



# 3PK

November 2-3, 2013

Kingdom Come Journey Week 4: FIGHT

LESSON TITLE

Ephesians 6:10-17

We can run toward God by obeying him!

WHERE TO FIND IT

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**First 10 minutes of the service hour:**

Engage kids in cooperative play activities to help them connect to other kids

**Next 5 minutes:** Connect Time

**Next 25 minutes:** Large Group

**Last 25 minutes:** Snack and Small Group

Finish early? Repeat the activity! Kids this age learn through repetition. Or, check out the end of the activities section to find an idea for this week.

## tips

Don't just supervise; get on the floor and play *with* the kids. They might want to pretend you're Batman or a unicorn, but that's okay. Meet them at their level.

## check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to tell their parents why they have a party blower (God throws a party when we run toward him by obeying him)!

## large group heads up

While Kindergartners through 5<sup>th</sup> graders learn about how the devil attacks us to get us to turn away from God, 3PK-ers are just focusing on how wonderful it is to turn *toward* God! And how excited God is when we choose to be a part of HIS Kingdom (instead of the world's) by obeying him.



## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect time is all about engaging kids in a short, interactive game to prepare them for Large Group.*

- **Clean up! (10 minutes after the service start time, when you get the 5-minute warning from the presenter)**
- Line Up
- While in line, tell kids we're going to learn about following God. Have kids face the wall. Face the wall with them at the front of the line:
  - Say, "Sometimes we disobey God. Everybody make a sad face."
  - Say, "But Jesus rescued us, so we can turn around and follow God!" Lead the kids in turning from the wall and marching in a row across the room. You may want to cheer or act excited during the "following God" part.
  - Go back and do several more rounds of "returning" to God (language we'll use in large group). Here are some ideas:
    - (Face wall) Sometimes we don't share. Make a sad face.
    - Excitedly: But Jesus rescued us so we can turn around and follow God by sharing! (March across the room)
    - (Face wall) Sometimes we don't obey. Make a sad face.
    - Excitedly: But Jesus rescued us so we can turn around and follow God by obeying! (March across the room)
    - (Face wall) Sometimes we are mean. Make a sad face.
    - Excitedly: But Jesus rescued us so we can turn around and be kind! (March across the room)

Great job! Today, we're going to hear about a boy who ran away from his father. But his dad loved him... so he turned around and went back to him! That's just like how we sometimes make wrong choices (make a sad face). That's not following God...that's going away from him. BUT, we can turn around and make right choices and follow God (make a happy face). Let's go! *(If the music hasn't started in Large Group yet, practice being REALLY QUIET—add some funny actions for the kids to do silently!)*



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) understand there is a contrast between not following God and following God and (2) recognize that God loves it when we follow him.

**Why?** This week's Journey emphasis is "FIGHT." Older kids are learning about spiritual warfare, but younger kids are just learning the difference between running away from God vs. running toward him.

**Tip:** If you have a more advanced group, help them apply the idea of "following God." Come up with tangible ways they can be obedient (out of love for God, not adherence to rules).

## small group

**\*Serve kids a snack as you ask them questions about today's story.**

### REVIEW

1. Who tricked Adam and Eve into disobeying God in the Garden of Eden? (snake)
2. Who wants US to disobey God and stop following him? (the snake; the devil)
3. Who did God send to rescue US? (Jesus!)
4. How did the boy in the story run away from his dad? (give details from the story, like he took his dad's money, ran far away, lost all the money)
5. What happened when he went back to his dad? (His dad hugged him and kissed him and jumped for joy!)

### REVIEW-THE-STORY ACTIVITY

Line kids up against the wall again. Tell them that to win, they must come toward you and **obey** your directions, just like we can head toward God by obeying him! But they have to obey. So give fun directives, like "skip," "jump," "crawl," "spin," etc.! But if you yell "FREEZE," *everybody* has to stop. If they keep going, they have to start over at the wall again. Every time kids get to you, dance and cheer and remind kids that God LOVES it when we run toward him by obeying him!

**As you're wrapping up, pray together. Ask God to help you all follow him by obeying him this week.** Then give each kid a *party blower*. Remind them that God throws a party when we follow him.

(Keep the fun going by continuing on the following page.)



