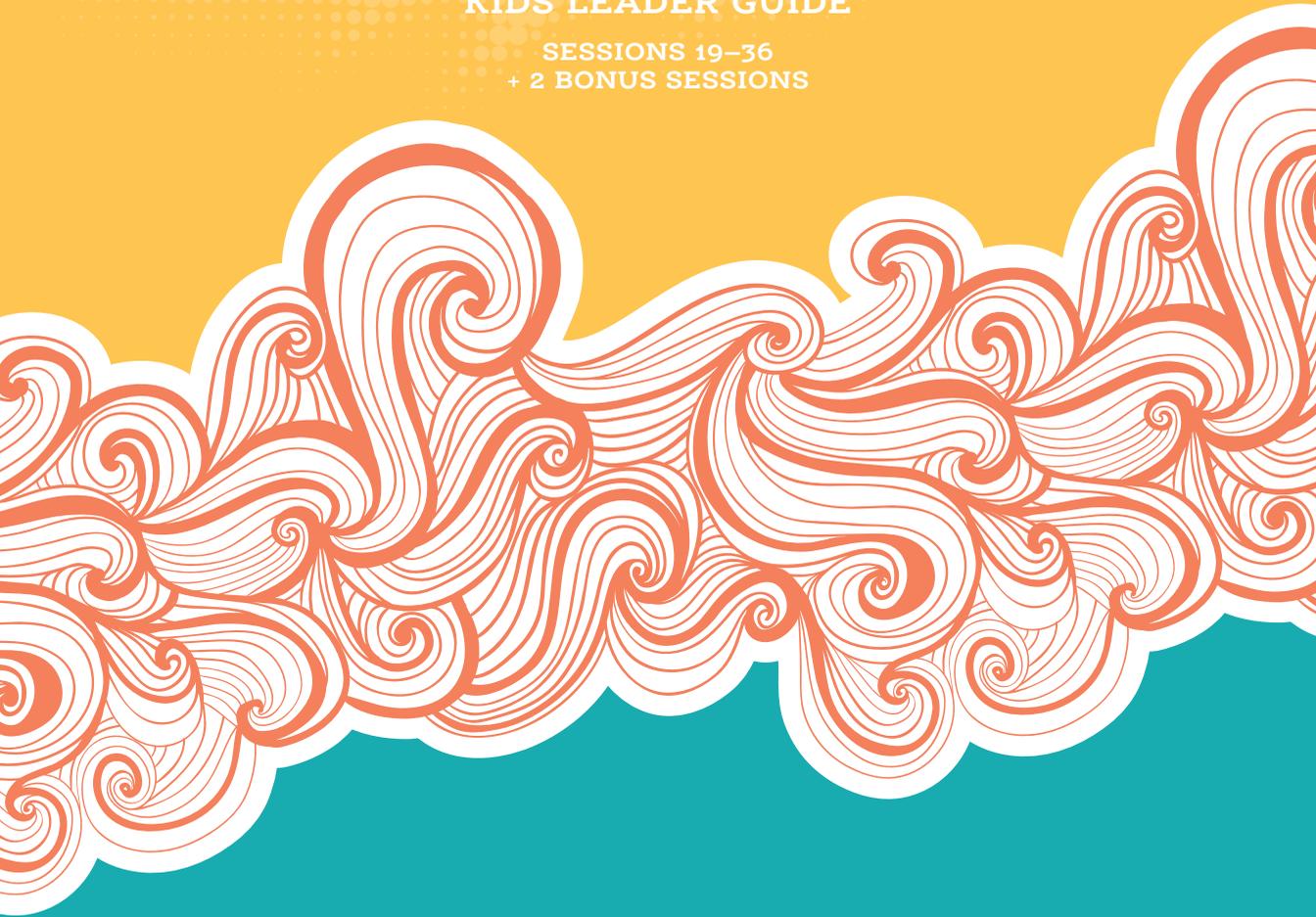




GOOD NEWS

KIDS LEADER GUIDE

SESSIONS 19–36
+ 2 BONUS SESSIONS





GOOD NEWS

KIDS LEADER GUIDE BOOK 2

SESSIONS 19–36
+ 2 BONUS SESSIONS

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We believe the Bible has God for its author; salvation for its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter and that all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy.

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FILL IN THE DATES IN THE BLANKS
TO HELP WITH PLANNING!

Use additional
bonus sessions as
needed throughout
the semester.

TEAMKID PRINTABLE ITEMS

GENERAL HELPS

Clip Art

1. Administrative Guide
2. Volunteer Application Form
3. TeamKID Registration Card
4. Allergy Alert
5. Parent Letter
6. 15 Easy Steps for Promotion
7. Leading a TeamKID Session
8. World Map
9. Books of the Bible Poster
10. The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

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39. Unit 3 Parent Connections

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41. Key Verse Mix Up

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43. William Carey Story

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47. Food Items
48. Lasting Value Cards

SESSION 24

49. Generosity Matters

SESSION 25

50. Letters and Numbers in American Sign Language

SESSION 26

51. Deaf Fast Facts

SESSION 27

52. Christian Manga

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53. Unit 4 Parent Connections

SESSION 29

54. Jim and Elizabeth Elliot Story

SESSION 30

55. Flags
56. Story Sequence Strips

SESSION 31

57. Missions in the Amazon

SESSION 33

58. Do You Know?
59. UPG Prayer Requests

SESSION 34

60. Bible Bingo Cards

SESSION 35

61. Airplane Instructions and Review

SESSION 36

62. Four Across Review Questions
63. Brody Brewer Photos

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64. Bonus Unit Parent Connections

BONUS SESSION 3

66. Mystery Picture
67. The Old Testament and Jesus
68. Annie Armstrong Facts

BONUS SESSION 4

69. Video Guide

VIDEO MENU

- What William Carey Left
- Gathering Crowds
- Showing and Sharing
- Hands Giving Hope
- A Legacy
- Reaching the Hard-to-Reach in the Amazon
- Understanding Unreached and Unengaged
- Committing to Reach the Unreached

- Bonus Video:
Short-term in Russia

WHAT DOES A TEAMKID SESSION LOOK LIKE?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES, + 10 MINUTES FOR EXPANDED)

Led by the main leader, large group uses fun, innovative methods to make the learning different from other times of learning. The beginning of large group encourages kids to work together by participating in a group activity or game. The leader introduces TeamKIDs to the session content, followed by an interactive Bible study. Kids activate various learning styles and engage in critical thinking skills of key Bible concepts through active learning activities provided in the TeamKID activity book. The group then has the option to separate into age-appropriate groups for deeper discussion and prayer.

ROTATION OPTIONS

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES, + 5 MINUTES FOR EXPANDED)

This rotation of a TeamKID session presents fun, hands-on activities to help kids learn key Bible concepts, study their Bibles deeper, and work on Scripture memorization, Bible skills, and deeper understanding. There are two options available for leaders to customize to maximize the group's schedule.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES, + 5 MINUTES FOR EXPANDED)

The missions rotation invites kids to experience a missionary and/or missionary family through a missions video or activity. It encourages kids in finding ways they can live “on mission” in their homes and community.

The missions videos can be found in the Leader Kit (DVD-ROM or digital downloads). A separate missions DVD with video content only is sold at lifeway.com/teamkid. Leaders can utilize this DVD for teams of two or more teams with revolving rotation schedules.

TeamKID: Good News Missions DVD (9781087766836)

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES, + 5 MINUTES FOR EXPANDED)

The games rotation reinforces the truths from the session through high energy games and activities. The recreation leader chooses from up to three TeamKID games, including a unit bonus game to customize the exciting experience for kids. Provide the recreation leader with the *TeamKID: Good News Playbook* (provided in the *Good News Leader Kit*) to lead this time. Game explanations, supplies, and debriefing can also be found in the Leader Guide.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES, + 5 MINUTES FOR EXPANDED)

This final rotation brings all TeamKIDs back together to refocus on and recap what was presented in the session. TeamKIDs recall the key Bible study points, the Key Verse, and action steps of their time together. They also play a fun game that reinforces key truths as adults arrive to pick up their children for dismissal.

*See next page for sample schedules.

TEAMKID SCHEDULES

RECOMMENDED SCHEDULE: 1 HOUR AND 30 MINUTES

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| LARGE GROUP | 30 MIN |
| BIBLE ACTIVITIES | 15 MIN |
| MISSIONS | 15 MIN |
| GAMES | 20 MIN |
| CLOSING | 10 MIN |

EXPANDED SCHEDULE: 2 HOURS

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| LARGE GROUP | 40 MIN |
| BIBLE ACTIVITIES | 20 MIN |
| MISSIONS | 20 MIN |
| GAMES | 25 MIN |
| CLOSING | 15 MIN |

CONDENSED SCHEDULE: 1 HOUR

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| LARGE GROUP | 20 MIN |
| BIBLE ACTIVITIES | 10 MIN |
| MISSIONS | 10 MIN |
| GAMES | 15 MIN |
| CLOSING | 5 MIN |

CREATE YOUR SCHEDULE: TIME GOAL: _____

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

BONUS SESSIONS

New bonus sessions are included in each leader guide. Two sessions are created for the first semester and two sessions for the second semester. Utilize these sessions around the Christmas and Easter holidays, school breaks, weekend retreats, church conferences, and more!

TEAMKID RESOURCES

The following resources can make running TeamKID: Good News easier for you and more fun for kids.

TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS LEADER KIT

(9781087766782)

TeamKID: Good News Digital Leader Kit (9781087766973)

The Leader Kit provides a leader guide, printable downloads, missions videos, and general instructions on setting up and administering TeamKID. The printable downloads contain reproducible items for assisting in teaching each session, and at-home parent connections. This resource can be a one-time purchase per church.



TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS ACTIVITY BOOKS

TeamKID: Good News Older Kids Activity Book (9781087766812)

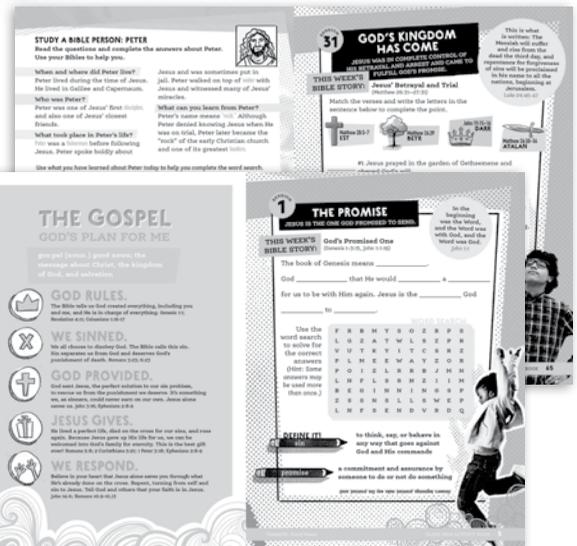
TeamKID: Good News Younger Kids Activity Book (9781087766805)

The Good News activity books contain materials for 36 sessions of TeamKID + 4 bonus sessions. Use one perforated activity page for each child. Each activity page contains fun activities to help children understand and apply the teaching concept of the session.



TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS MISSIONS DVD

(9781087766836) Includes all the missions videos for churches who want to purchase a DVD per missions rotation.



PROMOTING TEAMKID

Getting children to participate in TeamKID should be your first goal. But how can you attract children and parents who have busy schedules? Good, effective promotion is the key.

Your publicity may include phone calls, personal visits, mail-outs, displays, bulletin boards, posters, handouts, announcements, newsletters or newspaper articles, and a host of other approaches. See the clip art and promotion ideas included in the Printables for more ways to promote TeamKID.

TEAMKID BANNER

(9781415822265)

Use the TeamKID Banner to tell the community that TeamKID meets at your church.



TEAMKID MOTTO BANNER

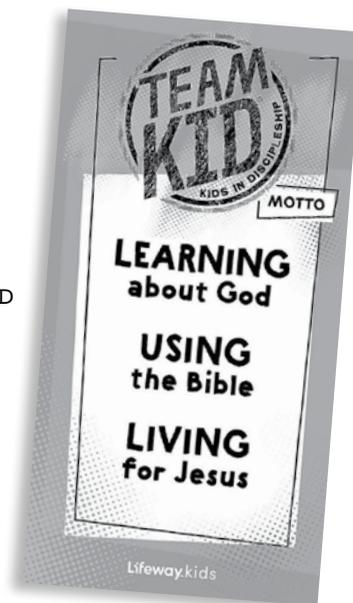
(9781415835333)

Use the TeamKID Banner to tell the community that TeamKID meets at your church.

TEAMKID PENCILS (9780767327954)

TEAMKID T-SHIRTS

Includes all the missions videos for churches who want to purchase a DVD per missions rotation.



YOUTH SMALL (9781087774251)

YOUTH MEDIUM (9781087774268)

YOUTH LARGE (9781087774275)

ADULT MEDIUM (9781087774282)

ADULT LARGE (9781087774299)

ADULT X-LARGE (9781087774305)

ADULT 2X-LARGE (9781087774312)

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR TEAMKIDS

TeamKID is designed for kids in grades 1–6. This multi-age resource engages kids in various stages of childhood as they grow deeper in faith through discipleship.

During TeamKID, kids have the opportunity to see how a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is crucial. They can learn that they can trust Jesus every step of the way. To help you lead kids of this age to begin and grow their relationships with Jesus, here are a few things to keep in mind.

