

# LEADER GUIDE

PRE-K & K • QUARTER 8



PRE-K & K

QUARTER 8



# LEADER GUIDE





## Group resources really work!

This Group resource incorporates our R.E.A.L. approach to ministry. It reinforces a growing friendship with Jesus, encourages long-term learning, and results in life transformation, because it's:

### Relational

Person-to-person interaction enhances spiritual growth and builds Christian friendships.

### Experiential

What we experience through action and discussion sticks with us up to 9 times longer than what we simply hear or read.

### Applicable

The aim of ministry is to equip people to be both hearers and doers of God's Word.

### Lifelong

Experiences transform the heart, moving faith beyond the walls of church and into everyday life for years to come.



### Leader Guide Pre-K & K—Quarter 8

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This creative team is simply honored to create Simply Loved for you:

Laura Baldwin-Stout, Jody Brolsma, Lyndsay Gerwing, Charity Kauffman, Steve Kyle, Peggy Naylor, Joani Schultz, Rodney Stewart, Jeff Storm, Ali Thompson, and Kate Warnock.

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ISBN 978-1-4707-7833-0

Printed in the United States of America.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 27 26 25 24 23 22

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# Welcome to Simply Loved!

Welcome to Simply Loved Sunday school—where you and your team simply experience God’s love and share it with kids.

**“Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us.”**

(1 John 4:11-12)

With Simply Loved, you, your helpers (we call them Crew Guides), and your kids explore a foundational, Jesus-centered journey through God’s story of love. We believe that faith isn’t a subject to be mastered; it’s a relationship to grow! So every single component of Simply Loved sets the stage for you to more intentionally grow friendship with Jesus and each other. Keep reading to find out what that’ll look like in *your* classroom.

Join our Simply Loved Facebook community to learn from children’s ministry leaders just like you!

 [facebook.com/groups/simplylovedteacherslounge](https://facebook.com/groups/simplylovedteacherslounge)



# How It Works

## Simple Volunteer Roles



You'll need the following volunteers:

**Leader:** (That's you!) The one person in each teaching space who has looked over the lesson and will direct all activities. The glance-able, structured lessons in this guide allow leaders to spend more time interacting with kids and less time glued to scripts.

**Crew Guide:** A helper who simply shows up and participates with kids. Crew Guides don't need to be Bible experts—simply people who love Jesus and kids!

## A Simple, Flexible Lesson!

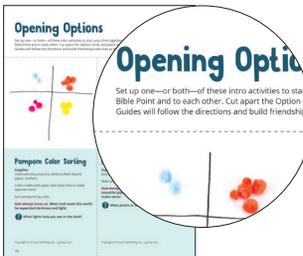
### Simple Prep for Leaders

Prepare your heart and pray for the kids before each lesson. Plus, check off supplies as you gather them!



### Opening Options

Choose from two opening activities—both introduce the day's Bible Point. Each unit creatively uses the same supplies all four weeks. That means you'll need to gather Opening Options supplies only once a month! If you'd like, set up these Opening Options as activity stations in your room. Simply cut apart the cards you'll find in each lesson and place one at each station to guide activity and conversation. Or do one or both activities with all kids together. You choose!



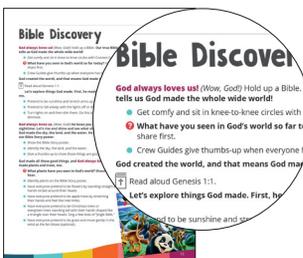
### Sing & Play

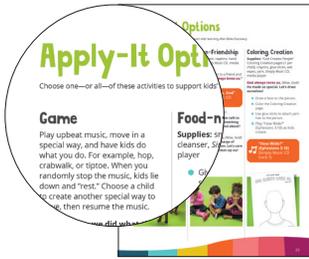
Gather kids to sing and discover the Bible Point. Plus, a Bible Memory Buddy connects the Bible verse to kids' everyday lives.



### Bible Discovery

We've given you lots of options, but don't skip this part! It's the "meat" of the lesson where kids experience God's greatest gift in an interactive, hands-on way. There's no time to be bored as kids and Connect Crews follow the Leader through a memorable Bible experience. You'll read directly from the Bible throughout the Bible Discovery, so be sure to mark your place ahead of time and choose a kid-friendly translation to read from. We've intentionally chosen shorter passages for young attention spans.





