

# City SG—June 12-14, 2021

**Today's Bible Story:** You Say (God So Loved the World) • *John 3:16* (supporting: *John 3:1-21*)

**Today's Bottom Line:** You can be confident because God loves you.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** Here is something I am still sure of. I will see the Lord's goodness while I'm still alive. (Psalm 27:13 NIV)

## 1. Opening Activity

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Direct kids to partner up.
- Instruct each pair to come up with a "talent" they can perform in front of the group.
- Share examples:
  - sing a song
  - invent a dance move
  - tell a joke
  - share a cool play from basketball or football (or another sport)
  - act-out a scene from a favorite movie
- If kids don't want to perform, help them see that their role in the performance is important, too. (For example, you can point out that they helped come up with the idea, make up the dance moves for the dance, or the words for the song, etc.)
- Allow each set of kids to perform their talent in front of the group.

**What You Say:**

"I really enjoyed watching all of your talents! Way to get out there and show everyone your creative side! Sometimes it can be difficult to step out of our comfort zone and do something we've never done before—like perform in front of each other."

## 2. Big Love, Big Story

**What You Need:** "Big Love, Big Story" Page (1 per child), hand sanitizer, markers

**What You Do:**

- Give every kid one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Give each kid a "Big Love, Big Story" Page.
- Instruct kids to fold their paper like a book.
- Set out markers for your group to share.
- Encourage kids to pair up and work together to complete the inside pages of their books.
- Instruct the kids to decorate their books and draw themselves on the cover.

**What You Say:**

"Nicodemus was really smart and knew a lot about God, but what he didn't know was how to have a relationship with God. The night Nicodemus came to visit Jesus, he learned that when we decide to follow Jesus, we get to have a relationship with Him."

“When Jesus talked with Nicodemus, Jesus used some words that can be confusing. He said that we need to be ‘born again.’ What that means is just like when you are a baby, you are brand new. You start something new. When we choose to follow Jesus, we are born again. We get a fresh start with God. We start a brand-new relationship with Jesus that will last forever.

“You know what else happens when you decide to follow Jesus? You become a part of God’s story, just like this little book we made! You’re born again, you start a new relationship with God, and you get to live knowing **[Bottom Line] you can be confident because God loves you.**”

### 3. Confident Because

**What You Need:** Sticky notes, pens/markers, (optional) smartphone to play worship music

#### What You Do:

- Give each kid the same number of sticky notes as the number of kids, except for themselves. (If you have eight kids, give each kid seven sticky notes.)
- Instruct the kids to write something they like about each person in the group on their sticky notes.
- Guide the kids to stick to writing something that speaks to who a person is not what they have.
  - For example, they could say, “I really like the way you are kind to everyone!” Instead of, “I like your shoes.”
- Instruct the kids to write one note compliment to everyone in the group—and no more than one.
- Once kids finish writing their notes, direct them to stand up.
- Play some fun music from your phone (optional) and encourage the kids to walk around sticking the notes on each kid’s back.
- Once the game is over, encourage kids to sit down, pull the notes off their backs, and read the things everyone likes about them.
- Encourage kids to take their notes home with them and put them up in their room.

*Note: If the kids in your group don’t know each other at all, take a few minutes to let them share about what’s important to them. Ask them what they like to do, what sports or instruments they play, what they like about school, etc.*

#### What You Say:

“Since all these people like all of these things about you, imagine how much God loves you and what He thinks about you! What are some awesome things you believe God thinks about us? (Allow time for responses.) It’s always a good idea to remind ourselves what God thinks of us!

**[Make it Personal] (Share a time when you had a lack of confidence, but you reminded yourself what God thinks about you.)** I want you to take your notes home with you today and remember that **[Bottom Line] you can be confident because God loves you.** If you find yourself doubting this truth or losing confidence this week, look at your notes and remind yourself how we love you and that God loves you even more!”

#### **4. Pray and Dismiss**

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- Before praying, encourage the kids to think of an area where they need confidence and to trust God's love. (something that discourages them like math or reading, a tough situation with a friend or family member, etc.)
- After a few moments of silence for the kids to think, pray with your kids.

**What You Say:**

"Dear God, thank You for being the God we can always have confidence in! You are such a good God. Thank You for loving us and caring about the areas where we need confidence. This week, please help us remember that we can have confidence because You love us. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen!"

**Remind kids to grab a God Times Sheet (you can start working on them if you still have time in class), and if they bring them back completed next weekend, they will get a prize.**