



BIG IDEA

God invites us to join his team.

CHARACTERS | WEEK 4 OF 4

Us

GOD STORY

Humans (Me and You!)

Matthew 19:13–15

KEY VERSE

I am absolutely sure that not even death or life can separate us from God’s love. Not even angels or demons, the present or the future, or any powers can separate us.
Romans 8:38 (NIRV)

LEADER TIP

This series covers God, Satan, angels and demons, and us! If you’d like, prepare by listening to The Meeting House’s series “Deliver Us from Evil” from 2015.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

Lead into today’s lesson by talking about how it feels to be invited to join a group or team.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Use a rubber popper to engage the kids while revealing the words from this week’s Big Idea.

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*)

Make a group craft that shows the kids’ ideas of what God’s team looks like.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Focus on the important skill of looking up Bible passages.

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 TIP

- If needed, get the conversation started by sharing your own answers first.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. As the kids arrive, welcome them and gather everyone together.
- b. Ask:
 - Have you ever been invited to join a club or team? If not, have you ever been invited to play at someone's house or invited to a birthday party?
 - How did being invited make you feel?
- c. Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Rubber popper
- Big Idea printed across seven signs
- Wall-safe tape

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Place the signs face down together on the floor.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Gather everyone by the Big Idea signs.
- b. Give the youngest person in the group the popper and show them how to use it. If the popper lands on a sign, they should flip it over to reveal the word.
- c. Continue taking turns with the popper from youngest to oldest.
- d. When all the signs are flipped over, encourage the kids to work together and put them in order to discover today's Big Idea (**God invites us to join his team**).
- e. Use wall-safe tape to hang up the Big Idea.



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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Humans (Me and You!), Matthew 19:13–15)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (Dr. Jamie Robertson teaches a lecture-style theology course)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
 - What was the God Story about in today's video?
 - What did you learn from Dr. Robertson this week?
 - What's the Key Verse for this series? (Romans 8:38)

My Story

4 | Small Group Activity

SUPPLIES

- Craft paper
- Markers
- Heart cutouts
- Masking tape
- Wall-safe tape

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Write the Big Idea (**God invites us to join his team**) in large letters on the craft paper.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather your small group to sit in a circle.
- Discuss:
 - If you could be on any sports team or part of any group, what would it be? Why?
 - God wants us on his team even though we've done nothing to earn it. Why do you think that God wants us?
 - How does it make you feel that God wants you as part of his team?
 - Have you said, "Yes!" to being on his team? Why or why not?
- Place the craft paper and markers in the middle of your group.
- Encourage the kids to draw or write what they think God's team looks like.
- Give each person a heart cutout.
- Direct them to write their name on the heart.
- Use the masking tape to stick the hearts on the paper.
- Invite the kids to pray. Pray that each person in your group would know that God loves them so much and that he wants them on his team!
- Hang the group craft where parents will see it at pick-up time.



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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

LEADER TIP

- Take the time to show everyone how to look up passages in the Bible. This is an important skill for the kids to learn!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather everyone back together.
- Make sure everyone has access to a Bible.
- Explain that you're going to look up one of the most well-known Bible passages: John 3:16.
- Ask if anyone knows how to look up this verse.
- Invite them to show the rest of the group how to find it. If needed, guide everyone to:
 - Find the contents at the front of the Bible.
 - Find the book of John in the list of books. Be sure it's not one of the "other" Johns (i.e., 1 John, 2 John, or 3 John).
 - Find the page number and flip to it.
 - Find the big "3." Explain that it's a chapter.
 - Explain that the smaller numbers are verses. Find verse 16.
- Ask a couple of kids to each read a sentence of the verse.
- Discuss: What does this verse mean to you?
- Remind the group that **God invites us to join his team.**
- Emphasize that Jesus died so that we could be close to God. That's how much God loves you and me!
- If time permits, guide everyone to use the same process to look up the Key Verse (Romans 8:38). Give them prompts as needed.

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

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