

Today's Suggested Schedule—November 2025, Week 1

Today's Bible Story: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal • *1 Kings 18:16-45*

Conversation Starter: What seems impossible to you?

Today's Bottom Line: God can do the impossible.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.* Isaiah 40:31 (NirV)

Supplies NOT Included in the Activity Bags

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot

Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions

- Bibles
- Floor tape
- Plain paper
- Pencils

Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You

- Bibles
- Plain paper
- Coloring supplies

Prayer Activity: Make It Personal with Prayer

- Large blocks-grab from rBackyard Older room
- Sticky notes

Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God that your confidence is grounded in Him, not in how capable or impressive you feel. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time when you felt outnumbered or unsure but chose to trust God anyway. Thank God for how He showed up! Ask God to meet preteens in their moments of self-doubt or peer pressure. Pray they would believe that trusting God when it's not popular is still worth it, and that He can do the impossible in their everyday lives.

1. Application Activity-Take a Snapshot

What You Need:

No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into three groups.

Imagine Together:

- Say, “I am going to share several scenarios. For each scenario, I’ll also share two possible responses you could have to each scenario. I’ll point to the side of the room that corresponds with each response. With your group, talk about what trusting God might look like in each scenario, and then as a group, travel to one side of the room or the other.”
- One at a time, call out the “What’s My Move?” scenarios and point to the side of the room that corresponds with each response.
- Give the groups a moment to think, talk, and travel to the side of their choice together.

“What’s My Move?” Scenarios

- **I feel scared about trying something new.**
 - *Pray and wait on God OR try it even if I still feel afraid.*
- **When I know someone who’s hurting.**
 - *Send them a message OR go talk to them and let them know I care.*
- **When I don’t understand what God is doing.**
 - *Ask questions and look for answers in the Bible OR trust that I may not know right now and that’s okay.*
- **When you want to share your faith.**
 - *Invite someone to church OR be a good friend and let them see how much Jesus loves them by the way you treat them.*
- **When life feels too hard or too big ...**
 - *Tell a trusted adult or friend what you’re going through OR take some quiet time to talk it out with God.*
- A friend did something that hurt you.
 - *Choose to forgive right away, OR take time to pray and ask God for help forgiving.*

Talk Together:

NOTE: Point out that all of those answers could’ve been the right move. Encourage the kids to listen to God, pray, and act boldly in confidence trusting that He goes with them in everything!

- Why didn’t Elijah back down when everything else around him was hopeless?
- How does it help to know the Holy Spirit is in you if you’ve chosen to follow Jesus?
- Say: “God can do the impossible! Sometimes, you still might not know what to do next. And although your next choice may not be clear, there is one thing that is clear: following God and His ways is always the right move. Elijah didn’t know how things would turn out, but he just followed God, and God showed up. That is all God asks of you too!”

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- For an option with less movement, complete this activity with everyone seated. The kids can point to their choices.

2. Bible Story Review

What You Need:

- Bibles
- “Confidence Cards” Activity Page
- Floor tape
- Plain paper
- Pencils

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into teams of 3-4.
- Give every group:
 - One Bible
 - One plain piece of paper
 - One pencil
- Use floor tape to mark a start line for each team.
- On the opposite end of your group space, scatter the “Confidence Cards.”

Move Together:

- Say: “Each team will take turns sending one kid to grab a card from the far side of the room. When you get a card, bring it back to your group. Read it out loud and work together to complete what it says.”
- Encourage each group to discuss the questions and follow the prompts to either:
 - Write or draw their response on paper.
 - Act it out.
- Once their group finishes that card’s challenge, the next teammate can go!
- Continue until every kid gets a chance to grab a Confidence Card.
- Gather the kids and review possible answers to each challenge.
- ***[Make It Personal] (Tell the kids about an age-appropriate time you chose to trust God during a tough season. Did you move to a new city? Maybe choosing to trust God didn’t make you feel better right away, but it made you feel stronger—because you knew God was with you!)***

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Instead of running, give each team 3-4 cards and invite them to complete the challenges sitting at a table or on the floor.

Confidence Cards

What was Elijah trying to show the people about God? Talk about it with your group!	If you had to act out this story in 10 seconds to a friend who missed it, what would you do?	What would it have felt like to be Elijah, standing alone? Draw a symbol!
What's one thing that proves God is more powerful than anything else? Talk about it with your group!	How did Elijah show confidence in God? Act it out!	What's something in your life that feels impossible, but you want to trust God with it? Talk about it with your group!
Draw a quick comic strip of a key part of the story.	What's the biggest difference between Baal and the one true God? Talk about it with your group!	If you could ask Elijah one question, what would it be? Write it down!

3. Discussion Questions

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

What You Do:

- What's the difference between confidence in God and confidence in yourself? Can you think of a time when you needed both?
- God burned up the soaked offering and the stones. Why do you think He wanted to put on such a show?
- How will it make you more confident if you trust that God is with you in everything you face?
- How can you help yourself remember that God is the strongest and He goes with you everywhere?

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.
- Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need:

- Bibles
- Plain paper
- Coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a Bible.
- Invite them to look up Isaiah 40:31 using the Bible Navigation Tips below.

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids, and repeat the verse together several times.

Create Together:

- Give each group a piece of plain paper.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Challenge each group to come up with 4-5 simple symbols (or emojis) that could represent key parts of the verse.
- Encourage the kids to break the verse up like this:
 - *Those who trust in the LORD,*
 - *will receive new strength.*
 - *They will fly as high as eagles.*
 - *They will run and not get tired.*
 - *They will walk and not grow weak.*
- Encourage the kids to work together to draw their symbols on plain paper with coloring supplies.
- Once everyone is finished, invite several groups to share their symbols and why they chose them.

Talk Together:

- Ask:
 - What do you think it means to trust in the Lord?
 - Why do you think new strength is a gift God gives when you trust Him?
- Say, "The symbols you made can help you carry Isaiah 40:31 with you everywhere you go. Whether you feel tired, alone, or hopeless, you can always trust God to give you strength!"

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- If it's more comfortable for your kids to create motions to remember Isaiah 40:31, invite them to come up with a movement for each part of the verse.

5. Make It Personal with Prayer

What You Need:

- Large blocks
- Pens or pencils
- Sticky notes
- Device for playing worship music

What You Do:

- Gather the kids together in a circle.
- Begin playing the worship music softly.
- Give every kid:
 - One block
 - One sticky note
 - One pen or pencil
- Say: “We will all face things that feel tough or impossible.”
- Invite them to take a moment and think about something in their lives that feels that way.
 - *Maybe they’re struggling to make friends at a new school, or maybe they’re ready to give up on learning a new skill.*
- Invite the kids to draw or write that “impossible thing” on their sticky note.
- *NOTE: Use this opportunity to have a conversation about what it means to make a decision to follow Jesus! If you need help with what to say use the gospel conversation guide in notebook or ask your campus leader.*
- Once they’re ready, encourage each kid to:
 - Bring the block to the center of the circle.
 - Add it to the group tower or stack.
 - Whisper or silently say aloud a short prayer like, “God, I trust You with this.”
- *NOTE: Let them know they can place their block and sticky note face down on the tower if they prefer to keep it private.*
- Close the group in prayer. Ask God to help the kids trust that He goes with them in everything they face. Ask God to help them remember that they can go through life confidently because the strongest goes with them! His presence with them in everything will be a firm foundation for each of their lives!

Inclusive Pro Tips:

Create the tower on a tabletop or raised surface to meet the needs of your group.