



# Grades K-1 Small Group

**Week #1:** August 7-8, 2010

**Bible Truth:** You learn to love when,  
“You love those you love the least.”

**Bible Story:** John 15:1-5 (The Vine and the Branches)

**Bible Verse:** Luke 6:32

*“If you love those who love you, what good is there in that?  
Even bad people love those who love them.”*

**Supplies:** 4 Bible Story Picture Cards (can reuse for each service)  
1 Cross Sheet (can reuse for each service)  
1 Plastic Ball (can reuse for each service)

## **Small Group Discussion – John 15:1-5 (8 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to hear the Bible story read to them while interacting with some pictures from the story. After they hear the story, they will get a chance to retell it using the pictures then discuss it with their Small Group Leader. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher.*



*(small group leader questions...)*

- I am going to read John 15:1-5 from the Bible.
- While I am reading, I want you to look at these pictures. *(place pictures in middle of group, then read)*
- Let's see if we can retell this story by using these pictures. *(work together as a group to retell the story)*
- In these verses who is the vine? *(Jesus)*
- In these verses who is the gardener? *(God the Father)*
- In these verses who are the branches? *(We are)*
- What happens to a branch that is cut off from a vine? *(it withers)*
- What are some ways that kids can stay close to God so they are connected to the Vine? *(kids respond)*

## **Small Group Activity – Soccer Connection (15 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to do a short activity that will help them apply today's teaching point. We will not display a Countdown since this activity should take the remainder of the class time. Please keep your children in their small groups until the parents arrive.*

### **HOW TO START:**

- Have children sit in a circle on the ground.
- Place the Cross Sheet in the middle of your group.

### **HOW TO PLAY:**

- Say, "This game is called Soccer Connection. This game will help us remember that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. When we stay connected to him, he helps us to love others."
- Each child will sit on their knees and places BOTH hands on the cross.
- The children must keep BOTH hands on the cross throughout each round.
- Put the plastic ball in front of one of the children.
- Begin round #1. Each child then uses their knees to pass the ball around the circle one time.
- If anyone lifts his/her hands off of the cross during the round, the group must start the ball back at the first player and start over.
- Once your team finishes getting the ball around the circle, have three children answer the following question:  
    *"What is one way you can show love to others?"*
- After answering the question, try to pass the ball around the circle two times, then repeat the question above.
- Continue playing until everyone has had a chance to answer the question.



*(small group leader questions...)*

- What do people sometimes do that annoys you?
- What do you sometimes do that annoys other people?
- Who is the hardest person for you to be around? Why?
- How can you respond differently to someone that is difficult to love?
- Have you ever grown something? *(share a time you planted something that grew)*
- What does Jesus mean when he talks about being connected to the vine?
- How can we grow the fruit of God's love in our life?

## **Small Group Prayer**

*Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse. You can also do this first so you don't run out of time!*



*(say the following...)*

- Let's close our small group time by praying.
- Is there anything that we can pray for? *(receive prayer requests)*



# Grades K-1 Small Group

**Week #2:** August 14-15, 2010

**Bible Truth:** Patience Always Stops Suddenly

**Bible Story:** Luke 10:30-37 (The Good Samaritan)

**Bible Verse:** James 4:17

*“Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”*

**Supplies:** 4 Bible Story Picture Cards (can reuse for each service)  
4 Apple Cards w/ Questions on Backside (reuse for each service)

## Small Group Discussion – Luke 10:30-37 (8 minutes)

*This is a chance for your children to hear the Bible story read to them while interacting with some pictures from the story. After they hear the story, they will get a chance to retell it using the pictures then discuss it with their Small Group Leader. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher.*



*(small group leader questions...)*

- I am going to read Luke 10:30-37 from the Bible.
- While I am reading, I want you to look at these pictures. *(place pictures in middle of group, then read)*
- Let's see if we can retell this story by using these pictures. *(work together as a group to retell the story)*
- Where was the Jewish man traveling? *(from Jerusalem to Jericho)*
- Why do you think the bandits attacked this traveler? *(Greedy for money)*
- Why do you think the Priest and Temple Assistant passed right by the hurt man? *(Too busy to help)*
- Have you ever been in need of help? Who helped you? *(kids share)*
- How did the Samaritan man go out of his way to help the hurt Jewish man? *(stopped, helped, paid for care)*

## **Small Group Activity – Patience Pickers (15 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to do a short activity that will help them apply today's teaching point. We will not display a Countdown since this activity should take the remainder of the class time. Please keep your children in their small groups until the parents arrive.*

### **HOW TO START:**

- Have children sit in a circle on the ground.
- Place Apple Cards (*apple side up*) in the middle of the group.

