

I AM MADE FOR COMMUNITY HUDDLE UP

Elementary



Nov
2025

November 30, 2025

I Am Made for Community Elementary Leader Guide

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



WIN

God gives us friends to help one another and encourage each other. Jesus makes the way to have a relationship with God, and He helps us have amazing friendships too.

BIBLE- *David and Jonathan Became Friends, 1 Samuel 18:1-11, 19:1-7, 20:1-42*

TOOLS

Scan QR



At a Glance



The Code



Gospel Page



Leader Devos

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, Paper (4 per child), Markers or crayons (several), This or That Posters (1 set 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

Say, “God leads me to friends!” (God leads me to friends!) How cool is it that David and Jonathan could be good friends to each other even in the midst of really difficult moments? King Saul wanted to harm David, and King Saul was Jonathan’s dad! But Jonathan stayed loyal to David. God worked through Jonathan to protect David. Jonathan gave up a great deal for David: he risked his own life for David and gave up his own chance to be king. Jonathan was a good friend to David, and David was a good friend to Jonathan. Neither of them forgot their friendship.

God made us for community and God leads us to friends who will love us, help us, encourage us, and point us to God. He leads us to do the same things for our friends. These friendships can be Game Changers for us.

Jesus said, “No one has greater love than this: to lay down his life for his friends.” (John 15:13) A friendship like this points to our greatest friend: Jesus. Say, “Jesus changes the game!” (Jesus changes the game!) Jesus changes the game because He came to make the way for us to have a relationship with God. You see, our sin separates us from God. No matter how hard we try, we cannot fix our sin problem on our own. Our sin deserves to be punished, which means that without help, we can never have a relationship with God. But God’s Son, Jesus, lived the perfect life we could not live. Jesus never sinned, died the death we deserved because of sin, and then He rose again. Jesus defeated sin and death, creating the only way for us to have a forever friendship with God! Jesus laid down His life for us because He loves us. His example of friendship shows us what kind of a friend we can be to others. This changes the game for us!

Now, let’s watch a video to learn more about how Jesus changes the game!

The Gospel Video (10 minutes)

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

Knowing that Jesus is the forever friend we can always count on truly changes the game. He loves us so much that He gave up His life for us. That is a true friend! Everybody, say, “True friend!” (*True friend!*) The amazing thing about Jesus is that He did not just give up His life for us, but He rose again. Jesus defeated sin and death and came back to life—something that only God can do. Jesus is the ultimate Game Changer! Say, “Jesus changes the game!” (*Jesus changes the game!*) When we trust and follow Jesus, He leads us to a relationship with God and friendship with others who follow Him. Say, **“God leads me to friends!” (God leads me to friends!)** If you have questions about what all of this means or why it is important, find me or one of your Team Leaders. We would love to talk with you more about how Jesus can change the game for you.

God, thank You for leading us to friends. I pray that You lead each of us to friends that will help us know You more and love You more. Thank You for being the best friend we could ever have—a friend who gave up Your life so that we might have life. You are good, and we love You. Amen.

Community Collage

Kids will design a paper with their names on it and allow other kids to write encouraging messages.

Big Goal: Encourage one another.

Leader Prep: Set out supplies.

1. Write your name in the center of the paper, decorating around the edges however you like.
2. Place the papers around the room, and allow others to write notes of encouragement or draw encouraging pictures.

Supplies: Large pieces of paper (1 per child), Markers or crayons (several), Pencils (1 per child), "Community Collage Example" printable (1 per group; optional)

What To Do: We are learning today about how God leads us to friends! Right now, we will practice being good friends to one another. First, write your name (using large letters) in the center of your paper. Then use the markers to decorate around the edges any way you would like. *(Allow time.)*

Next, we will place the papers all around the room so you can have lots of room to move around. You will write encouraging notes or draw encouraging pictures for the people whose names are on the paper. In your notes, you can tell teammates the good things you have noticed about them, something you like about them, or you can remind them just how much God loves them. Let's build each other up today!

Keep It Going: Instruct leaders to join in as well, writing encouraging notes to and alongside the kids in the group.

Leader Tip: Provide ideas of what to write for kids they might not know well. Help everyone to walk away feeling encouraged and loved.

Loud And Clear: One of the best things about being made for community is that we can build each other up! And that is what we did today! Your encouraging note to friends on your team could make their day and could help them through a difficult time, like Jonathan helped David. God leads us to friends—these friends can help us, and we can help them. Together, we can follow Jesus better. What are other ways you can encourage a friend today? *(Allow answers.)*

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

TALK ABOUT IT

Discussion Questions:

- Since we are talking today about how God leads us to friends, what are some of your favorite things about your friends? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*
- Selfies can help us remember the amazing friends God has brought into our lives. What can friends in a picture help us remember about God? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer. Through Jesus, we can have friendship with God and He leads us to friendships with others who follow Him.)*
- The Bible tells us we are made for community, and **God leads us to friends.** Let's open our Bibles to **1 Samuel 20:42** and read it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verse aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verse aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verse so everyone can follow along together.)* Jonathan and David promised to be friends and help each other. How does their friendship encourage you to act in your friendships? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*
- Jesus said the greatest love is for a friend to lay down his life for his friends—that is exactly what Jesus did for us. How can it change our lives and help us when we know that Jesus is the perfect friend? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)* Do you have any questions about how Jesus changes the game for you? *(Allow time.)*
- The Bible tells us about David and Jonathan being true friends to each other even in difficult times. We are made for community, and it changes the game when we find good friends who help us love and follow Jesus. What is something you learned today?

WRAP UP

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 thank You for giving us friendships that help us follow You. Lead us to friends who will follow after You with us. Thank You for loving us and sending Your Son, Jesus, to make the way for us to know You and love You forever. Help us always remember that Jesus changes the game. Amen.

Being together as friends is way better than being alone! God knew we needed each other, so He made us for community. And He sent His Son, Jesus, to make the way for us to have a friendship with God. What a Game Changer!

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.