



# Kids Club

Leader Guide

Nov.

Week 3

November 17th

# DEFINED

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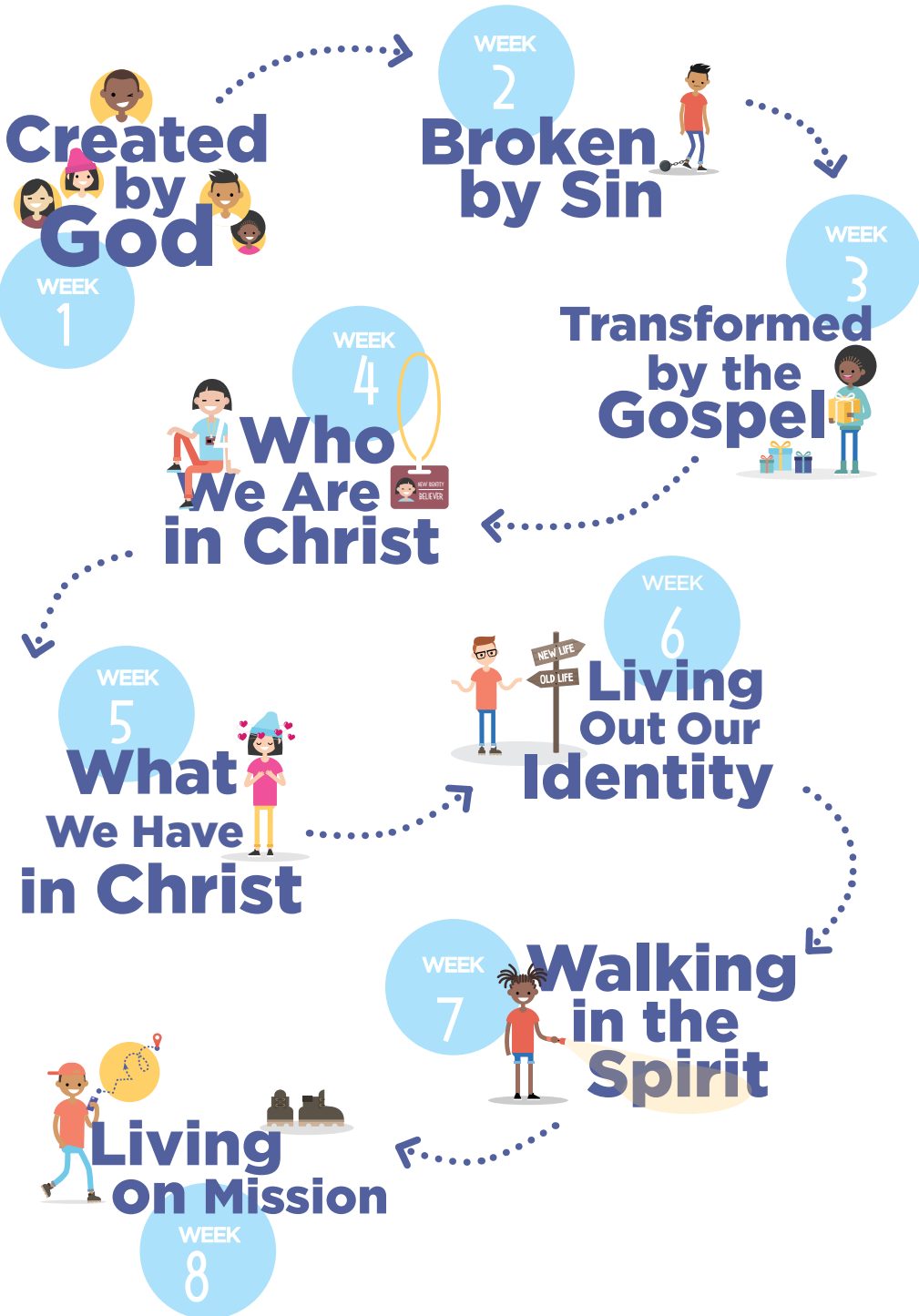
WHO GOD SAYS YOU ARE

AN 8-WEEK STUDY ON IDENTITY FOR KIDS



Leader Guide

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## **WHAT HAPPENS IN EACH SESSION?**

Each session is divided into the following parts:

**INITIATE (INTRODUCTION 5 min.)** — As soon as they arrive, kids will play games or do quick activities to pique their interest in what they will learn during the session.

