



Kindergarten-2nd

February 1-2, 2014

DATE

God's Story

LESSON TITLE

The Bible (the whole story)

WHERE TO FIND IT

God Loves Us and Wants Us to be Part of His Story

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

There will probably be quite a few new kids today. Welcome them by name to make them feel known. Then give them a "tour" of the room and introduce them to other kids if they don't seem to know anybody.

check-in/out

As kids leave, give them a God's Story video poster. Encourage them to use it to retell the story at home!

large group heads up

Kids are learning God's whole story today. That's right, they're getting an overview of the beginning of Creation through Re-creation. But what we really want kids to know is that God's story shows us his unconditional love for us.



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.*

IMAGINE LOVE

- Have kids gather around large pieces of **butcher paper** (*grab enough pieces of paper so that all kids can gather around it, even if that means 2 or more pieces for one small group*)
- Kids should draw or write the names of people they love with **markers**
- They can decorate it with **heart and football stickers**
- Sit in a circle around the paper(s)
- Share names, then discuss:
 - *If you have a large small group, ask a discussion question, then let kids share in pairs instead of to the entire group.*
 - Tell us about a time you showed love to one of those people. What does it feel like to love others?
 - Imagine how somebody who really loves you would feel about you. What would they like about you? How would they treat you? Etc.**

Before you go to Large Group, ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.

***Kids may pull from personal experience to respond to this question. However, it's very possible not every kid in your group will feel loved by someone. Please use discernment in your discussion. If it seems like one kid is rejecting the idea of being loved, focus on the question as hypothetical.*

You can get rid of the butcher paper after Connect Time.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) retell God's story and (2) understand that God loves them and wants them to be a part of it!

Why? If kids can retell a story (even a summary of a very large story), it means they understand it. We hope that if kids understand it, they'll want to be a part of it by following Jesus!

Tip: As a team of volunteers, plan whether or not you want to try the optional activity and what you want to do if there's extra time.

small group

DEBRIEF

1. Did anybody hear God tell you something about his love? (If they did, ask: what are you going to do about it?)

REVIEW THE STORY

(Hold up the poster; point to different components when appropriate to help kids answer. Or answer the questions first; then ask kids to identify something on the poster to help them remember it. But do not hand out individual posters yet!)

2. How did God create the world in the beginning?
3. What do you think a world like that was like? (imagine; tie it to the perfect worlds)
4. What happened to ruin the perfect world?
5. What did God do to get us back from his enemy?
6. How can we be part of his story? Why does he want us to be part of his story?
7. What does it mean when I say God loves you *unconditionally*?
8. How will God's story end?

ACTIVITY: STORY CARDS

- Give each kid 1-2 **story cards** (mix them all up and make sure all 24 are distributed)
- First, put them in order as a team (you can use the poster as a key if you need it)
- *For an added challenge, time them.*
- Then retell the story. Each person is responsible to retell the portion on his/her cards.
- **Discuss:**
 - Where would we be in this story? (refer to place between Bible's end and re-creation)
 - What's your favorite part of the story? Why?
 - Do you have any questions about how to be part of God's story?

(Continue on the following page)

- What are some things we can do when we're part of this story? (Talk about specific ways to follow Jesus: obeying, praying, sharing, making friends with somebody lonely, telling others about God's unconditional love)

***Pray with the kids, thanking God that we can be part of his story.**

MAKE SURE YOU COLLECT ALL 24 CARDS FOR THE NEXT SERVICE TO USE

Then show kids the poster they'll receive during check-out. See if they can use it to describe today's lesson!

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: SMALL GROUP CHALLENGE

- Leaders, mix up the cards.
- Count to three
- Let kids race to piece together the story
- Fastest small group has to retell it for everyone!

Extra Time? Gather the kids together and watch today's videos again. Or collect all the cards, mix them up, and redistribute: kids have to find others with the pieces they need to build their puzzle. You could also grab blank pieces of paper and have kids draw different ways they can be a part of God's story this week.

special notes

As you refer to God's Story and talk about the beginning and the Fall, assume that some kids have never even heard of it!

presenter tips

Today, there are two interactive "games" to help engage kids. One asks them to stand; one doesn't. If your group would benefit from standing and stretching twice, do it! If your group needs to stay seated for both, that's OK too. Play them in the way that will best fit your kids.

script

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here today. As you guys probably figured out, it's a pretty big day here at Crossroads. Does anybody know why? (Let kids respond.) That's right: It's Super Bowl Weekend!

So for Super Bowl Weekend, here in Kids' Club, we're going to start by talking about what it's like to love somebody or to feel loved. What kinds of things do you do for people you love? (Let kids share.)

