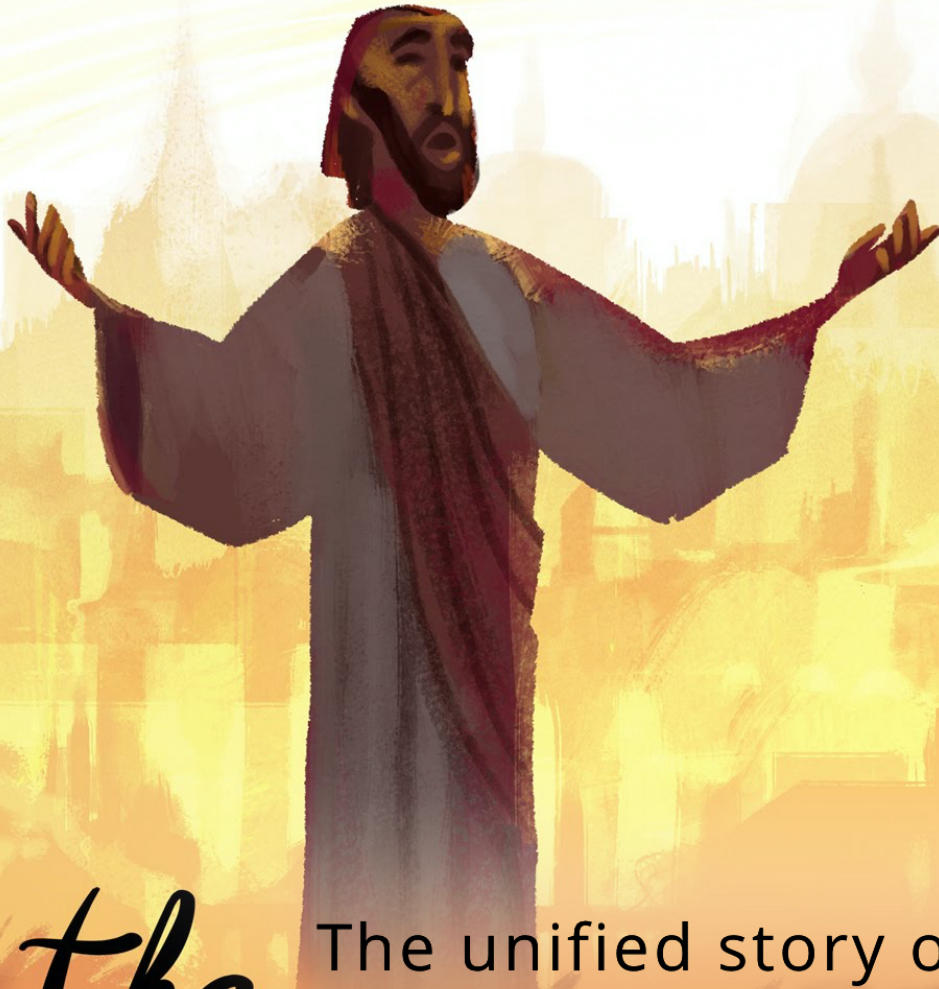


KIDStory[®] +

A PROGRAM OF KIDS AROUND THE WORLD



the The unified story of the BIBLE,
found in six BIBLE stories on:
MESSIAH

A COLLABORATION OF KIDS AROUND THE WORLD & THE BIBLE PROJECT



BibleProject

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Kids Around the World® 2021

katw.net

Welcome to KIDStory+

in collaboration with The Bible Project

The materials & lessons in this manual are based on a strategy called KIDStory, which equips leaders to create environments where kids can encounter the love of Jesus through the telling of His Story & the working of His Spirit. This method focuses on students learning individual stories throughout the Bible & discovering how they apply, uniquely, to each of our lives.

We realize that a time comes when a child, & their faith, matures. Bigger questions arise & deeper conversations are needed surrounding the overarching themes we find from Genesis to Revelation. Can students deeply & truly know God & His character? Can students deeply & truly understand the major themes of the Bible? We think so & we've partnered with our friends at The Bible Project to help connect these individual stories in a manner that helps people experience the Bible as a UNIFIED STORY that leads to Jesus.

We are calling this next step KIDStory+ & through these resources, & our partnership, we believe the tools you will discover here will revolutionize the next steps for your maturing students. ***If you are unfamiliar with the core KIDStory Strategy, we encourage you to begin with any of our early training offerings: Online, In-Person or Self-Study.*** This will provide you the building blocks needed to begin unlocking the Bible for your students in applicable & transforming ways! You can find these resources at: katw-kidstory.com

These strategies are fun to learn, easy to use & designed to be shared with others. Leaders listen rather than lecture ... listen to the Holy Spirit & the responses of their students, then encourage them to also listen & be obedient to God's voice. The questions & interactions posed by the leaders are not about simply learning information; rather they focus on facilitate Holy Spirit transformation of the heart & mind. KIDStory is about God transforming a life, a family & ultimately a community through His Story & His Spirit.

You can find additional activities & questions in the back of this document for easy reference; however, understanding the foundations of the KIDStory Strategy will help multiply the impact of this material & so we highly encourage you to utilize the training & resources in the link above.

CORE ESSENTIALS

There are certain things you will find in every aspect of KIDStory, whether you are training leaders or leading a group of students. We want to create environments where students learn: who God is, who they are (their purpose & value) & how to have a relationship with Jesus that is real & personal. We believe these things will happen when the following core essentials are practiced:

Bible Centered | Fun | Empowering | Relational | Spirit-Led

To learn more about how to create disciple-making environments where these core essentials are present, you'll want to be sure you take part in one of our KIDStory Training opportunities.

KIDStory Clubs

an environment where disciple-making happens

... are environments, like Jesus created, where we feel welcomed, loved, & blessed.

A KIDStory Club is a place where students have fun & are free to ask real questions, connect dots & share what they are learning & experiencing; a place where God's presence is very real & evident. It's here that we leave behind rote learning concepts & step toward an approach that thrives on dialog, fun activities & is anchored in genuine relationships. It's where everyone feels safe, feels known & feels accepted & do likewise for others. KIDStory Clubs are also a safe place for parents & leaders to learn & grow in how to lead young believers spiritually & have deeper conversations – a place where people are consistently equipped & encouraged.

