



BIG IDEA

Jesus invites us into the story.

LUKE | RESCUE | WEEK 4 OF 4

The Sequel

GOD STORY

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit
Acts 1:1–11

KEY VERSE

Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all our sins have been forgiven.
Colossians 1:14 (NIRV)

LEADER TIPS

In advance, be sure to review this lesson plan, organize the supplies, and watch the weekly teaching video. Pray for your group, too! When working with kids, you can't predict outcomes, but you can be as prepared as possible.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

Chat about which favourite story characters the kids would like to be.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Illustrate the difference between hearing a story and experiencing it for ourselves. Highlight that **Jesus invites us into the story!**

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching together.

My Story

4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Create a book cover for God's great big story.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Travel to prayer stations and use the prompts to help the kids pray.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.



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My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIPS

- This is meant to be a casual conversation as the kids arrive. Move on quickly to the Intro Activity so you have enough time for it before the teaching video.
- If someone offers a helpful idea or comment, highlight it as an example for the rest of the kids.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Welcome everyone and gather the kids together.
- b. Ask: Have you ever thought about being a character in one of your favourite stories? Which one would you choose and why?
- c. Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- d. Introduce today's Big Idea: **Jesus invites us into the story.**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Story cards

LEADER TIP

- See where the discussion goes—allow the kids to take the lead!

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Hold up each of the story cards one at a time.
- b. Read aloud the paired examples.
- c. Invite the kids to point out the differences.
- d. Highlight what's different between hearing a story about someone else and experiencing it ourselves.
- e. Discuss:
 - How does the point of view affect the way we experience the story?
 - Which version do you prefer? Why?
- f. Explain that the Bible tells the story of Jesus but we're all part of it, too! Emphasize that **Jesus invites us into the story.**
- g. Chat with the kids about why today's Big Idea matters and how it might change the way we read the Bible.



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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- Get the kids' initial reactions right after watching the video. Ask what stood out to them and clarify ideas as needed.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:1–11)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (Duann shares about how amazing it is to be invited to special occasions. When someone invites you, you know they want you to be there! She explains how Jesus invites us into his story, and what special invitations from God may look like.)
- b. Discuss:
 - What is the Key Verse for this series? (Colossians 1:14)
 - What was the Life Story about in today's video?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - How do you think these two stories and today's Big Idea (**Jesus invites us into the story**) connect?

My Story

4 | Small Group Activity

SUPPLIES

- God's Great Big Story activity pages
- Markers
- Bibles

LEADER TIPS

- Gathering in small groups each week is important. They help the kids feel comfortable to take part and share. Divide into as many groups as you have leaders available.
- Help the kids flip through the Gospels if they need ideas for scenes.
- Make sure everyone's names are on their pages.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Gather your small group together.
- b. Give each person an activity page.
- c. Place the markers and Bibles where everyone can reach them.
- d. Encourage the kids to think of scenes from Jesus' time here on earth. If needed, quickly brainstorm some ideas together.
- e. Direct everyone to draw some of these scenes on their book cover.
- f. Ask the kids to include a scene in which they are invited to be part of Jesus' story. To get them started, ask: What do you think Jesus might say to you? What would you say to him?
- g. Invite everyone to share their creations with the rest of the group.



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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Prayer signs

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Set up the signs in four areas of your group's space. Spread them out so the group needs to walk from one sign to the next. Place the last sign (Thank you...) wherever you want the group to end up together.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Gather everyone at the first sign (Dear Jesus...).
- b. Read the prayer on the sign out loud.
- c. Invite the kids to fill in the blanks to pray.
- d. Repeat with each sign.
- e. Read the final sign to wrap up the prayer.

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

LEADER TIP

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- b. Give everyone a weekly take-home card.
- c. Offer a Key Verse card and a colouring page to anyone who has not gotten them this month.
- d. Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- e. Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.