



WEEK 2

ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE

LEGACY

THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.

THE BIBLE

More People Believe in Jesus: Acts 10:44-48
(I John 5:1-6)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- MUSIC** | Worship
- ACTIVITY** | What's the Difference?
- ACTIVITY** | Answer Three
- OBJECT LESSON** | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Two
- SCRIPTURE** | Acts 10:34-38
- THE BIG IDEA** | The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.
- VIDEO** | Legacy, Episode 2
- QUESTION** | Same or Different?
- ACTIVITY** | Travel the Room
- SCRIPTURE** | I John 5:1
- RESPONSE** | Love Locomotive
- REFLECTION** | Dear Friend . . .
- MEMORY VERSE** | Steam Train
- PRAYER**

SMALL GROUP TIME

- DISCUSSION**
 - What made Cornelius different from Peter?
 - How did Peter find out that God loves everyone, even if they are different?
 - How can we receive the Holy Spirit?
 - Read I John 5:1. Do you think it is possible to love God but not love God's children?
 - How has God shown you love?
 - Who is someone who is really different from you?
 - How can you show them love this week?
- ACTIVITY** | Steampunk Goggles
- MEMORY VERSE** | Romans 8:14 (NIV)



WEEK 2

HACKS FOR PRETEENS



BY ASHLEY SIDER

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

ACTIVITY | What's the Difference?

Print a copy of the printable for each kid and see who can spot all the differences the fastest.

OBJECT LESSON | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Two

Consider ways to include preteens in the object lesson (i.e. allow them to pour the water, display the ice cubes, and turning on the kettle).

QUESTION | Same or Different

Ask for examples of a time they were afraid to be nice to someone or to share examples of ways that others may be different.

SCRIPTURE | Acts 10:34-38

Consider asking one of the preteens to read the Scripture. Invite preteens to engage in Scripture reading in interactive ways (e.g., reading aloud, drawing images while reading, illustrating words that stand out, etc.).



WEEK 2

HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

LEGACY

BY EUGENIA LEE

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

GENERAL TIPS

Utilize strategies for kids to stay seated without engaging in problem behaviors. Many kids with special needs may require more than verbal prompting to remain seated. Some research-based strategies include:

- Providing fidget toys, sensory seat pads/chairs, doodle board, drawing pads, and so on.
- Using a token board and lots of verbal praise to reinforce positive behavior.
- Taking frequent breaks and using a timer to let them know when it's time to sit and when it's time to move (e.g., 5-minute sitting followed by 1-minute break).
- Designating an area where kids can move around at will with minimal distraction to the group.

ACTIVITY | What's the Difference?

For kids with visual impairments, provide two different tactile items that are similar (i.e., an apple and baseball, or beans and little pencil-top erasers). You might consider using this method for the entire group to promote an inclusion culture.

ACTIVITY | Answer Three

One way to encourage more participation for kids with special needs is to equip them in advance for activities, since it will require them more time to process and respond. For kids with language difficulties, work with them before the game starts so they have their answers ready. Have it written for them so they can read or show their responses to their friends.

QUESTION | Same or Different?

This is a great activity for everyone to learn more about the kids with special needs in the group. Most kids require explicit instructions on how to react to and interact with kids with special needs.

Openly discuss disabilities and how they affect one's daily life and learning. Have kids with special needs speak up about their disabilities, if they feel comfortable sharing and you feel comfortable facilitating the conversation.

Whenever you find teachable moments like this one, use it to talk about how to be friends with everyone regardless of any differences.



WEEK 2

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.

THE BIBLE

More People Believe in Jesus: Acts 10:44-48
(1 John 5:1-6)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

MUSIC | Your Love For Me

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lead the kids in fun, upbeat worship. Some songs we suggest are:*
 - [Love One Another](#) by Yancy
 - [Love the Lord](#) by CJ and Friends
- God loves us so, so much! God surrounds us with love. And because God loves us so much, we can love others, too! Let's sing about God's love!

ACTIVITY | What's the Difference?

- I am going to show you two images – they look the same, but there are some differences. Whenever you spot a difference, stand up!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Project the What's the Difference printable on the screen. Tell the kids to stand up when they see a difference between the two. Choose some of the kids to come to the front to point out the differences one by one. Consider using a draw tool on your computer to circle the ones they point out or just point out the differences on the screen. (The answer key is also provided in your Printables folder.)*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Print a copy of the printable for each kid and see who can spot all the differences the fastest.*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *For kids who have visual impairments, provide two different tactile items to compare.*

- It's funny how easy it is to find all the differences when you really start looking for them. Sometimes, we do that with people, too, don't we? It's important that we don't treat people differently based on their differences, though. We're all different, and that's okay!

