



## I Am Known – God Knows My Real Fears

September 22, 2024

✓ This session has been customized by one of your church admins

Bible Story: Peter Walked on Water (Matthew 14:22-33)

Theme Verse: 1 John 3:20b

### Agenda

🕒 45 Minutes

#### 1 - Huddle

All Leaders

🕒 0 Minutes



#### Team Time

Transition from Leaders to Team Time

#### 2 - Connection Questions

Team Time Leader

🕒 0 Minutes

#### 3 - Cotton Swab Adventure — Older Game

Team Time Leader

🕒 5 Minutes

#### 4 - My Measure — Broadly Graded Activity

Team Time Leader

🕒 5 Minutes



#### Large Group

Transition from Team Time to Large Group

#### 5 - Host Closing

Large Group Leader

🕒 5 Minutes



#### Team Time

Transition from Large Group to Team Time

#### 6 - Make The Discovery — Older Kids

Team Time Leader

🕒 10 Minutes

#### 7 - Sinking Swamp — Older Game

Team Time Leader

🕒 5 Minutes

#### 8 - Flip To Float — Older Craft

Team Time Leader

🕒 5 Minutes

## 9 - Say It Like Me — Theme Verse Activity

Team Time Leader

 5 Minutes

## 10 - Activity Page

Team Time Leader

 5 Minutes


## 11 - Pickup Time

Team Time Leader

 0 Minutes

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## 1 - Huddle

 Leaders


### Leader Tip



Huddle is a pre-service time for you to be equipped and encouraged in your ministry. Your ministry leader will celebrate with you, lead you, and pray for you. Read the Highlight of the Week (sent in your weekly email) to prepare for this time.

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## 2 - Connection Questions

 Team Time

### Leader Tip



As kids arrive, assign them to a Color Team—Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, Purple, or Orange. Hyfi Kids Color Teams are a great way to help kids connect with others and feel like they belong to a group. Consider using one color team per grade level (Grades 1–6). If your ministry does not need all six teams, consider having leaders be teams (Older Kids Leaders and Younger Kids Leaders). Kids assigned to those Color Teams can cheer for teammates and participate in activities together.

Use these questions to help you get to know kids as they arrive. Ministry happens best through relationships. By spending this time with kids at the beginning, you will be able to make stronger connections as you begin teaching about how God knows them!

- What was the best part of your week?
- What is your favorite thing to do with your family?
- If you could live somewhere really hot or really cold, which would you choose and why?
- What do you want to do when you grow up?
- If you could travel into the past or the future, which would you choose, and what would you want to see?

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## 3 - Cotton Swab Adventure — Older Game

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will launch cotton swabs at targets around the room.

**Big Goal:** Break down barriers to belonging.

**Leader Prep:** Create four- to five-simple targets with point values. Draw bullseye patterns with large numbers underneath. Tape targets to the wall around the room. Use the tape to mark lines where players will stand—the more points on the target, the farther away from the line. Set out supplies.

### Supplies

- Cotton swabs
- Markers (several)
- Blank paper
- Masking or painter's tape

## Cotton Swab Adventure — Older Game Script



### Team Time Leader

**“ What To Do:** Everyone, say, “*Cotton Swab Adventure!*” (*Cotton Swab Adventure!*) For this game, everyone will get one straw. How many straws? (*One!*) You only get one straw, so do not bite or bend it. You will also get three cotton swabs. How many cotton swabs? (*Three!*) You need to use the markers to decorate all of your cotton swabs the same. That means if your first cotton swab is green with blue dots, then all your other cotton swabs must be green with blue dots. (*Allow kids to complete this step.*)

Now you need your adventure team. (*Help kids form groups of two to four.*) Once you have decorated your cotton swabs, your adventure team can travel around the room together on your adventure. Try to launch your cotton swabs at the targets by balancing one swab on one finger then flicking it with your other hand. You will each have three tries at each target. Make sure each member of your adventure party has a chance to try and hit the target before you move on. Cheer on and encourage your teammates while you keep track of how many targets you hit and how many points you score. Have fun on your cotton swab adventure! ”



### Leader Tip

Assign new kids to teams as they arrive.

