



# Impact Kids Fall 2025

## Older Kids Leader Guide

### September 10, 2025

**Live It Out-** As you grow as a disciple, seeing and knowing God's character helps us love Him with all of our soul and strength. Matthew 22: 37

*Bible-* Sept 10- Acts 27- God is encouraging, so we encourage others.



**At a Glance**



**The Code**



**Gospel Page**



**Live It Out  
Leader Devo**

### prayer challenge

Think of 2 ways God has shown you  
He is encouraging.  
Thank Him for those reminders in prayer.

### Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM  
Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM  
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM  
4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM  
K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM  
4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM  
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM



## Low Energy Game:

### Play a Version of Hot & Cold

**Say:** We're learning that God is encouraging. An awesome thing God's encouragement can do is guide us to what God knows is best for us. Let's play a game where some helpful encouragement will guide you!

- For each round of this game, one person (the Seeker) will step into the hall.
- Everyone else will hide an object in the room. (The Seeker won't know what the object is.)
- The Seeker will return, and the other kids will guide him or her to find the object by clapping.
- When the Seeker is far away from the object, kids will clap very quietly or not at all.
- As the Seeker gets closer to the object, kids will clap louder and louder and can even cheer when the Seeker is about to find the object.
- Play as many rounds as time allows with a new Seeker for each round.

### Talk About It

**Ask:** • How did encouragement guide you in the game?

• Tell about another time encouragement from God or another person helped you know what to do. Share an example of your own first, such as God guiding and encouraging you about taking a job, what college to go to, or how to make new friends.

**Say:** God's encouragement to Paul helped guide him in how to handle the storm. He knew everyone needed food and that no one should get off the ship before it crashed. When you're in a tough situation, listen for God's encouragement! Share it with others, too. God is encouraging, so we're encouraging.

## Talk About Video:

### Discuss and Watch “Hamster Theater”

**Ask:** • Tell about a time you were afraid you were going to die. Share your own story first.

**Say:** Let’s watch today’s Bible story...acted out by a different kind of actor.

**Ask:** • What did you think of having gerbils retell the Bible story?

• Paul McFluff encouraged the others with the angel’s message that God would save them. What’s something encouraging someone has said to you when you were scared?

**Say:** God is encouraging, so we encourage others. When we’re scared or worried, we can turn to God for encouragement. And we can be part of God’s encouragement to others, too!

## Deeper Bible:

### Supplies

- Bibles
- “God’s Encouragement” handout (1 per child) ([download here](#))
- paper
- markers

### Set It Up

**Say:** In the Bible, God encouraged Paul by speaking to him in a vision. And God still could encourage people that way...but does he? How does God encourage people today? Let’s dig in to that.

There are a lot of ways God encourages us today. It could be through visions like Paul had, through feelings God puts in our hearts, or through other people. We’re going to look at a surefire way to turn to God when we need encouragement: the Bible!

### Dig Deeper

Have kids form pairs, and give each child a “God’s Encouragement” handout.

Have kids alternate reading the verses to their partners. The verses on the handout are as follows:

- Romans 8:28
- Matthew 5:4
- Matthew 11:28
- Joshua 1:9
- Philippians 4:13
- Isaiah 41:10
- John 16:33

If kids are looking up these verses in their own Bibles, encourage them to highlight or underline them so they stand out to them later. Challenge kids to continue to highlight or underline encouraging verses as they find more.

## Deeper Bible: cont

**Ask:** • How did it feel to hear those encouraging words?

• Was there one verse that was especially encouraging for something you're facing right now?

**Say:** God's Word is full of encouragement. These verses are just the beginning! The Bible has encouragement whether you're sad, sick, lonely, scared, or anything else! God is encouraging, so we encourage others. Let's use his Word to encourage others.

*Draw a Meme*

Give each child a piece of paper, and set out markers to share.

**Say:** Think of someone you know who needs encouragement right now. He or she might be going through a hard time or might feel overwhelmed with too much to do. Pick one of the verses on your handout that you think would be most encouraging to that person, and write it at the bottom of your paper.

Allow time.

**Say:** Now turn that Bible verse into a meme. A meme is usually a picture with a few words that gets spread from person to person. Sometimes memes go viral on the internet! So above the Bible verse, draw a picture that goes with the verse. Allow time.

**Say:** Let's pray for the people who are going to get our memes.

**Pray:** God, thank you for encouraging us through the Bible. Thank you that it's always there for us to look at and find your encouragement! We pray that you'll encourage the people who receive our pictures. In Jesus' name, amen.

## Life Application:

### Supplies

- craft sticks
- fine-tipped permanent markers

### Make Boat Pieces

**Say:** In our Bible story, Paul's ship crashed! Everyone had to swim to shore or hold on to a piece of wood from the broken boat to float to shore.

Let's imagine we have pieces of the shipwreck as we pray for other people.

- Set out craft sticks.
- Have kids think of people they know who need encouragement and write each person's name on a different craft stick.

### Wrap Up

**Say:** Let's get these people safely to shore by praying for them! Have kids stand on one side of the room and walk slowly across the room, carrying the sticks as they silently pray for the people whose names they wrote on their sticks.

When kids get to the other side, pray: God, thank you for being so encouraging! Help us pass on your encouragement to those who need it, just like Paul did. In Jesus' name, amen.

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

Encourage kids to take their sticks home as a reminder to pray for those people all week long.

## Activity Page with a Point:

### Older Kids: Color a Coloring Page

**Supplies Needed:** Coloring Page, pencils, crayons

**Say:** God is encouraging. When Paul's boat was caught in a big storm, God encouraged Paul that no one would die. And Paul comforted and helped everyone else on the boat! Let's encourage others as we fold this boat.

Distribute the activity pages. Kids will follow the instructions to fold the page into a boat. As kids work, cheer them on, give positive words of help, and point out things they're doing well. If time allows, kids can color their boats.

**Ask:** • When did you need encouragement as you folded your boat?

• When do you most need encouragement from other people?

**Say:** Paper folding like this can be hard sometimes. And when we're trying something that's difficult or frustrating, encouragement can be helpful!

Look for people in your life who are struggling, and offer them kind words, helpful advice, or even just a hug. God is encouraging, so we encourage others.