

The Blamer

Bible Truth: The Blamer (The Fall) • *Genesis 3*

Bottom Line: God made you to know Him.

Memory Verse: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well” *Psalms 139:14, NIV*

Life App: Creativity—imagining what you could do because you’re made in God’s image.

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

Got Spoons?

- Several regular decks of 52 playing cards (minus the jokers)
- Silver spoons (plastic)
- A prize of Lifesavers® for the winner

Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)

- Bible

Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for sending Jesus so that we may know Him and have a relationship with Him. Pray that for kids who haven't yet accepted the gift of salvation, today would be a step in that direction for them. For kids who have accepted that gift, pray that today would push them to want to know God better and grow in their relationship with Him.

Got Spoons?

What You Need: Decks of cards, spoons, life savers for prize

What You Do:

- As students arrive, have them get in a circle to play a game with one deck of cards. (*NOTE: You need at least 4 people to play and you should start a second game when you have more than 10 players.*)
- Set out enough spoons for all but one player. Place the spoons in the middle of the circle with the handles facing out.
- Shuffle and deal four cards to each player.
- Tell students the goal is to get four of a kind, but the catch is that you can only have four cards in your hand at one time.
- Start by taking the top card from the deck.
- If the card matches the number of one of your cards, keep it and discard a different card by handing it to the player on your left. (If it doesn't match, you can simply discard it immediately.)
- The player on your left will then do the same thing.
- Tell all the other players to take a card discarded by the player on their right and subsequently discard a card to the player on their left.
- Make sure players understand that they take cards from their right and discard to their left.
- Instruct them that play continues like this until one player has four of one kind of card. The first person to get four of a kind should quickly, quietly, and subtly pick up a spoon.
- Challenge all the other players to try and grab a spoon as soon as they see the first player do so.
- Explain that the player who is last won't get a spoon since there is one less than the number playing. That person is eliminated from the game.
- *NOTE: When more students arrive, ask the first person eliminated from your game to start a new game of spoons nearby since he or she has now played and can teach it to others.*
- Remove one spoon from the middle and keep playing with remaining players.
- Continue playing until only one spoon is left to grab. The player that gets four of a kind first and grabs it is the winner.
- *Pass out candy prize.*

What You Say:

"That is a pretty fast-paced and crazy game. I had no idea you guys could be so scrappy when you really want something—like a spoon! This was a game that didn't have a lot of rules. That reminds me of our Bible Truth today. God said there was really only one rule for the first humans; everything else was fair game. He wanted to have a close and honest relationship with them. But Eve and Adam were seriously tempted by that one forbidden thing. **[Transition]** Let's head to Large Group to hear what happens next."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Bingo ball tumbler
- Bingo balls

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Historyteller
- 252 Movie

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Power Praise Team

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- “Oh So Beautiful”
- “Know You Better”
- “Good, Good Father”

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Gadgets and Gizmos Theme Slide

Power Praise greets children as they enter.

Worship

POWER PRAISE: “It’s so good to see you today. I want to know who is ready to rise up with me.

(Pause for response.) Are you ready to let our praise rise up to our amazingly creative God? *(Pause for response.)* Well, jump to your feet. Get ready to move and sing. Let’s let our praises rise up today.

SFX: “Oh So Beautiful”

“Yeah! Isn’t it amazing to be called the children of God? *(Pause for response.)* It’s so amazing to know that we were created on purpose and for a purpose. Romans 8:16 says: *The Spirit himself joins with our spirits. Together they tell us that we are God’s children (NirV).* Let’s lift this song up to Him today.”

SFX: “Know You Better”

“Let’s keep worshipping Him as we sing His praises as our Good Good Father.”

SFX: “Good, Good Father”

“That was so wonderful! Have a great week and we will see you tonight for VBS we hope!”

Host enters as Power Praise exits.

Opener

HOST: “Good evening, partners! I mean, uh, good afternoon, associates! Man! I mean, good morning, kids! Welcome to [your environment’s name]! My name is, uh, it starts with a C, I think... no, it’s [Host’s name]! I’m here to talk with you about . . . dedication? Perseverance? Oh, jeez.