## Cotton Swab Adventure — Older Game Script



### Team Time Leader

**“ Connect It:** Wow, you all did so well on your cotton swab adventure! What was the coolest thing that happened on your adventure? (*Allow several kids to answer.*) What about your points? How many points did you score? (*Allow kids to answer.*) That’s amazing! I can’t wait to see what other adventures we have today! ”

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## 4 - My Measure — Broadly Graded Activity

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will record their friends' heights using their own handprint.

**Big Goal:** Build connections with others.

**Leader Prep:** Set out the supplies.

### Supplies

- Blank paper
- Construction paper
- Child-safe scissors
- Crayons (several)



**Team Time Leader**

**What To Do:** We're going to do a fun activity called "My Measure!" What is it called? (*My Measure!*) We will look at the things that are different between us and things we have in common. To do this, you will make paper copies of your hand. On your construction paper, trace and cut out the shape of your hand twice. Don't forget to write your name on your handprints. (*Allow kids to complete this step.*)

Next you'll write your teammate's names on your blank paper. Write each person's name in a line going down the page, so that we can write our measurements to the right of their name. (*Guide kids to spell their name for the group so everyone has all the names on their papers.*)

Now you get to measure your friends! Use your paper hands to measure how many "hands" tall they are, making sure to write down their measurements on your blank paper beside their name. Let's get measuring!

**Keep It Going:** Instruct kids to measure how many "hands" wide their friends can stretch their arms (by measuring across their backs), how far they can jump, and other fun measurements. ”



**Leader Tip**

Some kids may not want their friends close. Encourage them to swap "hands" with that friend so both kids can measure themselves. This helps those kids maintain their personal space while still participating in the activity.



**Team Time Leader**

**“ Connect It:** When you were measuring your friends, who was the most “hands” tall? *(Allow several kids to answer.)* Who was the least amount of “hands” tall? *(Allow a few kids to answer.)* All our hands are different sizes, so we all could have had different measurements! Did you find anyone that was the same amount of “hands” tall? *(Allow kids to answer.)* It is so cool to see that while we can be very different, we can also find things in common. Let’s keep exploring things we have in common today. **”**



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## 5 - Host Closing

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Large Group

### Host Closing Script



Large Group Leader

“ Turn to the person behind you and say, “You are known!” (*You are known!*) Real talk: God knows our real fears. He knows them, and He is with us—ready to comfort us when we are afraid. We can always trust God. When can we trust God? (*Always!*) Let’s take some time to talk to God and pray, thanking Him for knowing us so completely! Let’s pray in 3-2-1!

*God, thank You for loving us and knowing us. Thank You for being our comfort when we are afraid. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to forgive us and make a way for us to have a relationship with You. Help us to trust You no matter what. You are amazing! We love You. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen. ”*

### Host Closing Script



Large Group Leader

“ Thanks again for being here today! You are all amazing! Remember that you are known and loved by God! As you head to Team Time, let me see you swim like a fish in Weirdlin National Park! Orange Team, swim away. Blue Team, swim away. Red Team, swim away. Yellow Team, swim away. Purple Team, swim away. Green Team, swim away. ”



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Presentation

Show Sep2024\_ThemeLoopVideo\_Kids

## 6 - Make The Discovery — Older Kids

🕒 10 Minutes

📍 Team Time

### Leader Tip



Use this time for side-by-side discovery-based learning. Kids are invited to participate and discuss, building relationships with each other and their leader. These questions are designed to help all kids—regardless of biblical knowledge or background—feel like they can contribute.

