



3rd – 5th

November 10-11, 2013

Kingdom Come Journey Week 5: SEEK

LESSON TITLE

Luke 10:38-42

When we seek God's Kingdom, we start to see the world the way God sees it.

WHERE TO FIND IT

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Last week, kids got Fight Cards. As they enter the room, ask them if they were able to fight against the devil and obey God instead. Then share how *your* fight experiment went.

check-in/out

As kids leave today, encourage them to do their Seek Experiment. Also, remind them to tell their parents about their Kingdom Goggles.

large group heads up

When we seek God's Kingdom, we start to see the world through his eyes. Staying focused on following Jesus is the best way to see the Kingdom. The thing is, sometimes seeking the kingdom looks strange, because it means putting following Jesus before everything else.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away, while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

Choose 1 of the following games. One works best if the whole room plays. The other works well in a smaller group. Both accomplish the same goal: winning by obedience.

RED LIGHT GREEN LIGHT (Whole Group Game)

- Line kids up against the back wall (or the longest wall).
- One volunteer is "it." When he/she says "green light" and holds up this **GREEN piece of paper**, kids should take GIANT steps toward the leader as he/she turns to face away from the kids.
- As soon as the leader says "red light" and holds up the **RED piece of paper**, he/she whirls around to face the kids—and kids must freeze. If the leader catches anybody moving, he/she must go back to the wall and start over.
- Once somebody reaches you, he/she is "it" if they want to be.

TEACHER, MAY I? (Smaller Group Game)

- Kids line up facing you at a predetermined location (a wall) or a table along the perimeter of your group's "area." You stand several feet away.
- One at a time, kids request to move forward a specific number and type of steps (e.g. 3 baby steps, 2 scissor steps, 1 giant step, 6 jumping jack steps, etc.). Before their request, they must say, "Teacher, may....etc."
- You can answer "yes" or "no" and they must obey.
- Once somebody reaches you, he/she is "it" if they want to be.

This is also a time for you to connect with kids: 5 minutes before large group, gather the kids into smaller groups (if you played Red Light Green Light); then ask them their names, talk to them about the best part of their week, or even remind them of the expectations you have for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.

**Today's Large Group script is a little longer than normal. The purpose of this Connect Time activity will be achieved within the first few minutes, so make sure to wrap up and gather kids in time to begin large group no later than 20 minutes after start of the service. If you think your group may need extra transition time, feel free to start large group a little early!*



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand what it means to “seek” and (2) recognize that God wants us to seek his Kingdom by following Jesus (obeying him).

Why? Seeking Jesus is more important than anything else. It’s how we stay close to Him—and continue to walk in his Kingdom.

Tip: Really play up the use of the decoder glasses (Kingdom Goggles)! Encourage kids to look for the Kingdom!

small group

REACT / DIG DEEPER

1. How do we seek God’s Kingdom? (Paying attention to/ focusing on God and following him.)
2. Tell me about Mary and Martha. (Let kids retell their favorite parts of the story.)
3. We can’t see and touch Jesus like Mary, but how can we get close to him?
4. What happens when we begin to seek Jesus and find others who are following him? (We see the world through God’s eyes- Kingdom Goggles) Why is it important to see through Kingdom Goggles? (We are able to walk in his Kingdom.)
5. If we’re looking through Kingdom Goggles, what will we be looking for?

KINGDOM GLASSES ACTIVITY

- Break kids into pairs.
- Give each *pair* **2 notecards** and a **blue crayon**
 - On one of the notecards, kids should write (very lightly) ONE way they see the Kingdom of God at work—how have they seen somebody else be a part of God’s Kingdom?
 - On another notecard, kids should write (very lightly) ONE way they see the kingdom of world at work.
 - *(If it’s difficult, encourage them to approach it this way: Imagine one bad thing that happens in the kingdom of the world like cheating, jealousy, gossip, leaving people out, hurting people, poverty, etc. Then imagine what would happen in a perfect, loving kingdom, and consider if they’ve ever seen someone doing that. Give them ideas of places to think about like city/ school/ home/ neighborhood/ country/ world.)*
- Give each pair **red crayons** and have them scribble all over their notecards.
- Put all of the notecards in the middle of the table and mix them up.

