

K-5 | W3

Leader Summary

In Week 3, Jesus singles out Zacchaeus, a tax collector who has scrambled up a tree for a better view. Instead of scolding Zacchaeus for stealing from his neighbors, Jesus invites himself over to the tax collector's house for a party. Profoundly changed by Jesus' love and acceptance, Zacchaeus offers to pay back anyone he has cheated—four times as much! [BOTTOM LINE] The love of Jesus can change things for the better.

Small Group (20 minutes)

Connect Time

Large Group(30minutes)

Countdown and welcome

Large Group Game

Worship

Story

Prayer

Small Group(25 minutes)

Key Question

Activity 1

Activity 2

Prayer

Home:

Devotionals for Kids



Bible Story

Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

Bottom Line

The love of Jesus changes people.

Monthly Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you." • John 13:34 NIV

20 min

Connect Time

20 min

Welcome Time

What You Need

👤 (VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

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From Doors opening to start of Large group - Play intro music in the background as you greet and intentionally engage with students, following the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few different stations of toys, puzzles, games, or blocks.

Connect time is spent building relationships with some intentional connecting with kids before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or playing or just sit and listen to each other. You can ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group..

8 min

Large Group

3 min

Countdown & Welcome

What You Need

👤 (SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

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Cue countdown video and invite kids to sit down with their group leaders.

Script:

What You Say:

"Hey Friends, I'm so glad you came to hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today. As we get started, let's go over our KidCity Expectations and Basic Truths.

SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS & BASIC TRUTHS

"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

"And here are our KidCity Basic Truths:

- I am MADE by God
- I am LOVED by God no matter what
- I am made for a PURPOSE

SLIDE: Theme

5 min

Game - Moose on the Loose

What You Need

- ✉ Moose on the Loose Slides

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"So, this month we're talking all about our series, 'Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus' because when you see something awesome online, you like it and subscribe to it because you don't want to miss a minute of awesomeness. And you want to share that awesomeness with your friends and family too!"

There are 12 game slides, first one is the example, last one the tie breaker. Cut slides if you are running short on time.

"We will talk more about our theme during our Bible Study, but let's start things off this morning with a game! Who knows what a rhyming word is? Right, they are words that have similar sounds. I need everyone to go sit with your small group leaders. This game we will all play together and leaders will keep score. Your groups will look at the picture on the slide and work together to come up with words that match and go with the picture. You will earn 1 point for every word you get that matches the words on the answer slide. Our first slide will be our example."

10 min

Worship

6 min

Worship Opener

What You Need

- ✉ "Can't Contain It" from Live It Out available on store.thinkorange.com

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"Thanks for playing! Let's all stand to worship God together! When we worship, we're reminding ourselves that God's love is real, and that love can change us."

SONG 1: "Can't Contain It" from Live It Out available on store.thinkorange.com

- ✉ "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop available on store.thinkorange.com

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SONG 2: "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop available on store.thinkorange.com

3 min

Memory Verse

What You Need

No supplies needed

"You all did an amazing job singing! Those songs remind us that God's love isn't something we just keep to ourselves; God's love is something we live and share. This month's Memory Verse helps us remember that love starts with Jesus and moves through us."

"This month's Memory Verse is John 13:34! I'll read it, and then we can say it together!"

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you' — John 13:34.

"Let's say it together!"

KIDS AND LGL: *"I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.' — John 13:34"*

1 min

Worship Closer & Bible Story Intro

What You Need

No supplies needed

LGL have your Bible opened to the Bible Story, Luke 19:1-10

That verse is so powerful. Jesus told us to love each other the way He loves us.

"Jesus *loves people no matter what*. Today we're going to learn about the true story in the Bible of a man named Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus had made a lot of bad decisions, so much so that people didn't like him very much. When Zacchaeus met Jesus, he was totally changed—not because Jesus told him to be different, but because Jesus *loved* him. And that's what God's love does, it changes people. When we follow Jesus, His love changes *us*, and it helps us influence others in amazing ways too!"

12 min

Bible Story (Video)

12 min

StoryLab Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

8 min

Large Group Wrap Up

5 min

Outro

What You Need

No supplies needed

"The same love that Zacchaeus experienced, we can too! And the people we know and meet can experience that love as well!"

"Jesus sees us when we mess up. He knows when we make selfish choices. And still, He loves us right where we are—just like He loved Zacchaeus. But Jesus' love doesn't stop there. His love changes us from the inside out. When we start spending time with Jesus, talking to Him, learning about Him, following His example, we begin to change too!"

"Maybe you start being kinder to your friends. Maybe you choose to tell the truth instead of hiding it. Maybe you forgive someone who hurt you. That's the love of Jesus at work in your heart. Because when you know Jesus loves you, you don't stay the same, you start to live more like Him every day!"

"When you meet Jesus and learn just how much He loves you, His love will change your heart, your choices, and your life. And these changes make it easier to show God's love to other people too.

"Showing the love of Jesus to someone doesn't guarantee that they'll change, but it does open the door.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"So remember this: **The love of Jesus changes people.**

3 min

PRAYER & KEY QUESTION

What You Need

No supplies needed

Leave Key Question Slide on the screen for Small Group

"Before we look at the key question and head to small group, let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You that Your love is so powerful it changes people from the inside out. Thank You for loving us as we are, but also loving us so much that we don't stay the way we are. Help us to remember Your deep, personal love for us every day, just like You showed Zacchaeus. Holy Spirit, would You fill us with Your power so we can boldly share that love with the people around us? We love You, and we pray these in Jesus' name. Amen.