*Extra time? Don't just let the kids play! Keep them engaged. Put on a Party Parade: Walk around the room in a variety of ways--on your heels, on your toes, forward, backward, quickly, slowly, left, right, standing tall, bent over, arms in front, arms behind, hands on head, hands on toes, with a partner, alone in a line, in a curved line, etc.! You can lead or choose kids to be leaders. And to mix things up, add music. Every now and then, stop and blow on your party blowers, celebrating how God loves it when we follow him!*



## special notes

We want to touch on the fact that the devil (the snake!) doesn't want us to follow Jesus. But really, this is building on last week's foundation: yes, following Jesus brings us joy (last week) but also... *God loves it when we follow him!*

## presenter tips

Use sad and happy tones to contrast disobeying God vs. following him. We might not be going into detail about the spiritual fight Christ-followers are in, but we still want kids to see the contrast between turning away from God and turning toward him.

## script

**Presenter:** Hi Friends! Welcome to Kid's Club. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm really glad you're here today. Before we get started, I want you to meet my friend HOPS. She's going to remind us of the kind of choices we can make today in Kids' Club.

**Video: HOPS 3 Put On Your Listening Ears** (*about 1 minute*)

Wow, I can't wait to have some fun in Kids' Club today. Before we hear our story, can I see a big thumbs up from everybody who's ready to have some fun? (Let kids respond.) Great job! Now I think we're ready to hear God's story.

### REVIEW

**Presenter:** (Hold up the **Bible** for kids to see.) This is where we can read about God's story. Out of all the stories in the world, this story is the most important. It's God's rescue plan.

Remember how God made the whole world and everything was good? The world was perfect! Give me a smile! (Let kids respond. Then change your tone.) But THEN, something bad happened. (**Hold up the snake.**) A snake tricked the first two people, Adam and Eve, into thinking they didn't need to trust or obey God. So Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and sadness and death came into the world... Show me your sad face. (Let kids respond.) This was *really* sad.

But even though Adam and Eve disobeyed God... God loved them anyway! And he planned a great rescue so that Adam and Eve—and you and me—can be close to God again. We've been talking about that KING and Rescuer. His name is....(Let kids say: Jesus!) Yes, Jesus!

### THE "SNAKE" IS OUR ENEMY TOO

Now, we've talked about how we get to follow Jesus and obey him. And it can be really JOYFUL to follow Jesus! Let's see your biggest smiles. (Let kids smile.) Good job!



## script continued

*(Get serious and sad):* But guess what? You know how a *snake* tricked Adam and Eve into thinking they didn't need to obey Jesus? Well, that snake was the devil and he wants us to disobey Jesus too. He wants us to be mean, hurt other people, refuse to share, or do other not nice things! Let's see your sad faces (let kids show sad faces).

BUT God loves us too much to let us keep disobeying him. He sent a rescuer so that we can follow him...*even* though we mess up sometimes!

### THE STORY OF TWO SONS

Today, we're going to hear a story of two brothers. One of the brothers ran away from his dad, just like the snake got Adam and Eve—and us—to run away from God by disobeying. But *then*...the boy changed his mind. He ran TO his dad instead. As you watch this video, see if you can figure out if the dad was happy when his son came running back to him!

**Video: God's Story / The Story of Two Sons** (*about 4 minutes*)

Wow, give me a thumbs up if that dad was happy when his son came running back to him (let kids give you a thumbs up). Yes! His dad was SO happy! In fact, will you guys stand up? (Let kids stand.) His dad probably JUMPED for joy! Let's jump for joy together on the count of three. Ready? 1-2-3 (Jump together!)

### GOD LOVES US LIKE THE DAD LOVES THAT SON

Great job! You guys can sit back down. (Let kids sit. **Show picture of dad hugging son.**) The dad jumped for joy and went running to his son. He hugged him and kissed him. Can you guys blow a kiss? (Model and let kids repeat.) Great!

And God loves it when we run toward him by obeying and following him. He's like that dad in the story who wants to hug and kiss us—and throw a party when we follow him. Everybody give yourself a BIG hug, because God loves you so much (let kids give themselves hugs).

Now can you guys pray with me and thank God for loving us when we follow him? (Pray, breaking it into smaller, repeatable phrases).

