

#### **BIG IDEA**

I am confident because God leads me.

#### **BIBLE**

Your Word is a Lamp for My Feet: Psalm 119:101-105; (John 8:12)

# LARGE GROUP TIME

## WHAT?

### MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:-**Sing a few worship songs with your kids! Choose any song(s) you and your kids like, but you might want to include one or more of the following:
- "I Will Follow" by Chris Tomlin (video)
- "Follow You Anywhere" by Passion feat. Kristian Stanfill (video)

### **ACTIVITY | Follow the Rainbow**

• INSTRUCTIONS:-Give each kid a fun-sized bag of Skittles. Each round, tell the kids to pull out one Skittle and notice the color. For each color, give a different instruction for them to follow. At the count of three, tell everyone to do the action based on their Skittle color. Repeat as many times as you'd like!

- SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:-Check with parents/guardians beforehand for permission to allow their child to eat Skittles. It's always best to be safe.
- Red: Stand up and do a dance
- Orange: Do ten jumping jacks
- Yellow: High five someone with your same color Skittle
- Green: Recite last week's Big Idea, I am safe because God watches over me, as loud as you can!
- Purple: Do five push-ups
- Was it easy to remember what you were supposed to do for each color?

#### **ACTIVITY | Who's the Leader?**

- INSTRUCTIONS:-Choose one kid to leave the group and choose another kid to be the "leader." The leader will choose a nonverbal action to do. Invite the kid who left to come back. The leader and the rest of the group will begin doing the motion. The kid who is not doing the motions will try and guess who the leader of the group is. This could also be done by splitting kids into multiple groups of six to eight, if you have a large group.
- It may have been difficult to figure out who the leader was. When we allow God to lead us, our actions should be in sync with God's.

### QUESTION | Who Leads You?

- We all have leaders in our lives. Let's think about some of the leaders we have.
- Who is the leader in a school?-(Principal)
- Who is the leader in a classroom?-(Teacher)
- Who is the leader at home?-(Parents or guardians)
- Who is the leader in a city?-(Mayor)
- Who is the leader of the country?-(President)
- God should be the ultimate leader of our lives. But God also gives us

people who are wiser than us to help lead us.

• PRETEEN HACK:-Ask students to share responses to the following questions: What qualities make a person someone worth following? What are necessarily qualities of a leader?

#### THE BIG IDEA | I am confident because God leads me.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:-**Tell the kids to follow you around the room. You can add in some silly actions while you do this, if you'd like. Play a fun song!
- While you were following me around, did you ever think I would lead you to somewhere dangerous? No! Because you know I care about each of you and I want you to be safe. This week's Big Idea is,-I am confident because God leads me!

### SO WHAT?

### VIDEO | Sing, Episode 3

• INSTRUCTIONS:-Play this week's-teaching video.

# **SCRIPTURE | Psalm 119:101-105**

- INSTRUCTIONS:-Look up the story in your Bible and encourage the kids to do the same. Read it! You might want to consider using a translation that's easier to understand such as the Message, NLT, or NIRV.
  - SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:-Turn the lights off, and demonstrate the concept of "LIGHT" through many physical examples such as a, flashlight, nightlight, lantern, candle, cell phone light, lamp, glow stick.
- Light is very important! It helps us to see everything around us. When we can see things clearly, we know which way to go.
- God's words to us, like those right here in the Bible, are like light for our

- lives. When we obey God's words, they help to protect us from harm and danger. And when we need to know what to do and what not to do, God helps us figure it out.
- Read verse 103 again.-The psalmist, or the writer of the psalm, says God's words are sweeter than honey. That means he loves God's Word so much and enjoys spending time with God. When we have that same love for God's Word, we will read the Bible more. And when we read the Bible more, we will always know which way God is leading us!

#### VIDEO | Psalm 119:105 Dance

• INSTRUCTIONS:-Use this video, "Psalm 119:105" -to help the kids learn the key verse from today's Psalm. You may want to learn it beforehand and teach them each step before playing the video. Then, play the video as many times as you'd like so they can have fun practicing the verse. During the break down part of the song, encourage them to freestyle and have fun doing their own dance!

### **OBJECT LESSON | Flashlight**

- INSTRUCTIONS:-Use a flashlight to demonstrate how important light is. You can use-this video-for ideas on how to best demonstrate this to your group. If you think it'll be appropriate, consider turning down the lights to make the illustration even more impactful.
  - PRETEEN HACK:-Instead of playing this video, consider asking students to do a simple task (e.g., feed a partner pudding, put on gloves, etc.) and then have them do the same task in the dark! Talk through the importance of light in accomplishing tasks and some things that it would be nearly impossible to do in the dark!

## SCRIPTURE | John 8:12

• What does this verse tell us about Jesus?-That's right! We all need

- Jesus' help to know what to do every day.
- God helps everyone to know what to do and where to go! If we don't listen to God, we will be like a person walking around a dark room with no flashlight! That's can be scary. Or we might bump into things and get hurt.
- God will help us make good choices. How? Through God's words! We can find God's words in the Bible. We can feel safe knowing God leads us.

### **NOW WHAT?**

### **STORY | In Need of Light**

- INSTRUCTIONS:-Share a story about a time when you really needed light. It can be a story about when there was a blackout or just at night when you were trying to make it to the bathroom in the dark.
- Do you have a story of when you were in the dark, too?-Share it with us!
- Light just makes things better! We should let God be our light and let God lead us wherever we are going.

### **ACTIVITY | What Is This?**

- I'm going to ask some volunteers to come up and try to guess what is in my bag!
- INSTRUCTIONS:-Place random objects into different paper bags. Ask for volunteers to come up and guess what's in each bag without looking in the bag. Try to choose items that kids might not be able to guess right away.
- Even though you were able to guess what was in each bag, you can't be a hundred percent sure until you see it, right?
- We can be a hundred percent sure about the right thing to say or do when we listen and obey God's words!

#### **PRAYER**

Thank You, God, for being a lamp in my life. You lead me and make sure
I stay safe. Thank You for Your words that help me to know the right
thing to do.

#### **MEMORY VERSE | Rap Battle**

• **INSTRUCTIONS:**-Since this series is called, "Sing!" try different ways to sing the memory verse. This week, encourage the kids to try rapping the memory verse! You can play a fun track like<u>this one</u>-for them to use as their background. The kids can even challenge each other to a mini rap battle.

## SMALL GROUP TIME

#### **DISCUSSION**

- Why are lamps so important?
- How is God's word is like a lamp for us?
- Where can we find God's words?
- Read Psalm 119:105 again. What are some challenges you might face if you are walking around in the dark without a light on your path?
- Can anyone think of some Bible verses that help us know what we should do?
- Why do you feel safe and confident when God leads you?
- What are some ways you can follow God this week?

## **ACTIVITY | Paper Lanterns**

• INSTRUCTIONS:-Have kids make a paper lantern by folding a piece of paper length-wise, cutting slits along the fold, unfolding the paper and rolling it width-wise, and attaching the ends together. Place a battery-operated tea light inside. Check out-

this link-to see how to make this and other types of paper lanterns.

- PRETEEN HACK:-For Preteens, consider offering a-<u>lightbulb craft</u>
   This can be a visible reminder to them of the important of light and allowing God to show them the way every single day!
- This lantern will be a reminder to you that God's word is a lamp for your feet and a light to your path. Put it some place where you will remember this verse and how it can help you see the amazing things God does.

### MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 95:1 (NIV)

• **INSTRUCTIONS:**-Introduce kids to this month's memory verse, teaching them the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.