

Today's Suggested Schedule—August 2025, Week 1

Bible Story: Creation and the Fall • *Genesis 1–2:3, 3; Romans 5:8*

Bottom Line: You can trust God no matter what.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.* Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

Bible Story Review: Superhero Headquarters

Application Activity: Where Faith Begins

☐ coloring supplies

Memory Verse Activity: Theme Song

☐ whiteboard and marker

☐ Bible

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Ask God to remind every kid that God is with them, even when they don't feel ready. Pray that the kids would find the courage to try new things. Ask God to help the kids remember that even when it feels big or scary, God's plan is perfect!

1. Bible Story Review-Superhero Headquarters

What You Need:

- ☐ “Superhero HQ” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Before you begin, hide a set of the “Superhero HQ” Activity Pages in your group space.
- Tell the kids that “Superhero Headquarters” has received top-secret information: Bible Story clues are hidden throughout your group space!
- Explain that the goal is for the kids to find the seven hidden Bible Story clues and place them in the order of the story.
- At your signal, invite kids to search for the hidden clues.
- Encourage kids to work with other kids to find clues together.
 - Once all seven clues are found, direct the kids to bring them to the front of your group space.
 - Work together to review the story and put the pieces in the correct order.
 - Use the numbers in the corner of each page to check your group’s work.
 - Open discussion about the Bible Story by asking:
 - “What was the one rule God gave Adam and Eve to follow?” (*God told them not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*)
 - “What happened when Adam and Eve didn’t follow God’s rule?” (*They ushered in the curse of sin, which pulled their hearts away from God, and affected the hearts of everyone who would live after them.*)
 - “How do we know that God still loved Adam and Eve even after they disobeyed?” (*God started His plan to rescue them through Jesus—God wanted to be Adam and Eve’s close friend, and He couldn’t because of the curse of sin.*)
 - “Who can become a part of God’s incredible plan? (*Anyone, anywhere who chooses to follow Jesus can be part of God’s incredible plan!*)

What You Say:

“Mission accomplished! You found all the pieces of our Bible Story! But at first, they were scattered all around, kind of like a puzzle when you dump it out of the box. And you know what? Life can feel like that sometimes too, like when we’ve made a big mess of things.

“Maybe you said something unkind to a friend, and now things feel weird between you. Maybe you didn’t listen when a grown-up gave you instructions, and now you’re in trouble. Maybe you knocked down your brother’s block tower, and he’s mad at you. When we’ve made a bad choice, we might wonder if everything is going to be okay.

“BUT the good news is that God is always working on a good plan. Even though Adam and Eve sinned and it made things really messy, God had a plan to make things right again. And that plan was Jesus! God sent Jesus to break that awful curse so we can be close friends with Him again!

“God’s goodness was even bigger than Adam and Eve’s sin. And when you make a bad choice, **[Bottom Line] you can trust God no matter what!** God’s goodness is always going to be bigger than your bad choices.

[Make It Personal] (Vaguely, talk about an age-appropriate time when you made a bad choice and it made life messy. Be sure to keep it kid-friendly! Share how God loves you anyway. Make sure the majority of your words and the focus is on God's love for you!) “We are going to make bad choices in life, but because God is always good, we can trust that God loves us. We can believe that God is with us through any situation. No matter what, this will always be true—***[Bottom Line]*** you can trust God no matter what!”

2. Application Activity-Where Faith Begins

What You Need:

- ☐ “Comic Book” Activity Page
- ☐ Coloring Supplies
- ☐ Prepared Comic Book Sample

