



BIG IDEA

God wants to transform the way we think.

ROMANS | LIFE | WEEK 3 OF 5

Sacrifice

GOD STORY

Sacrifice

Romans 12:1–8

KEY VERSE

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will tell people about me...from one end of the earth to the other.”

Acts 1:8 (NIRV)

LEADER TIP

If one of your group's regular leaders is away, take the time to help anyone who fills in become familiar with your usual routines.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (7 minutes)

To lead into the lesson, chat about times when the students have changed the way they thought about something.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5)

Encourage everyone to shift their perspectives as they work together to recreate pictures. Introduce today's Big Idea.

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

My Story

4 | APPLICATION ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Act out everyday scenarios then show the same scenes using Jesus-transforming ideas.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Highlight the Key Verse for this series with a colouring page.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL (2 minutes)

*Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.



BIG IDEA

God wants to transform the way we think.

ROMANS | LIFE | WEEK 3 OF 5

My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- As the students arrive, welcome them and find out how their weeks have gone.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Greet the students and gather them together.
- Ask:
 - Have you ever realized the way you thought about or approached a situation wasn't going to work? For example, maybe you struggled with a homework assignment, or you were building something and it just wasn't working out. What happened?
 - What was your "Aha!" moment? How did you change your thinking, so you could get the result you wanted?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their stories with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- Paper shapes
- Pictures

LEADER TIP

- Make sure the students who are creating with the shapes do not see the picture!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide into groups of three or four people.
- Direct two members of each group to sit back-to-back. Give one of them the paper shapes. Give the other person a picture.
- Explain that the student with the picture should describe where the shapes go. They cannot say what's pictured or peek at their partner's work.
- Encourage the remaining team member(s) to watch but not comment. Only the student holding the picture can speak!
- Prompt the watcher to tap out the person with the picture and take a turn directing the student with the shapes. The person with the picture and the watcher can switch places as often as they'd like.
- If time permits, repeat the activity. This time, switch it up so that the person with the picture and the watcher(s) quickly change positions between each instruction given to the student with the shapes.
- Discuss:
 - How did this challenge make you think differently? Did you change how you approached it at all?
 - How did changing the way you thought about your role change your approach?
- Introduce the Big Idea: **God wants to transform the way we think.**



BIG IDEA

God wants to transform the way we think.

God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- Highlight that when something transforms, there's a dramatic change in the ways it looks or acts.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Sacrifice, Romans 12:1–8)
 - Life Story (Conor has a physical disability and always struggled with identity. God worked to transform the way he thinks about himself and others!)
- Invite the students to give a quick recap of what happened in the God and Life Stories.
- Discuss:
 - What assumptions did people make about Conor because he had a physical disability?
 - What does it mean for God to transform how we think? How does he do it?
 - What are some things you could think about differently right now? For example, do you need to transform how you think about your siblings or other family members? Or how you think when you're angry or worried? Or how you think about people who you disagree with?
 - What's the Key Verse for this series? (Acts 1:8)

My Story

4 | Application Activity

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- If your group prefers not to act, chat about the scenarios and the students' ideas. Encourage everyone to consider what they'd really do rather than what they think the right answer is!

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide into groups of three or four people.
- Give each group one of the following scenarios:
 - One of you is making fun of someone at school. Everyone else goes along with it.
 - You're all thinking, "I'm just one person—I can't do anything to help the planet on my own!" So, you waste energy, water, or stuff.
 - You're all on a soccer team. One of you is the goalie. You let in a goal that allows the other team to win. The rest of your team blames you!
 - You're a group of friends sitting in class making fun of the teacher behind their back.
 - Each of you is on social media. You're all mocking someone together.
- Give the groups time to come up with ideas for acting out how the situation would usually go. Then they should switch to show creative, Jesus-transforming ideas for handling it.
- Invite them all to present to the other groups.
- After each scenario, recap by asking if anyone has ever experienced something like this. Discuss how **God wants to transform the way we think** and act in these kinds of everyday situations.
- Wrap up by praying for the students.



BIG IDEA

God wants to transform the way we think.

ROMANS | LIFE | WEEK 3 OF 5

My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Key Verse colouring pages
- Markers

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Give each student a colouring page.
- b. Place the markers where everyone can share them easily.
- c. Encourage the students to colour as you review Acts 1:8. Ask them what they think the verse means and what it could look like in their lives.

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
- b. Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
- c. Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
- d. Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.