### Make The Discovery — Older Kids Script



Team Time Leader

🗨️ **What To Do:** Let's have some "Real Talk" and answer a few questions together. 🗨️

1. What would be scarier for you, and why: jumping out of an airplane with a parachute, holding a live snake, or speaking in front of a room full of strangers? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
2. The Bible tells us that we are known by God, and He knows our real fears. Let's open our Bibles to **Matthew 14:30-31** and read about God knowing us together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* What led to Peter's doubt? *(The storm.)* Sometimes our circumstances, or the things that are going on around us, tempt us to take our focus off God and lead us to doubt and fear. What can we do to help us remember that God knows our real fears when we feel afraid? *(The wind and waves caused Peter to doubt. We can remember that God is always with us, and we can trust Him when we're afraid.)*
3. How can it be encouraging to know that God knows our real fears and is always going to be there for us? How can we encourage others when they share their fears with us? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
4. Sometimes we wonder where God is when we are afraid. What are ways you can turn your thoughts to God when you are afraid? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
5. The Bible tells us that we are known by God, and He knows our real fears. What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)* Let's talk to God by praying. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

*God, thank You for comforting us when we are afraid. Thank You for sending Jesus, who knows our real fears and is always with us. You are amazing, and we can never thank You enough for everything You do for us. Help us to trust You and follow You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.*

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## 7 - Sinking Swamp — Older Game

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will play balloon volleyball, sinking into the floor each time they touch the balloon.

**Big Goal:** Know that God and comforts us when we are afraid.

**Leader Prep:** Tape a “net” line on the ground. Inflate and tie the balloon. Print and display the “Allergy Alert” printable, drawing attention to a potential latex allergy.

### Supplies

- “Allergy Alert” printable
- Masking or painter’s tape
- Balloon
- Pool noodles (several; optional)

## Sinking Swamp — Older Game Script



### Team Time Leader

“**What To Do:** Today, we are going to play a game called “Sinking Swamp.” What are we playing? (*Sinking Swamp!*) A *swamp* is a low and grassy outdoor area that collects lots of water and is muddy and soft. To play this game, we will form two groups. One group will stand on the left side of the “net” line on the floor, and the other group will stand on the right. (*Assign kids to groups and have them stand on their sides.*)

The object of the game is not to let the balloon touch the floor on your team’s side of the line. But your feet are stuck in the swamp! Every time you touch the balloon, you sink into the swamp. This means when you touch the balloon, you move from standing on two feet, to kneeling on one knee, then kneeling on both knees, then to sitting on the ground. If the balloon touches the ground on your side, your team gets a point. The team with the *least* amount of points at the end wins! When you sink down, call, “Help!” and I will come pull you back up!

**Keep It Going:** Play multiple rounds, switching up the teams. ”

## Sinking Swamp — Older Game Script



### Team Time Leader

“**Loud And Clear:** As the sinking swamp dragged you down, was it easier or harder to keep the balloon off the ground? (*Allow kids to answer.*) Our fears can be like the swamp. They can drag us down and make us wonder if God is really with us. But we can keep our focus on Him and trust in Him. We can remember the truth of how much God loves us, and we can ask Him for help. When we do that, it’s like what happened with Peter in our Bible story. God can pull us out of our fears and draw us closer to Him. Say, “I am known!” (*I am known!*) Say, “**God knows my real fears!**” (*God knows my real fears!*) We are known and loved by God! ”



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## 8 - Flip To Float — Older Craft

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will create a flip book of Peter and Jesus.

**Big Goal:** Remember the Bible story and that God knows our real fears.

**Leader Prep:** Set out the supplies. Create an example of the craft ahead of time.

1. Fold a piece of copy paper in half four times—twice vertically and twice horizontally. Unfold the paper to reveal 16 rectangles.
2. Draw the Bible story on the 16 rectangles, keeping the background images in same place for all 16 panels.
3. Cut along the lines, resulting in 16 individual rectangles.
4. Put the rectangles in order. Staple the book closed on the left-hand side.
5. Flip through the book quickly to see the story “move.”

### Supplies

- Blank paper
- Child-safe scissors
- Pencils
- Markers or crayons (several)
- Stapler
- "Flip to Float" Instructions and Example printable



**Team Time Leader**

**What To Do:** We're going to make flip books that will help us remember our Bible story and that God knows our real fears. First, fold your paper in half the same way two times. Then, while it is still folded, fold it in half two times the other way.

Next, draw the Bible story from today in the 16 rectangles of your paper. Try and keep the background images, like the boat, the same in each rectangle. Let's decide as a team what we will put in each rectangle.