**INQUIRE (BIBLE STUDY 10 min.) \*\*Snack Time** — Kids will hear a Bible story, learn about a specific part of their identity to grow closer to God, discover how to put into practice the specific ways they learn, review the memory passage, pray, and apply biblical truths to their lives.

**INVESTIGATE (BIBLE STUDY ACTIVITIES 10 min.)** — Kids will participate in activities that help them internalize the learning and express ways they can use what they learn. Two activities are suggested for each session. You may use these in different ways: form small groups to work with different teachers at the same time or conduct both activities consecutively. This is also a perfect time to go through the Activity Books to dive deeper into the discussion.

**INCREASE (CONCLUSION-5min)** — During this time, kids will review both the Bible story and the application of what they studied during the session. They will have a prayer time and end the session with an active game related to what they have studied.

**FREE PLAY (CONCLUSION- 30min)**

# Walking in the Spirit



## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT—

the results of the Holy Spirit's workings in the lives of believers

When a person is guided by the Holy Spirit, the results are peace, love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



### KNOW

The Holy Spirit guides us as we live for God's glory.



### UNDERSTAND

The Holy Spirit shows us our sin and helps us make God-honoring choices.



### DISCOVER

The Holy Spirit changes the way we think and act to be more like Jesus.

# INITIATE

## You Will Need:

**Item 25:** “You’ve Got Mail” 2 copies

Tape, newsprint, or other paper for making paper balls, and a large container such as a trash can, 20 small envelopes

## To Do:

Cut out each letter of H-O-L-Y S-P-I-R-I-T and put one letter in each envelope. Keep 2 sets separate.

## Teaching Tip:

To make this game more challenging for older kids, mark off three masking tape lines and label them 1, 2, and 3 to indicate how many pieces of mail the team earns if their shot makes it into the trash can. Be sure to make the tape lines an appropriate distance from the trash can.

## YOU’VE GOT MAIL

- Form two teams. Explain that team players will crumple up sheets of paper and try to toss them into the container. Players from both teams may toss at the same time, but only one player from each team can play at a time.
- Note that if a player gets the ball in the container, he earns one piece of mail (“You’ve Got Mail!”) for his team. When a team has collected 10 pieces of mail, the players on the team open the envelopes and arrange the letters to form two words. The team who finishes first is the winner.
- After the game is played explain that most people like to receive mail either on paper, as an email, or as a text message. Mention that in Bible times, people received letters written on scrolls, and the scrolls were often passed around to many groups of people.
- Encourage the kids to listen and find out how mail and the Holy Spirit are important in today’s Bible story.



# INQUIRE

**You Will Need:**

Item 4: “Key Passage Poster”

**To Do:**

Print the above items and prepare as directed. Bookmark John 16 and Galatians 5 in a Bible.

**Teaching Tip:**

Use this memory game to help your group remember the fruit of the Spirit. The first three listed are one-syllable words (peace, love, joy). The second set of three are two-syllable words (patience, kindness, goodness). The last set of three are three-syllable words (faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control).

**OPEN UP: PASS THE MARBLE**

- Direct kids to locate the Table of Contents in their Bibles and find Romans in the list of books. Ask kids to start at Romans, then count 13 books down. Call on a volunteer to tell what the thirteenth book is. (*Philemon*) Explain that Paul wrote each of these 13 Bible books, but they weren't called books when they were first written. These were letters written by Paul to other Christians.
- Explain that Paul traveled to many countries and started churches. He also spent time in prison for preaching about Jesus, so Paul used letters to instruct and encourage new believers in new churches. He wanted churches to share their letters with each other to learn more about following Jesus. Have kids open to Galatians 5.

## TELL THE BIBLE STORY: WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Paul wrote a letter to the Christians in Galatia. Galatia was a province in Rome, and many of the Christians there were Gentiles, or non-Jews. Paul explained that God changes people who trust in Jesus. God gives them the Holy Spirit, who guides them and gives them power to become more like Jesus. Paul wrote that the Holy Spirit changes the way we think and act. He wanted believers to know that if you let the Holy Spirit guide you, you will do what God wants instead of what you want.

When sin is in control, we do wrong things. We show hatred, jealousy, anger, selfishness, and greed. We fight and get into trouble. People who live like this will not enter God's kingdom. But Jesus frees us from the power of sin. His Holy Spirit lives in us and gives us power to do what is right.

