



Impact Kids Fall 2025

Younger 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



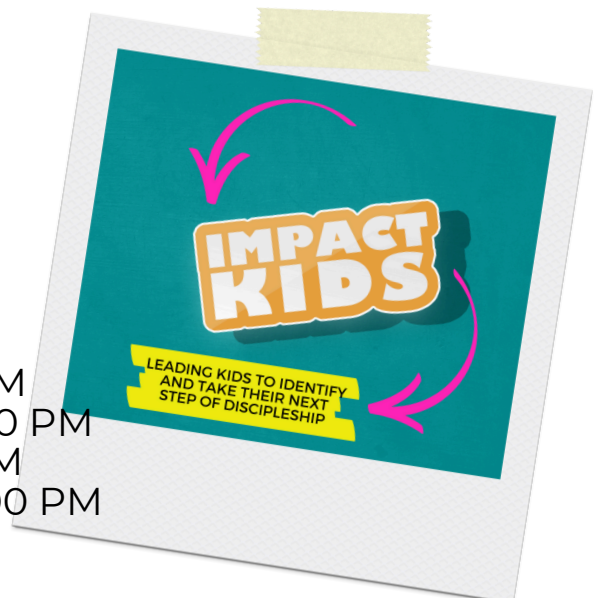
**Live It Out
Leader Devo**

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:

Supplies

- “Shipwreck Cards” handout (2 copies for every 5 or 6 kids)
- upbeat music
- music player

Easy Prep

Make a set of cards for each group of 5 or 6 kids by making 2 copies of the “Shipwreck Cards” handout and cutting the cards apart along the dotted lines. Remove 1 shipwreck card so each set has only 1 shipwreck card.

Play an Encouraging Memory Game

Say: We’re learning that God is encouraging, and God helped Paul encourage others even when they went through a scary shipwreck! Let’s play a fun game where you’ll encourage each other and try to find a special shipwreck card.

- Form groups of five or six preschoolers and at least one adult or teen helper, and have the groups spread out to sit in circles.
- Give each group’s helper a set of cards you’ve prepared.
- Have the helper lay the cards out facedown inside the group’s circle.
- Play music for about 30 seconds. While the music plays, the team members will take turns, one person at a time around the circle, flipping over a card to try to find the shipwreck card. Kids can encourage each other and give ideas of where they think the shipwreck card is.
- When a team finds the shipwreck card, the team members can all call out “Shipwreck!” and fall over.
- Call out a 10-second countdown before you’re about to turn off the music. Then have everyone stop, and see how many teams found the shipwreck card.
- Have teams shuffle and reset their cards. Kids can “shuffle” where they’re sitting in their team circle, too. Everyone can give encouraging high-fives to their new neighbors in the circle and then play the game again.
- Vary the intervals of time you allow the music to play, and have fun with the countdowns to “time’s up.”

Talk About It

Ask: • What did you do to encourage your friends in the game?

Say: We can encourage others in a lot of those ways in real life, too! My favorite way to encourage my friends or my family is... Tell about a way you like to encourage others, such as putting together care packages or giving really good hugs.

Ask: • What’s your favorite way to encourage someone? Kids might share about cheering others up with kind words, hugs, high-fives, or even making special treats with a parent to give to the person who needs some encouragement.

Say: It sounds like you’re great encouragers! God is encouraging and can help us encourage others. It’s an awesome way to share God’s love and joy!

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

- Bible
- balloons (1 for each group of 5 or 6, plus a few extra)
- marbles (1 for each group of 5 or 6)
- painter’s tape*

Easy Prep

- Place a marble in a balloon and then inflate it. Make enough marble-balloons for each group of 5 or 6 to have 1.
- Put 2 lines of tape across the floor on opposite sides of the room.

Tip

Keep any loose marbles and broken balloons out of reach of kids, as they’re a choking hazard for young ones. If a balloon accidentally pops, quickly collect the marbles and pick up pieces of any broken balloons promptly.

