

## Today's Suggested Schedule—September 2020, Week 2

**Today's Bible Story:** We're Going to Be Friends (David and Jonathan) • *1 Samuel 20*

**Today's Key Question:** How can you show your friends they're important?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Friends love one another.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes.*  
Proverbs 17:17 (NirV)

**Monthly Life App:** Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care

**Basic Truth:** I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

### **PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience**

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### **SMALL GROUP (15 minutes)**

#### **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

Early Arriver

Opening Activity

### **LARGE GROUP (35 minutes)**

#### **STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways**

#### **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Welcome/Opener

Worship ("Lift My Voice" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*, "Friend Like You" from *This Love*, and "All About Love" from *Can't Stop, Won't Stop*)

Bible Story (Communicator Script)

Key Question

Prayer

### **SMALL GROUP (25 minutes)**

#### **GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot

Bible Story Review: Bible Story Review and Discussion Questions

Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You

Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

#### **HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Parent Cue Card (Print or Email)

GodTime Devotional for Kids

Studio252.tv

Parent Cue App

## **SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)**

**Today's Bible Story:** We're Going to Be Friends (David and Jonathan) • *1 Samuel 20*

**Today's Key Question:** How can you show your friends they're important?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Friends love one another.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes.*  
Proverbs 17:17 (NirV)

**Monthly Life App:** Friendship—Using your words and actions to show others you care

**Basic Truth:** I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

*Before kids arrive, pray for your group. Ask God for patience and kindness as you lead your preteens today. Pray that God would give you insight into how you can help your kids process this idea of friendships in their own lives.*

### **1. Just for Fun**

*Made to Create: an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

**What You Need:** Offering container, balloons, air pump

#### **What You Do:**

- Today we're to **continue** party planning to get ready for the block party . . . everyone's invited! Our task of the day is balloon animals!
- **Dump** out the balloons and the air pumps and see who can come up with best creation for the party.
- *Optional:* Look up some tutorials on YouTube and let the kids try them out.

## 2. Opening Activity

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding*

**What You Need:** “Find Someone Who” Activity Page, pencils

**What You Do:**

- **Give** each kid a copy of the activity page and challenge them to find one person for each characteristic listed on the page.
- **Instruct** kids to write each person’s name in the box corresponding with their characteristic.
- **Tell** kids not to repeat any names until they have written each small group member’s name in one box. (Once each person has been identified with a characteristic, then kids can start repeating names so they get all the boxes filled in.)

**What You Say:**

“The more we all get to know each other, the better friends we can be for each other. **[Transition]**

**Let’s go to large group and hear about an awesome example of friendship.”**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

## **GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)**

### **1. Take a Snapshot**

#### **[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

#### **What You Do:**

- **Explain** that today we're going to be playing some party games, and up first is a game of opposites!
- **Tell** kids that it's kind of like "Simon Says," except that when you give the command, kids have to do the opposite!
- **Inform** them that actions will be mixed in with how they treat friends, so they're going to have to think fast and do the opposite.
- **Emphasize** that if they can't think of an opposite, they're out. Or if they follow the command without doing the opposite they're out. The last person standing wins!
- **Check** to make sure they understand by saying, "So if I tell you to stand up, what will you do? (*Sit down.*) If I tell you to bump into your neighbor, what will you do? (*Hug them, high five, elbow bump, etc.*)"
- **Read** the following commands, in any order AND feel free to add your own!!
  - Jump up (opposite: squat down low)
  - Stay down (opposite: jump up)
  - Touch head (opposite: touch toes)
  - Stick tongue out at a friend (opposite: do something nice like bump elbows or high five)
  - Say something mean to a friend (opposite: say something nice to a friend)
  - Stand up (opposite: sit down)
  - Raise right hand (opposite: raise left hand)
  - Stand on left leg (opposite: stand on right leg)
  - Be quiet (opposite: talk)
  - Sing a song (opposite: could be dance or be silent)
  - Making fun of others (opposite: saying kind words to another)