When the Holy Spirit is in control, people choose love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These actions are the fruit of the Spirit—proof that the Spirit is in someone—like how a healthy tree produces fruit. This fruit pleases God. Paul wrote that when we trust in Jesus, we no longer want to do whatever pleases ourselves. The Holy Spirit gives us power to say no to things like hatred, jealousy, anger, selfishness, and greed. The more we know Jesus, the more we will choose actions like joy, kindness, and self-control. We will want to live to please God. Since the Holy Spirit lives in us, we must let the Holy Spirit guide us.

— based on Galatians 5

## MAKE THE CONNECTION

- Paul talked about love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control as the fruit of the Spirit. When we believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit naturally begins to grow those attributes in our lives. Jesus taught that you can tell who is a true follower of Him based on what their lives look like. (See Matt. 7:15-20.)
- The Holy Spirit changes the way we think and act to be more like Jesus. Just like an apple seed takes a long time to grow into an apple tree and produce apples, it takes time for us to grow in our faith. But when the “seed” of the gospel is growing in your life, the “fruit” your life produces will be the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- When we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit begins to change us. Paul told the believers at the church in Galatia how to recognize that God is working in someone's life. People who are saved by Jesus become more like Him, and the Holy Spirit gives them power to say no to sin and to live in a way that pleases God.



## DEEPER STUDY

- Explain that Paul wrote many important letters to the churches that kids can find and read about in their Bibles.

From Paul to the church in Ephesus:

Imitate God as dearly loved children, and walk in love. Jesus loved us and gave Himself for us. Sin should not be heard about among you. Foolish words and crude joking are not suitable, but rather give thanks. Control your life with love just as Jesus loved us and gave Himself for us.

Don't let anyone deceive you with empty arguments. God's judgment is coming on the disobedient because of these things. Don't partner with them. You were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light consists of all goodness, righteousness and truth. Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness and sin.

Pay careful attention to how you live—not as unwise people but as wise—making use of every opportunity to do good. Don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Be filled with the Spirit: speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and songs to the Lord, making music with your heart to the Lord. Always give thanks for everything to God in the name of Jesus. Do these things because of your love for Jesus Christ.

- based on Ephesians 5:1-21

- Ask if kids heard any similar words in these two letters? (*Holy Spirit, fruit, and so forth*) Mention that the Bible helps us know at least three things about the Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.
- Explain that Galatians 5:16-17 tells us that the Spirit helps believers make God-honoring choices. Then in Galatians 5:22-25 we find that the Holy Spirit changes the way we think and act so that we will be more like Jesus.
- Guide boys and girls to locate Ephesians 5:15 in their Bibles. Ask them what the verse instructs them to do. (*Live wisely.*) Inquire how they could do this, reminding them that the Holy Spirit guides believers to make God-honoring choices.



## MEMORIZE

- Call attention to the “Key Passage Poster.” Lead the group to read aloud the entire passage together. Remind kids that they began learning verses 2-3 during the last session, but the group will continue memorizing them this week. Point out that verse 1 is important to remember as they begin verse 2, because it is really the first part of the sentence continued in verse 2. Mention that verses 1-3 all tell what being dead in sin is like.
- Point out the Bible verse phrases around the room. Explain that you will play music as kids walk around the room. Note that when the music stops, kids will place a hand on the poster nearest them. More than one person may touch the same poster.
- Play the music for a few seconds. Stop the music and wait as kids move to different posters. Call attention to the numbers on the posters. Explain that kids at each poster will read the posters in number order to practice Ephesians 2:2. (If no one is at a poster, invite the whole group to read it.) Let kids touching the first poster read first, then the second, and so forth. Repeat the activity for several rounds.
- Cover the numbers on the poster with sticky notes. Play the game again and let students try to remember the verse order without them. Change the posters to the “Ephesians 2:3” set and play again.

## PRAY

- Suggest kids follow the example in Ephesians 5:20 by thanking God in prayer. Explain that you will mention different prompts, then wait as kids pray silent prayers of thanks. Remind kids to sit respectfully and quietly as they pray silently. For younger kids, use comments such as: Thank God for something you like outdoors. Thank God for the way He takes care of you. Thank God for one of your favorite people. Thank God for your favorite Bible story. Thank God for the Bible. End with “Amen.”

