



3rd-5th

March 18-19, 2017

DATE

I Am Journey Week 6: The Early Church

LESSON TITLE

Act 2:1-12, 41-47; Psalm 139:13-14

WHERE TO FIND IT

We're a part of God's family.

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

All kids have different gifts and talents. Find ways today to call out their strengths and point out the things they enjoy doing. Kids (like adults) feel valued when you point out their areas of strength!

check-in/out

As kids leave, ask them what their wristband is for!

large group heads up

We're wrapping up the **I AM Journey** this week! We'll be zeroing in on our identity as part of God's family, and how important it is to be part of a team of other believers, just like the Early Church!

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.*

REVERSE CHARADES

- Split the kids into small groups. (You can stay in one larger group, but split up if you have enough volunteers.)
- Ask one kid to be a “guesser”.
- The guesser turns his/her back while you show the group a **piece of paper** with a word on it. (You'll need to cut the page of words into 16 strips of paper before starting the activity.)
- The guesser now turns around and has 30 seconds to guess the word while the group acts it out. (If you need to tell the guesser “animal,” “person,” “movie” or “action,” you can.)
- Repeat (with a new guesser).
- Now, choose a third guesser and let them choose two friends to help them guess. All three guessers turn their backs while you show the group another word from the bag.
- Repeat (with the three new guessers).

TALK ABOUT IT

- Which was easier: guessing by yourself, or having friends help you guess? Why?
- What kinds of teams have you been a part of?

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)** understand how the early believers worked together as a team **(2)** recognize how God has given each of us a role to play as part of his family, and **(3)** identify how God created us to be in community.

Why? God created us to be in community with others—it's part of our identity!

Tip: The wristbands come in page-sized sheets, so they need to be separated before starting Small Group.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Who was Jesus' "team" or community? (The disciples/people who followed Him.)
2. What was it like to be part of the early church? (The people shared everything and did things together. They worked together to share Jesus with others.)
3. Why does God want his team to keep growing? (He wants **everyone** to be part of his team, including people who don't know Jesus yet.)
4. How did God create us? To be alone? (No! He created us to have friends and be part of a team. He wanted us to help each other follow Jesus.)
5. Will it always be easy to be part of God's family? How can we be a team when we're going through hard/sad things?
6. What way could you be an active part of God's team this week? What's one way you could follow Jesus? How could you help someone else follow Jesus?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Pass out **markers** and a **colored wristband** to each kid (The wristbands will need to be separated beforehand.)
- Tell kids to pass them around and write their initials on each others' wristbands. They can fit as many initials from different people in the group as they want! They can also draw fun symbols like smiley faces, stars, crosses, etc.
- **Say:** Writing on each others' wristbands reminds us of the team we're a part of—God's family. And when we come to Kids' Club and make friends, that's being a part of the team!
- After kids have gotten as many initials as they want on their wristband, they can attach it around their wrist to wear. (Kids may need help sticking them around their wrists. Just peel off the sticky part on the end of the strip, then attach around the kid's wrist.)

(Continued on next page.)

Extra time? Play another round of Reverse Charades (or regular Charades!)

special notes

We'll be watching a new Kids' Club Acoustic music video today, called "Not Be Silent." It's a less active song, so there's no motions to memorize. Here's the link to help you prepare:

Kids' Club Acoustic / Not Be Silent:
<https://vimeo.com/202947664>

presenter tips

Here's a link to today's Kids' Club videos:

God's Story / Peter and the Other Believers:

<https://vimeo.com/126928525>

script

WELCOME AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

**Click to play intro music.*

- **Welcome:** Hey everybody, welcome to Kids' Club! It's great to see you here today. Before we get started, we're going to take a minute and talk to God.
- **Pray:** God, thanks for bringing us to Kids' Club today. We want you to show us how much you love us, and how we can follow you. Amen!
- **Say:** Alright, let's kick things off with some worship! Everybody stand up, and let's sing and dance with as much energy as possible!
- **Music Video: Trust in the Lord**
- **Say:** Okay, go ahead and sit down. Raise your hand if you got to act out charades during your Connect Time game? (Let kids respond.) It was a little bit different than normal charades, wasn't it? Usually, one person acts out while the whole group tries to guess, right?
- **Ask:** So how was this game different? (Let kids respond.) Yep, the whole group acted out for one person, instead of one person acting for the whole group! Is it easier to get up and do funny motions by yourself, or with others alongside you? (Let kids respond.) Yep, it's way easier, and not as nerve-racking.
- **Ask:** How about guessing what the secret action was? Did it help to have others guessing with you? (Let kids respond.)

