



Kids Club

Leader Guide

Jan

Week 4

Jan. 25, 2026

Spiritual Habits

Series Overview

This series will teach kids the importance of spending time with God while giving them practical ways to do so. First, we will start with God's Word, learning how the Bible reveals God's heart and ways to us. Next, we will learn about growing in God with other godly people and how we can build each other up in Jesus. We will then learn about prayer, how Jesus prayed to His Father constantly, and how we can do the same. Finally, we will learn how Jesus served us, and when we serve others, we find new ways to understand God's heart.

Lesson Overview

Today's lesson teaches how we can experience God in special ways when we serve others. Kids will learn directly from Jesus's example and how they can serve others the way Jesus did.

Lesson 4:

God Is With Us When We Serve Others – Mark 10:45, John 13:4-5, 14-15

Bottom Line:

When I serve others, I can learn new things about God.

Memory Verse (Series):

"I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." Psalm 119:11 (NLT)

Schedule

1. Welcome & Connection (10 minutes)

Kids check in, play together, and connect with leaders. Encourage older kids to include younger ones. Give prompts for questions the teacher can ask to build relationships. Lessons 2-4: review the previous lesson's take home challenge.

2. Group Gather & Bible Focus (10 minutes)

Short lesson with Scripture and discussion. This should be very engaging, with lots of opportunity for movement and kids participating.

3. Review & Practice(10 minutes)

Empower older kids to lead and model spiritual habits while everyone practices engaging with Scripture.

4. Prayer & Worship Practice (5 minutes)

Practice prayer or worship together. Choose a prayer activity or type of spiritual practice/worship to engage in together. Should be quiet and reflective.

5. Group Activity or Project (10 minutes)

Reinforce the truth that God has a plan through creative, hands-on fun and meaningful discussion. Ideally kids are working in pairs or groups. Either a game, craft, or other activity.

6. Wrap-Up & Structured Free Play (10 minutes)

Review the main point, play together, and give a take-home challenge.

SUPPLIES

1. Welcome & Connection

- Items for structured free play

2. Group Gather & Bible Focus

- Bibles
- Simple crown (plastic or paper)
- Apron or towel to tie around the waist
- Small bowl or basin
- Pitcher or cup with water
- Hand towel
- Chair for the “disciple”
- Paper towels for quick cleanup if needed

3. Review & Practice

- Bibles

4. Prayer & Worship Practice

- Soft instrumental worship music

5. Group Activity

- Colored paper (one sheet per child)
- Pens, markers, or crayons (enough for each child to write and decorate)
- Stickers (food-themed or fun decorative stickers, one sheet per child)
- Optional: small table or flat surface for kids to write on

Welcome & Connection (10 min)

As kids arrive, invite them into free play (coloring, games, playdoh, Legos, etc.). Actively coach older kids to notice younger kids and invite them into what they are doing. Play upbeat worship music as kids play/create.

Welcome, friends. Today we are learning how God meets us in special ways when we serve others, just like Jesus did. As you play, look for ways to include others and help each other, because serving can start with small choices.

Connection Prompts:

- What is something kind someone did for you recently?
- How does it feel when someone helps you?
- What is one way you like to help at home or at school?
- Who is someone you could help today?
- Why do you think helping others matters to God?

Give a two minute warning before transition.

Group Gather & Bible Focus (10 min)

We have spent the last few weeks learning different ways to grow closer to God.

We learned that God gave us the Bible so we can spend time with Him and learn what is true. We learned that godly friends help us grow wiser and closer to God.

And last week, we learned that we can talk to God about anything through prayer, and He always listens.

Today, we are learning something new. We can learn new things about God when we serve others.

Have kids stand up and do a simple motion. Ask them to pretend to help push something heavy, then pretend to pick something up for a friend, then give a thumbs up. Invite them to sit back down.

One way we get to know someone better is by doing the kinds of things they do. If your friend loves soccer and you play soccer with them, you learn more about them. If we want to learn more about Jesus, we can do the things Jesus did. One thing Jesus loved to do was serve others.

Have kids whisper to a neighbor one way they have helped someone before.

Let's read what Jesus said about this.

Read Mark 10:45 out loud.

Jesus said that He did not come to be served, but to serve. Jesus is God's Son. He is the King. He could have asked everyone to help Him. But instead, Jesus chose to help others, even in hard and uncomfortable ways.

Ask kids to quietly raise their hand if they think serving others is always easy. Pause and smile.

Jesus showed us what serving really looks like. One time, He surprised His closest friends by doing the lowest, messiest job in the room.

Have kids wiggle their toes.

Back when Jesus lived on earth, people walked everywhere in sandals. Their feet were dirty and smelly. Washing feet was a job for the least important servant.

Read John 13:4–5 out loud.

Jesus, the King of Kings, got down on the floor and washed His friends' feet. He chose to serve them with love, even though it was messy and uncomfortable.

Invite kids to put one hand over their heart and one hand out like they are helping someone.

After Jesus finished, He explained why He did this.

Read John 13:14–15 out loud.

Jesus told His friends to serve others the way He served them. When we serve like Jesus, we learn what God's heart is like. God loves people so much that He takes care of them, even when it costs something.