### **HOW TO PLAY:**

- Say, “This game is called Patience Pickers. This game will help us practice patience.”
- Ask four children to stand around the Apple Cards.
- Begin by having the four children repeat “Patience, patience, patience....” as they walk around apples.
- After some time passes say “Pick!”
- Each child will pick up one of the Apple Cards and answer the question on the backside. (*you will need to read*)
- Children earn points for answering the questions. (*points are listed on the back of each card*)
- Repeat with four more players.
- Continue playing until everyone has had a few turns; keeping track of the points.

### **GAME QUESTIONS** (*these will be printed on the back of the Apple Cards*):

- Share a time when you had to wait a long time for something. What was it like?
- Share a time when you could not be patient. What happened?
- Share a time when you stopped to help someone who needed help? What happened?
- Share a time when someone stopped to help you? What was that like for you?



*(small group leader questions...)*

- Did you plant anything this summer? Did it grow?
- Where did you wait the longest this week?
- What do you do when you have to wait for something?
- Have you ever had to wait for something special? Was it worth the wait?
- Why would God want us to grow to be more patient?
- When it is most difficult to be patient?
- Why is it so difficult to help someone when you are in a hurry?

## **Small Group Prayer**

*Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse. You can also do this first so you don't run out of time!*



*(say the following...)*

- Let's close our small group time by praying.
- Is there anything that we can pray for? (*receive prayer requests*)



# Grades K-1 Small Group

**Week #3:** August 21-22, 2010

**Bible Truth:** You've got to DO what is GOOD for YOU

**Bible Story:** Luke 6:6-11 (Jesus Heals on Sabbath)

**Bible Verse:** Proverbs 4:23

*"Above all else, guard your heart,  
for it affects everything you do."*

**Supplies:** 4 Bible Story Picture Cards (can reuse for each service)  
1 Paper Bag containing 8 Charade Cards (can reuse for each service)

## Small Group Discussion – Luke 6:6-11 (8 minutes)

*This is a chance for your children to hear the Bible story read to them while interacting with some pictures from the story. After they hear the story, they will get a chance to retell it using the pictures then discuss it with their Small Group Leader. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher.*



*(small group leader questions...)*

- I am going to read Luke 6:6-11 from the Bible.
- While I am reading, I want you to look at these pictures. *(place pictures in middle of group, then read)*
- Let's see if we can retell this story by using these pictures. *(work together as a group to retell the story)*
- What is a synagogue? *(place of worship for the Jewish people...like a church)*
- What day of the week was Jesus teaching in the synagogue? *(Saturdays were the days Jews attended church)*
- Why were some people so worried about Jesus healing someone on the Sabbath? *(Jews could not work then)*
- What did Jesus ask the people about the Sabbath? *(if the Sabbath was designed for doing good or doing evil)*
- Was it wrong for Jesus to help the man with the deformed hand on the Sabbath? *(No, that was very good)*
- How did some of the people react when Jesus healed the man's hand? *(They were full of rage or anger)*

## **Small Group Activity – Goodness Charades (15 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to do a short activity that will help them apply today's teaching point. We will not display a Countdown since this activity should take the remainder of the class time. Please keep your children in their small groups until the parents arrive.*

### **HOW TO START:**

- Have children sit in a circle on the ground.

### **HOW TO PLAY:**

- Say, "This game is called Goodness Charades. This game will help us to remember that goodness is a fruit of the Spirit."
- Hold up the paper bag with the Charade Cards in it and shake it up.
- Tell the kids that they have the chance to act out ways kids can show the fruit of goodness.
- One child pulls one Charade Card from the Paper Bag and hands it to you to read. (*read the charade challenge*)
- Tell that child to get some helpers to help them act out what you just read. (*kids act out the scene*)
- Continue taking turns having children choose a Charade Card and act out what it says.

