



**BIG IDEA**

God is love, and his love is powerful.

**CHARACTERS** | **WEEK 1 OF 4**

# God

**GOD STORY**

Who Is God?

*A walk through the whole Bible; Romans 8:38–39*

**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 coming up with one word to describe various people, then introduce the Big Idea.

**2 | INTRO ACTIVITY** (5 minutes)

Reinforce today's Big Idea by working in groups to add actions to it.

## 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 craft that will remind the kids that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY** (8 minutes)

Practise saying Romans 8:38 together, then colour a Key Verse page.

## 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**

- 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.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- As the kids arrive, welcome them and gather everyone together.
- Ask:
  - Which ONE WORD would you use to describe yourself?
  - Which ONE WORD would you use to describe a parent?
  - Which ONE WORD would you use to describe your best friend?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **God is love, and his love is powerful.**

### 2 | Intro Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- None

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Divide the kids into two groups.
- Line up the groups across from each other so that they're looking at the other group.
- Teach everyone the following actions that go with the Big Idea:
  - God [point up]
  - is love [shape hands into a heart],
  - and his [point up]
  - love [shape hands into a heart]
  - is powerful [flex arm muscles].
- Direct one group to say the words and do the actions for the first part ("God is love"). Then lead the other group to say the words and do the actions for the second part ("and his love is powerful"). Prompt them to start quietly and get louder and louder.
- If you have time, have the groups switch their parts of 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 (Who Is God?, A walk through the whole Bible; Romans 8:38–39)
  - 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?
  - How do you think this connects with the Big Idea: **God is love, and his love is powerful?**



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## My Story

### 4 | Small Group Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- Craft sticks
- Heart cutouts
- Big Idea labels
- Yarn
- Glue sticks
- Markers

**LEADER TIPS**

- Help the kids with spelling as needed. You could write the words on a piece of scrap paper for them to copy.
- If you have any leftover craft materials, such as stickers, you could put them out for the kids to use up.
- Make sure everyone's names are on their crafts.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Gather your small group to sit together.
- Discuss:
  - Is there anything that can keep us from God's love? (No!)
  - What is God's love more powerful than? (Everything!)
- Pray before starting the craft. Pray that each of the kids would know that nothing can keep them from God's love.
- Give each person three craft sticks, a heart cutout, a Big Idea label, and a piece of yarn.
- Place the other supplies where everyone can reach them.
- Instruct the kids to stick their labels onto their heart cutouts.
- Show them how to make a triangle with the craft sticks by gluing them at the corners.

- Direct the kids to write "Father" on one craft stick, "Son (Jesus)" on another craft stick, and "Holy Spirit" on the last craft stick.
- Guide everyone to glue their heart onto their craft-stick triangle.
- Encourage them to decorate their crafts with the markers. Point out that they should avoid colouring over the words they wrote.
- Guide the kids to tie the yarn in a loop around the craft sticks to make a hanger.
- Suggest that they hang up their crafts at home as a reminder of what they learned today.





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## My Story

### 5 | Wrap-Up Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- Key Verse sign
- Wall-safe tape
- Key Verse activity pages
- Markers

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

- Place the Key Verse sign where everyone can see it easily.

**LEADER TIPS**

- If you run out of time, send home the activity pages with the kids.
- Make sure everyone's names are on their pages.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Gather everyone back together.
- Encourage the kids to repeat you word-by-word as you say Romans 8:38.
- Next, say one word of the verse, then prompt them to say the next word. Continue back and forth until you finish.
- See if anyone can say the verse by themselves.
- Give each person an activity page.
- Place the markers where everyone can reach them.
- Encourage the kids to colour in their pages.

## 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 as well as the monthly Key Verse card and colouring page.
- Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.