



## I Am Known – God Knows My Real Thoughts

September 01, 2024

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

Bible Story: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14)

Theme Verse: 1 John 3:20b

Agenda	
<b>1 - Huddle</b> All Leaders	🕒 30 Minutes
 <b>Team Time</b> Transition from Leaders to Team Time	🕒 0 Minutes
<b>2 - Connection Questions</b> Team Time Leader	🕒 0 Minutes
<b>3 - Make The Discovery — Older Kids</b> Team Time Leader	🕒 10 Minutes
<b>4 - Synchronized Steps — Older Game</b> Team Time Leader	🕒 5 Minutes
<b>5 - Humble Spinner — Older Craft</b> Team Time Leader	🕒 5 Minutes
<b>6 - Full Circle — Theme Verse Activity</b> Team Time Leader	🕒 5 Minutes

## 7 - Activity Page

Team Time Leader

 5 Minutes


## 8 - 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 do you like most about school?
- If you could go swimming or hiking today, which would you want to do?
- Which sport would you want to be super good at and why?
- If you could make an animal super small and keep it as a pet, which animal would you choose?

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## 3 - 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:** Gather around as we have some “Real Talk” and answer some questions together. ”

1. What kinds of things would you talk about to someone you just met versus someone who is your closest friend? Do you have friends who seem to know what you're thinking, even if you don't say anything? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
2. The Bible tells us that God knows our real thoughts. Let's open our Bibles to **Luke 18:14** and read about it 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 do you think it means when the Bible says that someone who, "humbles himself will be exalted"? *Humble* means not being proud or arrogant. Should we be humble just so other people can praise us? Why or why not? *(No, we should be humble because we should want to let God be known more than us.)*
3. God knows everything about us. He knows every thought in our heads, even the wrong and sinful ones. But God is willing to forgive us. How can it be encouraging to know that God knows all our thoughts and loves us anyway? Do you have any questions about God's forgiveness? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
4. Have you ever wondered if people know the real you? How can knowing that God knows your real thoughts help when you feel that way? *(Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)*
5. The Bible tells us that we are known by God. Real Talk: the real truth is that God knows us, and our thoughts, better than anyone ever will. 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 and pray. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

*God, thank You for allowing us to come and learn more about You today. Thank You for being a forgiving God, even when we don't deserve it. Help us recognize and confess our sin, be humble and follow You. Be with us as we continue to learn more about You. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.*

## 4 - Synchronized Steps — Older Game

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will try to demonstrate a synchronized dance/handshake/routine without discussing it beforehand.

**Big Goal:** Learn that God knows us fully.

**Leader Prep:** None

### Supplies

- No supplies needed

### Synchronized Steps — Older Game Script



**Team Time Leader**

🗨️ **What To Do:** Let's play "Synchronized Steps!" What are we playing? (*Synchronized Steps!*) *Synchronized* means doing the same motion at the same time. For this game, you and a friend will come up with a synchronized handshake, dance, or routine. This means you will both be trying to create a routine by doing the same movements as your friend at the same time. But *you can't talk!* You are not allowed to speak with your partner as you come up with your routine. Everyone, say, "Uh-oh!" (*Uh-oh!*) Let's see what kind of synchronized steps you all can come up with!

**Keep It Going:** Play multiple rounds with different partners. Invite kids to perform their synchronized steps in front of the team. 🗨️



### Leader Tip

Assist kids who may be struggling to come up with moves but try and help them without talking to keep with the fun of the game!

## Synchronized Steps — Older Game Script



### Team Time Leader

“**Loud And Clear:** How difficult was it for you to synchronize your motions, meaning you made them happen at the same time, with your partner? *(Allow several kids to answer.)* What would have made this game easier? *(Allow kids to answer.)* Talking about your plan beforehand would have been helpful, but what about knowing the other person’s thoughts? If *(select a kid and call them by name)* and I were paired up in this game and we knew each other’s thoughts, we would know right away to do a high five, a low five, or a double fist bump. We could match our motions to each other. But we don’t know each other’s thoughts, only God does. He knows everything about us, from our worst thoughts to our best thoughts. God knows us fully, and He loves us fully.”



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## 5 - Humble Spinner — Older Craft

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will decorate paper plates to look like a pie.

