

WEEK 1

K-4 LESSON



Need to Know: *I Can Believe God*

Bible Story: *Zechariah's Unbelief* (Luke 1:5-25, 1:57-80)

Circle Up

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1. WELCOME kids to our new series, "Snowy Ridge," and TELL them your name. Then SAY: *In this series, we're going to have fun in the great outdoors exploring many of the beautiful things God has made! While we're out here, we'll also see how to grow our friendship with God! We're going to toss this snowball around the group. When it comes to you, tell the group your name and if you would rather build a snowman or make ice cream out of snow.*
2. TOSS the snowball around the group, and ALLOW each child to share.
3. Afterwards, SAY: *The next time you're playing in the snow, you can remember that God made every single snowflake! God also made each one of us, and we can believe He always has a good plan for our lives, even when we can't see it! That's what we need to know today! So say this after me:*

I Can Believe God

Read the Bible

2

1. SAY: *There's a true story from the Bible about a man who learned that he could believe God. Let's read it together now!*
2. READ/REVIEW the Bible Story Cards to the group.

Let's Practice

3

Option 1: Snowman Toss

1. SAY: *Let's play a game called "Snowman Bingo" to help us learn more about how we can believe God!*
2. GIVE each child a Game Sheet and a writing utensil.
3. SPREAD the Snowman Cards, logo side-up, in the middle of the group and EXPLAIN how the game works:
 - You will each have a turn to toss the beanbag onto a Snowman Card in the middle of the group.
 - Kids will cross off the matching snowman on their sheet.
4. ALLOW kids to take turns tossing the beanbag onto a Snowman Card. After each child plays, READ and DISCUSS what's on the back of the card that the beanbag landed on.
5. SAY: *That game was so fun, and it helped us to know how we can believe God! Let's say that together again:*

I Can Believe God

Option 2: Group Discussion

1. SHARE with the group about a time when you weren't sure if God was going to come through for you and how great it was when He did come through. MAKE SURE what you share is appropriate for the age group.
 2. GENERATE additional group discussion by asking:
 - *Have you ever had a hard time believing that God loves you and has good things for you? Why?*
 - *What can help you to know that you can believe God?*
 - *What are some things we can believe about God?*
 3. REVIEW the Need to Know together: *I Can Believe God*
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Memorize It 4

1. SAY: *There's a verse in the Bible that tells us how we can grow our friendship with God. Say it after me:*
 - "God, (point up)*
 - You are my God. (thumbs to chest)*
 - I want to follow You." (walk in place)*
 - Psalm 63:1 (make book with hands)*
 2. PRACTICE saying the verse with the group two times, having them repeat each line after you.
 3. TOSS the **snowball** around the group and HAVE each child say the next word in the memory verse. The last child to catch the **snowball** will be out. CONTINUE playing until only one child remains.
 4. CONGRATULATE the winner and GIVE each child a **Memory Verse Flyer**.
 5. TELL kids that they have the entire series to learn this verse, and if they do, they will win a prize!
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Let's Pray 5

ASK your group for any prayer requests. Then PRAY the following for your group:

- Thank God for making all the things that we see
 - That they would believe God can do anything and that He will do everything He says He will do
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Stay Together 6

KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:

- PLAY "Hot Potato" using the **snowball**.
- PLAY "Snowman, Snowman, Where's Your Snowball?" (similar to "Doggy, Doggy, Where's Your Bone?")
 - SAY: *Our snowman has lost his snowball, and it's up to us to help him find it!*
 - HAVE the group close their eyes.
 - GIVE the **snowball** to one child to hide in their lap, behind their back, or around them.
 - HAVE everyone open their eyes. SELECT one child to be the "snowman" who is looking for their **snowball**.
 - ALLOW the child three guesses to guess who is hiding the **snowball**.
 - CONTINUE playing, allowing different kids to hide the **snowball** and be the "snowman."