



Kids Club

Leader Guide

Nov.

Week 2

November 10th

DEFINED

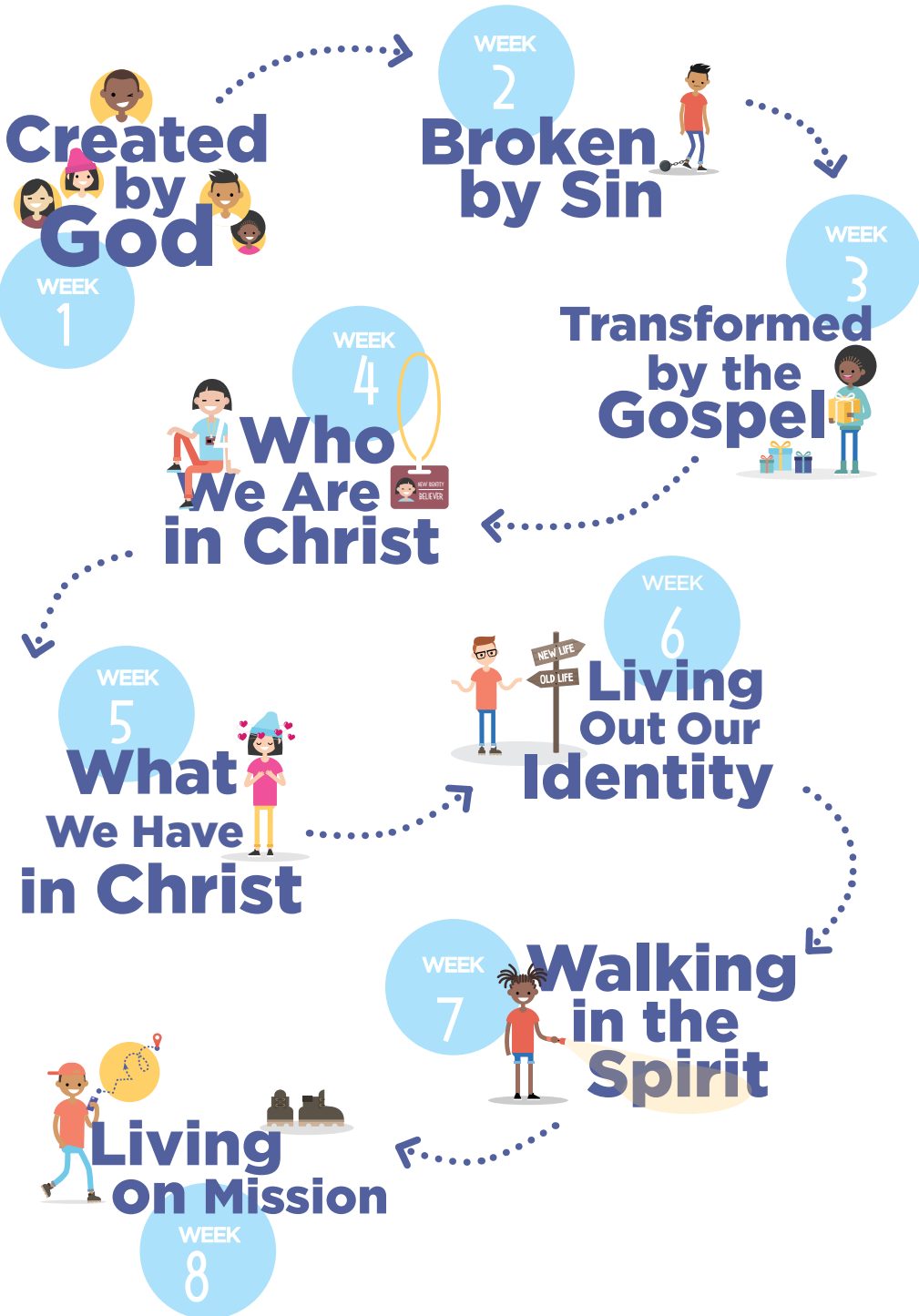
WHO GOD SAYS YOU ARE

AN 8-WEEK STUDY ON IDENTITY FOR KIDS



Leader Guide

TABLE OF CONTENTS



WHAT HAPPENS IN EACH SESSION?

