



Kindergarten-2nd

February 20-21, 2016

DATE

Parable of the banquet

LESSON TITLE

Luke 14:15-24; John 3:16-17

WHERE TO FIND IT

God invites everyone to be a part of his kingdom.

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

Set expectations! Whether it's before you go to Large Group, or at the beginning of Small Group, review with kids how you want them to behave. It will help them, and you. *(An example of an expectation is that we respect others by listening when they are talking.)*

check-in/out

Ask kids why they got invitations, and what it means to be a part of God's kingdom.

large group heads up

Today is about a parable that Jesus told his disciples. It's a story about how God wants EVERYONE to be a part of his family, no matter who they are or where they come from.



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.*

TABLE RELAY

- **Split kids into teams** (with each team lined up behind a table), and **set out a bag of plates/cups/bowls/spoons for each team.**
- Tell kids that we're going to pretend to set a table for a big party, with cups, plates, spoons and bowls!
- Demonstrate how the table has to be set (put a plate at the table, then put the bowl, cup and spoon somewhere beside it.)
- Tell kids that each team will get a bin of plates, cups, bowls and spoons. Each person on a team will take an item from the bin and set it on the table as fast as they can. Then, they run back to the next team member, give them a high five, and THAT team member gets a plate, bowl, cup or spoon, and sets it on the table as fast as they can.
- The first team to set the table with all of the supplies in its bag, is the winner!
- It's okay if the table doesn't look perfect. Kids just need to set their item on it somewhere.

TALK ABOUT IT

- Have you ever been to a party? What was it like?
- If you were throwing a big party, whom would you invite?

Before you go to Large Group, you can 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 the parable of the great banquet (2) understand that God invites everyone to be a part of his family and (3) identify how we can invite others to be in God's family too.

Why? For a long time, God's family consisted of the Israelites. But when the Rescuer came, he invited EVERYONE to be a part of God's family. Understanding this concept is one of the most important parts of following Jesus!

Tip: Turn on music during small group to make it seem more like a party!

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. In the parable, what did the man's friends say when his servant came to get them for the banquet? (All his friends didn't want to come, they made up stories so they didn't have to)
2. Which people did the man invite instead? (people who were poor, and those who couldn't walk/see)
3. Do you think that those people were used to getting invitations to parties? Why? (No; they probably got left out a lot, and no one wanted them to come to fancy parties)
4. Who does God invite to be a part of his kingdom? (Everyone; people who already believe in him AND those who don't. Even people that nobody else likes.)
5. What do we have to do to be a part of his family? (Accept his invitation and believe that Jesus came to rescue us)
6. Have you accepted God's invitation, or do you want to? (*Make sure you don't force kids to answer this question if they're not ready/uncomfortable with it. Just give them the opportunity to talk if they want to. Help kids understand how to accept God's invitation by sharing your own story of how you accepted Jesus.*)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid an **invitation**. Read it together and tell them to write their name in the top blank space. Next, teach kids special motions to go along with the verse on the back of the invitation. It says John 3:16-17:
 - **God so loved the world** (Cross your arms across your chest, then make a big circle over your head with your arms)
 - **That he gave his one and only son.** (Lay your hands out in front of you)
 - **Anyone who believes in him** (Point upward)

- **Will not die but will have eternal life.** (Jump up and down and act excited)
- **God did not send his son into the world to judge the world.** (Form arms into a big circle over your head)
- **He sent his son to save the world through him.** (Pretend like your swinging a big sword and swishing it through the air.)
- After kid have done all the motions a few times, have them do the following while you read the verse:
 - Do the motions with their eyes closed.
 - Do the motions really fast (read as fast as you can).
 - Do the motions really slow (read the verse really slowly).
 - Do the motions while facing a partner.
 - Do the motions while hopping up and down the whole time.

*Extra Time? Give kids a **coloring page**. After that, feel free to let them watch the Large Group video again. You could also have them do the “Excuse” activity from Large Group, where you ask kids to a party, and they have to come up with the silliest excuses they can think of to not go.*

special notes

Today's video is a little longer than normal (about 6 minutes), but it goes by fast! Just make sure you pace yourself, so you have enough time to include all the components of the lesson. Here's a link to the video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80UhWO_wjHY

presenter tips

Today is about explaining the Gospel in a language kids can understand. Don't force kids to decide whether or not they want to be a part of God's family; instead, encourage them to ask what it means, and how they can accept God's invitation.

script

***Click to play intro music**

WELCOME AND INTRO

Hey guys! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm so glad to see you all. Today is all about...a huge party! Did you have fun setting up tables for a party? (Let kids respond.) Okay, let's talk about our dream parties...if you could have a party anywhere in the world, where would it be? (Call on 2-3 kids to respond.) What food would you have at your party? (Call on 2-3 kids to respond.) Hmm, what fun stuff would you do during the party? (Call on 2-3 kids to respond.) Those all sound awesome!

You know there's a party I would LOVE to go to, and it takes place at a museum. Let's watch a short clip to see what it's like.

