

5th Grade | W3

Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 3

Bible Story: Great Commission and Ascension • *Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:1-11*

Bottom Line: You can share the good news about Jesus.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • *Philippians 4:4 NIV*

Leader Summary-

After appearing multiple times to His friends, Jesus meets them on a mountain to give them the greatest assignment in history: "Go and make disciples of all nations." Jesus promises to be with them always, but then, soon after, ascends to Heaven. He leaves them with the remarkable assurance that they will soon receive power from the Holy Spirit. [BOTTOM LINE] You can have joy because God is with you.

Small Group (20minutes)

Connect Time

Large Group (30minutes)

Countdown and Welcome

Large Group Game

Worship

Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Basic Truth and Story Review

Activity 1

Activity 2

Prayer

Home:

Devotionals for Kids



Bible Story

Great Commission and Ascension • *Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:1-11*

Conversation Starter

What does it mean to you that God is with you?

Bottom Line

You can share the good news about Jesus.

Monthly Memory Verse

Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! • *Philippians 4:4 NIV*

5 min

Connect Time

5 min

Welcome Time

What You Need

-  Set out a few different stations of toys, puzzles, games, or blocks 1
-  Fun, upbeat music 1

What You Do:

- From doors opening to start of large group - Greet and intentionally engage with students, following the KidCity check-in procedures.

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..

10 min

Large Group

5 min

Countdown & Welcome

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

Game

What You Need

-  Trash bags to clean up the streamers after the game 1
-  kid volunteers for every round you do (Ask for new volunteers at the start of each round!) 4
-  Minimum of 4 streamer rolls (You will need four for each round you play!) you can take a big roll and wind it smaller 4

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

(SLIDE: Theme)

"Hey, everybody! Welcome back to our Block Party! This room already feels like a party! Look around. Give somebody a fist bump. Yep ... this is a great day to be at church.

"This month our theme is, 'Block Party: Celebrating Jesus and Joy That Never Ends!' We are going to have a lot of fun today, so first let's go over our KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) - Supplies

"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

(SLIDE: TWISTED TOURS)

Next Sunday is another MSM tour Sunday. You don't want to me it!

What You Do:

- Place the four streamer rolls in the game area. (Or more if you want to do more rounds.)

"We've been talking all month about the joy Jesus gives us, real joy, the kind that lasts no matter what happens. But before we get to all that ... we need to warm up. We need to get our energy going. We need to kick this Block Party into high gear.

"And to do that ... we're going to play one of the silliest, spinniest party games ever.

SLIDE: Spin to Win Title
AUDIO: Upbeat music

"This, my friends, is 'Spin to Win'!

"Here's what's going to happen: I'm going to choose four volunteers. Each one will get a streamer roll. You'll hold one end of the streamer, and when I say, 'Go,' you'll spin in place as fast as you can. Just spin in place and let the streamer unwind behind you. The first person whose streamer completely unrolls wins!

"Let's pick our four players! Raise your hand if you'd like to volunteer!"

"Alright, everyone, take your spots so you don't bump into anyone! Hold your streamer out to the side. Audience, are you ready to cheer them on?"

"There we go! 'Spin to Win' begins in 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... GO!"

"Look at those streamers fly! Nice spinning! Keep going, don't stop now! Who's going to unroll their streamer first? Oh wow, that one's getting close!"

(Continue playing until one of the kids unrolls their streamer.)

"And we have a winner! Great job! Let's give them a huge round of applause! They were amazing! You all can get untangled and head to your seats!"

(Gather and discard the streamer trash in the trash bag. Repeat for as many rounds as time allows. Ask for four new volunteers at the start of each round.)

"Wow, that was fun! You all were so joyful! This game reminds me of something else that brings LOTS of joy—and that's sharing Jesus with others."

"That's actually our Bottom Line for today! Let's check it out!"

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "You can share the good news about Jesus. Say that with me!"

"You can share the good news about Jesus."

"Did you know that the good news about Jesus isn't just for one place or one group of people? The good news about Jesus is meant to be spread all around the world. And we're going to learn more about that today in our true story from the Bible! Let's go learn about what that means!"

11 min

Worship

3 min

The Joy

What You Need

No supplies needed

"Hey, everyone! It's time to worship! Worship is when we sing to God because He is good, He loves us, and He is always with us."