### **CHARADE CARDS CHALLENGES:**

1. Act out helping cook a meal for a neighbor who just returned from the hospital.
2. Act out cleaning up litter on a stretch of road in your neighborhood.
3. Act out helping your mom carry in the groceries.
4. Act out washing your dad's car.
5. Act out bringing your teacher an apple.
6. Act out sitting next to the new kid in the school cafeteria.
7. Act out reading a book to your younger brother or sister.
8. Act out giving toys you don't play with anymore to Goodwill.



*(small group leader questions...)*

- Why would God want us to be filled with goodness?
- What is the difference between a Rated G, PG, PG-13, and R Movie?
- What are some good things that kids can do?
- What are some bad things that kids sometimes do?
- Is there ever a good time to do something bad? (*no way*)
- What usually happens when you do something good? (*kids share*)
- What usually happens when you do something bad? (*kids share*)

## **Small Group Prayer**

*Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse. You can also do this first so you don't run out of time!*



*(say the following...)*

- Let's close our small group time by praying.
- Is there anything that we can pray for? (*receive prayer requests*)



# Grades K-1 Small Group

**Week #4:** August 28-29, 2010

**Bible Truth:** Before they ask, complete the task!

**Bible Story:** Luke 13:6-9 (The Fig Tree with No Fruit)

**Bible Verse:** Matthew 7:20

*“Yes, the way to identify a tree or a person is by the kind of fruit that is produced.”*

**Supplies:** 4 Faithful Fruit Cards w/ Questions on Backside (reuse for each service)  
1 Dice (reuse for each service)

## Small Group Discussion – Luke 13:6-9 (8 minutes)

*This is a chance for your children to hear the Bible story read to them while interacting with some pictures from the story. After they hear the story, they will get a chance to retell it using the pictures then discuss it with their Small Group Leader. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher.*



*(small group leader questions...)*

- I am going to read Luke 13:6-9 from the Bible.
- While I am reading, I want you to look at these pictures. *(place pictures in middle of group, then read)*
- Let's see if we can retell this story by using these pictures. *(work together as a group to retell the story)*
- What kind of tree did the gardener plant? *(Fig tree)*
- Has anyone tasted a fig before? *(kids respond)*
- How long did the gardener wait for the fig tree to produce fruit? *(three years)*
- What was the longest you had to wait for something? *(kids share)*
- Why did the owner want to cut down the fig tree? *(he felt that it was just wasting space in his garden)*
- Why do you think the gardener asked to keep the fig tree for one more year? *(kids share their thoughts)*
- What was the gardener planning to do to help the fig tree? *(fertilizer and special care)*

## **Small Group Activity – Faithful Fruit (15 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to do a short activity that will help them apply today's teaching point. We will not display a Countdown since this activity should take the remainder of the class time. Please keep your children in their small groups until the parents arrive.*

### **HOW TO START:**

- Have children sit in a circle on the ground.

### **HOW TO PLAY:**

- Say, "This game is called Faithful Fruit. This game will help us to remember that faithfulness is a fruit of the Spirit."
- Choose a child to roll the dice and choose a Faithful Fruit Card.
- See if your group can answer the challenge on the back of the Faithful Fruit Card and earns the number of points equal to the roll of the dice.
- In order to earn the points, your group must come up with the same number of examples as the number rolled on the dice.
- Choose another child to roll the dice and choose another Faithful Fruit Card.
- Keep track of your group's points. You can challenge your group to reach a certain number of points.
- Continue playing until you run out of cards.

### **FAITHFUL FRUIT CARD CHALLENGES:**

1. Come up with ways you can be faithful at home.
2. Come up with ways you can be faithful at school.
3. Come up with ways you can be a faithful friend.
4. Come up with ways you can be faithful to God.



