LESSON 1

KNOWN, LOVED, LED

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: My Life Can Tell of God's Wonder!
SCRIPTURE: Genesis 12; Deuteronomy 6; Romans 5; 1 Corinthians 8, 15
GOD'S BIG STORY: God has always known, loved, and led His people. Though we haven't always followed faithfully, God has a plan to call us to Himself.
WORD OF WONDER: But whoever loves God is known by God. —1 Corinthians 8:3

Object Lesson: Dominoes

Activity: Known, Loved, Led, Wonder

Worship

God's Big Story

Snack

Word of Wonder

Prayer and Blessing

Activity: Wonder Jump

Object Lesson: Dominoes

SUPPLIES: dominoes or wooden blocks

Welcome the kids to church. Show the kids how to set up dominoes (or wooden blocks) in a line. Demonstrate how you knock one down to cause a chain reaction, which makes all the dominoes fall. Set up the dominoes in various line formations and let the kids take turns knocking them down.

The dominoes fall because of a chain reaction. One knocks the other down, and that one knocks the next one down. It keeps going until the whole line falls! It reminds me of how we can cause a chain reaction in others by sharing God's wonder with them! We'll learn more about that today as we discover we're known by God, loved by Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, and our lives can tell of God's wonder!

Let the kids explore and play with the dominoes as you talk with them about God's wonder.

Activity: Known, Loved, Led, Wonder

Today we're learning that we're known by God, loved by Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, and that our lives can tell of God's wonder. Let's do an activity to help us remember this!

Encourage the kids to act out motions as you say the words.

KNOWN—*Point to your head with both hands.*

LOVED—*Cross your arms over your heart.*

LED—*March like you're following the leader.*

WONDER—*Burst your arms up and over your head.*

Say the words multiple times. Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the words along with you. To make it more challenging, say the words fast and do the motions quickly, then say the words slowly and do the motions slowly.

You did a great job of following the motions as I led you! We can follow God and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us! And when we know we're known by God, loved by Jesus, and led by the Holy Spirit, our lives can tell of God's wonder! We get to be a part of His story and share His story!

Our Wonder Truth today is: MY LIFE CAN TELL OF GOD'S WONDER!

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

MY LIFE—*Point to yourself.*

CAN TELL—*Hold your hands together, then open palms, as if opening a book.*

OF GOD'S—*Point up.*

WONDER!—*Burst your arms up and over your head.*

Worship

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: "Wonder Ink Theme Song" from the Known, Loved, Led Early Childhood Spotify playlist

Today we'll learn about how we're known by God, loved by Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, and our lives can tell of God's wonder. Let's sing about it and praise God that we're known, loved, led, and that we can share God's wonder!

Play the song "Wonder Ink Theme Song" from the Known, Loved, Led Early Childhood Spotify playlist and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible

God's big story today is about how our lives can tell of God's wonder. Encourage the kids to say, "wonder." **Let's find out mo e!**

Show the kids God's Big Story Video, or read the story from the Bible from 1 Corinthians 8:6; 15:21–22, 53–57, or use the script provided.

You can help tell the story by showing feelings on your face as you listen. If I say, "happy," show me a happy face! Allow the kids to respond. **If I say, "sad," show a sad face.** Allow the kids to respond.

A long time ago, God promised to bless all the people through someone named Abraham and his family. That's happy! Show a happy face. Allow the kids to respond.

Abraham's family grew and grew, but they didn't always follow God. That's sad. Show a sad face. Allow the kids to respond.

But God still had a plan to help His people. His plan would give all of us a way to be forgiven when we make wrong choices. God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth for us.

That calls for a happy face. Allow the kids to respond.

Jesus loves us and died for all of us, even though He didn't deserve to die. It's sad that Jesus died. Show a sad face. Allow the kids to respond. **Because Jesus died and then came back to life, we can be forgiven for the things we do wrong.**

We can have a relationship with God and become His children when we trust Jesus as our Savior! That's awesome news! Show me your best happy faces. Allow the kids to respond.

When we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in us and help us. The Holy Spirit wants to lead all of us in becoming the people we were created to be. Show a happy face. Allow the kids to respond. **We can show people how amazing God is and share His story.**

When you're known, loved, and led by God, your life can tell of God's wonder!

Snack

Instruct kids to sit in the floor. Pass out snacks and say a prayer together.

Invite kids to repeat after you:

Thank you for the world so sweet. kids repeat

Thank you for the food we eat. kids repeat

Thank you for the birds that sing. kids repeat

Thank you God for everything. kids repeat

Amen

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible

WORD OF WONDER

But whoever loves God is known by God.

—1 Corinthians 8:3

Our Word of Wonder for the Known, Loved, Led series is 1 Corinthians 8:3: "But whoever loves God is known by God." Say it with me. Invite the kids to say the verse with you.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **BUT WHOEVER—***Spread one arm out in front of you, palm up, toward others in the room.*
- **LOVES—***Put your hands over your heart.*
- **GOD—***Point up.*
- **IS KNOWN—***Point to your head.*
- **BY GOD.—***Point up.*
- **1 CORINTHIANS 8:3—***Open your hands in front of you, like opening a book.*

Prayer and Blessing

Let's pray and talk to God and thank Him for how He knows us, loves us, and leads us.

God, thank You for Your great love for us. Thank You for knowing us and giving us the Holy Spirit to lead us. Lead us to become more like You and share Your wonder every day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: God knows you, through and through. He loves you with a love that's deep, wide, and strong—stronger than life itself. May God help you always follow Him joyfully, today and all your days. Go with God and let your life share His wonder with the world.

Activity: Wonder Jump

We've been learning that we're known by God, loved by Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, and that our lives can tell of God's wonder. When you hear me say the word "wonder," you'll jump up and down and celebrate.

We can celebrate joyfully as we get to be a part of God's big story and share His wonder (encourage the kids to jump and celebrate)**with the world!**

Because we're known by God, loved by Jesus, and led by the Holy Spirit, we become children of God, whose lives can share God's wonder! Encourage the kids to jump and celebrate.

Remember today and every day: Your life can tell of God's wonder! Encourage the kids to jump and celebrate.