



BIG IDEA

God's love is bigger than our mistakes.

EXODUS | WILDERNESS | WEEK 4 OF 5

Bigger

GOD STORY

The Golden Calf and God's Law

Exodus 32-34

KEY VERSE

My faithful God, answer me when I call out to you. Give me rest from my trouble. Have mercy on me. Hear my prayer.

Psalm 4:1 (NIRV)

LEADER TIP

- During the activities this week, emphasize that God's love for us is bigger and much more powerful than any mistake we could ever make.

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

Lead into the lesson by discussing mistakes and introducing the Big Idea.

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Challenge the kids to play a game in which it's easy to make mistakes. Then wrap up by chatting about what happens when we make mistakes.

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss them together.

My Story

4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Review today's video teaching, and then decorate bookmarks that the kids can place in their Bibles.

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Review the Big Idea and then use a spinner to select fun ways to say it.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.



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My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- Use this quick activity to welcome the kids, build community, and set the tone for your group.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Welcome the kids as they arrive and gather everyone in a group.
- Ask:
 - What do you do if you make a mistake?
 - Have you ever tried to cover up something and then been found out later?
 - Has anything funny ever happened because you've tried to hide a mistake?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **God's love is bigger than our mistakes.**

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather everyone to sit in a circle on the floor.
- Tell the kids that today they're going to hear about how God's people totally messed up—but he gave them another chance.
- Explain that you're going to play a game in which they must do your PREVIOUS action every time you shout, "Change!" For example, if you start by clapping your hands, the kids should do nothing. Then, when you shout, "Change," they should begin to clap their hands as you start your new action.
- Continue changing your actions for as long as the kids are interested and time permits.
- To wrap up, discuss:
 - How did you feel when you made a mistake? Did anyone get mad at you?
 - Did you get another chance?
 - What happens when we make more serious mistakes? Do you get in trouble?
- Remind everyone that **God's love is bigger than our mistakes!**



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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

LEADER TIP

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video as needed.
- Make sure the kids understand the links between the Big Idea, the God Story, and the Life Story.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (The Golden Calf and God's Law | Exodus 32-34)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (Kids talk about making mistakes.)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
 - Can anyone say the Key Verse without reading it?
 - What was the Life Story about in today's video? Can you relate to anything that was said?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - The Israelites made a really big mistake! When you make a mistake, how do you usually feel?
 - What does God want us to do when we mess up? Is it always easy?
 - How does it feel to know that God's love is always bigger and stronger than our mistakes?

My Story

4 | Small Group Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bookmarks
- Decorative tape
- Hole punch
- Tassel materials
- Markers

LEADER TIP

- Make sure everyone's names are on their bookmarks.
- This is a great opportunity to ask kids if they have a Bible of their own. If not, speak to your pastor or coordinator about getting one for them.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather your small group to sit together.
- Give each person a bookmark.
- Place the other supplies where everyone can reach them easily.
- Encourage the kids to decorate their bookmark to place in their Bible. They can add decorative tape and/or draw on it.
- Direct everyone to punch a hole at the top of their bookmark and attach tassels.
- As they create, continue to talk about the God Story together pointing kids to the Big Idea: **God's love is bigger than our mistakes.**



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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Prayer page with spinner

BEFORE ACTIVITY

- Hang the Key Verse sign where everyone can see it.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Remain in your small group and sit in a circle.
- Lead the kids to practise saying the Big Idea: God's love is bigger than my mistakes. Repeat it out loud to let the idea really sink it.
- Place the prayer page in the middle of the circle.
- Guide the kids to take turns using the spinner to select a Big Idea challenge (e.g., hold your tongue and say, "God's love is bigger than my mistakes.").
- Encourage them as they have fun saying the Big Idea.
- If time permits, give everyone a second turn.
- Close by thanking God that his love is so much bigger than our biggest mistakes!

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

LEADER TIP

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

INSTRUCTIONS

- If parents pick up their kids in your setting, take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- Give everyone a weekly take-home card.
- Offer a Key Verse card and a colouring page to anyone who has not gotten them this month.
- Remind the kids to take their crafts.