



Need to Know: *I Hear From God When I Spend Time With Him*

Bible Story: *Cornelius and Peter (Acts 10)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to our series, “Mystery Manor,” and TELL them your name. Then SAY: *In this series, we’re detectives searching for clues that will help us solve a mystery and answer questions we have about God! The first step in solving today’s mystery is to get to know each other. We’ll go around the circle, and when it’s your turn, tell the group your name and something you like to listen to.*
2. ALLOW each child to share.
3. SAY: *Did you realize that when we spend time listening, we hear things we may have never heard before? Have you ever wondered if you could hear from God if you listened? (ALLOW responses) Well, the good news is, you can! Today we’re going to learn more about how when we spend time with God, we hear from Him! So say this after me:*

*I Hear From God When I Spend Time With Him*

Read the Bible



1. SAY: *We can find clues to help solve the mystery of how we hear from God when we spend time with Him when we look in the Bible!*
2. GIVE each child a **Detective Notes Sheet** and PLACE the **drawing utensils** in the center of the group.
3. READ the **Bible Story Sheet** to the group, allowing them to fill in their **Detective Notes** as you read.
4. COLLECT the drawing utensils and ASK:
  - *When the angel spoke to Cornelius, what was he doing? (Praying) That’s right! Both Peter and Cornelius spent time with God by praying!*
  - *When you spend time with God, what will happen? (Hear from Him, learn what He wants us to do, etc.)*
  - *What are some ways you can spend time with God? (Praying, reading the Bible, going to church, etc.)*
5. SAY: *Great job! We used God’s Word to help us solve a mystery, and now we know that we can hear from God when we spend time with Him.*

Let’s Practice



Option 1: Memory Match

1. SAY: *Let’s play a game to see how good we are at spending time with God!*
2. DIVIDE the group into two teams. Then PLACE the **Memory Clue Cards** in the center of the group logo side up and EXPLAIN: *Some of these Cards have clues on the back and others have a picture that will match with a clue. When it’s your turn, you’ll choose two Cards. I’ll read the back of the Clue Card to the group. If the clue matches the picture, your team will answer the question below the picture and keep the Card. If not, you’ll put the Cards back. The team with the most matches at the end wins!*
3. ALLOW a child from one team to choose two Cards, trying to find a match. READ the Card that the child turns over to see if it matches the picture. (The Cards match if they both have the same number on them). If it does, READ the question below the picture and ALLOW the child’s team to respond. Then HAVE the team keep the Cards. If the child doesn’t find a match, he/she should put both Cards back. CONTINUE playing, alternating between teams.
4. PLAY until all Cards have been paired. When the game is over, HAVE teams count their matches.
5. COLLECT the Cards.
6. Then SAY: *Let’s say what we need to know together again:*

*I Hear from God When I Spend Time With Him*

### Option 2: Group Discussion

1. SHARE with the group how you spend quiet time with God (when, where, how).
  2. GENERATE additional group discussion by asking:
    - *Why is it so important to spend time with God?*
    - *What are some good things that come out of spending time with God?*
    - *Why do you think God wants to speak to us?*
  3. Then REVIEW the Need to Know together: *I Hear from God When I Spend Time With Him*
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Memorize It

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1. SAY: *When we have questions about who God is, we can look in the Bible for answers! There's a verse in the Bible that tells us what we'll find when we search for clues about Him! Say it after me:*  
*"But without faith* (cover eyes)  
*no one can please God.* (shake head)  
*We must believe* (hand over heart)  
*that God is real* (two thumbs up)  
*and that He rewards everyone* (hand out in front)  
*who searches for Him."* (make binoculars with hands)  
*Hebrews 11:6* (make book with hands)
  2. PRACTICE saying the verse with the group two times, having them repeat each line.
  3. PLACE the **Memory Verse Cards** in the center of the group, in order, and HAVE the group read them out loud together. Then, HAVE the group close their eyes and REMOVE one card. HAVE the group try and guess which piece of the memory verse is missing from the center of the group.
  4. CONTINUE playing as time allows, removing a different Card each round.
  5. TELL kids that they have this entire series to learn the verse, and if they do, they will win a prize!
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Let's Pray

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

- Thank God for always listening to us when we pray
  - That they would spend time with God, and hear from Him every day
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Stay Together

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

- PLAY "I Spy" by allowing one child to spy something in the room and describe it to the group. ALLOW the group five guesses to see if they can determine what it is. CONTINUE playing allowing different kids to spy an object.
- PLAY "Detectives On The Case":
  - CHOOSE a category. (Example: Animals, Movies, Places)
  - HAVE a child think of something in that category, without telling anyone what it is.
  - HAVE the other kids in the group be detectives and ask yes or no questions to see if they can guess what the child is thinking.
  - GIVE the group five guesses to see if they can solve the mystery and figure out what it is.
  - After five guesses, ALLOW the child to reveal what they were thinking.
  - CONTINUE playing, allowing different kids to take turns thinking of something in the category.