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- Then, hand out the decoder glasses (**Kingdom Goggles**). Remind kids that when we follow Jesus, we begin to see the world the way God does.
- As a group, walk around and look at all the examples. Make a pile of “Kingdom of God” examples; and throw away the “kingdom of the world” examples. (If some are unclear, ask pairs to clarify.)

Then discuss:

- How will we live differently if we’re looking through Kingdom Goggles?
- What would it look like if more and more people entered into God’s Kingdom?
- Why do you think God wants us to constantly seek his Kingdom?

***Pray together, thanking Jesus that we can seek him—and find him!—every day.**

KINGDOM GOGGLES EXPERIMENT

**If you’re running out of time, kids can take these home. The instructions are written on the card. Encourage them to ask their parents if they’re not sure how to complete their experiment!*

OK, it’s been really fun to think about all this, but it’s time to put it into practice. This week, we can look for the Kingdom by following Jesus. Each card has one thing Jesus did, and we’re going to get close to him this week by acting like he did. Without looking, pick a **card**. Your challenge is to seek Jesus by obeying what’s on the card.

Their job is to seek the Kingdom of God this week by doing what the card says!

*Extra time? Review the Journey passage **Matthew 6:9-10**:*

- **Our Father in heaven** (prayer hands)
- **help us to honor your name.** (cup hands around mouth).
- **Come and set up your kingdom** (act like you’re setting an object on the table),
- **so that everyone on earth will obey you** (point to the floor)
- **as you are obeyed in heaven.** (point to the sky).
- **Give us our daily bread.** (Pretend to eat.)
- **Forgive us** (point to self)
- **for doing wrong** (make a sad face),
- **as we forgive others.** (motion outwards).
- **Keep us from being tempted** (cover arms over chest)
- **and protect us from evil.** (finish with prayer hands).

LARGE group

special notes

In order to include the final piece of Matthew 6:9-12, this script is a little longer than normal. Make sure you start on time! **You can even talk to the other volunteers about starting 5 minutes early today.**

presenter tips

There are lots of different opportunities for kids to respond in today's lesson. Call on different kids each time. Or, if you're not sure they're engaged, ask EACH kid to think of a response and put a hand on their head (or do some other motion) when they've come up with something. Wait until all kids have completed the motion to continue.

script

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here today. We just got done playing a REALLY fun game, didn't we? Raise your hand if you lead any rounds of the game today (let kids respond). OK, would one of you be willing to come up here and tell us about it? (Choose at least one kid to come up. Then debrief.)

How did you end up as the leader? (Let kid say: they won.) That's right, you won. And how did you win? (Let kid say: by obeying the leaders instructions.) Yeah, by obeying.

But the hard part is, the instructions kept changing. (*If Red Light Green Light, say: You never knew how long a green light would last before you had to "freeze" again. If Teacher, May I, say: You never knew exactly how many steps you could take until you asked.*) So how were you able to obey? (Let kid say: they listened to the leader.)

That's right! You had to listen carefully. You had to pay attention to your leader and follow what he/she said. That's how you were able to win. Alright, you can have a seat! Thanks for helping us out today.

SEEK THE KINGDOM INTRO

This game was the perfect start. See, we've been talking about how there are two kingdoms, the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of the world. They are at war and the devil is constantly trying to get us to come toward the kingdom of the world. But God gives us all that we need to stand up to the devil and walk in God's Kingdom by obeying God.

But it's important for us to continue to obey, every day. The only way we can do that is by constantly paying attention to God—and following him, just like we constantly paid attention to our leader and obeyed him/her. When we continue to follow God, we are seeking—or looking for—ways to walk in his Kingdom.



script continued

KINGDOM GOGGLES

The cool thing is, when we look for ways to walk in God's Kingdom by constantly listening to him and following him, we really DO start to see His Kingdom. And that lets us see things the way He sees them. It's kind of like an antelope wearing night vision goggles. Watch this short commercial to see why an antelope would like having night vision goggles:

Video: GEICO Commercial (33 seconds)

OK, so why would an antelope like having night vision goggles? (Let kids say: A lion was coming to attack and they saw him from far away and could run away.)

