

I Can Grow in God by Being in the Church Family

Week 4 (7th May 2023)

The Big Point: I Can Grow in God by Being in the Church Family

God's Word: We Belong to God's Family (Ephesians 2:19)

Memory Verse: So you are no longer outsiders and strangers. You are citizens together with God's people. You are also members of God's family. Ephesians 2:19 (NIRV)

Application: I will treasure my church family.

--

Series Aim: For kids to grow in their hunger for friendship with God through reading the Bible, prayer, worship and going to church.

Lesson Video:  TTB Online Kids' Programme - Session 18 (Worship Is All About Jesus)
(16:49 onwards to 38:43)

Duration: 20 mins

Before Sunday:

- *Pray* and prepare yourself by reading through this Huddle Guide and the Word Study of the week found on the [HopeKids Service Plan Blogspot](#).
- All Huddle Leaders (or Huddle Hosts) are to prepare your own "script" and things to say. Feel free to inject your own questions or discussion points whenever necessary to suit the needs of your children.

● **NOTES:**

- *You are highly encouraged to always make your own preparation by reading the Word Study.

Before Service on Sunday Morning:

- Please note that there are no items prepared for Huddle This week. However, please see below on the items you need to bring for the Huddle Activity: Physical Bibles and/or thick books.
- Prepare all the items that are needed for Huddle Time. For this week:
 - Physical Bibles

- HopeKids Notebooks
- Writing Materials
- Paper / Whiteboard
- Whiteboard markers (if using whiteboards)
- **To Bring: Physical Bibles or thick books - good for each teacher to bring 2 to 3 books**

During Huddle Time:

- Have the children sit in a circle, keeping it to 12 children per group.
- Welcome and ease the children into Huddle Time by:
 - Introducing yourself and the kids to one another
 - Air high-fives, fist bumps
 - Playing small ice breaker games
- Remind the kids that the BEST rules still applies during Huddle Time

Activity 1: Ice Breakers

Objective: To connect kids to each other and to huddle leaders. The basis of the first part of this time is simply to open hearts and it does not have to always be spiritual/biblical, but it also can be.

Welcome the kids and make sure you know the names of all the kids in your group (especially if there are new kids)!

Ask the kids the following questions to get them to talk and share with the group or each other:

- How many friends do you usually go for recess with? / How many people are in your group of friends?
- Do you enjoy spending time with friends and/or groups of cousins?
- How many of you are thankful for friends and family?

Wow, thank you so much for sharing, HopeKids.

Activity 2: Ice Breakers

Objective: To help kids understand that the church family helps us stay strong in our journeys with God.

Materials Needed:

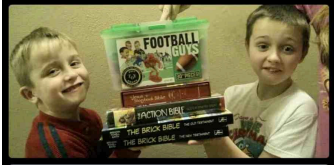
- **TO BRING: Physical Bibles or thick books - good for each teacher to bring 2 to 3 books**



Before we continue, let's play a little game. How many of you brought your own bible? Okay, we are going to use my books here **show your books and bibles**, and your Bibles here to play the game.

Qn: Anyone wants to guess what we are going to play?

- **Allow kids to respond.*
 - Yea some of you got it right! We are going to play "Balance the Books" and see how many books you are able to balance above your head.
1. Who would like to be the first to try? You will also be demonstrating for all of us! It is also slightly different from the traditional balancing of books on your head! *Ask the kid to raise his/her hands above his/her head and to balance the book on flat palms above his/her head.*
 2. *Give them a few seconds to feel the weight and ask them if this is getting hard. The delay is key to making the task harder with fewer books. If they are ready for more, carefully place another book on the stack. Repeat this process until the books start to slide off or get too heavy. Be sure to catch/take away the books to prevent injury from happening.*
 3. *Invite several children to try this test of strength. Always congratulate them for the effort, but remark how hard it must be to keep adding weight.*

