

K-3rd

Large Group

February — Week 3

# Large Group Leader Guide

## Today's Suggested Schedule

**Kids arrival** : 9:25 / 11:10

Play high-pitch music as kids arrive

**Countdown** : 9:30 / 11:15

Start the countdown with excitement!

**Large Group** : 9:30-9:55 / 11:15-11:40

→ Opener

→ Bible Story

→ Talk It Out!

→ Memory Verse

→ Prayer

**Transition to Small group** : 9:55-10:00  
/11:40-11:45

Kids move with their leader to small groups

**Small group** : 10:00-10:25 / 11:45-12:10

Creating a safe place to connect.

✦ Need activities for a K-5th group? Check out the 2nd-3rd guide.

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

**Zacchaeus**

• **Luke 19:1-10**

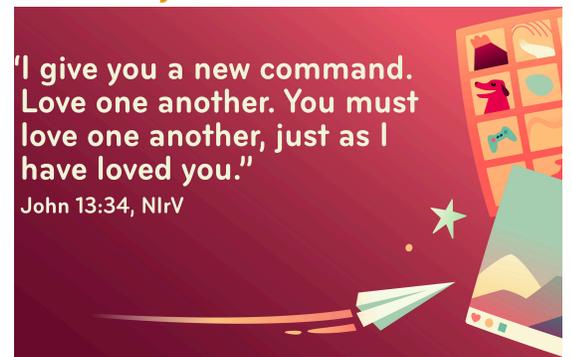
Bottom Line

The love of Jesus changes people.

Memory Verse

"I give you a new command.  
Love one another. You must  
love one another, just as I  
have loved you."

John 13:34, NIRV



10 MINUTES

# OPENER

## ① Opener

AUDIO → Play high-energy music as kids enter.  
SLIDE → Theme

→ Host enters.

Optional Video → Countdown  
Optional Video → Theme Intro

### OPENER

**HOST:** “Hi, everyone! What a great time to be at [environment name]!”

“So, this month we’re talking all about our series ‘Like and Subscribe: Share the Love of Jesus’ because when you see something awesome online, you like it and subscribe to it because you don’t want to miss a minute of awesomeness. And you want to share that awesomeness with your friends and family too!”

“This month we’re talking about the love of God! That’s definitely not something you want to miss a second of! And you so want to share it! “Let’s start things off with a question: who knows what it means to be an influencer?”

Let kids respond: “someone who has followers,” “someone people copy,” etc.

“Exactly! An influencer is someone who others look up to, someone who sets a trend or shows people what to do. And there are different kinds of influencers, people who specialize in different areas of interest. Well, today we’re going to find out what kind of influencers you can be in a fun game called ‘The Influence Challenge!’

SLIDE → Game\_The influence Challenge! Title

“Each round, one of you will be our influencer. I’ll tell you what type of influencer you are, and whatever you do, everyone else has to follow your lead and copy what you do. After each round, we’ll switch influencers and try something totally new. Sound good?”

“Time for the first influencer. If you’d like to be our first influencer, raise your hand!”

10 MINUTES

# OPENER

SLIDE → Game\_The Influence Challenge! Title

*“Choose a volunteer from the kids who have their hands raised and invite them on stage.*

“All right, it’s time to start ‘The Influence Challenge!’ Let’s go viral ... in a good way!”

## Round 1

HOST: “Our first influencer is a **Day-in-the-Life Influencer!**

“This influencer shares what a normal day looks like, brushing their teeth, eating breakfast, going to school, hanging out, playing at home—all the little things people love to watch.

“Alright, [kid’s name] show us your best ‘day in the life’ by miming, and everyone else, follow along! You mime right along with what the influencer is doing!”

AB\_Upbeat pop music

*Influencer mimes brushing teeth, backpacking to school, eating breakfast. Kids copy.*

“Yes! Get ready, head out the door, eat those waffles! You’re amazing!”

*Stop the music.*

“Nice work! That’s a day well-lived! You’d have a million views already! Influencer, you can head to your seat! If you want to be our next influencer, raise your hand!”

*Choose a volunteer from the kids who have their hands raised and invite them on stage.*

## ROUND 2

HOST: “All right, our next influencer is a Sports Influencer!

You’re the star of every highlight reel, showing off the best moves for your followers! Everyone else, mime what the influencer does!”

AB\_Upbeat sports anthem

*Influencer acts out dribbling, shooting, kicking, cheering. Kids copy.*

“Big win! You just scored the game-winning point! The crowd’s going wild!”

*Stop the music.*

“Great job, athletes! You’re trending on SportsTube right now! Influencer, thank you! You can head to your seat! Who wants to be our next influencer? Raise your hand!”