SONG: "The Joy"

SONG: "Oh Happy Day"

3 min

Oh Happy Day

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

Memory Verse

What You Need

No supplies needed

"You all did such a wonderful job worshiping today. When you sing like that, when you smile, when you move, and when you mean the words you sing, you're showing God how much you love Him. And He loves it. He loves YOU!"

"We've been talking a lot this month about joy, real joy that comes from knowing Jesus. Joy isn't just a happy feeling we have when something fun happens. Joy is something we can hold onto every day because Jesus is with us and He never changes. That's why this month's Memory Verse is so important. It reminds us where our joy comes from.

"Our Memory Verse is found in Philippians 4:4. I'll read it first, and then we'll all say it together!"

SLIDE: Memory Verse

LEADER: "Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! —Philippians 4:4 (NIV)"

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

LEADER: "Always be joyful."

KIDS AND LEADER: "Always be joyful."

LEADER: "Because you belong to the Lord."

KIDS AND LEADER: "Because you belong to the Lord."

LEADER: "I will say it again."

KIDS AND LEADER: "I will say it again."

LEADER: "Be joyful!"

KIDS AND LEADER: "Be joyful!"

LEADER: "Philippians 4:4!"

KIDS AND LEADER: "Philippians 4:4!"

LEADER: "Great job, everyone! Isn't it amazing that we can have joy, not just sometimes, but all the time, because we belong to Jesus? That means He loves us, He knows us, and He's with us every single day. And when you remember that, joy can fill your heart no matter what kind of day you're having."

"Now let's listen to our story."

12 min

Bible Story (Video)

12 min

So and So Show Bible Story

What You Need

No supplies needed

8 min

Closing

5 min

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY?

What You Need

No supplies needed

Basic Truth Slide: Leave on the screen when kids go back to their small groups.

"So, what's our part in the story? Well, the work of everyone who follows Jesus is to share with others the truth about who God is and His great love. We can help people see how good and true and beautiful Jesus is, so they want to follow Him.

"We can do that in two ways: with the words we speak and the way we live!

"One of the best ways to share who God is is to love others like Jesus. When you're kind like Jesus, the world sees Him. When you're honest like Jesus, the world sees Him. When you're forgiving like Jesus, the world sees Him.

"So your part of the story begins right where you are. Your home is a place where you can show kindness, forgiveness, and love like Jesus. Your classroom is a place where you can include others, be honest, and help someone who needs a friend. Your sports teams, your neighborhood, the people you see every week—these are all places where you can show the love of Jesus.

"But Jesus doesn't just want us to show the world who He is, He also wants us to tell people about Him and about what He did. So tell people about how much God loves them and what Jesus did for them. Tell them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus so they can be friends with God forever!

"Showing and telling about Jesus is a huge job assignment, but Jesus promised that you won't have to do it alone! Jesus promised, *'I am always with you'* (Matthew 28:20 NIV). When you follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in you. The Spirit goes with you everywhere and can give you ideas about how to live like Jesus and share who He

3 min

PRAYER

What You Need

No supplies needed

is. The Holy Spirit gives you courage when you feel nervous. The Holy Spirit helps you know the right words to say!

"You have a big assignment, yes, but you are never, ever alone!

"Let's talk to the God whose love is so big, it's for the whole world!

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

"Jesus, we're amazed that You're alive! And thank You that Your love is for the whole world. Help us share this good news about You. Help us remember that we don't have to do it alone. Holy Spirit, would You give us power, courage, and wisdom? Show us how to love others the way You do and tell them about Your great love. We want to go through our lives showing and telling others about You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

(Dismiss kids to their small groups.)

10 min

Small Group Time

5 min

Basic Truth & Bible Story Review

What You Need

👤 Basic Truth Slide Print out 1

5 min

Activity 1 - Tell the Story

What You Need

📖 Bible 1

📖 "Emoji Story" Activity Page 1



EveryChild tips

- Begin by providing an example of the emojis in the correct order.
- Repeat the words slowly and several times to allow processing time.