A KIDStory Club can meet wherever & whenever is most convenient & leaders can even give it their own name. What makes a KIDStory Club unique is the application of the 5 Core Essentials. In a KIDStory Club, the stories of the Bible are linked together in fun, creative ways, while being Biblically accurate. As important as it is to see God's unified story, it is not enough. It's also about listening – listening to the Spirit & listening to a student reveal how the Spirit is stirring their heart.

The methods used to tell & retell God's unified story are coupled with engaging questions that allow the Holy Spirit to operate in every heart. It capitalizes on what students have heard & learned, creating a discovery process, bringing about true life change. The questions posed by leaders are not just for retention, but for transformation of the heart & mind, leading to real life application. Fostering this kind of environment provides leaders the opportunity to follow up on the things the Holy Spirit is teaching & revealing.

We are thrilled to work alongside the amazing scholars, storytellers & artists of The Bible Project, (bibleproject.com) who created each of the "overview" videos that will open & close each series. Additional content can be found at katw.net/kidstoryplus. Each manual will focus on a specific theme found throughout the Bible, equipping leaders & students to engage in subjects like:

- Justice
- Gospel of the Kingdom
- The Messiah
- The Image of God

So, WELCOME!!! We pray the Lord opens up many doors for you to create environments where students grow deeper in their faith & their understanding of God, His Son, & the enduring hope each of us is offered through our relationship with Him.

Series Format for KIDStory+

Initial Week:

- Briefly introduce the concept you will be exploring
- Identify how many Sessions you'll do together during the Series
- Show students The Bible Project video
- Introduce the Key Verse for the Series
- Conduct Session 1 for that Series

Middle Sessions:

- Briefly discuss what they remember & significant elements from The Bible Project video & previous Session
- Conduct next Session

Final Week:

- Briefly discuss what they remember & significant elements from the overview video & previous Session
- Conduct the final Session
- Watch The Bible Project video one more time
- Conduct the Series Closing Mini-Session
- Revisit the Key Verse for the Series

Each Series will open & close with a video from The Bible Project. These videos are created to provide an overview of a larger narrative in the Bible, & each Session will explore a specific story in the Bible where we see this clearly illustrated.

Each Series will include 4-5 total Sessions that link together, highlighting a specific theological or thematic element of God's unified story, pointing to Jesus. As you explore each Session, ensure the students are connecting the thread that runs through them all.

As you complete each Series, you will revisit The Bible Project video & facilitate some connecting questions to help the students discover where they see God & Jesus moving, & what the Holy Spirit is calling them to do.

Individual Session Format for KIDStory+

Opening:

- Choose a question or activity where students can share a personal story
- The answer should generate an emotion from the students
- Ask a question that needs an answer more than “Yes” or “No”

The Opening doesn't have to be directly tied to the Bible story but gets the students thinking in that direction.

Background:

- Define words or explain geographical locations & cultural differences that may not be known
- Explain important events that happened before today's story
- Review important concepts from the previous story if applicable

You don't want to stop during the story to explain words so make sure to go over them all in the Background time.

Tell the Story:

- Involve the students in the story
- Use dramatic elements that would make the story more engaging & interactive
- Use visual objects to show the group if possible
- Keep the length of the story appropriate for the students to learn so they can tell others

Tell the story just as it is in the Bible. Don't add your own words or interpretations. Make it memorable but stay true to God's Word. It is crucial that the students know that the story comes from the Bible & that it is true.

Retell:

- Have students use their Bibles to read & retell the story
- Choose a game or activity to engage the students

Make sure the students are being Biblically accurate when retelling the story.

Discover & Response Questions:

- Pray about this lesson regarding where the Holy Spirit might lead the discussion
- Use questions that engage the heart & not just the head

Move the students from remembering facts in the story to what God is doing in their hearts & lives. We want the Spirit to speak to each person for the implication that will be for them specifically.

Messiah Series Overview for Facilitators & Parents

To accomplish this, we will be using a few helpful tools that connect in meaningful ways, so understanding the BIG PICTURE will help you engage the students each week more deeply. We encourage you to read through this one-page overview to better grasp where we are starting & where we are hoping to land.

The KIDStory+ series are linked with videos created by the team at The Bible Project. To view it ahead of time & understand the unified story of THE MESSIAH, as it points toward Jesus, you can watch the video here: vimeo.com/458153961/aebcb19fa5

We have constructed the series to resemble a snorkeling excursion. As we swim across the surface of the waters, at times we see specific things that can tell us more about the environment we are exploring. In order to understand it better, we dive down & take a peek. Then we swim back to the surface, catch our breath & keep swimming until we find the next thing to dive deep on! & that's exactly our plan. Over the next six weeks we will dive into the stories below, in hopes of better understanding THE MESSIAH...God's perfect plan to reconnect our broken relationship! These may be familiar stories to you or your students, but our hope is that linking them together in this manner will create space for new engagement, deep conversation, & thoughtful questions!

THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Week 1 – Hide & Seek (Genesis 3:1-15)

Problems need solutions & when sin is the problem, the solution comes at a price

Week 2 – A Future Promise (Genesis 17:1-18)

Great name, great nation, & a global blessing...is trust enough

Week 3 – Devine Proclamation (Luke 2:25-34a)

Even as a baby, the reality of Jesus' identity was undeniable to those filled with the Spirit

Week 4 – Well Pleased (Matthew 3:11;13-17)

Jesus cousin helps usher in the ministry & wonder of the arrived Messiah

Week 5 – Which Is Easier (Luke 5:17-26)

Judging the sins of others without recognizing our own guilt

Week 6 – What's Your Answer (Matthew 16:13-19)

The biggest question you'll ever be asked & the one that can change your entire life

We will define THE MESSIAH as: *The promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death.*

Our series verse will be: *"After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins." Isaiah 53:11 NIRV*



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

HIDE & SEEK FULL GUIDE Genesis 3:1-15

1. OPENING: Where is your favorite hiding spot or place you like to be when you want to be by yourself?

2. BACKGROUND: *a brief explanation of what led up to today's story*

Over the next six weeks we are going to be talking about **THE MESSIAH**. "Let's watch a short video about it & then I have a Bible Story to tell you that may help us start to know more about this MESSIAH."
vimeo.com/458153961/aebcb19fa5

The Bible tells us that in the beginning God created everything. At some point which we don't know, God created angels who were to help Him carry out His plan. The most handsome & strongest one was called Lucifer or later was called Satan.

