



**BIG IDEA**

Jesus shows us God's never-ending love.

**MATTHEW | GET UP | WEEK 1 OF 4**

# Never-Ending

**GOD STORY**

God's Love Endures Forever  
*Jeremiah 31–33*

**KEY VERSE**

"I have loved you with a love that lasts forever. I have kept on loving you with a kindness that never fails."  
*Jeremiah 31:3b (NIRV)*

**LEADER TIP**

From God speaking to the prophet Jeremiah to the story of Jesus' birth from Joseph's point of view, in this series the kids will discover that God shows us his never-ending love through Jesus.

## My Story

**1 | CONVERSATION STARTER** (2 minutes)

Lead into the lesson by chatting about experiences the kids wish had never ended. Introduce today's Big Idea.

**2 | INTRO ACTIVITY** (5 minutes)

Work together as a team in a counting game that highlights how difficult it is to keep something going over time.

## God Story | Life Story

**3 | WEEKLY VIDEO** (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching together.

## My Story

**4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY** (12 minutes\*)

Make a craft that builds on Jeremiah 33:14–16.

**5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY** (8 minutes)

Practise saying the Key Verse and doing actions that go with the words.

## Our Story

**6 | DISMISSAL**

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

\*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.



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## My Story

### 1 | Conversation Starter

**SUPPLIES**

- None

**LEADER TIP**

- This is meant to be a casual conversation as the kids arrive. Move on quickly to the Intro Activity so you have enough time for it before the teaching video.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- >Welcome the kids and gather everyone together.
- Ask:
  - Have you ever experienced a day that you wished never ended? Where were you? What were you doing? Who were you with?
  - Have you ever enjoyed a meal that you wished never ended? What were you eating?
  - Can you think of anything that never ends?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Jesus shows us God's never-ending love.**

### 2 | Intro Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- None

**LEADER TIP**

- This game might be frustrating! Encourage everyone to be quiet and pay attention to one another. Congratulate the kids when they get to a high number.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Tell the kids that they will work together to count as high as they can in this game. But there's a catch: only one person can speak at a time! If two people say the next number at the same time, you'll clap your hands. Then they'll have to restart counting at "one". Also, if you notice a pattern forming (e.g., the kids start counting in a circle or the person who said the last number stares at who they want to count next or one person says every other number), you'll clap and start the count again.
- Prompt one of the kids to start counting.
- Be ready to clap when two of them say the next number at the same time or if you notice any patterns.
- After you clap, direct the kids to start again and try to beat their highest number.
- To wrap up, emphasize how difficult it was to keep the counting going.
- Highlight that God's love for us never ends, no matter what!



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## God Story | Life Story

### 3 | Weekly Video

**SUPPLIES**

- Video file

**LEADER TIP**

- Sit with the kids and encourage them to focus on the video.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Play the video. It includes:
  - Host segment
  - God Story (God's Love Endures Forever, Jeremiah 31–33)
  - Key Verse segment
  - Life Story (Dog guides help take care of people with disabilities. These dogs know just what people need and never leave their side.)
- b. Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
  - What stood out to you in today's Life Story?
  - Who got the message in the God Story? (Jeremiah) Who did he get the message from? (God!)
  - What does it mean that God's love for us is never-ending? (It won't ever stop, no matter what we do)
  - What are some ways you've seen God's love for you?
  - Why do you think the Israelites didn't want to listen to Jeremiah? (They liked doing their own thing; they didn't like his message; they didn't think they were doing anything wrong)
  - What do you do when people don't listen to you?
  - How could you show God's never-ending love to other people?

## My Story

### 4 | Small Group Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- Bibles
- Small Group activity pages
- Leaf cutouts
- Markers
- Glue sticks

**LEADER TIP**

- Make sure everyone's names are on their pages.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Gather your small group to sit together.
- b. Make sure everyone has a Bible.
- c. Guide the kids to look up Jeremiah 33:14–16.
- d. Read the passage together.
- e. Ask: What does God mean when he says, "I will make a godly Branch grow from David's royal line"? (Jesus was part of David's family tree)
- f. Give each person an activity page and five leaf cutouts.
- g. Place the other supplies where everyone can share them.
- h. Direct the kids to write some of the ways to live that Jesus modelled for us (e.g., Jesus was fair, kind, good, loving, etc.) on the tree trunk.
- i. Ask them to write examples of God showing his never-ending love to them on their leaf cutouts.
- j. Guide everyone to stick their leaves onto their trees.
- k. Prompt the kids to decorate their pages as they wish.
- l. Remind the kids that God's love for them is truly never-ending. Encourage them to watch for ways that God shows his love to them in the week ahead.



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## My Story

### 5 | Wrap-Up Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- Key Verse Actions sign
- Wall-safe tape
- Candy canes

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**

- Hang the sign where everyone can see it easily.

**LEADER TIP**

- If anyone in your group knows American Sign Language, invite them to teach some signs to go along with the words.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Gather everyone back together.
- Let the kids know that they’re going to learn actions to the Key Verse so they can teach it to other people.
- Review the words and actions together:

“I [point to self]  
have loved [cross hands over heart]  
you [point to someone]  
with a love [cross hands over heart]  
that lasts forever. [stretch arms as wide as possible]  
I [point to self]  
have kept on loving [cross hands over heart]  
you [point to someone]  
with a kindness [smile and point to your smile]  
that never [wag finger]  
fails.” [thumbs down]  
Jeremiah 31:3 (NIRV) [open hands like book]

- Once everyone is familiar with it, say the verse while the kids do the actions on their own.
- Prompt the group to say the words as the leaders do the actions on their own!
- Invite individual kids to try saying the words and doing the actions.
- Give everyone candy canes for their efforts.
- Explain that God is speaking to Jeremiah in this verse. God feels this way about us, too!



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## Our Story

### 6 | Dismissal

**SUPPLIES**

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

**LEADER TIP**

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- b. Give everyone a weekly take-home card as well as the Key Verse card and colouring page for this series.
- c. Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- d. Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.