YOUNGER KIDS (GRADES 1–2)

- 1st and 2nd graders shift quickly from one activity to the next and are extremely active. They benefit from a variety of high, moderate, and low energy activities. They use their entire bodies to learn. They benefit from learning experiences that incorporate all senses.
- 1st and 2nd graders love discovering things and having opportunities to be creative. They benefit from activities like solving simple codes, playing games, or retelling the Bible story through drama.
- 1st and 2nd graders are learning to view Jesus as a friend and are beginning to feel the need to trust Jesus as Savior. They benefit from teachers who lovingly share information about what becoming a Christian means without putting pressure on them to make an immediate decision. Children should be reassured that it's OK if they don't feel God's Holy Spirit leading them to trust Jesus right now.
- 1st and 2nd graders are limited in their ability to think abstractly. They benefit from teachers who explain things clearly in simple terms without the use of abstract object lessons or analogies. They understand better when directions are short and simple.
- 1st and 2nd graders are focused on their own needs and moving toward independence. They benefit from simple rules and routines that are consistent. However, they like opportunities to make simple choices.
- 1st and 2nd graders are sensitive and desire approval. They can experience sudden mood swings. They benefit from positive words and encouraging facial expressions. They respond to teachers who listen to them and are patient with them during trying times.

Leader Tip: to become more familiar with first and second graders, consider watching television programming aimed at this age group, visiting the children's section of a bookstore, and walking down the toy aisles of a local department store.

OLDER KIDS (GRADES 3–4)

PHYSICALLY AND SOCIALLY

- Are active, energetic, and enthusiastic by nature and need an outlet for those physical characteristics with active learning experiences.
- Are in the process of building relationships, usually loyal to their friends (generally of the same gender), and want to be helpful to the group or team.
- Like to work in groups and focus on fairness.
- Do not want to call attention to themselves or be compared to others. They are more comfortable playing a game or answering questions as part of a group.
- Are beginning to take more responsibility for their actions.

SPIRITUALLY

- Are developing values and thinking in terms of right or wrong instead of good and bad.
- Are learning that the Bible tells of God's plan of salvation.
- Can memorize short Bible passages and learn and apply Bible truths about salvation.
- Can ask serious questions about religion.
- Can follow the examples, teachings, and commandments of Jesus.
- Are aware that God loves and values all people.

EMOTIONALLY

- Are increasing in their self concept. Can be strong-willed at times as they seek ways to show independence.
- Can be anxious, withdrawn, tend to complain, and are often hesitant to try new activities. Are generally sensitive, their feelings are hurt easily, and they cry easily.

BIBLE SKILLS

- Are able to locate some books in the Bible.
- Can locate books of the Bible by using the contents page or with a teacher's assistance.
- Can find information asked for by reading a verse or passage.
- Can pronounce some of the names of Bible people, places, and things.
- Can discover and apply truths in a Bible passage.
- Learn Bible truths never change.
- Begin to use the Bible for daily Bible reading.
- Know the Bible teaches people how God wants them to live.

PRETEENS (GRADES 5–6)

UNDERSTAND HOW PRETEENS DEVELOP

Preteens can appear to be constantly on the go and are experiencing growth spurts. They can memorize easily, think quickly, and solve problems for themselves. Many preteens enjoy sports, competition, and active games, yet they are worried about fitting in and rejection. Preteens need you to remember that they develop at different rates. They do not all have the same skills and abilities. Plan activities that use gross motor skills (such as games) and fine motor skills (such as crafts). Give preteens choices whenever possible.

UNDERSTAND HOW PRETEENS THINK

Preteens seem slow to respond but are creative, imaginative, and curious. They are critical of themselves and others. They are beginning to question authority and expect perfection. Preteens experience emotional highs and lows and may exhibit oppositional behaviors at times. Preteens need you to listen to and respect their ideas. They want to feel needed, accepted, and loved at church. Try to capitalize on the fact that preteens have a good sense of humor to de-escalate any conflicts that may arise.

Leader Tip: to become more familiar with 3rd and 4th graders, consider watching television programming aimed at this age group, visiting the children's section of a bookstore, and walking down the toy aisles of a local department store. Ask kids you know what social media influencers they are following and what video games they are playing, as well.

UNDERSTAND PRETEENS' SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Preteens can be sensitive to conviction from the Holy Spirit and are developing a value system based on their own understanding of biblical principles. They are beginning to apply the biblical truths they are learning in Bible study to their lives. Preteens need you to openly answer spiritual questions using the Bible as your guide. They need you to model Christian attitudes and actions and be a Christian mentor.

KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Kids with special needs may struggle with one or more of the following disabilities: physical, developmental/learning, behavioral/emotional, or sensory impairment. Physical disabilities affect a preteen's movement and motion. Learning disabilities impact the way preteens process and understand information. Behavioral and emotional disabilities are characterized by difficulties paying attention and building and maintaining relationships with peers and teachers. Sensory impairments include vision or hearing loss or impairments, feeding issues, tactile (touch) sensitivity, and spatial awareness difficulties.

Use the following modifications to help kids or preteens with special needs in your classroom:

- Make sure rooms are uncluttered and organized. Too many decorations in one area can distract preteens and cause anxiety, especially among those with attention related disabilities and sensory impairments. Ensure there are free and clear areas so those with mobility issues can easily walk or move through in a wheelchair.
- Provide oral instructions and repeat instructions as needed. Break down instructions for crafts, games, and other learning activities into smaller, manageable tasks. Kids with learning and/or behavioral/emotional disabilities struggle when hearing several instructions at once. If possible, demonstrate how to complete tasks.
- When needed, find a buddy to work alongside the preteen. This will help establish relationships, trust, and consistency. A buddy could be an extra adult helper or student helper.
- Use a positive approach to feedback. It may be easy to feel impatient when dealing with kids and preteens with behavioral or emotional disorders. Try to maintain a calm response despite any disruptive behaviors. Redirect the child's attention when needed.
- Allow movement breaks as needed. Kids with autism and other developmental disabilities may need movement breaks.

SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH KIDS

TeamKID is a great time to share the gospel message with kids. Every TeamKID Kit provides a gospel presentation video for kids that you can use anytime you want to share the message of the gospel. Print and share the Gospel: God's Plan for Me Poster (Item 10) and utilize "The Gospel: God's Plan" slide during large group and closing. Consider these thoughts as you get ready to share.

- The ultimate goal of teaching the Bible is for a person to trust Jesus as his Savior when the Holy Spirit leads him to realize that he has sinned against God and is spiritually lost. The Holy Spirit is the leader in the experience, but believers have the responsibility of following the Spirit's leading.
- Some kids have already become Christians. Others will come to that decision at different times. You will lay the foundation for making that decision while at the same time not rushing a child into a decision she is not ready to make.
- Becoming a Christian is an individual matter and discussions about conversion are more effective when conducted individually. TeamKIDs will feel freer to share true thoughts and feelings. Follow safety protocols and make sure an adult is never alone with a child.
- Remember that each person comes to this decision as the Holy Spirit leads. Kids respond at different ages.
- The questions a child asks can signal a leader that the child is considering the decision to trust in Jesus. When she asks her questions, answer simply and without pushing the child to do more than she is ready to do. More than anything, these questions indicate the child's awareness of her need for God.
- If a child indicates a desire to become a Christian, ask her to tell you what she is thinking and feeling. Use questions that require thoughtful answers rather than just yes or no. Use language the child understands.
- You might want to use these questions: Why do you want to become a Christian? What do you think it means to be a Christian?
- Use your Bible as you share the gospel. After reading a Bible verse, be ready to explain the verse in your own words. Help the child understand unfamiliar terms such as repent. Refer to *The Gospel: God's Plan for Me* booklet for Bible verses to share and kid-friendly ways to explain how to become a Christian.
- Help a child know how he can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. Refer to *The Gospel: God's Plan for Me* booklet for ways to help kids know what they can do.
- One common misconception for kids is that being baptized makes them a Christian. Be sure they know the difference between becoming a Christian, being baptized, and joining the church.
- Help TeamKIDs to understand that the gospel changes and transforms hearts.
- Focusing on external behavior misses the heart. The gospel is about heart transformation.
- Remember that the gospel does not just save someone from sin, it also saves that person to live for God. Jesus calls His disciples to live on mission for His glory.
- Don't forget that children are very literal. Explain any symbolism that a child might find unclear.
- Prepare yourself ahead of time so you are ready to answer kids' questions as they arise. Be ready with Bible verses ready to use. Pray. Ask God's leadership as you help kids grow in their understanding of salvation.

THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FOR ME booklet (CSB: 9781430066965) is sold in packs of 10 and provides a witnessing tool that emphasizes God's plan of salvation from Creation to Jesus and how we respond to the good news. Also available in ESV (9781430066958).

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

gos·pel [noun.] good news; the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation



GOD RULES.

The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17



WE SINNED.

We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. Romans 3:23; 6:23



GOD PROVIDED.

God sent Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9



JESUS GIVES.

He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:8-9



WE RESPOND.

Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. John 14:6; Romans 10:9-10,13

THE PROMISED ONE

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS IS THE MESSIAH THAT GOD PROMISED.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is the Messiah (Matthew 16:13-28, Luke 9:18-27)

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

KEY VERSE

Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 2 slide
- Session 19 slide
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video

- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)
- "Who Am I?" (item 40)
- Tape
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

TOSS AND TELL

- Four paper plates
- 2 bean bags

KEY VERSE MIX UP

- "Key Verse Mix Up" (item 41)

MISSIONS

- "What William Carey Left" missions video
- "World Map" (item 8)
- Markers
- Yarn or ribbon
- Tape

GAMES

SAY YES TO JESUS (PLAYBOOK, P 51)

- Index cards with various situations written on them about selfless and selfish behaviors

PROMISED ONE CLOTHESPIN TAG (PLAYBOOK, P 54)

- Clothespins (1 per player),
- Strips of paper (1 per player)

MISSION READY (PLAYBOOK, P 55)

- 6 markers (different colors)
- Craft sticks

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 16:13-28 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

Many of the people during Jesus' time on earth had differing viewpoints on Jesus' identity. Jesus asked His disciples to tell Him who the people said the Son of Man was. The Son of Man is the name Jesus most often called Himself. This name was used in the book of Daniel to refer to the future Messiah. (See Daniel 7:13.) Jesus' disciples responded by saying that people had compared Jesus to John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah, and other prophets from Israel's history.

Probing further, Jesus wanted the disciples to confess who they believed Him to be. Peter identified Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. God gave Peter understanding to recognize that Jesus was not another prophet. **Jesus is the Messiah that God promised.** The disciples would soon learn that as the Messiah, Jesus was calling them to live differently. He was inviting them to follow after Jesus in obedience and action.

CONSIDER

- What do you think people who are not following Jesus in our culture say about who Jesus is? How is this view of Jesus similar to or different from who Jesus says He is?

- Read Matthew 16:24 again. How would you explain what this verse means to someone who has heard of Jesus, but isn't following Him?

- Is there anything in your life right now that you are looking to for satisfaction other than Jesus? How is this keeping you from following and trusting Jesus fully?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: WHO AM I? (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Allergy Alert (item 4) for adhesive contact with skin, “Who Am I?” (item 40), tape

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Pair each TeamKID with a partner. Provide tape loops and one “Who Am I?” animal card to each TeamKID. Instruct them to tape their cards to their foreheads without looking at the images on the cards. TeamKIDs may also hold up the cards to their foreheads without looking at them.

Ask partners to take turns asking “yes” or “no” questions to determine what animals are on their cards. (examples: does my animal have spots, can my animal fly?)

Allow TeamKIDs to take turns asking questions until they have determined their animals’ identities. As time allows, mix up and redistribute cards. Lead TeamKIDs to switch partners and play again.

- **Say:** Those were some great guesses. As you tried to guess the animal on your card, you were not quite sure about its identity. To find out what animal you had, you asked questions and relied on what you knew about different animals to try and learn the identity of your animal. In today’s Bible study, many people were unsure about who Jesus really was. Let’s discover more about this conversation Jesus had with His disciples.

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS IS THE MESSIAH (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 41 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** Today’s Bible study is titled “Jesus Is the Messiah.”
- **Ask:** Have you ever thought about what the word “messiah” means?
- **Say:** The word Messiah means “anointed one.” This was the name given to the promised One God told about in the Old Testament. **Jesus is the Messiah that God promised.** As years went by, many people began to think that this word, Messiah, meant that the Promised One would be someone who came in grand power with the mission to overthrow the Roman government. But, Jesus helped the disciples to see that He came to offer salvation and bring peace. Let’s open our Bibles to the book of Matthew, chapter 16 and learn more.

DEFINE IT: MESSIAH—anointed one

DEFINE IT: PROMISE— to make a statement that you will do what you say you will do

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

JESUS IS THE MESSIAH BASED ON MATTHEW 16:13-28, LUKE 9:18-27

.....

Read Matthew 16:13-16, or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

• Jesus had some important questions to ask His disciples. He wanted His disciples to understand clearly who He was and why He had come. While Jesus and His disciples were in the city of Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asked them, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

• **Ask:** How did the disciples respond? (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss.)

• The disciples told Jesus that some people said He was John the Baptist or the prophet Elijah or the prophet Jeremiah from many years ago.

• **Ask:** Do you think these people were correct? Why or why not? (No, the people were wrong because they only saw Jesus as a great prophet, not the promised Messiah.)

• Jesus then asked His disciples who they said He was. Peter spoke up and said that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Peter correctly declared who Jesus is and demonstrated his faith in Jesus. Jesus called Peter blessed and told him that it was God who had revealed His true identity to Peter. Jesus gave Peter and the other disciples the special task of carrying out His mission by sharing the good news of the gospel.

Read Matthew 16:21, or enlist a TeamKID to read this verse.

• **Jesus is the Messiah that God promised**, but He was not the Messiah that people expected. As the anointed one, Jesus came to suffer and die in our place, for our sins. He told the disciples that it was necessary for Him to go to Jerusalem and fulfill God’s plan.

Read Luke 9:23-27.

