



K-5TH GRADE PRODUCTION



Jan 19th

Today's Bible Story: Don't Look Back in Anger (Slow to Anger) • *James 1:19*

Today's Bottom Line: When you're angry, talk to God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Be strong, all you who put your hope in the LORD. Never give up. Psalm 31:24 (NIRV)*

Monthly Virtue: Resilience—Getting back up when something gets you down

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

9:00/10:45/12:30	<p>PC (HOST) takes the stage; encourages kids to begin clean up; hypes kids for Large Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Gives cue to Tech to begin 30 second monthly countdown ■ ½ House Lights Remain UP until end of Bust Out
9:03/10:48/12:33	<p>SFX: 30 Second Countdown Bustout – PRAISE</p>
9:06/10:51/12:36	<p>Welcome & Announcements Boo-YAH!!</p>
9:10/10:55/12:40	<p>OPENER HOST: "Hello, everyone! I hope you're ready for some fun here at [name of your environment]. I'm [your name], and I'm so glad you're here!"</p> <p>"This month we're talking about how God is with us—rain or shine. We all go through different seasons of life. Some of them are fun, some are challenging, and we know that they all come and go. But we know that God is with us to help us, no matter what kind of season we're in!</p> <p>"So far we've played a game about spring rain showers, and a game about beach time in the summer. Which season do you think comes next? <i>(Pause for responses.)</i> Yep! Fall. When I think of fall, I think of the falling leaves . . . maybe raking them all up and then jumping into a massive pile! Well, today we'll see how well you can collect the leaves BEFORE they hit the ground!</p> <p>"This game is called 'Fall Catch-'Em-All.'</p> <p>SLIDE: "Fall Catch-'Em-All"</p> <p><i>Worship Leaders start bringing out supplies for the game.</i></p> <p>"Here's how the game works. I'll need three contestants from each side of the room. Raise your hand if you want to play.</p> <p><i>Pick three kids from each side to go on stage. (Be sure to pick kids from different parts of the room—not just up front.)</i></p> <p><i>(To the kids on stage)</i> "All right, contestants. Three of you will be on team red, and the other three on team blue. Here's a leaf bag for each of you—it has a color marked on it, which will tell you what team you're on.</p> <p><i>Give each kid a lawn/leaf bag that's already been opened up. Three bags will have</i></p>

been marked blue and three bags will have been marked red.

"In just a minute, these leaves will start falling from the sky. *(Reference the artificial leaves.)*

Briefly explain how the leaves will be falling. For example, you might have an electric leaf blower that you'll use to blow the leaves into the air. Or you might have the Worship Leaders toss them down from an elevated platform or a ladder.

"When that happens, you'll try to catch the leaves in your bag BEFORE they hit the ground. You must catch them in the air; you can't just pick them up off the floor, okay? And you must catch the leaves with your bag, not your hands. Meanwhile, I'll be picking up the leaves that fall to the floor and giving them back to our friends to launch them again. We'll check your bags at the end of the game, and whichever team, red or blue, has collected the most leaves wins!

"Are you ready? *(To audience)* Everyone, cheer for your teammates! Here we go!

AUDIO: Fun, instrumental music
Optional Video (Media Package): Countdown (60-second version)

If you're not using an on-screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds.

Comment on the action and encourage the contestants to catch the leaves in their leaf bags. Also, gather up the leaves that fall on the floor so the Worship Leaders can launch them again.

When time's up, have the kids turn their bags upside down. Count how many total leaves each team has, and declare the winning team. Thank the contestants and dismiss them to their seats.

SLIDE: Theme
Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

"Way to go, contestants! You did a great job catching those leaves. It was tough, but you didn't give up. Let's all stand up now and get ready to sing and worship God. God is always with us, through every season. **[Basic Truth] We can trust God no matter what!**"

9:15/11:00/12:45

WORSHIP
Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, friends! Right now we have the opportunity to spend some time completely focused on God. Let's give God our very best as we lift our voices and worship from our hearts. Let's crank up the music and sing God's praise. Here we go!

AUDIO: "Sing Your Praise" / track 2 from My Life for You
Optional Video: "Sing Your Praise" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video

9:18/11:03/12:48

BIBLE STORY
SLIDE: Theme Background

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY
STORYTELLER: "Hi, friends! Today we're taking a look at an important idea from the book of James. *(Hold up Bible.)* This book of the Bible was written by Jesus' half-brother, James! Think about that. James came to believe that his brother was the Son

of God . . . and he wanted to help others put their faith in Jesus too.