Satan rebelled against God & got kicked out of Heaven, the place where God lives. Satan was angry & ever since has gone about trying to destroy all the good that God created, especially the ones whom God has a special relationship with – people.

When God created the first people, Adam & Eve, He had one rule for them. They were not to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good & evil. Otherwise, they could completely enjoy all that God had created for them. Adam & Eve were tempted & they ate from the tree. They disobeyed God.

What was God's plan to show them His love & goodness?

3. TELL: *use added expression, vocal fluctuation or body language to help tell today's story*

Now the snake was the cleverest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day the snake said to the woman, "Did God really say that you must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden?"

The woman answered, "We may eat fruit from the trees. But God told us, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden. You must not even touch it, or you will die.'"

But the snake said to the woman, "You will not die. God knows that if you eat the fruit from that tree, you will learn about good & evil & you will be like God!" The woman saw the tree was beautiful, its fruit was good to eat, & it would make her wise. So, she took some of its fruit & ate it. She also gave some to her husband who was with her, & he ate it. Then, it was as if their eyes were opened. They suddenly realized they were naked, so they sewed leaves together & made something to cover themselves.

Then they heard the Lord God walking in the garden, & they hid. But the Lord God called to the man & said, "Where are you?" The man answered, "I heard you walking in the garden, & I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid." God asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat fruit from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

The man said, "You gave this woman to me & she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "How could you have done such a thing?" She answered, "The snake tricked me, so I ate the fruit."

So, the Lord God spoke to the serpent. He said, "Because you have done this, you are set apart from all the animals. I am putting a curse on you. You will crawl on your belly & eat dust. I will make you & the woman hate each other. Your children & her children will be enemies. Her son will crush your head. & you will bite his heel."

4. RETELL: *use one or both of the activities below to help everyone retain today's story*

Top Ten: Either as a group or individually, write out the top ten events of the story.

Act it Out: Assign different characters of the story to each child. Let them practice before actually acting out the story.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: *in small groups, allow conversation & exploration to take shape*

- Who were the different characters in the story?
 - Using your imagination, what did you hear & see during the story?
 - What highs & lows do you think Adam & Eve had that day?
 - We may not think of God having feelings. Since we are created in His image, He would have them as we do. What do you think He was feeling when all this happened?
 - If God is good & loving, how do you think He ought to respond?
 - When you do things that are not pleasing to God, what upsets Him the most? How would you want Him to respond to you?
 - What does God's curse on the snake mean to you?
 - What does this story tell us about God?
-

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS: *shift the discussion to a more individual focus*

- What choices did Adam & Eve make? What other choices did they have?
 - When we are tempted to disobey what God says is best for us, what choices do we have?
 - What do you sense God is saying to you after hearing today's story?
-

7. CLOSING BLESSING: *lead the kids in prayer or allow one of them to take the lead*

Thank you, Lord, for responding to our disobedience with mercy & a plan for reconciliation.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

HIDE & SEEK QUICK GUIDE *Genesis 3:1-15*

1. OPENING:

Where is your favorite hiding spot or place you like to be when you want to be by yourself?

2. BACKGROUND:



3. TELL:



4. RETELL:

Top Ten: Write out top ten events from story

Act it Out: Assign different characters. Let them practice before acting out story

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- Who were the different characters?
- What did you hear & see during the story?
- Highs & lows for Adam & Eve that day?
- We may not think of God having feelings. What was He feeling when this happened?
- If God is good/loving, how should He respond?
- What upsets Him the most that you do?
- How do you want Him to respond to you?
- What does God's curse on the snake mean?
- What does this story tell us about God?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- What choices did Adam & Eve make?
- What other choices did they have?
- When tempted, what choices do we have?
- What do you sense God is saying to you after hearing today's story?

BACKGROUND:

- Next 6 weeks talking about **THE MESSIAH**
- Watch video vimeo.com/458153961/aebcb19fa5
- In the beginning God created everything
- Satan rebelled against God
- God had one rule for them for Adam & Eve
- The tree of the knowledge of good & evil
- Adam & Eve were tempted & did eat it
- What was God's plan to show them His love & goodness?

BIBLE STORY:

- Snake: "Did God really say that you must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden?"
- Woman answered: "We may eat fruit from the trees. But God told us, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden. You must not even touch it, or you will die.'"
- Snake: "You will not die. God knows if you eat, you will learn about good & evil & be like God!"
- Woman saw the tree was beautiful, good to eat, brought wisdom.
- She took its fruit, ate it & gave some to Adam
- Their eyes were opened, realized they were naked & made something to cover themselves
- God was walking in the garden & they hid
- God called out, "Where are you?"
- Man: "I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."
- God: "Did you eat the fruit?"
- Man: "You gave this woman to me & she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it."
- God: "How could you have done such a thing?"
- Woman: "The snake tricked me, so I ate it."
- God to Serpent: "Her son will crush your head. & you will bite his heel."

7. CLOSING BLESSING:

Thank you, Lord, for responding to our disobedience with mercy & a plan for reconciliation.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: *Isaiah 53:11*

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

A FUTURE PROMISE FULL GUIDE Genesis 17:1-8

1. OPENING: One day I want to _____.

2. BACKGROUND: *a brief explanation of what led up to today's story*

Last time, we learned about Adam & Eve disobeying God & the consequences of their sin. God had a plan to bring people back to Himself which continues to unfold in today's story. We will hear about a man named Abram & a nation that will be formed because he obeyed God.

You will hear us use the word *descendant*. These are the sons & daughters that continue to have families. You are a descendant of your parents. Your parents are descendants of your grandparents. When you have children, they will be your descendants.

3. TELL: *use added expression, vocal fluctuation or body language to help tell today's story*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him & said, "I am God Almighty. Obey me & do what is right. I will make an agreement between us, & I will make you the ancestor of many people."

Then Abram bowed face down on the ground. God said to him, "I am making my agreement with you: I will make you the father of many nations. I am changing your name from Abram to Abraham because I am making you a father of many nations.