GOD LOVES US

Now imagine what it would feel like if somebody loved YOU all the time. Think about how that person would feel about you. In fact, let's play a game to think of some other things somebody who really loved you might do. Give me a thumbs up if I say something a person who loves you might do... or a thumbs down if I say something a person who loves you would not do! Ready?

- Would someone who loves you think you're special no matter what? (thumbs up)
- Would someone who loves you want you to have fun? (thumbs up)
- Would someone who loves you want you to be sick? (thumbs down)
- Would someone who loves you want you to get eaten by a lion? (thumbs down)
- Would someone who loves you want you to have a perfect home? (thumbs up)
- Would someone who loves you want to be close to you? (thumbs up)

Yes, definitely! And you know who loves us like that? GOD. In fact, if somebody asked God to write down the name of somebody he loved, *he'd write down yours*. Today, we're talking about God's whole story...because it shows us how much he loves us!

GOD'S LOVE THROUGH CREATION

(Show "creation" picture.) In the very beginning, God created everything *perfectly*. He made grass, flowers, mountains, oceans, fluffy white clouds, the sky, everything! He created it to be a



script continued

fun and perfect home for us to work and play in. He made all the animals to live in it too...with us! And then he created people... *in his own image!* We are SO special to him!

THE FALL

That world sounds perfectly wonderful, doesn't it? And sometimes, the world IS really fun! (**Show "fall" picture.**) But now, the world isn't perfect anymore. Sometimes it's not fun at all: Sometimes we get hurt. Sometimes we hurt others, even people we love. Or people get mad at us. Or leave us out. And sometimes we get very, very sick. Or lonely. Or mean.

That's because God has an enemy who doesn't want us to feel loved by God. He wants us to be sad and mad and mean and sick. He wants us to do wrong things and turn away from God instead of following Jesus. But guess what? (pause) *But God has a plan to rescue us!*

GOD GOT US BACK!

(**Hold up the Bible.**) The Bible tells us about God's rescue plan. And the really cool part is, it ALSO tells us the end of the story, which hasn't happened yet, because God's story is going on *right now!* Let's watch a video about God's story and his rescue plan to get us back. As we watch, see if you can figure out how you can be a part of God's Story right now.

Video: God's Story: God's Story

What an amazing rescue! God certainly loves us, doesn't he? And did anybody figure out how we can be part of God's story right now? (Let kids respond.) YES, by following Jesus. Everybody who follows Jesus is a part of God's family. And we can serve God and show others how to serve him too.

GOD'S LOVE IS UNCONDITIONAL

The cool part is, God wants to rescue every single one of us. He wants everyone to be a part of his family. And his love is unconditional. That's a BIG word, so let's see if we can figure out what it means. To do that, we're going to play a game. Everybody, stand up! (Let kids stand.)

OK, we're going to play, "Will God Still Love Me If..." I'm going to say an action and you pretend you did it. If God still loves you afterward, put both hands in the air, like you're cheering, like this (put your hands up). If God won't still love you afterward, put your hands down by your sides, like you're sad (put hands down and hang head).

Alright, first one. Ready?

- Will God still love me if...I pray?
- Will God still love me if...I tell a lie?
- Will God still love me if...I'm sad?
- Will God still love me if...I give my money to those who need it?
- Will God still love me if...I say a bad word?

Are your arms getting tired? Mine sure are! Let's put our arms down and have a seat (let kids sit). That was a trick game because there is NOTHING we can do to make God stop loving us. That's what unconditional love means: God loves us, no matter what!



script continued

Of course, he wants us to say sorry when we mess up and turn back to him and follow him. But he's always, ALWAYS going to love us. It's hard to even imagine that kind of love, isn't it? He sent his own perfect son—who never messed up—to rescue US, even though we do wrong things all the time!

PRAY

Let's pray together and ask God to help us understand how much he loves us. First, let's spend a minute sitting quietly, listening to God. He might put a thought in your head or give you a picture of something. Maybe you just hear the words "I love you" like a silent whisper. If you don't hear or see anything, that's OK too. But God, will you tell us how much you love us this morning? (Pause for a minute. Then close with prayer.)

When we realize how much God loves us, it makes us want to love him back. One way we can show God how much we adore him is by singing to him. So we're going to sing a couple songs today.

WORSHIP

The first one you can just listen to—and sing along if you'd like! It'll go over today's big story. For the second one, we'll stand up and do hand motions and sing along!