That's right, and let's think about how wearing "Kingdom Goggles" would help us. What kinds of things would we see? (Let 2-3 kids respond). Remember, the Bible says the devil is like a roaring lion! When we have our "Kingdom Goggles" on, we can see him from far away and get away from his attacks. And we can see other people following Jesus and join them in obedience.

HOW WE SEEK

OK, so there's no such thing as Kingdom Goggles, but we really *do* start to see the world the way God sees it when we constantly seek God by paying attention to him and obeying him.

Today, we're going to watch a video about two sisters in the Bible. Their names were Mary and Martha. One day, they were having a lot of people over, including a very special guest: Jesus. Martha was trying to get everything ready, but Mary just wanted to be with Jesus, so she paid attention to him and blocked out everything else! Let's take a look. As you watch, compare the way Jesus reacted to Martha to the way Jesus reacted to Mary.

God's Story: Mary and Martha

Wow, so what was the difference between the way Jesus reacted to Mary and to Martha? (Let kids respond.) Yes, Jesus flat-out told Mary that paying attention to him and following him is more important than *anything*.

Now, the way we seek the Kingdom is by following Jesus, one step at a time, and loving him and others, more than *anything*. So maybe one day, he wants us to sit with him instead of rushing around. Maybe the next day, he wants us to help our mom or dad or friend so that they don't feel stressed. We have to seek God's Kingdom, obedient step by obedient step, just like you did in today's game.

ASK DAILY: HOW CAN I OBEY?

Jesus tells us to ask God about it in the prayer verses we've been learning. We actually skipped one verse, so we're going to go back to it. See if you can find it. (Read the whole thing.)

Matthew 9:9-13 (CEV): You should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name. Come and set up your kingdom, so that everyone on earth will obey you, as



script continued

you are obeyed in heaven. Give us our food for today. Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others. Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil.

Did anybody catch a new part? If you haven't been here before, that's OK! We'll tell you what it is. And you can guess too! (Let kids guess until they get: Give us our food for today. **Then click forward to make that phrase stand out.**) Yes, Jesus told us to ask him to give us our food *for today*. That means we should ask for what we need today only...we should say, "Please give me the food I need today" and even say " please show me how you want me to obey you today." Every day, we must look for God's Kingdom!

THE KINGDOM IS CRAZY

And here's the really surprising thing: The kingdom can be crazy. Martha thought Mary was *crazy* for sitting with Jesus when guests were coming over. The disciples thought Jesus was crazy when one day, he got on the floor and washed their stinky feet--and it seems pretty crazy that when people made fun of Jesus and beat him up, he said "Father, forgive them" instead of getting mad.

But the more we listen to God and follow him, the more those things won't seem crazy—they'll just be the kinds of things we do when we're walking in God's Kingdom.

WORSHIP

Let's worship God together and tell him we want to know him and follow him!

Song: Grow Up Like Jesus (hand motions)

Music Video: I'm Yours

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and ask God to help us seek him before anything else this week!



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

- Green sheet of paper
- Red sheet of paper

small group supplies

- 1 notecard per kid
- blue crayons
- red crayons
- 1 Seek Experiment card per kid
- 1 pair of decoder glasses per kid (can be purchased at this website:

<http://m.rainbowsymphonystore.com/decoderglasses.html>; please have "Kingdom Goggles" imprinted on each pair)

large group supplies

- Bible

a/v needs

1. *Video: GEICO commercial (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7m0VnzPFxew>)
2. Video: God's Story / Mary and Martha
3. SLIDE: Matthew 9:9-13: You should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name. Come and set up your kingdom, so that everyone on earth will obey you, as you are obeyed in heaven.

- Give us our food for today. Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others. Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil.
4. Matthew 9:9-13: Repeat WHOLE verse from #3, but bold this part: **Give us our food for today.**
5. Song: Grow Up Like Jesus (with hand motions)
6. **Music Video: I'm Yours

connect questions

- Tell me about Mary and Martha.
- How can we seek God's Kingdom?

**Partner churches, this is not our original content and therefore we cannot provide it. Please use songs and/or images that you already own.*

parent page

- Printed separately

***This is a brand new music video, which means it won't be completed until close to this lesson's date. You can play a different song of your choice or find it mid-October by subscribing to our (free) podcast on iTunes. Just search for "Crossroads Kids' Club" and download the video for "I'm Yours."*