



3rd-5th

September 16-17, 2017

DATE

Nicodemus

LESSON TITLE

John 2:23-25, 3:1-21

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus gives us new life.

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 dealing with pretty important subject matter today: believing in Jesus can give us new life! Kids may have questions about what this means. Be ready to have honest conversations about how we all mess up, so we need a rescuer to help us. That's Jesus' job—to rescue us from all the wrong in the world!

check-in/out

Ask kids why they made a tie dye creation, and how Jesus gives us new life!

large group heads up

Today, we're learning about how Jesus told Nicodemus that in order to have eternal life, he must be "born again." This was confusing for Nicodemus, and it might be confusing for kids too. Be ready to tell them what it was like when you decided to follow Jesus—which is when you became a part of (be "born" into) God's family!



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.*

RAINBOW ROAD

- Before the game starts:
 - Count the number of kids in your room, then lay out the same number of **colored paper plates** in an open area (If you have more plates, you can put out more. It doesn't need to be exact.)
 - There will be 4 different colors of paper plates. Try to divide colors up evenly, for example, if you have 20 kids, lay out 5 red, 5 blue, 5 green and 5 yellow.
- To play the game:
 - Have kids stand in a spot around the outside of the paper plate area.
 - The leader will call out a color pattern, like "red, blue, yellow"
 - Kids have to remember that pattern, and then go find paper plates in that order (it's okay if multiple kids have to go to the same paper plate).
 - So, for example, if you call out "red, blue, yellow" kids have to go stand on a red, then a blue, then a yellow.
 - Once kids finish the pattern, they can return to their original spot.
 - Call out a new color pattern, and let kids go again!
- Here's some color patterns to call out (you can make these increasingly complicated to make it more challenging for older kids):
 - Red, blue
 - Green, yellow
 - Red, green, yellow
 - Green, yellow, red
 - Yellow, blue, green
 - Yellow, green, red, yellow
 - Blue, red, blue, red
 - Red, green, yellow, red
 - Yellow, green, yellow, red, blue
 - Blue, yellow, blue, green, red

TALK ABOUT IT

- What made the game difficult? Was it hard to follow the specific patterns?
- Do you have to follow rules in real life? Why?

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.

special notes

Here's a rundown of the videos in today's script:

- Sheep video (30 seconds)
- TGP Nicodemus video
- Narnia video (1 minute)
- AMWLM Music Video (3.5 minutes)
- Only Wanna Sing (3 minutes)

presenter tips

Here's a link to a new music video we'll watch at the end of Large Group:

Ask Me Who Loves Me:

<https://vimeo.com/223500962>

script

WELCOME

Main Goal: Welcome kids and watch a fun video!

CONNECT TIME REVIEW

Main Goal: Review Connect Time, and how it relates to today's story.

**Click to play intro music.*

- **Say:** Hey everyone, welcome to Kids' Club! We're so glad to have you here. I am really excited about today, because we are going to talk about something pretty incredible....but before we get to that, let's watch a video of an animal that is also REALLY excited...
- **Video: Jumping Sheep**
- **Say:** Okay, that was just for fun! Now let's think back to Connect Time. You did a great job remembering all those color patterns...but were you allowed to step on ANY colors you wanted? (Let kids respond.)
- **Say:** Nope, you had to follow the rules, and go in the order of the colors that were called out. Raise your hand if you've had a hard time following rules in real life (let kids respond). Now raise your hand if you've ever *broken* a rule (let kids respond; keep your own hand raised).
- **Say:** Yep, we've all broken rules at some point. We've made mistakes, messed up, or done something wrong. Can any one of us be completely perfect? (Let kids respond.) Nope, not a single one of us. But today, we're going to hear some really good news about that!

INTRO: NICODEMUS

Main Goal: Introduce Nicodemus, a Pharisee who wanted to know more about how to follow Jesus.