WORKING AS A TEAM

Main Goal: Understand what it means to be part of a team, and why it's better than being alone!

- **Say:** Yep, I'm sure it did. It's no secret that certain things can be really hard to do by ourselves. Let's all brainstorm and think of other things that would be hard to do by ourselves. Let's start with games. What games would not be very fun if we had to play alone? (Let kids throw out different suggestions like basketball, baseball, soccer, etc.)
- **Ask:** Okay, how about coming to Kids' Club? Would it be very fun if it was just one of you today, and no one else? No one to play games with, no one talk to, or to dance with? (Let kids respond.) I agree! There's certain things that are just better when you're part of a group, or a team.
- **Say:** Let's watch a quick clip from The Lego Movie that's all about working together. You may have heard this song before!
- **Video: The Lego Movie / Everything is Awesome**
- **Say:** So clearly, building an entire lego city is easier with a team! But today we're talking about the most important team we could possibly be a part of; does anybody want to guess what it is? (Let kids respond.) Yep, it's God's family!

GOD'S FAMILY IS A TEAM

Main Goal: Understand how God's family is a team.

- **Say:** There's another word we can use for God's family: the Church! Now, when I say "church" is that just a special building like this one, where we meet on the weekends? (Let kids respond.) Nope; it means you, me...and everyone else who follows Jesus! We're all a part of the church. We get to surround ourselves with other people who believe what we do!
- **(Image: Disciples)** The Bible tells us Jesus surrounded himself with others, too. He had twelve close friends, called disciples. They traveled with him, ate dinner with him, prayed with him, went to parties with him, and just hung out with him. They were like a team who worked together. They were on a mission to go out and show others what God's Kingdom is like, just like God wants US to do.
- **(Image: Peter)** One of these disciples was Peter, and he was a really close friend of Jesus. After Jesus died on the cross, and then rose and went to heaven, Peter surrounded himself with a group of people, a team, who continued to follow Jesus!
- **Say:** We're going to watch a video about Peter and the other believers. As you watch, pay attention to what they did when they were together, and how they were able to do it!

ALONE VS. TOGETHER

Main Goal: Describe what it's like trying to follow Jesus alone, versus following Jesus with other people to help you.

- **Video: God's Story / Peter and the Other Believers**
- **Ask:** So what kinds of things did Peter and the other believers do in that story? (Let kids respond.) Yep, they healed sick people through the Holy Spirit, they told others about Jesus, they went to jail, they worshipped together, and served others.
- **Ask:** What would it have been like if Peter tried to do all that on his own? What if he were the only one trying to share Jesus, or having to go to jail? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Yep, it would be so much harder! Maybe impossible! I bet he wouldn't be able to tell nearly as many people about Jesus. And it probably would have been really lonely. Just like it would be crazy to play a game of basketball with just yourself, it would be crazy to try and follow Jesus and spread his love all by yourself. We need teammates.

GOD WANTS HIS FAMILY TO GROW

Main Goal: Understand that God wants EVERYONE to be part of his family; he wants his team to grow!

- **Ask:** So we know that we can follow Jesus a lot better when we're a part of God's family and we're working alongside others. But what kind of people do you think God wants in his family? (Let kids respond.) Yep, He wants EVERYONE.
- **Say:** He doesn't need people to be perfect. In fact, a lot of people who followed Jesus made some major mistakes and did some pretty bad things. But fortunately for us, Jesus helps us follow him, even when we're not sure what to do, or when we make a wrong choice.
- **Say:** Jesus also wants those who *don't* follow him yet. Does that include someone who is usually mean? Yes! Does it include someone who has taken something that wasn't his? You bet! Does it even include someone who has done something really bad? Yes! Everyone can be a part of God's family if they choose to follow Jesus.

