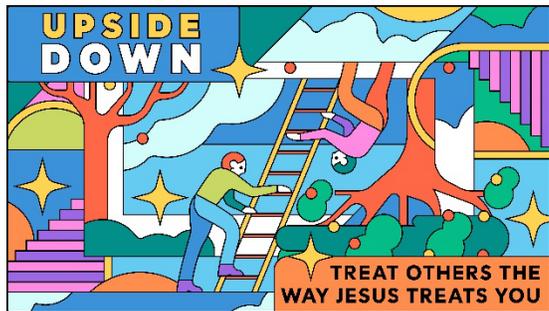




K-5TH GRADE PRODUCTION



March 22, 2026

Bible Story: Mary and Martha • *Luke 10:38-42*

Bottom Line: Make time for Jesus first.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • *Philippians 2:3 NIV*

<p>8:45/10:45/12:30</p>	<p>PC (HOST) takes the stage; encourages kids to begin clean up; hypes kids for Large Group</p>
<p>9:15/11:00</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
<p>8:48/10:48/12:33 9:18/11:03</p>	<p>SFX: 30 Second Countdown Bustout – Hope is Alive</p>
<p>8:51/10:51/12:36 9:21/11:18</p>	<p>Welcome & Announcements Boo-YAH!! PRAY</p>
<p>8:55/10:55/12:40 9:25/11:10</p>	<p>OPENER HOST: “Hey, everyone! Welcome back to another week of this month’s theme, ‘Upside Down!’ I’m so glad you’re here today. This whole month, we’ve been learning that following Jesus sometimes means living in a way that looks totally different from what everyone else does. It’s upside down, but it’s the best way to live! “Now, we’re going to start today with a game that’s all about doing things the opposite way. It’s called ‘Backward Freeze Dance!’ SLIDE: Backward Freeze Dance Title “Here’s how it works: when the music is playing, you freeze! Don’t move a muscle! But when the music stops ... that’s when you dance like crazy! You’ve got to move, groove, and go all out, because that’s the backward, upside-down part! “Got it? Music plays, you freeze. Music stops, you dance. Let’s give it a quick practice round. Practice Round “Okay, let’s try it out. Everyone, spread out and get some space! “Music ON!</p>

AUDIO: Play a fun, upbeat song or one the kids love and are used to.

“Freeze!

Walk around the room, look, and enthusiastically comment on the kids frozen in funny poses.

“Wow, these are some statues! It’s so hard not to dance when the music is playing, right?

“Music OFF, dance!

Pause the music and enthusiastically comment on the kids’ dancing.

“Yes! You got it! You guys are ready for the real thing.

Round One

“All right, here we go. When the music’s on, freeze. When it’s off, dance like you mean it!

AUDIO: Play a fun, upbeat song or one the kids love and are used to.

Music plays, kids freeze. Music pauses, kids dance. Go back and forth several times, mixing up the length of the pauses.

“Freeze!

“Dance!

“Freeze!

“Dance!

“Awesome job, everyone! You nailed it! Let’s all take a breather, and we can get instructions for the next round!

Round Two: Silly Dance Moves

“All right, this round, let’s add some silly moves. When you dance, I’ll give you some crazy moves to do. The sillier, the better!

“Ready? The music is OFF—so dance like you’re made of JELLY!

Start the music.

“And music ON ... everybody freeze!

Walk around the room, look and comment enthusiastically at the kids frozen in funny poses. Stop the music.

“Okay, music OFF—dance like a CHICKEN!

Music plays, kids freeze. Music pauses, kids dance. Go back and forth several times, mixing up the length of the pauses. But this time, share the silly dance moves you’d like to add when the music is off.

“Music OFF—dance like a sleepy sloth!

Music ON—kids freeze.

“Music OFF—dance like you just won a gold medal!

Music ON—freeze.

“Great job, everyone! You can take a seat.

“That game sure was backwards, wasn’t it? It felt funny to freeze when the music played and dance when it stopped. It didn’t work the way we expected!

“But that’s kind of what Jesus teaches us to do too. Sometimes, His way feels upside down compared to what we’re used to. Everyone around us might be rushing around trying to do other things first, but Jesus said something different. He said the most important thing we can do is *make time for Him first*.

“When we slow down and spend time with Jesus, it helps everything else in our day work better!

“Let’s check out our Bottom Line for today!

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “**Make time for Jesus first.** That’s what we’re learning about today—how we can make Jesus first in our lives! Can you say that with me?”

KIDS AND HOST: [Bottom Line] “**Make time for Jesus first!**”

HOST: “Great job, everyone!”

9:00/11:00/12:45

WORSHIP

9:30/11:15

WORSHIP LEADER: “Alright, everyone, let’s get ready to worship! This is our chance to celebrate how good God is! He made each one of us. He loves us more than we can imagine, and He’s always with us, no matter what we’re going through.