• **Ask:** What do you think Jesus meant when He said, “whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me will save it?” (Lead TeamKIDs to discuss that trusting and following Jesus is God’s plan for us. When we focus more on what we want than on what God wants for our lives, we will never be fully satisfied.)

• Jesus wanted His disciples to follow His example of being willing to sacrifice Himself for others. We trust in Jesus and give Him first place in our lives. By following Jesus we are willing to suffer like Him and put others before ourselves. We choose to make everything about how we can glorify Jesus and not ourselves. By doing so, we prove that we are not ashamed of Jesus. Because Jesus is the Messiah—the One sent to save us—we live for Him and follow after His teaching.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say: Jesus is the Messiah that God promised.** Jesus' disciples recognized Him as the Messiah, the promised Son of God. And Jesus began preparing the disciples that He must go to Jerusalem to suffer and die as the punishment for sin. Jesus would die on the cross, but then He promised He would be raised to life after three days. Jesus came to fulfill God's plan so we can be forgiven when we trust in Jesus for salvation.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Read and discuss the questions below. Encourage TeamKIDS to use their Bibles to support their answers.

Younger Kids

- Who did Jesus' disciples say He was? (the Messiah, the Son of God, Matthew 16:16)
- What does Messiah mean? (anointed one)
- What did Jesus tell His disciples He must do? (go to Jerusalem to suffer and die and be raised to life after three days; Matthew 16:21)

Older Kids

- Read Matthew 16:24. Jesus said that if anyone wants to follow Him, that person must deny himself and follow Jesus. What does this verse mean? (As followers of Jesus, we are willing to say no to the selfish things we want so that we can follow and obey Jesus.)
- When is it hard to put Jesus first? (Lead TeamKIDS in a discussion. Remind them that everyone struggles with selfishness and wanting to put ourselves and what we want first. However, Jesus calls us to put Him first because that is how life works best.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDS are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to the back of their activity pages to complete "The Promised Savior." Explain to TeamKIDS that **Jesus is the Messiah that God promised**. Remind them that Jesus often asked questions of His disciples to help them understand who He is. Jesus is not afraid of our questions. He wants us to know who He is and trust in Him.

Review today's Key Verse and invite a TeamKID to explain this verse in his own words. Share that Jesus calls us to live for Him as we follow after Him. That means that we say yes to obeying Jesus, and no to our own selfishness.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDS in prayer. Thank God for sending Jesus just as He promised. Ask God to help kids look for opportunities to put Jesus first in their lives and serve others.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

TOSS AND TELL

Provide: Four paper plates with “Matthew”, “Mark”, “Luke”, and “John” written on them (one book on each plate), 2 bean bags

- Remind TeamKIDS that this year we are studying the four Gospel books and learning more about how each book tells us about Jesus’ life and ministry.
- Guide TeamKIDS to form two teams. Explain that each team will take turns tossing a beanbag onto one of the four Gospel books. If the beanbag lands on one of the Gospels, that TeamKID will share one thing she knows about the book or author of that book. (Allow duplicate answers.) Every correct answer earns that team 10 points. The first team to reach 100 points, wins.
- Share with TeamKIDS how proud you are of the things they are learning about the Bible. Remind the group that every person can learn more about Jesus by reading or listening to the Bible, asking questions, and praying that God would help them understand. Just like God helped Peter understand that Jesus is the Messiah, God wants to help us understand more about who He is and how we can live for Him.

KEY VERSE MIX UP

Provide: “Key Verse Mix Up” (item 41)—one set for each team

- Lead TeamKIDS to form two teams. Read Matthew 16:24 or invite a TeamKID to read this verse. Explain that today’s Key Verse is written on the puzzle pieces, but is mixed up.
- Ask each team to work together to put the words back in order. Allow teams to use their Bibles if needed. The team to put the verse together first wins!
- Repeat the verse as a group, and discuss how Jesus calls us to follow after Him. Encourage TeamKIDS to explain the verse in their own words. Share that Jesus calls us to put Him first in our lives. This means that the decisions we make about what we do, our attitudes, and how we act should honor Jesus.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “World Map” (item 8), “What William Carey Left” missions video, markers, yarn or ribbon, tape

- **Say:** As Christians, we want other people to know that Jesus is the promised Messiah. William Carey, a missionary hundreds of years ago, wanted to make sure that people in India heard about Jesus and had a chance to follow the Messiah. Let’s find out more about him.

Play the missions video. After the video, display the “World Map” (item 8). Ask volunteers to find England and India on the map. Draw a line connecting the two countries.

Encourage kids to tape pieces of yarn leading from your state in the U.S. to a country in the world where they might like to visit. Ask kids if they have reasons for choosing a particular country (for example, they have friends who lives there).

- **Say:** William Carey left his home in England to go to India so that many people could hear about Jesus. Wherever God leads you in the future, you can always be a witness for Him and tell others about Jesus.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: SAY YES TO JESUS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 51)

Provide: Index cards with various situations written on them about selfless and selfish behaviors (examples: “I gave the last cookie to my little brother,” “I talked back to my mom under my breath.”)

- Read today’s Key Verse and invite TeamKIDs to repeat the verse after you. Explain that in this game, players will listen for a situation related to today’s verse. If the card describes something that is selfless, then the players will shout “yes” and run toward the opposite side of the room until the leader says “Stop.” If the card is something selfish and puts yourself first, players will freeze in place. Continue playing until a player is the first to reach the opposite wall.
- Debrief: Discuss how Jesus calls us to say, “yes” to obeying and choosing to live for Him. Share that we experience greater joy when we live to bring glory to Jesus and not ourselves.

PROMISED ONE CLOTHESPIN TAG (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 54)

Provide: Clothespin (1 per player), strips of paper with one word of Today’s Point written on each strip of paper (1 per player)

- Provide each player with a clothespin and a strip of paper. Tell players to attach the paper to their clothing with the clothespin. Instruct players that they are to try to grab the other players’ strips of paper to complete the phrase **“Jesus is the Messiah that God promised.”** The first player to complete the phrase wins.
- Debrief: Read Matthew 16:16. Discuss how Peter correctly identified Jesus as the Messiah. Remind TeamKIDs that **Jesus is the Messiah that God promised.**

MISSION READY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 55)

Provide: 6 markers (different colors), craft sticks

- Explain to TeamKIDs that there are six markers hidden around the room. Give each player a craft stick. Share that their mission is to find each hidden marker and make a mark on their craft sticks with that marker. Be sure players put the marker back where they found it after marking their craft sticks. The first player to color her craft stick with all six colors wins.
- Debrief: Lead TeamKIDs to recognize that as the Messiah, Jesus came to fulfill a mission. Just like you had a mission to find all of the markers, Jesus also had a mission as the Messiah. Jesus came to suffer, die, and rise from the dead so that we could be saved when we trust in Jesus.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide. Ask kids, “What was the Messiah’s (Jesus’) mission and purpose? How can you be part of this mission?”

Lead TeamKIDs in a discussion of Jesus’ mission. Help kids understand that Jesus’ mission was to obey His Father’s plan to rescue us from sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus for salvation is saved from sin and welcomed into God’s kingdom.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

- **Say: Jesus is the Messiah that God promised.** Even when others did not clearly
- understand who Jesus was, Peter recognized Jesus as the Messiah, the promised Son of God. As the
- Messiah, Jesus came to die for our sins and also calls us to say no to our selfishness as we follow
- His example. Think about ways you can show others that you follow and obey Jesus this week as
- you say “yes” to Jesus.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read the Key Verse together from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide. Encourage TeamKIDs to share what they think Jesus meant when He said these words. Explain that to follow Jesus is not just a one-time decision. It starts when we decide to trust Jesus for salvation, but that is just the beginning. Throughout our lives as people who love and trust Jesus, we continue to wrestle with the temptation to disobey God and follow our own way. Instead, Jesus encourages us to continue following Him in all of the choices we make in our lives.

PRAY

Thank God for always keeping His promises. Ask God to help each child live for Jesus and be willing to put Him first always.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections”(item 39)

Play a quick game where kids take turns saying a letter of the alphabet in order and giving an example of how we can live for Jesus using that letter. For example: “A”, admit sin and repent. “B” be kind to others, “C” clean up when asked, “D” deliver food to someone in need, etc.

Remind TeamKIDs that God’s love for us was shown through Jesus’ sacrifice and that we can help others see God’s love when we live like Jesus.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

THE MERCIFUL NEIGHBOR

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS TAUGHT THAT LIVING AS GOD'S PEOPLE MEANS SHOWING MERCY AND KINDNESS TO OTHER PEOPLE.

BIBLE STORY

The Parable of the Good Samaritan
(Luke 10:25-37)

KEY VERSE

Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

ACT LIKE A NEIGHBOR

- Optional—any props you might want to include for skits such as bandages, coins, robes, etc.

LOVE GOD, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

- Sets of 5 index cards with the words "heart," "soul," "strength," "mind," and "neighbor" written, one word on each card (one set per team)

MISSIONS

- "What William Carey Left" missions video
- "William Carey Photo" (item 42)
- "William Carey Story" (item 43)
- Poster board
- Markers

GAMES

SAY YES TO JESUS (PLAYBOOK, P 51)

- Index cards with various situations written on them about selfless and selfish behaviors

BAND-AID PASS (PLAYBOOK, P 56)

- Masking tape
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)

SEEK MERCY (PLAYBOOK, P 57)

- Sticky notes with M-E-R-C-Y written on separate notes
- Masking tape

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 10:25-37 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

At the end of this parable, Jesus asked the expert of the law which of the three men from the story proved to be a neighbor to the man in need. The man's response may be one we have heard many times, but are quick to read over.

“The one who showed mercy to him.” (Luke 10:37)

How do we demonstrate that we are neighbors to those around us? We show mercy. God has been so merciful to us, and in His kindness He has offered forgiveness through Jesus. Just as we have been shown mercy, we are to show mercy to others.

The question that ignited Jesus' teaching was about how to inherit eternal life. And the evidence of our salvation is found in how we reflect the message of the gospel to those around us through our words, thoughts, and actions. By loving others as God has loved us, we demonstrate mercy and kindness.

The Samaritan came across a complete stranger, yet saw his need and had compassion on him. He took it upon himself to act as a neighbor to this man, going above and beyond to care for him. God's grace in our own lives—knowing that we are undeserving of His mercy—should motivate our hearts to be merciful neighbors to the people God has placed in our paths.

CONSIDER

- How do we sometimes try to justify our lack of neighborly love, like the expert in the law tried to do?

- Spend time praying for God to show you people you will cross paths with this week whom you can show love and mercy toward.

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR (5–10 MINUTES)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Invite kids to join in a large circle with one person in the middle. The goal for the person in the middle of the circle is to find a spot in the circle.

Lead the kid in the middle to say, “All my neighbors who . . . (insert a description statement).” Then those whom the statement describes must change spots within the circle. The TeamKID in the middle can try and find an empty spot in the circle, too. Whoever is left without a spot is now in the middle.

Continue playing, allowing kids to come up with different neighbor phrases.

Phrases to consider:

All my neighbors who . . . are wearing tennis shoes, go to school, have an older brother or sister, like basketball, eat pizza, play video games, and so forth.

Explain how everyone here is someone’s neighbor, but how we are all different in how we look, what we like, where we live, and so forth. Discuss how today’s Bible story will help us understand how we can be good neighbors to those we meet.

BIBLE STUDY: THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 43 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** Have you ever had to go to a neighbor for help? Maybe your family needed to borrow something, like an egg to make brownies or a tool to fix something broken in your home. Maybe your neighbor has helped watch you while your parents went out for a few hours. The Bible tells us that we are all to act like a neighbor to everyone God places in our lives. But we aren’t just to act like any neighbor. Today’s Bible study is going to teach us about being a merciful neighbor. To show mercy means to show kindness to someone, even if he doesn’t deserve it. **Jesus taught that living as God’s people means showing mercy and kindness to other people.**

- Let’s open our Bibles to the Gospel of Luke, chapter 10. In this passage, Jesus tells a group of people a parable. A parable is a story. Jesus told parables to teach people about the kingdom of God. Throughout His ministry, Jesus often encountered people with many questions for Him. In today’s Bible passage, an expert in the law asked Jesus a question to try to test Him. Let’s hear how Jesus responded.

DEFINE IT: MERCY—not receiving a punishment you deserve; to help someone in distress

DEFINE IT: PARABLE—stories that teach something; Jesus taught parables about the kingdom of God

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN BASED ON LUKE 10:25-37

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Read Luke 10:25-29, or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

- ⋮ **Ask:** What question did the expert of the law ask Jesus to test Him? (Who is my neighbor?)
- ⋮
- ⋮ The man who heard Jesus' teaching to love God and love your neighbor wanted to
- ⋮ excuse how he had not loved his neighbor rightly. So the man asked Jesus, "And
- ⋮ who is my neighbor?" Jesus answered the man's question by telling a parable.

Read Luke 10:30-34, or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

- ⋮ **Ask:** In this story, who was the true neighbor to the man who had been robbed and hurt? (The
- ⋮ Samaritan man)
- ⋮
- ⋮ The people listening to Jesus were mostly Jewish and it was well known in that
- ⋮ time that Jews and Samaritans did not like each other. When Jesus defined the
- ⋮ good neighbor as the Samaritan, He was telling the people that people who love
- ⋮ God are supposed to be merciful to all people—even people who are different from
- ⋮ them. The Samaritan was the only person who showed mercy and acted like a true
- ⋮ neighbor to the hurt man.

Read Luke 10:35-37

- ⋮ **Ask:** What made the Samaritan a good neighbor? (He showed mercy.)
- ⋮
- ⋮ The Samaritan was so merciful that he didn't just help the man on the side of the
- ⋮ road, but he continued to care for him. He was willing to bandage up the man's
- ⋮ wounds, carry him on his animal, take him to a place where he could rest, and
- ⋮ even pay for all his care. He loved the man who was robbed by showing him mercy.