Music Video: Ask Shrimpola / Story*

**can skip this one if large group is going longer than usual*

Song: Jesus Loves Me (with hand motions)

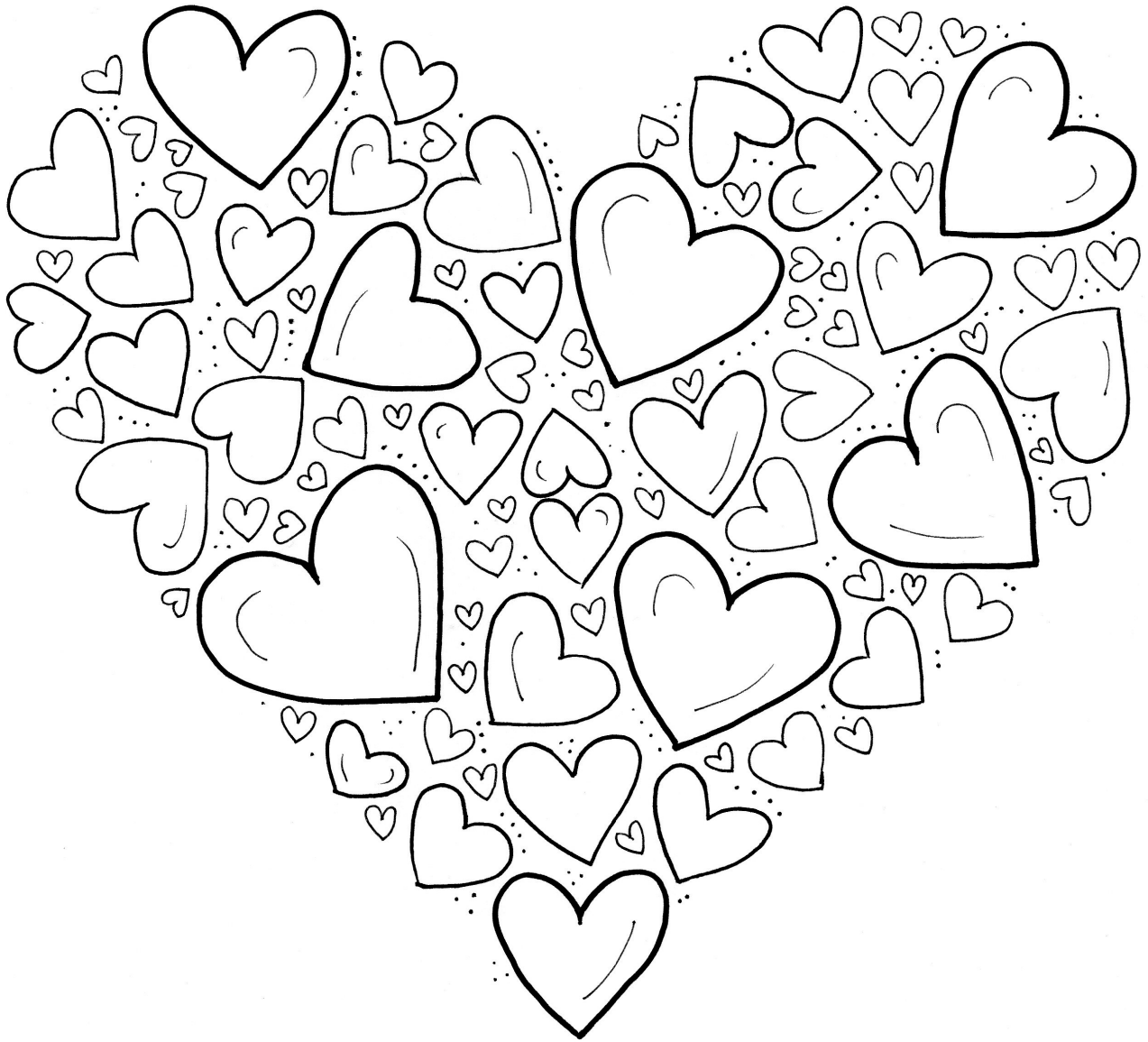
Dismiss kids back to small groups.



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

- Butcher Paper (1-2 large pieces for each small group)
- Markers
- 1 strip of 10 Heart stickers per group (something like this: OT: IN-12/1885)
- 10 Football stickers per group (something like this: OT: IN-42/4367)

small group supplies

- Bible
- Paper and markers
- 1 pack of 24 storytelling cards per small group (to be re-used at each service)
- 1 poster per small group (as an example/key)
- 1 poster per kid (same poster, to be handed out during checkout)

large group supplies

- A Bible

a/v needs

1. Image: Creation (waiting on GS screenshot)
2. Image: The Fall (waiting on GD screenshot)
3. Video: God's Story / God's Story
4. Music Video: Ask Shrimpola / God's Story
5. Song: Jesus Loves Me (hand motions)

connect questions

- Tell me about God's story.
- How can we be part of God's story?

parent page

Today was all about understanding God's love for us, so we looked at his whole story and rescue plan. That means kids got an overview of the entire Bible, from start to finish! Check it out at CrossroadsKidsClub.net by searching for "God's Story: God's Story."