

DAY 1

WELCOME, EVERYONE, TO OUR VERY FIRST
SMALL GROUP OF SUMMER FEST!

WE ARE SO EXCITED YOU'RE HERE!
TONIGHT, WE LEARNED SOMETHING AMAZING:
GOD IS THE ULTIMATE BUILDER.

FROM THE STARS IN THE SKY TO THE GROUND
BENEATH OUR FEET...

FROM THE ANIMALS WE SEE EVERY DAY TO US
—THE PEOPLE HE MADE IN HIS IMAGE—GOD
BUILDS EVERYTHING WITH PURPOSE AND
LOVE.

AS WE START OUR SMALL GROUP, WE'RE GOING
TALK MORE ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS THAT GOD
IS OUR ULTIMATE BUILDER AND HOW HE'S
BUILDING SOMETHING SPECIAL IN EACH OF
OUR LIVES.

Creation in a Jar

Materials:

1. Clear jars or glasses (one per group)
2. Water (fill each jar about $\frac{3}{4}$ full)
3. Vegetable oil
4. Food coloring
5. Specks of glitter for extra sparkle

Step-by-Step Procedure:

1.

Layering:

- Fill each jar about $\frac{3}{4}$ full with water.
- Gently pour oil into the jar so a distinct layer forms on top.

2.

Creating the "Explosion":

- Allow the children to add several drops of different food colorings to the surface.
- Encourage them to observe how the color droplets sink and swirl through the oil and water, creating patterns

Questions

- Ask questions like "What do you notice about how the colors mix?" and "How does this remind you of the way God created the world?"
- Relate the visual patterns to God's creative design in Genesis and the care God put into us, seen in Psalm 139.



Building a Tree Trunk

Materials:

1. A long piece of butcher paper taped to a wall or laid on a table (to represent a tree trunk)
2. Pre-written segments of Colossians 2:6-7 on separate cards or paper strips
3. Markers for decorating the trunk, if desired

Step-by-Step Guide:

1.

Setup:

- On the butcher paper, draw or outline a simple tree trunk design.

2.

Verse Building:

- Mix up the cards with segments of Colossians 2:6-7.
- Challenge the kids to arrange the cards along the "trunk" in the correct order, reinforcing that a strong foundation (like a tree trunk) supports healthy growth.



Discussion Questions

1. In Genesis 1-2, what are some of the things God built or created?
2. What was different about the way God made people compared to everything else?
 - (Hint: we are made in His image)
3. Psalm 139 says we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." What do you think that means?
4. How does it feel to know that God built you on purpose and in His own image?
5. What do you think it means that we're built to have a relationship with God?
6. If God built you to know Him, what's one way you can grow closer to Him this week?

Prayer

End your small group in Prayer. Thanking and Praising God for being the **PERFECT** builder.

DAY 2

WELCOME BACK TO NIGHT 2 OF SUMMER FEST!

I AM SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE AGAIN!

TONIGHT, WE LEARNED THAT WHILE GOD BUILDS,

THINGS GET TORN DOWN BECAUSE OF SIN.

IN GENESIS 3, WE SAW HOW ADAM AND EVE MADE A

CHOICE TO DISOBEY GOD, AND THAT ONE CHOICE

CAUSED EVERYTHING TO BREAK. THEIR

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD WAS TORN APART, AND THEY

HAD TO LEAVE THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN HE BUILT

FOR THEM.

AND IN GENESIS 6-9, WE LEARNED HOW SIN SPREAD

SO MUCH THAT GOD HAD TO REBUILD THE WORLD

THROUGH NOAH AND THE FLOOD.

SIN TEARS DOWN WHAT GOD BUILDS, BUT GOD ALWAYS

HAD A PLAN TO REBUILD AND RESTORE.

AS WE GO INTO SMALL GROUPS, LET'S TALK MORE

ABOUT HOW SIN TEARS THINGS DOWN AND HOW GOD'S

LOVE IS STRONGER THAN OUR BIGGEST MISTAKES.

Sin Tears down

Materials:

1. A Jenga set or similar block tower game
2. Jenga Blocks will have different types of Sin and ways Sin affects us:

Step-by-Step Guide:

Preparation:

1. Prior to starting, explain briefly what each sin means and mention one possible real-life consequence
2. Example, "Lying - When we lie, people might stop trusting us, which can hurt friendships" or "Selfishness - Being selfish can make others feel unloved and isolated."

Gameplay:

- Build the Jenga tower with the labeled blocks.
- Invite the children to take turns removing one block at a time.
- Key Point: Each block removed is permanently discarded (it is not placed back), reinforcing the idea that once a sin occurs, its damaging effects cannot be undone simply by ignoring it.
- Play multiple rounds!

Discussion questions

- "What did you notice when we removed a sin block?"
- "How do you think sin might affect our lives beyond just a game?"
- Encourage the kids to share personal experiences or examples (if appropriate) about how sin has hurt relationships or caused pain in their lives.