## Apply-It Options

Consider your time frame, and take your pick: a game, a snack, or a Coloring Creation page! Each option applies the Bible Point to everyday kid life, making faith relevant to even young kids.



## Goodbye Circle

Wrap up your lesson with a gospel-centered Jesus connection, and remind kids that Jesus is with them wherever they go! Plus, affirm kids by name as you give each child a Bible Memory Buddy sticker at the end of each lesson.

## A Simple, Flexible Format!

### Age-Graded Classrooms

It's simple! You'll need one prepared leader and at least one helper (we call helpers Crew Guides) for each teaching space. We recommend having a media player handy in each space for music and each week's Bible Memory Buddy video.



### Age-Graded Classrooms With a Multi-Age Opening

It's simple! Lead the Sing & Play section with all ages together. Set up a media player in your gathering area so that when you're all together, you can sing along with music videos, introduce the Bible Point, and meet the Bible Memory Buddy! Then, disperse to age-graded classrooms for Bible Discovery, Apply-It Options, and the Goodbye Circle. You'll need one prepared leader and at least one helper (we call helpers Crew Guides) for each teaching space.



### One (big or small) Room With Multi-Age Kids

It's simple! You'll need one prepared leader plus at least one helper (we call helpers Crew Guides). Ideally, you'll have one Crew Guide for every five to eight kids, but it can work with your church's volunteer-to-children ratios. We recommend having a media player handy for music and each week's Bible Memory Buddy video.



# Our Strategic Approach

There are “whys” behind every lesson component, and we want to share them with you! Here are the guiding principles behind the creation of Simply Loved Sunday school curriculum.

You may have heard...	But we've found...	That's why...
“It’s hard to recruit volunteers.”	When volunteers need less prep time, have fun, and feel like they’re making a difference, they’ll make serving a priority.	Simply Loved volunteer roles are important, but easy!
“Kids need to be entertained.”	Kids need to be noticed and loved.	Simply Loved lessons are designed to help you listen to kids and get to know them.
“You need a lot of supplies.”	You need only a few supplies used in creative ways.	Simply Loved incorporates minimal supplies each unit but uses them in innovative ways to introduce and apply the day’s lesson.
“We need helpers—any warm body will do.”	Helpers don’t just assist. Even though they don’t need to prep, they serve an important relational purpose and make a big difference in kids’ lives.	Simply Loved helpers have a name and an elevated role: they’re “Crew Guides”! They participate along with the kids, play a meaningful role in lessons, and make a difference by building friendships with kids.
“Kids are rarely able to remember Scripture.”	Creating a visual and emotional connection to Scripture dramatically helps kids remember and understand why the Bible matters in their everyday lives.	Simply Loved incorporates kid-friendly videos featuring Bible Memory Buddies (animals God created) to help them understand Bible truths and trigger Scripture memory. And Bible Memory Buddies help discoveries stick! (wink, wink)
“Teachers are Bible experts.”	Teachers are channels of friendship who help children understand and experience Jesus’ love.	Simply Loved uses human relationships to communicate God’s love in a tangible way. Built-in conversation starters help teachers share their personal stories and their own friendship with Jesus.
“Covering a lot of information is intimidating.”	Reaching children is simple when you focus on one Bible Point.	Simply Loved repeats key Bible Points in different ways so truths sink deep. And it combines the repetition of a Bible Point with an auditory and physical response that will stick with kids long after your lesson ends.
“Success requires getting through the whole lesson.”	You’ll clearly communicate the key Bible Point no matter how far you get.	With Simply Loved, a palette of Bible Point-supporting options gives you the freedom to choose what works for your kids and your time frame. So no matter how much of the lesson you complete, the Truth from God’s Word shines through.
“Kids’ll get bored if you repeat something they’ve heard before.”	Kids appreciate routine and repetition when it’s done in a fun way.	Simply Loved’s scope and sequence intentionally repeats the Bible verse and Point for four weeks. This strategically cements Bible learning no matter how often kids attend.

# A Faith Foundation for Young Children

As their leader, you get to show young children what loving Jesus looks like! And Simply Loved will help. Simply Loved incorporates these Age-Level Building Blocks to create a wonderful foundation for young children to learn to love and follow Jesus.



**Young children are active!** They like to move and use their whole bodies to make discoveries, so Simply Loved lessons engage young kids in a variety of active, hands-on ways.

**Young children have short attention spans.** Simply Loved lessons are broken down into bite-size pieces. Be sure to use the Simply Loved classroom songs to help young kids move from one thing to the next.

