



Kindergarten-2nd

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.*

FAMILY PORTRAITS

- Split into small groups.
- Give each kid a **piece of paper** and set out **markers**.
- Tell kids to draw a picture of their family! (Make sure to emphasize that “family” can mean whoever you live with, or whoever you spend the most time with, since there will be kids who are in foster care, are adopted, who live with extended family members, etc.)
- As kids work on their pictures, ask:
 - Who are you drawing in your picture? Tell me about them.
 - What kinds of things do you do with your family?
 - What do you love about your family/family member?
 - Do you think Jesus had a family? What do you think they did together?

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: Today, you'll be helping kids remember the three James verses from Large Group, through motions and drawing. If you're short on time, you can just focus on one or two of the verses.

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?

ACT OUT THE VERSES

- Lay out the three **verse cards** and do **motions** with kids to help them memorize! (Motions listed below.)
 - **James 1:19**
 - Everyone should be quick to listen. (Quickly put hands behind ears)
 - But they should be slow to speak. (Slowly put hands up to mouth)
 - They should be slow to get angry. (Do an angry face, then trace your fingers in an upward "smile" motion)
 - **James 2:1**
 - My brothers and sisters, (Point to different people.)
 - you are believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. (Point to self, then point upward.)
 - So treat everyone the same. (Put one thumb up, and one thumbs down. Then reverse so that each thumbs does the opposite.)
 - **James 3:5**
 - In the same way, the tongue is a small part of the body. (Stick out your tongue)
 - But it brags a lot. Think about how a small spark (Slid one hand across the palm of the other.)
 - can set a big forest on fire. (Reach hands all the way up and wave them side to side.)

DRAW THE VERSES

- Hand each kid a **piece of paper**, and set out **markers**.
- Do a fun “verse-drawing” exercise: Kids will get to draw each verse how they think it should look as a picture. Encourage kids to listen to what the verse says, and then draw it however their imagination wants to!
 - Read **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.** (Give kids about 2 minutes to draw.)
 - Read **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.** (Give kids about 2 minutes to draw.)
 - Read **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.** (Give kids about 2 minutes to draw.)
- Ask kids draw, **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 you’re done drawing (and kids have come up with a name in their head), pray together that God will help us act like Jesus this week, and show love to others no matter who they are!

Extra time? Do a coloring sheet.

special notes

Here's the music videos we'll be watching today.

Dance Laugh Love:

<https://vimeo.com/206095195>

Do Like You Do:

<https://vimeo.com/168067671>

presenter tips

We don't have a story video today, so we'll be using a movie clip from "Despicable Me" to help illustrate the ways Jesus wants us to act towards others.

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! You did a great job drawing people from your families, or other people that you're close to. Today, we're going to talk about someone from Jesus' family!
- **(Image: Jesus.)** Did you guys know that Jesus had brothers and sisters, just like you? He did! What do you think it would be like if *Jesus* was your brother? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Well one of his brothers was a guy named James, and he helped a lot of people know Jesus better.
- **(Image: Jerusalem)** He was a leader at a church in a city called Jerusalem, which is a city that still exists today! Can you say, "Jerusalem"? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** 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. Can you guess what the book is called in the Bible? (Let kids guess.) It's called James! And it's all about how we should treat other people, if we want to be like Jesus.
- **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.

HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE

Main Goal: Use a movie clip to show compare and contrast the way we should treat 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 Jams 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:** What do you think the girls in the movie could have done differently? (Let a few kids respond.) 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 (Continued on next page.)

- **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.) Was that very nice of them? (Let kids respond: No!)

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:** 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.**
- **(Image: Flame/Forest Fire)** Here's what James is trying to say. 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
(Continued on next page.)

- **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.

RESPONSE TIME

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

- **Say:** We're going to watch a video clip that's about other kinds of ways Jesus wants us to show love, and WHY we should do it! 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: Clip / The Sermon on the Mount**
- **Say:** God doesn't want us to do those things every once in awhile. He wants us to act that way 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: Dance Laugh Love**
- **Music Video: Do Like You Do**

Dismiss kids to small groups.



connect questions

Tell me about James.

How should we treat others?