GOD CREATED US TO BE PART OF A TEAM

Main Goal: Understand that being part of a team, God's family, is how God created us to be.

- **Say:** So we've talked about Jesus' team—his group of disciples. We've talked about Peter and the other believers who followed Jesus together. And we've talked about how God wants US to be a team and help each other follow Jesus too. Now let's talk about WHY.
- **Say:** God wants us to be part of a team, a part of his family, because **that's how he designed us to live.** When he created us, he wanted us to be close to other people. It's like when he created Adam in the very beginning: he created Eve next, so that Adam wouldn't be alone!

RESPONSE TIME

Main Goal: Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they've heard today.

- **Say:** God doesn't want us to be alone either. He wants us to help each other when we're going through something hard. He wants us to remind each other of how to follow Jesus. He wants us to worship together, like we do here in Kids' Club! These are all things that we do as part of God's family, when we choose to follow Jesus.
- **Ask:** Does anyone remember what **identity** means? (Let kids respond.) Yep, it's who you are, and how God made you. For the last 6 weeks, we've been talking about all the different ways that God made us, and how he made us with a special purpose in mind.
- **Say:** Being a part of God's family—being on his team—is a part of that identity! It's how He made us! Let's look at our verse for this month one last time. It's all about how amazing and wonderful he created us.
- **Slide: Psalm 139:13-14 You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.**
- **Say:** Right now, let's all silently talk to God for a minute. Close your eyes, and think about one way God has made you that you're thankful for. Maybe he made you really artistic. Maybe he made you as a good listener, or you're really funny. Maybe you're good at helping people! Whatever it is, think of it in your head, and tell him thank you for it, right now. (Give kids about 30 seconds of silence.)

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Main Goal: Close in prayer and celebrate God through singing and dancing!

- **Say:** All right, good job everyone, you can open your eyes! Remember, God has made each of us different and unique, but when we work together, we make one amazing team.
- **Say:** We're going to watch a music video now called "Not Be Silent". It's a littler slower, so if you want, you can stay seated, or lie down.
- **Music Video: Kids' Club Acoustic / Not Be Silent**
- **Pray:** Lord, we are so glad you've invited us to be part of your family, and that we get to follow Jesus. Thank you for creating us with a purpose. Amen!

**Send kids to small groups.*

LESSON needs

3rd-5th

March 18-19, 2017



connect questions

What does it mean to be part of God's family?

How can we help each other follow Jesus?

lesson supplies

| Connect Time | | | |
|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Item | Usage | Details | Provided by |
| Word Page | 1 page per small group | Page 10, 8.5x11 paper | Site |

| Small Group | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------|
| Item | Usage | Details | Provided by |
| Markers | 1 set per small group, reused | In room | site |
| Wristband | 1 per kid | $\frac{3}{4}$ " Tyvek Wristband Solids: Amazon.com | KC Central |

| Large Group | | | |
|-----------------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Item | Usage | Details | Provided by |
| Adventure Bible | 1 per room | | site |

Bear

Cinderella

Mowing the lawn

Captain America

Making your bed

Iron Man

Swimming

Rockstar

Elephant

The Lion King

Gorilla

Karate

Fish

Rock climbing

Cat

Spider



1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Music Video: Trust in the Lord (<https://vimeo.com/153815987>)
3. Video: The Lego Movie / Everything is Awesome (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0v7j3Ocw7k4>)
4. Image: Disciples
5. Image: Peter
6. Video: God's Story / Peter and the Other Believers (<https://vimeo.com/126928525>)
7. Slide: Psalm 139:13-14 You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.
8. Music Video: Kid's Club Acoustic / Not Be Silent (<https://vimeo.com/202947664>)