



3rd - 5th

May 20-21, 2017

DATE

James

LESSON TITLE

James 1-3

WHERE TO FIND IT

God wants us to treat all people with kindness.

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

We're talking about James today. Like Ephesians, we can't possibly cover all that James entails. So encourage kids to read it on their own this week. Read it ahead of time so you can give them an idea of what to expect. Share the reasons why you enjoy reading it.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to read James at home this week. Hopefully, their parents will overhear your encouragement and help keep them accountable!

large group heads up

We're talking about the book of James today. First, we'll focus on who James is, then give kids a taste of his teaching.



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.*

ARE YOU MY BROTHER?

- Split into small groups.
- Show kids an **image** one picture at a time. Give them 1-2 minutes to think about what life would be like if that person was their brother, living in the same house.
 - You have **6 images**: You can use them all or just choose the best ones for your group.
- Use these questions to prompt discussion while considering each picture:
 - Would you like to have that person as your brother? Why or why not?
 - What do you think you would know about that person that nobody else knows?
 - Do you think you'd like that person better or worse if he was your brother? Explain.
 - What kinds of things would you maybe do differently if that person was your brother? Explain.

TALK ABOUT IT

- What were the best/worst parts of your week?

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 why James has authority to speak to Jesus-followers and (2) recognize specific instructions James gives us.

Why? Hopefully, kids will be interested in finding out more about what Jesus' brother had to say!

Tip: If Pictionary is moving quickly, dig into the book of James and look up more examples to give teams.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. How does James know so much about how to act like Jesus?
2. Why did he write a book about following Jesus?
3. What can you remember about how James told us to treat people?

MAKE IT PERSONAL - PART 1

- Lay out the **verse cards** and review them with kids:
 - **James 1:19** Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry.
 - **James 2:1** My brothers and sisters, you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. So treat everyone the same.
 - **James 3:5** In the same way, the tongue is a small part of the body. But it brags a lot. Think about how a small spark can set a big forest on fire.

MAKE IT PERSONAL - PART 2

- Split your group into **two teams**.
- Give each team a **large piece of tear-off paper** and **markers**.
- The first team selects an artist who chooses a **slip of paper** from your **paper bag**.
- The artist has 60 seconds to draw while his/her team guesses which part of the verse he/she is drawing. They can use the verse cards for reference. (Use your phone to keep time if necessary.)
- Then it's the next team's turn. Keep score and go back and forth, awarding one point per correct answer until all the slips have been used. (**Collect slip and return to bag for next service.**)
- **ASK:** Who's one person you have trouble treating well? Maybe that person just annoys them—or maybe that person is just plain mean. When each kid has come up with a name, pray together that God will help us act like Jesus this week.

Extra time? Keep playing Pictionary, but let kids create their own ideas for art! If you have a lot of time, you can even give them blank slips of paper (just keep the James papers separate for the next service to use!) and select a theme, like "spring" or "America" or "The Bible." Then begin playing again.

special notes

Here's a brand new music video we'll be watching this week!

Not Be Silent:

<https://vimeo.com/207524059>

presenter tips

Here's a link to one of today's videos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91XDjGmalYk&index=2&list=PLzvRx_johoA908V5XG7r5wj2f3e9cqzZ5

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

- **Say:** Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here! Before we get started with today's story, let's play the game from Connect Time. Are you guys ready? I'm going to put up a picture, and I want you to think about what it would be like if this was your brother?
- **(Image: Jesus.)** OK, we don't know exactly what this guy looks like in real life, but what would it be like if *Jesus* was your brother? What do you think it would be like? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Those are some great ideas! And you know what's really cool? Jesus DID have brothers and sisters. And one of his brothers, a guy named James, helped a lot of people know Jesus more.
- **(Image: Jerusalem)** He was a leader at a church in a city called Jerusalem, which is a city that still exists today in Israel. Not only was James a leader for people back then, he also wrote a book that told followers of Jesus how to act. And it's a book that's in the Bible, so we can still read it today.
- **Say:** It's a really helpful way for us to understand how Jesus wants us to live once we've decided we want to follow him. And do you think James knew what he was talking about in his book? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, he probably knew Jesus pretty well...

HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE

Main Goal: Use a movie clip to show compare and contrast the way we should treat people.

- **Say:** Now, the book isn't very long. You could definitely read it on your own this week. But we're not going to take time to read the whole book right now. Instead, we're going to look at some really important parts of the book about how Jesus wants us to treat other people.
- **Say:** To do that, we're going to watch a clip from *Despicable Me 2*. As you watch, you'll see some girls react to a character called Gru. As you watch, see if you can figure out what's wrong with how the girls treated Gru...
- **Video: Despicable Me 2 / Afraid to Date**
- **Say:** OK, so everybody think of one thing that's wrong with how these girls treated Gru. What do you think? *(Let kids respond. Just collect answers without going into much depth, but call on kids until you hit these: they didn't listen to him; were mean about him having a crush on one of them, even though she was talking about a cute boy; they said mean things about him that still hurt him years later.)*
- **Say:** This is a funny clip, but the truth is, it does NOT show us the kind of behavior that James tells us to have if we want to act like Jesus. Let's take a look.

THEY DIDN'T LISTEN

Main Goal: Use James 1:9 to illustrate that Jesus wants us to be quick to listen and slow to anger.

- **Ask:** First of all, would they even *listen* to him? (Let kids respond.) Did it seem like they liked him very much? (Let kids respond.) No, it's like they were completely ignoring him and didn't want to hear what he had to say. James tells us how to handle a situation like that:
- **Slide: James 1:19: My dear brothers and sisters, pay attention to what I say. Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry.**
- **Say:** Turn to a person next to you and, together, decide what the girls could have done differently. Ready? Go! (Let kids talk for 30 seconds, then have some pairs come up and share.) These are some great answers! There are a lot of ways we can choose to listen, and be slow to anger, instead of losing our temper and blurting out whatever we want to say.
- **Ask:** Has anybody ever lost your temper? (Let kids respond.) Have you ever talked a lot, even though maybe you needed to listen instead? (Let kids respond.) Yep, I bet we've all done these things before, and so did people in James's time.

THEY SHOWED FAVORITISM

Main Goal: Use James 2:1 to illustrate how we should treat everyone with kindness, not just the people we like the best.

- **Say:** OK, there was something else that happened. The girls were busy talking about a really cute boy on TV, so we know they didn't think all boys had cooties. But why do you think they said Gru had cooties? (Let kids say: Didn't think he was cute.)
- **Say:** Now, it's OK to be attracted to some people and not attracted to others. But we need to treat everyone nicely. It's NOT OK to say somebody you think is unattractive has cooties! Here's what James has to say about it:
- **Slide: James 2:1 My brothers and sisters, you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. So treat everyone the same. Remember, brothers and sisters means everyone who's a part of God's family.**
- **Say:** So James is talking to US when he says this. He talks about how we should treat rich people and poor people the same way. That means we should treat popular people and unpopular people with the same amount of kindness. Because God loves ALL of us, no matter who we are or what we've done.

THEY SAID HURTFUL THINGS

Main Goal: Use James 3:5 to help us understand that our words can have a big impact on people.

- **Say:** OK, let's look at one more thing that happened in our movie clip: the girls said hurtful things—things that were so mean, that Gru remembered them years and years later. James reminds us of how powerful words are:
- **Slide: James 3:5 In the same way, the tongue is a small part of the body. But it brags a lot. Think about how a small spark can set a big forest on fire.**
- **Ask:** Why do you think he compared our tongues, and what we say.....to a spark setting a fire? (Let someone respond.)
- **(Image: Flame/Forest Fire)** Yep, because just like a tiny spark or flame can cause a whole forest to catch fire....our tiny words, that don't seem like a big deal when we say them, can have a huge impact on someone for a long time.
- **Say:** One tiny hurtful thing can get other people to say mean things or cause a person to think badly about themselves over and over again until it's a BIG deal. Maybe somebody will still be hurt many years after the words have been said. James knew that we can't take back what we say, so it's important to be careful with our words.

