



## January 11, 2026

### I Am Secure Elementary Leader Guide

the place for kids to take  
their first steps with jesus.

WIN

God showed His power when He raised a woman named Dorcas from the dead. This reminds us that God can do amazing things because He is always powerful, and we can trust His power to carry us through anything.

BIBLE- Dorcas was healed- Acts 9:36-43

TOOLS

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SOCIAL TIME

The first 10 minutes as kids arrive is a very important time in your small group. Because of this, we provide you with intentional activities to engage their interests and help lead into a great discussion. All of this is so that “boredom” is not an excuse. Everything is only available one time.

Every week you have:

- Roku Games to play together that are changed out monthly.
- 2 month specific games or group activities.
- Plus 2 Social Activities. \*\* Use one now and save the other for an incentive to participate in all the activities.

#### Games and Music (10 minutes)

**What You Need:** Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, Plastic cups (4-6 per group), Playground balls (2 per group), Hula hoops (2 per group), Dry erase board (1 per group), Dry erase markers (2 per group), Dry erase erasers (optional; 2 per group), Stopwatch or timer (optional; 1 per group)

#### What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

**Say:** That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

## Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

### Bible Story Recap- Say This

Wow, what a powerful God! I cannot imagine what Dorcas' friends were feeling when she died. I am sure they were feeling very sad. Sometimes when a loved one dies, people might also feel angry or mad. People might even feel confused and bad. Dorcas' friends may have felt all those things after she died.

Peter could see how sad, mad, and bad all of Dorcas' friends felt. But Peter also knew that no matter what, God is always powerful. What did Peter know? (*God is always powerful!*) When Dorcas died, God showed His power by raising her from the dead.

### Gospel Connection: (refer to the 4 Circles poster in your small group spaces)

(Circle one) God was powerful in Peter's time, and He is still powerful today. Everyone, ask, "Why?" (Why?) Because He has been powerful from the very beginning!

You see, God created our world and everything in it. He made everything, and He made it good! That included human beings, like you and me. He created us to have a relationship with Him.

(Circle Two) The first people—and all of us—have turned away from God by choosing our own way instead of His, and the Bible calls this sin, which breaks our relationship with Him. No matter how hard we try, we cannot fix our sin problem ourselves, because the consequence of sin is separation from God forever.

(Circle three) Because God loves us, He sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sin, and Jesus—who lived a perfect life—died on the cross and was brought back to life on the third day, defeating sin and death. When we trust in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins, He restores our relationship with God, gives us a new identity as His children, and invites us into a forever relationship with Him.

(Circle four) God is always powerful, and even when sin brings guilt or shame, we can trust that His power is greater and He can work in amazing ways in our lives. If you want to learn more about how Jesus forgives and restores our relationship with God, come talk to me or a leader—we would love to share how our always-powerful Even in uncertain situations, we can know we are secure because God is always powerful. God loves you! Let's pray and talk to God in 3-2-1!

*God, thank You for being powerful in every situation in our lives. Your power never runs out. It is the same yesterday, today, and forever! Help us follow You, trust Your power, and always know we are secure in You. We love You! Amen.*

## Paper Bridge

Kids will create a “bridge” out of bathroom tissue paper and see how many plastic cups they can stack on the bridge before it breaks.

**Big Goal:** See that, like the people in our Bible story, we should trust in the power of God rather than trust in what we can see or feel.

**Leader Prep:** Set out supplies.

**Supplies:** New bathroom tissue roll (2 per group), Plastic cups (20 per group), Ruler or yard stick (1 per group), Stopwatch or timer (1 per group)

**What To Do:** Our game today is called “Paper Bridge!” What is it called? (*Paper Bridge!*) You and your teammates are going to create a bridge out of—bathroom tissue paper!

Your team will receive a roll of bathroom tissue. To make your bridge, pick two teammates to face each other and hold the bathroom tissue ends as “Bridge Ends.” The Bridge Ends must be at least 3 feet apart. Your team will have one minute to figure out the best way to build your paper bridge. After one minute, I will place as many plastic cups in the middle of your bridge as I can before it collapses. (*Form two groups of kids. Give each group a new bathroom tissue roll.*) Let’s see which bridge holds the most cups! (*Set the timer for one minute. After one minute, have the groups display their bridges and begin placing the cups.*)

**Keep It Going:** Direct Kid A to hold the roll on one end and Kid B to pull the bathroom tissue paper out. Place a plastic cup on the bathroom tissue paper and have Kid B carefully walk backward to unroll it. See which group’s roll goes the farthest before breaking!

**Leader Tip:** Turn this into a duo activity and give one bathroom tissue roll to each pair of kids.

**Loud And Clear:** Who knew bathroom tissue could be a bridge? Well, one thing is for sure, it is not a very powerful bridge! No matter what powerful substance a bridge is made from, it will never come close to the awesome power of God! God will never collapse under the weight of your problems because He is always powerful! In our Bible story, when Dorcas died, the friends felt upset because they looked and saw that there was nothing they could do. And that was true! Their best and strongest efforts could not bring Dorcas back to life. But God could! Repeat after me, **“God is always powerful!”**

**(God is always powerful!)** That is right! We can count on Him to be powerful in our lives, even when our circumstances look difficult or impossible. God is, repeat after me (*hold up a thumb after each word*), “Always awesome!” (*Always awesome!*)

Let’s chat about this more by looking at some questions that make us think deeper.

**Discussion Questions:**

- Who is a powerful person, and what makes that person powerful? (Allow answers.)
- The Bible tells us we are secure because **God is always powerful**. Let's open our Bibles to **Acts 9:40-42** and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) God used His power through Peter to bring Dorcas (also called Tabitha) back to life, and many came to believe in Jesus. Through this action, God used His power to also bring healing and joy to Tabitha's friends. What is a way you can interact with people this week to help them believe in Jesus? (Allow answers, which might include *I can pray for a person in need, I can encourage a friend with this Bible story, and so forth.*)
- God ultimately showed His power over sin and death when He raised Jesus back to life. We can have a restored relationship with God when we ask Jesus to forgive us. Why is God's forgiveness so powerful? (Allow answers, which might include *because God's forgiveness brings us back to Him, because God can forgive anything we do, and so forth.*)
- When our problems seem too big to handle on our own or when sin brings powerful feelings of guilt and shame, how can we trust in our always-powerful God? (Allow answers, which might include *we can remind ourselves of how God is powerful yesterday, today, and forever; we can remember the truth about God's love and forgiveness; when we are scared, we can pray or sing a worship song to remind us how powerful God is; and so forth.*)
- The Bible tells us that we are secure because **God is always powerful**. And He is always powerful because He is always (thumb up) awesome (thumb up)! What is something encouraging you will remember from today?

Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.) Let's pray and talk to God. (Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)

God, we know Your power is always awesome! You brought Dorcas back to life, and You brought Jesus back to life. You saved us from our sin through Your Son, Jesus. No matter what, help us to trust You, Your power, and Your love. Thank You that we are secure in You. Amen.

**GOING HOME**

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.