



# Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup>

October 12-13, 2013

Kingdom Come Journey Week 1

LESSON TITLE

Zechariah 9:9-17 (Pg.1109); Matthew 21:1-11 (Pg.1149)

Jesus is the Perfect King!

WHERE TO FIND IT

MAIN POINT

## schedule

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

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group. And don't be afraid to redirect kids who aren't!

**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

This is Week 1 of the Journey, which means we're starting a 6-week series. Encourage kids to talk to their parents about what we're doing in Kids' Club, because it's going to focus on the same main points.

***\*\*It's also Week 1 of the new hourly structure!***

## check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to complete their Love Experiment!

## large group heads up

Our story for the day is the first time people recognized Jesus as the promised king on Palm Sunday. As a foundation for the Journey (which is all about the Kingdom of God), we want kids to understand that Jesus is the perfect king, who brought the Kingdom of God to us.



## connect time

**\*THIS IS THE FIRST DAY OF CONNECT TIME. Please make sure to do this activity before Large Group!**

**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.*

- Lay out **several containers of play-dough**
- Split kids into groups (may take about 2 min.)
- Tell them to design a PERFECT kingdom (or a perfect city)
  - Tell them they've got about 8 minutes to build
  - They can build towers, houses, people, pets, games, etc.
  - As they build, ask about what they are building and let them expound upon imaginary details
- As groups clean up, ask them which part was their favorite—and why (this might take 2-4 minutes, which gives them another minute to get seated in Large Group)

**This is also a time for you to connect with kids\*\*:** While kids do the activity, ask them their names, talk to them about their week, or even remind them of the expectations you have for Large Group behavior: (1) Be kind, (2) Listen when somebody speaks, (3) Follow the leader's instructions.

**\*After service, please tell us how it went!**

\*\*Here are some sample connect questions:

1. What was the best part of your week?
2. What was the worst part of your week?
3. Who brought you to Kids' Club today?
4. What's your favorite...Activity? Movie? Superhero?



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) recognize Jesus' kingship and praise him in response and (2) identify one way they can love others like Jesus loves.

**Why?** Viewing Jesus as king will set kids up to understanding why we must obey him (Week 3); yet understanding his gracious love allows them to draw near to him (Week 2).

**Tip:** We're going to start including an opportunity for kids to ask questions about large group each week. That's because if they feel confused, it'll be hard for them to go any deeper into the truths of the story. Keep in mind that it's OK to say, "I don't know."

## small group

### REACT / DIG DEEPER

1. What's your favorite part of today's story (or the most surprising)?
2. How did everybody praise King Jesus in the story?
3. How do you like to praise Jesus?
4. Why did people praise Jesus? (refer to the fact that they recognized him as king, but also begin talking about Jesus' greatness)
5. Do you have any questions/confusion about Large Group?

### ACTIVITY #1: HONOR THE KING

Say today's verse together again: **Matthew 6:9: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.** One way to honor Jesus is by telling him all the things we love about him.

We're going to do that together.

- Give each kid a **crown**; leave it flat
- Ask kids to come up with one thing they LOVE about Jesus. (They can hold up one finger when they've come up with their one thing. It can be anything.)
- Go around the group. Every time a kid says something new that he/she loves about Jesus, everybody gets to put another **jewel sticker** on his/her crown. *(The idea is that everybody associates Jesus with being the King who possesses specific and wonderful qualities. Give kids only the # of stickers as the # of kids at your table.)*
- Do you guys think it's easy or hard to honor Jesus? Why?
- How can you honor (or praise) Jesus at home?

### ACTIVITY #2: SHOWING THE KING'S LOVE

(Can secure crowns for this activity, if you wish.) Remind kids that Jesus brought the Kingdom here and it was built on love. So Jesus loves it when WE show love to OTHERS.

6. One of the things you guys said was that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ (use an example from your  
(Continued on the following page)

crown activity). How can we act that way toward others? Discuss. (E.g. “Jesus is kind. I can be kind to my little sister by letting her play with me and my friends.”) Refer to several different examples.

7. Give each kid a **love experiment card** (the back is blank). Ask them to think of ONE way they can show love to ONE person this week (it can be saying sorry, giving a sibling a hug, helping their mom, inviting a friend over; help kids think of one person in their life and one way to show love). Then kids can draw a picture of themselves doing the act of love (and you can write their plan down for them, so their family can read it at home).

*\*Tell kids that their parents will get a love experiment card this week too (if they are doing the Journey). So they can help show their parents how it's done!*

**\*Pray together, thanking Jesus for being our perfect King and asking him to help us show his love this week.**

*Extra time? Let kids share their experiment cards. You can even have them look for ONE other person who wants to show love like they do this week (try to find a matching challenge card). Make it a race to see who can find a “twin” first! Or ask them about the perfect kingdom they designed during Connect Time. If you want, get the play-dough out again and redesign another perfect Kingdom...but this time it should be the way they imagine JESUS' perfect kingdom.*

# LARGE group

## special notes

**\*This is the first day of Connect Time.**

In your intro, ask kids to share from Connect Time.

