



Small Group Leader Guide

The Early Church

Play • 15 minutes

Greet parents & kids • Play with kids

Clean Up Transition • 30 seconds

Focus kids on emcee leading transition

Clean Up • 2 minutes

Tidy the room • Form your small group

Welcome Transition • 30 seconds

Focus kids on emcee leading transition

Welcome • 3 minutes

Help kids in your small group feel seen and heard

1. **Introduce** yourself.
2. **Welcome** kids by name.
3. **Ask** kids what happened during their week and let them share their answers.
4. **Ask** about prayer requests and events kids told you about before.
5. **Talk about** the welcome questions:
 - Do you like tall or short buildings better?
 - If you were going to build a building, what would you make it look like?

Every Day Song Transition • 30 seconds

Focus kids on emcee leading transition

Focus of the week:

Every day, I make choices that honor Jesus.

Every Day Song • 3 minutes

Dance • Sing • Encourage kids to do the same thing

Game Transition • 30 Seconds

Focus kids on emcee leading transition

Game • 5 minutes

Have fun with your small group

You'll Need

Per Group	Nothing
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To Do

Say: We get to play in, out, up! Let's practice some jumps to get started.

1. **Teach** kids to **jump forward** when you say **In!**
2. **Teach** kids to **jump backward** when you say **Out!**
3. **Teach** kids to **jump up** as high as they can when you say **Up!**
4. Once kids know In, Out, and Up commands, **repeat** them in any order. **Note:** *If kids get too close or too far, use In and Out commands to bring them back.*
5. **If time allows**, make it **tricky**:
 - Vary the speed of your commands.
 - Do the wrong jumps for the commands you give.

Movie & Music Transition • 30 seconds

Focus kids on emcee leading transition

Movie & Music • ≈ 25 minutes

Focus kids on video • Lead Bible break in small group

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|--------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Songs | I Am Yours | Jesus Is Alive Right Now |
|--------------|------------|--------------------------|
1. For worship, **stand** your small group up. **Model** and **encourage** participation.
 2. **Seat** your small group when worship is over.
 3. **Choose** questions to talk about with your small group during the **3-minute Bible break**:
 - **What was your favorite part of the Bible story?** *Answers will vary.*
 - **What do you think about the first church people?** *Answers will vary.*
 - **In the very first church, how did people take care of each other?** *Met, learned, and prayed together; shared everything; put others first; etc.*
 4. **Chant**, "Play it again!" with emcee.
 5. **Watch** the rest of the video together.

Bible Verse Transition • 30 seconds

Focus kids on emcee leading transition

Bible Verse • 90 seconds

Help small group do verse and motions with emcee

Small Talk • 5-10 minutes

Review • Talk • Pray

Review the Bible verse and talk about it.
Learn motions: www.leaders.life.church/crosstown

1. **Show the verse on the back of this guide to your group and say it together with motions.**
2. **What is the family of God called?** *The Church*

Review the point and talk about it.

Say: The point today is: **Every day, I make choices that honor Jesus.** Let's say it and talk about it!

1. **Recite** the point together.
2. **What do you think it means to "honor Jesus"?** *Answers will vary.*

Ask open questions and let kids talk.

1. **Who is in God's family?** *Everyone who trusts in and follows Jesus.*
2. **What did people from the first church do that we can do, too?** *Ideas: Learn, get together, pray, give, help, etc.*
3. **What do you think is the best way to learn about Jesus?** *Answers will vary. Ideas: Talk to people who know Jesus, learn from the Bible, get together at church to learn, etc.*
4. **What do you like most about hanging out with other people who love Jesus?** *Answers will vary.*
5. **What are some things you can share with others?** *Answers will vary.*
6. **What are some things you can do to help others?** *Answers will vary.*
7. **What do you think it means to "pray"?** *Ideas: Talk to God, listen to God, ask for God's help, etc.*
Pray together.

Say: Praying is talking with God. What would you like to talk with God about?

1. **Listen** to what kids say and **pray** together.
2. **Not sure what to pray? Pray this:** *God, Thank You for sending Jesus so we can be in Your family. In Jesus' name, amen.*
3. **If time allows, follow up** on old prayer requests.

Check Out • Runs until kids leave

1. **Stay in small groups** until kids are checked out.
2. **Play** the game again.
3. **Compliment** kids when they leave and tell them you're looking forward to seeing them next week.

