



# Kids Club

Leader Guide

# Mar Week 1

Mar. 1, 2026



## Series Overview

Brace yourselves for the ultimate in Weird Science! In this series, we're taking Jesus' mind-blowing parables and turning them into the craziest, coolest experiments ever! Come along with us as we show kids how faith can be fun as we explore the teachings of Jesus.

Each session is a wild ride full of laughter, surprises, and 'Whoa, that's awesome!' moments. So, grab your curiosity and join us for a super cool journey where the Bible comes alive in the most unexpected, totally epic ways.

# Lesson Overview

The Bible doesn't present the church gathering as something that is optional for believers. It is important that we gather to worship God together. It is important that we learn from each other.

It is important that we encourage each other, especially when we're going through difficult times. So, while we may each have our own individual relationship with God, that doesn't mean we were meant to follow Him alone!

## **Lesson 1:**

Jesus Came for Everyone – Matthew 18:10-14, John 6:35

## **Bottom Line:**

We are never too lost for Jesus.

## **Memory Verse (Series):**

"Jesus replied, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" John 6:35

## 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)**

Practice engaging with Scripture from lesson and series memory verse.

### **4. Prayer & Worship Group Activity (15 minutes)**

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

### **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
- Upbeat worship music (playlist or speaker)

## 2. Group Gather & Bible Focus

- Bible
- White paper (pre-written with baking soda solution)
- Baking soda
- Water
- Small bowl or cup (for mixing solution)
- Paintbrushes or cotton swabs
- Hair dryer or safe heat source (adult use only)

## 3. Review & Practice

- Printed clue cards or verbal clue list for leaders
- Highlighters or Bible tabs (optional, older kids only)

## 4. Prayer & Worship Activity

- Soft foam ball or beanbag
- Memory verse written large enough for all kids to see

# 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. I am so glad you are here today. Today we are starting a brand new series called Weird Science. In this series, we are going to hear some of Jesus' stories and explore them using fun, surprising experiments. Jesus told stories called parables to help people understand big truths about God in simple ways.**

**Today, we are learning that no matter how lost someone feels, Jesus always searches for them because He loves them.**

## **Connection Prompts:**

- What is the coolest science experiment you have ever seen?
- Have you ever lost something really important?
- What do you do when something is lost?

*Give a two minute warning before transition.*

# Group Gather & Bible Focus (10 min)

*Have kids sit in a circle.*

*Props: Paper with invisible message written in baking soda solution, Paintbrush or cotton swab, Hair dryer or heat source*

*Prepare the invisible ink paper ahead of time.*

- Mix equal parts water and baking soda in a small bowl.
- Use a paintbrush or cotton swab to write a short message on white paper such as:
  - "You are never too lost for Jesus"
- Let the paper fully dry and set it aside out of sight.
- Plug in or set out a hair dryer or heat source in a safe, leader-only area.
- Have Bible ready and open to Matthew 18:10–14.

*Gather kids into a seated large group where everyone can see you and the paper. Keep the hidden message paper face up and visible, but do not reveal it yet. Maintain a curious, playful tone. Pause often to let kids react and respond. Invite simple motions to keep energy up.*

**Alright, scientists, eyes up here. Today is the very first day of our Weird Science series.**

**That means we are going to hear some of Jesus' stories and explore them using experiments that might feel surprising or even a little strange.**

**Before we start, I need to ask you something.**

**Raise your hand if you have ever lost something important.**

*Pause and scan the room.*

**Now whisper to a neighbor what you lost.**

*Pause briefly.*

**Losing something can feel frustrating, confusing, or even a little scary. Today, Jesus tells a story about something that was lost and how much it mattered.**

*Hold up the prepared paper.*

**Take a good look at this paper. What do you see?**

*Allow a few responses.*

**It looks blank, right? But I want you to know something. There is a message on this paper. It is just hidden.**

**If something is hidden or lost, does that mean it is not important anymore?**

*Pause for responses.*

**No. If something matters, we look for it. Jesus told a story called a parable to help people understand this exact idea. Let's listen carefully.**

*Read Matthew 18:12 slowly.*

**Jesus said if a shepherd has one hundred sheep and one wanders away, he goes looking for that one. Not because the others do not matter, but because the lost one matters too.**

**Everyone stand up for a moment.**

**Pretend you are a sheep walking along.**

*Have kids shuffle in place.*

**Now freeze. Pretend you are the one sheep who wandered away.**

**Look around like you are lost.**

**Now point to your heart.**

**Jesus is talking about people, not animals.**

**He is talking about us.**

*Have kids sit back down.*

**Just like this paper looks empty, sometimes people feel invisible or forgotten. But Jesus never stops searching.**

*Hold the paper closer.*

**I really want to find the message on this paper. I am not going to give up.**

*Try holding it up to the light.*

**That did not work.**

**But I know there is a message here.**

**Sometimes finding what is lost takes patience and the right tools. Let's try something different.**

Use the heat source to slowly reveal the message. Pause and let kids react.