Block Stack

Materials:

1. Foam blocks with segments of Colossians 2:6-7 written on them
2. A clear space for stacking

Step-by-Step Guide:

Setup:

- Shuffle the blocks containing parts of the memory verse.

Activity:

- Have the children work together to arrange the blocks in the correct order to rebuild the verse.
- Do this multiple times. Make your small group stack in different ways to reinforce the memory Verse.



Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever built something that accidentally got broken or torn down? How did that make you feel?
2. What happened when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the garden?
3. How did their relationship with God change after they sinned?
4. Why do you think sin is so serious, that it even made God want to start over with Noah?
5. What is sin? Can you think of examples where we choose to do wrong things, just like Adam and Eve did?
6. How does sin affect our relationship with God and with people in our life?
7. Even though sin tears things down, what does God always do? **(He forgives and Builds a new path for us)**

Prayer

End your small group in Prayer. Today we learned about sin.
Ask God to open our eyes to sin and that we will seek forgiveness when we sin.

DAY 3

TONIGHT, WE LEARNED THAT **WE ARE BAD BUILDERS**. WHEN WE FEEL FAR FROM GOD OR DON'T WANT TO WAIT ON HIM, WE SOMETIMES TRY TO FILL THAT EMPTINESS WITH OTHER THINGS. IN EXODUS 32, THE ISRAELITES GOT TIRED OF WAITING FOR MOSES, SO THEY BUILT A GOLDEN CALF TO WORSHIP INSTEAD OF TRUSTING GOD.

AS WE HEAD INTO SMALL GROUPS, LET'S TALK ABOUT HOW WE SOMETIMES TRY TO BUILD OUR OWN WAY AND HOW GOD IS THE BEST BUILDER IN OUR LIFE!

BUILD BATTLE

Materials:

1. Provided Grids.
2. Colored paper squares or stickers that match the grid cells
3. Timer or stopwatch

Step-by-Step Guide:

Brief Viewing:

- Show your small group the completed design for 30 seconds.

Memory Challenge:

- Hide the design and hand out blank grids with a collection of blocks
- Challenge them to recreate the image from memory.

Competition & Rounds:

- After each round, compare the recreations.
- The one who made the design perfectly is the winner for that round.
- Continue for several rounds to build memory and attention to detail.



CRAFTING TABLE

Materials:

1. Minecraft crafting table UI
2. Cards or pieces of paper with segments of Colossians 2:6-7.
3. A flat surface for arranging the cards

Step-by-Step Guide:

Setup:

- Lay out the printed crafting table on a table or board.

Activity:

- Distribute the verse segments among the children.
- Have them work together to place the segments in the correct slots on the crafting table, mirroring the way ingredients form a recipe in Minecraft.

