

The image features a solid orange background at the top, which transitions into a teal background at the bottom. A thick, glossy orange liquid is shown dripping down from the orange section, creating a wavy, irregular border. The text is white and bold, with a slight 3D effect.

**WHEN LIFE  
GETS MESSY**

# When Life Gets Messy

## Series at a Glance for Elevate

### About this Series:

We are all made to be in relationships, but why do they sometimes feel so messy? There can be conflict, gossip, or unkindness in even the best relationships. In this series, we'll get a little messy as we explore some surprising things that Jesus had to say about relationships.

### Key Verse:

John 15:12 – “Here is my command. Love one another, just as I have loved you.”

### Weekly Overview:

Lesson:	Title:	Big Idea:
Lesson 1: Sept. 12/13	Start with Me Matthew 7:1-5	I can choose to focus on my part.
Lesson 2: Sept. 19/20	Tension in the Air Matthew 18:15-16	I can work to solve arguments peacefully.
Lesson 3: Sept. 26/27	Won't You Be My Neighbor? Luke 10:25-37	I can treat other people the way I want to be treated.
Lesson 4: Oct. 3/4	Enemy Territory Luke 6:27-36	I can be kind to people I don't get along with.
Lesson 5: Oct. 10/11	The Greatest of All Time Mark 9:33-35, 10:43-45	I can serve others.
Lesson 6: Oct. 17/18	A Matter of the Heart Luke 6:43-45	What I put in my heart impacts my relationships.
Lesson 7: Oct. 24/25	A Love Like No Other Luke 15:11-32	I can have a relationship with Jesus.
Lesson 8: Oct. 31/Nov. 1	Forgiveness Factor Matthew 18:21-35	I can forgive others because Jesus forgives me.

# When Life Gets Messy

## Series at a Glance for Elevate (continued)

### **Lesson 1: Start with Me**

Have you ever been upset with a friend or sibling? It is easy for us to see what they did wrong, but how often do we pause to think about what we could have done differently? This week we'll see how our relationships can improve when we focus on our part.

### **Lesson 2: Tension in the Air**

What can we do when someone is mean or hurts our feelings? Do we hurt them back or is there a better way? This week, we'll discover what Jesus has to say about resolving conflict.

### **Lesson 3: Won't You Be My Neighbor?**

Jesus talks about loving our neighbors, but who is my neighbor? Is it just the person living next door to me or is it someone else? This week, we'll hear a story that Jesus tells to help us understand who our neighbor is and how we should treat them.

### **Lesson 4: Enemy Territory**

We all have people in our lives that are difficult to love. Maybe they have been mean to us or they just bother us. This week, we'll take a look at Jesus' challenge to "love your enemies."

### **Lesson 5: The Greatest of All Time**

Have you ever had an argument with a friend or sibling about who is the best or most important? Jesus' disciples argued about the same thing. This week, we'll find out how Jesus answers them and what he says will make us great.

### **Lesson 6: A Matter of the Heart**

How do the things we watch and listen to affect our heart? This week, we'll talk about the importance of what goes in our heart and how it can impact our relationships.

### **Lesson 7: A Love Like No Other**

Sometimes our relationships can leave us feeling disappointed. Family or friends can let us down, but there is one relationship that we can always count on. This week, we'll hear a story Jesus tells about a man who runs away from home and the father who loved him.

### **Lesson 8: Forgiveness Factor**

What does it take to have peace in our relationships? We try to get along, but sometimes things get messy and someone gets their feelings hurt. This week, we'll discover the importance of forgiveness and how it can impact our relationships.