*(small group leader questions...)*

- What is your easiest chore or responsibility at home?
- What is your hardest chore or responsibility at home?
- What would happen if you decided to stop doing all your chores at home?
- What would happen if your parents decided to stop doing all their chores at home?
- How can children your age be faithful? *(kids share)*
- How can children your age really help other people? *(kids share)*

## **Small Group Prayer**

*Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse. You can also do this first so you don't run out of time!*



*(say the following...)*

- Let's close our small group time by praying.
- Is there anything that we can pray for? *(receive prayer requests)*



# Grades K-1 Small Group

**Week #5:** September 4-5, 2010 (*Labor Day Weekend*)

**Bible Truth:** You've got to fight to do what's right

**Bible Story:** Luke 13:18-21 (The Mustard Seed & Yeast)

**Bible Verse:** Ephesians 3:16 (MSG)

*"I ask him to strengthen you by his Spirit*

*– not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength."*

**Supplies:**

- 1 Large Plastic Cup Labeled "Holy Spirit" (can reuse for each service)
- 1 Large Plastic Cup Labeled "Sin Nature" (can reuse for each service)
- 1 Ping Pong Ball (can reuse for each service)

## **Small Group Discussion – Luke 13:18-21 (8 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to hear the Bible story read to them while interacting with some pictures from the story. After they hear the story, they will get a chance to retell it using the pictures then discuss it with their Small Group Leader. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on the upfront teacher.*



*(small group leader questions...)*

- I am going to read Luke 13:18-21 from the Bible.
- While I am reading, I want you to look at these pictures. *(place pictures in middle of group, then read)*
- Let's see if we can retell this story by using these pictures. *(work together as a group to retell the story)*
- What did Jesus compare his kingdom to? *(Mustard Seed and Yeast)*
- Who here likes mustard? What do you put it on? *(kids share)*
- Why do you think Jesus compared his followers to mustard seeds? *(we start off small, but grow strong)*
- Who here knows what yeast is used for? *(making bread dough rise before it is baked)*
- Why do you think Jesus compared his followers to yeast?  
*(even though we are small, we can still influence those around us...help others rise up to a better life)*
- Even though you might be young, God's Holy Spirit is growing fruit in you that will be seen by all.
- What situations are the hardest for you to show Self-Control? *(kids share)*
- How can God help you have Self-Control when you are in a tough situation? *(Stop and pray for His help)*

## **Small Group Activity – Self-Control Sin Toss (15 minutes)**

*This is a chance for your children to do a short activity that will help them apply today's teaching point. We will not display a Countdown since this activity should take the remainder of the class time. Please keep your children in their small groups until the parents arrive.*

### **HOW TO START:**

- Have children sit in a circle on the ground.
- Place the two Large Plastic Cups on the floor some distance apart from each other.

### **HOW TO PLAY:**

- Say, "This game is called Self Control Sin Toss. This game will help us to remember that self control helps us to fight to do what's right."
- Choose one child to stand up.
- Hand the Ping Pong Ball to the player.
- Read one of the Self-Control Statements. (*see below*)
- The player then decides if the statement is something their Sin Nature or Holy Spirit is probably saying to them.
- The player then tosses the Ping Pong Ball into the correctly labeled Plastic Cup.
- If the player misses, then have them take one step toward the cup and try again. (*repeat until they make it!*)
- Continue until every child has had a chance to toss the ball into one of the cups.

### **SELF-CONTROL STATEMENTS:**

1. Help your mom bring in the groceries.
2. Play nice with your little brother.
3. Copy your friend's homework.
4. Invite him to the party even though he bugs you sometimes.
5. Jesus will help me be more patient.
6. If I tell the truth I will get into trouble. I can't tell the truth.
7. It's a funny joke. Who cares if it's mean?
8. He tripped me. I'm just going to trip him back.
9. She looks lonely over there. Maybe I could sit by her?
10. Finish your homework before you play. That's what mom said to do.
11. Maybe I could share my lunch?
12. I can stop to help. He looks hurt.
13. Why would I show love to him? He's never nice to me.
14. I think it would be good to read a Bible story before bed tonight.
15. This is not a good TV show. I think I should turn it off.
16. I was not very nice to her. I think I should go say I'm sorry.



*(small group leader questions...)*

- What are some things kids your age are tempted to do during the summer?
- What kind of trouble do some kids get into during the summer?
- What was the hardest thing you had to do this summer?
- Have you ever had to make a hard choice between two things? What happened?
- How can we learn to make the right choice quickly?

## **Small Group Prayer**

*Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse. You can also do this first so you don't run out of time!*



*(say the following...)*

- Let's close our small group time by praying.
- Is there anything that we can pray for? (*receive prayer requests*)