



3rd – 5th

February 8-9, 2014

DATE

Mark 10:17-27
Adventure Bible (pp. 1108-1109)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Parables

LESSON TITLE

The Rich Young Ruler

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): 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

Be prepared to share a kid-friendly example of something you had to give up to follow Jesus and put him first. (Question #1 in small group.) Hearing from you will be an important example for the kids.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to share what they stuck on the poster with their parents.

large group heads up

Today, we're talking about counting the cost of following Jesus: When we follow Jesus, we give him everything.



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.*

WHAT DO YOU LOVE?

**Remember, you can split kids into small groups or keep everyone together: your choice!*

Give kids a **label sheet**. Have them **write** (or draw) one thing they love on each label. Give kids categories to help them come up with ideas:

- Stuff they love
- Food they love
- People they love
- Things they love to do
- Anything!

(No need to share this stuff; this is a time for kids to assess their own hearts.)

This is also a time for you to connect with kids: After they've made lists, ask them how their weeks went. You can also 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) retell the story and (2) recognize that Jesus wants to be the most important thing in our lives

Why? It's important to count the cost of following Jesus.

Tip: Make the acting a fun, competitive challenge! But be sure to save time for the response activity and debrief. Watch the clock (or your phone timer, if you want) closely!

small group

***As part of small group prep, lay a large sheet of butcher paper on the floor.**

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Did anyone hear God say something in Large Group? Or did anybody think of something you think God wants you to give up for him? Let kids share. **Share your own example!*
2. Let's review the story of the rich ruler:
 - a. Split the group into two teams
 - b. Give each team a **Bible** (help them find Mark 10:17-22)
 - c. Each team has 3 minutes to prepare to act it out; they can choose props from around the room or make props
 - d. Perform; you choose the best or most accurate
3. Why was the man sad? What did he care about the most?
4. What do we need to care about most in order to follow Jesus?
5. **Why** is important to make God most important?

RESPONSE ACTIVITY

6. **Consider:** Look at your list. Is there anything that you love more than God? (Just think about it)
7. **Respond:** Jesus asked the man to sell everything he owned so that God was the most important thing in his life. As you're looking at your list, think about the things you're ready to give to God. If there's anything you want to give to God, go stick it on the poster (direct them to the community **poster**).
8. **Dialogue:** Let kids consider and stick things. Don't pressure them, but feel free to talk about how God knows our hearts and it's important to take this seriously.

9. **Debrief:** How will this week be different if God is the most important thing in your life? *(Help kids come up with tangible examples: e.g. if they gave up video games...maybe they'll have a chance to talk to a friend about something important; if they gave up putting a best friend before God, maybe next time their best friend gets upset with them, they won't cry or be mad back, because they know that God is most important and he absolutely treasures them!)*

***Pray together, inviting God to be number one.**

Extra time? Let kids look at the poster and see if there's anything else they want to add to their list. Or, play a game of Pictionary, using the Bible story as inspiration. Split the kids into two teams and ask them to draw a scene from today's story. The team opposite of the artist guesses. You can award points if you want—or just have fun!

special notes

BEFORE YOU BEGIN, ask a leader to help you. You'll need somebody to crank UP the volume during part of this presentation!

presenter tips

This is a story that we each must personally apply to our lives. The purpose of large group is to show kids WHY it's important to put God first. Then, they'll spend a little time talking to God about what that might look like for them.

script

Hi everybody. Welcome to Kids' Club! It's great to see you here. We're going to talk about the lists you guys made in a little bit. But first, I want to tell you about a guy that Jesus met. A guy named Mark told this story about Jesus in the Bible in Mark 10:17-27.

THE RICH YOUNG RULER

(Show picture of the rich man.) One time, there was a guy. And he was RICH. We don't know what he looked like or what kinds of stuff he had back then, but we do know that he loved the stuff he had.

Well, this guy saw Jesus. And when he did, he fell to his knees and said, "Jesus! What do I need to do to live forever?" We know that one day, God will create a perfect home for his whole family. But this guy wasn't saying he wanted to be part of God's family and follow Jesus.

We're not sure exactly what he was asking for. Maybe he heard that God's family would live forever in a perfect home after God re-creates the world. Maybe he just liked his life and thought Jesus could keep him from dying. We don't know exactly what he was thinking, but Jesus answered him:

(Show picture of the 10 Commandments.) Jesus said the man had to keep all the Ten Commandments. Nobody had EVER done that except Jesus.