# When Life Gets Messy

## Lesson Outline for Elevate

### Lesson 7: A Love Like No Other

Lesson Segment	Total Running Time
Opening Song and Welcome (2:00)	
Team Time (12:00)	0:00 – 14:00
Media Part 1 (Big Problem) (5:00)	
Group Time (Discussion) (7:00)	
Media Part 2 (What Does the Bible Say?) (4:00)	
Group Time (Activity/Object Lesson) (8:00)	14:00 – 38:00
Media 3 (Application) (8:00)	
Worship (8:00)	
Media 4 (Game) (5:00)	
Wrap-Up (1:00)	38:00 - 60:00



Video Cue



Slide Cue



Audio Cue



Tech Notes

## Opening Song and Welcome

2:00



*(Roll when directed)* Elevate Opener

**Do This:** During the song, encourage kids to find a place to sit, and let them know it's time to get started.

Welcome everyone! I'm so glad you're all here! Come on up and find a place to sit.



*(Auto advance)* Elevate Slide and Underscore

My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I'm so excited to be here with all of you! We've got some great things coming up. We'll get to sing, hear some great stories, and play some fun games, too.

**Know This:** It's important to say the following paragraph roughly word-for-word. We are using this "respect" language intentionally to give kids clear expectations for how to behave while they are in Elevate. We ask that you don't add to or take away from this language.

Elevate is an awesome place where we get to have fun and learn about God. It's also a place where we show respect. We respect the leaders in here by listening and following their instructions. We respect others by being kind and keeping our hands to ourselves. And we respect the room by being safe, and not damaging anything. Showing respect like that helps us all have an awesome time.

## Team Time

12:00



Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy and clear audio

We're in a series about relationships called "When Life Gets Messy." God made each one of us to be in relationships, but sometimes those relationships can feel a little bit messy. Sometimes we argue with our friends or don't get along with our family. In this series, we're looking at some of the interesting things Jesus had to say about relationships and how to make them the best they can be.

Let's get started with a game called "Messy Trivia!"



Game Title Slide: "Messy Trivia!"

In this game, a messy trivia question is going to appear on the screen. There will be three different answers to choose from. We have an A, B, and C hanging on the wall and you will need to stand next to the letter that matches your answer.

**Do This:** Point to each letter on the wall so kids know where they are.

Got it? Let's give it a try!



Fun background music!



Where is the biggest pile of garbage located?

- A. Desert
- B. Ocean
- C. Mountains

Here is the first one! Where is the biggest pile of garbage located? What do you think, is it A. the Desert, B. the Ocean, or C. the Mountains? Walk to the letter that matches your answer!

**Do This:** Give kids time to walk to their answers.

Let's check out the answer!



Image of garbage in ocean <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/plastic-bags-other-trash-littered-into-1232264239>

Answer: B. Ocean

The "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" is located in the Pacific Ocean and weighs 87,000 tons. It is twice the size as Texas.

It is B. the Ocean. Did you know there is something called the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch"? It's located in the Pacific Ocean and weighs 87,000 tons. It is twice the size of Texas! Wow, that's a lot of garbage. Let's try another one!



Which food was part of the world's largest food fight?

- A. Tomatoes
- B. Mashed Potatoes
- C. Grapes

Which food was part of the world's largest food fight? What do you think the answer is? Is it A. Tomatoes, B. Mashed Potatoes, or C. Grapes? All of those seem like they could get messy!

**Do This:** Give kids time to walk to their answers.

Let's find out!



Full size image of La Tomatina Tomato Fight <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/bunol-spain-august-28-girl-crushed-165960236>

Answer: A. Tomatoes

Every August, 20,000 people gather in Spain to throw tomatoes at each other.

The answer is A. Tomatoes. Every August, 20,000 people gather in Spain to throw tomatoes at each other. That's definitely a mess! How many of you would want to be a part of that? Let's try the next one.



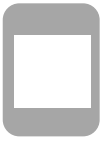
What is one of the stinkiest animals in the world?

- A. Stink Bird
- B. Dung Beetle
- C. Lesser Anteater

What is one of the stinkiest animals in the world? Is the answer A. Stink Bird, B. Dung Beetle, or C. Lesser Anteater? Those all sound pretty stinky! Walk to your guess.

**Do This:** Give kids time to walk to their answers.

Let's find out!