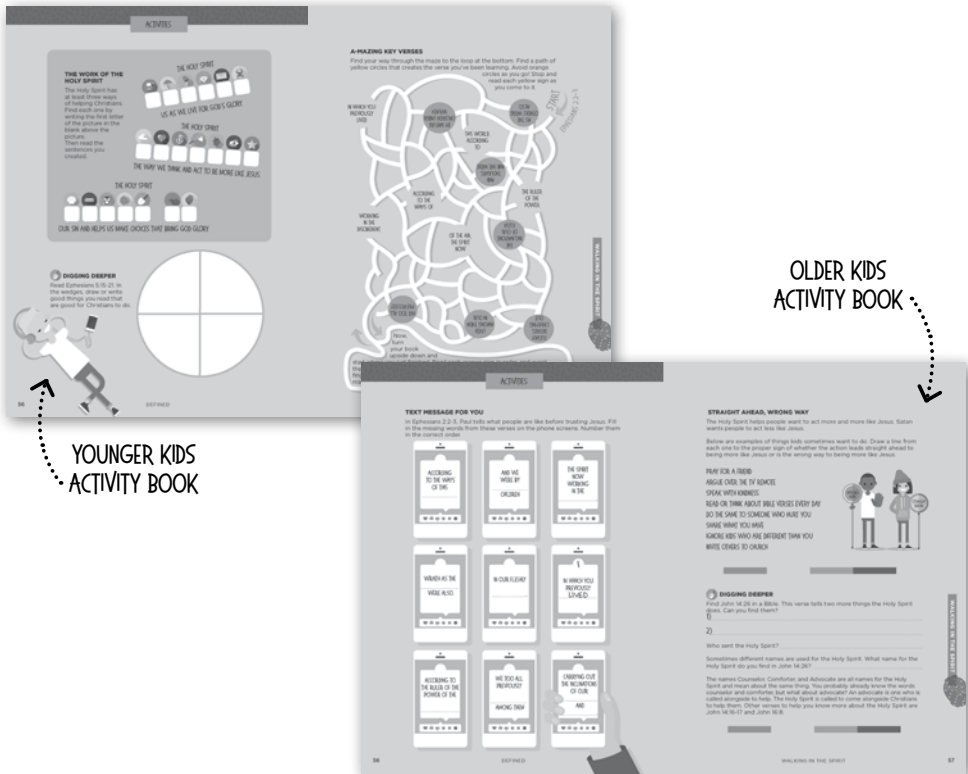


# INVESTIGATE

## You Will Need:

Activity Books, pencils

- Transition kids into small groups, forming an older group and a younger group. If you have a large group of either older or younger kids, form groups of about 5 or 6 kids. Distribute the Activity Books and pencils.
- Complete the activity book pages for this session. As kids work, talk with them about today's Bible story and discuss the fruit of the Spirit.
- Point out the pages for kids to complete at home this week. Explain that working on the pages can help them learn more about walking in the Spirit and living for Jesus. Encourage kids to continue their study during the coming week.



## HOW DO YOU STACK UP?

### **You Will Need:**

Paper, pencils, stopwatch or watch with a second hand, plastic cups  
Optional: yardstick

### **To Do:**

Read Ephesians 2:2-3 before the session and decide what phrases you will use in the game and what key words you can leave out for kids to answer.

### **Teaching Tip:**

Consider posting the “Ephesians 2:2” and “Ephesians 2:3” posters used earlier in the session. After a few rounds of play, remove the posters.

- Lead kids to repeat together as much of Ephesians 2:2-3 from memory as they can. Challenge kids to play a game to help them continue memorizing the verses.
- Form pairs of kids. (If you have an uneven number, three kids can work on a team.) Give each kid a piece of paper and a pencil. Explain that you will read a phrase from the verses, leaving out an important word from the phrase. Tell kids they will each write down what they think is the missing word. Partners may talk together. When you call time, kids reveal their answers. Every pair that answered correctly is awarded one cup.
- Do a practice round to be sure kids understand the directions. Direct the kids to set aside the cups they earn. Continue to read a phrase from the verses, leaving out one or two words. Allow a few seconds for kids to think and write their answers. Again, award pairs a cup for every right answer. Keep going until you only have two or three minutes left to play.
- Announce that kids will now work with their partners to build the highest tower they can with the number of cups they earned. Explain that each pair can build the tower any way they want. Point out that using a good design might mean that a pair with fewer cups could still win the game.
- Time the kids for about two minutes. When you call time, every pair must stop work immediately.
- Check all the towers. Measure them with a yardstick if needed. Declare the winner, but praise everyone for the work they have done.
- Lead the group to repeat Ephesians 2:3-4 together by memory.