GOING DEEPER

- 20**
- **Say:** Jesus taught that living as God's people means showing mercy and kindness to other people. In this story from the Gospel of Luke, Jesus taught that people who love and follow God will also love other people and show mercy to them. Following Jesus isn't just about what we believe, it is also about how Jesus changes us. As followers of Jesus, we are part of God's kingdom right now. How we live and the way we love people right now matters. We can point others to Jesus through our words and actions. Just as Jesus has shown mercy and kindness to us, we also are to show mercy and kindness to others.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger

- How did the man of the law sum up God's law? (by loving God with your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and loving your neighbor as yourself; Luke 10:27)
- Who showed the injured man that he was a true neighbor? How? (the Samaritan; He stopped and helped the man, bandaged his wounds, took him to a place of safety, and paid for him to stay at an inn and heal.)

Older

- What does someone do to show that He loves God? (He or she also loves other people and is merciful toward them.)
- Who has been a good neighbor to you? How have you been a good neighbor to others? (Lead TeamKIDS to discuss ways they have seen others show mercy toward them or opportunities they have had to show kindness and mercy to others.)
- Who do you need to be a better neighbor to? How can you show that person God's love? (Lead TeamKIDS to respond and discuss as they feel led. Challenge TeamKIDS to pray about who God has in their paths this week whom they can show kindness and mercy toward.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDS are together, consider forming two groups.

Lead TeamKIDS to complete side two of their activity pages. Kids will write ways they can show mercy to others in the hands on the page. Then, encourage them to draw about when they have seen kindness or mercy shown to others. Encourage TeamKIDS to share their experiences as they feel led.

PRAY

Lead the children in a prayer. Thank God for the mercy He has shown us through Jesus. Ask God to help us be merciful neighbors to others.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

ACT LIKE A NEIGHBOR

Provide: Optional—any props for the skits such as bandages, coins, robes, etc.

- Form groups of four. Tell kids that they are going to work together to put on a short skit of the parable of the Good Samaritan. Encourage TeamKIDs to consider what this story might look like today and in Bible times. Lead kids to decide who will play the Levite, the priest, the Samaritan, the innkeeper, and the man who was robbed. Provide props if they are available.
- Allow time for each group to practice their skits. Encourage groups to use their Bibles for help. Invite groups to act out their skits for the class. Encourage TeamKIDs to desire to be merciful neighbors to others.

LOVE GOD, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

Provide: Sets of 5 index cards with the words “heart,” “soul,” “strength,” “mind,” and “neighbor” written, one word on each card (one set per group). Stack cards on a table opposite of each team.

- Teach some hand motion signs to the group: heart (use both hands to make a heart shape); soul (use both hands placed palm to palm like you are about to pray); strength (flex arm muscle); mind (point to brain); neighbor (palms faceup like you are about to receive something). Practice the signs with TeamKIDs a few times.
- Form groups of five. Read Luke 10:27 from a Bible and explain this verse. Tell the groups that you will give a hand motion, and they will need to take turns racing down to their stack of index cards and choosing the right card to match the leader’s hand motion sign. Each correct card earns a team one point. No points are awarded for incorrect cards. Continue playing until all cards are collected.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “William Carey Photo” (item 42), “William Carey Story” (item 43), poster board, markers

- **Say:** William Carey was a missionary. He helped churches understand the need to send missionaries to places where people had never heard of Jesus. He is a good example of someone who showed kindness to people so that they would want to follow Jesus.

Display the photo and ask a volunteer to read the short story about William Carey.

- **Say:** One famous saying from missionary William Carey is “Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.” What do you think that means?

Discuss the meaning of this phrase and how it might relate to kids. Ask kids to talk about ways they can show kindness and mercy to people. Explain that missionaries can do great things for God because of the great things He has done for them.

Write the phrase on a poster board, with the first part of the phrase at the top and second part midway down. Encourage kids to write on the poster what great things they can expect from God and what great things they can attempt for God. If your group is large, make two posters. Display the poster in your room or in your church.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: SAY YES TO JESUS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 51)

Provide: Index cards with various situations written on them about selfless and selfish behaviors (examples: “I gave the last cookie to my little brother,” “I talked back to my mom under my breath.”)

- Read today’s Key Verse and invite TeamKIDs to repeat the verse after you. Explain that in this game, players will listen for a situation related to today’s verse. If the card describes something that is selfless, then the players will shout “Yes” and run toward the opposite side of the room until the leader says “Stop.” If the card is something selfish and puts yourself first, players will freeze in place. Continue playing until a player is the first to reach the opposite wall.
- Debrief: Discuss how Jesus calls us to say, “yes” to obeying and choosing to live for Him. Share that we experience greater joy when we live to bring glory to Jesus and not ourselves.

BAND-AID PASS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 56)

Provide: Masking tape (one roll per team), “Allergy Alert” (item 4)—skin contact with adhesive

- Form two teams. Provide each team with a roll of masking tape (band-aids). Ask each team to line up in a straight line. Hand the tape to the first player in line and direct him to tear off a strip of tape and tape it to his neighbor’s arm (the next person in line). The next person should take the roll of tape and add a “band-aid” to her next neighbor’s arm. Continue passing the tape down the line and back until the leader calls time. The team with the most band-aids on their arms wins. Change up the teams and play again as time allows.
- Debrief: Remind players of the mercy the Samaritan showed and how we can show mercy to our neighbors. Encourage TeamKIDs to think of ways they can be good neighbors this week and show kindness and mercy to people they know.

SEEK MERCY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 57)

Provide: Sticky notes with M-E-R-C-Y written on separate notes, masking tape (one roll per team)

- With the kids’ eyes closed, choose five players and tape the sticky notes “M”, “E”, “R”, “C”, and “Y”, one on each kid’s back. Start the game and tell the players that they are to run around the area and try and get the taped letters off some of the players’ backs. The players with the letters will try to avoid having their letters removed. When all the letters have been removed and brought to the leader, ask what they spell.
- Debrief: Discuss how players had to seek out the letters, but they were not always easy to retrieve. In a similar way, we all have to seek to be merciful. It is a choice we make to follow after the ways of God as we remember the mercy He showed us through Jesus.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide. Ask kids, “When have you seen someone show kindness and mercy?”

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

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KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read the Key Verse together from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** This verse teaches us that we are called to say no to the things we want to do that disobey God and say yes to what God tells us. In today’s Bible study, there were two people who did not obey God and chose to do what they wanted to do instead of helping the hurt man. The Samaritan was considered to be a neighbor because he showed mercy to the hurt man. God calls us to follow His ways and display mercy to our neighbors, too. **Jesus taught that living as God’s people means showing mercy and kindness to other people.** Think about people who have been kind to you and how that made a difference in your life. Then, think about how you can show others you are part of God’s kingdom and a follower of Jesus by showing kindness and mercy to others this week.

PRAY

Invite any TeamKID who may want to pray. Thank God for being kind and merciful to us when we did not deserve it. Ask Him to help us love our neighbors and be merciful to others this week through our words, thoughts, and actions.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections”(item 39)

Remind kids that the Samaritans and the Jews were considered enemies, yet the Samaritan was kind and merciful to the robbed man.

Play a quick game of “Hop Forward, Hop Back”. Tell the kids to hop forward if an act you say is merciful or hop back if an act is not merciful. (examples: carrying someone’s groceries, skipping someone in line, pushing on the playground, forgiving when someone has wronged you, speaking up for the helpless, giving food to the hungry, talking behind someone’s back, etc.)

Challenge kids to be especially merciful to those who may be difficult or hard to get along with. Remind kids that in our sin, we were enemies with God, but in His mercy He chose to save us.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 21

THE LOST ARE FOUND

TODAY'S POINT: GOD REJOICES AND CELEBRATES WHEN SOMEONE TURNS AND BELIEVES IN JESUS.

BIBLE STORY

The Lost Sheep, Coin, and Son (Luke 15)

KEY VERSE

Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video

- 10 pennies
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

WHO WAS LUKE?

- "Who Was Luke?" (item 44)—make 3 copies
- Bibles

THE LOST SHEEP

- Blindfold

MISSIONS

- "Gathering Crowds" missions video
- "World Map" (item 8)

GAMES

SAY YES TO JESUS (PLAYBOOK, P 51)

- Index cards with various situations written on them about selfless and selfish behaviors

COIN FLIP SCRIMMAGE (PLAYBOOK, P 58)

- Chairs
- Coins

PARTY HAT RING TOSS (PLAYBOOK, P 59)

- Party hats
- Pool rings

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- Party hats
- Party horns
- Other party instruments
- Music
- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 15 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

At this point in Jesus' ministry, large crowds of people had begun to follow Jesus. (See Luke 14:25.) Within the crowds were tax collectors and sinners, people the religious elite looked down on. As the Pharisees (religious leaders) witnessed these people coming to Jesus they were filled with self-righteousness and contempt.

Yet Jesus, knowing their hearts, began to tell a parable about the joy and celebration that occurs when something that was once lost is found. Through this parable, Jesus was teaching about how important people are to God's kingdom. Even more than people rejoice in receiving back something precious that was lost, God the Father rejoices over those who come to Him with a repentant heart. He is relentless in His love and pursuit of us, leading us to repentance through faith.

And from this heart of rejoicing over receiving a lost soul comes Jesus' mission from the Father: "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10).

CONSIDER

- Why are joy and celebration important aspects of God's response to people who turn to Him for salvation?

- Spend time praying to God, thanking Him for your salvation. Pray for those who you know are not followers of Jesus. Pray for the TeamKIDs in your group as you lead this week's session. Ask God for opportunities to share the good news of the gospel and pray for repentant hearts to turn to Him in salvation.

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: SEARCH FOR COINS (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: 10 pennies. Hide pennies in somewhat obvious areas around the room.

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Ask the group to stand or sit in the middle of the room. Direct kids to listen to some “news” you’re going to share.

• **Say:** I have ten coins that are somewhere in this room, but I need your help searching for them.

Lead kids to search the room for the lost coins. Have the kids count the coins as they find them until they have found all ten.

• **Say:** Great job! Thank you for helping me find my lost coins. In today’s session we are going to learn about some things that were lost and then found.

BIBLE STUDY : THE LOST SHEEP, COIN, AND SON (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 45 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

• **Ask:** Have you ever lost something you really loved? (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss.)

• **Say:** When we can’t find something we lost, it makes us sad. Sometimes we might worry that we won’t find what we lost. But if we do find it, we are filled with so much joy! We are very grateful that the item that meant so much to us has been found.

• The Bible talks about things that are found, too! Let’s open our Bibles to Luke 15. In the book of Luke, Jesus tells a story to help people understand how God feels when someone repents and trusts in Jesus. To repent means to turn away from sin and disobeying God. **God rejoices and celebrates when someone turns and believes in Jesus.** Let’s read Luke 15 to discover more.

DEFINE IT: REPENT—turning away from sin

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

THE LOST SHEEP, COIN, AND SON BASED ON LUKE 15

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• When Jesus would teach, many different people would crowd around to listen to Him. Some of these people were called Pharisees (the religious leaders).
• The Pharisees thought they were better than others, especially people like tax collectors (who cheated people out of money) and sinners. But Jesus is God the Son, and He knows everyone's heart. Jesus knows that everyone is a sinner. We all need to repent and believe in Jesus for salvation. To help the crowd understand God's joy when someone does repent, Jesus told this story.

Read Luke 15:3-7.

• **Ask:** What did the man in this story lose? (one of his sheep) What happened when the man found the sheep? (he rejoiced [showed great joy])

• Jesus told the crowd that there is more joy in heaven when one person repents (turns away) from sin than over ninety-nine righteous (right) people. God rejoices over the one who repents because that person is now saved. Matthew 18:14 says, "In the same way, it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones perish." Because God loves us, it makes Him happy when we turn away from our sin and trust in Jesus for salvation.

Read Luke 15:8-10.

• **Ask:** What did the woman lose? (a coin) What did she do when she found it? (She rejoiced.)

• The woman who lost her coin lit a lamp, swept the house, and searched everywhere. She did everything possible to get the coin back. Likewise, God has done everything possible to call us back to Him. He sent His only Son into the world so that we can be saved. He allowed His Son to die in our place so that our sins could be forgiven.

• Jesus ended this parable with a story about a son who chose to leave his home, take his share of his father's money, and live foolishly. When he had spent all the money and had nothing, he went to work feeding pigs. He was so hungry that he wanted to eat the pigs' food. But no one would give him any. Then one day, he decided it was better that he go home and work as a servant for his father.

Read Luke 15:17-32.

• **Ask:** What did the father do when his son came home? (He ran to his son, rejoiced, and threw a big celebration.) What did the father say to the older brother? (Everything I have is yours, but we can celebrate that the brother we thought was dead is found.)

• When the son returned, the father threw a big celebration. The older brother was angry. He refused to go to the feast. The father asked him to come inside. "Look!" the older brother said. "I never disobeyed you! But you never threw a party for me." "Son," the father said, "everything I have is yours. We have to celebrate and be happy. Your brother was lost and is found."

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** God rejoices and celebrates when someone turns and believes in Jesus. Jesus sent a clear message to the crowd and helped them to understand that God is happy when we trust in Him for salvation. He wants everyone to believe the good news of the gospel and be part of God's family. We should rejoice with God when a sinner chooses to repent and believe in Jesus.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Read and discuss the questions below. Encourage TeamKIDs to use their Bibles to support their answers.