**Young children feel so many things!** Anger, frustration, love, comfort, fear. When you're sharing a Bible story, Simply Loved identifies a key emotion in the story and pauses to ask young children about a time they felt that way. Connecting to emotion cements learning and helps young children know that Jesus understands their feelings and is with them, no matter what.

**Jesus often used tangible examples to make abstract learning more concrete.** So Simply Loved uses everyday preschool items like blocks, backpacks, dolls, and trains!

**It's young children's job to play!** So Simply Loved incorporates imagination and play into Bible teaching.

**Young children learn through repetition, so Simply Loved repeats, repeats, repeats.** Each Simply Loved Pre-K & K lesson is centered around one easy-to-remember Bible Point that's said over and over. Repetition helps cement Bible truths into young minds and hearts to help them—not just someday, but right now!

**Keep it simple.** Young children need to know basic truths about God, so keep it simple! Simply Loved keeps memory verses simple and easy to understand, crafts simple so little hands can handle them, and games simple so kids can jump right in and play. We've left snacks up to you, so keep snacks simple and be mindful of allergies.

**Young children thrive when they know what to expect.** So Simply Loved establishes a predictable classroom routine young children can rely on.

Young children are busy explorers! Sometimes their curiosity can lead to unexpected emergencies. Be sure to supervise your little friends as they work with small objects to prevent choking hazards. And always double check for allergies before serving food. Most times, Simply Loved leaves snack choices up to you; however, if food supplies are listed, note this allergy alert to remind you to use caution when serving your young friends.

⚠️ *Allergy alert! Check for food allergies or limitations before serving.*

# Classroom Transition Song Lyrics 🎵

Catchy transition music signals times of welcome, cleanup, prayer, and send-off, and these songs help kids wrap up one activity and move on to the next. These high-quality songs have been professionally produced so leaders don't need to be vocalists. But if you do want to sing along, here are the words!

## The Cleanup Song

Doot, doot, doo, doo, doo.  
Time to clean up.  
Clean up!  
Cleanup can be fun!  
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh!  
Clean up!  
Cleanup can be fun!  
Doot, doot, doo, doo, doo.  
Now our cleanup—  
Is done!  
Cleanup can be fun.  
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh!  
Clean up!  
Cleanup can be fun!

"The Cleanup Song" by Sam Mizell. © 2020 Group Publishing, Inc.  
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## Hello, My Friends

Hello, my friends. *(wave)*  
Who's here today? *(shrug shoulders)*  
Let's say hello and play a game! *(wave)*  
C'mon, shake a hand.  
High-five!  
Spin around.  
Now say your name!  
Jesus loves you, *(hug yourself)*  
Yes, it's true. *(nod yes)*  
He loves you, he loves you,  
He loves you, he loves you! *(point to friends)*  
Jesus loves you, *(hug yourself)*  
Yes, it's true. *(nod yes)*  
He loves you.  
He loves you, and you, and you,  
and you, and you! *(point to friends)*  
Hello, my friends. *(wave)*  
Who's here today? *(shrug shoulders)*  
Let's say hello *(wave)*  
and shout hooray! *(pump fist in air)*

"Hello, My Friends" by Sam Mizell. © 2020 Group Publishing, Inc.  
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## God, You Are So Good

God, you are so good. *(extend arms up)*  
We thank you for our food. *(fold hands together)*  
You give me what I need. *(hold arms out)*  
You take good care of me. *(hug yourself)*  
Amen. *(fold hands together)*

"God, You Are So Good" by Sam Mizell. © 2020 Group Publishing, Inc.  
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## Goodbye, My Friends

Goodbye, my friends. *(wave one hand)*  
It's time to go. *(wave other hand)*  
It's time to make my way back home. *(march in place)*  
I know Jesus loves me. *(hug yourself)*  
He loves me so, oh! *(spread arms wide)*  
Everywhere I go, *(march in place)*  
Jesus loves me. *(hug yourself)*  
Everywhere I go, *(march in place)*  
He's thinking of me. *(point to head)*  
Everywhere I go, *(march in place)*  
Jesus loves me. *(hug yourself)*  
Everywhere I go. *(march in place)*  
Goodbye, my friends. *(wave)*

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# Supply Closet Inventory

## Pre-K & K—Quarter 8

Have these items handy for some hands-on fun this quarter!