I will give you many descendants. New nations will be born from you, & kings will come from you. & I will make an agreement between me & you & all your descendants from now on: I will be your God & the God of all your descendants.

You live in the land of Canaan now as a stranger, but I will give you & your descendants all this land forever. & I will be the God of your descendants."

4. RETELL: *use one or both of the activities below to help everyone retain today's story*

Dice: The children are sitting in a circle. The first child starts retelling the Bible story. At the signal, the child stops, rolls the dice, & whatever number appears, you count clockwise that number of children. That child now continues retelling the story until the signal is given, etc.

Hand Motions: Go back through the Bible story & have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: *in small groups, allow conversation & exploration to take shape*

- What did you like about today's story?
- What was Abram risking in order to follow God?
- God had a plan for Abraham. What plan do you think God has for you & how you might be part of God's Story?
- If God were to change your name, what would you want it to be? Why?
- Is there something risky that God may want you to do, like Abram? If so, what is stopping you?
- What is something you learned today about God?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS: *shift the discussion to a more individual focus*

- From what you learned today, how might you live differently?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

7. CLOSING BLESSING: *lead the kids in prayer or allow one of them to take the lead*

Lord, thank you for your promises. Bless us to hear your voice like Abram did & to know that you keep your promises.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

A FUTURE PROMISE QUICK GUIDE

Genesis 17:1-8

1. OPENING:

One day I want to _____.

2. BACKGROUND:



3. TELL:



4. RETELL:

Dice: Sit in a circle & starts retelling the story. At the signal, stop, rolls the dice, & use number to determine count for next storyteller.

Hand Motions: Have group come up with hand motions to help them remember each part of the story. Retell while adding motions.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- What did you like about today's story?
- What was Abram risking to follow God?
- What plan do you think God has for you, how you might be part of God's Story?
- If God changed your name, what would you want it to be? Why?
- Is there something risky that God may want you to do, like Abram?
- Something you learned today about God?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- How might you live differently?
- Who can you share this story with this week?

BACKGROUND:

- Last time, we learned about Adam & Eve disobeying God & the consequences of their sin
- God had a plan to bring people back to Himself
- Unfolds in today's story through a man named Abram & a nation that will be formed because he trusted God.
- Key Word: *Descendant* - Sons & daughters that continue to have families. You are a descendant of your parents. Your parents are descendants of your grandparents. When you have children, they will be your descendants.

BIBLE STORY:

- When Abram was 99 years old, the LORD appeared to him.
- God: "I am God Almighty. Obey me & do what is right. I will make an agreement between us, & I will make you the ancestor of many people."
- Abram bowed down on the ground in response
- God: "I am making my agreement with you:
I will make you the father of many nations
I am changing your name
Abram to Abraham
I will give you many descendants
New nations will be born from you
Kings will come from you
This agreement is between me & you & all your descendants from now on
I will be your God & the God of all your descendants.
You live in the land of Canaan now
I will give you & your descendants all this land forever

7. CLOSING BLESSING:

Thank you for your promises. Bless us to hear your voice like Abram did & to know that you keep your promises.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

DEVINE PROCLAMATION FULL GUIDE *Luke 2:25-34a*

1. OPENING: If you were on a mountain & could yell out something exciting to you, what would it be?

2. BACKGROUND: *a brief explanation of what led up to today's story*

Over God's plan continues to unfold for Him to save men, women, boys & girls & show how good & loving He is. After 400 years where God did not speak through anyone, amazing things begin to happen. Angels appear to some people, Mary & Joseph, who are supposed to get married. Mary becomes pregnant with God's child through the Holy Spirit. The father would be God & not Joseph. When the baby Jesus is born in Bethlehem, angels appear to shepherds to tell them that their Savior, the Messiah, has been born & is lying in a manger. Everyone is amazed! Eight days later, Mary, Joseph & Jesus go to the temple to dedicate, to present, Jesus to the Lord & His ways.

3. TELL: *use added expression, vocal fluctuation or body language to help tell today's story*

In Jerusalem lived a man named Simeon who was a good man & godly. He was waiting for the time when God would take away Israel's sorrow, & the Holy Spirit was in him.

Simeon had been told by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he saw the Christ promised by the Lord.

The Spirit led Simeon to the Temple. When Mary & Joseph brought the baby Jesus to the Temple to do what the law said they must do, Simeon took the baby in his arms & thanked God

*"Now, Lord, you can let me, your servant,
die in peace as you said.*

With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you prepared before all people.

It is a light for the non-Jewish people to see & an honor for your people, the Israelites."

Jesus' father & mother were amazed at what Simeon had said about him. Then Simeon blessed them.

4. RETELL: *use one or both of the activities below to help everyone retain today's story*

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins & correcting wrong statements.

Dice: The children are sitting in a circle. The first child starts retelling the Bible story. At the signal, the child stops, rolls the dice, & whatever number appears, you count clockwise that number of children. That child now continues retelling the story until the signal is given, etc.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: *in small groups, allow conversation & exploration to take shape*

- For you, what was an important part of today's story?
- I wonder what Simeon was thinking & feeling when he first saw Jesus?
- How was Simeon used in God's Story?
- Simeon was waiting for the Savior, the Messiah, to come & fulfill God's promise to defeat Satan & reveal God's love & goodness. Simeon said Jesus was the light for **ALL** people. Is there someone or a type of person that's hard to imagine God would save _____?
*This might be a good opportunity, for those who have given their lives to Christ, to share their testimony. You might also share your testimony along with the plan of salvation. **
- This story tells me that God is _____.

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS: *shift the discussion to a more individual focus*

- What How might God use me in His Story?
- What is the Holy Spirit asking based on what you learned in the Story today?
- I want to share this story with _____

7. CLOSING BLESSING: *lead the kids in prayer or allow one of them to take the lead*

Lord, may each of us have a greater appreciation for our salvation which can only be found in Jesus. Bless us with the courage to share this Good News with others.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

Lord, may each of us have a greater appreciation for our salvation which can only be found in Jesus. Bless us with the courage to share this Good News with others.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

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DEVINE PROCLAMATION QUICK GUIDE

Luke 2:25-34a

1. OPENING:

If you were on a mountain & could yell out something exciting to you, what would it be?

