crossroads kids' club

3rd–5th

October 3-4, 2015
DATE

Josiah
LESSON TITLE

2 Kings 22; Micah 6:8
WHERE TO FIND IT

God wants us to follow his law.
MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (20 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 (10 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

When kids arrive, welcome them by name. If they don't know anybody, introduce them to a group of kids or ask them to play a game with you.

check-in/out

Kids identified one of God's laws they plan to follow this week. Remind them to tell their parents what they chose!

MAKE SURE EACH KID TAKES HOME A SURVEY POSTCARD (SHOULD BE LOCATED NEAR THE DOOR)

large group heads up

God gave us the Bible so that we would know how to act. He wants us to obey his words! Talk to kids about the Bible today. Ask them if they have one at home and show them how to read it if they're not sure what all the books, chapters and verses mean.

CONNECT time

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.*

ROCK PAPER SCISSORS TOURNAMENT

**This would probably be best played as a whole group.*

- **Begin with a normal tournament:**
  - Have each kid stand up and find a partner. On your count of three, have kids play "Rock, Paper Scissors."
  - *If you don't recall, you make a fist (rock), hold your hand flat (paper) or hold up two fingers (scissors) Paper beats Rock, Rock beats Scissors, Scissors beats Paper.*
  - Whoever loses should sit down.
  - Kids still standing find a new partner and play again. Whoever loses sits down. **Continue until you have a winner.**
- **Now play a round that doesn't follow the rules:**
  - Tell kids: this time, there are different rules! Instead of paper beating rock, rock beating scissors and scissors beating paper, you can decide who wins each time.
  - Have kids find a partner.
  - On your count of three, play "Rock, Paper Scissors" again. (This should be extremely difficult. See what kids do and how they react. If you don't even get through a round, that's OK.)
- **Play one more round, just for fun!** (Make sure you've got two different winners at the end of Connect Time; they will face off during Large Group.)

DEBRIEF

**Break into small groups and discuss:*

- Why didn't the second round work?
- What's the most important rule you've ever followed and why?

Before you go to Large Group, 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.

SMALL group

instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that loving God means obeying his laws (2) recognize that we can follow God's laws (and repent when we mess up).

Why? We'll never follow God's laws perfectly; that's why Jesus came! But it is important that we repent when we mess up.

Tip: Talk to kids about the Bible! Tell them when and where you read it. Stress the importance of knowing God's word in order to obey him.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why was Josiah a great king? (he loved God and followed his laws)
2. Why did Josiah follow God's laws? (because he loved him)
3. What happened when Josiah read God's word and began to follow it? (the whole country of Israel began to follow God)
4. How can we understand how to follow God? (the Bible, prayer, etc.)
5. Think about what you thought of when we were listening to God. What's one way he wants you to obey him?
6. Do you think our obedience affects other people? Why?

Now place a large, tear-off sheet of paper in the middle of your group.

- Everybody, write down ONE of God's laws on this sheet (it could be from Large Group or another one you've heard before from the Bible; you could also look up Micah 6:8 and read it out loud).
- What happens when we mess up? (we can repent)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid ***a piece of paper***. Have them write/draw a wrong choice they've made (it can be what they thought of during the video or something else).
- **Tell them that they are forgiven because of Jesus' rescue!**
- Then put ***a bag*** in the center of the table and let kids shred their paper into teeny tiny pieces (just put all the pieces in the bag!). You can even see who can get their paper into the most pieces. Then tie up the bag and throw it away!
- Remind them that when we repent, God forgives! We can turn and follow him again.
- Then have kids **circle the law (on the piece of paper)** that they want to follow this week!

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SMALL group (continued)

***Pray together, thanking God for his forgiveness and declaring your desire to obey (read some of the laws from the sheet).**

Extra time? Play the Connect Time game again! Or make up your own hand motions to Micah 6:8 (straight from the Bible).

LARGE group

special notes

Humble confession from adults can be powerful for kids to see. You have an opportunity to share something for which you've repented. While you prepare for the "We Can Follow God's Laws" section, ask God to show you if there's a (kid-friendly) sin he'd like you to share with kids.

presenter tips

Kids are learning Micah 6:8 this week. That can be a tough verse for kids to understand. Spend some time meditating on it this week. Ask God to tell you how to talk to kids about it.

script

WELCOME AND INTRO (6 min.)

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here. Before we get started today, I have some exciting news: you may have heard that Kids' Club has got some brand new awesome songs! **(Click to show the Strong EP image.)** This is what the CD will look like, but we won't be giving out CD's for awhile. If you want to get the songs early, before everybody else, have an adult fill out a survey on our website, CrossroadsKidsClub.net (refer to screen). Then you can download the songs early!

Now, back to what we're talking about today: Raise your hand if you won one of the tournaments your group played (let kids raise hands). Alright, I need the two of you to come up here (let the two winners come up and ask them their names). We are going to settle this RIGHT NOW. Who is the BEST Rock, Paper Scissors player in this room right now? To figure it out, you guys are going to play three rounds. Whoever wins two rounds first is our winner!

(*To the rest of the room*): This is exciting, so I need you guys to MAKE SOME NOISE! On my count of three, cheer AS LOUD AS YOU CAN. Ready? (Turn to finalists): Ready? OK, 1-2-3: (Let the finalists play round 1 while the room cheers. Continue leading them to rounds 2 and, if necessary 3. Then declare a winner!) Our winner is….. _____ (kid's name)!

(*Let the two finalists be seated.*) It's pretty fun to play games and tournaments, isn't it? But what happens if you don't follow the rules or—worse—if there are no rules at all? (Let kids respond.) Yes, there's no game without rules. If there was, you would just randomly decide who wins, and it's probably going to be the person who argues most.

