

CITY LG – June 3-5, 2023

Today's Bible Story: I'm a Believer (Paul Becomes a Believer) • Acts 9:1-9

Today's Bottom Line: Knowing Jesus changes how you see things.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see.* Hebrews 11:1 (NirV)

WORSHIP:

For Your Glory
He Has Won

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups.

NOTE: This is the first week for our brand new first graders so please make sure they know where to sit for groups.

"Hey, everybody! I'm [your name], and I'm so glad we're all here together in the CITY! We have some very special people in here with us today! Where are our brand new first graders?? Make some noise first graders!! We are so glad you are in the City now! Second and third graders...what are some things we should make sure our first graders know? (*Give kids time to answer. They may need prompting but make sure they cover:*

- Bathroom procedures
- What they can do each week when they first come in
- What rugs are for first graders
- God time cards...show them and what happens when they return each week
- Schedule: worship, LG (Story Lab videos), SG
- Offering

Well, now that we have officially welcomed our awesome first graders, let's get to it. This whole summer, we're talking about something really important. We're talking about FAITH.

SLIDE: Virtue

"Faith is trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see.

SLIDE: Theme

"We can put our faith in Jesus, even though we can't see Him with our eyes. We know that the way Jesus taught us to live is the very BEST way to live. When we follow Jesus, He MOVES us to share His love here, there, and everywhere.

"Today, we're playing a game that has to do with some different ways you can MOVE . . . in the water! Perfect for the beginning of summer! Let's pretend that the floor out there is a lake or ocean. Everyone tread water. (*Act like you're treading water.*) Good job. You're such strong swimmers!

There are three moves you can make in this game: surfing (*do a surfer stance*), water skiing (*do a water skiing stance*), and canoeing (*do a canoeing motion*). Let me teach you how to do those motions.

“First, let’s be surfers. You’ll do a surfer stance and say, ‘Hang ten!’

Have everybody try it together.

“Okay, now we’ll be water skiers. You’ll do a water-skiing stance and say, ‘Speed up the boat!’

Have everybody try it together. Do a thumbs-up when you say, “Speed up the boat!”

“And last, let’s be canoers. Use your oars like this (*demonstrate*), and say, ‘Ugh! My arms!’

Have everybody try it together.

“Okay, when I say ‘move,’ everybody will pick one of those three poses: surfer, water skier, or canoer. Then we’ll all watch the screen together. If your pose ends up on the screen, you get to stay in the game. If not, you’re out of this round, and you’ll sit against the wall. But these first couple of rounds are just for practice. Everybody get ready to pick your pose. Ready, set, move!

SLIDES: Game Slides 1-3 (Surfing, Water Skiing, Canoeing)—one slide at random for each round on the LG Leader’s cue

AUDIO: Play Spotify playlist

Have the person at the tech computer choose randomly which image will be on the screen each time. Play as many rounds as time allows and congratulate the kids still “in” at the end.

SLIDE: Theme

Over the past several months, we’ve been moving through God’s Big Story in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*)

“We’ve seen how God sent Jesus to be our Savior. We’ve seen how Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Then He came back to life! After Jesus returned to heaven, the early church grew quickly with the help of God’s Spirit.

“In the book of Acts, we can read stories about the church in those early days. When the believers ran into trouble in Jerusalem, many of them scattered to other places. But they took the news about Jesus everywhere they went . . . just as Jesus had told them to do.”

“Now let’s get into our story today, check out the Story Lab...

Bible Story Video

“When Saul saw the bright light and heard the voice of Jesus, it changed everything for him. Instead of trying to stop the followers of Jesus, Saul himself became a follower of Jesus!

“The same thing can happen for you and me today. As we get to know Jesus, we’ll start to see things differently because . . .

VIDEO: Bottom Line
SLIDE: Bottom Line

Let's try that together... **"Knowing Jesus changes how you see things.**

"We can decide to put our faith in Jesus and practice how He told us to live. After all, Jesus loves us more than we could ever know! And as we learn to trust Jesus each day, we can grow to be more and more LIKE Jesus.

"Knowing Jesus changes the way you see yourself. It helps you understand that you're a child of God. Knowing Jesus also changes the way you see other people. You'll see how valuable people are, because they're made in the image of God. You'll start to see what other people need, and you'll want to do something to help!

"Let's look at our new memory verse, Hebrews 11:1. This verse will help us remember what faith is all about.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see. (Hebrews 11:1, NIV)

"Will you pray with me? Dear God, thank You so much for the story of Saul. It reminds us that You love us and that as we get to know You, You can change the way we see things. Help us see and love other people the way You do. Give us the courage to put our faith in You, because we know that we can trust You no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

OFFERING:

We are going to raising money for something new this summer. For the next 3 months, our offering money will go to families in Kenya. They are experiencing a lack of food resources because of an on-going drought. And the food that is available costs a LOT of money! As you can see in these pictures, this is an area in Kenya called Turkana that is very rural and the people who live there do not have much money for food.

SLIDES: Kenya 1-4

We are working with an organization called Missions of Hope. Our money will help them make food baskets to bring the families who live in Turkana. The food baskets will be such a blessing to the children and families in this community who have no resources! If you have any offering you can bring it up now.

CG: Summer JAM Slide

"It's almost time for Summer Jam! It's coming up very soon and we're so excited to invite you to these 3 nights jam-packed with FUN and Adventure! You won't want to miss it. Tell whoever brought you that you need to visit the Summer Jam Tent after our time together today to sign up and get your t shirt!"

****AT YOUR COORDINATOR'S DIRECTION, YOU WILL EITHER DISMISS TO SMALL GROUP OR DO ACTIVITIES TOGETHER.**