"Here is our key question for this week, How can love change things? Take a minute and think of your answer, you are going to start small groups by talking about your answers."

(Dismiss kids to their small groups. SMALL GROUP LEADERS open with allowing kids to answer the key question:
How can love change things?)

10 min

Small Group

10 min

Small Group Activity 1 - Bible Story Review K-2nd

What You Need

- ☒ Prepared bottle of water with "Zacchaeus" label
- ☒ K-2nd grade "Change for the Better Hanger" Activity Page

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What You Do:

- Ask: "What was the biggest change you saw in Zacchaeus after he met Jesus?" (*He went from selfish and greedy to generous and fair.*)
- Show the group the water bottle. Tell them this is the "Zacchaeus Bottle Flip Challenge."
- Let kids take turns trying to flip the water bottle and have it land standing up.
- Explain that just like flipping the water bottle can completely change its position, Jesus' love completely flipped Zacchaeus's life around.
- K-2 Color the Change for the better hanger activity page

What You Say:

"These look so great! You can hang this on a door to help everyone remember to share the love of Jesus. Zacchaeus's life was changed so much by Jesus' love that he wanted to make things right. He promised

Small Group Activity 1 - Bible Story Review 3rd-5th

What You Need

- Prepared bottle of water with "Zacchaeus" label

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to give half of what he owned to the poor and to pay back four times the amount to anyone he had cheated! He learned that **[Bottom Line] the love of Jesus can change things for the better.**"

What You Do:

- Ask: "What was the biggest change you saw in Zacchaeus after he met Jesus?" (*He went from selfish and greedy to generous and fair.*)
- Show the group the water bottle. Tell them this is the "Zacchaeus Bottle Flip Challenge."
- Let kids take turns trying to flip the water bottle and have it land standing up.
- Explain that just like flipping the water bottle can completely change its position, Jesus' love completely flipped Zacchaeus's life around.
- Discuss questions

What to say:

It's amazing to think about how much Zacchaeus changed in one day. Jesus didn't condemn him or order him to pay everyone back. Jesus simply made it clear how much He loved him. Jesus looked up into the sycamore-fig tree and said, 'Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay at your house today' (Luke 19:5 NIV). That love transformed him from the inside out. Zacchaeus went from being someone nobody trusted to someone who was making things right and being generous, promising to pay back four times the amount he took. It's proof that **[Bottom Line] the love of Jesus can change things for the better.**"

- Discuss the following questions:
 - Zacchaeus climbed a tree just to see Jesus. What do you think made him so eager to see Jesus—and what might that say about what was missing in his life?
 - Why do you think Jesus chose to spend time with Zacchaeus when everyone else disliked him?
 - How do you think Zacchaeus felt when Jesus called him by name and wanted to come to his house?
 - What does this story show you about how Jesus sees people—especially those who have made wrong choices?
 - Zacchaeus didn't just feel loved—he changed. Why do you think experiencing Jesus' love made Zacchaeus want to make things right instead of being told to?
 - The story says that the love of Jesus changes people. How has knowing that Jesus loves you—no matter what—changed the way you see yourself or treat others?

10 min

Small Group Activity 2

10 min

Bible Literacy - ACT IT OUT

What You Do:

- Select 3 people from the Bible.
- Look up the verses

What You Need

No supplies needed

- Then divide your group into 3 to work together and act out the story you assign them.

Pick 3 of the following:

- Adam Genesis 2:7-3
- Joseph Genesis 37:12-36
- John theBaptist Matt 3:1-12
- Saul 1 Samuel 10:17-27
- Solomon 1 Kings 3:1-15
- Mary Luke 1:26-38
- Paul Acts 9:26-31

Identify whether the person is from the Old Testament or New Testament**Read together the verses about that person****Have your kids act out the story**

5 min

Small Group Prayer

5 min

Pray

What You Need

- Prayer Journal so you can write down what your kids share and ask about in weeks to come

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What To Do:

- Instruct the kids to form a circle.
- Encourage the kids to think of one person who might be younger than them that they can pray for.

What To Say:

"Dear God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for the story of Zacchaeus that shows us Your love can change anyone. Please be with the people we named today. Help us to be like Jesus and show them Your love, because we know Your love can make everything better. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name, Amen."

Supplies

Category	Item Description	Quantity	Category	Item Description	Quantity
Welcome Time			Small Group Activity 1 - Bible Story Review		
1. (VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)	0	K-2nd	1. Prepared bottle of water with "Zacchaeus" label	1	
Countdown & Welcome			2. K-2nd grade "Change for the Better Hanger" Activity Page	0	
1. (SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)	0				
Game - Moose on the Loose			Small Group Activity 1 - Bible Story Review		
1. Moose on the Loose Slides	0	3rd-5th	1. Prepared bottle of water with "Zacchaeus" label	1	
Worship Opener			Pray		
1. "Can't Contain It" from Live It Out available on store.thinkorange.com	0	1. Prayer Journal so you can write down what your kids share and ask about in weeks to come	1		
2. "Live Your Love" from Can't Stop Won't Stop available on store.thinkorange.com	0				