Set up the short demonstration. One leader wears a crown and apron. Another sits as a disciple. Quietly act out foot washing using the bowl, towel, and water. Allow a brief quiet moment while the action happens.

Look at this picture of Jesus serving. He is the King, but He chose love, humility, and service. When we serve others, even in small ways, we learn new things about God.

Bottom Line: **When I serve others, I can learn new things about God.**

Invite kids to say the bottom line together once, then sit quietly as you transition to the next section.

Review & Practice (10 min)

Scripture Review Game: Scripture Path Relay

Before starting, divide kids into mixed-age teams of 4 to 6. Assign one older kid as the Team Leader. Team Leaders help everyone stay together, take turns, and use their Bibles carefully.

The Bible verses we read today show us what Jesus did and why He served others. We are going to practice finding those verses and remembering what they teach us.

Have everyone stand with their team in one area of the room. Give each team one Bible.

Call out the first reference: Mark 10:45.

Teams work together to find the verse. When they find it, they quietly raise their hands. When most teams are ready, read the verse out loud together.

Then give the teams a simple action that matches the verse, such as everyone pretending to carry something heavy together, to remind them that Jesus came to serve.

Next, call out John 13:4–5.

After teams find it, have one child read it out loud or summarize it in their own words. Then everyone crouches low to the ground to act out Jesus serving by washing feet.

Finally, call out John 13:14–15.

After finding it, have Team Leaders ask their group:

“What does Jesus want us to do because of what He did?”

Let kids answer briefly.

End the activity by having everyone stand and say together:

“When I serve others, I can learn new things about God.”

Close by reviewing the series memory verse together out loud:

“I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” Psalm 119:11 (NLT)

Encourage Team Leaders to thank their groups for working together and helping each other learn from God’s Word.

Prayer & Worship Practice (5 min)

Prayer Activity: Thankful Hands

Today we are going to practice a way to pray and thank God using our hands. Prayer doesn't always have to use a lot of words. Sometimes we can show God our prayers and thanks with simple movements and thoughts.

First, hold your hands out in front of you together, like this.

These are our 'thankful hands.' Take a quiet moment to think of one thing you are thankful for this week. It can be big or small.

Now, fold your hands together. These are our 'asking hands.' Silently ask God for help or guidance with something you are worried about.

Next, open your arms and hands out wide like this. These are our 'praise hands.' Silently tell God you love Him and that He is amazing.

Finally, place your hands over your heart. These are our 'close-to-God hands.' Silently tell God, 'I trust You, God, and I want to follow You.'

Let's do all four together slowly. Hands out—thank You. Hands folded—please help. Hands wide—You are amazing. Hands on heart—I trust You.

Lead two more slow rounds quietly in your heart.

God, thank You for always being with us. Thank You for hearing our prayers, our thanks, and our praises. Help us remember we can talk to You anytime. Amen.

Group Activity or Project (10 min)

Activity: Serve & Discover Menu

Give each child a piece of colored paper, a pen, and a sheet of stickers. Explain that they are going to make a "menu" of ways they can serve others.

Let's make a "serving others" menu. Write 'Menu' at the top of your page.

We are going to think of ideas for how we can serve other people and write them down like options on a menu. You can decorate your menu with the stickers to make it look fun!

Give kids a minute to write and decorate. Walk around and encourage creative, age-appropriate ideas, like helping a sibling, drawing a picture for someone, or sharing a snack.

Prompt kids with questions if needed: 'Who could you serve today?' 'What is something small that would make someone smile?'

Once everyone has finished, have kids pair up or form small groups. Take turns sharing one or two ideas from your menu. Encourage kids to cheer each other on and add new ideas they hear from friends.

These are awesome, guys! Isn't it amazing that when we serve others, we can learn new things about God? Every time we choose to help someone, we are showing God's love and seeing His plan in action.

Remind kids they can take their menus home and use them to inspire ways to serve during the week.

Wrap-Up & Structured Free Play (10 min)

As kids arrive, invite them into free play (coloring, games, playdoh, Legos, etc.). Actively coach older kids to notice younger kids and invite them into what they are doing. Play upbeat worship music as kids play/create.

Suggested Discussion Questions:

- What are some ways you can serve someone this week?
- How did serving someone help you learn something new about God?
- Why do you think Jesus wants us to serve others?
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Bottom Line Review:

Have kids say together: *When I serve others, I can learn new things about God.*

Weekly Challenge:

This week, try the “Thankful Hands” activity with your family. Use your hands to show God thanks, ask for help, praise Him, and tell Him you trust Him. See what you can learn about God while you pray together. Take this paper home and put it on your fridge or somewhere you will see every day.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for showing us how to serve like Jesus. Help us to serve others this week and notice the amazing things we can learn about You. Amen.

Optional Closing Game: Who Can Serve?

Call out simple, silly ways to serve (e.g., “help someone get a tissue,” “share a smile,” “pretend to wash a friend’s hands”). Kids move around the space and act out the service.

Encourage laughter and creativity while reminding them this is how we can learn more about God.