ACTIVITY | Answer Three

- You're going to learn everything you can about your partner in the next thirty seconds. You've got to really pay attention because there will be a test! When I say, "Go," ask your partner the following questions:
 - **What is your name?**
 - **What is your favorite color?**
 - **What is your favorite place to travel to?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Put the questions up on the screen or on a poster board so it's visible to everyone. Divide the kids into partners. Tell the kids to find out the answers to these questions from their partners. Wait about thirty seconds and then tell the kids to find a new partner. It cannot be the same partner they just had. After three or four new partners, tell everyone to go back to their seats.*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *For kids with language difficulties, work with them before the game starts so they have their answers ready. Have it written for them so they can read or show their responses to their friends.*
- **Can anyone remember every single fact about their different partners?** *(Allow kids to share as much as they remember.)*
- **Did anyone find out something they didn't know before?** Maybe you found out something that you had in common.
- God wants us to love others. But in order to do that well, it would help to get to know each other!

OBJECT LESSON | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Two

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, prepare a pitcher or a cup with water, a cup with ice, an electric kettle, and an extra empty cup on hand to demonstrate this lesson. Heat up the water right before you begin the object lesson so you will have a steaming cup of water to show (or you can simply show steam coming out of the kettle).*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Consider ways to include preteens in the object lesson (e.g., allow them to pour the water, display the ice cubes, and turning on the kettle).*
- **Does anyone know what H²O is?**
- That's right! H²O is referred to as water. But H²O is unique as it can exist as water, ice, and steam.
 - Water is a liquid. *(Pour water from one cup or pitcher to another.)*
 - Ice is a solid. *(Show the kids an ice cube.)*
 - Steam is a gas. *(Safely demonstrate steam by plugging in an electric tea kettle, pouring in the water from the cup or pitcher, and allowing it to heat up, creating steam.)*
- Water, ice, and steam look different but they are all equally called H²O.
- Similarly, God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are all equally God, and is one God. But unlike H²O that can exist in only one form – water, ice, or steam – at any given time, God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are each with us at exactly the same time!

SO WHAT? *Why does it matter to God and to us?*

SCRIPTURE | Acts 10:34-38

- Today we are going to meet a man named Cornelius, who was a Roman army officer. Let's use our special time travel device to take us to today's Bible story!
- **INSTRUCTION:** Use the time travel device from last week. Point your arrow to the plate with the corresponding Scripture and play this [sound effect](#). Retell the Bible story from Acts 10:34-38 and/or show this [video](#).
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Consider asking one of the preteens to read the Scripture. Invite preteens to engage in Scripture reading in interactive ways (e.g., reading aloud, drawing images while reading, illustrating words that stand out, etc.).
- One day when Cornelius was praying, an angel spoke to him and told him to find a man named Peter, who had a message for him. So, Cornelius sent out some of his servants to go find Peter.

Does anyone remember who Peter was? Yes, he was one of Jesus' disciples! Same Peter.

 - Elsewhere, when Peter was praying alone, the Holy Spirit told Peter, "Somebody is looking for you." Just then, Peter heard some guys downstairs say they were looking for him!
 - So, Peter got up and went downstairs and said, "I'm the one you're looking for!"
 - The men took Peter to see Cornelius. When they arrived, Cornelius had his whole family and all his friends gathered together to hear the special message from Peter.
- Here's the thing: Peter was Jewish and the Jewish people typically weren't friends with people outside of the Jewish community. That is, until Jesus came, and brought this brand new message that God's love is for everyone.
- Peter realized that was the message he was supposed to tell Cornelius! God's love is for everybody!
- When Cornelius and his friends believed in Jesus, they received the Holy Spirit, and it was very clear to Peter and his Jewish friends that God loves everyone, and gives the Holy Spirit to anyone who believes in Jesus!

THE BIG IDEA | The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill the canister from last week with today's Big Idea words. Open the legacy pod and call up one kid at a time to pull out one sheet of paper at a time. Arrange the words into the correct order to reveal the Big Idea. Read the Big Idea out loud together.
- Let's see what's in today's legacy pod!
- **The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.**
- Loving everyone can be a tough thing to do. But great news! We don't have to do it alone. When we believe in Jesus, we have the Spirit of God, and that Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).

QUESTION | Same or Different?