“When we sing, we’re not just saying words, we’re thanking God for who He is and all the amazing things He’s done. So come on, let’s stand up, smile big, and sing out loud to show God how much we love Him!

SONG: “Thank You God” available on store.thinkorange.com

9:03/11:03/12:48

BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: Theme Background

9:33/11:18

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

INTRODUCTION

STORYTELLER: “Hi, friends! I’m so glad you’re here today! This month, we’re continuing our theme called ‘Upside Down!’ We’ve been learning what it means to live upside down, doing things God’s way, even when it looks different from what everyone else does.

“Today, we’re learning the most important thing we can do with our entire lives. We’re going to learn how we can [**Bottom Line**] **make time for Jesus first**. That means before we do anything else—before we rush, before we worry, before we study—we stop, rest, and spend time with Him. The most important priority of our lives, every day, is our friendship with Jesus.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Today we’re continuing our journey through the Bible. We’re at the part of the Bible where Jesus was on Earth! So let’s see what we can learn from something that happened in His life!

“To start our Bible Story, I want to show you something.

Gesture to the lamp.

“This is a lamp! Now, what is a lamp supposed to do?

Let kids call out: “Light up!”

“Right! A lamp’s job is to shine. But let’s see what happens if I try to turn it on while it’s not plugged in.

Flip the switch of the unplugged lamp, nothing happens.

“Hmm. That’s strange. Why isn’t it working? Exactly! It’s not connected to the power source. No matter how hard I flip the switch, it won’t be able to do what it’s created to do until I plug it in.

Now plug the lamp in and turn it on. The light turns on.

“There we go! As soon as the lamp is connected to the power, it lights up exactly like it’s supposed to.

“Here’s what that reminds me of—sometimes we get so busy doing things that we forget to stop and spend time with Jesus first. We might try to do everything on our own strength, work hard, help people, finish our chores, and do all the things, but if we’re not connected to Jesus, we start to feel tired, frustrated, or even burned out. We’re missing out on what God wants for us—we’ve got to be connected to Jesus!”

“Today’s story is about two sisters who learned this exact lesson. One was busy working hard, and the other stopped to be with Jesus. Let’s find out what happened.

Open the Bible to Luke 10:38-39 (NirV) and read.

Jesus and his disciples went on their way. Jesus came to a village where a woman named Martha lived. She welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary. Mary sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said.

BUSY OR STILL

STORYTELLER: “When Jesus and His disciples reached the village of Bethany, a woman named Martha opened her door wide and welcomed them in. Can you imagine how exciting that must have been? Jesus, the Son of God, and His friends, were coming over! Martha jumped into action. Martha was busy doing all of the things necessary to make their visit wonderful. Martha may have been preparing a meal or getting the house ready for all those guests. Martha showed her love for Jesus by working hard.

“But Martha wasn’t the only one there. While Martha was racing around getting things done, her sister Mary made a completely different choice. Mary stopped. She sat down right at Jesus’ feet and listened. She didn’t want to miss a single word.

“Picture the scene: there was the sound of the hustle and bustle of Martha working, people talking, and in the middle of all that noise, Mary was sitting quietly, focused on Jesus. One sister was busy, the other was still.

“It’s a little like this lamp. The lamp is made to shine, but if it isn’t connected to power, it can’t do what it’s meant to do. Mary understood that spending time with Jesus was the power her heart needed. Martha hadn’t slowed down long enough to plug in yet.

“So right from the start, we see two ways to respond when life feels full: rush around trying to do everything, or pause and spend time with Jesus first. Let’s see what happened next when all that busyness started to wear Martha down.”

THE DISTRACTION TRAP

STORYTELLER: “As Mary sat quietly with Jesus, Martha kept moving. She checked the food, straightened the table, and hurried from one task to another. She wanted

everything to be perfect for their guests. But the longer she worked, the more her frustration grew.

Unplug the lamp and hold it up for the kids to see.

“Now, Martha wasn’t doing anything bad. She was serving Jesus and His friends! But watch this.

Try to turn the lamp on while it’s unplugged. Nothing happens.

“No light, right? The lamp was made to shine, but it can’t do that if it’s not connected to power.

“See, Martha was kind of like this lamp. She was trying so hard to do everything right, but she was doing it on her own. She hadn’t stopped to connect to her power source, Jesus. She got distracted by all the things she thought she needed to do, and she forgot the one thing that mattered most.

Plug the lamp in and switch it on.

“When we make time for Jesus, when we pray, read His Word, the Bible, or even just sit quietly with Him, it’s like plugging in the lamp. Suddenly, our hearts shine brighter because we’re connected to the One who is with us all of the time and who gives us strength and peace.

“The problem is, it’s easy to fall into what I call the distraction trap. That’s when we fill our time with so many things that we forget to pause and be with Jesus. And when that happens, even good things start to feel heavy.