### Program Essentials

- Bibles
- Music CD\*
- Buddy Video DVD\*
- Music Video DVD\*
- Bible Story posters\*
- Bible Memory Buddy posters\*
- Bible Memory Buddy stickers\*
- Coloring Creation pages\*
- media player

### Art Supplies

- bulletin board paper
- card stock
- chenille wires
- child-safe scissors
- construction paper, including purple and blue
- craft sticks
- crayons, including multicultural crayons
- glitter
- glitter glue
- glue sticks
- markers, including dried-up and new
- pony beads
- scissors
- shredded blue paper
- small foam or construction paper hearts
- smiley face stickers
- star stickers
- tape
- tissue paper, including orange and yellow
- wiggly eyes
- yellow highlighters

### Toys & Goodies

- balloons
- classroom toys
- Duplo blocks
- foam balls
- parachute or large bedsheet
- play dough
- rice crackers (optional) ⚠️ *Allergy alert!*
- snacks
- toy food

### Odds & Ends

- clothespins
- disposable plastic cups
- dry-erase markers
- flashlight
- hand cleanser
- napkins
- permanent markers
- picture Bible
- plastic bin
- plastic eggs
- small paper cups
- spray bottle with water
- wet wipes



\* in your **Simply Loved Kit**

# The Holy Spirit Comes

Bible Point

**Jesus changes everything.**

## Purpose

Does a change in plans inspire or irritate you? Are changes welcome or worrisome? Sometimes we crave a breath of fresh air, but other times our routines are comforting.

We don't know if Jesus' followers yearned for change to their small group, but Jesus knew just what they needed! The Holy Spirit filled them with power like never before, igniting a fire that fueled their message across thousands of miles—and into countless hearts. The Holy Spirit opened doors and created opportunities that changed everything.

Routines help little ones thrive, and change can seem big, scary, and uncomfortable for them. But today share the exciting changes *Jesus* brings to our lives—ones that will transform our hearts and lives forever!



## Prayer

Dear God, please change my heart as I prepare to bring your message to kids. Help me speak *your* words in *their* language. In Jesus' name, amen.

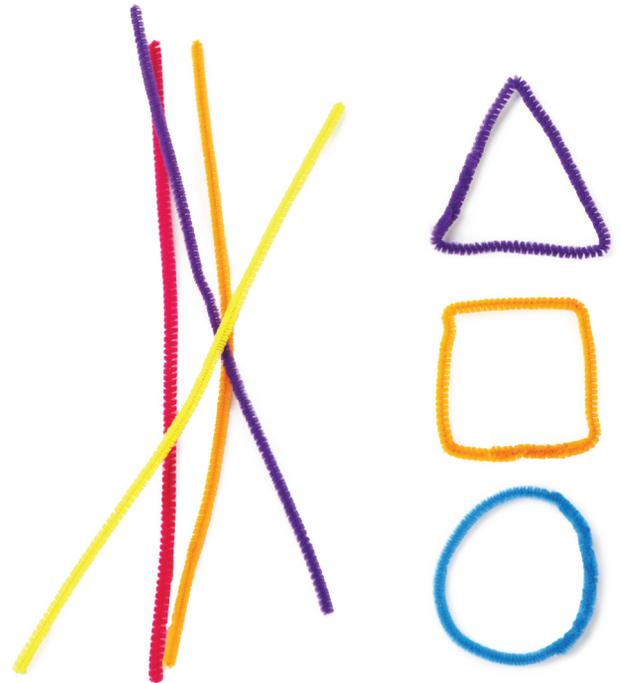
## Prep

Opening Options	Sing & Play	Bible Discovery & Goodbye Circle	Apply-It Options
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Option Cards*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Slice-n-Dice Dough</i>: play dough, child-safe scissors</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Shape-Shifting Chenille</i>: chenille wires</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music CD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music Video DVD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Buddy Video DVD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Apollo Bible Memory Buddy poster*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> media player</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark 2 Corinthians 5:17)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> "The Holy Spirit Comes" Bible Story poster*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Music CD</i>*</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Apollo Bible Memory Buddy stickers* (1 per child)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> media player</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bible (bookmark Acts 2:2-4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Game</i>: parachute or large bedsheet</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Food-n-Friendship</i>: snack, napkins, hand cleanser, <i>Music CD</i>*, media player</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Coloring Creation</i>: "The Holy Spirit Comes" Coloring Creation pages* (1 per child), crayons, orange and yellow tissue paper, glue sticks, <i>Music CD</i>*, media player</li> </ul>

\* in your **Simply Loved Kit** 

# Opening Options

Set up one—or both—of these intro activities to start your time together. Each activity connects kids to the Bible Point and to each other. Cut apart these Option Cards, and place one by each activity you choose. Crew Guides will follow the directions and build friendships with kids as they make discoveries together.