2. BACKGROUND:



3. TELL:



4. RETELL:

Story Review: Go back through the Story, using questions, fill-ins & correcting wrong statements.

Dice: Sit in a circle & starts retelling the story. At the signal, stop, rolls the dice, & use number to determine count for next storyteller.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- What was an important part of today's story?
- What was Simeon was thinking & feeling?
- How was Simeon used in God's Story?
- Simeon said Jesus was the light for **ALL** people. Is there someone or a type of person that's hard to imagine God would save _____?

*Good opportunity to share testimonies **

- This story tells me that God is _____.

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- What How might God use me in His Story?
- What is the Holy Spirit asking based on what you learned in the Story today?
- I want to share this story with _____

7. CLOSING BLESSING:

Lord, may each of us have a greater appreciation for our salvation which can only be found in Jesus. Bless us with the courage to share this Good News with others.

BACKGROUND:

- God's plan to save everyone never ended
- After 400 years of silence, amazing things happen
- Angels appear to some people
- Mary & Joseph are meant to get married
- Mary becomes pregnant by the Holy Spirit
- The father would be God & not Joseph
- Jesus is born in Bethlehem
- Angels tell shepherds their Messiah is born
- 8 days later, the family goes to the temple
- Dedicate & present Jesus to the Lord & His ways

BIBLE STORY:

- In Jerusalem lived a man named Simeon
- Waiting for God to take away Israel's sorrow
- The Holy Spirit told him that he would not die before he saw the promised Messiah
- Thee Spirit led Simeon to the Temple
- Mary & Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple
- Simeon took the baby in his arms & thanked God

"Now, Lord, you can let me, your servant, die in peace as you said.

With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you prepared before all people.

It is a light for the non-Jewish people to see & an honor for your people, the Israelites."

- Mary & Joseph were amazed at what was said
- Simeon blessed them all

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

WELL PLEASED FULL GUIDE

Matthew 3:11;13-17

1. OPENING: Who is someone alive today that you think of as being “greater” than you.

2. BACKGROUND: *a brief explanation of what led up to today's story*

There isn't much written in the Bible about Jesus' growing up years. By the time of this story, He is now about 30 years old. God has prepared everything to start showing people His love through Jesus, His Son. Jesus had a cousin named John who was becoming famous & important in Israel. Many thought he might be the Messiah. John told people they needed to turn their hearts back to God. When people repented & turned back to God, John then baptized them in the river. It was a way of showing their desire to be in a right relationship with God. To repent means to change our thinking about God, ourselves, & sin. Jesus surprised John when He arrived to be baptized as well.

3. TELL: *use added expression, vocal fluctuation or body language to help tell today's story*

John told the crowds, “I use water to baptize people who repent of their sins & turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am - so much greater that I'm not even worthy to be his servant or carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit & with fire.”

At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River & wanted John to baptize him. But John tried to stop him, saying, “Why do you come to me to be baptized? I need to be baptized by you!”

Jesus answered, “Let it be this way for now. We should do all things that are God's will.” So John agreed to baptize Jesus.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven opened, & he saw God's Spirit coming down on him like a dove. & a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love, & I am very pleased with him.”

4. RETELL: *use one or both of the activities below to help everyone retain today's story*

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins & correcting wrong statements.

Tingo Tingo Tango: Have the children get into a circle. Pass an object around as you are saying “Tingo, Tingo, Tango.” When you get to “Tango,” whoever has the ball has to say the next part of the story. Vary the amount of time between the words so children do not know who will be next.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: *in small groups, allow conversation & exploration to take shape*

- If John was so famous & important, why tell people that “someone greater” is coming soon?
- John told Jesus he shouldn't be the one baptizing him. Why do you think John argued with Jesus?
- Have you ever argued with God or wondered why certain things are the way they are?
- John & the crowd saw Jesus get baptized & then heard God's voice. Imagine what that was like?
- God says that He loves Jesus & is very pleased with Him. Had Jesus done anything yet to please God? Why do you think God was pleased with Him. How might we be pleasing to God?
- If God were to say something about you, what would you want Him to say?
- What emotions do you think God has about you?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS: *shift the discussion to a more individual focus*

- In the story, John got to serve Jesus. How might you be able to serve Jesus this week?
- After hearing the story, how might it change how you view yourself?
This story talks about baptism. John told people to repent & be baptized. This would be a good opportunity to talk with the students about your church's view on repentance & baptism.

7. CLOSING BLESSING: *lead the kids in prayer or allow one of them to take the lead*

Lord, bless us with a desire to be obedient to do what you ask of us just like Jesus & John did.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

WELL PLEASED QUICK GUIDE *Matthew 3:11;13-17*

1. OPENING:

Who is someone alive today that you think of as being "greater" than you.

2. BACKGROUND:



3. TELL:



4. RETELL:

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins & correcting wrong statements.

Tingo Tingo Tango: Kids sit in a circle. Pass object around while saying "Tingo, Tingo, Tango." At "Tango," child with object tells part of the story. Vary the amount of time between the words so kids do not know who will be next.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- Why did John tell people that "someone greater" is coming soon?
- Why do you think John argued with Jesus?
- Have you ever argued with God about how things should be?
- What was like to hear God's voice?
- Why was God was pleased with Jesus?
- What would you want God to say about you?
- How do you think God feels about you?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- How can you serve Jesus this week?
- How has your view of yourself changed?

BACKGROUND:

- Not much in the Bible about Jesus' younger life.
- In today's story, He is about 30 years old
- God prepared to start showing His love in Jesus
- Jesus had a cousin named John
- John was becoming famous & important in Israel
- Many thought he might be the Messiah
- John told people to turn their hearts back to God
- When they did John baptized them in the Jordan
- Showed their desire to be in relationship with God
- Repenting means to change our thinking
- John was surprised Jesus wanted to be baptized

BIBLE STORY:

- John: I use water to baptize people who repent of their sins & turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am - so much greater that I'm not even worthy to be his servant or carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit & with fire."
- Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River
- Jesus wanted John to baptize him
- John tried to stop Jesus
- John: "Why do you come to me to be baptized? I need to be baptized by you!"
- Jesus: "Let it be this way for now. We should do all things that are God's will."
- John baptized & when He came out of the water
- Heaven opened, & God's Spirit coming down on him like a dove. & a voice from heaven said
"This is my Son, whom I love, & I am very pleased with him."

