



Jesus teaches us about our relationship with God. God wants to be our closest friend. Join your kids as they explore how to have a deep friendship with God their Heavenly Father.

So, choose your Exploration Stations, practice the story, gather supplies, and set up your classroom. It's time to go exploring!

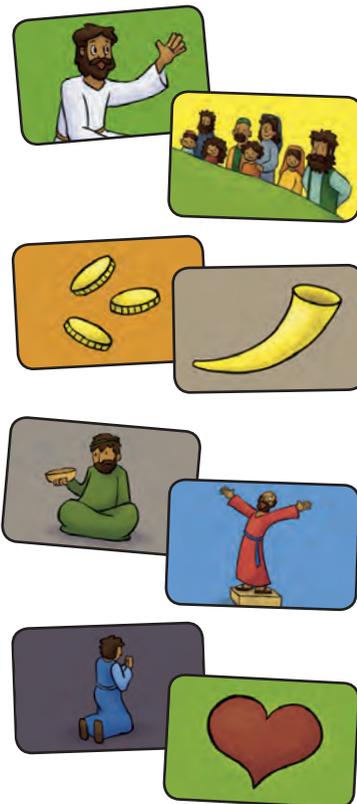
Before You Explore

The Basic Supplies

- Discovery Guide* for each kiddo
- Story Cards*
- Eureka! Jr. Stamps*
- Eureka! DVD or CD*
- DVD or CD player

Exploration Station Supplies

- Prayer Bead Bracelet**
 - String, yarn, or pipe cleaner, and pony beads
- Let's See! Story**
 - *Story Cards*, 33-40
- Picture the Story**
 - *Discovery Guides* and crayons
- Sculpt the Story**
 - Play-Doh
- Play the Story**
 - Dolls, action figures, toys from a kid's meal



1 Here We Go!

- ❑ Play “Scout Says.” (It’s the same game as “Simon Says,” but you use the name “Scout” instead of “Simon.”)
- ❑ Option: Hide the Kai and Scout cards (#49-52) from the **Story Card** deck. Have kids try to find the cards when they arrive.
- ❑ Play *The Come Along Song* from the **Eureka! Jr. DVD** or **CD**. Invite kids to come to your gathering spot (at a table, on the floor, etc.).

2 What’s That Word?

- ❑ Show the Bible picture from page 1 of this lesson. Invite kids to find the hidden word in the picture. Say **prayer** out loud as a class. (Option: Pass out the **Discovery Guides (DG)** now and let kids find the hidden word in the picture on their own **DG**.)
- ❑ Chat about the word. **Does anyone know what prayer means?**
 - **Prayer is a conversation with God. He wants to listen to us!**
 - **Prayers include thanksgiving and praise to God, asking for forgiveness, and requesting help for ourselves and others.**
 - **God wants a close relationship with us. He’s always ready to listen. We can talk to Him like He’s our best friend. This is how we grow closer to God.**
 - **God answers our prayers. But sometimes the answer may be “no,” or “wait.”**
- ❑ When we explore our story later today, listen for the word **prayer**.

3 Remember Verse

- ❑ Invite everyone to stand up. Play the **Remember Verse Video** for **John 3:16** on the **Eureka! Jr. DVD**. (Find descriptions of the motions on FoundryLeader.com.)
- ❑ Ask for volunteers to say the verse from memory.
- ❑ **“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 (NIV)**



4 Happy & Sad

- ❑ Invite kids to share something happy and not-so-happy that happened this past week. Pray together.

5 Explore the Story

- ❑ Invite kids to prepare themselves to listen to this week’s passage. Gather them to a place where they can move around. Remind kids to follow Scout’s exploring instructions while they listen.
- ❑ Play the **Let’s Go! Bible Story** audio from the **Eureka! Jr. DVD** or **CD**. Follow Scout’s instructions along with the kids.
- ❑ Option: Read (or have another adult read) the **Let’s Go! Bible Story** script on page 3. The exploring instructions are italicized.

Explore the Story

Let's Go! Bible Story

Many people came to listen to Jesus and ask Him questions. *Raise your hand; maybe He'll call on us!* People wanted to make sure God would notice all the good things they were doing. Jesus smiled. It was good to want to do things for God, but Jesus wanted to teach them that having the right attitude was just as important.