**Big Goal:** Kids will find ways to be humble.

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

1. Start with two paper plates and one brass fastener.
2. Draw a horizontal and a vertical line on each plate, separating the plates into fourths.
3. Write or draw ways to be humble in each section of one plate.
4. Decorate the other sections of the second plate to look like pieces of pie.
5. Attach the pie plate to the humble plate using the brass fastener.
6. Cut along the lines of the pie plate, leaving about an inch in the middle, toward the brass fastener.
7. Fold the pie pieces to the center of the plate, one at a time, to reveal the ways to be humble.

### Supplies

- Paper plates
- Brass fasteners
- Child-safe scissors
- Markers or crayons (several)
- Dry erase board and marker
- "Humble Spinner" Instructions and Example printable



**Team Time Leader**

**🗨️ What To Do:** In our Bible story, Jesus told a story about the thoughts and attitudes of a Pharisee and a tax collector. In the story, God knew their real thoughts and was pleased with the tax collector because he was humble. That means he was honest and didn't think he was better than other people. Today we're going to make a "Humble Spinner." What kind of spinner are we going to make? *(A Humble Spinner!)*

That's right, the first step in making our spinners is to divide our paper plates into four sections. So, draw one line up and down and one line side to side so that your plates have four equal sections. Now, as a team, let's brainstorm some ways we can be humble. What are some ways we can be honest and put others before ourselves? *(List the ideas on the dry erase board.)* Great ideas!

On one plate, draw or write some ways that you can be humble. After you fill in the four sections on your first plate, move to your second paper plate. Decorate each section like it is a slice of pie. Once you have finished decorating both plates, attach them together in the center with the brass fastener.

The last step is to cut your plate. Make sure to only cut the top plate, following the lines you drew. Cut the four sections leaving space around the fastener. Now you can fold back your pie pieces to remind yourself of ways to be humble! 🗨️



**Leader Tip**

Engage with kids as they are writing or drawing ways to be humble by asking them questions about their artwork.



Team Time Leader

“ **Loud And Clear:** In the Bible story today, we saw a man who was humble and a man who was not. Being humble means you don't think you're better than others, and you're willing to put others before yourself. Real talk: Jesus was *very* humble. He was mighty and powerful and had every right to think He was better than others, but He humbled Himself. He loved us so much that He was willing to take the punishment for our sin so we could have a relationship with Him. What are some of the things you wrote in your craft as ways you can be humble? (*Allow kids to answer.*) Those are some great ideas! Keep your spinners to remember to be humble like Jesus and have thoughts that are pleasing to God! ”

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## 6 - Full Circle — Theme Verse Activity

🕒 5 Minutes

📍 Team Time

Kids will pass a hula hoop from one person to the next while holding wrists.

**Big Goal:** Learn the Theme verse.

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

### Supplies

- Hula hoop
- Timer or stopwatch (optional)

## Full Circle — Theme Verse Activity Script



### Team Time Leader

🗨️ **What To Do:** Let's see how fast you can all get into a circle for our next activity. 3-2-1! Great job! This activity is called "Full Circle." Full what? (*Circle!*) We will work together to move this hula hoop from one person to the next without anyone letting go of each other's wrists. Everyone, say, "But wait, there's more!" (*But wait, there's more!*) As the hula hoop goes over your head, you must say one word of our Theme verse. Let's see if we can say the Theme verse and move the hoop full circle!

**Keep It Going:** Lay the hula hoop on the ground and have the kids make a train with their hands on the shoulders of the person in front of them. Challenge them walk the train over the hoop. When each kid steps in the hoop, they must say the next word of the Theme verse. Use the timer to see how quickly the team can move through the hoop and say the Bible verse. 🗨️



### Leader Tip

Help kids know which word comes next.



Team Time Leader

“**Loud And Clear:** Great job! You were able to go full circle, but now it’s time for some real talk. This Bible verse says that God knows all things. What things? *(All things!)* That’s right! God knows all things. He knows everything. He knows our names, He knows what we look like, and He even knows our thoughts. Say, “**God knows my real thoughts!**” (*God knows my real thoughts!*) God knows everything about us, even what we think, and still, He loves us and wants to have a relationship with Him. ”

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## 7 - 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

**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 to have humble thoughts like the tax collector. He thought less of himself and more of God by recognizing his need for God's love and help. Remind them to have real talk with God because He knows our real thoughts.

## Activity Page Script



**Team Time Leader**

“ **Loud And Clear:** We won't always know our friends' real thoughts, but God will always know us. God knows our real thoughts, and He loves us no matter what! ”

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## 8 - 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.