**There it is!**

*Read the message out loud.*

**Just like we did not give up on this message, Jesus does not give up on people.**

**No one is too lost. No one is too far away.**

*Read Matthew 18:13–14.*

**Jesus says there is joy when the lost sheep is found. That means when someone turns back to Jesus, heaven celebrates.**

**In this series, we are going to see how Jesus does amazing things in unexpected ways.**

**Jesus always searches, and Jesus always cares.**

**Bottom Line: We are never too lost for Jesus.**

*Have kids say it once together.*

## Review & Practice (10 min)

### Bible Detectives

*Divide kids into small groups (2–4 per group, mixed ages). Have each group sit in a circle.*

**We are going to become Bible Detectives! Your job is to find verses that show how Jesus cares for us and wants to help us. The first three come from Matthew 18 - -write the verse number on each card.**

Clues for Each Verse:

1. Clue 1 – Lost Sheep

**a. Look in Matthew 18. Find the part where Jesus talks about a shepherd who leaves the 99 sheep to find 1 lost sheep.**

*b. Kids find Matthew 18:12. Encourage them to read aloud and say in their own words: “Jesus looks for people who are lost.”*

2. Clue 2 – Joy Over the Found

**c. Find the next verse where Jesus talks about how happy the shepherd is when he finds the lost sheep.**

*d. Kids find Matthew 18:13. Ask: “How does Jesus feel when someone who was lost comes back to Him?”*

3. Clue 3 – Jesus Protects Us

**a. Look for the part where Jesus explains God doesn’t want any little one to be lost.**

*b. Kids find Hebrews Matthew 18:14. Ask: “How does Jesus protect us?”*

#### 4. Clue 4 – Bread of Life

a. **Look in John 6. Find where Jesus says He is the bread of life, and whoever comes to Him will never be hungry or thirsty.**

b. *Kids find John 6:35. Ask: "What does it mean that Jesus is the bread of life?"*

*Remind groups:*

**Older kids, take turns reading each verse aloud and explaining it to your group. Use examples from your own life or from what you see at church.**

*Walk around and guide younger kids: point to chapters and verses if needed, and ask questions to reinforce understanding.*

#### **Memory Verse Toss - Encouragement Edition**

*Grab a ball or bean bag. Write the memory verse on a poster or have it visible in the room:*

*"Jesus replied, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" John 6:35*

**We're going to toss the ball and say our memory verse together, but there's a twist!**

*Each time a child catches the ball, they say the next word or phrase of the verse and share one way they can encourage someone today — at church, at home, or at school.*

*After the first full round, play a second round where kids toss the ball while saying the next phrase and giving a worship gesture — hands lifted, clapping, or a simple "Thank You, Jesus" motion.*

**Excellent! Just like we worked together to say the memory verse and think of ways to encourage others, Jesus is always helping us and wants us to lift each other up. Let's remember this verse and these ideas all week long!**

# Prayer & Worship Activity (15 min)

## Prayer Activity: Colorful Prayers

We're going to take a few minutes to talk to God and think about the ways we can encourage others and worship Him. Today, we'll use our jars of water as a way to see our prayers and praises come alive.

*Give each child a clear jar or cup filled about halfway with water. Invite children to think of one way they can encourage someone this week or one thing they want to thank God for.*

*Add a few drops of food coloring to the water. Each color can represent something different:*

- Blue for a prayer for someone else
- Red for a way to show love
- Yellow for something they are thankful for
- Green for a way to obey God

*If using glitter/sequins, have kids sprinkle a pinch into their water to make their prayers and praises sparkle.*

*Using a spoon or stir stick, have them stir the water and watch the colors mix, just like their prayers and acts of encouragement mix together to make a beautiful impact for God.*

*Reflection Prompts:*

- How does it feel to lift up someone else in prayer?
- How does worship help us remember what Jesus has done for us?
- What's one way you can "shine your color" and encourage someone this week?

**Let's thank God for hearing our prayers and for helping us encourage each other. God, thank You for always loving us and helping us love others. Help us shine brightly for You and encourage others in everything we do. Amen.**

*Leader Tip: Encourage older kids to model stirring and sharing their prayer thoughts with the group, while younger kids focus on the colors and movements.*

# 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.

As we get ready to wrap up today, let's remember what we learned through the story and our experiments.

Jesus told a parable about a shepherd who searched until he found his lost sheep. That story shows us how much Jesus cares about every single person.

Just like in our Weird Science experiments, what was hidden or lost did not stay that way. The big truth for today is simple and important. **We are never too lost for Jesus.**

## **Suggested Discussion Questions:**

- Why do you think Jesus went looking for the lost sheep?
- How do you think the lost sheep felt when it was found?
- What does it mean that Jesus is the bread of life?
- How can we help others know that Jesus cares about them?

## **Bottom Line Review:**

Have kids say together: **We are never too lost for Jesus.**

## **Weekly Challenge:**

This week, remember that Jesus cares about everyone. If you feel left out, remember that Jesus sees you.

If you notice someone else feeling left out, show them kindness.

You can include someone, encourage them, or remind them that they matter. When we care for others, we are showing them what Jesus is like.

## **Closing Prayer:**

God, thank You for loving every person. Thank You that no one is too lost for You. Help us trust Jesus and show His love to others this week. Amen.

## **Optional Closing Game: Found or Lost**

Have kids stand in a circle or spread out around the room.

We are going to play a quick game called "Found or Lost." I will name a situation. If the person feels lost or left out, crouch down. If the person feels found, welcomed, or cared for, stand tall.

Call out situations such as:

- "A new kid sits alone at lunch."
- "Someone makes a mistake and feels embarrassed."

- "A friend is invited to play."
- "Someone is forgiven after messing up."

*After a few rounds:*

**Jesus sees people when they feel lost.**

**He welcomes them, helps them, and brings them close.**

**That is why we are never too lost for Jesus!**

## **Clue #1:**

This verse talks about God noticing little ones. Look in Matthew, near the beginning of chapter 18.

## **Clue #2:**

Jesus asks a question about 100 sheep and one that gets lost. Find the part with the shepherd leaving 99 to find 1.

## **Clue #3:**

This verse tells what happens when the shepherd finds the lost sheep.

## **Clue #4:**

Look for the part where Jesus explains God doesn't want any little one to be lost.

## **Clue #5:**

This is where Jesus says He is the bread of life. It's in John chapter 6, near the middle.

**Care**

**Search**

**Joy**

**Protection**

**Satisfaction**