## Slice-n-Dice Dough

**Supplies:** play dough, child-safe scissors

Flatten a handful of play dough, then carefully use scissors to slice and snip the dough into a new look.

**?** If you could *really* change this dough into something else, what would it be? Tell me about that.

You may not be able to change play dough into [name something kids shared]. But today we'll find out how **Jesus changes everything**. When Jesus is our friend, he makes our hearts new and different.

## Shape-Shifting Chenille

**Supplies:** chenille wires

Give everyone a chenille wire, then say a shape for everyone to change the straight wire into. Choose basic shapes like circles, triangles, or even "smiles." Then let someone else say a new shape.

**?** A triangle can look like a slice of pizza, and a circle looks like a wheel. What else do these shapes look like?

**Wow!** One wire changed from a pizza to a wheel to a smile! Today we'll learn that Jesus changes our lives because **Jesus changes everything**.

# Opening

Now's a great time for Opening Options. Choose one—or both—to introduce today's Bible discoveries.



**"The Cleanup Song"** (*Music CD track 1*)

Help kids transition by cleaning up before sitting with their Connect Crews. A Connect Crew is a smaller group of kids with one Crew Guide.

## Sing & Play

### Welcome

Hello, friends! I'm so glad you're here today. Let's sing our welcome song.



**"Hello, My Friends"** (*Music CD track 2*)

Let's say hello to our Crew Guides. They're our go-to friends who are here to have fun and learn along with us.

- Kids give their Crew Guides hand hugs.

### Bible Point

Today's Bible Point tells us that **Jesus changes everything**. Every time you hear the words **"Jesus changes everything,"** raise both hands and say, "Hallelujah!" *Hallelujah* means "praise God." Try that with me in this fun rhyme. Just do what I do!

A heart that's sad (*frown*)

Can turn to glad! (*smile*)

'Cause **Jesus changes everything!** (*Hallelujah!*)

My grumpy mood (*cross arms over chest*)

Can turn to good! (*high-five someone*)

'Cause **Jesus changes everything!** (*Hallelujah!*)

Worry and fear (*hide eyes*)

Can turn to cheer! (*raise arms in a cheer*)

'Cause **Jesus changes everything!** (*Hallelujah!*)

Repeat several times.

### Supplies

- Bible
- *Music CD*
  - "Hello, My Friends"
- *Music Video DVD*
  - "Power Shuffle" music video
  - "Hope in the Lord" (Psalm 33:20) music video
- *Buddy Video DVD*
  - Apollo Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 1)
- media player
- Apollo Bible Memory Buddy poster



**Hallelujah!**

Repetition cements learning, so be sure to say today's Bible Point A LOT. Have fun with it! Kids will love listening for it and responding, "Hallelujah!"

Wow! Jesus has so much power to change things. Let's celebrate Jesus' power with a song.

 "Power Shuffle" music video



## Bible Memory Buddy & Verse

It's time to talk to our friend Buzzy Bee. Buzzy will introduce us to a Bible Memory Buddy friend. Let's call for Buzzy. Do what I do!

- Flap hands quickly like a bee.
- Make buzzing sounds.

 Apollo Bible Memory Buddy video (Week 1)

Apollo our caterpillar buddy reminds us that **Jesus changes everything.** (*Hallelujah!*) Apollo may seem small, but he's loaded with mighty muscles that help him do big things!

- Show the Bible Memory Buddy poster.
- Remind kids that little, tiny caterpillars like Apollo have 4,000 muscles in their itty-bitsy bodies!
- Have kids flex *their* muscles.

 Show the Bible. **The Bible is God's true story of love! Our Bible Memory Verse comes from the Bible. Let's say it together. I'll say a line, and then you repeat after me.**

**"Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.**

*(extend arms out, then hug self)*

**The old life is gone;** *(point both thumbs backward)*

**a new life has begun!"** *(point down with both index fingers)*

*(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Jesus makes us new because **Jesus changes everything.** (*Hallelujah!*) **Hallelujah** means "praise God," and I think we should do that right now with a song. Stand with me and sing!

