

Kindergarten-2nd



KINGDOM
COME

November 23-24, 2013

Kingdom Come Journey Week 7: Celebrate!

LESSON TITLE

Matthew 3 and 11

John Baptized Followers of Jesus

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

As you talk with kids today, talk about God's Kingdom. Ask them questions about what they know about it, what makes them most excited about it, how they see it now, etc. (Just be sensitive to kids who might have come for the first time—don't *assume* kids have knowledge about it.)

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to use their props to retell the story at home.

large group heads up

While parents are responding to their Journey experience through baptism, kids are learning what baptism is—and talking about other ways we can show others we follow Jesus.



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.*

Design A Kingdom Room

- In pairs, kids should design the most cool and perfect place they can imagine. Maybe it's an amusement park with roller coasters and pools and sharks that don't bite. Maybe it's a bedroom with a trampoline for the floor and pillows as walls. Give them ideas and let them draw anything they want on the **large sheets of paper**.
- Encourage them to keep adding or designing new rooms if they finish early.
- If kids want to use blocks or something else in the room to build, that's OK!
- And if you have time, review their verse again:
 - **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).

This is also a time for you to connect with kids: 5 minutes before large group, talk to kids 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.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) Understand that followers of Jesus got baptized, (2) retell the story of John the Baptist, and (3) celebrate that God wants us to be part of his Kingdom.

Why? Kids' parents may have gotten baptized today. We'd love to give parents and kids a starting point for conversations about baptism.

Tip: Before today's lesson, go to crossroads.net/baptism (click on K-8th graders; then click on the link for tips for parents). Or, look through the **baptism packet** in the small group bin. It'll help prepare you to talk to kids about baptism.

small group

REVIEW

1. Tell me about the Kingdom of God. (Let kids share anything they remember from today or during the Journey, but be sensitive about kids who may be here for the first time and may not know anything about God. Refer to things we talked about in large group today.)
2. Who does God want to be a part of his Kingdom? (everyone) Why?
3. How can we tell others about God's Kingdom? Did anybody hear an idea from God during large group?
4. What was John's special job? (getting people ready to follow Jesus/baptizing people who wanted to follow Jesus) What's our special job? (same thing!)
5. Why do people get baptized?

ACTIVITY #1: RETELL THE STORY

Act out the story.

- Give each kid a **piece of paper**.
- Let them draw a sky on the top half (sun, moon, stars, clouds, birds/dove, etc.)
- Give them a piece of **translucent blue paper** and help them glue the corners with a **glue stick** so it covers the bottom half of the paper (make sure to leave the top unglued so it creates a "pouch" for John and Jesus)
- Give each kid a "**John**" and a "**Jesus**." Put both in the water "up to their knees" by putting them in the pouch. Then have John "baptize" Jesus by pushing him under water. Remind kids that getting baptized is telling people that you follow Jesus!

As kids work, discuss the following questions:

- How else (other than baptism) can we show others that we follow Jesus? (You can use examples from large group: (1) Clean up your room right when your mom or dad ask you to, (2) pray for a friend who's sick, (3) make a card for your cousin, just to be nice, (4) ask a new kid at school to sit with you, or (5) memorize a verse in the Bible—or come up with new ideas!)
- Do you think any of your friends would be surprised if you did those things? Why or why not?

***Pray together, and thank God that we can follow him and invite others into his Kingdom.**

Extra time? Retell the story again! You can even read it from Matthew 3 and 11 and ask kids to use their characters to act it out as you read. Or, combine the perfect places they designed during Connect Time into one great big "Kingdom House." Celebrate how joy-filled God's Kingdom is. You could also play a group game of Follow the Leader or Simon Says. Or re-watch "God's Story: John the Baptist."

LARGE group

special notes

We want kids to know that they most certainly can follow Jesus right now, before they are baptized. However, we want them to know what baptism is and what it means. Maybe some of them have parents getting baptized today!

presenter tips

During the final section (“Ways to Follow Jesus”), you can switch up the instructions. If you have a big group and no room to hop forward, have them hop in place or spin around—or do whatever seems fun to you!

script

Hi everybody, welcome to Kids’ Club! It’s great to see you today. Today is all about celebrating everything we’ve been hearing about God’s Kingdom! Remember, we live in a broken world. Everybody make a sad face. (Let kids respond.) In a broken world, sad and bad things happen.

BUT, God loves us too much to leave us that way! He sent his own son Jesus to bring HIS Kingdom to us! Everybody smile! That’s great news (let kids smile). Now, we can choose to walk in God’s Kingdom—instead of the kingdom of the world—by doing things like obeying our King, spending time with Jesus, and serving others.