Younger

- What happened when the sheep, coin, and son were found? *(There was great rejoicing.)*
- Who was not happy when the lost son came home and the father threw a big party? Why? *(The older brother was angry; he thought the father should throw him a party because he had worked so hard for his father for years.)*

Older

- How were the Pharisees (the religious leaders) like the older brother? *(They grumbled because Jesus ate with tax collectors and sinners. They did not rejoice when the sinners came to Jesus and Jesus welcomed them. They thought they were better because they "kept" the law.)*
- Can you think of a time when you have acted like the older brother? How does knowing Jesus rejoices over sinners coming to Him change how you might see other people? *(Lead TeamKIDs to discuss. Encourage them to remember that every person who trusts in Jesus is part of God's kingdom. We want to rejoice and celebrate people who trust in Jesus and tell others about the good news Jesus has to offer everyone who believes in Him.)*
- How do these parables encourage you to share the good news of Jesus? *(Lead TeamKIDs to discuss ways they can tell others what they are learning about Jesus.)*

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to complete side two of their activity pages and learn about a Bible person. Encourage kids to complete the clues and solve the name of the Bible person.

Remind TeamKIDs that the people who wrote down God's words in the Bible were real people who lived a very long time ago. We can't know everything about people in the Bible, but there are some things the Bible tells us to help us know more about some of the people who lived during this time.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDs in prayer. Thank God for providing a Bible for us to know more about God and how He wants us to live as people in His kingdom. Ask God to help TeamKIDs all to be on mission with Him and share Jesus with others. Thank God that He welcomes sinners and rejoices when we repent and turn to Jesus for salvation.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

WHO WAS LUKE?

Provide: “Who Was Luke?” (item 44), Bibles

- Make three copies of “Who Was Luke?” (item 44) Cut apart the cards into three sets.
- Guide TeamKIDs to form three groups and provide each group with a set of cards Direct each group to read the questions and use their Bibles to find the answers.
- Review the answers as a class. (Answers: 1. Physician; 2. to tell the story of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection, and to help his friend, Theophilus, trust what he had been taught; 3. Paul; 4. Luke; 5. Luke; Bonus. Luke) Discuss how Luke’s gospel is an important part of our understanding of Jesus’ ministry and how his writings help us to know what Jesus taught.

THE LOST SHEEP

Provide: Bindfolds (1 per kid)

- Choose one child or ask for a volunteer to be the lost sheep. Choose one child or ask for a volunteer to be the shepherd. Tie the blindfold on the shepherd and spin the TeamKID around a few times. Scatter the remaining children around the room.
- Lead the sheep to “baa” for the shepherd and tell the shepherd to try and find the sheep. If the sheep bumps into someone other than the lost sheep, that person should point her in the direction of the sheep. Rejoice and celebrate when the shepherd finds the lost sheep. Play again if time allows and choose a new shepherd and sheep. Provide clean blindfolds each time for hygiene reasons.
- Remind TeamKIDs that God rejoices greatly when a sinner is saved by faith in Jesus.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “World Map” (item 8), “Gathering Crowds” missions video

- **Say:** Missionaries in a country called Sudan work among a people group called the Toposa (Toe-poe-sa) people. Most of them do not read. They learn about Jesus by listening to stories and by hearing music about Jesus. Now they are creating their own worship songs.

Play the missions video, then find Sudan on the “World Map” (item 8).

After the video, encourage kids to form small groups and create their own short song to share with the other groups. They can write down their song or share it with the group. Ask them to think of a message from today’s Bible story about the lost coin, sheep, and son. If they prefer, they can write new words to a familiar tune like “Jesus Loves Me.” Encourage TeamKIDs to be creative.

- **Say:** God can use so many things to share His message with others. He can use your creativity, your songs, and the Bible stories you know. When you learn something from the Bible, you can teach that to someone else. Like the Toposa people who tell and sing Bible stories, you can help to spread the good news of God.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: SAY YES TO JESUS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 51)

Provide: Index cards with various situations written on them about selfless and selfish behaviors (examples: "I gave the last cookie to my little brother," "I talked back to my mom under my breath.")

- Read today's Key Verse and invite TeamKIDs to repeat the verse after you. Explain that in this game, players will listen for a situation related to the verse. If the card describes something that is selfless, then the players will shout "Yes" and run toward the opposite side of the room until the leader says "Stop." If the card is something selfish and puts yourself first, players will freeze in place. Continue playing until a player is the first to reach the opposite wall.
- Debrief: Discuss how Jesus calls us to say, "yes" to obeying and choosing to live for Him. Share that we experience greater joy when we live to bring glory to Jesus and not ourselves.

COIN FLIP SCRIMMAGE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 58)

Provide: 4 rows of chairs, 4 coins

- Form four equal teams. Set up a row of chairs for each team with one less chair than players, or lead TeamKIDs to sit on the floor in rows with one player still standing. The standing player for each team will be the coin flipper. If the coin lands on heads, a player from that team is "found" and gets to go "home." If it lands on tails, the player must remain seated. Continue playing until a team is first to have "found" all of their players by having all four chairs empty.
- Debrief: Discuss how sharing the gospel with others is more involved than a simple coin toss. However, we should want to tell others about Jesus and be consistent in sharing our faith just like we were determined to keep flipping the coin until all of the players were found.

PARTY HAT RING TOSS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 59)

Provide: Party hats, pool rings

- Lead TeamKIDs to form equal teams of four. Provide each team with a party hat and four pool rings. Have each team try and toss the rings on the party hats. Let each team practice a few times and then let them compete to see who in their team can get the most rings on the hats.
- Debrief: Discuss the significance of the use of the party hats by reminding the children of Jesus' joy when a sinner repents and believes in Him. Help them to understand that we are like the lost son who wandered far from God. But, God never gives up on us. He seeks after us and celebrates when we repent of our sin and trust in Jesus for salvation. That is very good news!

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide. Ask kids, “What good news did you learn from today’s Bible study? Who can you share this good news with this week?”

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

- **Say: God rejoices and celebrates when someone turns and believes**
- **in Jesus.** He came to seek and save those who don’t believe or trust in
- Jesus. He wants everyone to be part of His kingdom. Think about those
- you know who may not have trusted in Jesus yet. How can you make
- an effort to share the good news of Jesus with them? Remember that we
- should not be like the Pharisees who looked down on people who disobey God. Instead we should
- remember that we too have sinned, but God’s grace came to us through Jesus.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

21

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read the Key Verse together from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide. Challenge TeamKIDs to say different phrases of the Key Verse from memory. Invite a TeamKID to share what this verse means.

Remind the group that choosing to follow Jesus begins with trusting in Jesus for salvation, but it doesn’t end there. Every day we are called to follow after Jesus, saying no to things that disobey Him and saying yes to things that honor Him. Following Jesus is difficult, but it is always worth it!

PRAY

Lead a prayer or invite a TeamKID to pray. Ask God to help you be sensitive to people around you who may not trust in Jesus yet. Ask for wisdom and boldness to share the good news of Jesus with others this week.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections” (item 39); party hats, party horns, and other party instruments; music

Remind children that **God rejoices and celebrates when someone turns and believes in Jesus.**

Give every child a party hat, party horn, or other instrument. At your start, play some music and encourage kids to make some noise and celebrate. Encourage kids to remember how much God loves them and when they trust in Jesus for salvation, heaven throws a big party.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, an activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 22

THE FIRST ARE LAST

TODAY'S POINT: PEOPLE IN GOD'S KINGDOM RECOGNIZE HOW THEY HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN AND CHOOSE TO FORGIVE OTHERS AGAIN AND AGAIN.

BIBLE STORY

The Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21-35)

KEY VERSE

But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you. Luke 12:31

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video

- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

FORGIVENESS AT THE CROSS

- Bibles
- Index cards

UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM

- "Upside Down" (item 45)
- Paper
- Pens

MISSIONS

- "Gathering Crowds" missions video
- "People of Sudan" (item 46)
- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks or tape

GAMES

GOSPEL OLYMPICS (PLAYBOOK, P 52)

- Hula hoops
- Playground balls
- Jump ropes
- Cones
- Index cards

GOSPEL BALLOON VOLLEY (PLAYBOOK, P 60)

- 4 inflated balloons
- Permanent marker
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)

MUSICAL HOT POTATO (PLAYBOOK, P 61)

- 2 inflated balloons
- Music
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible

- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

22

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 18:21-35 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

As Jesus taught people about God's kingdom, He continually taught about how the ways of the kingdom were different than people might expect. When Peter asked how many times he should forgive a brother, he was asking what the expectation was. How much, Jesus, is enough?

Peter was asking the wrong question. Rather than thinking about being part of God's kingdom as looking for the line of expectation, Jesus illustrated Peter's (and our) vast misunderstanding of God's grace toward us.

To illustrate this point, Jesus told a parable where a master had compassion on his servant and forgave an insurmountable debt that the servant could never repay. Yet, this same servant—who experienced mercy and forgiveness—was unwilling to forgive a much smaller debt of one of his own servants.

If we belong to the kingdom of God, we should follow the practices of the King. Our hearts should be moved to forgive much lesser offenses because we have been forgiven for an eternal offense against an infinitely holy God. It is because we have been forgiven so much that we are able to forgive others.

CONSIDER

When has it been really hard for you to forgive an offense against you?

- Consider the great debt you owed to God for your sin that Jesus paid in full. Spend some time thanking God for His forgiveness of you when you didn't deserve it.

- What is the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation? Consider how believers are called to forgive, but not always to reconcile, especially with unsafe people. (See Romans 12:9-21.)

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: RIGHT THUMB OR LEFT THUMB (5–10 MINUTES)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Guide kids to form pairs and place their hands behind their backs. Kids should choose to extend their left thumbs or their right thumbs without the other partner knowing which thumb is up. On the count of three, prompt each child to extend her left thumb or right thumb. Kids with right thumbs extended should describe to their partners something fun about themselves. Kids with left thumbs extended should describe something fun about someone else.

Lead TeamKIDs to find new partners and play again. For an added challenge, continue changing what TeamKIDs should share with each round. On the last round, lead TeamKIDs with right thumbs extended to describe to their partners a time they might need to ask for God’s forgiveness. Kids with left thumbs extended should describe a time they might need to forgive someone.

Discuss how we all have examples of different characteristics and experiences about ourselves. We also have stories about forgiveness. Forgiveness means to refuse to be angry towards someone or punish (hurt) someone who has hurt you. Explain that today, we are going to learn much more about what it means to forgive and how often we should forgive other people.

BIBLE STUDY: THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

- **Say:** Raise your hand if someone has ever wronged you or hurt your feelings.
- Now raise your hand if you have ever hurt someone else or done something wrong
- against another person. We should all have our hands raised because at some point we have all
- been hurt by someone and have also hurt others.
-
- Now, think about God. Have you ever disobeyed God or done something to hurt Him? Yes. We have
- all sinned and disobeyed God. In His goodness, God provides mercy and forgiveness toward us. We
- have been learning about what it means to live as people who are part of God’s kingdom. People
- who are part of God’s kingdom choose to follow Him, celebrate when others follow Him, and show
- mercy and kindness toward others. Today, we are going to talk about how **people in God’s kingdom**
- **recognize how they have been forgiven and choose to forgive others again and again.** Let’s learn
- how God’s forgiveness toward us should lead us to then forgive others.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

Open your Bible to Matthew 18. Hold the Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

DEFINE IT: FORGIVE—to refuse to punish or be angry toward someone who has hurt you or sinned against you.

THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT BASED ON MATTHEW 18:21-35

Read: Matthew 18:21-22, or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

One time, when Jesus was teaching His disciples, Peter asked Jesus a question. Peter asked, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? As many as seven times?” Now, the heart of Peter’s questions was really about wanting to know if he needed to forgive someone who continually wronged him. In other words, Peter was asking, “What if someone has wronged me five hundred times, Jesus? Do I still need to forgive him?”

Ask: Do you think there should be a limit on how many times you should be expected to forgive someone else? (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss. Be prepared that many kids will say, Yes. Don’t be too quick to give the answer. Allow kids to sit in the tension of forgiveness and the hurt of feeling wronged by someone.)

Jesus answered Peter and said, “I tell you, not as many as seven, but seventy times seven.” Now, seventy times seven is 490.

Ask: Do you think Jesus meant that we only have to forgive up to 490 times and then we can stop forgiving someone? Why or why not? (Allow TeamKIDs to share their thoughts.)

Jesus’ answer emphasized our need to continue to offer forgiveness even if someone keeps sinning against us. It was meant to represent an unlimited number of times. Let’s read the story Jesus told His disciples to help them understand.

Read: Matthew 18:23-27.

Ask: What did the king do for his servant who owed him ten thousand talents? (He forgave him his debt.)

Ten thousand talents was the about same as a person getting paid the minimum wage for one day’s work times one billion! That was more money than was being used in the entire area where Jesus lived. There was no way the servant could ever repay the debt (money he owed), but the king was merciful and forgave the servant.

Read Matthew 18:28-35.

The servant had just been forgiven so much, but then he was unwilling to forgive a much smaller debt than the one he owed to the king. He did not practice the same forgiveness shown to him. Let’s think about the question we just asked earlier.

Ask: Do you think there should be a limit on how many times you should forgive someone else?