- **Say:** There was a guy who tried really, really hard to follow all the rules. His name was Nicodemus (nik-uh-dee-mus), and he had a really important job.
- **Say:** He was a Pharisee, which means he was a special teacher who knew all the laws of the Bible. Pharisees knew A LOT of information, but they doesn't mean they really knew God or had a relationship with him.
- **Say:** Now even though Nicodemus knew a lot of rules, he still had some questions about how to be a part of God's kingdom....so he decided to ask Jesus! Let's watch a video about their conversation, and as you watch, pay attention to how Jesus says we can be a part of God's family.
- **Video: The Gospel Project / Nicodemus (3 minutes)**

GOD WANTS US TO BE PART OF HIS FAMILY

Main Goal: Understand what it means to be born again into God's family.

- **Say:** So what did Jesus say that Nicodemus (and all of us) have to do, if we want to be in God's family? (Let kids respond. They may have trouble remembering the specific wording, so you'll need to help out.)
- **Say:** Jesus told Nicodemus that he had to be *born again by the spirit*. Now that might sound a little strange, so let's look at it this way...you were born, right? Maybe you were born into the family you live with now. Maybe you've been adopted or are staying with another family. But we were ALL born once.
- **Say:** Well Jesus isn't talking about being born in that way. He means that we have to be born into *God's family*. The thing is, we're all separated from God because we've sinned. We've messed up, and made wrong choices.
- **Say:** And because God is perfect, he can't pretend like it's OK to hurt each other, or ourselves, or the world he created. It doesn't matter if we've broken a million rules...or just one. We can't ever be good enough on our own. That's impossible! So then....how can we part of God's family?!
- **Say:** Well, God came up with a way to bring us close to him again. Instead of US having to be punished for our wrong choices, Jesus came to take the punishment instead. And when we choose to believe that Jesus died for our sins, so that we don't have to, we're born into God's family! Jesus gives us a completely new life, just like being born...again!
- **Say:** Here's a verse from the Bible, and it tells us exactly how we can accept Jesus as our Rescuer.

GOD WANTS US TO BE PART OF HIS FAMILY (Cont.)

- **Slide: John 3:16: “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”**
- **Say:** See, Jesus offers this gift to us. We don’t have to do anything to earn it. We can just choose to believe that Jesus took our punishment, and we accept his rescue. And as SOON as we accept it, we enter God’s Kingdom!

JESUS GIVES US NEW LIFE

Main Goal: Use a move clip to illustrate how Jesus gives us new life when we choose to believe in him.

- **Say:** Let’s watch a video that gives us a cool picture of what it’s like when Jesus gives us new life. It’s from the movie “The Chronicles of Narnia” and it’s about a man who was turned into stone, kind of like when we were stuck in sin, separated from God. But then something happens to give him new life, just like Jesus gives new life to us!
- **Video: Chronicles of Narnia (1 minute)**
- **Say:** So before we believe in Jesus, it’s kind of like we’re the stone...and then, like the lion Aslan, Jesus breathes new life into us, and makes us a brand new creation! And if you want to accept this new life that Jesus wants to give you, and be part of God’s family right now, here’s what you can do...
 - Tell God you know you’ve done wrong things.
 - Tell him you believe he sent Jesus to rescue you.
 - Tell him you want to follow him!

RESPONSE TIME

Main Goal: Allow kids to actively respond to the Holy Spirit.

- **Say:** Right now, we’re going to watch a song called “He Knows Me”. You can spend this time with God, just you and Him. You can sit as you are, or lay down. Listen to the words of the song and use this time to tell Jesus if you want to follow him, and be a part of his family. Or you can just tell Jesus how you feel, and think about everything we’ve talked about.
- **Music Video: Kids’ Club Acoustic / He Knows Me**
- **Say:** Okay, let’s all gather back together. If you’ve decided you want to accept Jesus as your rescuer, than I am SO EXCITED for you! You can talk more about it in Small Groups, and about what you can do next.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Wrap up the lesson with prayer and worship!