CG: Creativity Slide

“Oh, right! This month we’re talking about creativity, which is imagining what YOU could do because you’re made in GOD’s image! I’m really, really angry you came today. *(Beat.)* Wait. That didn’t come out right. We are so incredibly frustrated to have all of you here. UGH! I’m sorry, guys, I’m just feeling a bit . . . out of sorts? Off-kilter? Ugh, that’s not the idea either! *(Slap forehead in frustration.)*

“I’m just feeling a weird mix of emotions! I feel . . . happy? And yet I feel sort of sad. I feel hungry too, but I can still feel those eight stacks of waffles I had for breakfast sitting in my stomach! I feel weirdly nervous too, but now I’m bristling with confidence! UGH! I’m all sorts of jumbled up right now. Maybe we can play a jumbled-up game to get my head all sorted out. Who wants in? *(Pause for response.)* Okay, so I’m going to need one volunteer to work my latest invention.

Pull out the bingo ball tumbler and set it on the table.

“It’s the Kinetically Powered Twirl-o-Matic Emotion Generator! Impressive, I know. Here’s how it works: I’m going to act out a scenario based on a suggestion from the audience. The scene could be something like you got a new puppy, or your dad asked you to mow the lawn. Anything goes! As I’m acting out the scene, our volunteer is going to crank the Kinetically Powered Twirl-o-Matic Emotion Generator and dispense a new emotion! They can crank the Kinetically Powered Twirl-o-Matic Emotion Generator at any time and shout out the new emotion once it has dropped out. I’ll have to work that new emotion into my scene. I think three emotions should be enough to get me calibrated and get my head all sorted out. Sound good to all of you? Well, then, let’s commence to commencing! Someone give me an idea for a scene!

Take an idea from a kid in the audience, and then call him up to crank the generator. When a ball drops from the generator, begin making up the scene with the appropriate emotion. The kid should crank out two more emotions to complete the activity. Hopefully this is not a disaster.

“Awesome, awesome! Thank you so much! How about a round of applause for our volunteer? I definitely feel MUCH more in tune now. I feel like I understand myself better, and I hope you guys KNOW me a little better too! Actually, this is what we are talking about today—not about knowing me, but rather we are talking about knowing God! Let’s hear more.”

Host exits as Historyteller enters.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Hey, guys! I hope everybody is great this morning! I am really excited to have all of you here as we continue our talk about creativity.

CG: Creativity Slide

“Creativity is imagining what you could do because you’re made in God’s image. This sets us apart from every other living creature on earth. Neither tigers nor sand nor catfish nor willow trees nor anything else on this planet outside of human beings were created in the image of God. Each one of us were uniquely wired and wonderfully made to have a relationship with Him and to know Him. Let’s take a minute to catch everyone up.

“As we’ve talked about throughout the month, before everything existed there was nothing but God. He is all that existed. But God went to work for the next six days imagining and creating. For example, He made the light.

“Splitting light from darkness, God created days.

“He gave this planet a sky that turns vibrant colors each evening and morning.

“Some of you have gone swimming this summer. Well, God is the Creator of it all. He filled the four corners of the globe with water.

“The mountains and valleys and plains and plateaus were all shaped by God’s voice.

“The bright sun that warms up our summer days was from God.

“He sprinkled the sky with twinkling stars and the moon.

“Every plant, from the delicate orchids to the towering pine trees, was thoughtfully designed by God.

“Then came all the critters. Some slithered, some swam, some flew, and some crawled, but all of these animals were created by God.

“God made all of this, and it was all fine and dandy. Actually, the Bible says it was ‘good.’ But as a finishing touch, God made a creation in His image: God made Adam and Eve.

“God created all of this to point to His glory and for us to have a relationship with Him.”

“Now that we’re caught up, let’s watch this video for a little more insight into what happened next.”

CG: 252 Movie

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Clearly, Adam and Eve had made a mess of things. God made Adam and Eve to know and trust Him. The trust was broken when they decided to sin or disobey God. Adam and Eve could not clean up this mess that they created. Their sin had created an impossible separation from God, and it made no difference how hard they worked the land or how well they behaved.