Each session is divided into the following parts:

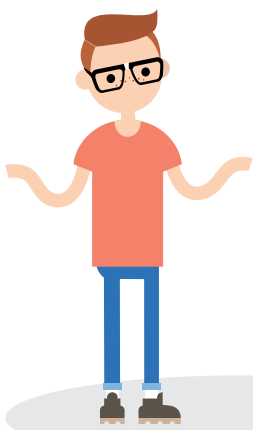
INITIATE (INTRODUCTION 5 min.) — As soon as they arrive, kids will play games or do quick activities to pique their interest in what they will learn during the session.

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)



Living Out Our Identity



IDENTITY IN CHRIST—

Who God says you are

When a person becomes a Christian, her identity is changed. The person looks the same on the outside, but she is a different person in the ways she thinks, feels, and acts.



KNOW

We are responsible for our choices.



UNDERSTAND

Christians still sin because we have hearts that want to sin, but we can say no to sin by asking God for help.



DISCOVER

As disciples we grow in our faith and knowledge of Jesus.

INITIATE

Teaching Tip:

The trick to this activity is to keep it moving. The faster, the better! If any kids don't yet know their right from their left, put a piece of tape on the child's right hand.

RIGHT, LEFT

- Welcome kids as they arrive. Instruct kids to stand facing you, about an arm's width from each other.
- Explain that you will call out either right or left, and kids will turn that direction as quickly as they can. At first, alternate calling left and right, but gradually speed up the calling. Then begin calling either left or right at least two times in a row. Call out directions as fast as kids can follow them.
- Increase difficulty by leading kids to jog in place, stand on one foot, and so forth while they make the directed right or left turns.
- Comment that some people think the Bible is mostly just rules about what to do and what not to do. While there certainly are instructions about how to live, the Bible is not just a list of rules God wants us to follow.
- Mention that we have been studying what the Bible says about our identity—who we are in Christ. The Book of Ephesians, like most of Paul's letters, begins with a reminder of the gospel before giving instructions about how to live. This helps us remember that God's love for us is what causes our obedience. The gospel transforms us from the inside out. Our minds and hearts change to understand God better and love Him more, and then our behavior changes because of our new thoughts and new desires.



INQUIRE

You Will Need:

Item 4: “KeyPassage Poster”

Item 19: “PeterDid”

Item 20: “Prayer Posters”

Tape and markers

To Do:

Display each of the “Peter Did” statements on a different wall.

Post each “Prayer Poster” in a different part of the room. Place a marker with each sheet.

Teaching Tip:

If you teach younger kids or very active kids, tell each part of the Bible story in a different part of the room with the kids either standing to listen or sitting on the floor.

OPEN UP: RIGHT, LEFT REMIX

- Comment that today’s Bible story is about Peter, one of Jesus’ disciples. Explain that the group will examine Peter’s life to learn about living out their identity as followers of Jesus.
- Direct kids to play the “Right, Left” game once more to find out some facts about Peter. Give turn directions until kids face one of the “Peter Did” posters. Call on a volunteer to read the poster. Give directions for kids to turn so they face another poster. Continue until all the posters have been faced and read. Urge the kids to listen and find out more about the disciple Peter.
- Open your Bible to Luke 22 as you tell the following Bible story in your own words.

TELL THE BIBLE STORY: PETER DENIED JESUS AND WAS FORGIVEN

On the night before Jesus was crucified, Peter shared the Passover supper with Jesus and the other disciples. Jesus said, "Peter, look out. Satan will test you, but I prayed that your faith will not fail." Jesus encouraged Peter to come back to the disciples after Satan tested him and help them grow strong and stay true to Jesus.

Peter didn't understand what Jesus meant. "Lord, I am ready to go with you even to prison or to die." Jesus said, "Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know Me."

Later that night, Jesus was arrested. Peter followed at a distance. In the courtyard a servant saw Peter and said, "This man was with Jesus." Peter responded, "I don't know Him!"