Full size image of lesser anteater <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/collared-anteater-tamandua-tetradactyla-front-white-30963121>

Answer: C. Lesser Anteater

They are normally very stinky animals, but when they feel threatened, the Lesser Anteater produces an odor that is 4-7 times stronger than a skunk!

The answer is C. Lesser Anteater. These are normally very stinky animals, but did you know that when they feel threatened the odor of the Lesser Anteater is 4-7 times stronger than a skunk? Wow, that is really stinky! Let's check out the next one!



Where is one of the world's messiest festivals?

- A. Mexico
- B. France
- C. South Korea

Where is one of the world's messiest festivals? Is it A. Mexico, B. France, or C. South Korea?

**Do This:** Give kids time to walk to their answers.

Let's see the answer!



Image <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/boryong-korea-july-20-boryeong-mud-284489249>

Answer: C. South Korea

The Boryeong Mud Festival is held in South Korea every year. It includes a variety of mud-related events and more than 2 million people attend.

The answer is C. South Korea. The Boryeong Mud Festival is held in South Korea every year. It includes a variety of mud-related events and more than 2 million people attend. Would any of you want to go to a festival like that? Let's see if we can guess this last one!



What is one of the world's slimiest animals?

- A. Slug
- B. Hagfish
- C. Octopus

What is one of the world's slimiest animals? Is it A. Slug, B. Hagfish, or C. Octopus? Walk to your answer.

**Do This:** Give kids time to walk to their answers.

Let's check out the answer!



Image of Hagfish <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/head-teeth-one-slime-fish-caught-405015457>

Answer: B. Hagfish

A hagfish will release less than a teaspoon of slime from its glands. In less than a half second, the slime expands by 10,000 times and can fill a big bucket!

That one was tricky! It is B. Hagfish. A hagfish will release less than a teaspoon of slime from its glands, which sounds small. But in less than a half second, the slime expands by 10,000 times and can fill a big bucket!



Game Title Slide: "Messy Trivia" and clear audio

Great job! Those were some pretty messy facts! You can all come up to the front and find a spot to sit because it's time for our question of the day.



Question of the Day Video



(Auto Advance) QOTD Slide: What is your favorite thing to do that can get a little messy?

What is your favorite thing to do that can get a little messy? It could be anything! Maybe it's running around in the mud, an art project, or it could be eating something that gets you messy. Turn to the person sitting next to you and talk about your answer.

**Do This:** Allow kids to talk for about 30 seconds.



Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

It's fun to hear about your favorite messy things!

## Media Part 1: Big Question

5:00

Next, we get to check in with Josh and Beka and see what big questions they're thinking about this week!



Media: Part 1 (2:08)



*(Auto advance)* Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

Those are really big questions to think about. Will God still love me when I do wrong things or make mistakes? How can I know for sure? Keep thinking about those questions, because next you're going to talk about them with your groups! Get up and follow your group leader to your spot.

## Group Time 1

7:00



7:00 Group Time Countdown



*(Auto advance)* Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

**Do This:** Make sure each kid finds their group. Help group leaders if there is a need. Encourage kids as they work to discuss the question.

**Know This:** During this time, groups are expected to look in the Bible to see if they can solve the big question presented in the media. They'll spend time reading the Bible and discussing the problem. Help group leaders engage kids and facilitate discussion as much as possible.

## Media Part 2: What Does the Bible Say?

4:00

You can come back to the middle and find a spot to sit. I hope you had a great time talking with your group! Next up, Josh and Beka are going to check out what the Bible has to say about the big questions we've been talking about.



Media: Part 3 (Bible Story) (4:05)



*(Auto advance)* Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

I loved hearing that story from the Bible. Now, let's head back to your groups to discover more about God's love for us.

## Group Time 2

8:00



8:00 Group Time Countdown



*(Auto advance)* Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

**Do This:** Make sure each kid finds their group. Help group leaders if there is a need. Encourage kids as they work to discuss the question.

**Know This:** During this time, groups are expected to complete an activity or object lesson around the lesson we're learning. Make sure group leaders have all the supplies that they need, and that they understand what they're doing in this section ahead of time.