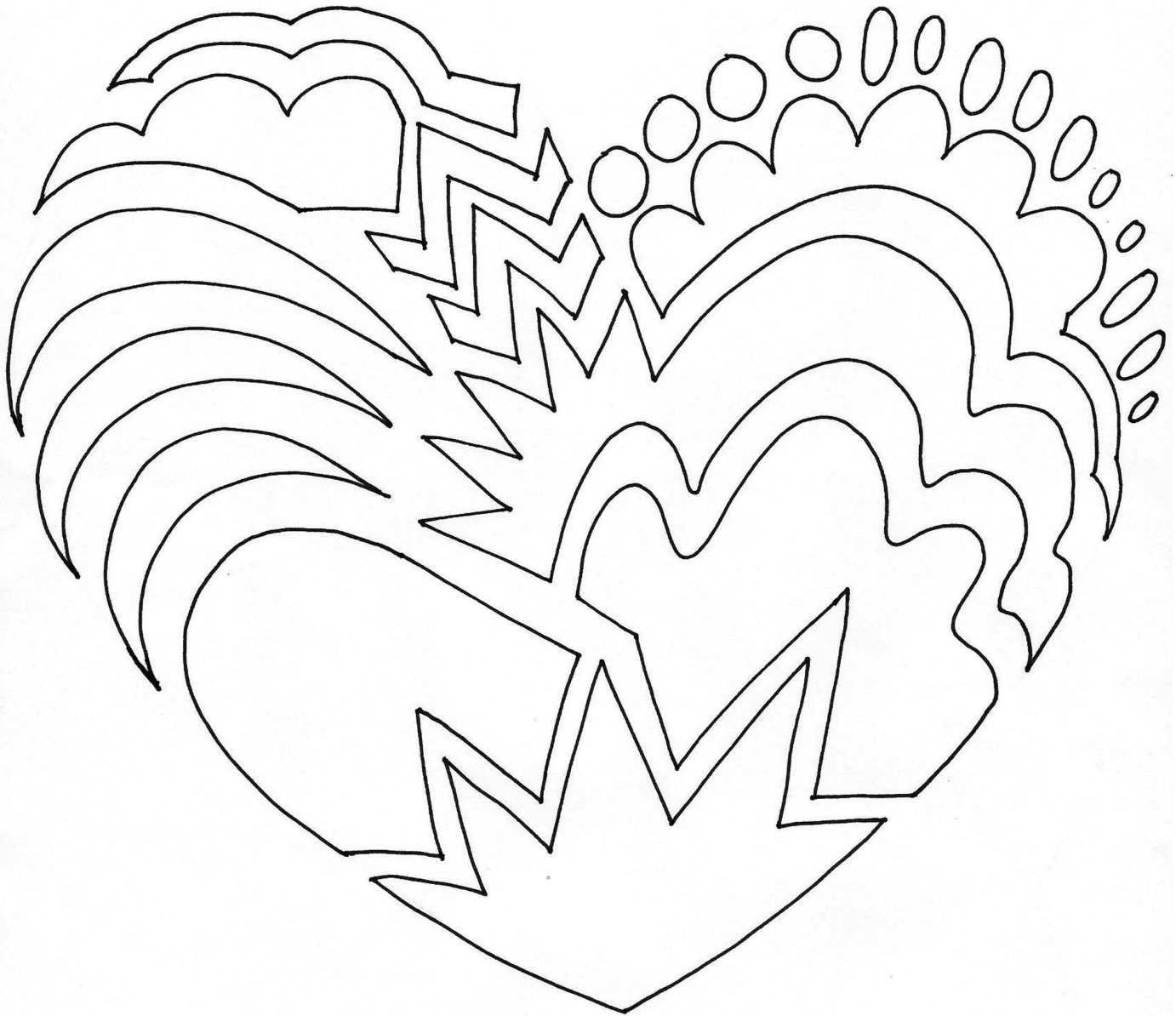
lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
White paper	1 per kid	8.5x11	site

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Markers	1 set per small group, reused	In room	site
White paper	1 per kid	8.5x11	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 Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Adventure Bible for Early/Younger Readers	1 per room		site

name



**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.**

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.



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 to images on 1 slide)
9. Video: Clip / The Sermon on the Mount (0:33-1:46; <https://vimeo.com/181073391>; *make sure the clip starts with the phrase, "Jesus started by explaining who would get blessings...." and end with the phrase, "Jesus spent the rest of the day helping everyone he met."*)
10. Music Video: Dance Laugh Love (<https://vimeo.com/206095195>)
11. Music Video: Do Like You Do (<https://vimeo.com/168067671>)