But the man said, "*I have!*"

The Bible says Jesus looked at him and loved him. Nobody was or is perfect, except Jesus. Everybody has done something wrong, except Jesus. But Jesus didn't argue with him.

(Show picture of the yard sale.) Jesus just said, "Well, there's one other thing. Sell your money, give it to the poor, and follow me."



script continued

The man's face fell. He was very sad. But he really DID love his money more than he loved God...so he chose to go home instead of following Jesus.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST GETS ATTENTION

You know, God asks us to love him most, because he knows that the thing we love most gets our attention. We see this in movies all the time. When a character really, REALLY loves something, he or she is willing to do anything to get it. Let's look at a fun example. As we watch, see if you can figure out what the snowman wants...and what he's willing to do to get it.

Video: Frozen Trailer (1:30)

*Preview the video here if you want: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qR49UAYFu40>

So what did the snowman want? (Let kids say: his nose) And what was he willing to do to get it? (Let kids say: fight a moose, break his whole body, slide on the ice, etc.) That's right! Nothing else mattered except getting his nose. This was a light-hearted video, but the truth is, if God isn't FIRST, eventually, we'll give up God...for something else. Like the snowman almost gave up his body...for his nose.

Think about it: When the man in the story thought he could have all his stuff AND follow Jesus, he wanted to follow Jesus! But when he had to choose only one, he chose his stuff—he chose what he loved most.

WHAT WE LOVE MOST SPEAKS THE LOUDEST

The important thing to remember is that Jesus *isn't* saying none of us can have any stuff! He's saying that following God needs to be more important than *anything* else in our lives. Because following God was more important than anything else to Jesus!

Let's look at this same idea, but in a different way: we're going to do a little test. Can I have my leader help me out with this? (Wait until your leader is ready.)

OK, I want you to think of the lists you made of things YOU love. Some of the things you wrote down might be really good things. But if they're not GOD, they're not the BEST things. Think of one thing you wrote (give kids a second to think).

Now, **turn to a friend and share that one thing with each other on the count of three.**

Ready? 1-2 (**click forward to start music**)-3 (*leader turns up volume*): (Let kids share. In about 10 seconds, click forward. Remind the leader to turn the volume back down.)

Wait, was that hard? (Let kids respond.) Why? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, that music was REALLY loud, wasn't it? Did anybody hear? And whatever is the loudest is what we hear. When we love something, it becomes really LOUD in our lives, or even just distracting.

And sometimes even really good stuff can drown out or distract us from the most important thing. Like the music drowned out our voices. And like, for that snowman, getting his nose was louder or more important than the WHOLE rest of his body!



script continued

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Following Jesus requires *everything*, but it'll be worth it. A little later, after the rich man went away, another person asked Jesus, "What's the most important command God gives us?" Jesus told him the same thing he showed the rich man:

SLIDE: Matthew 22:37: Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment.

If we're loving God with all of our heart, soul, and mind, then we are giving him our full attention, which is what Jesus did. And following him should be LOUDER and more important than anything else in our lives.

The thing is, this will look different for each of us. God isn't telling all of us to sell everything we own. He's telling us to love him the MOST. Let's spend a few minutes talking to God and asking him how we can love him more than anything. We'll pray silently at first, just listening for God. If you don't hear anything, that's OK. You can just tell him you love him. After a minute, I'll pray for us.

PRAY

(Sit silently, then close in prayer.)

WORSHIP

Let's worship God together before we go. Our first song reminds us that we can give ANYTHING to God. He wants us to give him whatever we have. He's enough.

Music Video: I Can Give

Song: I'm Yours

**Dismiss kids to small groups*



script continued

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PREP needs



connect time supplies

- 1 sheet of address labels per kid
(<http://bit.ly/1miylme>)
- markers

small group supplies

- 2 Bibles
- Markers
- Butcher paper
- A little extra paper (in case groups want to play Pictionary)

large group supplies

- Adventure Bible (pp. 1108-1109)

a/v needs

1. Image: rich guy
2. Image: 10 Commandments
3. Image: yard sale
4. Video: Frozen Trailer:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qR49UAYFu40> (use first 1:30 only!)
5. Music slide:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brmiVDX>
6. SLIDE: Matthew 22:37: Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment.
7. Music Video: I Can Give
8. Music Video: I'm Yours

connect questions

- Tell me about the rich man who met Jesus.
- How can we put God first this week?

parent page

Today, we talked about the cost of following Jesus: When we follow Jesus, he wants us to give him everything. The man in today's story wasn't willing to do it...but we can! Read today's story together in Mark 10:17-22 in the Bible.