



# God Has A Place For Me In His Church

## Elemental

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • July 5/6/7

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Older Elementary Schoolers are walking through what it means to belong with their peers, making this movie a great topic! Listen to each kid as they share and let them know that struggling with belonging is normal. Continue to point them to God and the peace he provides.



WELCOME

**Welcome each kid by name.**

**Ask:** Your friend wants to sneak into a second movie without paying. What would you do?



PRAY

When we pray, we are talking to God. It can be helpful to fold our hands and close our eyes. This helps us really focus in on talking to God. Let's try it out!

**Pray:** Dear God, as we get ready to talk about what it means to belong, we want our minds and hearts to be open to hearing from you today. Maybe we will hear you like a voice in our heads telling us that we belong to a church family, or maybe we will hear you with a feeling in our body of loving calmness being here in this building included in a church community. Help us experience belonging in you. Amen.



BIBLE

**Give each kid a Bible.**

There will be a lot of new kids in your environment this month for At The Movies. Take time to introduce the Bible to everyone in your Group like it is their first time using the Bible!

- Let's start to explore how to find Verses in the Bible!
- Open your Bible and look at the Table of Contents. This is like a map for our Bible. It breaks the Bible into two sections: the Old Testament (before Jesus' birth) and the New Testament (after Jesus' birth).
- The Table of Contents lists each book of the Bible and the page number it is found on. Just like a map shows you which road to take and where to go, the Table of Contents tells us the page to look on for each book of the Bible.
- Have your Group practice using the Table of Contents to find the book of 1 John and open it to that book. Repeat as time allows. Explain that our Memory Verse comes out of the book of 1 John.
- After spending some time practicing getting to 1 John, ask everyone to read 1 John 4:19 out loud.

**Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.**



# God Has A Place For Me In His Church

## Elemental

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • July 5/6/7

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



### ACTIVITY

Practice today's Memory Verse a few times as a Group.

- I'm going to divide you into groups of two and give each group a category. Your group will have to act out the Memory Verse in the style of that category.
- For example, if I said, "farm animal," your groups could pretend to be farm animals or use a farmer voice as you recite the Verse.
- Divide your group into teams of two and give each team a category (Ex. the characters from Elemental, Minecraft, ocean animals, ninjas, princesses, zookeepers, etc.)



### CHALLENGE

**Say:** I know you are leaving here with a great understanding of belonging, and how we belong because God loves us. Your challenge is to help one person feel like *THEY* belong this week. Sit with someone new, learn about what life is like for someone different than you, or stand up for someone who may be feeling left out. When we feel like we belong because we know God loves us, people around us feel that love too and feel like they belong. Let's do this!



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Ask:**

- What makes you feel like you belong?
- Tell me something you're proud of.
- What's one way someone made you feel welcome?

**Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.**



### TAKE HOME

Families have the opportunity to watch today's movie at home and continue learning about what it means to belong.

- Week 1 Elemental Family Watch Party Guide

## We love because he loved us first.

### 1 John 4:19



# God Helps Me Be Resilient

## Bluey

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • July 12/13/14

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

There are many first time guests during At The Movies. Look out for new kids who may be alone, hesitant to participate, or just unsure of the environment. Get on their level, call them by name, and let them know what they can expect. Doing these things helps kids to feel seen and known.



WELCOME

**Welcome each kid by name.**

**Ask:** You and your family are sharing popcorn, but one of you is eating most of it. How would you make it fair?



PRAY

When we pray, we are talking to God. It can be helpful to fold our hands and close our eyes. This helps us really focus in on talking to God. Let's try it out!

**Pray:** Dear God, as we get ready to talk about what resilience means, we want our minds and hearts to be open to hearing from you today. Maybe we will hear you like a voice in our heads telling us to keep going or not give up, or maybe we will hear you with a feeling in our body not wanting to give up when we normally would. Help us experience resilience today. Amen.



BIBLE

**Give each kid a Bible.**

There will be a lot of new kids in your environment this month for At The Movies. Take time to introduce the Bible to everyone in your Group like it is their first time using the Bible!