*Suggested scenes:*

1. Boat with Peter on the left side of it and a calm sea to right and sun
2. Boat with Peter on the left side of it and a wavy sea to right and a few clouds
3. Boat with Peter on the left side of it and big waves and lots of dark clouds
4. Boat with Peter inside and pointing to the right
5. Peter getting out of boat on the right
6. Peter walking on the water, looking to the right
7. Peter looking at the waves and looking scared
8. Peter starting to sink
9. Peter sinking
10. Peter reaching out
11. A hand pulling Peter up
12. Peter back in the boat
13. Peter looking happy
14. Peter on the boat with calmer waves and fewer clouds
15. Peter on the boat with calm water and a sunny sky
16. Write **God knows my real fears.**

Go ahead and draw the different parts of the story! *(Allow kids to complete this step.)*

Now, cut on every fold line you see. That will give you the 16 pages of your flip book! Make sure all papers are in order. I will come staple the book closed on the left-hand side. Now you can flip through the book quickly to see the story “move”!

**Keep It Going:** Encourage kids to use their flip books to tell the story to their friends!

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**Leader Tip**

Suggest that kids number their pages at the bottom left as they are drawing. This will help with keeping the pages in order.

**Flip To Float — Older Craft Script**



**Team Time Leader**

“ **Loud And Clear:** In today’s Bible story, what happened when Peter looked at the wind and the waves? *(Allow kids to answer.)* Peter took his eyes off Jesus and grew afraid. Sometimes we can get scared and take our focus off Jesus too. But God knows our real fears. Jesus was with Peter and Jesus is with us too. He knows our real fears and we can trust Him. ”



## 9 - Say It Like Me — Theme Verse Activity

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids take turns coming up with fun ways to say and act out the Theme verse.

**Big Goal:** Kids will repeat the Theme verse by copying their friends.

**Leader Prep:** Use the Theme Verse Poster, Theme Verse Slide, or display the Theme verse in a visible location for the kids to see: *God is greater than our hearts, and he knows all things. (1 John 3:20b)*

### Supplies

- None

### Say It Like Me — Theme Verse Activity Script



#### Team Time Leader

🗨️ **What To Do:** We're going to take turns saying the Theme verse in fun and silly ways. When it is your turn to lead us, you will say, "Say it like me!" and then we will say the Theme verse just like you do! I'll start! (*Demonstrate leading the call-and-response of the Theme verse in a fun or silly way.*) Who wants to go next?

*Suggested Silly Ways: like a cowboy, super-high voice, super-low voice, a robot voice, sing it, whisper it, shout it, super slow, super fast, and so forth.*

**Keep It Going:** Challenge kids to perform the verse the same way as a teammate. Invite the rest of the team to guess who that person is copying. 🗨️



**Team Time Leader**

**“ Loud And Clear:** We said the Theme verse in some super fun ways! Which was your favorite? *(Allow kids to answer.)* If someone were to ask you what the Bible is, what would you tell them? *(Allow kids to answer.)* Those are good answers! The Bible is God’s true message to us about Himself. We can think about this Bible verse when we are afraid and remember that God knows everything, including our real fears. He is always there to comfort us, and we can trust in Him. **”**

# 10 - Activity Page

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

**Big Goal:** Point to the Simple Truth and provide an opportunity for connection.

**Leader Prep:** Print copies of the activity page for each child. Set out the supplies.

## Supplies

- Activity Page
- Markers or crayons (several)

## Activity Page Script



**Team Time Leader**

“ **What To Do:** This activity page helps us remember some big things we've learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together. ”



### Leader Tip

This is a great time to get to know the kids better. You can ask them what they remember about the Bible story, or you can remind them that when Peter was afraid, he called out to Jesus. They can do the same. God knows their real fears, and they can always trust Him.

## Activity Page Script




**Team Time Leader**

“ **Loud And Clear:** Real talk: God knows our real fears. He knows what scares us and makes us afraid. God knows our real fears, and He loves us. God sent Jesus to be our Comforter. We can take comfort in knowing that we have a God who loves us and will be with us no matter what! ”

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## 11 - Pickup Time

 Team Time



### Leader Tip

As kids leave, make sure they have their crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.