## 2. Bible Story Extension

### [Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

*Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group*

**What You Need:** “Spoon Cards” deck for every four kids; plastic spoons

#### What You Do:

- **Divide** your group into two equal groups.
- **Tell kids** that you will be playing the game “spoons” but with David and Jonathan cards instead of playing cards.
- **Explain** that the goal of the game is to collect four of the same cards AND not be the last person to grab a spoon.
  - Start the game by arranging all the spoons in the middle of the group. (You need ONE FEWER spoon than the number of kids playing.)
  - The dealer shuffles all the cards and deals four cards to each player.
  - The dealer should keep the remaining cards in a pile in the middle of the group.
  - At the beginning of each round, the dealer takes a card off the top of the deck (to have five cards in his hand), they then remove one card from their hand and pass it face down to the player on their left.
  - This continues around the circle of players with each player taking a card from the person on their right, choosing a card to discard and passing one card on to the next player.
  - Each player discards to the person on their left.
  - The last player places his discarded card into a discard pile.
  - The dealer continues to pick up a new card while everyone also continues to pass cards to the person on their left.
  - The dealer sets the pace for the game; they can go as fast as they can, as long as they are only drawing one card at a time and discarding one card at a time.
  - If at any time the pile of new cards runs out, pause to reshuffle the discard pile and keep going.
- **Play** continues *quickly* until someone gets four of a kind.
  - At that time, the player takes a spoon from the center.
  - Once the player with four of a kind takes a spoon, anyone can take a spoon.
  - The player left without a spoon is out.
- **Remove** a spoon, and play another round.
- Once there is a winner (only one person left) **lay** all the cards out and work as a group to get them in the correct order of the Bible story.
- **Ask:**
  - What do you admire about David and Jonathan’s friendship? What makes them such a good example of great friends?
  - Has anyone ever had a friend like Jonathan, someone who put your needs before his or her own?

### 3. Discussion Questions

#### [Live for God | Application Activity]

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

**Ask:**

- Share about a time when someone showed you that you were important to them. How did it make you feel? **[Make it Personal] Share a story of your own!**
- Can you think of a time you showed a friend they were important to you? What did you do to show them?
- How do you show your close friends that you love them? How is that different from showing love to friends who are good friends but not your best friends?

#### 4. Verse to Take with You

##### [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

*Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

**What You Need:** Bibles, butcher paper, markers

##### **What You Do:**

- **Ask** a volunteer to divide the butcher paper into three columns and label them:
  - Column 1: Good friend
  - Column 2: Bad friend
  - Column 3: Why
- **Choose** volunteers to look up the following verses and read them aloud to the group. (You will need seven readers.)
- **Prompt** kids to decide which column the people from the verses should go in and why, after each passage is read.
- **Ask** someone to fill in that chart for the group as you go. (You can change writers for each passage. You may need to help kids figure out how to shorten their peers' answers into brief phrases to write in the "why" column.)
  - Matthew 26:14-16 and Luke 22:47-48
  - 2 Samuel 15:12 and 31 (POINT OUT that Absalom was supposed to be David's counselor but that he was conspiring with his enemy)
  - 1 Samuel 20:12-15
  - Ruth 1:16-17
  - Philippians 2:19-24
  - Luke 1:39-45
  - Exodus 4:10-16
- **Talk** about how/when each person in the "good friend" column showed someone they were important. Who did they show? How did they show them?

## 5. Make it Personal with Prayer

### [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

*Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

**What You Need:** Butcher paper from the “Verse to Take with You” Activity

#### What You Do:

- **Lay** the butcher paper from the “Verses to Take with You” Activity out on the floor and ask everyone to circle around it.
- **Remind** everyone that friends love one another.
- **Explain** that you’re all going to pray together and ask God to help you love others and be good friends.
- **Tell** them that you’re going to do a “popcorn” prayer: each person will pray a sentence (or two if they want), and they don’t have to go in any particular order; they can just call out their prayer when it comes to mind.
- **Use** this format: “God, teach me to be loyal like Ruth .”
- If it gets quiet for too long, throw in your own prayers:
  - “God, teach me to be loyal like Ruth .”
  - “God, teach me to be kind like Elizabeth .”
  - “God, teach me to be loving like Jonathan .”
  - “God, teach me to be helpful like Aaron .”

## GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

### **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction (15 Minutes)**

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

**(Choose one or both of these activities.)**

#### **1. Just for Fun**

*Made to Create: an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving*

- An offering container
- Long, skinny balloons (like the kind used to make balloon animals)
- Balloon pump; one for each Small Group

#### **2. Opening Activity**

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding*

- Print the "Find Someone Who" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Pencils

### **GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

**(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)**

#### **1. Take a Snapshot**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

- No supplies needed

#### **2. Bible Story Extension**

**[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

*Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group*

- Print the "Spoons Cards" Activity Page; one set for every four kids
- Plastic spoons; one for each person

#### **3. Discussion Questions**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

*Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding*

- No supplies needed

#### **4. Verse to Take with You**

**[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]**

*Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment*

- Butcher paper; one sheet for each Small Group
- Markers; four or five for each Small Group
- Bibles

## **5. Make it Personal with Prayer**

### **[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

*Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application*

- Butcher paper chart from “Verse to Take with You”

## **HOME: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience**

- Print on cardstock or email this week’s GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.