



Kids Care Week 4

# God's BIG Family

## SCRIPTURE | 40 MINS

*God's family lives out his love together—and it's bigger than you think. Acts 2*

## SPARK | 5 MINS - SURFACE EXISTING BELIEF

### SETUP

Prepare the Can You See It? Slide deck or print the images on paper

### INTRO HOOK

Okay, I need your eyes for this. I've got some photos, but there's a problem. Whoever took them got way too close. Like, weirdly close.

Your job is to figure it out. I'll show you one at a time. Shout out your guess whenever you think you know.

### DEBRIEF QUESTIONS

1. Was it hard to know what you were looking at? How come?
2. Was there a moment when you were sure you had the full picture?
3. When you could only see part of the picture, how did you know what was missing?

## SEE | 10 MINS - LAY NEW BELIEF ALONGSIDE

### STORY SO FAR

We're in week four of God's big story. First we learned God made the world good, then many things broke. Jesus stepped in and announced his mission to heal everything and sends us to keep showing and telling his love. Today, we are going to learn that we're not in this alone because we are part of God's BIG family.

## TEACHING SCRIPT

Let's by looking at the beginning of the book of Acts in the Bible., Acts tells us the story of the early church.

*Read Acts 2:42-47 aloud*



### ***The Fellowship of the Believers***

*<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. <sup>46</sup> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*



If this is the story of the early church... what is the church? Is church the building? Is church is the people. Let's watch a little video.

#### ***Watch Video***

Earlier, when we could only see part of the picture, we had no idea what we were looking at. The early church knew that some things don't work when you only have one small part. Each of us is meant to see the bigger picture by being part of something bigger than ourselves. The early church was made of people gathering together in God's big mission.

That early church would grow and spread over time and we are part of that same church. So other churches in other countries, in other languages, in other buildings. Every group of people gathering to follow Jesus, all over the world is the same family, part of the same big Church.

That means people in other countries who follow Jesus aren't strangers we help from far away. They're part of our family. God's family is really BIG.

## SEEING JESUS

If you've been to church before maybe you know who Jesus is. Where do you see Jesus in this story?

I noticed that the family Acts 2 describes wasn't a new invention, it was Jesus' plan from the start. He didn't just save individuals. He built a family. And that family is still growing, all over the world.

BOTTOM LINE

**God's BIG family lives out his love together.**

## WHAT?

What questions do you have about the story today?  
In Acts 2, what did the early church actually do together?

## SO WHAT?

When others saw how the church lived, they wanted to follow Jesus, too. What do you think they were seeing?

## NOW WHAT?

How can our church family live out God's love together?

### BOTTOM LINE

**God's BIG family lives out his love together.**

## **STORY** | 5 MINS -CBM PARTNER NARRATIVE

### PARTNER CONTEXT FOR LEADER

Thimar (formerly LSESD) is a Lebanese Christian organization. The name means “fruits” in Arabic. Thimar works across education, community development, and relief through local churches in Lebanon. They are a CBM partner in the MENA region, and their approach is holistic: word and deed are treated as inseparable. Through local Lebanese churches, Thimar serves Syrian refugee families with schools, food, supplies, and community. Lebanon hosts around 1.5 million Syrian refugees in a country of 5 million people—one of the highest ratios in the world. The situation creates real social tension, and many Syrian families face hostility. In this story, Ahmed's church chose to open the doors anyway.

### STORY INTRODUCTION

Today we're going to hear about the work Canadian Baptist Ministries is doing with their partners Thimar in Lebanon. Ahmed's family came from Syria with nothing. God's BIG family in Lebanon decided to open a school for kids like Ahmed. As you watch, pay attention to who is doing the welcoming and who they're welcoming.

## **Play Video**

### STORY REFLECTION

- Did anything in that story surprise you?
- The early church shared everything and welcomed everyone across difference. Where did you see that in Ahmed's story?



## God's BIG family lives out his love together.

CHOOSE OPTION A OR OPTION B BEFORE THE SESSION.

### Option A (Game): One Word, Many Places

**Setup:** Screen or printed round cards—one per round. Each round shows one word for “church” in a different language. Label each corner of the room with a country name.

**How it works:** Show the word. Kids move to the corner they think it belongs to. Reveal the answer, discuss briefly, move to the next word.

**Materials:** Screen to display slides, or printed round cards. Corner labels.

### DEBRIEF

- Did you know any of those languages?
- Seven languages from seven different countries. Did you notice any interesting?
- Did any of those places surprise you? Was there somewhere you didn't expect to find a church?



### Option B (Collective): Share a Snack

**Setup:** Prepare a snack on one serving tray, try to avoid pre-portioned/wrapped options. Have the kids serve each other.

**The rule:** serve the person next to you before you take anything for yourself.

**While eating:** Once everyone has been served, invite kids to share one thing from their week—something good or something hard. Keep track of what they share and name when you close in prayer.

*The church in Acts 2 shared everything they had. Churches around the world do the same thing. As we pass the food around please serve the person next to you before you take anything for yourself.*

### DEBRIEF

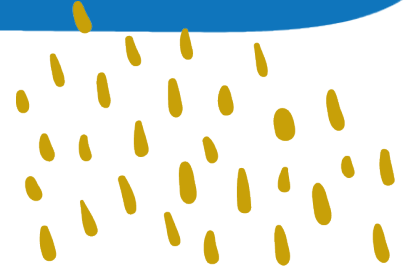
- What did it feel like to serve someone else before taking your own?
- The church in Acts 2 lived exactly like this. And that same church—sharing, praying, looking out for each other—exists right now all around the world. If those churches were sitting at this table with us, what do you think they'd share?

BOTTOM LINE

**God's BIG family lives out his love together.**

THE 3-2-1

Before we leave (or play some more game) let's take a second to do our 3-2-1 for today. Think of 3 things you noticed today. Anyone want to share? How about 2 things you're grateful for today? What is one thing you're hoping God will do this week?



PRAYER PROMPT

Let's close with prayer. I'll give you a few sentence starters—finish them in your own words, out loud or quietly, however you want to.

God, your family is...  
For the churches in other countries, I pray for...  
This week I want to...

Close in your own words—one or two sentences. Gather up what the group named and offer it back to God. Thirty seconds is enough.

FORWARD LINK

Next week, we find out where this whole story is going. And what that means for right now.



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*embracing a broken world  
through word & deed*