like Jesus?
- Once all the kids have written their names on the filter, lay the filter flat on the tray or plastic tablecloth.
- Pass the spray bottle around the circle.
- Invite each kid to spray water on the filter once from a distance away.
- Point out the beautiful colors as they spread.
- Share that just like the beautiful transformation of the coffee filter with the water, the more they get to know Jesus, the more He beautifully transforms them to live like Him!
- Pass out the slap bracelets and markers and tell kids to write either “Live Like Jesus” or “LLJ” in the middle and then decorate as they want.
- Tell kids to wear their bracelets as a reminder to ‘Live Like Jesus’!

What You Say:

“Wow! It was amazing to see how your names began to blend and turn into beautiful art. When we stay connected to Jesus, it changes everything! It helps us think and act like He would, and we learn to live like Jesus.

“Have you ever followed a friend who might not be doing what’s right? (Invite responses.) Maybe they want to leave a friend out at lunch on purpose. It can be easy to do this. One of the best parts about following Jesus is that He can help us follow the path to make wise choices. As we pray, read the Bible, and talk with others who love Jesus, we stay connected to Him! God works in us to help us be kind, loving, and forgiving—just like Paul encouraged the Philippians to do. Isn’t that incredible? So, let’s find ways to live like Jesus (LLJ) and make a difference!”

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Memory Verse Poster and Bibles)

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Guide the kids to look up Philippians 2:5 or use the memory verse poster.
- Repeat the verse together several times.
- Gather your entire group together and invite them to stand up.
- Model the following Memory Verse motions to the kids:
 - As you deal with one another, (Point to the kids around you.)
 - you should think (Tap your forehead.)
 - and act (Take a big step forward.)
 - as Jesus did. (Stretch your arms like Jesus on the cross.)
 - Philippians 2:5 (Open hands like a book.)
- Repeat the motions again and invite the kids to perform them with you.
- Practice the Memory Verse motions together several times.
- Divide the kids into two groups.
- Instruct the groups to stand facing each other.
- Assign each group part of the Memory Verse and motions.

1. Group 1 says: As you deal with one another,
 2. Group 2 says: you should think and act as Jesus did.
- Lead the kids in reciting the verse again by performing their group's part.
 - Optional: Challenge the groups to say their part of the verse in a whisper, loudly, slowly, or quickly.

What You Say

"Great job with the Memory Verse motions, everyone! This verse was written by Paul, a follower of Jesus, who wrote letters to help others know how to live like Jesus. Paul was telling us that we should think and act like Jesus being humble, kind, and caring about others more than ourselves. Jesus, God's Son, came to Earth and modeled what it looks like to love and serve others. Now, we get to read all about Him in the Bible! When we choose to follow Jesus, we can follow His example too. Friends, let's live like Jesus in everything we do so others can know Jesus through our actions."

PRAYER

What You Do:

- Instruct the kids to sit in a tight circle.
- Direct the kids to put their arms with the bracelet in the center of the circle as you pray that they would live like Jesus everywhere they go this week.

"Dear God, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to show us how to live, love, and care for others. We are SO grateful we can follow His example! We want to be more like Jesus and to treat others the way He treated them. Because you love us so much, Jesus came to give up His life for us and restore our relationship with you again! Help us to live like Jesus everywhere we go. We love you, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."