Someone else came and said, "You are one of His followers!" Peter said, "No, I am not!"

About an hour later, a third person insisted, "He is from Galilee. He was with Jesus." Again Peter said, "I don't know what you are talking about!" Just then, the rooster crowed and Jesus turned to look at Peter. Peter remembered Jesus' words to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." Peter hurried away; he wept bitterly over what he had done.

After Jesus died and rose from the dead, Jesus revealed Himself to His disciples. Peter and some of the other disciples were fishing. They had not caught any fish all night long. At sunrise, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not recognize Him. "Friends," Jesus called out, "you don't have any fish, do you?" "No," they replied. Jesus told the men to throw their net on the right side of the boat to find fish. As soon as they did, the net was full of fish!

One of the disciples said, "It is the Lord!" When Peter heard that it was the Lord, he jumped into the water and swam ashore. Jesus and the disciples ate breakfast together on the shore.

After breakfast, Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Peter answered, "Yes, Lord. You know I do!" "Feed my lambs," Jesus told him. A second time Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" "Yes, Lord," Peter responded. "You know that I love you. Shepherd my sheep," Jesus told him. A third time, Jesus asked, "Peter, do you love me?" Peter was sad that he asked him the third time. Peter responded, "Lord, you know everything; you



know that I love you.” “Feed my sheep,” Jesus said again. After saying this, Jesus told Peter, “Follow me.”

Later, Peter was with the other disciples in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came and they spoke in many languages. When other people wondered what was happening, Peter stood up and preached to the crowd. He told the people that Jesus was the promised Messiah. Peter told the people to repent of their sin and be baptized. That day about 3,000 people believed in Jesus!

— based on Luke 22:31-34; 54-62; John 21:1-19; Acts 2

MAKE THE CONNECTION

- Peter was a follower of Jesus. He loved Jesus, but when he was tempted, Peter sinned and denied Jesus three times. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to Peter. Jesus reminded Peter who he was, a follower of Jesus who loved Him. Remind kids that Christians continue to sin because we have a sin nature—we still have hearts that want to sin. One day when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.
- Emphasize that everyone is responsible for the choices they make, but when a person confesses sin to Jesus and asks for forgiveness, He forgives them. Jesus welcomed Peter, forgave him, and reminded him of his identity and purpose. God called Peter and set him apart for His glory to bring many people to trust in Jesus as Savior. Peter grew in his faith and his knowledge of Jesus, just as all believers do when they live for Jesus.

DEEPER STUDY

- Direct kids to locate Ephesians 4 in their Bibles. Explain that Paul reminded the church in Ephesus what it meant to live out their faith. Invite a volunteer to read Ephesians 4:22-24. Comment that Paul talked about a person taking off his old self and putting on a new one. Paul described living out identity in Jesus like taking off your old identity—broken in sin, and putting on a new identity—child of God!
- Explain that apart from Jesus, we are sinners and we cannot obey God. We are separated from Him, and there is nothing we can do on our own to change that. Thankfully, God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sin and rise again to defeat death. When we believe in Jesus, He sends the Holy Spirit to live in us and transform everything about us.
- Remind kids that God promises to change us when we believe in Jesus. There are two changes that happen when we trust in Him. The first change is called justification, and it is the change in our status before God. We go from “guilty” because of sin to “not guilty” because of Jesus’ perfect

righteousness. God changes our identity from broken by sin to child of God.

- The second change takes time, but it is a result of God’s power too. This change is called sanctification. It is the change that happens in us little by little to make us think and behave more like Jesus. As we grow we are in the process of becoming what God has already declared us to be. Without the gospel, these amazing changes would be impossible. With God’s power through the gospel, anything is possible!
- Instruct the kids to look in verses 25-32 and call out ways believers should act because the Holy Spirit lives inside them. Remark that God’s love for us is what causes our obedience. The gospel transforms us. Our minds and hearts change to understand God better and love Him more, and then our behavior changes because of our new thoughts and new desires.