This story talks about baptism. John told people to repent & be baptized. This would be a good opportunity to talk with the students about your church's view on repentance & baptism...if appropriate.

7. CLOSING BLESSING:

Lord, bless us with a desire to be obedient to do what you ask of us just like Jesus & John did.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



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WHICH IS EASIER FULL GUIDE *Luke 5:17-26*

1. OPENING: What is something good that you have done for someone else? OR. What is something good that someone has done for you?

2. BACKGROUND: *a brief explanation of what led up to today's story*

Jesus has been going around teaching the people about the Kingdom of God. Everyone is amazed by His teaching & the miracles He is performing. People crowd around Him to experience it themselves.

Revisit the Week 3 topic of SALVATION from Simeon's statement for some good background for today's story. Jesus makes some bold claims this week – listen for them.

3. TELL: *use added expression, vocal fluctuation or body language to help tell today's story*

One day as Jesus was teaching the people, the Pharisees & teachers of the law from every town were there. The Lord was giving Jesus the power to heal people. Just then, some men were carrying on a mat a man who was paralyzed.

They tried to bring him in & put him down before Jesus. But because there were so many people there, they could not find a way in. So, they went up on the roof & lowered the man on his mat through the ceiling into the middle of the crowd right before Jesus.

Seeing their faith, Jesus said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

The Jewish teachers of the law & the Pharisees thought to themselves, "Who is this man who is speaking as if he were God? Only God can forgive sins."

But Jesus knew what they were thinking & said, "Why are you thinking these things? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up & walk'? But I will prove to you that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

So, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, stand up, take your mat, & go home."

At once the man stood up before them, picked up his mat, & went home, praising God. All the people were amazed & praised God. They were filled with respect & said, "Today we have seen amazing things!"

4. RETELL: *use one or both of the activities below to help everyone retain today's story*

Hand Motions: Go back through the Bible story & have the group come up with different hand motions that would help them remember each part of the story. Keep going back through the story adding more hand motions until the story is retold.

Act it Out: Assign different characters of the story to each child. Let them practice before actually acting out the story.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: *in small groups, allow conversation & exploration to take shape*

- What did you imagine as the story was being told?
- Large crowds stopped the men from getting to Jesus. What do you think stops people today?
- Who would you bring to see Jesus & what would you want Him to do for them?
- What does this story tell us about trusting Jesus?
- What gives Jesus the authority to forgive sins?
- This story tells me that God is _____.

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS: *shift the discussion to a more individual focus*

- We are all broken with things that stop us or slow us down. How have they hindered you?
- In what ways can God heal you & bring you into His Kingdom Story?
- From this story, what do you sense God is wanting you to do with what you learned?

This story talks about forgiveness of sin. This would be a good opportunity to talk with the students about your church's view on sin, forgiveness & redemption...providing time to seek forgiveness.

7. CLOSING BLESSING: *lead the kids in prayer or allow one of them to take the lead*

Thank you, Lord that you forgive sin & heal everyone that comes to you. Bless us with eyes & hearts to see the people we can bring to You.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



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WHICH IS EASIER QUICK GUIDE Luke 5:17-26

1. OPENING:

What is something good that you have done for someone else? OR. What is something good that someone has done for you?

2. BACKGROUND:



3. TELL:



4. RETELL:

Hand Motions: Have group come up with hand motions to help them remember each part of the story. Retell while adding motions

Act it Out: Assign different characters. Let them practice before acting out story

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- What did you imagine during the story?
- Large crowds kept the men from Jesus. What do you think stops people today?
- Who would you bring to see Jesus & what would you want Him to do for them?
- What does the story say about trusting Jesus?
- What gives Jesus authority to forgive sins?
- This story tells me that God is _____.

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- We're all broken with things that stop us or slow us down. How have they hindered you?
- In what ways can God heal you & bring you into His Kingdom Story?
- From this story, what do you sense God is wanting you to do with what you learned?

BACKGROUND:

- Jesus is teaching about the Kingdom of God
- Everyone is amazed by His teaching & miracles
- People crowd in to experience it themselves
- Revisit the Week 3 topic of SALVATION
- Look at Simeon's statement
- Jesus makes bold claims this week – listen in

BIBLE STORY:

- One day as Jesus was teaching the people
- Pharisees & teachers of law were there
- God was giving Jesus the power to heal people
- Some men carrying a paralyzed man
- Tried to bring him in & put him before Jesus
- Could not because there were so many people
- Went on roof & lowered man through the ceiling
- Seeing their faith...
- Jesus: "Friend, your sins are forgiven."
- Jewish teachers & Pharisees thought...
- Men: "Who is this man who is speaking as if he were God? Only God can forgive sins."
- Jesus knew what they were thinking...
- Jesus: "Why are you thinking these things? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up & walk'? But I will prove to you that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."
- Jesus to paralyzed man: "I tell you, stand up, take your mat, & go home."
- Man stood up & went home, praising God
- All the people were amazed & praised God
- They were filled respect & said, "Today we have seen amazing things!"

This story talks about forgiveness of sin. This week is a good opportunity to talk with students about your church's view on sin, forgiveness & redemption...providing time to seek forgiveness.

7. CLOSING BLESSING:

Thank you, Lord that you forgive sin & heal everyone that comes to you. Bless us with eyes & hearts to see the people we can bring to You.

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WHAT'S YOUR ANSWER FULL GUIDE *Matthew 16:13-19*

1. OPENING: What is a nickname that people call you? Or what would you like people to call you?

2. BACKGROUND: *a brief explanation of what led up to today's story*

Jesus has continued His work traveling & teaching about the Kingdom of God. He has continued performing miracles like healing people & even brought people back to life. Many people are following Him because they want to see what else He can do & what else He will teach. But many people question whether He is really the Messiah, the One promised by God to save people. You will hear some names of people that you may not know, but they were all very famous when this story happened.