- **Have you ever been afraid to be nice to someone?**
- It usually happens when someone is different from us, and we don't quite know how to react. Maybe you have brown hair and they have blonde hair. Maybe they speak a different language than what you're used to hearing. Maybe your interests are way different. Maybe you have different abilities.
- We shouldn't be afraid to be kind to others, even if they are different from us. We are all different but we shouldn't be afraid to learn more about each other and celebrate each other's differences as special and unique.
- God wants us to love everyone, including everyone who is different from us. **The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.**

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *This is a great activity for everyone to learn more about the kids with special needs in the group. Openly discuss disabilities and how they affect one's daily life and learning. Have kids with special needs speak up about their disabilities, if they feel comfortable sharing and you feel comfortable facilitating the conversation.*

ACTIVITY | Travel the Room

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a copy of the Travel the Room printable where they can fill in the blank with something about themselves and others. Encourage them to walk around the room to fill in the blanks. For example: I am good at singing. Diego is good at playing basketball. / I like to eat tacos. Sofia likes to eat pizza. / My favorite subject is art. Leo's favorite subject is math.*
- We are all different. But that makes us special. God made us this way, and God loves that about us! We can love others because **the Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.**

SCRIPTURE | 1 John 5:1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read 1 John 5:1.*
- **Who is the son of God?** *(Jesus.)*
- **If we love God, then we also have to love whom?** *(Jesus. Everyone.)*
- **How does knowing that Jesus loves everyone help us to love everyone?**

NOW WHAT? *What does God want us to do about it?*

RESPONSE | Love Locomotive

- So far, we talked about how the Holy Spirit helps us to know God. When we know God, we know that God wants us to treat others with kindness. And that's where the Holy Spirit comes in . . . to help us love everyone!
- It's not enough to just say you love someone. Love is an action. Let's talk about how we can actually show love.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use four giant sticky notes or poster board to make a train (similar to [this](#)). One paper should be the engine, labeled "Holy Spirit." The other three papers are the railroad cars*

behind the engine, labeled, “family,” “friends,” and “others.” Give kids three regular sticky notes and write or draw ways to show love to the people in each category. When they are ready, invite them to stick their responses on each of the railroad cars.

- **How can we show love to our families?** (e.g., Help with dishes or laundry, put away toys, write thank you cards.)
- **How can we show love to our friends?** (e.g., Share toys, carry books, help with schoolwork, remember their birthdays.)
- **How can we show love to other people we know but who aren’t our friends?** (e.g., Include them in games, invite them to sit with you at lunch, stand up for them.)

REFLECTION | Dear Friend. . .

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Encourage each kid to think of someone who is different from them. Instruct them to use crayons or markers to write a letter or draw a picture for that person.
- **When was the last time you showed love to someone who was very different from you? Who was that person?**
- We are going to spend a few minutes writing or drawing a picture for that person. Share some things you love about that person in your letter or picture.

MEMORY VERSE | Steam Train

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Assign each kid in the room a specific word from the memory verse. Tell them to keep their word a secret. You might even write the words on index cards and pass them out so the kids can remember their word. Practice saying the verse once together. The kid with the first word of the memory verse starts saying their word aloud while moving their arms in a circular, chugging motion like a steam train. The kid with the next word of the memory verse jumps onto the “train” by holding the first person’s shoulder with one hand and making the chugging motion with the other arm. This continues until everyone has had a chance to jump on the train in order of the memory verse. If you have more than eighteen kids, split the kids into teams and encourage the teams to compete to put their train in order first. Play a few rounds so everyone has a chance to practice the verse.

PRAYER

- Dear God, we pray for the Holy Spirit to change our hearts to be like yours. Help us see people the way you see them so we can love the way you love. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What made Cornelius different from Peter?**
- **How did Peter find out that God loves everyone, even if they are different?**
- **How can we receive the Holy Spirit?**

- Read I John 5:1. Do you think it is possible to love God but not love God's children?
- How has God shown you love?
- Who is someone who is really different from you?
- How can you show them love this week?

ACTIVITY | Steampunk Goggles

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** The kids will make their own steampunk goggles by cutting toilet paper rolls in half at a slant (or cut a paper towel tube in quarters). Instruct the kids to decorate their steampunk goggles using [silver or gold paper](#), silver duct tape, [steampunk stickers](#), [small craft gears](#), brads, and feathers. Hot glue the rolls together with the longer edge of roll on the outside, punch a hole on either side of the rolls, and use a [craft leather cord](#) to make a head strap for the goggles. You can also glue the rolls on to a [cheap eye mask](#). Your final product might look something like [this](#).
- It can be really easy to spot the differences between us and other people, and those differences might make us afraid or hesitant to approach them.
- I know these steampunk goggles won't really help us see better or protect our eyes from our travels. But it's a great reminder of how we should use the eyes of our heart to see others the way God does! **The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.**

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 8:14 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.