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Comic Book” Activity Page.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Direct the kids to write their name on the page.
- Say: *“Today’s Bottom Line is this: **[Bottom Line]** You can trust God no matter what! Let’s say that together.”* (Invite kids to repeat it with you.)
- Show your sample comic book, and tell the kids they will create their very own today!
- Guide the kids to fold the page in half along the dotted line to create a book.
- Look at the scene on page 1 together and ask:
 - “What do you think is happening here?” *(A kid is trying to play with a friend on the playground who takes their soccer ball.)*
 - “What are some ways you can remember God’s love when you’re feeling hurt or rejected?” *(You can look at the wonderful things that God made and think about the wonderful things He has done, because He is wonderful! You can remind yourself that God loves you so much that Jesus gave His life so you can be in a relationship with God!)*
 - “How do you think God could bring something good out of this situation?” *(Maybe you realize that kid wasn’t being nice, so you go play with other kids and make new friends.)*
- Challenge the kids to fill in the missing scenes of the comic by adding words, and drawings to finish the story.
- Give the kids time to use the coloring supplies to complete the page.
- Repeat the same steps for the second page:
 - “Have you ever felt like you did something so bad that you really messed up a relationship? How do you think God sees you, even when you’ve made a bad choice?” *(God doesn’t love us any less when we make a bad choice. We can trust God no matter what we face!)*
 - “What do you think God wants you to remember when you’ve made a bad choice?” *(Remember that God loves you, and He wants you to do what you can to fix the situation and love the person like He would.)*
 - “How can you show love to this person since Jesus always shows love?” *(You can say you are really sorry. You can help your sibling rebuild their block tower.)*
- Let the kids decorate the cover of their comic book.
- Invite the kids to share their comic stories once they’re finished.

What You Say:

"I loved seeing all your comic books! It's cool how they all started the same way, but you each made them your own. In life sometimes people hurt us or we hurt other people, like in our comics. But that doesn't mean God doesn't still love us. He always, always loves us."

"God has never given up on us, He has never stopped loving us, and we can trust that nothing will ever change God's love for us. The point is this: **[Bottom Line] you can trust God no matter what.** Because even when you make a bad choice, you can *always* trust God!"

Inclusive Pro Tips

- If any kids need extra time, allow them to work at their own pace.
- Some kids may need help brainstorming what to draw. Suggest simple illustrations like hearts, stars, a cross, etc.
- If any kids don't feel comfortable sharing, offer them the option to share with a friend or invite them to simply show the group their drawings instead of vocalizing them aloud.

3. Memory Verse Activity- Theme Song

What You Need:

Bibles

Inclusive Optional Supplies:

Whiteboard and dry-erase marker

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two.
- Give each group a Bible and guide them to find Hebrews 11:1.

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Hebrews in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find Hebrews, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Hebrews. Help the kids find the page. When they find Hebrews, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 11. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 1 in chapter 11.

- Recite the verse together several times, using a “repeat after me” method.
- Divide the kids into two teams and assign each team part of the Memory Verse.
 - **Team 1:** *Faith is being sure of what we hope for.*
 - **Team 2:** *It is being sure of what we do not see.*
- Challenge the teams to create a chant, rap or song (with motions) for that portion of the verse.
- Invite teams to teach each other their part and then practice together, ending together with:
 - *“Hebrews 11:1!”*

What You Say:

“WOW! This was a great way to learn this month’s Memory Verse! I loved seeing what everyone came up with. The Bible is God’s Word. God gave it to us so we can know Him better! He also wants us to know what is true. So it’s a great idea for us to memorize verses from the Bible so we can take the truth with us everywhere!

“We can’t see God with our own eyes, but we *can* see the AMAZING, awe-inspiring world that God created! It is wonderful because God is wonderful! We can also remember all the things God has done—including sending Jesus to rescue us! We have ‘seen’ so many of God’s great works, and we can have faith and believe in Him because of all of these things. Anyone, anywhere who chooses to follow Jesus can be part of God’s incredible plan. It’s true, friends! No matter who you are, no matter what you’ve done, **[Bottom Line]** you can trust God no matter what.”

Inclusive Pro Tips

- Use a visual aid, like a whiteboard or a posterboard, to write the verse so kids can follow along.
- Consider offering movement alternatives. Instead of full-body movements, if a kid needs to sit while doing the verse motions, allow them to do so. Or let the kids tap their knees, snap, or pat the floor in rhythm to the verse instead of moving around.

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of two or three.
- Invite the groups to take turns praying for each other.
- Share with kids that prayer is a conversation they can have with God anytime, anywhere, about anything!
- Consider suggesting the following prompt if kids are stuck.
- “Dear God, thank You for *[kid’s name]*. Help them to trust You no matter what! We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- If kids are uncomfortable or shy, invite them to pray silently.
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for loving all of us! You made a way for us to live with You forever through Your Son, Jesus. When we’ve made bad choices, help us remember we can trust You no matter what! Help us be reminded of Your goodness when we see the things You’ve made—including us! Help us remember that You love us so very much. We want to live in Your love for us. We love You, God. We pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to share their comic books with them and talk through what’s happening. Challenge the kids to share today’s Bottom Line, ***[Bottom Line]* you can trust God no matter what!**