When God saves us by faith in Jesus, He invites us into His kingdom. And the people of God’s kingdom should always follow the ways of the King. We are like the servant who was forgiven a debt that he could can never repay. Because we have been forgiven so much, we are called to forgive others again and again. Followers of Jesus live as part of God’s kingdom when we continue to forgive others, remembering how much God has forgiven us.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say: People in God’s kingdom recognize how they have been forgiven and choose to forgive others again and again.** The servant owed so much money that he could never repay it on his own. In a similar way, we could never pay the debt (what is owed) for our sin. The good news is that God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sin, so we can have life with God forever.
- Everyone who trusts in Jesus for salvation is called a child of God and a citizen of His kingdom.
- As part of God’s kingdom, we remember His mercy and recognize that we should be merciful and forgiving toward others.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids

- **Who needed to be forgiven more, the king’s servant or the servant’s servant?** (the king’s servant; The king’s servant owed more money than was being used in the whole region and the servant’s servant only owed about a hundred days wages. Matthew 18:24,28)
- **Who showed mercy, the king or the servant?** (The king showed mercy because he was willing to forgive a very large debt—a debt that the servant could never repay. Matthew 18:27)

Older Kids

- **Why did Jesus tell this parable?** (Jesus told this parable to answer Peter’s question. Jesus wanted His followers to understand that God has forgiven all of our sin through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, and that His mercy toward our very great sin should lead us to forgive others.)
- **Is there anyone you have failed to forgive? How does Jesus’ teaching help you to better understand your need to forgive others?** (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss or consider quietly.)
- **What if you had a friend who failed to forgive someone? How might you explain to her why she needs to forgive?** (Encourage TeamKIDs to share what they’ve learned about people who are part of God’s kingdom and how we are called to forgive. Remind TeamKIDs that if we talk about sin with our friends, we should do so with kindness and respect, remembering that we, too, sin and disobey God.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide TeamKIDs to complete side two of their activity pages, coloring in the shapes to reveal the hidden word related to today’s Bible study.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDs in a prayer. Ask God to help them remember how much He has forgiven them through Jesus. Pray that God would help TeamKIDs forgive others.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: FORGIVENESS AT THE CROSS

Provide: Bibles, index cards

Write mixed up phrases of Ephesians 1:7 on index cards. (examples: Index card 1) his blood have redemption through In him we; 2) the our trespasses of forgiveness; 3) the riches of his according to grace)

- Place TeamKIDs into three groups. Give each group an index card with different phrases of Ephesians 1:7 all mixed up.
- Ask each group to find the verse in a Bible and write the phrase out correctly. Direct each group to then come together as a whole and put the entire verse together in the correct order. Read the verse together as a group.
- Discuss how Jesus gave His life so that we might have forgiveness of our sins. Talk about how this was a costly sacrifice and that we could never make up for our sinfulness. Encourage kids to think about the great cost that God forgave us.

OPTION 2: UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM

Provide: "Upside Down" (item 45), paper, pens

- Ask kids if they knew that our eyes see images upside down. Explain that when light hits our eyes, the lens of our eye (point to eye) bends light on the retina (a part of the eye) into an upside down image. Then our brains are able to correct that upside down image into an upright one. Display the "Upside Down" images and allow kids to draw the picture right side up. Congratulate the kids for right answers.
- Explain that the way our eyes see things upside down but our brains make them right side up is similar to how the kingdom of God works. What our world sees as "upside down," like continuing to forgive someone again and again, is seen as right and good by God. God's kingdom ways are often upside down compared to the ways of the world, but we know that His ways are for our good and His glory.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "People of Sudan" (item 46), construction paper, markers or crayons, glue sticks or tape

Make enough copies of the photo page so that each kid will have one photo. Cut out the photos on the pages.

Distribute the photos of the people of Sudan. Since they each have different photos, encourage them to look at each other's photos. Ask them what they can tell about the people by looking at the photos or what they learned in the video.

- **Say:** Jesus loves people all over the world, even people we've probably never heard of like the Toposa (Toe-poe-sa) who live in Sudan in Africa. Even though we don't know much about them, they are important to Him and He has chosen to forgive their sins, too, like He chooses to forgive our sins. The problem is that many people still don't know about Jesus."

Distribute the craft supplies and invite kids to make prayer reminders with their photos. Encourage them to write ways they can pray for the Toposa people and for missionaries who share Jesus with them. Tell them to put their prayer reminders somewhere at home where they will see them and remember to pray.

Consider reviewing the video, "Gathering Crowds" from session 21.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: GOSPEL OLYMPICS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 52)

Provide: 4 hula hoops, 4 playground balls, 4 jump ropes, 4 cones, index cards

Note: Balloons are a choking hazard. Make sure a leader inflates balloons.

- Set up four stations around the play area with the game equipment.
- Write the following instructions on index cards:
 - Station 1: Recite today's Key Verse while you hula hoop. Everyone in the group must complete the verse before moving to the next station.
 - Station 2: Bounce the ball and spin in a circle as you say Today's Point.
 - Station 3: Jump rope as you say the title of today's Bible study.
 - Station 4: Hop around the four cones and back. At each cone, shout out one of the four Gospel books.
- Lead players to form groups of four. Explain the four stations set up around the area. Read aloud the four task cards that each group is challenged to complete and explain any directions. Assign each group a different station to begin. The team to complete all four stations first, wins. Continue play as time allows.
- Debrief: Discuss how Jesus calls us to follow Him and live for His kingdom, even when there are challenges. Jesus always gives us everything we need to obey and follow Him. We have joy when we live to bring glory to Jesus and not ourselves.

GOSPEL BALLOON VOLLEY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 60)

Provide: 4 inflated balloons; "Allergy Alert" (item 4)—latex; permanent marker; Write the name of a different Gospel book on each balloon. Note: Balloons are a choking hazard. Make sure a leader inflates balloons.

- Lead players to form a circle. Tell the group that the object of this game is to keep all the balloons in the air at all times. If a balloon touches the floor, the game will start over. Toss the "Matthew" balloon into the air inside the circle and tell the players to keep batting it around as they keep saying "Matthew" each time someone hits the balloon. As they continue batting the "Matthew" balloon, toss the "Mark" balloon into the circle. Explain that they are to say the name of the book on the balloon as they hit the balloon. If a balloon hits the floor, take all of them out and start again with "Matthew." Continue, adding "Luke" and "John" until all four balloons are in the air and the players are batting all four balloons.
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDs that the first four books of the New Testament are called the Gospels. The word gospel means "good news." These books teach us about the good news of Jesus, who He is (God's Son), and why He came (to rescue us).

MUSICAL HOT POTATO (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 61)

Provide: 2 inflated balloons, "Allergy Alert" (item 4)—latex; music

- Ask players to form two teams and then to stand in one large circle. Pass two inflated balloons around the circle going in opposite directions. One should be moving to the right and the other should be moving to the left. When the music stops, the two players holding balloons should race to the middle of the circle and say Today's Point. Whoever can say the point first earns his team 10 points. The first team to earn 50 points wins.
- Debrief: Discuss Today's Point and remind kids that we are to seek after God's kingdom.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide. Ask kids, “Who is someone you may need to forgive or ask forgiveness from?”

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have.

- **Say:** We all need forgiveness, and we all have work to do to forgive other
- people. Forgiveness is not easy, but it is what Jesus teaches us to do. **People**
- **in God’s kingdom recognize how they have been forgiven and choose to forgive others again**
- **and again.**

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide. Remind TeamKIDS that living as part of God’s kingdom includes forgiving others who have hurt us. Challenge kids to be slow to respond in anger or with unkindness when someone wrongs them. Rather, encourage them to forgive others and think about how Jesus sacrificed Himself so that we could be forgiven.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDS in prayer or invite someone to pray. Thank God for the forgiveness He offers us through Jesus. Ask Him to help us love others and forgive them even when it is hard.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections” (item 39)

Invite TeamKIDS to sit in a circle and roll a ball to one another. When a TeamKID catches the ball, invite (but do not force) her to share something she learned from today’s Bible study.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 23

THE POOR ARE RICH

TODAY'S POINT: AS PART OF GOD'S KINGDOM, WE ARE CALLED TO PURSUE THINGS OF ETERNAL VALUE, LIKE SHARING JESUS WITH OTHERS AND GROWING CLOSER TO GOD.

BIBLE STORY

Possessions and the Kingdom of God
(Luke 12:13-34)

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" item 39).

KEY VERSE

But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you. Luke 12:31

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)
- "Food Items" (item 47)
- Optional—various food items: apple, banana, raw chicken, dark chocolate, onion, potato, canned beans, honey, beef jerky, milk
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

GENEROUS NEIGHBOR

- Allergy Alert (item 4)
- Cereal
- Bowls
- Spoons
- 3 gallon-size ziplock bags

WILL IT LAST?

- "Lasting Value Cards" (item 48)

MISSIONS

- "Showing and Sharing" missions video
- "World Map" (item 8)

GAMES

GOSPEL OLYMPICS (PLAYBOOK, P 52)

- Hula hoops
- Playground balls
- Jump ropes
- Cones
- Index cards

TREASURE HEARTS (PLAYBOOK, P 62)

- Plastic shovels
- Paper hearts

STICKER TAG (PLAYBOOK, P 63)

- Stickers (10 per kid)

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)
- Paper (optional)

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 12:13-34 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

In these verses, we receive both a warning and a command. First, Jesus teaches that the pursuit of money and possessions should not be the aim of our lives. Whether motivated by greed, fear, or worry, we should not seek to store up for ourselves treasure that will one day be destroyed. Jesus warns that those who strive after these earthly things are fools whose possessions hold no eternal significance.

Then, Jesus offers us a good command—seek after His kingdom. Do not set your heart on earthly treasure, but on following the King and the ways of His kingdom such as being generous toward others and giving to the poor.

We trust that when we follow God’s ways and live as people who are part of His kingdom, God will provide everything we need. As we pursue Jesus, we make Him our greatest treasure, knowing every good thing is found in Him. Only Jesus will fully satisfy.

CONSIDER

- Why is the pursuit of money, possessions, security, and status such a common temptation for us?

- How do Jesus’ words in this passage help us understand why people seek after riches?

- When are you tempted to place earthly treasures above kingdom pursuits? How do Jesus’ words encourage you to seek His kingdom first?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: LASTING TREASURE (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: “Allergy Alert” (item 4) listing any physical food items used in this activity, “Food Items” (item 47), or various physical food items for kids to order by expiration date

Welcome TeamKIDS as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Choose to print “Food Items,” (item 47), or bring in various physical items of food for kids to see.

Instruct the children to examine each food item or image and think about which foods will expire quicker than others and which foods can last a long time. Lead kids to work together to put the food items in order from quickest to expire to those with the longest shelf life.

After several minutes, allow TeamKIDS to explain their ordering. Review the answers and see if the kids were close to getting any right.

Point to your Bible and say: “Our Bibles tell us that the things of this world are not going to last. Just like this food will expire, all the things we care about, like our video games, or our devices, or even our money will not last forever. But God’s Word (the Bible) will last and His kingdom will be forever. Jesus wants us to seek the things of eternal value.”

*Answers for “Food Items” (item 47): raw chicken/milk (tied), banana, potato, onion, apple, beef jerky/ canned beans/dark chocolate (tied), honey

BIBLE STUDY: POSSESSIONS AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

• **Say:** The people during Jesus’ time were not really that different from the people today. They struggled with similar temptations to those with which we struggle. One of those temptations was to put money or their stuff above God. Whether they were greedy or worried about having enough, sometimes people loved earthly treasures they loved God.

• But these earthly things that we value will not last. We do this sometimes too.
• But the things we love won’t last. Just like the food we looked at earlier that will eventually spoil, the money and stuff we love will eventually go away.. In today’s Bible study, Jesus is going to help us understand that when we trust in God and seek after His kingdom, we have an everlasting treasure and that He will give us everything we need. **As part of God’s kingdom, we are called to pursue things of eternal value, like sharing Jesus with others and growing closer to God.** And most importantly, we will have the greatest treasure ever—Jesus!

DEFINE IT: **ETERNAL**—without beginning or end; lasting forever; always existing

DEFINE IT: **INHERITANCE**—money or objects that someone gives you when they die

DEFINE IT: **GREED**—having or showing a selfish desire for wealth and possessions

Fun fact:
Honey’s shelf life is indefinite and the Word of God is often compared to honey. God’s Word is sweeter than honey and will last forever.
See Psalm 19:10, Psalm 119:103, and Ezekiel 3:3

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

POSSESSIONS AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD BASED ON LUKE 12:13-34

Read Luke 12:13-15.

- A crowd of many thousands of people were listening to Jesus. Someone in the crowd spoke to Jesus and said, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance.” (money or objects that someone gives you when they die) Jesus responded by warning everyone in the crowd against being greedy because a person’s life is not valued by how much money or possessions he has. Then Jesus told the crowd a parable.

Read Luke 12:16-21.

- **Ask:** In what way was the man rich? What way should he have been rich? (Answer: He was rich in the things that people think are important. He should have been rich in the things that God thinks are important.)

- The rich man was more concerned about storing up treasure for himself and was not seeking to live for the kingdom of God. His heart was set on earthly treasure and not eternal treasure. He was worried more about how he was going to store up all his grain and not how he should be living to point others to the kingdom of God. Jesus taught about the importance of not worrying about gaining wealth and possessions here on earth.

Read Luke 12:22-30.

- **Ask:** What do these verses teach us about why we should not worry about wealth or possessions? (Answer: Because just as God takes care of His creation, so will He also take care of us. He knows what we need and loves His children.)

- After Jesus told His disciples that they should not chase after or worry about earthly possessions, He then told them what they should seek after—the kingdom of God. He said that God loves to care for and provide for His children. If God cares for the birds, the grass, and the flowers, then God will give us what we need to live for Him. We are more precious to Him than anything in creation. He doesn’t promise that we will be rich, but He does promise us an eternal treasure that can never be taken away.

Read Luke 12:31-34.

- **Ask:** What type of treasure in heaven do you think Jesus is talking about? (Answer: The treasure is God Himself. He is the treasure that we will enjoy forever. This treasure is also God’s kingdom—everything that belongs to God He shares with us through Jesus. [See 1 Peter 1:3-4.]