- Last week we learned that the Table of Contents in a Bible is like a map. It tells us where we want to go.
- This week we are going to talk about the books of the Bible.
- Each book of the Bible is then broken down into individual Chapters, and each Chapter is broken down into individual Verses.
- Last week we learned that we can use the Table of Contents to find the page number where each book of the Bible starts. Let's use the Table of Contents to find our Bible Verse this week, in the book of Proverbs.
- Then, we will find the Chapter number. Chapters are the big numbers that start each section of writing. We are looking for Chapter 24.
- Next, we will find the Verse. The Verse is the small number you see. We are looking for 16.
- Read Proverbs 24:16 together.

**Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.**



# God Helps Me Be Resilient

## Bluey

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • July 12/13/14

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



### ACTIVITY

Practice the Memory Verse as a Group a few times.

- Give a position for kids to hold for 30 seconds. While they hold that position, prompt them to practice the Memory Verse.
  - o Plank: Stay in the 'up' part of a pushup, no knees on the ground.
  - o Crab: Lie on your back, lifting your body off the ground using your hands and feet.
  - o Chair: Push your back against the wall, or stand back to back with another person, and then slide down like you are sitting in a chair.
  - o Cobra: Lie on your belly, palms flat on the floor under your armpits, then push to lift your chest off the ground.
- You can keep coming up with positions. As your Group holds each position, challenge them to think about things that help them be resilient. Maybe they can sing their favorite song or repeat the Memory Verse. You can even have a competition to see who can do these positions the longest.



### CHALLENGE

**Say:** *I know you are all going to leave here today knowing how to be resilient and ready to get back up when you fall down. So, your challenge this week is to practice that. Do something tricky, like building blocks, shooting basketball, or drawing a picture with your non-dominant hand. Then when you mess up, try again! Keep your chin up and remember to talk to God through it.*



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Ask:**

- What can you say to yourself when something doesn't go right?
- What can you say to a friend when they want to give up?
- What is something you are proud of trying, even if it was hard?

**Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.**



### TAKE HOME

Families have the opportunity to watch today's show at home and continue learning about resilience.

- Week 2 Bluey Family Watch Party Guide

**Even if godly people fall down seven times,  
they always get up. Proverbs 24:16**



# God Shows Me How To Forgive

## Freaky Friday

Older Elementary Small Group Guide  
Week 3 • July 19/20/21  
Side 1 • Small Group # 1  
10 minutes



PRO TIP

Support the kids in your group as they build relationships with each other. During the Large Group Game, encourage your group to cheer for each other and celebrate wins! This helps kids to feel valued by their peers and an important part of their group.



WELCOME

**Welcome each kid by name.**

**Ask:** *If you accidentally spilled your drink on the floor at the movies, what would you do?*



PRAY

*When we pray, we are talking to God. It can be helpful to fold our hands and close our eyes. This helps us really focus in on talking to God. Let's try it out!*

**Pray:** *Dear God, as we get ready to talk about forgiving others, we know this is a difficult thing to do at times. Maybe we are quick to forgive but then we blame ourselves. Maybe we struggle forgiving others, and we hold grudges. Challenge us to get better at forgiving today. Amen.*

**Give each kid a Bible.**

**Read:**

- *Every week this month we are going to keep getting more familiar with reading the Bible.*
- *Our Verse today is found in the New Testament.*
- *Work together, using the Table of Contents, to find the book of Ephesians and read chapter 4 verse 32 out loud to your Group.*



BIBLE

**Review:**

- *What does it mean to be kind?*
- *What does it mean to forgive someone?*
- *What keeps you from forgiving someone?*

**Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.**



# God Shows Me How To Forgive

## Freaky Friday

Older Elementary Small Group Guide  
Week 3 • July 19/20/21  
Side 2 • Small Group # 2  
15 minutes



### ACTIVITY

Split your Group into 2 teams and read one of the scenarios below. Assign each team a different side of the story to consider. Have them discuss and then share how they think each person is feeling. After discussing each scenario, ask everyone what they learned by being in someone else's shoes and what it might take to forgive them in that situation.

