



# WEEK 3

## FAMILY LESSON GUIDE

# TAKE THE LEAD

### THE BIG IDEA

God helps me learn from my mistakes.

### THE BIBLE

**Samson:** Judges 16:4-30;  
(Psalm 9:1-10)

**INTRO!** *These activities introduce the ideas in this week.*

#### **MUSIC** | Lead with Praise

- "[Take Heart](#)" by Jumpstart 3
- "[Won't Let Go](#)" by Gateway Kids Worship

#### **ACTIVITY** | Picture Telephone

- A parade has many different elements: musicians, dancers, special guests, and lots of colorful decorations. And sometimes, people get out of sync, and everything goes wrong. Let's play a game to see if we can keep in sync.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Cut up a bunch of pieces of paper into quarters. Each family member will need the same number of pieces as there are members of your family (so if you have 4 people, give each person 4 pages). Have them number each page on the top right and put them in order. Then have each person secretly write a word or phrase on the first page. When everyone is finished, they each pass their entire stack to the person on their left. The next person reads the word, then puts it on the back of the stack and secretly draws a picture on page 2 with no words or letters or symbols. Then, when you are finished, each person passes the entire stack one person left. Person 3 looks at the picture, and puts it on the back of the stack, then writes what they think the word or phrase is on page 3. Continue alternating around. The point of the game is – when you alternate 'words', 'picture with no words', 'words', 'picture with no words', the original word will definitely get mixed up!*



### ACTIVITY | Keep the Float Afloat

- **EXPLAIN:** The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City is famous for its giant balloon floats! Did you know that one of those floats requires anywhere between fifty and a hundred people to keep it from floating away?
- Let's see how we do with keeping our balloon floats in the air.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Spread your family through the room. Get a few balloons, or balls, together. As the game starts, each person tries to keep the balloons or balls in the air by bouncing them with their hands, head, feet, whatever. The objective is to not let anything fall on the ground.*
  - **PRETEEN HACK:** *List out different body parts (i.e. hands, feet, head, nose, etc.) on pieces of paper and have each preteen draw from the pile. Their challenge is to only use body part indicated on their paper to keep the balloons afloat.*

### POLL | Made by Mistake

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Name or show images of the following items. Tell your family to stand and wave their hands in the air if they think the item was made by mistake. If they don't think it was a mistake, tell them to sit down. By the way, all of these things were made by mistake!*
  - Slinky
  - X-ray
  - Chocolate chip cookies
  - Safety pins
  - Microwave oven
  - Super glue
  - Fireworks
  - Potato chips
  - Ink-jet printers
  - Ice cream cone
  - Post-it notes
  - Chewing gum
  - Bubble wrap
- **Which of these "made by mistake" items surprised you the most?**
- At the time, the people who created these things thought they had failed at their original project, but they found ways to fix their mistake and turn them into something new!



**GO DEEPER.** This part helps your kid understand why it's important.

### **SCRIPTURE** | Judges 16:4-30

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the kids this [video](#) to introduce today's Bible story in Judges 16:4-30.

### **THE BIG IDEA** | God helps me learn from my mistakes.

- Play a game of Hangman (your family has to guess the big idea one letter at a time. Draw a number of dashes equivalent to the number of letters in each word). If you have balloons, blow up ten. If you don't, find ten objects around the house. Have the kids guess the letters, and if they choose a letter that is not in the Big Idea, pop a balloon or get rid of an item. See if they can guess it before they run out!
- **BIG IDEA:** God helps me learn from my mistakes.

### **VIDEO** | Take the Lead, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).

### **STORY** | Buyer's Remorse

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell a story about a time when you bought something you really wanted at the time, but you later regretted it. Bring in that item, if possible!
- **EXPLAIN:** This happens at parades, too! Sometimes, when you're at a parade, vendors walk by you, selling all sorts of things that you might want – food, candy, balloons, and things that light up. But many times, you end up wishing you hadn't spent that much money on it.
- Even though making mistakes is normal, it's not wise to keep making the same mistake over and over again. We need to learn from what we did wrong and correct it if we want to grow!