Video: Night at the Museum Party

Raise your hand if you would like to party in a museum with dinosaurs and cavemen! (Let kids respond.) Now let's talk about the guests we would want at our party. If you could invite ANYONE in the world, who would it be? (Give kids 10-15 seconds to think.) Can someone tell me who you would invite? (Let 2-3 kids to share, but limit their response so they don't go on too long.)

What if you invited people to your party that you didn't know? What if you invited people that couldn't bring you a present, or maybe someone that nobody else likes. Today we're going to talk about how God's family is like a giant party too, but he doesn't just invite the cool people, or the ones who love him the most. He invites **every single person** to be a part of it.

INTRO: THE PARABLE OF THE BANQUET

One day Jesus was eating a meal at a Pharisee's house. Can you say, "Pharisee"? (Let kids

script continued

respond.) Good job. A Pharisee was a special person who knew all about the law. He could tell you everything there is to know about what you should and shouldn't do. A lot of Pharisees didn't think that everyone should be a part of God's family. They only wanted their own people to be in God's family. Do you think God wanted them to care about SOME people, or ALL people? (Let kids respond.) That's right, he wanted them to love everyone.

While Jesus was eating with his friends, he decided to tell a parable. Does anybody know what a parable is? (Let kids respond.) A parable is like a story that teaches us truth about God. Let's watch a video to see what kind of parable Jesus told. It's about a man who throws a special banquet, which is another word for a party. As you watch, pay attention to the kinds of people that the man invites first, and then the people that actually end up coming to his party.

Video: Kidz Church / The Parable of the Great Banquet

A MAN INVITES HIS FRIENDS TO A PARTY

Who did the man in the story FIRST invite to his party? (Let kids respond.) That's right, he invited his friends! They were people he always hung out with and knew really well. Let's act this out. I need 3 volunteers! (Pick three kids, bring them up the presentation area and hand them a piece of fabric.) Okay, each of you can put this fabric on yourself like it's a fancy robe, and pretend that you're one of my friends. I'm going to ask you to come to the party, and you have to come up with a silly excuse so that you don't have to come. It could be something like, "I have to help my mom feed our baby kangaroos." Ready? (Ask each of the kids to come to your party and let them respond.)

Good job everyone; let's give them a round of applause! (Let kids sit back down and put the fabric away.) After the man's friends rejected him, whom did he tell his servant to invite to the party instead? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he told the servant to invite people who were poor, or who couldn't see or walk, and probably didn't live in nice places. Do you think those people had ever been to a special banquet before? (Let kids respond.) Nope, probably not.

GOD INVITES US TO BE A PART OF HIS KINGDOM

Even though Jesus' story was about a man inviting people to a party, he was actually talking about something much more important. He was really saying that God wants to invite US, and everyone else, to be a part of HIS family, just like the man invited those people to be a part of his banquet.

This is all part of God's rescue plan. A long time ago, God started the plan with a group of people called the Israelites. **(Click to show image of Israelites.)** At first, they were the only ones in God's family. Since they made wrong choices, and sinned, they needed a rescuer to come save them. Can you remind me who that rescuer is? (Let kids respond, "Jesus!") That's right, the rescuer is Jesus.

When Jesus finally came, God wanted his family to grow and become MORE than just the Israelites. What kind of people do you think God wanted to be part of his family? (Let kids guess.) Yep, he wanted all kinds of people to know him. **Especially people who didn't believe in him yet.** Can you give me a thumbs up if you want others to know God too? (Let kids respond.)



script continued

RESPONSE TIME

God invites us to be a part of his family, but we have to choose whether or not to join. We can either say, “Yes” or “No” to him. When we say yes, that means that we’re accepting his invitation, and are ready to follow him and be a part of his rescue plan. Let’s read a verse to see what happens when we do that. If you want to, you can read it along with me:

Slide: John 3:16-17 God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send his son into the world to judge the world. He sent his son to save the world through him.

When we say “Yes” to God’s invitation, we say “Yes” to Jesus’ rescue! That means we’ll get spend the rest of our life with him, and someday, live with him forever. Right now we’re going to spend a minute with God. Let’s get a little space between us, lie down on our back and close our eyes. (Give kids a minute to respond.) Okay, are your eyes closed? Good. Right now, if you want, you can silently tell God whether or not you want to accept his invitation to be a part of his kingdom. If you’re not ready to say yes yet, that’s okay. But if you are, than go ahead and tell him that!

You can open your eyes and sit up now. Let’s all pray together, and then we’ll have some time to worship!

PRAY

God, thank you for inviting us to be a part of your family. We want to follow you forever. We love you, amen.