- Jesus helps us to understand that what our hearts seek after the most reveals the things we care about most. Our hearts should love God more than anything. When we seek God’s kingdom first, we are free to be generous, kind, and help others to come to know Jesus.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** As part of God's kingdom, we are called to pursue things of eternal value, like sharing Jesus with others and growing closer to God. God's love for us in Christ should stir our hearts to treasure Jesus above all else and should make us want to live for His kingdom, knowing that it will last forever.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids

- What should our hearts love most? (God/Jesus)
- How do we show we are seeking God's kingdom and loving God? (We care more about doing what God says like being generous and kind, sharing Jesus with others, reading our Bibles, going to church, and we care less about our money or stuff.)

Older Kids

- Do you ever struggle with being greedy? Why or why not? (Encourage TeamKIDs to think about the motivation or desire behind wanting what they want. Do they want others to see them and think well of them, are they afraid of being embarrassed, are they worried about not having enough? Guide TeamKIDs to see that every struggle with greed has a deeper message. When we are greedy, we believe the lie that God isn't enough and that we need more that God provides for us. Caution kids that having things is not wrong, but having those things become most important to us is wrong.)
- God has given you everything you need in Jesus. How does knowing this help you to be generous? (Talk about how we don't need to worry about or seek after earthly treasures because they will not last. We can be generous knowing that what we have here on earth is temporary—kind of like borrowing a library book—and that one day we will be with God forever, and that is the greatest treasure of all.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to complete side two of their activity pages. As TeamKIDs learn about the kingdom of God, remind them that everything in God's Word is true. Jesus wants us to realize that we don't have to seek after earthly treasures because we have a kingdom treasure waiting for us. Spending eternity with God in His kingdom will be our treasure.

PRAY

Lead the children in a prayer. Ask God to help them remember how much God loves them and that He has given them everything they need in Jesus. Ask God to help them live for His kingdom.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: GENEROUS NEIGHBOR

Provide: "Allergy Alert" (item 4); cereal, bowls, and spoons (1 per TeamKID); 3 gallon-size ziplock bags

Fill one ziplock bag full of cereal, another halfway, and a third to only a $\frac{1}{3}$ full.

- Lead TeamKIDS to wash their hands, then form three groups. Provide each group with a ziplock bag of cereal, spoons, and bowls. Direct each group to give every person in their group a bowl and a spoon. Lead each group to fill their bowls with cereal, giving equal amounts to each person in the group.
- Invite the three groups to examine the bowls of each group. Are they all exactly even? Do some groups have more than others?
- Lead the groups to now work together to determine how they can help everyone to have even amounts of cereal.
- Discuss how they achieved evenly distributing the cereal by being generous. Did any person not contribute? Why or why not? How did they determine the amount to give?
- Remind TeamKIDS that God is a generous God. He gave His only Son so we could have eternal life. He also gives us good gifts right now like food, clothes, money, and families. And God uses His people to show His generosity toward others. We cheerfully give what we have been given because we trust God will provide and that we have a lasting treasure in heaven.

OPTION 2: WILL IT LAST?

Provide: "Lasting Value Cards" (item 48)

- Ask TeamKIDS to form a standing circle in the middle of the room. Lead kids to listen as you call out an object or an activity. If what is called out is something of eternal value then kids will stay still. If what is called out is not of eternal value, kids will run to the center of the circle.
- Continue to re-form the circle as you play. Discuss how as citizens of the kingdom of God we are to pursue those things that have an eternal value. When we do, we show that we treasure Jesus above all else.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "World Map" (item 8), "Showing and Sharing" missions video

Ask a volunteer to find Africa on a map.

- **Say:** We are going to learn about some people in West Africa who are hearing about Jesus and the special missionaries who are telling them this good news. Let's learn more about their mission.

Begin the video. After each prayer request, pause and ask for a volunteer to pray.

- **Say:** You've just learned how missionaries are using henna and the Jesus film to share about Jesus. When you look at the video, you may think that they people are living in poverty. But when they know Jesus, they have what is most important.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

UNIT 3 GAME: GOSPEL OLYMPICS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 52)

Provide: 4 hula hoops, 4 playground balls, 4 jump ropes, 4 cones, index cards

Note: Balloons are a choking hazard. Make sure a leader inflates balloons.

- Set up four stations around the play area with the game equipment: Station 1—hula hoops; Station 2—playground balls; Station 3—jump ropes; Station 4—4 cones lined up with space between for jumping.
- Write the following instructions on index cards:
 - Station 1: Recite today's Key Verse while you hula hoop. Everyone in the group must complete the verse before moving to the next station.
 - Station 2: Bounce the ball and spin in a circle as you say Today's Point.
 - Station 3: Jump rope as you say the title of today's Bible study.
 - Station 4: Hop around the four cones and back. At each cone, shout out one of the four Gospel books.
- Lead players to form groups of four. Explain the four stations set up around the area. Read aloud the four task cards that each group is challenged to complete and explain any directions. Assign each group a different station to begin. Continue play as time allows.
- Debrief: Discuss how Jesus calls us to follow after Him and live for His kingdom. When we follow after Jesus, there will probably be challenges along the way. We may be tempted to give up or do what we want to do instead of following Jesus. But, Jesus always gives us everything we need to obey and follow Him. We experience greater joy when we live to bring glory to Jesus and not ourselves.

TREASURE HEARTS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 62)

Provide: Plastic shovels, paper hearts

- Form two teams. Instruct each team to use their plastic shovels to push the treasure (hearts) to their side of the room. Teams can only use their shovels to “dig up” the treasure and move it to their side of the room. The team that collects the most hearts wins!
- Debrief: Lead a discussion to help the kids understand that the treasure they sought was symbolized as hearts because what we treasure is also what we love. Read Luke 12:34 and remind TeamKIDS that we should treasure Jesus above all else.

STICKER TAG (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 63)

Provide: Stickers (10 per kid)

- Provide every player with ten stickers. Ask players to stick the stickers on the sleeves of their shirts. Instruct each player to be generous with their stickers and try to stick them on other players, while trying to avoid having stickers placed on them. The goal is to have the least amount of stickers after five minutes.
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDS that we are called to live as citizens of God's kingdom and seek after things of eternal significance. One way we can do that is to be generous with what God has given us. When we display generosity we have opportunities to explain that we are generous because God provides for our needs.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide. Remind kids that they learned a lot about the kingdom of God from their activity pages. Ask kids, “How can you show that you are seeking God’s kingdom first?”

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

- **Say:** As part of God’s kingdom, we are called to pursue things of eternal value, like sharing
- Jesus with others and growing closer to God. We can pursue God’s kingdom by caring more about
- things God cares about and less about things that won’t last. When we care more about kindness,
- generosity, love, patience, and telling others about Jesus, we are caring about things of eternal
- value.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read the Key Verse together from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide. Encourage a TeamKID to explain the verse in his own words. Challenge TeamKIDs to think about ways they can seek God’s kingdom. Encourage them to trust that God knows their needs and that they can be generous toward others.

PRAY

Lead kids in prayer or invite any TeamKID who wants to pray. Thank God for His generosity and ask Him to help us live for His kingdom, not our own.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections” (item 39), paper (1 piece per pair of kids, optional)

Close the session by reviewing today’s Key Verse. Learn Luke 12:31 by playing a game of Bible verse ping pong.

Invite kids to pair up with a partner and sit opposite each other. One child will start the verse by saying a word, the other will then say the next word. Pairs will “ping-pong” back and forth until the Bible verse is complete. Consider asking TeamKIDs to throw a crumpled up ball of paper back and forth as they say the verse:

“But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you.” Luke 12:31

Encourage TeamKIDs to think about how they can set their hearts to treasure things of eternal value above any earthly riches.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 24

THE GENEROUS KING

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS IS A GENEROUS KING, AND TO LIVE IN GOD'S KINGDOM MEANS TO BE THANKFUL FOR HIS GENEROSITY TOWARD OTHERS.

BIBLE STORY

The Vineyard Workers (Matthew 20:1-16)

KEY VERSE

But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you. *Luke 12:31*

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video
- Toys,
- Baskets/bins
- Pennies, stickers, or another small reward for each child
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

KEY VERSE HUNT

- Index cards
- Bibles

THREE LIVES OF FAITH

- Bibles

MISSIONS

- "Showing and Sharing" missions video
- "Generosity Matters" (item 49)
- Pencils or crayons

GAMES

GOSPEL OLYMPICS (PLAYBOOK, P 52)

- Hula hoops
- Playground balls
- Jump ropes
- Cones
- Index cards

LAST IN LINE

(PLAYBOOK, P 64)

- Music

TIME RANGE DISC

(PLAYBOOK, P 65)

- 3 small flying discs
- 24 cups

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)
- Chocolate-coated candy
- Plastic spoon
- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 20:1-16 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

Upon first reading of this passage, we may want to shout with the laborers who felt cheated, “that’s not fair!” It doesn’t feel fair. There’s something in our spirits that often says it is unjust for laborers to work different hours and receive the same wages.

But this parable is about God and His kingdom. It is important as we study this passage that we do so through the lens of understanding the great generosity of the landowner. Not only was he fair in keeping with the payment he promised, but he also was generous to give work to those who needed it. Regardless of when the workers started working, it was the owner of the vineyard who had a right to do what he pleased with what was his.

So it is with God. The kingdom of God belongs to God, and He has every right to share the generosity of His kingdom with you and with those who do not yet know Jesus. God is a generous God who wants everyone to come into His kingdom. Some experience the joy and generosity of God’s forgiveness later in life. Others live for years in the wealth of His forgiveness. God rewards in ways that defy our expectations—the last will be first in His kingdom. Like the vineyard owner, God is continually seeking laborers for His kingdom and desires that we rejoice in His generous heart.

CONSIDER

- Is it easy to identify with the laborers who worked longer? Why or why not?

- The landowner was never unfair, but He was more generous to others. How have you seen God be generous to you even when you did not deserve it?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: TITLE (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Various toys; baskets/bins; pennies, stickers, or another small reward for each child

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Ask one child to go around the room and pick up one toy to put away in the bin. Ask another child to pick up two toys. Then another child three toys and so on, adding a toy to each additional child.

• **Say:** Thank you all for helping me pick up the toys. Now I am going to reward each of you for your hard work. (Give a reward to each TeamKID who helped, starting with the child who picked up the least number of toys.)

• **Ask:** How do you feel that each of you got the same reward even though some of you picked up more toys? Do you think you should have received more? (Lead TeamKIDs to discuss.)

• **Say:** In today’s Bible study we will learn that there were some people who felt they deserved more for their work. But what we will come to find is that in God’s kingdom, He gets to determine the rewards, and He is generous to everyone. If we went home and did more chores than our brothers or sisters, we might expect to be rewarded more for our efforts. But in God’s kingdom, no one is deserving of a reward. Yet, God is still very generous.

BIBLE STUDY: THE VINEYARD WORKERS (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

• **Say:** Did you know that one of the most talked about subjects by Jesus was the kingdom of God? And in the Bible passage we are about to read, Jesus told us more about His kingdom and how the people in His kingdom live. Jesus used a story about a vineyard owner to help us understand how generous God is and how we can be thankful for His generosity. The Bible passage we are about to study ties back to a question Peter asked in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 19.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

Show TeamKids Matthew 19:27 in a Bible. Invite a TeamKID to read this verse aloud.

• **Say:** Peter asked Jesus, “See, we have left everything and followed you. So what will there be for us?” Peter wanted to know if there would be a reward because he had given up everything to follow Jesus. And Jesus told Peter that he would receive an eternal reward that is greater than anything this world could offer. But this reward is not earned or deserved.

• We are only given a great eternal reward because of God’s generous grace. And the path to this reward is not through seeking to be first, but being willing to be last. We don’t complain when God is generous toward others, but rather we look for ways that we can also be generous as God is generous toward us. **Jesus is a generous King, and to live in God’s kingdom means to be thankful for His generosity toward others.** We remember how generous it was for God to give us Jesus and that Jesus did not come to be first. He was willing to be last so we could be saved.

DEFINE IT: GENEROUS—happily giving time, money, talents, gifts, kindness to people in need and not expecting anything in return

DEFINE IT: VINEYARD—a place where grapevines are grown

THE VINEYARD WORKERS BASED ON MATTHEW 20:1-16

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Read Matthew 20:1-7.

• **Ask:** What did the landowner promise to pay the first group of workers? What did he say he would pay to the next three groups? (Answer: He promised to pay the first group one denarius, and the next three groups he promised to pay whatever was right.)

• The owner of the vineyard was generous to hire these workers. They had no job and therefore had no means to make money. But the owner of the vineyard saw their need and offered to hire them and pay them. God also sees our needs and is generous to give us what He knows is best for us. We can trust that He is a good, generous God.

Read Matthew 20:8-12.

• **Ask:** Why did the first group of workers complain? Who determined the payment that was right? (Answer: They did not think it was fair that the last group only worked one hour and was paid the same amount of money; the land owner.)

• Sometimes we see that others might have more than we do or maybe we work really hard and don't always get what we think we deserve. But God is Lord over all things, and He is generous to everyone. Even though the workers all worked different hours, none of them would have received any money if the vineyard owner did not come and seek them out for work. He was generous enough to offer them a job and to provide for them. He invited them all to come into his vineyard, just as God invites all people to come be a part of His kingdom.

Read Matthew 20:13-16.

• **Ask:** Have you ever been jealous of someone God has been generous to? Why? (Answers will vary, but we can all agree that we have been jealous of others at times. We often want to determine what is right by what we think is right and what we want, not by God's standard of right.)