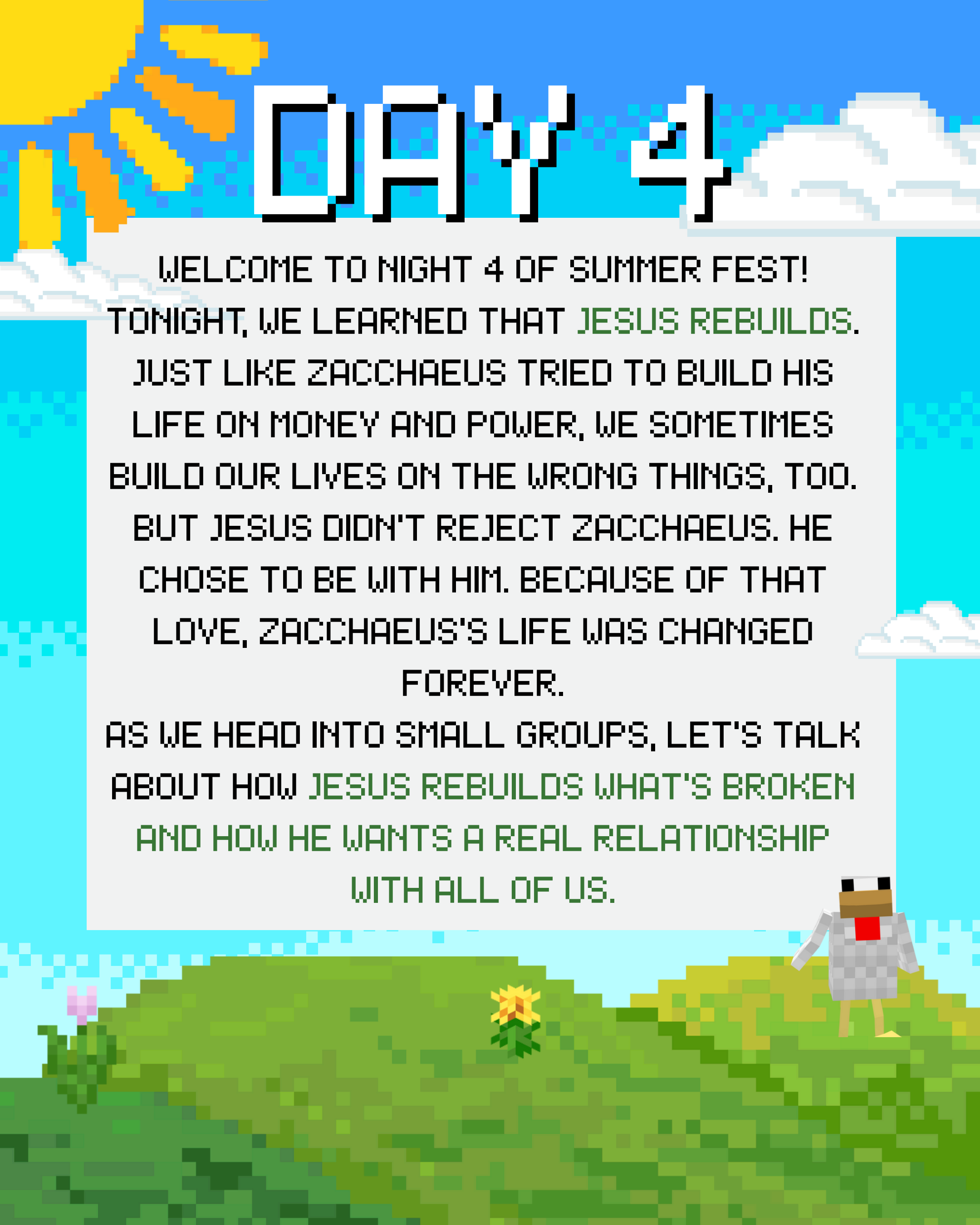


Discussion Questions

1. What did the Israelites do when they got tired of waiting for Moses?
2. Why do you think they built a golden calf? What were they feeling or afraid of?
3. We might not build golden calves today, but what are some "idols" we build in our lives?
(Think: things we love more than God, things we trust more than Him, or things we run to instead of Him)
1. Why do you think people try to build or create their own gods instead of trusting the real God?
2. What's one thing that might sometimes become an "idol" in your life?
3. What can we do when we realize we've put something before God?
4. What's one way you can choose to worship God only this week and not build your own idol?

Prayer

End your small group in Prayer. Today, we learned about how we are Bad Builders. We create Idols. Pray that we will be aware of what has captured our hearts and always run to straight to Jesus.



DAY 4

WELCOME TO NIGHT 4 OF SUMMER FEST!
TONIGHT, WE LEARNED THAT JESUS REBUILDS.
JUST LIKE ZACCHAEUS TRIED TO BUILD HIS
LIFE ON MONEY AND POWER, WE SOMETIMES
BUILD OUR LIVES ON THE WRONG THINGS, TOO.
BUT JESUS DIDN'T REJECT ZACCHAEUS. HE
CHOSE TO BE WITH HIM. BECAUSE OF THAT
LOVE, ZACCHAEUS'S LIFE WAS CHANGED
FOREVER.

AS WE HEAD INTO SMALL GROUPS, LET'S TALK
ABOUT HOW JESUS REBUILDS WHAT'S BROKEN
AND HOW HE WANTS A REAL RELATIONSHIP
WITH ALL OF US.



Solid Block Sand

Materials:

1. Magic sand
2. A clear container or tray
3. Water
4. Paper towels for cleanup

Step-by-Step Guide:

Observation:

- Show the children the magic sand in its dry state. Let them touch and feel its unique texture.

Transformation:

- Slowly submerge the sand in water
- Allow the children to observe how the sand behaves differently when wet yet remains fundamentally the same.
- With a spoon, scoop the sand out and see what happens to the sand.

Discussion

- Ask questions such as, "What did you notice when the sand was wet?" and "How does this remind you of Jesus' constant and unchanging love for us?"
- Highlight that even when our lives change, Jesus remains a steady builder in our hearts.



The Redstone Circuit

Materials:

1. Cards or paper pieces with parts of Colossians 2:6-7 written on them
2. Long strips of red tape that represent "Redstone"
3. A large flat surface for laying out the "circuit"

Step-by-Step Guide:

Setup:

- Place the verse pieces in a jumbled order on the flat surface.

Activity:

- Provide the kids with tape.
- Challenge them to "connect" the pieces in the correct order, as if they were wiring a Redstone circuit in Minecraft.
-



Discussion Questions

1. What kind of life had Zacchaeus built for himself?
What was most important to him before he met Jesus?
2. How did people treat Zacchaeus? How did Jesus treat him differently?
3. What happened to Zacchaeus after spending time with Jesus?
4. What are some things people today try to build their lives on instead of God?
5. Have you ever felt far from God or like you've messed up?
6. What does it mean to you that Jesus wants a relationship with you, no matter what?
7. Jesus rebuilt Zacchaeus' life with love and forgiveness. This week, how can you let Jesus rebuild your life too?

Prayer

End your small group in Prayer. Today, we learned about how Jesus builds a relationship with me. Give him praise! We do not deserve to have a relationship with him, but because of his love, he builds a relationship with us.