Jesus first wanted to talk to them about giving money to the poor. *Look in your pockets for some coins.* Many people liked the attention they received when they gave to the poor. Most people liked to blow trumpets and march down the street loudly when they gave. *Let's do that too! Blow your horn! March loudly!* Look, here's a crowd! Now that everyone's paying attention, it's time to give! *Clap your hands!* **I wonder, how did you feel when giving to the poor?**

It does feel good to be praised for giving, yet Jesus said, "Uh-oh! That's not the right way to give." Let's try again. *Grab some more coins.* Jesus said we should give when no one is looking. *Tiptoe quietly and share your coins with someone else.* We don't want to show off when we give to others. Yes, Jesus is smiling. This is how we should give.

Jesus began to talk about prayer. *Okay, on the count of 3, let's stand up tall and raise our hands high. Let's pray really LOUDLY! Let's talk and talk and talk about ourselves! 1, 2, 3, PRAY! Okay, 1, 2, 3, STOP!* Jesus said most people believed prayer was about making themselves feel important. When we pray like this, other people may watch and think it's good. *Let's give a thumbs-up sign for our prayers!* This must be the right way!

Jesus shook His head and said, "No, that's not how we should pray. We should pray simply, quietly, and our attention should be on God." *Let's try that. Kneel on the ground and place your hands together. Bow your heads and listen to Jesus's prayer.* "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we have also forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." Amen.

Jesus taught us this prayer. **I wonder, do you think God hears all of our prayers?** Our prayers are a close and private conversation with our Heavenly Father. They are focused on Him and all that He does for us. God loves and forgives us. We should do the same. *Let's give each other a hug as we practice asking and receiving forgiveness.* Forgiveness is a special gift we receive from God and He wants us to share it with others too!

Jesus taught us some important lessons. *Put your finger to your mouth and quietly say, "Shhhhh."* Jesus said when we fast, give, and pray these things should be done without showing off. Only God our Father needs to know. Our relationship with God isn't about us. It is all about worshipping God.



6 What's This Say about God & Us?

- ❑ I wonder what part of the story you liked best?
- ❑ I wonder who you are most like in this story?
- ❑ I wonder how we can know that God listens to our prayers?
- ❑ I wonder what we learn about God through this story?

7 Exploration Stations

- ❑ Introduce the Exploration Stations you'll be doing. Review your rules for the Exploration Stations (quiet voices, share items, etc.).
 - **Prayer Bead Bracelet Station:** Pick up different colored pony beads. Each bead reminds of someone who needs prayer. Place each bead on the string, yarn, or pipe cleaner. Then, secure the ends together to make a bracelet. Use these bracelets to remind you of who to pray for.
 - **Let's See! Story Station:** Re-create the story with the **Story Cards**.
 - **Picture the Story Station:** Color the picture on your **Discovery Guide**.
 - **Sculpt the Story Station:** Use Play-Doh to make something from the story.
 - **Play the Story Station:** Have an assortment of toys (dolls, action figures, toys from a kid's meal). Have kids act out and play through the story with the different toys.
- ❑ Invite kids to choose which station they go to. Kids can stay at one or visit multiple stations.
- ❑ As kids play, visit each station and ask questions about their play and how it relates to the story.
- ❑ Allow 15-20 minutes to explore. Announce when it's almost time to stop. Bring kids back to the gathering area before cleaning up.

8 Share Your Discovery

- ❑ Invite kids to share what they discovered about the Bible story. Share what you discovered as you interacted with the kids.
- ❑ Remind kids to use their **Discovery Guide** to keep exploring at home. Pray as a group, thanking God for leading their discoveries.
- ❑ Use a **Eureka! Jr. Stamp** to stamp each kid's **Discovery Guide** to show that they completed today's expedition.
- ❑ Play *Tidy-Up Song* from the **Eureka! Jr. DVD** or **CD** as the kids clean up the room.

9 Goodbye Blessing

- ❑ Using the other **Eureka! Jr. Stamp**, stamp each child's hand as you share the following blessing with each one.
 - **God loves you and wants to be with you. Take time to be with Him. Share all of your life with Him! Praise Him daily!**