 "Hope in the Lord" (Psalm 33:20) music video



# Bible Discovery

I'm so glad that **Jesus changes everything**. (*Hallelujah!*) Hold up a Bible. Today our Bible story is about a time things changed for Jesus' friends. I'd like to hear about changes in your lives.

Have everyone get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Connect Crews.

- ❓ **What's something that has changed about you as you've gotten older? Maybe once you couldn't but now you can tie your own shoes or put a puzzle together all by yourself!** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Those are good changes that made your lives better! Today we'll hear about a change that made things better for Jesus' friends—and still makes things better today!

Jesus had died and come back to life, then gone back to heaven. That was a big change for Jesus' friends, and they missed Jesus a lot. So Jesus' friends still got together to talk about all the things they loved about him. It probably made them feel better.

One day when they were together, something surprising happened! Listen!

 Read aloud Acts 2:2.

**Oh my! The sound of a noisy windstorm! Can we make windy, noisy storm sounds? Let's try!**

- Lead everyone in making whooshing or thundering sounds, as loudly as possible. Kids can even pound on the floor or clap their hands.
- ❓ **How do you usually feel during noisy storms?**
- Invite a few responses from the whole group.

Noise like wind and thunder might make us feel afraid. Yikes! And Jesus' friends watched as something *else* surprising happened. I can't wait for you to hear!

 Read aloud Acts 2:3.

Fire is usually something we stay away from. But this special fire from God wasn't scary or dangerous. Show the Bible Story poster, pointing out the flames over people's heads.

- Invite everyone to wiggle their fingers to make fire over the heads of friends sitting nearby.
- ❓ **Do Jesus' friends look like they're in trouble? How do they look?**
- Invite a few responses from the whole group.

## Supplies

- Bible
- "The Holy Spirit Comes" Bible Story poster

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!

 Read the verses from the Bible. You're showing kids that God's Word is special. And don't worry; we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.

# Keep your Sundays simple—and your kids delighted—with Simply Loved.

This Pre-K & K Leader Guide provides a step-by-step, simple-to-follow plan for Simply Loved Quarter 8 lessons. Featuring memorable, hands-on, friendship-focused activities, each lesson easily adapts to your unique Sunday school format while guiding kids on a foundational, Jesus-centered journey through God’s story of love.

## This quarter’s Bible discoveries:

Unit/Week	Unit Theme	Lesson Theme
Unit 1/Week 1	<b>The Church Begins</b> Jesus changes everything.	<b>The Holy Spirit Comes</b> (Acts 2:1-12)
Unit 1/Week 2		<b>The Community of Believers Shares</b> (Acts 2:42-47)
Unit 1/Week 3		<b>Peter and John Heal a Man Who Couldn’t Walk</b> (Acts 3:1-11)
Unit 1/Week 4		<b>Ananias Helps Saul</b> (Acts 9:1-31)
Unit/Week	Unit Theme	Lesson Theme
Unit 2/Week 1	<b>The Good News Spreads</b> Jesus is for everyone.	<b>Philip Tells the Ethiopian About Jesus</b> (Acts 8:26-40)
Unit 2/Week 2		<b>Peter Visits Cornelius</b> (Acts 10:1-48)
Unit 2/Week 3		<b>Lydia Believes in Jesus</b> (Acts 16:6-15)
Unit 2/Week 4		<b>Priscilla and Aquila Help Apollos</b> (Acts 18:1-3, 18-28)
Unit/Week	Unit Theme	Lesson Theme
Unit 3/Week 1	<b>Jesus’ Followers Endure Hardship</b> Jesus gives us hope.	<b>God Frees Peter From Prison</b> (Acts 12:1-19)
Unit 3/Week 2		<b>Paul and Silas Sing in Prison</b> (Acts 16:16-40)
Unit 3/Week 3		<b>Paul Survives a Shipwreck</b> (Acts 27:13-44)
Unit 3/Week 4		<b>Jesus Makes All Things New</b> (Revelation 21:1-7)

 Join the Simply Loved Facebook community and learn from children’s ministry leaders just like you! [facebook.com/groups/simplylovedteacherslounge](https://facebook.com/groups/simplylovedteacherslounge)

 Group

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1515 Cascade Ave., Loveland, CO 80538  
[group.com/SimplyLoved](http://group.com/SimplyLoved) 800.447.1070

ISBN 978-1-4707-7833-0



9 781470 778330  
Printed in the U.S.A.



# **THIS IS A SAMPLE**

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