



3rd – 5th

May 30-31, 2015

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

Today is all about God's whole story. As you talk about it with kids, be careful not to make assumptions. Some kids will probably be hearing about God and the Bible for the first time!

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to tell their parents their favorite part of God's story.

large group heads up

Today, kids are learning the whole story of the Bible. Yep, Creation through Re-Creation! But the most important thing for kids to walk away with is that each individual part of God's story works together to reveal who God is and how he rescued us. It's a story of incredible love!



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

STORYTELLING GAME

**Break kids into small groups.*

- Pull out your **bag of story cards** (don't show kids what's inside).
- Split kids into pairs.
- Let each pair pull one random story card from the bag.
- Have one pair start by making up sentence or two about what's happening on their card. (For example, if there's a man and lady on it, they could say: "Once, a man and a lady went camping in the middle of a huge desert. All the sudden, they heard a loud crash!" Anything goes.)
- Go around the circle: each pair adds to the story based on their picture.
- **Then ask kids about the best and worst parts of their week.**

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.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) retell God's rescue plan and (2) understand that God created His plan because He loves us so very much.

Why? If kids can talk about God's plan for them, it means they're able to understand it. And the more they understand God's plan, the more they'll understand how much he loves them.

Tip: If kids want to be part of God's story and follow him for the first time, they may have questions. Just explain what it means to you. There's no "right" way to say it!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

*(Hold up the **poster**; point to different components to help kids answer. Or answer the questions first; then ask kids to identify something on the poster to help them remember it!)*

1. How did God create the world in the beginning? What do you think a world like that was like? (imagine)
2. What happened to ruin the perfect world?
3. What did God do to get us back from his enemy? Why did he want us back?
4. What was/is God's rescue plan? *(Consider this from start to finish: building a family, sending a rescuer, Jesus dying, Jesus coming to life, giving us the Holy Spirit to help us follow him and show others how to follow him, asking us to tell more and more people about him until one day God recreates the world.)*
5. How can this rescue plan change our life?
6. How can we be part of God's story?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid a **scratch-off postcard** and a **scratching tool**
- Ask kids: What's ONE way God wants to make you new? (You can help them brainstorm by considering ideas below. But ask them to make these specific and personal.)
 - Obey something God asks you to do (obey parents, be kind to a sibling or an annoying person at school, tell a friend about Jesus, etc.)
 - Get closer to God (through prayer, reading the Bible, fasting, time alone, etc.)
 - Choose to be part of God's family for the first time!
- Draw/write how God wants to make you new on the scratch-off postcard.
 - If kids can't think of anything, copy **John 1:12** to help you remember that you're in God's family!

(Continue on the following page)

***John 1:12 Some people did accept him and did believe in his name.
He gave them the right to become children of God.***

Explain: We start our lives in a world full of wrong things as people who mess up, but when we choose to be part of God's story, he makes us new. We become a whole new person, which means we look totally different than before, just like this postcard!

***Pray together, thanking God that he rescues us and makes us new!**

Extra time? Pull out the story cards from Connect Time and see if you can put them all in order based on the video (hide the poster but you can use it to see if kids got it right).

special notes

Remember, some kids have never heard the Creation story or the story of the Fall, so teach it like it's the first time they're hearing it!

presenter tips

You've got the opportunity to be authentic with kids this weekend by sharing one way you're a part of God's story. Ask the Holy Spirit what he wants you to share.

script

***Click to play intro music.**

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here today. I loved hearing the crazy stories you guys made up. And even though your group was telling one story, it had lots of different parts, didn't it? That reminds me of another BIG story with different parts that we talk about in Kids' Club. Do you have any idea which story that might be? (Let kids respond.) Yes, GOD'S STORY. And if you've never heard of that before, that's OK!

See, when we come to Kids' Club, we usually talk about parts of God's story from the Bible. There are stories from wars like when a kid defeats a giant. There are crazy miracles like when Jesus walks on top of water. There are even stories about talking animals or romantic stories of love. God's story has MANY different parts. **But they all go together, and they all tell the story of who God is and how he loves us.**

Today is about the BIG story, the biggest story ever told, and how we fit into it: Today is all about God's *whole* story.

CREATION

So God's story starts with the biggest character of all: God Himself. Before anything even existed in the world, not the stars, not the sky, not even the ground we walk on, there was God. And God had so much love in his heart that he wanted to share it with people, people he could love and who would love him back.

