



IT'S ALL ABOUT CHRISTMAS

Jesus is King | December 18, 2022|

Kinder - 5th grade

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 1:26-38, John 14:6

BIG IDEA: Because Jesus is God's Son, He is my way, truth, and life.

CHRIST CONNECTION: When the angel announced Jesus' birth to Mary, he made it clear that the Savior they had been waiting for would soon come through a miraculous birth. But the Savior would do more and be more than anyone had been looking for. Mary would give birth to a King, God's Son, who would rule and reign forever. Jesus is God's Son who is our way, truth, and life.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

BIBLE PASSAGE CONTEXT

In Monarchies babies are born to be future kings. They take their place in line for the throne and they wait for their position to be bestowed upon them. Jesus wasn't born to be king. Because He is God's Son, Jesus was born a king with a kingdom that will never end. He was just as much God and King in the manger as He is on the throne in heaven today.

This is essential to understand because we don't just celebrate a baby who was born, we follow Jesus as our king - the leader and Lord of our life. Jesus himself said that following Him is the only way to find life and the only way to live a God-honoring life. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." This means that Jesus isn't just our way, truth, and life for salvation. He is our way, our truth, and our life for all of life. Everything is about Him because He is God's Son who rules and reigns.

When we are looking for the way to go in life, we look to Jesus. When we are looking for truth, we turn to His life and His teaching. When we are looking for a full, fulfilling life, we turn to the one who gives us life and life abundantly. (John 10:10)

Jesus' birth reminds us that He is the King - the leader and the Lord of our lives. He is in charge but came to live in our midst so that we can know Him as our way, our truth, and our life. As you lead your group, encourage your kids to both believe in and follow Jesus. Be clear with the Gospel by inviting kids to believe that they are sinners who need a Savior. Also, invite believers to follow and trust Him because He knows and sees us.

TAKEAWAYS

- Jesus is God's Son who was born a King - the ruler and Lord of our life.
- Even as a baby, Jesus was King because He is God's Son.
- Believing in Jesus as your Savior is the only way to have a relationship with God.
- Jesus isn't just our way to salvation. He is our way, truth, and life for everything!
- **BIG IDEA:** Because Jesus is God's Son, He is my way, truth, and life.

Small Group Prayer: "Father God, thank You for Your Son, King Jesus. Thank You for loving us

enough to humble yourself to become a human to make a way for us to have forever relationship with You when we believe in Jesus. Help us to focus on all the reasons Jesus is perfect for us. We love You Lord and worship You always. In Jesus' name, Amen."

SOCIAL ACTIVITY: Christmas Social Games

What You Need: Tongue Twister cards, Decorate a Tree Cards (1 per kid), Tree Decor, Dice, Instruction Pages

Objective: Interact with each kid before group starts so you can have great discussions.

Winning: The goal is to get everyone in your group to participate in a game.

As kids are coming in, set up the game and ask kids to join you as you play the game. Games are a great way for kids to engage with each other and you as you get to know each other. Use this time to ask them questions about their week and any other important ways to get them to talk about what is going on around them.

Play a Worship Song or 2 from your Worship DVD/Roku Play the Bible teaching DVD/Roku

APPLICATION ACTIVITY: The Game of Life

What You Need: Game board (1 per group), Game of Life picture cards (1 set per group), Game of Life Script, games pieces, individual game boards (1 per kid), crayons, pencils, markers

What You Say:

- As a group you are going to build a life Size Candy Land Game.
- Using the Game of Life picture cards, ask the group to help you decide where each card should go as you consider what it takes to follow Jesus.
- Using the script, help kids find a way to define the steps it takes to grow as a disciple.
- When your game board is complete, pass out individual game boards and encourage kids to copy the game you set up as a group.
- Use this time as a way to help kids ask and answer big questions about growing as a disciple. Encourage them to come be part of groups on Wednesday nights, where they will get the chance to practice these things regularly.

What You Say "Growing as a disciple that follows Jesus is a life-long process. Learning about Jesus, learning to pray and study scripture, telling others about Jesus wherever you go and finding ways to serve and give generously are all steps we take continuously in the game of life. Every step of the way, Jesus reminds us: He is the way, the truth and the life. There is no one that comes to the Father except through Him and by Him and His Spirit. Let's pray that God would help us all grow to believe in, love and follow Jesus our whole lives. If you have never believed this is your first step and I would love the chance to talk more about it with you. If you have already believed, have you been baptized? We have a great resource to share with you to talk about it with your family and make a decision on the best time for you to take this step. If you have done all of that already, will you pray for others and yourself that God shows you how you can continue to grow in Him? Let's pray together now."

TRANSITION ACTIVITY: Nativity Shout Out

What You Need: Shout out Cards (1 per kid), Calling card, card markers

What You Do:

- Each card has one match and only one match, with every other card.
- Object of the game: Collect the most cards.
- Distribute one card face down to each player.
- Place the remaining cards face up in the center.
- Each player turns over their cards at the same time.
- When you find your match, 'shout out' the name of the object and take the card.
- Game ends when all cards in the center are gone.

- Each player counts their cards.
- The player with the most cards wins.
- Alternate game instructions are available in the bag of supplies for the game. Play the best way for your group on that day.

What You Say “It is important for us to learn about the Christmas story of Jesus and why God sent Him as a baby to grow into the man that would heal and teach others about God. Then die on the cross for our sins and rose in 3 days to show the world He was God and defeat death. When we see all those things in Christmas, we begin to see that It’s All About Christmas! Let’s talk about it all more now with these questions.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **What is your favorite thing that your family does to celebrate Christmas?** *Opening gifts, seeing family, etc.*
- **What did the angel tell Mary?** *God was sending His Son, Jesus, into the world and she would give birth to Him.*
- **What makes Jesus different from any other baby who has been born?** *He is God’s Son who was born a King. Even as a baby, He was the King - the leader of our lives.*
- **What did Jesus say about himself?** *He said that He is the way, the truth, and the life. He said that He is the only way to God.*
- **How do you live with Jesus as your way, truth, and life?**

TRANSITION TO HOME: Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.