MEMORIZE

- Call attention to the “Key Passage Poster.” Point out that kids have worked to memorize all the verses of the passage except verse 2 and verse 3. Explain that the two verses go together. We have waited to learn them now to remind us of our identity before Christ. Knowing who we are in Christ and remembering who we were before Christ reminds us to worship God for saving us and motivates us to tell others about Him.
- Lead the kids to read Ephesians 2:1-3. Call attention to the two verses being much like the verses they just studied in Ephesians 4. These verses tell about a person’s life before a new identity in Christ. Then read Ephesians 2:4-7 to show how a person changes when he trusts Jesus.
- Form two groups and lead the groups to face each other. Explain that one group will read the “Key Passage Poster” from the beginning of verse 1 to the first comma or period. The other group will read from that point to the next comma or period. Groups will alternate reading between the punctuation marks all the way to the end of verse 3. Practice the verses this way two or three times. Alternate which group begins the reading.

PRAY

- Post each “Prayer Poster” in a different part of the room. Invite a volunteer to write *Thanks* on one of the sheets. Other volunteers may print *Praise*, *Help for Others*, *Help for Ourselves* on other papers.
- Explain that kids will move to different posters and pray quietly to God about the title on the paper. After praying, the child will add her initials to the poster and move to another poster. Encourage the kids to pray thoughtfully, respectfully, and quietly. Close the group in prayer.



INVESTIGATE

You Will Need:

Activity Books, pencils

- Transition kids into small groups, guiding kids to form 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.
- Review last week's daily pages with the group, allowing kids to share what God has been teaching them.
- Complete the Activity Book activities for this session. As kids work, talk with them about today's Bible story and about living out their identity as followers of Jesus.
- Remind kids that following Jesus is not always easy, but it is always worth it. The Holy Spirit helps Christians by guiding us as we live for God's glory.
- Point out the pages for kids to complete at home. Explain that working on the pages can help them learn more about living out their identity. Encourage kids to continue their study during the coming week.



INCREASE

You Will Need:

Item 4: “Key Passage Poster”

**Three-corner statements on following page.

- Lead kids to play a three-corner game. Designate one corner of the room as *True*, another as *False*, and another as *Not in the Bible story*. All players stand in the middle of the playing area.
- Explain that you will read a statement. When you read the statement, say, “You are responsible for your own choices” and let kids move to the corner that tells whether the statement is true, false, or not in today’s Bible story. After kids make their choices and move, ask them why they made the choices they did. All kids return to the middle before you read another statement. Keep playing until all the statements have been used.
- Mention that Peter sometimes made good choices and sometimes made wrong choices, but either way, he was the one responsible for them. The good news is that Peter recognized his sin and Jesus forgave Him. Jesus helped Peter grow in his faith and knowledge of Jesus even though he had sinned. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help Christians recognize our sin, and guide us as we live for God’s glory.
- Call for a volunteer or other leader to lead in prayer thanking God for what He does in the lives of people who trust and follow Him.
- Remind kids of the daily Bible study pages in their activity books. Urge them to use those pages at home.
- Encourage kids to complete this session’s “Family Guide” with an adult at home. Distribute a “Family Guide” for this week’s session if needed.
- Lead the group to repeat/read Ephesians 2:1-10 from the “Key Passage Poster.” Tell kids they will continue working to memorize the key passage during the next session.

Peter went to jail with Jesus.

(False)

Jesus looked at Peter just after the rooster crowed.

(True)

Peter found a coin in a fish's mouth.

(True, but not in this story)

Jesus gave Peter a job to do.

(True)

Peter healed a man who could not walk.

(True, but not in this story)

Peter gave bread to the crowd while the other disciples preached about Jesus.

(False)

Peter and the disciples ate breakfast on the shore with Jesus.

(True)

Peter and the disciples fished all night and caught many fish before sunrise.

(False)

Jesus told Peter "Feed My sheep."

(True)

An angel led Peter out of jail to safety.

(True, but not in this story)

Peter preached to a big crowd when the Holy Spirit came on Him and the other disciples.

(True)