	4. Wow HopeKids, let's hear from some of our friends who have tried the challenge and see how it was. *Allow kids to share - It can get really heavy. Let's try this once again with the help of friends.
	5. <i>Invite 2 kids to try holding up the books together. As you add more books, remark how it's still hard but much easier than doing it alone.</i>
Alright, how many of you have fun playing that game? Actually, this is something like following Jesus. It may feel easy at first but over time it can start to feel heavy. The world we live in, plus hearts that sometimes still have sin and bad habits, are like constant forces that make it hard to follow God's plan. But God gave us a wonderful gift. It's a group of friends who are all working together to learn how to love God and love other people. This group of friends is the family of the church. What did we learn about today? What is the Big Point? - I Can Grow in God by Being in the Church Family. - We also learnt that the church family is the best family! And like what we said, the church family is the family of God's people - it is the people rather than the church building! Thus, the church is a group of friends who we spend time with and learn how to follow Jesus together. The people who you meet to learn from God's Word together, praise and worship together, and have small group time together. As all of you grow up, you will one day decide for yourself whether you really want to follow Jesus and you will also have to decide for yourself the church family you want to be part of. Just keep in mind the truth that: - The church is God's family of people who believe and commit to follow and grow in Jesus. - You can grow in God through being a part of the Church family. The truth is, it is easy for us to drift and forget about God and His ways when we are on our own. But our church family makes it easier to stay focused on God and His ways of living our lives. Our friends in the church family:	

- can encourage each other to do good and God works
- can encourage us and pray for us when we are feeling down
- and also be with us in times of growth and new experiences of God!

Activity 3: Series Recap + Reflection

Objective: To help kids understand the importance of the church family

Materials Needed:

- Physical Bible
- Writing Materials
- HopeKids Journal

Our church family is also where we can remind each other what we have been learning from God's Word and learn to apply it in our lives together.

What have we been learning?

1. We can grow in God by reading God's Word - We can do HRSMM (Hear, Read, Study, Memorise, Meditate) with God's Word.
2. We can grow in God by Prayer - we can talk to and with God and do this through P.R.A.Y (Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield)
3. We can grow in God through worship - showing God His worth and expressing our love and gratitude for Him.

And now HopeKids, I want you to reflect about 2 things in your HopeKids Journal:

1. What is my attitude towards church and the people I meet in church?
2. How can I better love my church family and let them be my support in my journey with God?

What better way to end this time by now praying together!

- *Lead the kids to pray together in your own words.*
- *Possible prayer:*

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for loving me and saving me. Thank you for giving me the church family so that I don't have to journey with and grow in God on my own but with the help of the church. Help me to love the church family more and more.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Activity 4: Memory Verse

Objective: To hide God's Word in the children's hearts

Materials needed:

- Physical Bible
- Recommended to prepare: small pieces of paper or post-its
- Writing Materials

Note: Please note that we do not have a memory verse video for this series. Huddle Leaders are highly encouraged to go through the memory verse with the kids within huddle time!!

So you are no longer outsiders and strangers. You are citizens together with God's people. You are also members of God's family.

Ephesians 2:19 (NIRV)

When we choose to believe in Jesus for ourselves, we become Christians and enter God's family of believers and followers of Jesus. This makes us part of God's family - the church who come together to help each other to grow in their relationship with God and faith journey. We are not meant to enjoy our relationship with God on our own, but to journey together with fellow believers of Jesus. Christians have to know and be thoroughly convinced of who they are as saints and members of God's family and live according to His ways. On top of that, being part of God's family also allows us the rights and privileges of the believer - access to God and His presence as well as empowerment to do His work and live in His ways through the Holy Spirit.

Huddle leaders can do this in various ways. If using small strips of paper/post-its:

- *You can give each kid one of the strips of paper for them to write on like a dictation.*
- *You can make it a game by having each kid in your huddle group write one word and have the kids put the memory verse together using their word.*

Announcements



Next week is Mother's Day! But in our church, we want to celebrate our daddies too, so we are going to celebrate Parent's Day! Come next week to learn better how we can love and honour our parents!

