



# 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

June 14-15, 2014

DATE

Treating Others Like Jesus

LESSON TITLE

Matthew 25:31-46; Matthew 5:1-12

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus treated the most “unimportant” people as if they were important.

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

Since we’re talking about how Jesus calls us to treat one another, affirm positive ways you see kids treating one another throughout the hour.

## check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to tell their parents what they should pretend to see when they look through their glasses.

## large group heads up

Today, we’re talking about how Jesus taught us to treat people. He told us that when we do something for even the “least important” person, it’s like we’re doing it for him!



## 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.*

### VIP TREATMENT

\*Split kids into small groups

- Ask each kid to share his/her name.
- Discuss these questions: What does VIP mean? What does it mean if I say somebody gets VIP treatment?
- Hold up the cards and have kids tell you if that person should get VIP treatment and why or why not. (Proceed in any order.)
  - **Princess Kate Middleton and Prince William**
  - **President Obama**
  - **Harry Stiles**
  - **“Regular” person** (we have no idea who this is!)
  - **Baby**
  - **Sick person**
  - **Old person**
  - **Mirror board** (what do they think about themselves and their friends in the room?)
- Tell kids we'll talk more about who JESUS says should get VIP treatment.
- Ask kids to share the best and worst part of their week.

**Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) recognize what it looks like to treat people as important vs. unimportant, (2) understand that what we do to others, we're doing to Jesus and (3) identify somebody they can treat better this week

**Why?** Jesus was pretty clear about how we should treat others. Saying that our treatment of others is actually our treatment of Jesus is a pretty sobering thought.

**Tip:** Don't have kids share names of the person they identify at the end of small group, but do encourage them to make a specific decision of who they will treat better.

## small group

### REVIEW AND DIG DEEPER

**\*Pass around a beanbag to the person who's speaking. Each group member should be prepared to hold the beanbag and answer questions.**

1. How does it look to treat people like they're important? Who is considered important in our society? (Pass the beanbag around to a few kids.)
2. How does it look to treat people like they are NOT important? Who is considered less important in our society? (Navigate this question carefully: Let kids share but if they say hurtful things or refer to other kids in the group, make sure to bring it back to how important we are to Jesus.)
3. What does Jesus say about how we should treat people?
4. Why do you think Jesus says that anything we do for the least important people, we also do for him?

### ACTIVITY

Imagine what it would look like to see everybody as Jesus.

- Split kids into pairs
- Give each pair **2 small pieces of white paper**
- Read Matthew 25:35-36 and remind kids of the VIP treatment you discussed during Connect Time and the people you identified as "less important."
- Tell kids to imagine what it would look like to treat everybody like they're important.
  - Kids should **draw 2 pictures** to represent the scenarios they imagine.
    - It could be hungry being fed, strangers being invited in, etc. according to the verse.
    - It could be the people your group identified as "less important" getting different types of VIP treatment.
  - Then give each kid a pair of **DIY sunglasses** – put them on.

(Continue on the following page)



- Remind kids that when we look at people like Jesus looks at them—or we see people as if we're seeing Jesus, we look at them differently.
- Wearing the glasses, go around the group and **look at each pair's pictures.**
- Encourage kids to see and treat people like Jesus this week. Their glasses can be a reminder to do that! Then ask them to think of ONE "less important" person they want to treat important. **They should write that person's name or initials on the inside of their glasses.**

**\*Pray with kids, asking Jesus to help us treat others like we would treat him.**

*Extra time? Decorate your glasses. Or have another Rock, Paper, Scissors competition.*

## special notes

\*You'll have to "improv" a little at the end of today's intro game! Think that through ahead of time, so you have some ideas of things you may say.

## presenter tips

Like last week, we can't provide previews of the *Cars* clips. Check the location of the clip on the last page of this lesson document to preview it using a DVD or on iTunes.

## script

***\*Play the intro music as kids come in. This will become a weekly tradition.***

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you. Today, we're going to be talking more about how Jesus taught us to treat others. And once again, we're going to learn by looking at Lightning McQueen from the movie *Cars*. Jesus taught us how to treat important—and unimportant people.

But before we talk about what Jesus said, I want to hear about what you guys talked about during Connect Time, when we talked about VIP treatment. First of all, what does VIP stand for? (Let a kid say: Very Important Person.) Yep, and what does it mean when we say someone gets to be treated like a VIP? (Let 2-3 kids share.) That's right! And you guys even looked at some different people. Who did you say deserved to be treated like a VIP? (Let 2-3 kids share.) That makes sense, but I want you guys to try to think a little differently today.

### **INTRO GAME: ROCK PAPER SCISSORS**

To try think about this a bit differently, we're going to play a game. Everybody stand up! (Let kids stand.) We're going to play whole-body Rock, Paper, Scissors. Does anybody know how to play Rock, Paper, Scissors already? (Let kids respond.) This is just a little different. Here's how you play: In a moment, you'll choose a partner. Then I'll count to three. On my count of three, you choose to be:

- "Rock" by posing like a muscle-man (model)
- "Paper" by holding your hands high above your head and standing straight (model)
- "Scissors" by moving your arms up and down in front of your body like this

One of you will win unless you choose the same thing, which is a tie. Paper beats rock, rock beats scissors, and scissors beats paper.



## script continued

OK, I need you to find partners. (Let kids partner up - leaders should help make sure each kid has a partner.) Now, on the count of three, you'll turn into "rock," "paper," or "scissors" (model again as you repeat the options). Remember, paper beats rock, rock beats scissors, and scissors beats paper. Any questions?