Wow, God loves us SO much that he wants US to be in his Kingdom! He wants to fill us up-up-up with his love, so that it spills out onto other people. He wants US to receive his love, and then obey him. Pretty cool, huh? And his Kingdom is going to be SO great!

INTRO: THE KINGDOM IS FOR EVERYONE

Before you guys came in here, you designed the most fun place you can imagine. What are some of the things that were in your perfect places? (Let 4-6 kids share.)

Who would you guys invite to live in that perfect place, if it was real? (Let 4-6 kids share.) Wow, sounds like you’d invite everybody you love, wouldn’t you? I know I sure would. And guess what? It’s the same with God! He has this amazingly perfect Kingdom with a perfect King...and he wants EVERYONE to choose to be part of it by following Jesus.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

In fact, Jesus gave us a very special job. He wants us to go and help other people learn to follow Jesus. Today, we’re going to talk about a guy named John. He knew his ONE job was to get people ready to follow Jesus. That’s what he spent his whole life doing!

We’re going to watch a video about John. As you watch, see if you can figure out what he did



script continued

for people when they decided they wanted to follow Jesus.

Video: God's Story / John the Baptist

Wow, so what did John do for people when they decided to follow Jesus? (Let kids say: He baptized people!) That's right, John baptized them! And who's the very special person John baptized? (Let kids say: Jesus). Yes, even Jesus was baptized! He set an example for us to follow.

But guess what? Even BEFORE we are baptized, we can all follow Jesus ...RIGHT NOW! And one day, we might decide to get baptized like Jesus did. But today and from now on, we can show people how to follow Jesus, just like John did.

WAYS TO FOLLOW JESUS

It's exciting to think about more and more people getting baptized—because that means more and more people are following Jesus. More and more people are deciding to be a part of God's Kingdom! We might not go around baptizing people exactly the way John did, but we can go around showing more and more people what it looks like to follow Jesus.

That might sound hard, but the best way we can show others how to follow Jesus is by following Jesus ourselves! Let's practice together. Everybody, stand up! (Let kids stand.) I'm going to read off an action. If it's a way to follow Jesus, hop toward me. If not, stand still. Ready?

- Clean up your room right when your mom or dad asks you to. (hop)
- Pray for a friend who's sick. (hop)
- Keep the biggest cookie for yourself and refuse to share.
- Make a card for your cousin, just to be nice. (hop)
- Cut in line for the drinking fountain, so you can get a drink first.
- Get baptized. (hop)
- Ask a new kid at school to sit with you. (hop)
- Memorize a verse in the Bible. (hop)

Great job! Go ahead and have a seat. (Let kids sit.) See? There are LOTS of ways to follow Jesus. And when people see you doing things like obeying your parents, praying for people, making cards, letting others go first, and being a good friend, they'll probably wonder why you act like that.

When you tell them you're following Jesus...they'll know that following Jesus means you love Jesus AND you love, help, and serve other people. Hopefully, they'll want to be a part of the Kingdom *you're* a part of—the Kingdom of God!

WORSHIP

One thing Jesus did was praise God. Let's all stand up again and praise God!

Song: Before I Go, I Stop



script continued

Song: Dance Shout and Sing

PRAY

Ask God to help us invite others into his Kingdom. Ask the kids to think about how God wants us to make his Kingdom bigger this week. Give them a few moments to listen for God to speak.



script continued

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name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

Tear off large sheets of paper (1 per group)
markers

small group supplies

Coloring Page: Footprints
Markers
Bible
Baptism packet
Glue sticks
Per kid:
1 sheet of paper

1 "John" (cut from template)
1 "Jesus" (cut from template)
1 10" by 5" rectangle of blue cellophane film
(http://www.papermart.com/colored-real-biodegradable-cellophane-film/id=11957?origin=product_ads&utm_source=google&utm_medium=adwords&utm_campaign=product_ads&gclid=CLb-IOiknrkCFYyd4AodDFQAKA)

large group supplies

Bible

a/v needs

1. Video: God's Story / John the Baptist
2. Song: Before I Go
3. Song: Dance Shout and Sing

connect questions

Tell me about John the Baptist.
How can we show others that we follow Jesus?

parent page

Today, kids are talking about how God wants us to invite others to join his Kingdom. One person who did that *really* well was John the Baptist. You can read about his story in Matthew 3 and 11 or watch a video about it at CrossroadsKidsClub.net. Just search for "John the Baptist." You can also search for "baptism" and click on the baptism packet if you'd like some tips on how to talk to your kids about baptism.