



Keep Looking To Jesus

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • April 5/6/7

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Elementary Schoolers have a lot vying for their attention, making it hard for them to prioritize connecting with God. Take time to learn about the kids in your group and find unique ways they can turn to Jesus. Maybe it is praying before soccer practice or reading their Bible at breakfast. Encourage your group with these ideas and follow up the next time you see them. Building faith habits now can stick with them for years to come.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- Do you have any pictures hanging in your house? What is in the pictures?
- Last week you were challenged to start inviting people to LCBC. Who did you invite?
- If you have anyone in your Group for the first time, ask them to share what brought them to LCBC.



PRAY

Pray: Dear God, thank you for the fun we are having today and the friendships we are building. Please help us keep looking to Jesus no matter what distractions might be in our way. We know you will help us find hope in every situation if we just focus on you. Amen.

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- Hebrews is a letter in the Bible that helps us understand how to live a life that honors God.

Read:

- Hebrews 12:1-3

Review:

- What does it mean to get rid of the things that might make us trip while running?
- According to the Verse, who is cheering us on in the race?
- How can we remind ourselves that Jesus is with us while we are trying our best?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



BIBLE



Keep Looking To Jesus

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • April 5/6/7

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Choose someone to go first. They must focus on you while doing a task such as standing on one foot or patting their head and rubbing their stomach.

- Instruct the rest of your Group to try to distract them by making silly faces or doing harmless actions trying to make them laugh or look away. (While also avoiding touching the person trying to focus.)
- If they look away, or after a minute, move onto the next kid.
- *Jesus taught us how to stay focused on God no matter what might be happening around us. That can be super difficult for us, but Jesus is alive right now and can help us!*



CHALLENGE

Give everyone Easter Invites.

Say: *Let's keep filling out some invites for the people you can invite to Easter at LCBC! Your challenge this week is to invite these people.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share about an age-appropriate time in your life when you were distracted and found it difficult to focus on Jesus. Share about what you did to correct it when you realized the distraction.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

- Easter Invites

In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.

John 16:33



Remember God Is Still Working

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • April 12/13/14

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Every kid has a story, but it can be hard for them to share it. When you ask about the difficult times in their life, be patient. Avoid forcing them to share. Instead, acknowledge the small things they say. Whether it is what they played at recess or what their favorite color is, thank them for sharing with you. This helps kids to learn that their story is valuable!



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- If you could take a picture of anything in the world, what would it be?



PRAY

Pray: Dear God, thank you for our time together today. Each of us faces our own challenges and worries, and we are so thankful that you are with us through them. Help us remember that no matter what happens, you are always working in our lives. Thank you for turning something good out of something bad when you brought Jesus back to life. Give us hope to see the bigger picture. Amen.

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- John was one of Jesus' besties. He was writing a story about what he saw when Jesus visited Jerusalem.

Read:

- John 12:12-16

Review:

- In Verse 15, it is actually referencing a verse in the Old Testament. The verse in the Old Testament was written 500 years before this verse in John. This Verse shows how Jesus fulfilled the prophecy, or what was predicted, about him.
- What do you think Jesus wanted the people to understand as he was riding into the city the way that he was? (That he was what Zechariah was written about)
- If you were in the crowd, would you be celebrating Jesus?



BIBLE

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Remember God Is Still Working

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • April 12/13/14

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Ask someone to hold the Target and stand a few feet away.

- Ask another child to go first. Have them share with the Group something they hope they will achieve in the future.
- Spin them around a few times, ask them to hold out their pointer finger in front of them, and walk heel to toe to land their finger in the center of the Target.
- Keep playing, allowing kids to switch roles.
- After everyone has had a turn, **Say:** *Being dizzy, and not seeing clearly, made it difficult to achieve our goal. It's tough to reach a target when you can't see straight. Whenever you are feeling not sure of what might be going on around you, remember God is working! Keep focusing on him and he will show you the way!*



CHALLENGE

Give everyone Easter Invites.

Say: *Let's keep filling out some invites for the people you can invite to Easter at LCBC! Your challenge this week is to invite these people.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share an age-appropriate story of when you needed God's help to get you through a difficult time. Share what gave you hope and how you held onto that hope.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

- Easter Invites

In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.