How do rules actually help us? (Let 4-6 kids respond and share examples of situations in which rules help.) Yes, they often keep us safe or make sure that things stay fair. Can I have three volunteers to share the most important rule they've ever followed and why? (Let 3 kids share.)

LARGE group

script continued

JOSIAH FOLLOWED GOD'S LAW (8 min.)
Today, we're going to hear about one of the kings of Israel and how he followed the most important rules any of us can follow, GOD'S rules. His name is Josiah and he became a king while he was very young, maybe even younger than you guys! In fact, let's see. Stand up (let kids stand). Stay standing if you're younger than 12. (Give kids a minute to sit if they're older, though they shouldn't be for this round.) Stay standing if you're younger than 11 (let kids sit). How about 10? (Let kids sit.) 9? (Let kids sit.) Is anybody 8 or younger? (Kids will likely all be sitting be now.) Josiah became king when he was 8 years old!

The cool thing is, Josiah was a great king. 2 Kings 23:25 tells us this about Josiah:

SLIDE: 2 Kings 23:25 Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the LORD with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses. And there has never been a king like him since.

Whoa, he loved the Lord with all his **heart** and **soul** and **strength**. And he cared deeply about following God's laws. We're going to watch a video about Josiah's life. As you watch, see if you can figure out something good that happened when Josiah obeyed God's law.

Video: Josiah (about 3 min.)

Wow, so what's one good thing that happened while Josiah was king and obeyed God's law? (Let kids respond. It might be tough for some of them to figure out, so be sure to re-summarize it for them.) That's right, they celebrated Passover for the first time in eighteen years. Josiah was the first king to celebrate it. And that means that all of God's family remembered how God took care of them and worshiped God. Because Josiah loved and obeyed God, the whole country of Israel obeyed God too!

WE CAN FOLLOW GOD'S LAW (4 min.)
Does anybody here know of a book *we* have to tell us all of God's laws? (Let kids respond. That's right, the Bible. The Bible tells us God's story and is full of God's words. Now, when we love the Lord with all heart and soul and strength, we can read God's laws and obey him, like Josiah. In fact, God says that IF we love him…we WILL obey him.

But just like the video mentioned, it's impossible to follow God's laws *perfectly*. The only person who ever did that was Jesus! So when we love God and we mess up, we can repent. Disobeying God separates us from him. Repentance brings us close again.

We're going to watch a video that explains what repentance is and let's us practice it. A lot of us love God. But all of us have messed up. So let's hear more about it and even try it out!

Video: Take A Minute / Repentance (about 2 min.)

Wow, how cool. We are forgiven! (*If you're feeling bold, confess a kid-friendly wrong choice you've made recently and have asked God's forgiveness for. Or just continue*): Like the video said, we can repent anytime. So whenever you realize you've made a wrong choice, confess it

to God, ask him to forgive you and start following him!

CONSIDER PART OF GOD'S WORD (5 min.)
Each month, we've been learning one verse. It's part of making sure we know and understand God's word. That way, even if we don't have a Bible around, we have God's word in our heart! This month, we're going to learn a verse that reminds us how God wants us to act. It was spoken by a prophet named Micah, who was sharing what he heard from God. Here's what he said:

SLIDE: Micah 6:8
No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good,
and this is what he requires of you:
to do what is right, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with your God.

Let's read that together (read each line out loud and let kids repeat after you). Based on this verse, what is ONE thing God wants you to do? Think about that for a second and when you have an idea, hold up one finger. (When most kids have raised a finger, continue): **Now turn and tell a friend one thing this verse says God wants his followers to do.** (Let kids turn and tell a friend. Then ask 2-3 kids to share.)

(*Then summarize it for them. You can use your own words, but it could sound something like this*): Yep, God wants us to do what is right, which means obey him and treat others well. He wants us to love mercy, which means he wants us to love people even if they don't deserve it and he wants us to walk with him humbly, which means to follow him and constantly do what God wants instead of what we want.

RESPOND AND PRAY (2 min.)
We'll talk more about what this verse means in the coming weeks. But for now, let's spend a minute talking to God about this. I'm going to put on part of a song. As you listen, ask God, "How can I obey you today?" (Click to put on the song below.)

Music Video: Trust and Obey (about 1 min.)

(Wrap up by praying for the whole group.)

WORSHIP
Now let's worship Jesus together through singing. We can declare to God that we love him and will follow him.

Music: Before I Go
Music Video: Come With Me

**Dismiss kids to small groups.*

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PREP needs

connect time supplies

Rock Paper Scissors Game- no supplies needed

small group supplies

Per kid
1 piece of paper

Per group
1 large tear-off sheet of paper
1 garbage bag

Markers
1 Bible

Other: (to be handed out at door)
1 survey postcard

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. Image: Strong EP
3. SLIDE: 2 Kings 23:25 Never before had there been a king like Josiah, who turned to the LORD with all his heart and soul and strength, obeying all the laws of Moses. And there has never been a king like him since.
4. Video: Josiah (in Videos > Gospel Project)
5. Video: Take A Minute / Repent (https://vimeo.com/134734456)
6. SLIDE: Micah 6:8: The LORD has shown you what is good.
   He has told you what he requires of you.
   You must act with justice.
   You must love to show mercy.
   And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God.
7. Response Song: 0:19-1:36 of Trust and Obey: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2_5FNLZTAA)
8. Music: Before I Go
9. Music Video: Come With Me (musicians version: https://vimeo.com/55100351)

connect questions

Tell me about Josiah.
Want early access to new music? Visit CrossroadsKidsClub.net.

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