- **Say:** Let's watch one more music video, this time with motions, that's all about lifting Jesus' name up high.
- **Music Video: We Lift You Higher**
- **Pray:** Jesus, you have given us brand new life. We don't have to stay stuck in our old ways, we can be a part of your family, and believe that you've rescued us. Amen.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) learn about Nicodemus and Jesus' story and (2) understand how Jesus gives us new life if we accept his rescue!

Why: Jesus came to rescue us and give us new life. That's his purpose. He wants us all to be born into God's family!

Tip: Kids may have a lot of questions today. Be open to talking about what it means to be "born again."

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Have you ever fixed something to make it better? What was it? What was it like afterward?
2. What does it mean to be "born again"? What does it mean to have "new life"?
3. Does anyone have questions so far? Share.
4. What are ways that we can publicly show that we've accepted Jesus as our rescuer, and we want to be part of God's family? (Let kids give various examples, and then focus on baptism.)
 - a. What's baptism? (It's when you get dunked in and out of water, in front of everyone, to show that you follow Jesus because you believe he rescued you.)
 - b. Give each kid a **baptism handout**. It has details of upcoming baptisms at Crossroads, so kids can discuss it with their parents! (Baptisms at Crossroads are Nov 11-12, but your parents need to sign you up before Oct. 16.)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid a **wet wipe**, **two rubber bands** and set out **markers**.
- **Say:** This wet wipe is just a normal wipe, nothing special. It might even be mistaken for trash and thrown away! But we're going to turn it into something new and beautiful, just like Jesus turns us into new creations when we accept him as our rescuer, and follow him.
- Show kids the steps on the [next page](#) to make a tie dye creation out of their wet wipe!

1. Pinch the middle of the wipe between two fingers.



2. Twist it.



3. Wrap two rubber bands around it.



4. Color in each section with a different color (try to color as solidly as possible to get a richer color.)



5. Take off the rubber bands and untwist the wipe.



*If kids don't finish in time, give them a **Ziplock bag** to put their tie-dye creation in.



connect questions

Tell me about Nicodemus.
How does Jesus give us new life?

lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Colored paper plate- Green	1 per ¼ kids in the room (these will be reused for subsequent services)	Oriental Trading: Green: IN-70/1237 ,	KC Central
Colored paper plate- Blue	1 per ¼ kids in the room (these will be reused for subsequent services)	Oriental Trading: Blue: IN-13740495 ,	KC Central
Colored paper plate- Yellow	1 per ¼ kids in the room (these will be reused for subsequent services)	Oriental Trading: Yellow: IN-70/1073 ,	KC Central
Colored paper plate- Red	1 per ¼ kids in the room (these will be reused for subsequent services)	Oriental Trading: Red: IN-70/1071	KC Central

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Markers	1 set per small group, reused	In room	site
Baby Wipes	1 per kid	Sam's Club, Item #360132	KC Central
Rubber band	2 per kid	Staples, Item #808592	KC Central
Ziplock bag- sandwich	1 per kid	Sam's Club	KC Central
Baptism handout	1 per kid	8.5x11 cardstock cut into ¼ sheets, color, page 10	KC Central (except Oakley)

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



Baptism

IF YOU'RE READY TO PUBLICLY SHOW THAT YOU WANT TO FOLLOW JESUS, HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO NEXT:

- 01 CHECK OUT CROSSROADSKIDSClub.NET/BAPTISM TO HELP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY DECIDE IF BAPTISM IS THE RIGHT NEXT STEP!
- 02 SIGN UP BY OCT 16 AT ANY CROSSROADS SITE FOR THE NEXT BAPTISM WEEKEND.
- 03 GET BAPTIZED NOV 11-12.



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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. Video: Jumping Sheep (<https://www.facebook.com/thedodosite/videos/1177426675725339/>)
3. Video: The Gospel Project / Nicodemus (full video; KC&SM media_videos and songs>videos>the gospel project)
4. Video: Chronicles of Narnia (KC&SM media_videos and songs>videos>movie clips)
5. Music Video: Kids' Club Acoustic / He Knows Me (<https://vimeo.com/213007642>)
6. Music Video: We Lift You Higher (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUWo2S_eYzk)