

## **RB Kids September 2018 Elementary Service Enhancements**

August 30 & September 2--**Offer next steps in following God toward the end of large group. Feel free to personalize or localize this, but make it intentional and excellent. (Draw Near #5)**

Before the final worship song and giving time, say, **"I wish we spent more time learning about the Holy Spirit! When we understand that the Holy Spirit is with each and every Christian we can really understand how God draws near to us. The Holy Spirit IS God and the Holy Spirit IS Jesus. So when we recognize how the Holy Spirit works in our lives we draw near to God. But not all of us have the Holy Spirit in our lives--only those who follow Jesus have this great gift in our lives. In order to experience the Holy Spirit's work in our lives we must choose to follow Jesus with our lives"**

**"For some of us that might mean taking a FIRST step toward following Jesus today. If that's you, would you talk to your small group leader or kids minister today? Maybe some of you are already following Jesus, but you haven't made that choice public by being baptized. If you want to talk to someone today about being baptized you can also let me, or your SGL or your kids minister know. And maybe you've been following Jesus for awhile but you want some help to know how to be a good follower--maybe you're looking for a good devotional or you have a tough question. Maybe you need help learning how the Holy Spirit is ready to guide and lead you. Don't hesitate to ask, because that's also taking a next step."**

**"Finally, if you talk to your parents about one of these decisions, make sure your parents know they can call us and we would be glad to help!"**

Transition to the Worship and giving time.

September 6 & 9--**Share the Gospel (Draw Near #6) Again, feel free to share the gospel in your own words, but here is an outline.**

Before the final worship song and giving time, say, **"God always hears us and he's always there for us. But our relationship with Him goes both ways--God wants to hear from us, too. He always has time for us and he wants us to make time for Him. That shows us how big His love for us actually is! God loves us so much He wants to know each and every one of us! And his love goes even further--God demonstrated His love for us by sending Jesus to die on the cross to take our punishment. The Bible says that the punishment for sin is death--eternal separation from God. BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus. And we can accept that gift in this way...**

**A-Admit--We admit that we are sinners and our sin separates us from God. There is nothing we can do on our own to fix this problem so we turn away from our sin and ask God to forgive us.**

**B-Believe--We confess that we believe that Jesus, God's only Son, died for our sins and rose from the grave. He's alive! And we can have a real relationship with Him!**  
**C-Choose--We choose to follow Jesus forever, committing to grow closer to Him each day. We choose to make Jesus the most important person/relationship in our life.**

**Say, "If you want to talk more about what it means to follow Jesus for your whole life talk to your small group leader or our kids ministry director or me!**

Transition to the Worship and giving time.

September 13 & 16--**Show Baptisms--(Draw Near #7)**

**NOTE: To transition to baptism today, help kids understand that there's no better way to honor God for His faithfulness than with our obedience and devotion. Baptism is a wonderful way to demonstrate that devotion AND to declare our commitment to Jesus publicly!**

We want to make baptism more visible for our kids and so while our adults are viewing baptisms every third week of the month, we want our kids to be able to do that, too. So we will provide a video of recent Rock Bridge baptisms (could be from any RB campus, any age group). We want to insert this into our program right before our final worship song/giving time.

This is a great moment to remind kids that baptism is a step (a next step) in following Jesus after we have made our initial decision. The act of baptism does not make us a Christian, but our obedience to God in the act is important. Feel free to use your own words and comfortable language to describe this.

Finally, check with your campus kids minister to see if they might be planning to escort kids to watch baptisms live in your adult venues. This may not be possible depending on your campus configuration, but your kids minister will be looking for potential opportunities.

September 20 & 23--**LG Prayer Project-(Draw Near #8)**

Choose an appropriate time during the LG lesson to take some time to pray, preferably after the Bible story and Main Point emphasis. Tech volunteers should adjust lighting and background music to enhance the mood.

- **Ask kids to gather around a small group leader on their rug or another rug nearer to where they are sitting. Help kids prepare to sit still and be reverent during this time.**
- **Begin prayer time by asking kids to silently consider how they can praise God with their actions. Maybe it's giving, serving, helping, or just being quiet and still to think about God's greatness.**
- **Ask small group leaders to pray thanking God for who He is and all the ways He blesses us. Ask God to show us new ways we can praise Him and be a good example to those around us. (Allow 1 minute)**

- **Ask kids to pray silently about how they can praise God with their actions. Encourage kids to lean into the Holy Spirit to guide, encourage and nudge them in moments in their lives when God deserves praise. (Allow one minute)**
- **Close the time of prayer with a prayer of praise!**

Transition to the next element of LG.

**September 27 & 30--Invitational Focus (Draw Near #9)**

On the fifth Sunday of the month we will have an outreach focus. During today's large group we will encourage kids to invite friends to the church's Fall Festival OR a fall outing of their own.

Say, **"Today we learned that there's no better place to be than in God's presence. Maybe you've felt God's presence closely and you can understand what Moses experienced. But have you ever thought that there are so many kids in our community who have no idea how great it is to be with God? How can we help them know?"**

**"We have a cool opportunity coming soon to help kids and families get connected with church. What happens when the days start to get shorter and the weather starts to get cooler? Right, autumn begins and with autumn comes Fall Festivals. Everybody loves Fall Festivals, right? Wouldn't it be a great way to introduce families to our church by inviting them to our Fall Festival? (If your campus does not have a public Fall Festival, encourage kids to partner with their parents to invite some friends to go to a farm/orchard/festival on their own.**

**"When we spend time with friends they begin to wonder what's different about us. And that gives us a chance to introduce them to Jesus. We can invite them to church or we can even share the Gospel with them!"**

**"Who's interested in inviting friends to a Fall Festival? Starting next week we will have an invitation you can use to invite friends to a FF or even create your own Fall experience!"**

Transition to the next worship element.