



Following Jesus Means Seeing Differently

How To Train Your Dragon

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • July 4/5/6

Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes



PRO TIP

At The Movies is a great time for kids to invite others to church. Spend time talking about who they would like to invite to experience the rest of the month. Pray for their potential guests by name and support them as they think about how they will invite them.



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

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



PRAY

Say: *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 see differently, we want our minds and hearts to be open to hearing from you today. Help us experience seeing differently with you. Amen.*

Give each kid a Bible.

Say: There may 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 Romans and open it to that book. Repeat as time allows. Explain that our Memory Verse comes out of the book of Romans.
- After spending some time practicing getting to Romans, ask everyone to read Romans 12:2 out loud.



BIBLE

Read: Romans 12:2

Review:

- *What do you think it means to "live the way the world lives"? What are some examples you see at school or online?*
- *How would your day look different if you thought about people and problems the way Jesus wants you to?*
- *The verse says our thinking can be "completely changed." Who can change our thinking, and how does that happen?*

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



Following Jesus Means Seeing Differently

How To Train Your Dragon

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 1 • July 4/5/6

Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Say: For our game today, everyone will be using your bodies to create an obstacle course! You will stand in a spot nearby while doing a funny pose and standing as still as a statue.

One person will be blindfolded with a Bandana. This kid will walk through the obstacle course and try not to bump into anyone.

- When they complete the obstacle course, wave the Glow Baton to celebrate them!



CHALLENGE

Say: I know you are leaving here with a great understanding of thinking differently. God wants you to think and see differently, we can do that because God loves us. Your challenge this week is for everyone to have "Hiccup Sight" and try to see one thing differently. For example, maybe when a sibling is annoying, you might realize they are just tired. Or maybe you thought you couldn't do something, but you decide to try anyway and see that you could do it! God can help you choose to see people, problems, and situations in a new way instead of the first quick assumption.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share with kids that they can still invite their friends to church for At The Movies! There is so much fun happening at LCBC this month, we don't want anyone to miss it. Hand out invites to anyone who wants to invite someone.

- What are some examples of "doing good" at school, at home, or with friends?
- Why do you think God tells us "don't give up"? What makes it hard to keep doing the right thing?

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

How To Train Your Dragon Family Guide (1 per family, at the door)
At The Movies Invites (a few per kid, in Small Group)

Don't live the way the world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Romans 12:2



God Rewards Faithfulness, Not Perfection

Goat

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • July 11/12/13

Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes



PRO TIP

Our atriums are full of excitement and fun for At The Movies! Because of this, we can anticipate that kids may have a difficult time transitioning into the environment. Be ready to engage with kids in big and fun ways during kZones, so they know that their environment is a great place to be, too!



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Imagine that you made plans to go to the movies with a friend, and then another friend wants you to come with them and do something else. Do you ditch the friend you originally had plans with and go with your other friend? Or are you honest- you kindly decline the second friend and ask them to choose another day?



PRAY

Say: 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: God, thank You that You don't ask me to be perfect—you ask me to be faithful. Help me keep showing up with a trusting heart, and remind me that You reward steady faith, even when I stumble. Amen.

Give each kid a Bible.



BIBLE

Say: There may 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. There are 66 different books in the Bible. The Old Testament has 39 books, and the New Testament has 27 books.
- 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 Galatians.
- Then, we will find the Chapter number. Chapters are the big numbers that start each section of writing. We are looking for Chapter 6.
- Next, we will find the Verse. The Verse is the small number you see. We are looking for 9.

Read: Galatians 6:9

Review:

- What "good" thing have you done lately that felt hard to keep doing?
- What are some reasons people stop doing good (getting bored, getting tired, feeling like it doesn't matter, nobody notices)?
- What does "don't give up" look like in real life (with a sibling, homework, being kind, telling the truth)?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group



God Rewards Faithfulness, Not Perfection

Goat

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 2 • July 11/12/13

Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Take out the Snowballs and Beach Bucket. Set the Beach Bucket a few feet away from the Group and place the Snowballs in the a pile near the Group.

Say: *Alright everyone, today we are going to play a game called Knock Out. The goal is to try and get the snowballs into the beach buckets.*

One at a time, each kid should try to recite the Memory Verse. The Group can help if needed. After reciting the Memory Verse, the kid can try to throw a Snowball into the Beach Bucket. Encourage the Group to cheer and celebrate each kid's effort!



CHALLENGE

Say: *Whenever you see someone wanting to give up or getting frustrated while trying to accomplish something, cheer them on! Greatness isn't just winning, its showing up and trying your best again and again. Doing good matters even when it's hard, because growth comes in the sticking with it.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *When you do good and it seems like nothing changes, what can you remember about God?*
- *Who is someone you can encourage this week by doing good—even in a small way?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

Goat Family Guide (1 per family, at the door)

**Let us not grow tired of doing good, for at the right
time we will gather a crop if we do not give up.**

Galatians 6:9



I Can Trust Jesus

Lilo & Stitch

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 3 • July 18/19/20 • Trust Jesus Gathering

Side 1 • Small Group # 1 • 10 minutes



PRO TIP

Today kids will be talking all about what it means to trust Jesus. Some kids may embrace this next step in their relationship with Jesus aloud, others may quietly pray and accept him, while some may not be ready today. No matter how kids respond to the message, encourage them that Jesus loves them no matter what! Let them know that you are, and will continue to be there for them as they learn more about him, and be ready with resources to support them!



WELCOME

Welcome each kid by name.

Ask:

- If you had to pick a movie character to guard your valuable treasure, who would it be? Why do you trust them?
- If your pet could talk, do you think you could trust them with your most embarrassing moment? Why or why not?