10 MINUTES

**OPENER**

*“Choose a volunteer from the kids who have their hands raised and invite them on stage.*

**Round 3**

HOST: “Okay, time for our next influencer, the Cooking Influencer!

“You’ve got your own channel where you show off your recipes. Get ready to cook, flip, and taste!”

AB\_Playful music

*Influencer mimes cooking, stirring, flipping pancakes. Kids follow.*

“Mmmm! Smells like five-star likes and follows!”

*Stop the music.*

“Awesome work, chefs, your cooking video just went viral! Influencer, thank you! You can head to your seat! If you want to be our next influencer, raise your hand!”

*Choose a volunteer from the kids who have their hands raised and invite them on stage.*

**Round 4**

HOST: “Next up, a Gamer Influencer! You’re live-streaming your best game ever, show us your pro skills!”

AB\_Electronic 8-bit or synth beat

*Influencer mimes gaming, celebrating, victory poses. Kids follow.*

“Yes! You leveled up! You’re trending on every platform!”

*Stop the music.*

“Great game, influencers! Influencer, thank you!”

Wow! You all did an amazing job following and copying each other! But the greatest influencer of all time isn’t someone online—it’s Jesus. His love and influence last forever.

Today we’re learning about Zacchaeus, a man who made bad choices and wasn’t liked by many. When he met Jesus, he was completely changed—not because Jesus told him to, but because Jesus loved him. That’s what God’s love does—it changes hearts!

10 MINUTES

# Story

## ③ Bible Story

SLIDE -> Story Lab W3

### WRAPPING UP THE STORY

“The same love that Zacchaeus experienced, we can too! And the people we know and meet can experience that love as well! “Jesus sees us when we mess up. He knows when we make selfish choices. And still, He loves us right where we are—just like He loved Zacchaeus. But Jesus’ love doesn’t stop there. His love changes us from the inside out. When we start spending time with Jesus, talking to Him, learning about Him, following His example, we begin to change too!

“Maybe you start being kinder to your friends. Maybe you choose to tell the truth instead of hiding it. Maybe you forgive someone who hurt you. That’s the love of Jesus at work in your heart. Because when you know Jesus loves you, you don’t stay the same, you start to live more like Him every day!

“When you meet Jesus and learn just how much He loves you, His love will change your heart, your choices, and your life. And then it’s easier to show God’s love to other people too.

“Showing the love of Jesus to someone doesn’t guarantee that they’ll change, but it does open the door.

“So where do we start? Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with God’s love and show you ways to love others during your day! And pray that they will experience the love of Jesus that will change their life!

SLIDE -> Bottom Line

“[Bottom Line] “The love of Jesus changes people. Say that with me.”

KIDS AND HOST: [Bottom Line] “The love of Jesus changes people.”

SLIDE -> Memory Verse

### Memory Verse

“I give you a new command. Love one another. You must love one another, just as I have loved you.” • John 13:34 NIRV

5 MINUTES

# TALK IT OUT



Now, before we move on, I have a question for you... (lean in and whisper) do you know what time it is?

It's time to... (pause, cup your hand to your ear) **TALK IT OUT!**

That means it's your turn to do the talking! You get to share your thoughts, ask questions, and see how this story connects to YOUR life.

So, let's put on our 'thinking caps' ... zip up our listening ears... and get ready to Talk. It. Out!"

SLIDE -> Talk It Out

## Talk It Out Questions

- Who did Zacchaeus want to see?  
(Answer: Jesus)
- What did Zacchaeus do to see Jesus because he was too short?  
(Answer: He climbed a tree)
- How did Jesus show Zacchaeus that He loved him?  
(Answer: Jesus called him by name and said He would stay at his house)
- What did Zacchaeus do after he met Jesus?  
(Answer: He gave money to the poor and paid back anyone he had cheated)
- What is our Bottom Line from today's story?  
(Answer: The love of Jesus changes people)
- What does the love of Jesus do?  
(The love of Jesus changes people from inside out.)

**5 MINUTES**

# Prayer

## Prayer

“Dear God, thank You that Your love is so powerful it changes people from the inside out. Thank You for loving us as we are, but also loving us so much that we don’t stay the way we are. Help us to remember Your deep, personal love for us every day, just like You showed Zacchaeus. Holy Spirit, would You fill us with Your power so we can boldly share that love with the people around us? We love You, and we pray these in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

Transition → Dismiss kids to their small groups.  
AUDIO -> Play high-energy music as the kids exit.  
SLIDE -> Theme  
Optional Video (MEDIA PACKAGE) → Theme Loop