

K5 | W2

Leader's Summary

In Week 2, we meet a Roman commander who comes to Jesus for help. Instead of asserting his power and status, the man humbly asks Jesus to heal his servant. The commander even trusts that Jesus is so powerful that He only needs to speak and the boy will be made well. [BOTTOM LINE] Remember God is most important.

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 2

Small Group (20 minutes)

Connect time

Large Group (30 minutes)

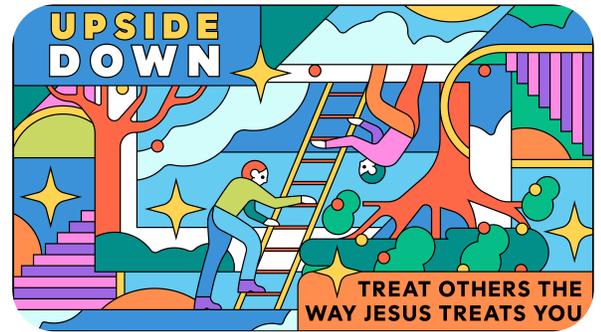
Countdown and Welcome
Large Group Game
Worship
Story
Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Basic Truth and Story Review
Activity 1
Activity 2
Prayer

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

Devotionals for Kids



Bible Story

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

Conversation Starter

How do you show that God is important?

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*

20 min

Connect Time

20 min

Welcome Time

What You Need

 (VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

0

What You Do:

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..

5 min

Large Group

5 min

Countdown and Welcome

What You Need

No supplies needed

Game

What You Need

-  silly hats
-  timer
-  Background music

What to Do:

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

Theme Slide

"Hey, everyone! Welcome back to another awesome week of our series called 'Upside Down!' The full name of our series is: 'Upside Down: Treat others the way Jesus treats you!! How's everybody doing today? My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let's go over our KidCity Expectations.

(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

"This month, we're learning how to live a little upside down! Sometimes that means doing things that feel totally different from what we expect ...

"Now, speaking of upside down, I've got a game for you that's going to flip who's in charge. It's called 'Hat Switch'!

SLIDE: Hat Switch!

- 9 "Here's how it works. I'm going to pick nine of you to come up front, and
- 1 three kids at a time will be our leaders for this game! Each leader will
- 1 wear one of these hats. When the music starts, the leaders will do some
- fun motions like jumping, spinning, or waving. If you're in the audience,
- pick one of the three people and copy what they do.

"But here's the twist ... every time the music stops, we'll all shout, 'SWITCH!' Then the leaders have to high 5 the next three kids, and those people become the next leaders! Got it?

"Okay, who wants to wear a silly hat? Raise your hand if you'd like to volunteer!

Pick nine kids from the kids who have their hands raised, give them hats, and line them up at the front of the room so everyone can see them.

(Repeat)

"Wow, that was awesome! You all did such a great job leading and following. Give your leaders a big round of applause!

11 min

Worship

6 min

Worship Opener

What You Need

 Praise

0

 Thank You God

1

5 min

Memory Verse

What You Need

No supplies needed

"You know, that game actually reminds me of what we're talking about today. Sometimes it's fun to be in charge, right? But what happens when we have to switch and follow someone else's lead? That's not always easy!

In the true story from the Bible that we're going to look at today, we're going to hear about someone who was used to being in charge—a powerful Roman commander—but he learned that there's One Person who deserves to lead more than anyone else. Can anyone guess who that is?

Pause while kids shout out the answer.

"That's right, it's Jesus! Because no matter who you are or how important you might seem, remember—God is always most important.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "Remember God is most important! That's our Bottom Line today! Say that with me, friends!"

[Bottom Line] "Remember God is most important! Awesome! You got it!"

"Alright, everyone, let's get ready to worship! This is our chance to celebrate how good God is! He made each one of us. He loves us more than we can imagine, and He's always with us, no matter what we're going through.

"When we sing, we're not just saying words, we're thanking God for who He is and all the amazing things He's done. So let's stand up, get our hands ready, and give our biggest praise to God!

"You all did such an amazing job worshipping today! Now, we're going to look at our Memory Verse for this month. This verse reminds us how to live the way Jesus did, with humility, which means putting others first and remembering that God is most important. It's found in Philippians 2:3. I'll read it first, and then we'll all say it together!"

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"

"Now, let's say it together, nice and loud!

LGL: "Don't do anything only to get ahead."
KIDS: "Don't do anything only to get ahead."

LGL: "Don't do it because you are proud."
KIDS: "Don't do it because you are proud."

LGL: "Instead, be humble."
KIDS: "Instead, be humble."

LGL: "Value others more than yourselves."
KIDS: "Value others more than yourselves."

LGL: "Philippians 2:3!"
KIDS: "Philippians 2:3!"

"Great job, everyone! When we remember this verse, it helps us live upside down—not just thinking about ourselves, but putting God and others first.

"Now let's listen to our story."