"James became a leader in the early church. He helped people to grow in their faith and to follow Jesus better. We're about to read part of a letter that James wrote to other believers to help them understand something very important: it's not only important to HAVE faith, but to put that faith into ACTION in the way that we treat others!

TROUBLE WILL COME

STORYTELLER: "In his letter, James wrote about what we can do when we feel something rise up inside us: *(Pause.)* Anger.

"I know I can get frustrated and angry pretty easily—especially when things go wrong or don't go my way. But it helps me to remember that God is with me, even in my anger. I need God's help to stay in control of my anger . . . so it doesn't control me!

"The fact is, things WILL happen to us that make us mad, upset, or frustrated. James wrote about that here in his letter.

Open the Bible to James 1:2-3 (NirV) and read.

My brothers and sisters, you will face all kinds of trouble. When you do, think of it as pure joy. Your faith will be tested. You know that when this happens it will produce in you the strength to continue. (NirV)

"Whoa. That's a pretty big statement. James said that when we face trouble, we should think of it as pure joy. Why? Because trouble gives us a chance to practice trusting God. God can build strength and resilience inside of us. Because of that, we'll be able to keep going . . . and we'll also be able to face tough things in the future.

"Let me get two Small Group Leaders to come up here and show you what I mean.

Bring up your two pre-selected Small Group Leaders. (Or you could use Worship Leaders instead.)

(To the two leaders) "All right, [leaders' names]. In just a second, I'll need to tell you about some bad news—some trouble. You'll then respond by reading what's in these scripts, one after the other.

Hold up the printed scripts that are highlighted with each leader's parts. Give the scripts to the two leaders.

"You can speak into the microphone so we can all hear you. And remember—you're acting. So be sure to use BIG reactions and BIG emotions. Sound good?

(To audience) "All right. Let's see two different ways that someone might react when they come across some trouble.

Hold up the empty plate with the fork on it.

(To leader #1) "[Leader's name], I'm so sorry, but I ate the last piece of cake. I didn't realize you didn't get a piece yet."

Nod to leader #1 to cue them.

Note: The leaders should do the "angry" responses in a silly, over-the-top way—so that they're not scary for the kids.

LEADER #1: "WHAT?! No way! I can't believe it! My week is ruined! My LIFE is ruined! I'll never have fun ever again!"

STORYTELLER: *(To audience)* "Wow. That seemed a little intense, [leader #1]. Maybe let's try this again.

(To leader #2) "[Leader's name], I'm so sorry, but I ate the last piece of cake. I didn't realize you didn't get a piece yet."

Nod to leader #2 to cue them.

LEADER #2: "Oh man! That's really a bummer. *(Big, deep breath.)* But I'm glad you got to enjoy it. I'm sure I'll have other chances to get some delicious cake."

STORYTELLER: "Wow. I'm very impressed, [leader #2]. You stayed calm. You didn't let your anger or frustration take over."

QUICK TO LISTEN, SLOW TO SPEAK

STORYTELLER: "Let's see what else James had to say.

Open the Bible to James 1:19 (NIRV) and read.

Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry. (NIRV)

"Okay. There were two really important things that James said in the first part. Be quick to listen . . . and slow to speak.

"If we trust that God is in control, we can really listen to other people . . . even if we don't think we agree with what they're saying. That will help us keep from getting angry right away.

"Now, what do you think it means to be 'slow to speak'? *(Pause for responses.)* Right. It means we probably shouldn't say the first thing that pops into our head. We should think things through carefully, BEFORE we open our mouths.

"Let's see our actors act out another scenario and look at a couple different ways they might handle it. *(To the two leaders)* Ready, friends? *(Pause for responses.)* Okay! [Leader #2], you're up first this time."

Nod to leader #2 to cue them.

LEADER #2: *(Pretend to hold up a phone)* "Hello? Wait, what? Jonathan isn't coming to the party today? Ugh! He always cancels at the last minute. I don't think we should invite him to anything anymore!"

STORYTELLER: *(To audience)* "Hmmm. That would be frustrating for sure. But I wonder if there's more to the story."

Nod to leader #1 to cue them.

LEADER #1: *(Pretend to hold up a phone)* "Hello? Oh, really? He's not coming to the party? Aw, man . . . why can't he make it? *(Pause to listen.)* Oh wow. His sister is in the hospital? Maybe we can swing by and bring them some food or snacks or something. Thanks for letting me know. I'll see you later!"