“Finally, Martha couldn’t take it anymore. She stopped what she was doing and marched right up to Jesus. She didn’t whisper it or wait quietly; she let it all out. This is what happened:

Open the Bible to Luke 10:40 (NirV) and read.

But Martha was busy with all the things that had to be done. She came to Jesus and said, “Lord, my sister has left me to do the work by myself. Don’t you care? Tell her to help me!”

“Martha’s words came from a tired heart. She thought she was doing everything for Jesus and His friends, but she was missing time with Jesus. Her light had dimmed, not because she didn’t care, but because she wasn’t plugged in.

“Jesus saw all of that. He loved Martha deeply, and He wanted her to understand that what mattered most wasn’t checking everything off the list, but being with Him.

STAY PLUGGED IN

STORYTELLER: “Martha stood there, waiting for Jesus to answer. Maybe she expected Him to say, ‘You’re right, Martha! Mary should help you!’ But Jesus didn’t say that at all. He looked at Martha with love and said something that changed everything.

Open the Bible to Luke 10:41-42 (NIRV) and read.

“Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered. “You are worried and upset about many things. But few things are needed. Really, only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better. And it will not be taken away from her.”

“Jesus wasn’t angry with Martha. He wasn’t telling her to stop caring or helping. He just wanted her to pause, to remember what really mattered. All the serving, the cleaning, the cooking ... those were good things, but the best thing was sitting with Him. He wanted her to spend time with Him, not just do stuff for Him.

“It’s like this lamp right here. Martha had been trying to shine without being plugged in. But Jesus was reminding her, and us, that we need to stay connected to Him first. Because when we make time for Jesus, everything else works the way it should.

“When we stay plugged in to Jesus, we find peace instead of worry. We find strength instead of stress. We find joy instead of exhaustion. That’s what Mary understood. She wasn’t lazy; she was plugged in. She chose to stop, to listen, and to rest in Jesus’ presence.

“Jesus said Mary had chosen what was better. That means time with Him is never wasted.”

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Both Mary and Martha loved Jesus. Martha showed her love by serving and working hard. Mary showed her love by stopping and spending time with Him. Jesus loved them both, but He reminded Martha that before we do anything for Him, we need to take time to be with Him.

“This lamp helps us remember that. When it’s plugged in, it shines bright. But when it’s unplugged, no matter how hard it tries, it can’t light up. We’re the same way. When we stay close to Jesus, when we read His Word, pray, or even just take a quiet moment with Him, our hearts stay connected. We shine the way we’re meant to.

“So, before we jump into our busy days, let’s remember to make time for Jesus first. Because when we stay plugged in to Him, everything else starts to fall into place.

“That reminds me of our Bottom Line for today!

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Make time for Jesus first. Say that with me.”

	<p><i>Host enters and joins in.</i></p> <p>KIDS, STORYTELLER, AND HOST: [Bottom Line] “Make time for Jesus first.”</p> <p>PRAYER STORYTELLER or HOST: “Let’s talk to the God who values our friendship so much!</p> <p>“Dear Jesus, thank You for showing us what really matters. Sometimes, we get so busy doing things that we forget to stop and spend time with You. Help us to make time for You first, before we start our day, before we make decisions, and even when we feel too busy. Thank You for loving us, for giving us peace, and for helping our hearts stay connected to You. We love You, and we want to stay plugged in to You every day. We pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.</p>
<p>9:15/11:15/1:00</p> <p>9:45/11:30</p>	<p>WORSHIP LEADER</p> <p>“I love worshipping God with you all! Here’s what we can remember today: worship doesn’t stop here. You can keep worshipping God this week by the way you live, the way you treat people, and the way you trust Him. You can keep worshipping God all through the week! On your feet, let’s sing praise to God now!</p> <p>SONG: “At the Top of My Lungs”</p>
<p>9:19/11:19/1:04</p> <p>9:49/11:34</p>	<p>LANDING</p> <p>COMMUNICATOR: “Great job, everyone! “Now, let’s take a look at our Memory Verse for this month. It’s such a good reminder of what it means to live the <i>upside-down way</i>, God’s way. It’s not about being first or trying to get ahead. It’s about slowing down, being humble, and putting others first, just like Jesus. It’s Philippians 2:3!</p> <p>SLIDE: Memory Verse</p> <p>“Let’s say it together, nice and loud!”</p> <p>COMMUNICATOR: “<i>Don’t do anything only to get ahead. Don’t do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves. —Philippians 2:3 NIV</i>”</p> <p>“Now, let’s say it together, nice and loud!”</p> <p>And...One Last Time....let’s read our Bottom Line Together.</p> <p>CG: Bottom Line Slide [Bottom Line] “Make time for Jesus first!”</p> <p>It’s time to talk more in Small Groups!”</p>

9:20/11:20/1:05	<i>Kids to Small Groups</i>
9:50/11:35	<i>SFX: Play fun music as the kids exit.</i>