



K-2nd

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 play-dough sculptures today!

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!

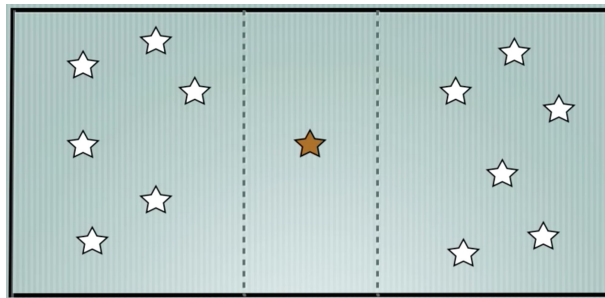
connect time

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.*

WOLF'S DEN

**Keep kids in one large group.*

- In an open area, lay down two strips of **masking tape** in the middle of the room (like the dotted lines in the picture):



- Choose one kid to be a “wolf.” The rest of the kids are “rabbits.”
- Half the rabbits stand on one side of the room, and half the rabbits stand on the other side. The wolf stands in the middle of the tape lines in the “wolf’s den”, and they’re not allowed to go outside those boundaries.
- The goal of the game is for rabbits to cross the wolf’s den as many times as they can without getting caught.
- If the wolf tags a rabbit, then the rabbit becomes a wolf, and they now have to stay in between the tape lines, and try and tag rabbits.
- As rabbits get caught, there will be more and more wolves in the middle. Once everyone has turned into a wolf, start the game over!

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 (0:00-1:27)
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- AMWLM Music Video (3.5 minutes)
- Hosannarock (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**
- **Ask:** Okay, that was just for fun! Now let's think back to Connect Time. Did you have fun pretending to be rabbits, and trying to escape the wolf in the middle of the room? (Let kids respond.) Did anybody get caught? (Let kids respond.) What happened when you got caught? (Let kids respond.) Yep, you turned into something different, a wolf!
- **Say:** When we turn into something different, that means we change. We start out as one thing, and then we turn into something different, and new! Today we're going to talk about how Jesus can turn us into something new too. He wants to give us a whole NEW life! Does that sound good to you? (Let kids respond.) Me too!
- **Say:** Our story starts with a guy named Nicodemus (nik-uh-dee-mus). Can you all say that with me? (Repeat "Nicodemus" with the kids.)

INTRO: NICODEMUS

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

- **Say:** Nicodemus had a very important job. He was a Pharisee. Everyone say that with me (repeat “Pharisee” with kids). Back in Jesus’ time, a Pharisee was a special teacher who knew all the laws of the Bible. Pharisees knew A LOT of information. Some Pharisees thought they knew EVERYTHING. But Nicodemus didn’t think so.
- **Say:** Nicodemus knew a lot of useful things, but he wanted to know more! So he went to Jesus. He asked Jesus lots and lots of questions. Has anybody ever asked your parents a lot of questions before? (Let kids raise their hands.) Let’s see what they talked about.
- **Video: The Gospel Project / Nicodemus**

GOD WANTS US TO BE PART OF HIS FAMILY

Main Goal: Understand that when we can choose to accept Jesus as a our rescuer, and be close to God again.

- **Say:** Jesus told Nicodemus that he had to be born again by the spirit. Being born again?! That’s kind of a funny thing to say! Nicodemus thought it was kind of weird too. Do you think Jesus meant that we have to be born again as a *baby*? (Let kids respond.) Hmm...I don’t think so.
- **Say:** Basically, Jesus just meant that even though we might already have a family, or live with other people....he wants us to become a part of GOD’S family too!
- **Say:** The sad thing is, we’re all separated from God because we’ve sinned. We’ve messed up, and made wrong choices. And because God is perfect, he can’t be close to sin. So then....how can we part of God’s family?!
- **Say:** There’s great news!! God came up with a way to bring us close to him again, even though we all sin. 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 can join God’s family!

JESUS GIVES US NEW LIFE

Main Goal: Watch a video clip to help understand that Jesus gives us a new life!

- **Say:** Let’s watch a video that helps us see what it means to get a brand new life. As you watch, pay attention to what the caterpillar does at the very end, and how he becomes something new.
- **Video: The Very Hungry Caterpillar**
- **Ask:** Wow! So who can tell me what happened after the caterpillar ate all that food? (Let a kid answer.) Yep, he got into a cocoon, and then waited....and waited....and then he became a beautiful butterfly! He became a new creation.

RESPONSE TIME

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

- **Say:** We are kind of like that caterpillar. When we believe in Jesus, and accept his love, we become a new creation. We get a NEW LIFE. We are born...into God's family! We become just like a beautiful new butterfly! We may not look like butterflies on the outside, but on the inside, we are completely new! That's what it means to be born again.
- **Say:** And guess what? If we want Jesus to give us a new life, it's really easy.
 - Tell Jesus that you're sorry for all the wrong things you've done.
 - Tell Jesus that you believe he came to the world to rescue you.
 - Tell him you want to follow him!
- **Ask:** Are you guys excited that Jesus rescued us? (Let kids respond.) Are you excited that He wants you to join God's family, and have a new life? (Let kids respond.) Me too! And 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:** We're going to worship God with a few songs, so stand up, sing and follow along with the motions!
- **Music Video: Hosannarock**
- **Music Video: Trust in the Lord**
- **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. What's your family like? What's God's family like?
2. When Jesus said we can be "born again", did he mean be born again as babies? (No; he meant we can be a new part of God's family, and have a new life!)
3. Do you want to be part of Jesus' family, and get a new life through Him?
4. When we've accepted Jesus as our rescuer, and we want to be part of God's family, we can do something really special to show the world: get baptized!
 - 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 **small handful of playdough** and set out **playdough tools** (Cookie cutters, plastic knives, rollers, etc.)
- **Say:** Right now, your play dough is just a lump of boring play dough, and there's not much to it. But we're going to turn it into a new creation, just like Jesus turns US into a new creation when we believe in him!
 - Encourage kids to mold, smash, cut, roll, and squish their play dough into whatever shapes they want. They can create a person, an animal, food, silly shapes...whatever they feel like!
 - They can use the tools to make impressions in the play dough and cut it into new shapes, etc.

