

Following Jesus Calls Me To Share Him With Others

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 1 • Oct. 17/18/19
Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes

PRO TIP

Get on their level. Crouch or sit down to make eye contact instead of talking down at them; it immediately makes kids feel safer and more willing to engage with you.

WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *Would you rather shout something to a friend or whisper it to them?*

PRAY

Pray: *Dear God, thank you for giving us a voice. Help us be brave enough to speak up for you. Amen.*

Give each kid a Bible.

Say: *Today we're going to read a verse where Jesus gives his friends one big job before he goes to heaven. Let's read Acts 1:8 together and find out what it is!*

BIBLE

Read:

- Acts 1:8

Review:

- *Paul is a man from the Bible who made his whole life about sharing the good news of Jesus with others. How difficult do you think that was for him?*
- *Paul gave to others through hard work, not just leftover time or money — what's one way you could sacrifice something this week to help someone else?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Following Jesus Calls Me To Share Him With Others

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 1 • Oct. 17/18/19
Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes

ACTIVITY

Say: *Today we're playing a game called Good News Web – because just like this yarn connects all of us together, God wants the good news about Jesus to connect and spread from person to person!*

- Have kids sit in a circle.
- Give one kid the ball of string to start.

Say: *Once you have the ball, share about someone you can tell about Jesus.*

- That kid holds onto the end of the string, says one person they can tell about Jesus this week. Give our younger kids some examples- teachers, friends, and coaches. Then that kid can toss the ball of yarn across the circle to another kid. Make sure the first kid is still holding the end of the string.
- The next kid holds onto their part of the string, says a name of someone they can tell about Jesus, then tosses the ball to someone else across the circle.
- Keep going until every kid has had a turn and is holding part of the string.
- Once everyone has gone, hold the web up together and look at what was made.

Say: *Look at this web we made - one message, passed from person to person, connecting all of us together. That's what happens when we're bold enough to tell others about Jesus! The good news keeps spreading, just like this web!*

CHALLENGE

Say:

- *This week you'll get a special pouch that says, "You can make a difference!" That's true – we can make a difference when we're generous with our kindness, our words, and even our money. For the next 5 weeks, we're talking about generosity. Your challenge: take your pouch home and fill it up with money – look for coins around the couch, or ask a neighbor if you can rake their lawn for a dollar. Keep adding to it all series long, then bring it back during the last week of our series, and we'll collect it all for a special friend in need.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *What did Jesus promise to give His friends so they could be brave?*
- *Who is one person you can tell about Jesus this week?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.

TAKE HOME

- The Great Adventure Take Home Bundle (1 per kid)
- You Can Make A Difference Pouch (1 per kid, at the door)

God gives you power to tell everyone that Jesus loves them.
Acts 1:8



Following Jesus Means Doing Life Together

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 2 • Oct. 24/25/26
Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes

PRO TIP

Use their name often. Saying a kid's name when you talk to them makes the interaction personal and helps them feel seen, especially in a room full of other kids competing for attention.

WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *If you could only have 2 foods for the rest of your life, what would they be?*

PRAY

Pray: *Dear God, thank you for today. Help us be kind, listen well, and love others like you love us. Amen.*

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- *Before we read, let's picture the very first church ever – a group of people who loved Jesus and did five things together every single day. Let's read and find out what those five things were!*

BIBLE

Read:

- Acts 2:42

Review:

- *What did the first church do together every day?*
  - They gathered together.
  - They connected with each other.
  - They served the community together.
  - They gave to those in need.
  - They invited others to join them.
- *We are already gathering together and connecting right now! Which one of those other things could you do this week?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Following Jesus Means Doing Life Together

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 2 • Oct. 24/25/26
Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes

ACTIVITY

Say: *Today we're playing a game called Human Knot because just like the first Christians in Acts 2:42, we're going to see what happens when we do something together instead of alone!*

- Have the group of 10-12 kids stand shoulder to shoulder in a circle.
- Have everyone reach both hands into the middle and grab two different hands – but not the hands of the person standing directly next to them.
- Once everyone is holding two hands, explain the challenge: without letting go, the group has to work together to untangle themselves back into a regular circle.
- Let them problem-solve together – stepping over arms, ducking under, turning around – reminding them to talk to each other and be patient as they figure it out as a team.
- Celebrate together once the knot is untangled (or if time runs out, just celebrate the effort and teamwork shown).