Music Video: You Come in a Hurry

Music Video: Bravery

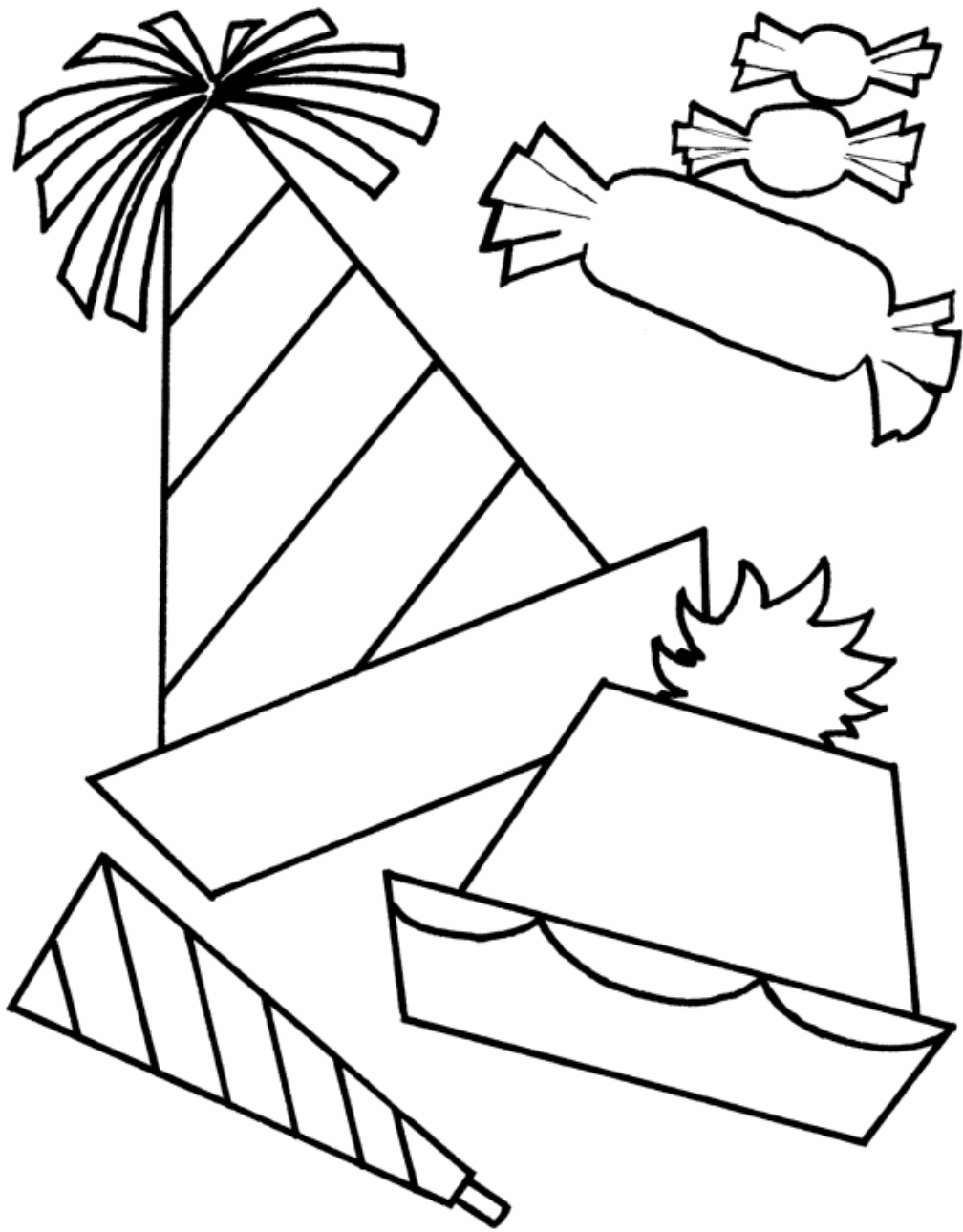
**Dismiss kids to small groups*



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per small group: 10 paper plates (www.walmart.com; AJM Packaging Corporation 6 inch paper plates, 1000 ct)
10 paper bowls (www.walmart.com; Genuine Joe Reusable Plastic Bowls, White, 12", 125 count)
10 paper cups (www.walmart.com; Dart Drink Foam Cups, 8 oz, White, 1000 ct)
10 plastic spoons (www.walmart.com; Dixie Mediumweight Plastic Soup Spoons, 1000 ct)

small group supplies

Per kid: Invitation (2 invitations per 8 x 11 colored cardstock page), coloring page

Per group: markers

large group supplies

Per group: Bible, 3 pieces of fabric (1 ft x 4 ft)

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. Video: Night at the Museum Party (KC/SM media videos songs>videos>movie clips>Night at the Museum Party)
3. Video: Kidz Church / The Parable of the Great Banquet (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80UhWO_wjHY stop at 6:00)
4. Slide: Israelites
5. Slide: John 3:16-17 God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send his son into the world to judge the world. He sent his son to save the world through him.
6. Music Video: You Come in a Hurry (<https://vimeo.com/49927835>)
7. Music Video: Bravery (<https://vimeo.com/49923937>)

connect questions

Tell me about the man who had a party.
How can be a part of God's kingdom?

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