RESPONSE TIME

Main Goal: Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they heard, and listen to what God is telling them.

- **Say:** Now, some of these things might sound obvious. I mean, OF COURSE Jesus wants us to listen to people and treat them with kindness and love. But sometimes, in the moment, it's really easy to forget. Sometimes, it might even feel *easier* to be mean, or say something without thinking about it.
- **Say:** We're going to watch another video that's all about showing people love, but in kind of a strange way. As you watch, think about how the people in the video are acting, and think about someone that YOU could act that way towards this week.
- **Video: Strangers Surprised by an Unusual Reminder to Care**
- **Say:** God doesn't us to just act that way every once in awhile. He wants us to act that all the time! With people we know, and people we don't know! He wants us to use our words to build people up, not tear them down. He wants us to treat everyone with kindness, not just the people we like.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Pray:** Ask a kid to come pray, asking God to give us the strength and courage to share his love with other people this week.
- **Say:** When we follow Jesus, that means we are representing him to the world, no matter what we're doing, or when we're doing it. Right now, let's follow him by worshipping together! This first music video is brand new, but you might have heard the song before.
- **Music Video: Not Be Silent**
- **Music Video: You Are**

Dismiss kids to small groups.



connect questions

Tell me about James.

How should we treat others?

lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Set of 6 Images	1 set of 6 per small group, reused	8.5x11 cardstock; Color, single sided; Page 10-15	site

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Markers	1 set per small group, reused	In room	site
Set of Three Verse Cards	1 set of 3 cards per small group, reused	8.5x11 cardstock, single sided, Black and white; Page 16-18	site
Large piece of tear-off paper	2 per small group	In room	site
Pictionary Slips	7 slips per small group	Page 19/20, single sided, white paper, cut into strips	site
Brown paper lunch bag	1 per small group	Sam's Club; Item #12528	KC Central

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



Darth Vader



LeBron James



Spongebob Squarepants



Justin Timberlake



Spiderman/Peter Parker



Harry Potter

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and sisters, pay attention to
what I say. Everyone should be
quick to listen. But they should
be slow to speak. They should
be slow to get angry.**

James 2:1 My brothers and sisters, you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. So treat everyone the same. Remember, brothers and sisters means everyone who's a part of God's family.

James 3:5 In the same way, the tongue is a small part of the body. But it brags a lot. Think about how a small spark can set a big forest on fire.

Everyone should be quick to listen.

But they should be slow to speak.

They should be slow to get angry.

My brothers and sisters, you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ.

So treat everyone the same.

In the same way, the tongue is a small part of the body.

Think about how a small spark

can set a big forest on fire.

A/V needs

3rd-5th



1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Image: Jesus
3. Image: Jerusalem
4. Video: Despicable Me 2 / Afraid to Date (KC/SM media videos songs>videos>movie clips>despicable me)
5. Slide: James 1:19: My dear brothers and sisters, pay attention to what I say. Everyone should be quick to listen. But they should be slow to speak. They should be slow to get angry.
6. Slide: James 2:1 My brothers and sisters, you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. So treat everyone the same. Remember, brothers and sisters means everyone who's a part of God's family.
7. Slide: James 3:5 In the same way, the tongue is a small part of the body. But it brags a lot. Think about how a small spark can set a big forest on fire.
8. Image: Flame/Forest Fire (Put two images on 1 slide)
9. Video: Strangers Surprised by an Unusual Reminder to Care (0:00-2:24;
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91XDjGmalYk&index=2&list=PLzvRx_johoA908V5XG7r5wj2f3e9cqzZ5)
10. Music Video: Not Be Silent (<https://vimeo.com/207524059>)
11. Music Video: You Are (<https://vimeo.com/206125602>)