



# 3<sup>RD</sup>-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

November 3/4, 2012

DATE

A Journey Home Week 5—A Place at the Table

LESSON TITLE

Luke 24 (Pg. 1161-1162), John 20 (Pg. 1193-1194) in the Adventure Bible

WHERE TO FIND IT

You can choose to receive the gift of Jesus' rescue.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

Hang out with kids (10 minutes)  
Large Group (30 minutes)  
Small Group (20 minutes)  
Video/Song Review (10 minutes)

## tips

Does your time in the room seem chaotic? Come up with a game plan before the kids arrive. You can use the first 10 minutes of class to play a group game like Simon Says or Follow the Leader. Or, set up stations around the room for the kids to join as they enter the room.

## check-in/out

During check-out, see how the lesson impacted the kids. Ask them about the amazing gift that God gave us by sending Jesus.

## large group heads up

Today kids will hear about the amazing rescue plan that God executed to set the world right again. They will understand that everyone can make the choice to receive God's gift (Jesus' Rescue).



## instructions

Start with the **CONNECT** questions. These are a great way to check in with the kids. You never know what you may discover about their life until you take time to listen.

Have kids play the **WHISPER GAME** to remind them of important parts of the lesson. You may add phrases that you think would work for your group.

Make **WRAPPING PAPER** as a way to remind kids that Jesus' Rescue was a great gift.

## QUESTIONS

### CONNECT

- What was the best part of your week?
- What was the worst part of your week?
- What are you excited about?

### REVIEW

- What is God's gift for our family? (He sent Jesus to rescue us.)
- Is receiving God's gift simple or complicated? (Simple, you tell him that you are ready to receive Jesus' Rescue.)
- Is following Jesus easy or hard? (Sometimes it's pretty hard, like when you have to give up things that you really love or serve others before yourself.)

### RELATE

- What are some of the benefits of receiving God's gift? (You have a place in the family.)
- Can you name another gift that came with benefits and responsibilities? (Any pet, bike, paint, etc.)

## ACTIVITY—WHISPER GAME

**Say:** we're going to get in a circle and play a game. I'll whisper something in the first person's ear, they whisper it to their neighbor, and when it reaches the end of our circle, the last person says it out loud. Ready?

Each person will only say the phrase once, if you didn't understand it, just tell your neighbor what you thought you heard.

### Here are some phrases to use:

- I love getting great gifts from a great gift giver.
- God's special gift was Jesus' Rescue.
- Rescue missions are hard and I'm so happy God didn't give up.
- Our family needed a fearless Father to rescue us.
- Unwrap every wrapped gift that you can find.

## QUESTIONS

A large, empty white rectangular box intended for writing questions, framed by a dark blue border.

## ACTIVITY—MAKE WRAPPING PAPER

**Say:** Today we talked about what an amazing gift God gave us when he sent Jesus to rescue his family. To remind us of that gift, we are going to make wrapping paper to take home.

Give each kid a piece of ***paper about 2 feet by 2 feet.***

Ask them to use **stamps** to decorate the paper to be used for wrapping.

A large, empty white rectangular box intended for writing activity instructions, framed by a dark blue border.



## special notes

Today kids will begin to understand that Jesus' rescue is a gift from God. The gift cost God an unbelievable amount to give us and we can receive it. If we choose to follow Jesus, the gift changes the way our life works.

## presenter tips

As you get used to the kids in your room, you will get a feel for what parts of the script will work well, and what needs to be modified. Don't just read the script—develop your presenting skills by trying new things.

## script

### WELCOME

Hello friends! It's great to have you here today. We've been looking at some things that are special to our family (*whisper*), which is God's family. In fact, every week we've been watching a video that gives us clues about our family story. Let's take a look.

### VIDEO

**Play Attic Video: Week 5 (about :30—inside the box are three wrapped, but unopened gifts)**

**(Presenter is reeling from the video.)** Whoa, I wonder if someone is going to open those gifts or not! Whenever I see a wrapped gift that hasn't been opened yet, I get all excited. What could it be? Is it a good gift or a lame gift? Whose gift is it? Is it a gift for me? I just can't wait to find out what's in the box. **Share a story (less than 1 minute) about a time you got super excited to open a gift.** What about you? Anyone here like getting gifts?!? Maybe the story today can help us figure out why there are some gifts that were never opened up.

### REVIEW GOD'S STORY

Let's all review the story that we know so far. We have a family history of not trusting our Father (*whisper*) that's God—he's our REAL Father. That means that sometimes we trust other people to tell us if we are important or not (*whisper*) and we forget to ask God what he thinks. And, because we don't always trust that God knows what is best for us, we do things like make bad choices. But don't worry—God is always excited when we repent (*whisper*). That means we say we were wrong, and ask for God's help.