And so God set to work. He created the entire universe: The heavens and the earth, the sky, dry land, the stars, fish, animals, and humans. He took special care to personally breath life into us. All of this was so He could share his *love* with us! And his world was perfect.



script continued

THE FALL

But we definitely don't live in a perfect world anymore, do we? 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. He convinced the first two people, Adam and Eve, to disobey him. And when they made that choice, all the wrong things in the world began. Worst of all, we were separated from God. But guess what? God loved us way too much to leave us like that. *He came up with a plan to rescue us!*

GOD'S STORY IS A RESCUE STORY

(Hold up the Bible.) The Bible tells us about God's rescue plan. It's the story of how the people he loved ran away from him... how he got us back...and what he has planned for us in the future! Each different story is just a part of the big plan. And the really cool thing is, the Bible tells us the end of the story, which hasn't happened yet, because the story is still going on *right now!*

Let's watch a video about God's story and his rescue plan to get us back. You're going to find out what some of your pictures from Connect Time were, and how they all fit together! As we watch, try to figure out how we can be 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? So how can we be part of God's story right now? Before you answer, think about it for a second. (Pause.) Now, let's get up and share. **Everybody, stand up! Find one person you've never met and tell them how you can be part of God's story. Ask them what they think. When you've both shared, sit down.** Ready? (Let kids respond. When they are all sitting, continue.)

So how can we be part of God's story? (Let kids share.) Yes, we can follow God and be part of his family! We can be part of God's family that he's building to one day live in a perfect home with him. God wants EVERYONE to believe that he rescued us. Because when we believe that, we become like his kids and get to be in his special family. Check out John 1:12 from the Bible:

SLIDE: John 1:12 Some people did accept him and did believe in his name. He gave them the right to become children of God.

GOD'S PLAN FOR HIS FAMILY

So right now God's family is just getting bigger and bigger. We can be a part of it—AND a part of making it bigger. Then the end of the Bible tells us how God's story will end someday. Remember how I told you about the very beginning, and how perfect it was? *It's coming back.*

That's right! God's ultimate plan is to re-create the entire world into a perfect new home for his whole family. And all we need to do to be a part of that plan is choose to believe that we made wrong choices that separated us from God...but that Jesus died to rescue us.



script continued

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOU

The best part is, even though we still have to live in a world full of wrong things, and even though we'll still mess up, as soon as we choose to be part of God's family, he starts making us new. He has a plan that's for you and you alone. That's because God is called a "redeemer." That means he makes old things new and imperfect things perfect. So when the world got messed up, he made a plan to make it wonderful again.

And even though we do wrong things and make choices to go our own way, he has a plan for us and a purpose for us as a part of his story. When we are part of God's story, he constantly helps us to be more like him. And if we really want the story to be about GOD and not about us or what we want, we let him. As we watch a video about how God is a redeemer, ask God how he wants to make you new.

Video: Context / Redemption

I love thinking that God has a special purpose and wants ME to be part of his story. It's a relief to know he's in control even when I mess things up. One way God has made me new is _____ (Share a kid-friendly way that God has helped you become more like him. It can be a following God and doing something that was really hard, being generous and trusting God to provide, or having the courage to ask a friend for forgiveness after you did something hurtful.) Can anybody think of a way God wants to make YOU new? (Let a few kids share.)

WORSHIP

When we're part of God's story, the hardest part is giving up what WE want our life to look like and letting God use us however we want. Let's stand up and sing. If you want, you can use these songs to declare to God that he can have your whole life because you are part of HIS story.

Song: Take It All

Song: I'm Yours

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank God that he has a perfect plan for us!



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per Group

1 set of story cards in a brown paper bag (printed on cardstock in color)- reused

small group supplies

Per kid

1 scratch-off post card with scratching tool (OT: IN-57/6269)
(reuse scratching tools each service)

Per group

Markers
1 Bible
1 God's Story poster

large group supplies

Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. God's Story: God's Story (<https://vimeo.com/85213037>)
3. SLIDE: John 1:12 Some people did accept him and did believe in his name. He gave them the right to become children of God.
4. Video: Context / Redemption (<https://vimeo.com/116900233>)
5. Music Video: Take It All (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCOdDGAJCbQ>)
6. Music Video: I'm Yours (<https://vimeo.com/77168212>)

connect questions

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

parent page

We talked about how the Bible is God's story. It lays out His rescue plan and shows us how deeply He loves us (1 John 3:1). The best part is, God's story isn't over, which means we can be a part of it! You can watch today's video at CrossroadsKidsClub.net by searching for "God's Story: God's Story."