Say: *That knot was tricky, but we could only untangle it by working together and staying connected – that's exactly what Acts 2:42 tells us about the first believers. Following Jesus was never meant to be done alone; it means doing life together.*

CHALLENGE

Say:

- *Don't forget your generosity pouch! Keep looking for ways to fill it up – coins around the house, chores for a neighbor, whatever you can find. We've got a few more weeks to fill them before we bring them back and give to our special friend in need.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *What are some ways you can do life together with others, just like the first church did?*
- *Why do you think God wants us to learn, eat, and pray together instead of doing it all on our own?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.

TAKE HOME

- The Great Adventure Take Home (1 per family, at the door)
- The Great Adventure Sticker (1 per kid, at the door)
- You Can Make A Difference Pouch (1 per kid, at the door, for kids who previously didn't receive)

They learned, ate, and prayed together every day.
Acts 2:42



Following Jesus Helps Me Live Boldly

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 3 • Oct. 31/Nov. 1/2
Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes

PRO TIP

Give one instruction at a time. Younger kids can follow simple multi-step directions, but volunteers should still give one clear step, wait for it to happen, then give the next rattling off several steps at once causes kids to tune out.

WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *What's one brave thing you'd like to try someday?*

PRAY

Pray: *Dear God, thank you for today. Help us be brave, kind, and ready to follow you. Amen.*

BIBLE

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- *Today we're watching a video about three friends named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They were so brave they refused to bow down, even when it was scary just like Jesus' disciples in Acts 4:33, who were bold enough to tell everyone about Jesus no matter what.*

Read:

- Acts 4:33

Review:

- *What did these followers of Jesus keep doing boldly, even after they were warned to stop?*
- *What did God give these followers to help them be brave?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Following Jesus Helps Me Live Boldly

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 3 • Oct. 31/Nov. 1/2
Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes

ACTIVITY

Say: *Today we're playing a game called Can't Stop Talking. We read that the followers of Jesus in Acts 4:33 kept boldly telling everyone about Jesus even when people tried to stop them, so we're going to practice staying bold no matter what gets in our way!*

- Have kids sit in a circle. One kid at a time goes into the middle.
- Give them a simple sentence to say and keep repeating, like "Jesus is alive and He loves you!"
- While they say it, the rest of the group tries to distract them making silly faces, funny sounds, or laughing (no touching), but the goal is for the kid in the middle to keep saying their line no matter what, for about 10-15 seconds.
- Cheer for them when time's up, then let another kid take a turn in the middle.
- Keep going until as many kids as possible get a turn.

Say: *In Acts 4:33, the followers of Jesus kept testifying about Jesus with great power, even after people warned them to stop just like you kept saying your line even when we tried to distract you. Staying bold means not letting anything stop us from telling others about Jesus.*

CHALLENGE

Say: *We're halfway through our generosity series! How's your pouch coming along? Keep adding to it this week – every coin counts. In just a couple more weeks, we'll collect them all together.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *What made it hard to keep talking when people were trying to distract you?*
- *Who is someone you could tell about Jesus this week, even if it feels a little hard?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.

TAKE HOME

- The Great Adventure Take Home (1 per family, at the door)
- The Great Adventure Sticker (1 per kid, at the door)

They loved each other and shared everything.
Acts 4:42



Following Jesus Changes The Way I Live

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 4 • Nov. 7/8/9
Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes

PRO TIP

Match their energy. Kids mirror the adult in front of them. An animated, enthusiastic volunteer gets an engaged group, while a flat or distracted volunteer gets a flat, distracted group.

WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask: *If you could change one food that is bad for you, and make it good for you, what would that be?*

PRAY

Pray: *Dear God, thank you for making hearts new, help us trust you to make us new too. Amen.*

BIBLE

Give each kid a Bible.