PRAY

Say: Prayer is just talking to Jesus. You don't need a special voice. You don't need fancy words. You don't even have to be loud! We pray because Jesus hears us. Jesus isn't distracted or too busy to listen. We also pray because Jesus wants to help us. Sometimes he helps us feel brave, make good choices, or feel peaceful inside. Let's talk to him now. **Pray:** Dear Jesus, trust can be a confusing thing to figure out. We might not fully understand who to trust, how to trust, or why we should trust the people or things around us. Today, help us to focus and learn to trust you in new ways. Help us discover that your love, peace, and security are bigger than anything we might experience in the people or things around us. Help us experience your big love today. Amen.



BIBLE

Give each kid a Bible.

Say: We are going to read a great Verse about trusting Jesus. I want everyone to open their own Bible and read this Verse for themselves. Then we will read it together. Let's go!

Lead everyone in your Group through finding the Verse using the Table Of Contents.

Read: Proverbs 3:5-6

Review:

- What do you do when you are trying to understand something? (Ex: Ask for advice, look it up on a device, try figuring it out yourself)
- What do you think this Verse means when it says that Jesus will make your paths smooth and straight?
 - He will lead us in the best direction, like a flashlight showing the way in the dark.
 - It's like you are lost in the woods and don't know where to go, but Jesus is like your map AND your guide leading you out.
- Is there anything you can think of that is keeping you from trusting Jesus?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



I Can Trust Jesus

Lilo & Stitch

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 3 • July 18/19/20 • Trust Jesus Gathering

Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Sit as a Group and set them up well to pray, explaining that we fold our hands and close our eyes so that we can focus on talking to Jesus.

Pray: *Dear Jesus, we each get to have our own relationship with you. Our personal relationship with you will look different from anyone else's. Today, as we pray, some people might have already made the decision that they will trust you with their life. I pray that those friends find new opportunities to trust you. Some of our friends today have questions, I pray that they would bravely explore finding the answers to those questions. And some of our friends are ready to trust you with their life for the very first time here today. They are going to tell you that now. I am going to give a moment of silence here for everyone to talk to Jesus and say a personal prayer to him. After a moment of silence, **say:** Amen.*

Ask kids if it was their first time they prayed to trust Jesus. As they respond, celebrate warmly, cheer, clap, and smile. Write their first and last names down to submit to your Captain.

- Give all kids a Trust Jesus ABC Sticker.
- Show the Group a Trust Jesus QR Code Card. **Say:** *Your family will get one of these at the door. Your grown-up can scan this QR Code to learn more about what it means to trust Jesus. If you chose to trust Jesus today, make sure to tell your grown-up so they can celebrate with you!*

Take out the Game Board and Trust Jesus Game Card Set. Give each kid a Game Play Piece. Play the game using the Game Board Instructions.

- Create a respectful, safe, and honest space with your Group as you play the game.



CHALLENGE

Say: *If you already trust Jesus, pick one thing in your life you can turn away from so you can trust Jesus more. If you have questions and don't trust Jesus yet, think about what might be stopping you and ask for help when you need it! If you just trusted Jesus today, start growing your relationship with him! You could pray more, start a prayer journal, or talk with someone who also trusts Jesus.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share, in an age-appropriate way, your personal story of trusting Jesus. You can share when you first trusted Jesus, and some age-appropriate examples of what you had to turn away from to trust him.

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

Trust Jesus ABC Sticker (1 per kid, in Small Group)
Trust Jesus QR Code Card (1 per family, at the door)
Lilo & Stitch Family Guide (1 per family, at the door)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart: do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Proverbs 3:5-6



People See Limits, God Sees Purpose *Out Of My Mind*

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • July 25/26/27

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: If you accidentally spilled your drink on the floor at the movie theater, what would you do?



PRAY

Say: 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, Thank you for seeing more in us than the world can see. When people focus on limits, weaknesses, or what seems impossible, remind us that you see purpose, potential, and a plan. Help us not to define ourselves by fear, mistakes, or the opinions of others, but by who you say we are. Give us courage to trust that you can use every part of our story for good. Open our eyes to see others the same way you do with love, value, and purpose. Teach us to walk confidently in the calling you have placed on our lives. Amen.

Give each kid a Bible.

Say: Every week this month we are going to keep getting more familiar with reading the Bible. Our Verse today is found in the Old Testament.

Work together, using the Table of Contents, to find the book of 1 Samuel and read chapter 16 verse 7 out loud to your Group.

Read: 1 Samuel 16:7

Review:

- How can we show kindness to others this week?
- Why is it important not to judge others by how they look?
- Can someone be important to God even if others overlook them? Why?

Continue to review and discuss until Large Group.



BIBLE



People See Limits, God Sees Purpose

Out Of My Mind

Older Elementary Small Group Guide

Week 4 • July 25/26/27

Side 2 • Small Group # 2 • 15 minutes



ACTIVITY

Take out the Buzzer and Movie Trivia Questions. Line kids up on one side, and place the Buzzer a few feet away. You will stand near the buzzer and act as the Trivia Host.

- Ask kids one trivia question at a time and let them race to push the Buzzer and answer the question.
- Keep score and determine a winner. Make sure all kids are getting the chance to answer a question.
- Another way to play: After a kid answers a question correctly, let them be the Trivia Host and ask the next question.



CHALLENGE

Say: *This week, pick one person you usually overlook do one intentional act of kindness (include them, encourage them, sit with them, help them) to show you're choosing to see what God sees—purpose.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask:

- *How can we practice seeing people the way God sees them?*
- *Can you think of a time you judged someone by the outside? What happened?*
- Review the Bottom Line
- Review the Memory Verse

Remain in Small Group until Parent Pick Up.



TAKE HOME

Out Of My Mind Family Guide (1 per family, at the door)

People look outside of a person. But the Lord looks at what is in the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7