

Leader Guide for Virtual Small Group

October 2020 Week 1

Three-to-Five-Year-Olds

Today's Bible Story: God is always with me.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego • *Daniel 3:1-28*

Memory Verse: "God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9, NLT

Key Question: Who's got it?

Bottom Line: God's got it.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

What You Need:

- When you send the meeting invite to parents, communicate that their child will be on the search for a raincoat or jacket at the beginning of Small Group. Don't give it to them to start, but be sure one just happens to be visible in a room near where the computer is housed.
- Before virtual Small Group begins, be sure you have a raincoat/jacket next to the computer.

What You Do:

- As children join the online meeting and get settled, ask them about the past week. Start with simple response statements and lead to more interactive questions. Sample questions below:
 - If you can see me, put your hand on your head.
 - If you went outside yesterday, put your hand on your head.
 - If you like cake, point to your mouth.
 - What did you have for breakfast?
 - Is your dog/cat/younger sibling there with you today?
- Social Activity: I Need a Raincoat! (Details below)
- Watch the Bible story video presentation as a group.
- Bible Story Review: Ask a couple of quick questions to get kids thinking about the Bible story and how it relates to them. (Details below)
- Groups Activity: Simon Says (Details below)
- Pray

SOCIAL ACTIVITY:

What You Say: "It looks like everyone has joined us today. Can everyone wave to me? Great job! It's SO GOOD to see you. I am so glad you are here. Because we're on the computer, we have to make sure that you can hear me when I'm talking. So, I have a special way to tell you it's my turn to talk. When I put my hands in front of my mouth like this (*cross both hands over your mouth*), that means you should stop talking so you can listen. Let's practice. Everyone, tell me your favorite [fun item]. (*Pause and then cover your mouth to indicate silence.*) Great job! You did it!"

Note: You can come up with a different signal that works for you and your group. Preschoolers will need something visual so they know to listen.

"Friends, it is so great to see you today! We are starting a new month today! We're going to be learning all about Someone who's always with you and who's always got it. Do you think you know who it is? (*Pause.*) Yes! You are right. It's God! God is always with you, and God's got it. God's got it when it's sunny, and God's got it when it's raining. Speaking of raining... look at the fun raincoat that I have."

(Hold up your raincoat and put it on.) Do you have a raincoat or jacket at your house? Can you go find it and bring it back so you can show us. I'm going to count to ten, and I want you to go find your raincoat or jacket to the computer. Ready, set, go!"

Count SLOWLY to ten to ensure that everyone has time to make it back to the screen.

"Wow! Look at all those awesome raincoats and jackets. Everyone is going to get to show the group their raincoat/jacket. I'm going to call on you one at a time to share. Tell me about your raincoat, [child's name]."

Encourage everyone to share raincoat/jacket.

"You all have some pretty awesome raincoats. And, do you know what? Our clubhouse friends have on their raincoats today too! I think they're ready for us. Let's watch!"

Play the full Wonder video for October Week 1.

GROUPS ACTIVITY:

Wow, that was a great story. I know a fun game we can play. Everyone, stand up. Now, watch me and do what I do. We have to really use our listening ears so that you will know what to do.

"I will do a movement, and if I say, 'Simon Says' before I do it, then you can do it, too! Be sure to listen super carefully! Simon says to jump. *(Jump.)* I said, 'Simon Says' so now you jump. Great job! Okay, let's do another one. Touch your toes. *(Pause.)* Wahoo! Great listening! I didn't say, 'Simon Says' so you didn't touch your toes. You're doing great!" *(Continue the game until interest wanes.)*

"Great job playing our game. Everyone sit down now. In today's Bible story we heard about three men who God told to only bow to Him. Did they do what God said? Yes! They did do what God said. They did not bow down to the king's statue. Then what happened? That's right! The king threw them in the fiery furnace. But, did they get hurt? No! Who saved them? Yes, God sent an angel to help them. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were not afraid. They knew that God was with them and that no matter what happens, ***[Bottom Line]*** God's got it.

"No matter where you are, God is with you, and He's got it. *(Point to raincoat.)* So, when it's raining outside and we're scared, we can look at our raincoat and remember that God is with us, and God's got it!

"Let's pray and then it's time to say good-bye."

PRAYER:

"Dear God, You are SO big and powerful, and You really can be with us wherever we go. You can be with us when we go anywhere! Only YOU can do that! Help us remember that You are always with us so we can be brave and do the right thing. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."