

## WEEK 1 | OLDER ELEMENTARY

**Need to Know:** God Cares About My Life

**Bible Story:** Moses Grows Up

**Bible Reference:** Exodus 1-2



### CIRCLE UP

- DO**
- Welcome kids to church and tell them who you are.
  - **Sanitize** kids' hands. Have kids share their first names and initials. Use the **Western Name Guide** to tell kids their cowboy/cowgirl name based on what was shared.

**SAY** *I'm so glad you're here today, and it was so much fun hearing our western names! We're starting a new series called, "Way Out West," where we'll discover that God has a special purpose for each of our lives.*

*Today we are going to talk about how God cares about our lives. So let me hear you say this after me:*

**God Cares** (both hands point up)

**About My Life** (point to self)

### READ THE BIBLE

- DO**
- Divide kids into two teams, and use the **dry erase board, dry erase marker,** and **paper towel** to play "Draw a Cowboy."
  - Starting with the first word on the **Bible Story Sheet**, draw the correct number of blanks on the dry erase board.
  - Choose one child to guess a letter to go in the blanks.
    - If the letter is in the word, write the letter in the correct blank(s).
    - If the letter is not in the word, draw a body part of the cowboy (cowboy hat, head, two eyes, a mouth, a body, two arms, two legs, and cowboy boots).
  - Allow kids to take turns guessing letters until the word is guessed or the cowboy is fully drawn. Repeat for each section of the Bible Story Sheet.

- SAY**
- *How did God care for Moses as a baby?* (By protecting him)
  - *What was God's plan for Moses' life when he got older?* (To help rescue God's people by leading them out of Egypt)
  - *Just as God cared for Moses and the Israelites, we can know He cares for us, too.*

## LET'S PRACTICE

### OPTION 1: CATCH THE BANDIT

### OPTION 2: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### DO

1. **Sanitize** kids' hands. Divide kids into two teams. Place the **Way Out West Cards** in the center of the group, logo side up.
2. Alternating teams, have kids take turns their team's **sticky cactus** to turn over a Card. If kids turn over a Good Sheriff Card, allow the team to answer the question to earn 1 point. If kids turn over a Footprints Card, the sneaky bandit got away, and they will put the Card back. If kids turn over a Sneaky Bandit Card, the team keeps the card and earns 2 points.
3. Play until 6 Good Sheriff Cards and 2 Sneaky Bandit Cards have been found. Then count the points to find the winning team.
4. Collect all materials, and have kids repeat:  
**God Cares** (both hands point up)  
**About My Life** (point to self)

1. *What are some ways that you can see that God cares for your life?*
2. *Are there times when it's hard to believe that God cares for us? What should we do when we feel this way?*
3. *What are some ways that we can care for others?*
4. Have kids repeat:  
**God Cares** (both hands point up)  
**About My Life** (point to self)

## LET'S PRAY

#### SAY

*Hey God! Thank You for helping us see that You have a special purpose for each of us. Help us to remember that no matter what, You care about every part of our lives. We love You! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

## MEMORIZE IT

#### SAY & DO

*There's a verse in the Bible that helps us know that God is working things out for our good. Let me teach it to you! Say this after me: (Motions optional for 4-5)*

**"We know that** (both hands point to head)

**God is always at work** (pound fists)

**for the good** (thumbs to chest)

**of everyone who loves Him.** (cross arms over chest)

**They are the ones** (both hands point out)

**God has chosen for His purpose."** (hands out, palm up)

**Romans 8:28** (make book with hands)

Use the **snake** to play "Hot Potato," allowing kids to say one word of the verse as they pass the snake. The person holding the snake when the group says, "28," is out. Continue playing until there is only one child left.