### **ACTIVITY** | Eraser Bingo

- **EXPLAIN:** Let's brainstorm together: **What are some common mistakes you can think of?** You know, things like spilling a drink, solving a math problem incorrectly, bad haircuts, stains on your clothes, falling asleep in class, spelling something wrong, singing the wrong note, tripping up the stairs, forgetting your homework, stubbing your toe, having food stuck in your teeth, getting sick in public, or forgetting someone's name?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Write each of the fifteen to twenty ideas you brainstorm on separate index cards or pieces of paper. Afterward, pass out the Bingo printable to each kid found at the end of this document. Read from the cards, and tell your family to fill out their Bingo



boards by writing the word or phrase anywhere on their board. They can write the same word in more than one box, but they can only cross off one of them when it's called. Then, fold all the index cards or pages, put them in a box, and begin the game! Pull out a card, and read it out loud. Kids can erase that word off their board. The first kid to erase five in a row and yell, "Bingo!" wins.

### SCRIPTURE | Psalm 9:1-10

- Today's Big Idea is, **God helps me learn from my mistakes.** That means even though we might be the ones making the mistake, God is the one who is going to help us fix them and learn from them.
- Listen to today's Psalm. **What are the things God does? What are the things we can do because of what God does?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Psalm 9:1-10 out loud.

**NOW WHAT?** What does God want us to do about it?

### RESPONSE | "Beautiful Oops"

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Grab a copy of [Beautiful Oops](#) by Barney Saltzberg and read it to the group, or show [this read aloud video](#). Then, distribute a copy of the Beautiful Oops printable to each family member found at the end of this document. Encourage them to spend time transforming some of these "mistakes" into something new.
- **EXPLAIN:** Mistakes happen. But instead of wallowing in our failures and missteps, it's important we remember what caused the mistake, and avoid it in the future. And instead of letting our mistakes get us down, we can find ways to repurpose them and turn them into good things!
- **Who can help do that in our own lives?** That's right, it's God. We can pray to God and ask how we can learn from this experience, and seek out help from loved ones!
- **God helps me learn from my mistakes.**

### ACTIVITY | Parade Prep

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Instruct your family to meet in the same groups as previous weeks. Make sure each group has a way to play this [video](#) and practice only the parts assigned to them previously. They will work on this each week and present it next week!

### MEMORY VERSE

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have your family work together to say the memory verse to the tune of an existing melody. It can be a lullaby, pop song, or even a commercial jingle. When everyone is ready, line up the groups and have one group at a time march around the room while singing their new memory verse song.



- “And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” MICAH 6:8

### PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for understanding that we all slip up and mess up from time to time. But we ask for Samson-like strength to learn from our mistakes and avoid making the same ones again. Thank you for helping us and for turning our mistakes into beautiful opportunities to grow. Amen.

### LET'S DISCUSS!

### DISCUSSION

- What question did Delilah keep asking Samson?
- Why was giving Delilah the right answer a mistake?
- How did God help Samson one last time?
- Read Judges 16:24 and Psalm 9:3-5. In what ways are those prayers similar? Which prayer is the one made to the one true God who helps us?
- Are mistakes a good thing or a bad thing? Why do you say that?
- What is one mistake you made recently?
- What has God helped you learn from making that mistake?

### ACTIVITY | DIY Balloon Float

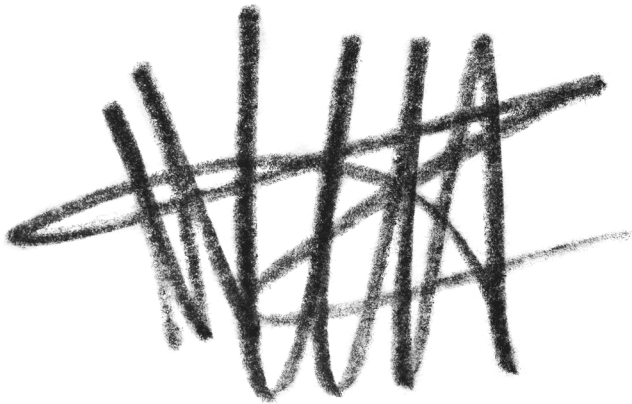
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a balloon and tell them to blow it up. Provide permanent markers, construction paper, scissors and tape, and encourage the kids to create their own balloon animal float — check out [this image](#) for some inspiration. Try not to peel tape off of the balloon because it could pop. If you don't have balloons, decorate balls, or have them just make up something unique!
  - **PRETEEN HACK:** Purchase supplies for balloon animals and allow students to try and make their own creations.
- **Have you ever accidentally let a balloon fly away before? What do you do so that doesn't happen again?** That's right, you weigh it down or tie it securely around your wrist. That's an example of learning from our mistakes!
- **EXPLAIN:** Remember, when you make a mistake, you're not doomed! You can always correct it, and most importantly, God will help you learn from it! **God helps me learn from my mistakes.**

# BINGO

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