John 16:33



Remember Jesus Is Still Alive

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide
Week 3 • Easter Gatherings
Side 1 • Small Group # 1
10 minutes



PRO TIP

Elementary Schoolers are learning how to express their emotions, and the Easter Story can stir up lots of feelings. Be ready to support kids as they share their thoughts, ideas, and feelings about Jesus' death and resurrection. Use a feelings chart or other asset and listen as kids share.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- What is happening in the funniest picture you have ever seen?



PRAY

Pray: Dear God, thank you for fun friends and experiences to share as we celebrate Easter. Thank you for giving us hope through the story of Jesus coming back to life. Help us remember, no matter what happens, that Jesus is still alive today. We love you. Amen.



BIBLE

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- We have been learning our Memory Verse, John 16:33, for the past few weeks. Today, we are going to read that Verse in the Bible to get a little more context to what it is about.

Read:

- John 16:31-11

Review:

- Jesus was talking to his friends right before he died. He was telling his friends that he was going to come back to life. That is what he means when he says, "I have won the battle over the world."
- What might you do if you knew you already won before you even started?
- When you feel upset or alone, what do you think it means to have the peace that Jesus is talking about?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Remember Jesus Is Still Alive

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 3 • Easter Gatherings

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Say: *Our Verse is super important, and I want everyone to leave with something to help you remember it. We celebrate Easter because Jesus won the battle over the world and beat death! That should give us hope no matter what we are going through!*

- Give everyone a Star Paper and help them write the Verse on it.
- Give everyone an Easter Egg to put the Verse inside folded.
- Give everyone a Pebble.
- **Say:** *This pebble glows in the dark and represents the rock that was rolled away when Jesus came back to life! It glows because Jesus is alive RIGHT NOW!*



CHALLENGE

Say: *Your challenge this week is to celebrate Easter! Remember why we celebrate Easter- because Jesus is alive right now. Find fun ways to show Jesus how thankful you are for that truth by how you celebrate!*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share an age-appropriate way that Jesus gives you hope and why Easter means so much to you.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

- Easter Egg with the Memory Verse and glow in the dark Pebble inside

In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.

John 16:33



Remember God Is Bigger Than Your Questions

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • April 26/27/28

Side 1 • Small Group # 1

10 minutes



PRO TIP

Some kids may know how to bring their tough stories and questions to God. Others may not be sure. Talk to kids about ways they can go to God through prayer, worship, writing, and more. Share your own stories about how you have gone to God, and acknowledge the bravery of those in your group who are going to him.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- *How do you think taking pictures can help us remember things?*



PRAY

Pray: *Dear God, thank you for bringing us together at church. Help us be brave and ask questions that might be on our mind. We know you are bigger than any question we might have. You are a safe place we can always turn to. We love you. Amen.*



BIBLE

Give each kid a Bible.

Say:

- *This story takes place after Jesus died. When his friends were scared and unsure of what to do next.*

Read:

- John 20:19-21

Review:

- *How do you think his friends felt when Jesus appeared to them after he died?*
- *What does it mean that Jesus came to give his friends peace, even when they were scared?*
- *How can we be brave and share stories about Jesus, even if we are scared?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Remember God Is Bigger Than Your Questions

Younger Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • April 26/27/28

Side 2 • Small Group # 2

15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Give everyone a Sticker Sheet.

- Help them fill in the blanks of the Verse with the missing words.
- **Say:** *It's our last week to dig into this month's Memory Verse! Everyone up on your feet and stand in a circle, facing to your left.*
- *I'm going to give this bean bag to someone in the circle. They will say the first word of our Memory Verse and pass it back over their head to the next person. Then, they'll say the next word and pass it between their legs to the person behind them.*
- *We'll keep passing over, under saying one word of the memory verse at a time until we say the whole Verse together!*



CHALLENGE

Say: *These Sticker Sheets are for you to take home and put them in places that you might need a message of hope. Maybe you can also share them with your friends or family who are having a difficult time.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *Do you ever have questions about the tough things that are happening in your life?*

Share a time you had a doubt or question for God. Share how you resolved that doubt and what the result was.

- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

- Sticker Sheets

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