Pray: Hi God! Thanks for loving me. Thanks for helping me follow you. I love you too. A-MEN.

**Song: Jesus Loves Me** (animated)

**Song: Be Strong**

Dismiss kids to small groups. (Be creative as you dismiss them. Ask them to come give you a high five first, or maybe tiptoe or hop--like Hops--to their groups.)



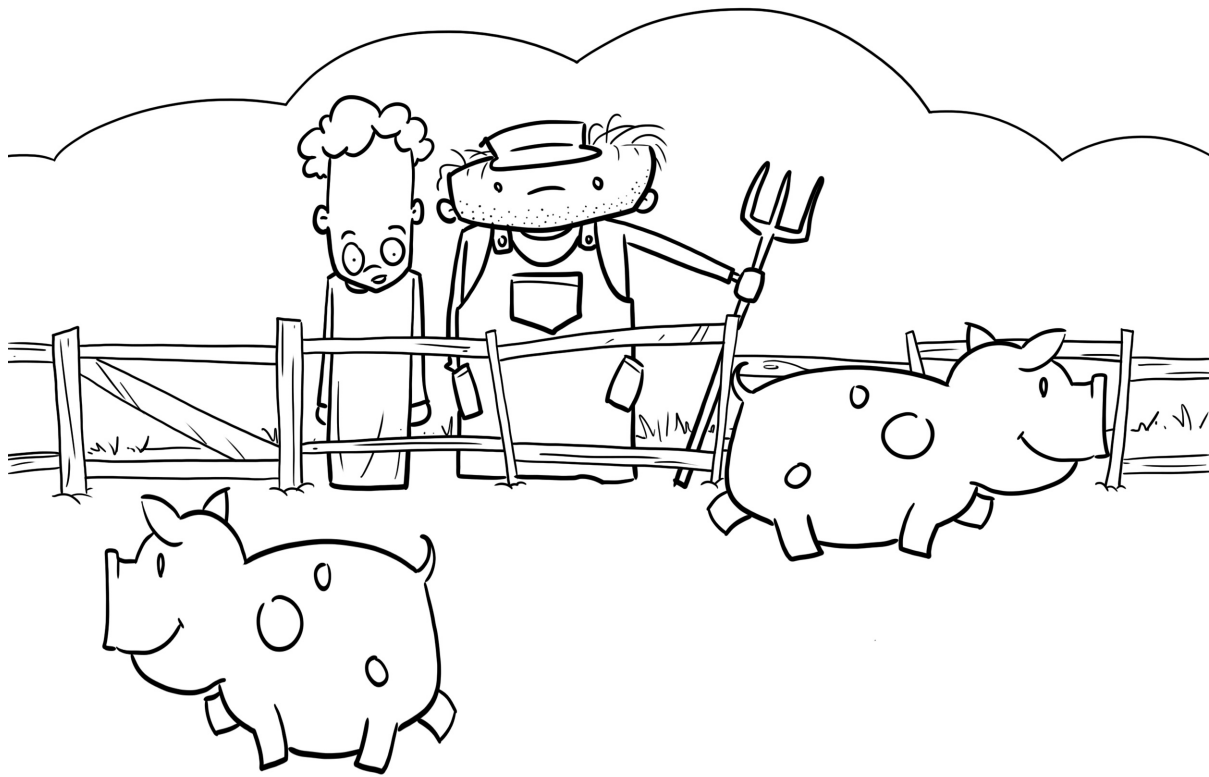
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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

Turn around and follow God game – no supplies needed

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## small group supplies

Coloring Page: Farmer and pigs  
1 party blower per kid: (something like this:  
[http://www.partycheap.com/Fringed\\_Party\\_Squawker\\_s\\_p/50420.htm](http://www.partycheap.com/Fringed_Party_Squawker_s_p/50420.htm))

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## large group supplies

A fake snake

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## a/v needs

1. Video: HOPS 3 Put On Your Listening Ears
2. Video: God's Story / Two Sons and a Father
3. Image: dad hugging son
4. Song: Jesus Loves Me (animated)
5. \*Song: Be Strong

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

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## connect questions

Tell me about the son who ran away.  
How can we run toward God?

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## parent page

Printed separately