Scenario	Team 1	Team 2
Jamie thinks Aidan is always bossy	Jamie	Aidan
Lucy forgot to invite Aaliyah to her party.	Lucy	Aaliyah
Mom won't let Anna stay up late to watch a movie.	Mom	Anna
Chris wants to speak up in school during a group project but feels nervous.	Chris	Group
Ted feels overwhelmed but doesn't know how to ask for help. Emma wants to help.	Ted	Emma



### CHALLENGE

**Say:** Now that we are getting comfortable with forgiveness and putting ourselves in someone else's shoes to help with forgiveness, here is your challenge. I want you, this week, to put yourself in someone else's shoes. Maybe it is someone you are mad at who did something to you in the past that you haven't forgiven. Maybe someone is going to push your buttons this week! I want you to put yourself in their shoes and try to take a step toward forgiveness.



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### Ask:

- What animal would be best at forgiveness? Why?
- What color is forgiveness?
- If you made a 'forgiveness machine', what would it do?

**Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.**



### TAKE HOME

Families have the opportunity to watch today's movie at home and continue learning about what it means to forgive.

- Week 3 Forgiveness Devotion

**Be kind and tender to one another. Forgive each other just as God forgave you.**  
**Ephesians 4:32**





# Jesus Shows Me How To Connect In A Community

## *The Wild Robot*

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • July 26/27/28

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Use **At the Movies** to get to know more about the kids in your Small Group. Learn their favorite shows, movies, and streaming services. Share with them what you enjoyed watching as a kid or even ask for recommendations of things they think you should watch! This is a great way to build relationships with kids.



WELCOME

**Welcome each kid by name.**

**Ask:** You brought candy into the movie, but your friend doesn't have any. What would you do?



PRAY

When we pray, we are talking to God. It can be helpful to fold our hands and close our eyes. This helps us really focus in on talking to God. Let's try it out!

**Pray:** Dear God, as we get ready to talk about connecting in a community, we know this is a difficult thing to do at times. Maybe we feel like an outsider everywhere we go, or maybe we just assume everyone is our friend. Challenge us to get better at connecting in a community today. Amen.



BIBLE

**Give each kid a Bible.**

**Read:**

- Every week this month we are going to keep getting more familiar with reading the Bible.
- Several books of the Bible do not have a named or clearly identifiable author. The book of Hebrews, that we will be reading from today, remains anonymous!
- Some books that are anonymous help us focus on the message rather than the messenger. Hebrews teaches us Jesus is the greatest of all! He is our forever helper, teacher, and leader. He shows us how to trust him even when life is hard!
- Work together, using the Table of Contents, to find the book of Hebrews and read chapter 10 verse 24-25 out loud to your Group.

**Review:**

- What does it mean to show love to someone?
- What happens when we work together and cheer each other up?
- If you could be a 'kindness superhero' what would your name be?

**Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.**



# Jesus Shows Me How To Connect In A Community

## *The Wild Robot*

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • July 26/27/28

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



### ACTIVITY

Lay out the Animal Card Set, picture side up, in the center of the Group.

- Share a dilemma with your Group and ask what animals they would ask to help in that dilemma. They must ask more than one animal to work together to help.
- Dilemmas:
  - You are hiking and your trail disappears, and you are lost in the woods
  - You didn't bring enough water while hiking and are thirsty
  - You see a snake in the woods
  - Your food runs out while camping and are super hungry
  - Your friend falls off a log and hurts their ankle
  - Your family is at a crossroad and starts fighting about which trail to take
  - You need to cross a river, but you don't know how to swim



### CHALLENGE

**Say:** *Connecting together in a community can help save lives! Or it can help you have a lot of fun in the woods. Your challenge is to think about the community you live in this week and start making connections with everyone. When you look at your aunt, maybe you think that she has the LOUDEST laugh ever, or maybe you can think that she is a positive person who would be good at cheering you up. Maybe your uncle is always tinkering with things, and he works on his lawn mower more than he mows his lawn. He would be great at helping you fix a broken toy! You have some people in your community that have super valuable skills to contribute, and they would love for you to point them out and give them an opportunity to help! Think about them all in a web, like a spider web, connected to each other. Come back next week and be ready to share with me who is in your community.*



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### Ask:

- What do you and your friends like to do together?
- What job would you want if we were building a tree house together?
- What do you think makes a community strong?

**Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.**



### TAKE HOME

Families have the opportunity to watch today's movie at home and continue learning about what it means to connect in a community.

- Week 4 The Wild Robot Family Watch Party Guide

**Let us consider how we can stir up one another to love. Let us help one another do good works.**  
**Hebrews 10:24-25**