Spend 5 minutes at the start of small group time looking at the Basic Truth statements and discuss which basic truth fits into the story and why

What You Do:

- Read Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1:4-11 out loud to the group. Tell the kids that they are two different, but very important, events!
- Give each kid a set of four emoji pictures.
- Tell the kids that these emojis help us remember and share the story of Jesus.
- Invite the kids to work together to place the emojis in the correct order as you talk through the Good News:
- Heart: God loves us so much that He sent Jesus as His rescue plan.
- Cross: Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins.
- Empty Tomb: Jesus rose again on the third day. He is alive!
- Heaven: When we choose to accept Jesus' gift of forgiveness, we can live with God forever in heaven.
- Once the emojis are in order, encourage kids to practice using the pictures to tell the story to a partner.
- **K-2nd Grade**
Let them mix up the emojis and retell the story again.

What You Say:

"These emojis help us remember the BEST story ever—the good news about Jesus! God loves us so much that Jesus came to rescue us. He died on the cross to pay for our sins so we could be close to God. And then Jesus rose from the dead! Now, anyone who chooses to accept what Jesus did on the cross can be God's friend forever!

"" Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, a big job—a really big job! Jesus told His friends to tell everyone around the world about Him. Jesus wants us to spread His joy to everyone around us. He told us to go into all the world and tell people about Him and His great love. That means we can tell our neighbors, our friends, our teammates, and our family about Jesus. That means we can tell people about Jesus in our neighborhood, at school, at the grocery store, at practice, at the park, and on the bus. He loves them! Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, a big job—a really big job! Jesus told His friends to tell everyone around the world about Him. You can use these emojis to share Jesus with everyone, everywhere you go, just like Jesus told His followers to do. **[Bottom Line] You can share the good news about Jesus."**

3rd -5th Grade Ask 2or 3 Discussion Questions:

5 min

Activity 2

5 min

Bible Lit - 12 Disciples

What You Need

 Bibles	1
 Set 12 Disciple Cards	1
 set of Disciples whose who cards	1

5 min

Prayer

5 min

Pray

What You Need

No supplies needed

- If you had been standing on the mountain listening to Jesus give His instructions about sharing His love with the world, what would you have felt? Excited? overwhelmed? scared?
- Why do you think Jesus wants His followers to tell every nation about Him—not just one group of people?
- What part of Jesus' mission feels the hardest for you?
- What do you think it means that the Holy Spirit gives us "power"?
- Since the Holy Spirit is with you and speaking to you, what do you think it feels like or sounds like when He is guiding you to share the good news about Jesus?
- What is ONE way you can share Jesus this week—through kindness, honesty, forgiveness, or words?

What to Do:

Lay the pictures of the 12 disciples out in your group.

Have kids take turns picking a question.

Match with the correct disciple or look up the verses and read who it matches with.

K-1st do together as a group. Leaders read the verses.

2nd -5th work in groups of 2 or 3 and look up and read the verses together and match the disciple to the question.

What to Say:

"Let's learn more about Jesus's 12 disciples. Here are some places we find stories of the disciples in the Bible. Let's match the questions to the right picture of the disciple."

What To Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Ask, "Where is one place you will go this week?" (e.g., school, park, grandma's house, soccer practice)
- Go around the circle and let everyone answer.
- Then ask, "Who is one person you will see there?"
- Let everyone answer.

What You Say:

"In all those places, God is with you! And you can tell all those people and more about Jesus."

"God, thank You that You are with us at school, at home, and everywhere we go. Please help us follow Jesus and share with everyone the truth about You and Your great love. When we do this, we can help people

see how good and true and beautiful Jesus is, so they want to follow Him too. Thank You for giving us joy and being with us as we tell others about You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Supplies

Welcome Time	Quantity
1. Set out a few different stations of toys, puzzles, games, or blocks	1
2. Fun, upbeat music	1

Game	Quantity
1. Trash bags to clean up the streamers after the game	1
2. kid volunteers for every round you do (Ask for new volunteers at the start of each round!)	4
3. Minimum of 4 streamer rolls (You will need four for each round you play!) you can take a big roll and wind it smaller	4

Basic Truth & Bible Story Review	Quantity
1. Basic Truth Slide Print out	1

Activity 1 - Tell the Story	Quantity
1. Bible	1
2. "Emoji Story" Activity Page	1

Bible Lit - 12 Disciples	Quantity
1. Bibles	1
2. Set 12 Disciple Cards	1
3. set of Disciples whose who cards	1