Let's go! One, two, three... (let kids choose). Great job! If you lost, sit down. (Let kids sit.) Now find a new partner. (*Continue the game this way until only 4-8 kids are standing. Then eliminate all but one arbitrarily. Say something like: If you're wearing blue jeans, sit down. I want the winner to have shorts on! Etc.*)

Great job, winner! You can have a seat now too. But you others who almost won, how did it feel when I randomly decided that \_\_\_\_\_ (winner's main quality, e.g. wearing shorts) makes somebody more important and deserving of the victory? (Let 2 kids share.) Did anybody think that seemed fair? (Let kids respond.)

### **WE TREAT SOME PEOPLE AS MORE IMPORTANT**

Now, in our culture, we DO treat some people as more important than others, don't we? We let certain people do special things just because they're more important—that's what VIP treatment is. And what kinds of things make a person "important" in our society? (Let kids say: money, power, beauty, etc.) That's right.

On the other hand, we often treat people who DON'T have these qualities as if they are less special. And that can mean we treat them pretty poorly. We're going to watch a video clip from *Cars* of a time Lightning McQueen treated a group of old rusty cars badly, just because they weren't new or cool or important. See if you can figure out HOW he treated them badly.

### **Video: Cars clip 3 (13:40-16:15)**

Wow, so how did he treat them badly? (Let kids say: didn't even want to talk to them, tried to hide from them, muttered under his breath, faked being nice, didn't want to touch them, thought he was better than them, etc.) That's right. And those things are *really* unkind. Maybe you've been unkind to somebody like that. Maybe somebody needed a friend but you didn't like to be around them, so you decided to get away. Or maybe somebody's treated YOU like that. That doesn't feel very good either, does it?

### **JESUS TOLD US HOW TO TREAT "LESS IMPORTANT" PEOPLE**

Well, let's look at what Jesus says about how to treat people who aren't important. He tells us a parable, which is a story to teach us a lesson. It's called the story of the sheep and the goats (**Click to show a picture** of a sheep on the right side of the screen & a goat on the left side of the screen.) One of the things this parable teaches us is how Jesus sees our treatment of other people.



## script continued

In this parable, Jesus compares himself to a shepherd who will one day separate all the nations into the world into sheep...and goats. (Stand on the side of the sheep on screen.) Jesus will turn to the sheep (point to the screen/don't indicate any kids in this) and welcome them into God's perfect kingdom. He'll say this to them:

**SLIDE: Matthew 25:35-36: I was hungry. And you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty. And you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger. And you invited me in. I needed clothes. And you gave them to me. I was sick. And you took care of me. I was in prison. And you came to visit me.**

Sounds pretty nice, huh? But then the sheep will say (act shocked), "When did this happen?!" because they won't ever remember seeing *Jesus* hungry or in prison...So Jesus will explain it like this:

**SLIDE: Matthew 25:40b: Anything you did for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did for me.**

Oh my goodness! However they treated the people they met, it was like they were treating *Jesus* that way.

(Click to go back to the sheep and goats slide; move over to the left side.) Now, the hard part of this parable is that Jesus asked the goats why they DIDN'T feed him when he was hungry or care for him when he was sick. And he told them that when they IGNORE a hungry person or a thirsty person, it's like they are ignoring JESUS.

## **WE SHOULD TREAT ALL PEOPLE LIKE WE WOULD TREAT JESUS**

Wow, so according to this parable, when McQueen treated rusty cars badly, who's he really treating badly? (Let kids say: Jesus!) Yep, and when we decide to ignore somebody we don't like at school, who are we ignoring? (Let kids say: Jesus!) But in the same way, if we choose to invite a lonely person at school to our birthday party or take care of our baby brother or sister, who are we REALLY taking care of? (Let kids say: Jesus!) That's right!

Whatever we do toward other people—no matter who they are—it's as if we're doing that to Jesus. We're going to talk about this some more in small group, but first, let's worship together.

## **WORSHIP**

This first song reminds us that *everyone* is specially created by God. And if people ever treat *us* badly, we can remember that we are completely loved by him. The second song reminds us of how great Jesus is ...which can help us remember to treat others the way we would treat him!

**Music Video: Who I Am**

**Music Video: Better than the Best**

## **PRAY**

Ask God to help us treat all people as important this week.



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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

### Per group

One ziplock with the following inside:

- 7 pictures (printed in color and cut from template):
- Princess Kate Middleton and

- Prince William
- President Obama
- Harry Stiles
- "Regular" person
- Baby
- Sick person
- Old person
- 1 piece of mirror board

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## small group supplies

### Per kid

- 1 piece of white paper (can be a half sheet)
- 1 pair of DIY giant glasses (OT: IN-57/6558)

### Per group

- 1 beanbag
- 1 Bible (p. 1086)
- markers

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## large group supplies

- Adventure Bible (p. 1086)

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## a/v needs

1. Intro song: Route 66 by John Mayor (mp3; please download the Cars soundtrack from iTunes)
2. Video: Cars Clip 3 (13:40-16:15)
3. Image: sheep and goat (sheep on the right and goat on the left, when you're facing the screen)
4. SLIDE: Matthew 25:35-36: I was hungry. And you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty. And you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger. And you invited me in. I needed clothes. And you gave them to me. I was sick. And you took care of me. I
5. was in prison. And you came to visit me.
5. SLIDE: Matthew 25:40b: Anything you did for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did for me.
6. Images of sheep and goats again
7. Music Video: Who I Am
8. Music Video: Better than the Best (with dance moves)
- 9.

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## connect questions

Tell me about how Jesus treated people.  
Why should we treat *everyone* well?

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## parent page

Daily Talk Starts - separate doc