### JESUS CAME TO RESCUE OUR FAMILY

The greatest thing that has ever happened in our family is that God gave us a special gift. Let's watch this video to find out more about the gift.

**Play God's Story: Jesus' Rescue (about 4 minutes)**





## script continued

Wow, that was an incredible gift. Have you ever received a really, really nice gift? I have. And when I got it, I couldn't help but think of how much it must have cost the person who got it for me. **Do you think that God's gift (Jesus' rescue) was a cheap gift for us or an expensive gift for us?** (Let the kids yell out answers.) Right, it is a really, really, really expensive gift. God gave his son so that we don't have to be punished for all of those wrong things we do.

### UNOPENED GIFTS

Now, do you remember that video that we watched at the beginning of our time together? ...The one with all of the unopened gifts? (**Pick up wrapped gift.**) They hadn't been opened yet and I don't know how long they had been sitting in that box. I wonder if someone forgot about them or just decided not to open them? It looks like someone never got to enjoy those gifts. Can you really enjoy a gift without opening it? **Pause for kids to answer.** No, I don't think that anyone ever enjoyed those gifts because they were never opened. You can't enjoy a gift unless you open it!

That's part of our family story because not everyone decides to receive God's gift (**whisper**), which is being rescued by Jesus. Why do you think that some people don't want that gift? Does anyone have an idea? (**Take 3 answers from kids.**) Well, I think I have an idea. You see, once you begin to follow Jesus, things may not be exactly like you expect them to be. The best gifts include lots of fun, and give you responsibility, too. Let's take a look at some pictures:

(**Show picture of a dog.**) What's great about this gift? (**Take 3 or 4 answers from kids.**) Now, what is difficult about this gift? What responsibilities does it come with? (**Take 2 or 3 answers from kids.**) That's right, pets are lots of fun, but they also come with some responsibility.

(**Show picture of a bike.**) What is great about this gift? (**Take 3 or 4 answers from kids.**) Now, what is difficult about this gift? (**Take 2 or 3 answers from kids.**) Right, riding a bike is awesome, and you also have very real responsibilities.

Sometimes following Jesus is amazing (**whisper and pantomime by praying and then looking overjoyed**) like when you pray and see someone healed. Sometimes it is easy to follow Jesus (**whisper with happiness**) like when you celebrate his birthday at Christmas. And, sometimes following Jesus is really hard (**whisper with a face that looks like you are going to go through with something difficult**) like when you know it's right to give up what you really want to serve someone else.

Some people choose not to receive the gift because they know that there will be responsibilities when we follow Jesus, and they just don't want to take those on. Everyone in our family has been given God's gift, and they have to decide if they want to receive it—the good stuff and the hard stuff.

### WHAT IS YOUR PLACE IN THE FAMILY?

God wants everyone to receive his gift, after all, it cost him more than we could ever imagine. It's amazing and wonderful, and comes with a place in God's family. That means that God has a place for you, he is expecting to spend time with you, and he loves you more than you can imagine. That is your place in the family! You are God's kid and he LOVES YOU! Check out



## script continued

what the Bible says about this rescue gift (**show verse on screen**):

***For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8***

Being rescued was a great gift!

## WORSHIP

Let's sing a few songs to tell God how thankful we are that he gives each of us a place in the family.

***Music Video: I Get Down***

***Music Video: You Come in a Hurry***

## PRAY

Invite a kid to come up front and pray for the group today.

## CLOSING SONG

***Song: Home***



BLANK



name



# PREP needs



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## small group supplies

- One 2 foot x 2 foot piece of paper per kid.
- Stamps and ink pads for kids to use to decorate the paper.

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## large group supplies

One old suitcase on stage with the following items:

- 2 or 3 old looking gifts that are still wrapped
- The Adventure Bible (Pg. 1161-1162, and Pg. 1193-1194)

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## a/v needs

1. Attic video week 5
2. God's Story: Jesus' Rescue, also available on iTunes
3. Picture of a dog
4. Picture of a kid's bike
5. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8
6. Music Video: I Get Down
7. Music Video: You Come in a Hurry
8. Song: Home

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## special room set-up

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## connect questions

- What is God's gift to us? (Jesus' Rescue)
- Kids are on 'A Journey Home', too. Pick up a parent page to find out more.

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## parent page

Today kids talked about God's gift to our family—Jesus' Rescue. It's a gift that everyone in the family can receive (just like the Bible says in Ephesians 2:8), and it was a very costly gift for God to give. Kids watched a video and made their own wrapping paper to remember God's gift.