Say: *Today we're going to read about the moment everything changed for Saul – after being blind, he was about to see again and become a whole new person. Let's read Acts 9:17-18 and find out what happened!*

Read:

- Acts 9:17-18

Review:

- *What happened to Saul's eyes after Ananias prayed for him?*
- *What did Saul do right after he could see again?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Following Jesus Changes The Way I Live

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 4 • Nov. 7/8/9
Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes

ACTIVITY

Say: *Just like Saul couldn't see until Ananias helped him, sometimes we need someone else to guide us before we can see clearly. And just like that, God can take something hard and turn it into something new.*

- Pair kids up and have them sit facing each other on the floor.
- **Say:** *Place 2-3 small objects around your blindfolded partner's reach – in front, to the side, slightly behind. Guide your partner to collect all of the objects by telling them different directions.*
- **Say:** *Blindfolded partner, once you collect all of the objects, say, "Now I Can See!".*
- Switch roles so both partners get a turn.

Say: *Just like Saul couldn't see until Ananias helped him, sometimes we need someone else's voice to guide us before things become clear and God can take something hard and turn it into something new.*

CHALLENGE

Say: *Almost there! Next week is the last week of our generosity series, and that means it's almost time to bring your pouch back. Give it one more push this week – see how full you can get it before we collect them.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *What was it like to not be able to see and have to trust your partner's voice?*
- *Just like Saul needed Ananias to help him, who is someone that can guide you closer to God?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.

TAKE HOME

- The Great Adventure Take Home (1 per family, at the door)
- The Great Adventure Sticker (1 per kid, at the door)

Saul's eyes were healed, and he could see again; he was changed on the spot.
Acts 9:17-18



Following Jesus Means Staying Faithful

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 5 • Nov. 14/15/16
Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes

PRO TIP

Intentionally respond to what they say. When a kid answers a question or shares something, respond to the specific thing they said instead of just moving on. It teaches them their voice matters and keeps them talking instead of shutting down.

WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *If you could only bring one snack to share with your whole group, what would you bring?*

PRAY

Pray: *Dear God, thank You for taking care of us. Help us be willing to share what we have. Amen.*

BIBLE

Give each kid a Bible.

Say: *Today's story is about a boy who gave up his whole lunch to Jesus and Jesus used it to feed thousands of people. It's a perfect picture of what our Bible verse means today. Let's open our bibles and take a deeper dive into Acts.*

Read:

- Acts 20:35

Review:

- *What does Acts 20:35 mean when it says it's more blessed to give than to receive?*
- *What is one way you can live this out when you go home?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Following Jesus Means Staying Faithful

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 5 • Nov. 14/15/16
Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes

ACTIVITY

Say: *Today we're playing a game called Pass and Bless — because just like Paul said in Acts 20:35, it's more blessed to give than to receive, and we're going to see what that feels like firsthand!*

- Gather all the kids into one seated circle, close enough that everyone can comfortably reach the basket.
- Fill the Beach Bucket with the items in the Pass and Bless Bag.
- **Say:** *When the Beach Bucket gets to you, take ONE item out. But instead of keeping it, you have to give it to someone else in the circle — not the person sitting right next to you.*
- Hand the Beach Bucket to the first kid to start.
- That kid takes one item, looks around the circle, and hands it to a kid who isn't sitting directly beside them.
- The kid passes the basket to the next person in the circle (not the one they gave the item to).
- *Repeat, going around the circle until the bucket is empty.*
- *Once the bucket is empty, ask a few kids to share how many items they ended up with.*

Say: *It wasn't about who kept the most — it was about who gave the most. That's what Paul meant in Acts 20:35 when he said it's more blessed to give than to receive.*

CHALLENGE

Say:

- *Today's the big day — pouch turn-in day! You did it! For 5 weeks you've been finding coins around the house, doing extra chores, and giving up things you wanted so you could be generous. But it doesn't stop today! Your challenge is to keep finding ways to be generous, even after today.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *Who is someone you could give to this week without expecting anything in return?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.

TAKE HOME

- The Great Adventure Take Home (1 per family, at the door)
- The Great Adventure Sticker (1 per kid, at the door)

It's better to give than receive.
Acts 20:35