This is the final week of the Messiah series. You might want to watch The Bible Project's video again at the end of the session to see what the students have learned: <https://vimeo.com/458153961/aebcb19fa5>

3. TELL: *use added expression, vocal fluctuation or body language to help tell today's story*

When Jesus came to the area of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His followers, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

They answered, "Some say you are John the Baptist. Others say you are Elijah, & still others say you are Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Then Jesus asked them, "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, Son of the living God."

Jesus answered, "You are blessed, Simon son of Jonah, because no person taught you that. My Father in heaven showed you who I am. So, I tell you, you are Peter. On this rock I will build my church, & the power of death will not be able to defeat it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; the things you don't allow on earth will be the things that God does not allow, & the things you allow on earth will be the things that God allows."

4. RETELL: *use one or both of the activities below to help everyone retain today's story*

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins & correcting wrong statements.

Rope Game: Make a loop out of a long piece of rope. Have students form a circle with everyone holding the loop. Start moving the rope in one direction. When you say "STOP," the person closest to the knot tells the next part of the story. Continue doing this until the story is told.

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: *in small groups, allow conversation & exploration to take shape*

- Why did Jesus ignore what *other people* say about who He is?
- Why was it important to Jesus that His disciples answer the question for themselves?
- What do you think Jesus was meant when He said He would build His church on "this rock".
- If God were to give you a key to His Kingdom, what would you want to open?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS: *shift the discussion to a more individual focus*

- If Jesus were to ask you, “Who do you say that I am?” how would you answer Him?

Optional exercise: place a chair in the center of the room & allow students imagine Jesus is sitting in the chair. Have them tell Jesus: Jesus, you are _____. If possible, write their responses on a large sheet of paper or white board. Let the students know that no matter what they face, Jesus will always be these things. (e.g. Kind, True, Loving, Good, God, Messiah, etc.)

- Think back on all 6 stories we have heard. What has changed about how you see Jesus? What is something that surprised you the most? What is something new you learned?

7. CLOSING BLESSING: *lead the kids in prayer or allow one of them to take the lead*

Lord, give us the courage to respond to this question every day. Let us call You Lord in our words & our actions, so we can share who You are & what you have done in our lives.

MESSIAH SERIES VERSE: Isaiah 53:11

After his soul suffers many things, he will see life & be satisfied. My good servant will make many people right with God; he will carry away their sins.



THE MESSIAH SERIES:

Jesus is the promised King who defeats evil & brings back God's goodness & love to a broken world, lost to sin & death

WHAT'S YOUR ANSWER QUICK GUIDE *Matthew 16:13-19*

1. OPENING:

What is a nickname that people call you? Or what would you like people to call you?

2. BACKGROUND:



3. TELL:



4. RETELL:

Story Review: Go back through the Story by using questions, fill-ins & correcting wrong statements.

Rope Game: Make a loop out of a long piece of rope. Have students form a circle holding the loop. Move rope in one direction. Say "STOP!" Person closest to knot tells next part of story. Continue game until the story is told

5. DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- Why did Jesus ignore what *other people* say about who He is?
- Why was it important to Jesus that His disciples answer the question for themselves?
- What do you think Jesus was meant when He said He would build His church on "this rock".
- If God were to give you a key to His Kingdom, what would you want to open?

6. PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

- If Jesus were to ask you, "Who do you say that I am?" how would you answer Him?

BACKGROUND:

- Jesus continued traveling & teaching
- He performed miracles & even raised the dead
- Many followed Him to see what He can do
- Many question whether He is really the Messiah
- You will hear some names of people that you may not know, but they were all very famous when this story happened.
- Final week of the Messiah series
- Watch The Bible Project's video again at the end of session to see what the students have learned: <https://vimeo.com/458153961/aebcb19fa5>

BIBLE STORY:

- Jesus was in area of Caesarea Philippi
- Jesus to disciples: "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"
- Disciples: "Some say you are John the Baptist. Others say you are Elijah, & still others say you are Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
- Jesus: "Who do you say I am?"
- Peter: "You are the Christ, Son of the living God."
- Jesus: "You are blessed, Simon son of Jonah, because no person taught you that. My Father in heaven showed you who I am. So, I tell you, you are Peter. On this rock I will build my church, & the power of death will not be able to defeat it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; the things you don't allow on earth will be the things that God does not allow, & the things you allow on earth will be the things that God allows."

Optional exercise: Have students imagine Jesus is in the room. Have them tell Jesus: Jesus, you are _____. If possible, write responses on sheet of paper or white board. Let students know that no matter what they face, Jesus will always be these things. (e.g. True, Loving, Good, Messiah, etc.)

Think back on all 6 stories we have heard. What has changed about how you see Jesus? What is something that surprised you the most? What is something new you learned?

7. CLOSING BLESSING:

Lord, give us the courage to respond to this question every day. Let us call You Lord in our words & our actions, so we can share who You are & what you have done in our lives.

Retell Activities & Descriptions

It is important to retell the Bible story after it's been told. Students engage in the story through retelling activities & it helps them in learning it well enough that they can retell it to someone else. Teaching others creates the greatest degree of retention.

The retell activities should be fun & engage the student in the story. Listed below are various ways to retell a Bible story using varied engagement strategies. One way not listed, if the children have Bibles, is to have them open them & re-read the story, perhaps even using different translations. This can also be done by someone reading the story & the leader asking sequential questions which everyone then answers by looking in the Bible.

ART

- **Drawing:** Students can draw what they saw or what they liked best as the story was being told. Have each student share their pictures with the rest of the group.
- **Group Poster:** Students work together on making a poster that can tell the Bible Story. Allow the students to retell the story by using what they drew on the poster.
- **Story Parts:** Students select a certain scene of the story to draw. Have the students put the story in order by the drawings that have been made & retell it as a group.
- **Comic Strip:** Students fold a piece of paper into 4-8 sections. For each scene or action in the Bible story, students draw a picture or object in each box in the order that it happens in the story.
- **Billboard:** Design a roadside billboard of the Bible story or how you see yourself connecting with it.
- **Pictionary:** Different parts of the story are randomly given out & each student needs to draw what they have been given until someone guesses what it is.
- **Tee Shirt Design:** Have each student design the front of a tee shirt that could tell the major parts of the story.
- **Logo Design:** If there could be just one picture, with no words, that would best tell the Bible story, what would that be? Have the students draw it. You can use this simple picture as a way of reviewing the different Bible stories in weeks to come.
- **Book Cover Design:** Students design & draw their own book cover with words & pictures that best capture the different parts of the Bible story.

(CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)

Retell Activities & Descriptions

DRAMA / PERFORMANCE

- **Act it Out:** Assign different characters of the story to each of the students. Let them practice before actually acting out the story. See if there are one or two students who want to be the person telling the story while the other children act it out.
- **Retell:** through a character's eyes.
- **Create a Song:** Create a song that will retell the Bible Story. You might use a song that the students are very familiar with & then change the words so it retells the Bible story.
- **Partners:** Have the students get into smaller groups of 2-3. Each student will take a turn retelling the story. If someone gets stuck & can't remember the next part, the others in the group can help them.
- **Pantomime:** Divide the group into several smaller groups. Have one act out the first part of the story without using words. The other groups have to say what is happening. Rotate groups & continue until the story is complete
- **Objects:** Give each group 1-3 different objects. The group needs to use the different objects in the retelling of the story. They can add other objects, but must use the 3 objects given to them.
- **Human Slide Show:** Find a big cloth to use as a curtain. Two students will hold it up & then drop it when you tell them. Pick several students to be the characters in the story. For each story segment, while the curtain is up, have the students get into a position as though there were a picture or painting of that part of the story. They are to remain perfectly still & then have the cloth dropped so the rest of the group can see it. Each scene changes as the story is retold.
- **Dance:** Retell the story through a dance with or without music & words.
- **Top Ten:** Have the kids, either as a group or individually, write out the top 10 events of the story.
- **Journals:** The children are given the opportunity to just quietly sit & journal what was in the story & what it meant to them.

(CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)

Retell Activities & Descriptions

GAMES

- **Musical Chairs:** Make a circle of chairs (facing out) for each person in your group (minus one). When the music starts, the students start walking in a clockwise direction around the chairs. When you stop the music, everyone quickly finds a chair. The final person standing shares a portion of the story. No students are eliminated. No chairs are removed. Continue doing this until the entire story is retold.
 - **Ball Game:** Identical to Musical Chairs, but played by passing a ball or balloon. Can be played with music or simply the words, “GO” & “STOP”. (using a balloon...try adding a marble or small round pebble in the balloon before you inflate it to increase the fun)
 - **Rope Game:** Identical to Musical Chairs, but the string moves, not the students. Using a long piece of string/rope, tie the ends together to form a loop. Students stand in a circle with everyone holding the rope. They will move the rope in one direction until you say “STOP”. The student closest to the knot, shares the next part of the story.
 - **Movers & Shakers:** Spice up the games by adding a feature to HOW they tell their portion of the story!!! Some examples could be:
 - In a low voice
 - In a high voice while jogging in place
 - In a whisper while tiptoeing
 - In a robot voice while doing the robot
- **Line Up:** Have the students line up in height order. Starting with the tallest, share the story sections until complete.
- **Hide & Seek:** Write phrases of the Bible Story on cards or strips of paper. Place them around the room. Send the students to find them all & then place themselves in the proper order. Have someone read & retell the story.
- **Story Chase:** Write each part of the story on small cards. Randomly tape one card on the back of each student. Have them assemble the story on their own without removing the card. They should line up so that each student can see the phrase in front of them. Have the student retell the story by reading the card on the person in front of them.

Discover & Response Questions

Discover Questions - Head (Facts)

***My goal is to understand the content of the story.
What does the story say? What happened in the story?
I want to **KNOW** God through His Word.***

1. What were you imagining as the story was being told? How did it make you feel?
2. Could you imagine being there? What did you hear/see/smell as the story was told?
3. What stood out to you in the story?
4. What was God/Jesus teaching them in this story?
5. Where in previous stories have we seen God do this?
6. Did you hear anything that reminded you of previous stories?
7. Was there anything that was difficult or hard to understand?
8. How did the story describe God's/Jesus's relationship with people?
9. How does God/Jesus respond to the people in the story? What does this show us?
10. How did God/Jesus respond when ... ?
11. How did people respond ... ?
12. What was God/Jesus teaching or showing them in this event?
13. What is something you learned today about ...
 - a. God?
 - b. Jesus?
 - c. This story?
 - d. What it means to follow Jesus?
 - e. Yourself?
14. What choices did the people make? What else could they have done? What happened because of the choices they made?
15. How are the characters alike or different in the story?

(CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)

Discover & Response Questions

Discover Questions - Heart (Feelings)

***My goal is to connect emotionally & spiritually with the story,
Allowing the story to penetrate my heart. How does it relate to my life?
I want to LOVE God through His Word.***

1. What do you think was the most important part of today's story?
2. What feelings did you have as you heard the story? How would you have felt if ... ?
3. What did you imagine as you were listening to the story?
4. What did you wonder about when the story was being told?
5. What feelings do you think motivated ... ?
6. What do you think was going on in ...'s heart & mind in this story?
7. What surprised you or amazed you about today's story?
8. Which character in today's story do you most relate to?
9. What do you feel is really important to God/Jesus? To the character?
10. In what ways are we also like ...? In what ways are we different?
11. After hearing the story, how might it change how you view yourself?
12. Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?
13. What is something you never realized before today?
14. What is the most interesting thing you heard today?
15. How did this story challenge you or encourage you?

(CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)

Discover & Response Questions

Discover Questions - Hands (Actions)

My goal is to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to respond & apply what I've learned from the story.

What does God want me, specifically, to do with what I've learned?

I want to **SERVE** God by obeying what I've learned from His Word.

1. What did you hear today that makes you think you ought to make a change in your life?
2. From what you learned today, what is God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit asking you to do?
3. What do you think God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit is saying to you?
4. What should you do differently because of today's story? What difference will this make in how you love & serve Him?
5. What did we learn about being a follower of Jesus from this story? How can you put this insight into practice this week?
6. How should we respond to God/Jesus today?
7. After hearing the story, how will you live differently?
8. Do you want to know God like this? Is there something happening right now in your life where God/Jesus/the Holy Spirit could help you?
9. Who can you share this story with this week?
10. How do you think God wants you to have a part in His story?



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