Share About Encouragement

Say: God wants us to encourage one another, just like he encourages us. Remember, we’re encouraging by saying or doing something that helps someone else feel better or be brave. Share about a time you encouraged someone. It could be a time you comforted someone who was sad, helped someone feel better who was sick, or encouraged someone to believe that they could do something hard. Tell the kids how you felt when you were encouraging.

Ask: • When have you encouraged someone? Help kids get started, if needed. They might say they gave someone a hug when that person was sad, visited someone who was sick, or said something kind to a friend. Encourage the kids to share how encouraging someone made them feel.

Say: Let’s practice being encouragers right now.

Race Balloons

Divide the kids into groups of five or six. Give each group a marble-balloon. Have each group line up on one side of the room behind the first tape line. Say: When I say “go,” one person from each group is going to try to roll the balloon to the other side of the room. These balloons are a bit different, so that might be hard. The rest of the group is going to need to be good encouragers to help our friend keep going. This is such an important job that I am going to help you find fun ways to encourage one another. First, let’s clap as loud as we can for our friend who’s trying to move the balloon. Let’s practice. Encourage kids to clap as loud as they can. Have the first round of kids begin. Focus on encouraging the “encouragers” more than the movement of the balloon. Have an adult or teen helper have kids pick up the balloon and bring it back to the next person in line when he or she crosses the finish line.

Deeper Bible: cont

Ask: • When the first child from each line has returned to the group, give the encouragers a new way to encourage, and then start the next round. Continue until each team member has had a chance to roll the balloon. Here are some ways to encourage:

- clapping
- yelling "Go ____!"
- yelling "You can do it!"
- stomping
- yelling "Wahoo!"

Talk About It

Say: It was so fun to encourage our friends today!

Ask: • What was your favorite way to cheer your friends on? Give the kids a chance to tell which of the different types of encouragement was their favorite.

Say: God loves it when we encourage each other. Open the Bible and read 2 Corinthians 13:11b. We can be thankful that God's with us when we encourage each other. Let's thank Him that he is always encouraging us and that we can encourage each other, too!

Life Application:

Pretend to Be in a Storm

Say: Today we learned that God is encouraging, so we encourage others, too. We heard how some men were on a boat in a storm and really needed encouragement!

Lead kids to pretend to get into a boat together. Then lead them in pretending they're in a storm by swaying back and forth and patting their knees to make rain sounds and saying "Crack!" to make thunder sounds.

Have kids freeze in place. **Say:** God encouraged the men by giving them Paul, who let them know that God would take care of them. Sometimes we need encouragement from God, too. Sometimes we need encouragement because we're trying something new. Other times we need encouragement because we're scared or worried. God's always with us when our lives feels like a storm. And God reminds us we can be brave. Share about a hard time you or a loved one are going through that you want God's encouragement for.

Ask: • What's something you want to ask God to encourage you about?

You could ask God for encouragement about a worry you have or for God to encourage your family to get along.

Lead kids in a *brief prayer* for the things they shared. Ask God for encouragement, and ask him to help you and the kids encourage others when they're feeling sad or worried.

Pretend to Be in Calm Waters

Say: When we talk to God about our worries and fears, he'll encourage us. He can help us be calm even in a scary time. We might say he can "calm the waters."

Lead kids in pretending to be in calm waters. Have them sway back and forth gently.

Say: God encourages us, and we can encourage others, too. Let's thank God that he hears us and he'll encourage us when we ask for it.

Lead kids in a *brief prayer* thanking God that he's encouraging.

Say: I encourage you to remember God's with you this week and to encourage others, too. I hope you'll come back next week with stories about how you were encouraged and how you encouraged others!

Activity Page with a Point:

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring/Activity Page

Supplies Needed: Coloring Page, pencils, crayons

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. **Say:** God is encouraging. When Paul's boat was caught in a big storm, God told Paul that no one would die.

And Paul shared God's kind and comforting words with everyone else on the boat! Let's color that boat in the scary storm.

Allow time for kids to color.