“As a result of the very first sin, we also inherited this nature of disobedience. Everyone in this room has sinned and will continue to sin. Since God is perfect, our sin causes separation between us and God just like it did with Adam and Eve. But here is the beauty in this story of brokenness: God wants us to know Him. He does not want us to be separated from Him because of our sin.

“God made a way to restore our relationship with Him. He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth to live a perfect life. Jesus never sinned or disobeyed God. In fact, He pointed people to God through His love, compassion, and words. And when Jesus died on the cross, He paid for our sins. And when He rose from the dead, He offered us new, clean hearts just like He has. And with these new, clean hearts we can come close to God. God created this path for us to be close to Him because He wants us to know Him and be His friends forever. If you are ready to accept the gift of a clean heart that Jesus gives

please raise your hand and one of the leaders will take you to the side of the classroom and answer any of your questions or guide you through the prayer of salvation. Or come find me after Large Group and I will talk with you.”

So, our Bottom Line today is about knowing God.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “**God made you to know Him.** He wants you to know Him so badly that He was willing to let His Son take the punishment for sins He did not commit. God made a way for people like you and me to be perfect friends with Him again. Let’s pray.”

Pray

HISTORYTELLER: “Dear God, we recognize we have the same sin problem as Adam and Eve. We know this sin is what separates us from You. However, we praise You today because You created a pathway for us to have a relationship with You through Jesus. Please help every person in this room to understand that we were made to know You, and help us to strive to do just that. We love You, and we ask all these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you have an offering or a tithe to give today, you can bring that on up now.”

Host enters spinning his Kinetically Powered Twirl-o-Matic Emotion Generator as Historyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “Wow! Talk about a range of emotions. I thought I was having a rough morning! But Adam and Eve went from the **EXCITEMENT** of exploring a new world to the **HAPPINESS** of having a close relationship with God to the **SHAME** of disobeying God to the **FEAR** of hearing God approach! Eesh! I feel like they could have used my Kinetically Powered Twirl-o-Matic Emotion Generator to set them straight. However, the more I think about it, my Kinetically Powered Twirl-o-Matic Emotion Generator could not have set them straight even if they wanted it, because they could not clean up the mess they made. The relationship between them and God was broken. And only God could fix it.

“It’s the same for us as well. Our relationship with God is broken because we have sin-stained hearts too. However, God loves us so much and desires us to know Him so much that He gave us a way to have a relationship with Him. He made a way to fix our broken relationship. We can have a relationship with God through Jesus. It was through His death on the cross that He paid the price for all our broken rules. And when He rose back to life, He offers us new, clean hearts. When we accept what Jesus did on the cross to pay for our sins, and we accept the new, clean hearts that He offers us, we can come close to God! We can have the relationship with God that we were made for! Come talk to any of the leaders if you want to know more or if you are ready to accept God’s free gift of salvation.

Let’s take another look at today’s Bottom line.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “**God made you to know Him.** That’s all we have for you today. I am so furious all of you came today! Wait! I am so exasperated? Exhilarated? UGH! It’s time for me to recalibrate myself. Have a great time with your small groups! We will see you next week.”

Dismiss children to their Prayer Groups.

CG: Prayer Group Slide

Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)

What You Need: Bible

What You Do:

- Stand with your group and form a circle together.
- Use Psalm 139:14 as a prayer for one another. Ask kids to take turns inserting the name of the person on their left into the following prayer: “How you made _____ is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that.”

What You Say:

“God made each person here in an amazing and wonderful way. He made us with the ability to know, love, and follow Him. Adam and Eve may have done a total mess up, but God still wants to be known and loved by those He created. **[Bottom Line] God made you to know Him.** Think about that. What an awesome thought! Our great Creator doesn’t need you or me in order to be God, but we need Him in order to be all that He created us to be. He’s done the hard work of breaking down the wall of sin between us. Jesus gave His life to open the way for us to be forgiven and to KNOW God. That’s why we are here.”

As adults arrive to pick up, have them ask their son or daughter to recite Psalm 139:14!