## presenter tips

Remember, now that we have added Connect Time, we are trying to shorten Large Group time by about 5 minutes. If it feels short today, that's OK (the 30-minute allotment in the "Schedule" Box on page 1 includes transition time at the beginning and the end). If it feels too long, please tell us!

## script

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm so glad to see you here. This is a really exciting week. It's the **FIRST** week of what we call our all-church Journey. That means all of Crossroads—and other churches in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and even Michigan—are all going to be learning the **SAME** things. Because we're **ALL** trying to follow God and we're all a part of his family, no matter which state we live in or whether we're boys or girls or kids or adults.

### **INTRO: A PERFECT KINGDOM**

So what we're going to be learning for the next 6 weeks is about the Kingdom of God. Don't worry if you're not sure what that is yet. Let's start imagining it by hearing about the perfect kingdoms you guys designed during Connect Time.

Did anybody make a **REALLY** cool design? (Let 2-3 kids share; spend only about 1 minute on this.) Wow, that's incredible. I would love to live in a kingdom like that.

### **A PERFECT KING**

Now, who's in charge of a perfect *kingdom*? (Let kids say: King!) That's right, a king. (**Put on the crown.**) Now, let's pretend I'm a king. Can you guys do that? But better yet, let's pretend I'm a *perfect* king. What are some things I might do if I was a *perfect* king? For instance, I would ask everyone to share with others. And I would forgive anybody who was mean to me. What else do you think I would do? (Let 3-5 kids respond. You can help spark ideas by asking what kinds of rules you would make or how you would treat people; spend no more than 2 minutes on this—just get them thinking.)

That's right, I'd probably be pretty nice, right? I'd love everyone. And living in my kingdom would be the *best*!



script continued

### **THE PERFECT KING IS PROMISED**

Well, guess what? A long, LONG time ago, God planned to send a perfect king to rescue us. See, in our world we have lots of sadness and sickness and meanness and death. We all make bad choices sometimes. And people aren't very loving. But the Kingdom of GOD is ALL about love! In the Kingdom of God, there's only joy and laughter and hope and life!

So, through the prophet Zechariah, God promised to send a king who is PERFECT—and who can save or rescue God's family from *everything* wrong in the world. Does anyone know the name of the very special Rescuer God sent? (Let kids say: Jesus!) Yes, JESUS. And Jesus brought the Kingdom of God...to us!

### **THE PERFECT KING ARRIVES**

Now we're going to watch a story about the *first* time people realized that Jesus was the perfect King God had promised. Jesus had already been on earth healing people and loving people and doing miracles—showing us what the Kingdom of God is like. But this was the day people treated Jesus like a king!

As we watch this video, see if you can figure out what people did when they realized Jesus was the perfect King.

**Video: God's Story / Palm Sunday** (about 4 minutes)

Wow, amazing. How did people react when they recognized Jesus was the king? (Let kids say: They laid down coats and palm branches, they shouted praises at him and they worshiped him.) Yes, they showed him that they loved him by praising him! They knew he was the king!

Jesus wasn't a king who lived in a palace. He is God's very own son, sent from God's Kingdom. And when Jesus came to earth, he brought the Kingdom of GOD to earth. He showed us what love looks like: it's doing things like treating everyone with kindness, helping people, serving those in need, forgiving people when they are mean to us, and obeying people in charge.

One day, Jesus will re-create the world so that there's no more wrong—no more sickness or sadness or meanness or death. Only love. But until then, we can be a part of the Kingdom of God to others by taking Jesus' gift of love and showing love to others just like he did. Even when people are mean to us or we don't feel like being kind.

### **PRAISE OUR KING**

During these next 6 weeks, we're going to learn some verses that all go together. By the end, you'll be able to say them altogether. You might have heard this called the Lord's Prayer or Model Prayer—Jesus was teaching *us* how to talk to God. The first verse we're going to learn is all about praising God, our king! This is how it goes:

**SLIDE: Matthew 6:9: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.**



### script continued

Can you guys say that with me? (Repeat verse altogether.) Great job! Honoring God's name means praising him or telling him how great we think he is or all the things we love about him. Now let's honor his name together by praising him in a song!

### WORSHIP

**Music Video: *Jesus Loves Me*** (hand motions and lyrics on screen)

**Song: *Grow Up Like Jesus*** (hand motions and lyrics on screen)

### PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank God for sending a perfect King!



**script continued**

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name



# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

Per small group: 1 container of Play-Dough

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## small group supplies

Coloring Page: Palm Sunday

Markers

Per kid:

- 1 “Love” challenge card with a blank back for creating their own Love Challenge
- 1 crown with 15 foam stickers (comes as a set: can purchase from Oriental Trading: IN-57/2053; discard the letters—please leave only foam shapes)

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## large group supplies

Bible (pgs. 1109, 1149)

A crown

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## a/v needs

1. Video: God’s Story / Palm Sunday
2. SLIDE: Matthew 6:9: Our Father in heaven, help us to honor your name.
3. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (hand motions)
4. Song: Grow Up Like Jesus (hand motions)

*\*Partner churches, all content in this lesson is original and will therefore be provided.*

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## connect questions

Tell me about the perfect king.

How did people act when they recognized Jesus as king?

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## parent page

Printed separately