24 min

Bible Story (Video)

12 min

StoryLab Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story | Video

What You Need

No supplies needed

8 min

Large Group Closing

5 min

Wrap Up

What You Need

No supplies needed

3 min

PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

25 min

Small Group

10 min

Activity 1 - Roll the Dice

What You Need

 Large and small die

1

"So what does this mean for us? It's remembering what the Roman commander knew—Jesus is more important, more powerful than anything.

"Jesus is in charge! If there is something that you're scared of, you can ask Jesus for help. He is the most important. If there is something that feels really big and overwhelming, ask Him for His help. He is the King of everything! If there is something you see in the world that isn't the way you think God would want it, ask God to change it. Everything answers to Him.

"Jesus was so impressed that the Roman commander knew He was the most important. And Jesus will be so impressed when you believe and live like He is the most important too.

We're going to pray but here is the basic truth slide, which truth goes with our story. Take a look, we will keep this slide on the screen, and when you go to small group, this will be the first thing you talk about.

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

"Dear Jesus, we want to have faith in You. Just like the Roman commander, we want to trust You and remember that You are the most important, that You are in charge. Help us to remember that You are in charge every day—when we're at school, with our friends, or at home. Thank You for loving us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Spend 5 minutes at the start of small group time looking at the basic truth statements and share which basic truth fits into this story and why.

What You Do:

- Explain that the kids will take turns rolling the die. The number they roll will match a question you ask.
- Let the first kid roll the die. If they roll a 3, ask them question #3 from the list.
- Continue rolling the die and asking questions until everyone who wants a turn has had one.

Application Questions:

1. Name one person who is important to you.
2. Name one thing that is important in our room.
3. Who made the whole world? (*God!*)
4. Who is more powerful than a superhero? (*God/Jesus!*)
5. Who is a very important person in the world?
6. Who is the most important person in the whole universe? (*God/Jesus!*)

10 min

Activity 2 Bible Literacy - the 12 Disciples

What You Need

 12 disciple cards

1

What You Say:

"Those are great answers! There are lots of important people and things in our lives. But our true story from the Bible today about the important Roman commander helped us learn to **[Bottom Line] remember God is most important.** The commander knew Jesus' authority was bigger than anyone's, and Jesus was so amazed by his faith!

"So what does this mean for us? It's remembering what the Roman commander knew—God is more important and more powerful than anything. God is in charge! If there is something that you're scared of at nighttime, you can ask God for help. If there is something bothering you at school, ask God for His help. If you are having a hard time with a friend, ask God for help. God is the King of everything! **[Bottom Line] Remember God is most important."**

Discussion Questions (3rd-5th grade)

Ask 2 or 3 of the following questions:

- The Roman commander had a lot of power, but he still asked Jesus for help. What does that tell us about what it means to be strong or in charge in God's eyes?
- Jesus was amazed by the commander's faith. What do you think it means to have the kind of faith that "amazes" Jesus?
- The commander believed Jesus could heal his servant just by speaking. What are some things in your life that you need to trust God can handle—without you having to control it?
- The Roman commander humbled himself, even though he was important. What are some ways you can show humility and remember that God is most important in your own life?
- Jesus said people from all over would be part of God's kingdom—not just a certain group. How does that change the way you think about who God's love is for and how we should treat others?

What You Do:

- Divide your kids into three groups.
- Look up the verses.
- Then answer the questions and match the the pictures of the disciples.

Give each group one passage to read. (younger groups leader can read and do the questions together)

- Matthew 10:1-4
- Mark 3:14-19
- Luke 6:13-16

Then answer the questions and match the the pictures of the disciples.

Who were brothers? (Simon and Andrew, James and John)

How many disciples have the same name? (Simon, James, Judas)

Who betrayed Jesus? (*Judas*)

What was their job? (to drive out evil spirits and heal people and preach)

***Bonus fact - Thaddeus is also called Judas the Son of James.

5 min

Prayer

What You Need

No supplies needed

- Explain that you are going to pray for each other.
- Make sure everyone knows the name of the person sitting to their right.
- Explain that you will go around the circle and everyone will say, "Dear God, please help (the name of the person on the right)"

What You Say:

"It's so good to pray for our friends. Praying for others is a way to put others first and show them the love of Jesus. The Roman commander asked Jesus to help his servant. He had faith that Jesus could help, because Jesus is the most important.

I will start and say Dear God please help, (name of kid on your right) and then we will continue around the circle until everyone has prayed for someone else."

Then close in the following prayer:

"Dear God, thank You for all my friends. Thank You for being bigger and more important than anything. Help us to remember that You have all the authority over everything and that we can trust You no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Supplies

Welcome Time

	Quantity
1. (VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)	0

Game

	Quantity
1. silly hats	9
2. timer	1
3. Background music	1

Worship Opener

	Quantity
1. Praise	0
2. Thank You God	1

Activity 1 - Roll the Dice

	Quantity
1. Large and small die	1

Activity 2 Bible Literacy - the 12 Disciples

	Quantity
1. 12 disciple cards	1