## Media Part 3: Application

8:00

You can come back to the middle and find a spot to sit. I hope you had a great time talking with your group! Next up, let's see how Josh and Beka's adventure wraps up.



Media: Part 3 (Application) (3:00)



*(Auto advance)* Worship Slide

Jesus loves each one of you just the way you are, even if your life has been a little messy. He wants to be your friend and the leader in your life. Some of you have already made the decision to follow Jesus and that's amazing! Your journey has already started. But choosing to follow Jesus is a life-long journey, and there are still next steps you can take to grow closer to Him. That's what this boot reminds me of.

**Do This:** Hold up the boot.

You can take steps like serving others, reading your Bible, or sharing Jesus' story. Those are all great steps to take to continue your journey with Jesus!

**Do This:** Set the boot aside.

Maybe you are someone who still has some questions and that is okay! Your questions are so important. Following Jesus isn't a choice that your parents or friends can make for you, it is an important choice that only you can make. If you have questions, I want to encourage you to talk to someone, like any of the leaders here at church. I will also be up on stage at the end of the hour and would love to talk about any questions you have. That's what this walkie-talkie reminds me of.

**Do This:** Hold up the walkie-talkie.

Maybe today is your day and you feel ready to make the decision to follow Jesus and make him the leader in your life. This compass reminds me of that.

**Do This:** Hold up the compass.

Jesus is the greatest leader and guide you could ever have. He can guide you through life just like this compass can guide you through the wilderness. In a moment, we're going to talk to God. If you are ready to make the decision to follow Jesus, you can talk to God with me. You'll tell God that you know you've done wrong things, you're sorry, that you want to follow Jesus, and that you want him to be the leader in your life. You can say these words out loud or in your mind, God hears you either way. Let's all close our eyes so we aren't distracted by the people around us.

**Do This:** Read the following prayer word for word, giving enough time after each line for the kids to repeat after you, even if they are doing it silently.

God, thank you for loving me.  
I am sorry for doing things  
That I know are wrong.  
I believe that Jesus is your son.  
I believe that he died on the cross,  
Took my punishment,  
And came back to life,  
So that I can be forgiven.  
Jesus, I ask you now  
To be my leader,  
Savior,  
And friend forever.

I choose to follow you.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.



Congratulations!

If you just made that amazing decision, congratulations! I want to celebrate with you and give you this book.

**Do This:** Show kids the Following Jesus book.

This book can help you get started on your journey with Jesus. Right now, let's all stand up. If you decided to follow Jesus for the first time today, you can follow me. The rest of you will stay here and sing a couple of songs together.

**Do This:** Take kids into the hallway or to the back of the room to celebrate with them and talk with them about the decision they just made.



Worship Slide

## Worship

8:00

We call singing to God "worship", so let's worship together right now. This first song is about how nothing can separate us from God's love.

**Do This:** Worship time will be happening while you are back with the kids who made a decision to follow Jesus. Make sure to have someone else up on stage to lead the songs in your place.



Song #1: Remind Me



(Auto-Advance) Worship Slide

Let's keep on singing and moving with another fun song about God's love and grace!



Song #2: Movin' Me



(Auto advance) Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

Singing with all of you is awesome. You can sit, but let's take a moment to talk to God.

God, we love you. Thank you for loving us so much. Thank you for wanting to have a relationship with each one of us. Help us to follow you each day. Amen.

## Media Part 4: Game

5:00

Next, we get to see what crazy, messy game Josh and Beka have for us today!



Media: Part 4 (Game) (5:00)



*(Auto advance)* Series Title Slide: When Life Gets Messy

That was super fun to watch!

## Wrap-Up

1:00

I've had an awesome time being here with you all today! I have one more thing to tell you about before you go.



Eagle Brook App

This is our Eagle Brook App. In the section for kids, we have some questions and activities for you to do at home this week. It can help you remember what we're learning during this series. I hope you and your family will check it out!

I'm so glad you were here today! I hope you all come back next week as we get messy and wrap up our series on relationships!



Elevate Slide



Start free time music videos