STORYTELLER: *(To audience)* "Okay. That was much better, right? [Leader #1] really listened before letting [himself/herself] get angry. When we slow down to listen to

people instead of just speaking without thinking, we often find out that there's a bigger story. God can help us see things that might be more difficult to see at first.

SLOW TO GET ANGRY

STORYTELLER: "Listen again to what James wrote.

Open the Bible to James 1:19 (NIRV) and read.

Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry. (NIRV)

"There it is! We should be slow to get angry. When something frustrating happens and we feel anger rising up inside us, we need to find a way slow it down. We can listen well, before we say anything. We can think carefully about what to say.

"What other kinds of things could we do to slow down our anger?"

Take a few answers from the kids. Be sure to mention the ideas below if the kids don't suggest them.

"Right. We can stop and pray—even if it's just a quick, silent prayer between us and God. We can ask God to give us the right words to speak so that our anger doesn't get out of control. God lives inside of us through the Holy Spirit and loves to help!

"Another thing we can do when we feel anger rising up in us is to take deep breaths. (*Demonstrate.*) That really slows us down, doesn't it? Maybe you could say a prayer to God WHILE you're taking a deep breath . . . and ask God to help you slow down your anger.

"Now, it's important to know that feeling anger is NOT wrong! In fact, we can read in the Bible about times when Jesus Himself felt angry—like when He saw that people were changing money and selling things inside the temple. Anger can be an important and GOOD emotion when we're angry about something wrong that's being done to people.

"But we need to stay in control of our anger so that we don't end up hurting ourselves or others. Like Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians:

Open the Bible to Ephesians 4:26 (NIRV) and read.

"When you are angry, do not sin." (NIRV)

(To the two leaders) "Okay, [leaders' names]. Are you ready to act out one more example? (*Pause for responses.*) [Leader #1], you're up first again.

Toss the football to leader #1. Nod to leader #1 to cue them.

LEADER #1: (*Step back, look in the distance, then pretend to throw a pass.*) "Come on, come on, come on . . . AHH! He dropped it! We LOST. AGAIN. (*Looking in the distance*) Aiden, that was totally your fault!"

STORYTELLER: (*To audience*) "Hmmm. That wouldn't make Aiden feel very good, would it? I mean, I'm sure he already feels terrible about dropping the ball. He doesn't need his teammate shouting at him. Let's try that again. [Leader #2], you're up.

Cue leader #1 to toss the football to leader #2. Nod to leader #2 to cue them.

LEADER #2: (*Step back, look in the distance, then pretend to throw a pass.*) "Come

on, come on, come on . . . AHH! He dropped it! We LOST. AGAIN. *(Take a long, deep breath and look up like you're praying. Then continue.)* Good try, Aiden. We'll get 'em next time!"

STORYTELLER: "I love it! *(To audience)* Let's give a big hand to our two actors. *(To the two leaders)* Thank you both!

Dismiss the two leaders to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "For all of us, there will be times when we feel angry. We could be angry with ourselves, angry with someone else, or angry with something that just doesn't go our way. We could be angry when we see something that isn't right in the world that needs to be fixed.

"What we need to remember about anger is what James explained in his letter:

Open the Bible to James 1:19 (NirV) and read.

Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry. (NirV)

"When we ask God for help, we can be quick to listen . . . slow to speak . . . and slow to get angry. So let's remember this and put it into practice.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] "When you're angry, talk to God. Say that with me."

STORYTELLER and KIDS: **[Bottom Line]** "When you're angry, talk to God."

Host enters.

SLIDE: Theme

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

Let's pray and ask God to help us slow down when we feel angry."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for caring about our feelings. When we get angry, help us to be quick to listen . . . slow to speak . . . and slow to get angry. We know that sometimes anger is important and good because it helps us to do what's right. Help us know what to do with our anger to make sure we don't sin against You, ourselves, or others. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.

SLIDE: Theme

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

9:30/11:15/1:00

WORSHIP LEADER:

"Jesus said, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' *(John 14:6, NirV)* We can follow Jesus' example because He always shows us what's right. His way is always best! Let's have some fun and sing this together."

AUDIO: "You Are" / track 1 from This Little Light

Optional Video: "You Are" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video

9:34/11:19/1:04	LANDING COMMUNICATOR: So as you head to small group, think about this. . ." <i>CG: Bottom Line Slide</i> <i>[Bottom Line]</i> "When you're angry, talk to God." It's time to talk more in Small Groups! Have fun!"
9:35/11:20/1:05	<i>Kids to Small Groups</i> <i>SFX: Play fun music as the kids exit.</i>