Extra time? Give kids a **coloring sheet**.

LESSON needs

K-2nd

September 16/17, 2017



connect questions

Tell me about Nicodemus.

How does Jesus give us new life?

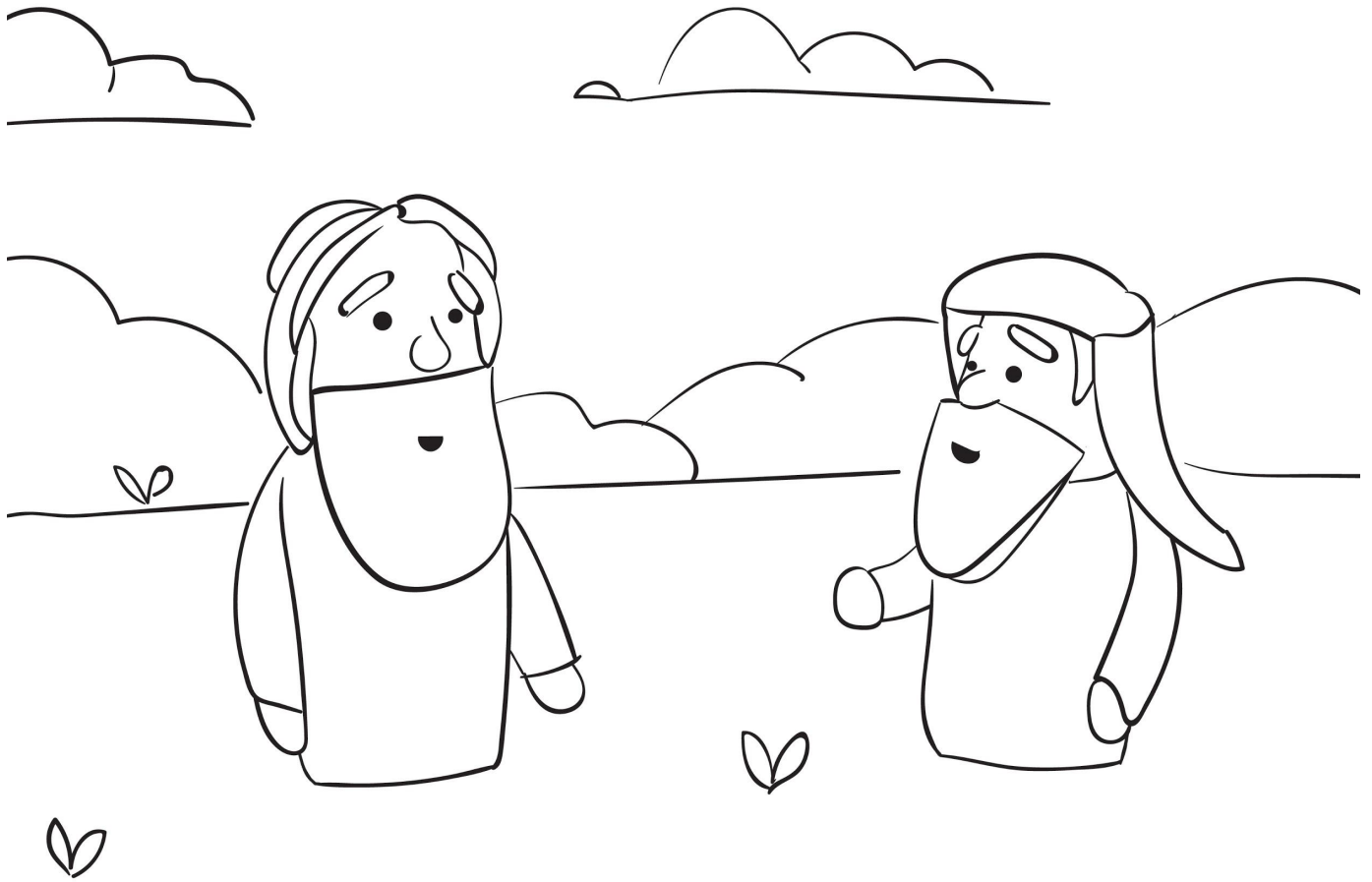
lesson supplies

Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Masking tape	1 roll per room, reused	Sam's Club, Item #439005	site

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Markers	1 set per group, reused		site
Coloring page	1 per kid	Black & white, page 8	site
Baptism handout	1 per kid	8.5x11 cardstock cut into quarter sheets, color, page 9	KC Central (except Oakley= site)
Playdough	1 small handful per kid, reused	Discount School Supply, Item BVRD	site
Play dough tools	1 per 2 kids, reused	Plastic knives, rollers , dough cutters , more	site

Large Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Adventure Bible for Early Readers	1 per large group, reused		site

name _____



Tell me about Nicodemus.

How does Jesus give us new life?

Read more about this week's story in John 3:1-21.



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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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 (0:00-1:27; KC&SM media_videos and songs>videos>the gospel project)
4. Video: The Very Hungry Caterpillar (trim to 0:25-2:29; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_4HI7q38VmQ)
5. Music Video: Hosannarock (<https://vimeo.com/204028663>)
6. Music Video: Trust in the Lord (<https://vimeo.com/153815987>)