• The vineyard owner was more than fair. The vineyard and the money belonged to him and he had a right to do what he pleased with it. He paid each person what he had promised and he had a right to give how he wanted. Because this parable is about the kingdom of God, it is important that we see God's generosity in extending the invitation to join His kingdom to all people—even if that means those who trust in Jesus who we think do not deserve God's grace. We should also learn from Jesus' teaching that we should give thanks for God's generous grace when others come into His kingdom. We also can seek to show that we are part of God's kingdom by being willing to be last and serve others first.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** God showed His greatest generosity when He gave Jesus to die for our sins. We should live
- in thanks for this generosity by praising Him and being willing to be last so that others can come
- into His kingdom. When we put others before ourselves, like Jesus did, we live like people of God's
- kingdom and point other people to Him.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- **How was the vineyard owner generous?** (He provided work and money for the workers.)
- **How has God been generous toward you? How can you show thankfulness to God for His generous gifts?** (Answers will vary, but we can show thanks by giving Him praise and obeying Him as we serve others.)

Older Kids

- **Why is it easy to be jealous of God's generosity toward others?** (Because we forget that no one deserves His grace. God does not have to give us grace or forgiveness, but He chooses to give what He knows is best because He is a generous King.)
- **Jesus said the vineyard owner did no wrong by giving each worker equal pay. How does this help you trust that God is not wrong either when He gives gifts differently to all?** (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss. Lead the group to talk about how God is the standard of authority, not our opinions. He is a good Father and does what is best for His children.)
- **How can you follow Jesus' example and be willing to be last?** (Guide TeamKIDs to consider how they can put others before themselves. Lead them to share practical ways they can serve others even when it costs them.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to complete side two of their activity pages and match the true statements about the book of Matthew by following the correct paths.

- **Say:** As we learn about the Gospel of Matthew, we can remember that everything in God's Word is true. God inspired real people to write down His Words so we can know God and trust in Him.
- Matthew wrote down this parable of Jesus in his Gospel book to tell people how to live as people of God's kingdom.

PRAY

Lead the children in a prayer. Thank God for being so generous and kind. Ask God to help us to be thankful for His generosity toward all people.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: KEY VERSE HUNT

Provide: Index cards with the words/phrases of the Key Verse on them; Bibles

Hide the index cards around the room.

- Share with TeamKIDs that you have hidden index cards around the room with words from today's Key Verse on them. When you say, "Go," TeamKIDs will hunt for the different index cards and gather as many as they can find.
- Direct kids to work together, using their Bibles, to put the words of the verse in order. Encourage TeamKIDs to share who found the most cards and who found the last card.
- Invite the children to read the Bible verses together. Explain that even though some TeamKIDs may have found more cards than others or one TeamKID was the last to find a card, everyone was able to work together to figure out the verse. They all ended up with the same reward. And in God's kingdom, everyone is treated generously.

OPTION 2: THREE LIVES OF FAITH

Provide: Bibles (1 per group)

- Form three groups and provide each group with a Bible.
- Direct one group to find and read Acts 7:54-60, the second group to find and read 2 Corinthians 11:23-27, and the third group to find and read Luke 23:38-43. Invite each group to share what they read about each person who was a follower of Christ.

⋮ **Ask:** Would the thief on the cross not receive the same reward of eternal life because he only trusted in Jesus shortly before his death? What about Stephen? He had only been a Christian for a short time before he died. And what about Paul? He suffered many things in his life. Was his reward the same?

- Discuss how God's generosity toward these people may have looked different, but they all received the reward of eternal life. Lead TeamKIDs to understand that God is a generous King who desires for all to come to saving faith in Jesus.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "Generosity Matters" (item 49) one copy per TeamKID, pencils or crayons

- ⋮ **Say:** Missionaries serve around the world because people are generous.
- ⋮ People give their money to missions offerings and to churches. That money
- ⋮ is used to support missionaries and make sure that every nation
- ⋮ has a chance to hear the good news.

Consider reviewing the from session 23.

Distribute the info-graphic to kids. Explain that kids at a church in Alabama collected money for missions. They are in the middle of the graph. This info-graphic shows a few ways that money given to missions can be used around the world.

Direct kids to trace the arrows to the places around the world. Ask for volunteers to read the descriptions of how money can be used on the mission field.

- ⋮ **Say:** We can ask God to show us ways to be more generous and support missions.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: GOSPEL OLYMPICS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 52)

Provide: 4 hula hoops, 4 playground balls, 4 jump ropes, 4 cones, index cards

Note: Balloons are a choking hazard. Make sure a leader inflates balloons.

- Set up four stations around the play area with the game equipment: Station 1—hula hoops; Station 2—playground balls; Station 3—jump ropes; Station 4—4 cones lined up with space between for jumping.
- Write the following instructions on index cards:
 - Station 1: Recite today's Key Verse while you hula hoop. Everyone in the group must complete the verse before moving to the next station.
 - Station 2: Bounce the ball and spin in a circle as you say Today's Point.
 - Station 3: Jump rope as you say the title of today's Bible study.
 - Station 4: Hop around the four cones and back. At each cone, shout out one of the four Gospel books.
- Lead players to form groups of 4. Explain the four stations set up around the area. Read aloud the four task cards that each group is challenged to complete and explain any directions. Assign each group a different station to begin. Continue play as time allows.
- Debrief: Discuss how Jesus calls us to follow after Him and live for His kingdom. When we follow after Jesus, there will probably be challenges along the way. We may be tempted to give up or do what we want to do instead of following Jesus. But, Jesus always gives us everything we need to obey and follow Him. We experience greater joy when we live to bring glory to Jesus and not ourselves.

LAST IN LINE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 64)

Provide: Music

- Line up players into a single file line. Play music and instruct players to move to the end of the line, one at a time, starting with the line leader. Stop music and whoever is at the front of the line is out. Continue playing until one player remains.
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDs that in God's kingdom the first will be last and the last will be first. Encourage TeamKIDs to think about how they can generously serve others and give thanks for when they see God's generosity in the lives of others.

TIME RANGE DISC (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 65)

Provide: 3 small flying discs and 24 cups

- Form three teams. Provide each team with a flying disc and eight cups. Direct each team to toss the flying disc to knock over the cups. Every cup knocked over is one point. Allow team one 3 minutes to play, team two 4 minutes, and team three 5 minutes.
- Debrief: Discuss which team won and why. Ask if it was because they had more time. Remind TeamKIDs that in this life God may choose to give us different gifts as part of His generosity. However, in Christ we will all receive the reward of eternal life and the joy of eternity with Him.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide. Remind kids that they learned a lot about the book of Matthew from their activity pages. Ask kids, “What else might be important to know about the book of Matthew?”

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

- **Say:** The Gospel of Matthew is one of four Gospel books in our Bibles. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are all books in the Bible that teach us about the good news of Jesus: who Jesus is, why He came, and why it matters for us. **Jesus is a generous King, and to live in God’s kingdom means to be thankful for His generosity toward others.**

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read the Key Verse together from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide. Encourage TeamKIDS to give thanks when they see God’s generous grace in the lives of others and to seek ways they can be willing to put others before themselves.

PRAY

Lead TeamKids in a prayer or invite a child to pray. Give thanks for God’s generosity in Jesus and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

DISMISS

Provide: “Allergy Alert” (item 4), “Unit 3 Parent Connections” (item 39), chocolate-coated candy, plastic spoon

Post the allergy alert listing the snack. Guide kids to wash their hands. Invite TeamKIDS to sit in a circle and pass around a cup of chocolate-coated candy. Ask each child to choose one color, then explain that each color represents a specific topic for them to share how God has been generous to them in that area of their lives:

- Red = Family
- Blue = School
- Green = Hobbies/Sports
- Yellow = Church
- Brown = Faith/Spiritual Growth

Encourage TeamKIDS to continue to thank God for His generosity, especially in giving us Jesus.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 25

THE KINGDOM IS FOR EVERYONE

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS TAUGHT THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM IS INVITED INTO GOD'S KINGDOM.

BIBLE STORY

The Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22:1-14)

KEY VERSE

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. *Matthew 20:26b*

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video

- Blank cards or construction paper
- Markers
- Stickers
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

KINGDOM HOOPS

- Basket or box
- Balls or crumpled paper balls

CLOTHED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

- Towels and/or blankets for each kid
- Bibles

MISSIONS

- "Hands Giving Hope" missions video
- "Letters and Numbers in American Sign Language" (item 50)

GAMES

KINGDOM FOUR SQUARE (PLAYBOOK, P 53)

- Soft playground ball
- Masking tape or boundary markers

PARTY CRASHERS (PLAYBOOK, P 66)

- *No supplies needed

INVITATION ROTATION (PLAYBOOK, P 67)

- 4 bean bags

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

25

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 22:1-14 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

Being invited to an important event often makes us feel valued. Even more, the person issuing the invitation has chosen us to take part in something that means a great deal to him or her. This usually indicates to us that the host wants us to share in the joy of the event or celebration. Yet, not all invitations are well received. Sometimes we have other obligations, or maybe sometimes we simply do not want to attend.

Jesus told this parable to help people understand more about God's kingdom and the people who are invited. The King invites everyone into His kingdom and desires that all come enjoy the feast, but not everyone will accept the invitation. Many will reject Jesus and not experience the joy of being part of the kingdom.

As you lead TeamKIDs, be sensitive that not everyone you teach may have trusted in Jesus yet. Help TeamKIDs understand that while Jesus invites everyone to trust in Him, some choose to receive this good news, and others reject it. Be ready to talk with TeamKIDs as a group and individually about what it means to trust in Jesus and receive the invitation He offers.

CONSIDER

- Who specifically were the guests that chose to attend the wedding feast? Who chose not to attend the feast?

- How does this parable cause joy, knowing that we are invited to dine with the King for all eternity?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: PARTY INVITES (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Blank cards or construction paper; markers; stickers

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Provide each child with a blank card or piece of construction paper. Explain that this card is a party invitation. Instruct TeamKIDs to think of an event they would like to invite their friends to and then decorate their invitations. It could be a birthday party, a sports celebration, a fancy dinner, a tea party, an event at church, or the like.

Ask TeamKIDs to hold onto their invitations and think about who they would invite to their party. They will need these invitations during Bible Study.

Explain that in today’s Bible study they will learn about another parable (story) Jesus told about God’s kingdom. Jesus told people about an important invitation and how different people responded to this invitation.

BIBLE STUDY: THE WEDDING BANQUET (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

• **Say:** In today’s Bible passage, Jesus had just arrived in Jerusalem. He came riding on a donkey as the Old Testament prophet Zechariah had told about, and the people gathered around and welcomed Him as King. They shouted, “Hosanna!” and had a big parade for Jesus.

• But, not everyone really understood who Jesus was (the Promised Messiah) or why He came. Jesus told a parable (story) to those listening about what God’s kingdom is like. **Jesus taught that everyone who believes in Him is invited into God’s kingdom.** Let’s open our Bibles to the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 22, and learn more about this important invitation and how people responded.

• In today’s Bible study, I want you to listen for the words written on your activity page.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: **BANQUET**— a formal meal for a large number of people

DEFINE IT: **RIGHTEOUSNESS**— made right with God because of faith in Jesus

THE WEDDING BANQUET BASED ON MATTHEW 22:1-14

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Read Matthew 22:1-4.

• **Ask:** Who was throwing the party in these verses? (Answer: the king)

• Jesus told this parable to help people understand what His kingdom is like. This time He used an example of a king sending servants to invite people within a city to a wedding party for his son. This invitation was of great importance. It was very different from a neighbor inviting you to a birthday party at the park. This was a party given by the king for his son! Imagine if the Queen of England invited you and your family to a fancy dinner at her palace. You would be so honored to receive such an invitation.

Read Matthew 22:5-14.

• **Ask:** Do you remember the party invitations you made? Think about the person or people you would want most to come to your party. How would you feel if that person told you he or she just didn't want to come to your party? (Allow TeamKIDS to respond.)

• We can all agree that it doesn't feel very good when people don't want to celebrate with us. It makes God sad, too, when we say no to the invitation to trust in Jesus. God loves us and wants to live with us forever. Just like a wedding banquet brings joy to everyone who receives the invitation, so it is when we trust in Jesus and choose to be part of God's kingdom. But just like many of the people during Jesus' time rejected the invitation to trust in Jesus for salvation, many people today reject the invitation, too.

• Jesus helps us to understand that the people in the city who were first invited were God's chosen people, the Israelites. Yet, many would not believe in Jesus and receive this invitation into God's kingdom. Jesus told His listeners that God would also invite all people—those outside the city—into His kingdom. God's kingdom will be filled with people from every place in the world, different tribes, nations, and people who speak different languages. God wants everyone to be part of His kingdom, and the only way into God's kingdom is through trusting in Jesus for salvation.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** Jesus taught that everyone who believes in Him is invited into God's kingdom. God's kingdom is going to be a wonderful place where we enjoy being with God and His people forever.
- But we cannot enter the kingdom until we trust in Jesus for salvation. When we confess to God that we are sinners, repent of our sin, trust in Jesus to save us and forgive us from our sin, and commit to follow Jesus, we are accepting the invitation of God to be part of His family.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- In this parable, what did Jesus say the kingdom of heaven was like? (a king having a wedding banquet for his son; The king invited everyone, but only some accepted the invitation. Others rejected the king's invitation.)
- What is the only way we can get into the kingdom of God? (only by believing the good news of the gospel and trusting in Jesus as our Savior)

Older Kids

- What were the two responses to the king's invitation from the people in the city? Have you known people to either ignore or get angry about the message of Jesus? (The people either ignored the invitation and went about their own concerns or they persecuted the servants the king sent. Many people ignore, reject, or make fun of Jesus and His message of salvation. We can pray that everyone hears and receives the good news of Jesus' invitation.)
- The king said the people he invited in the city were not worthy. What did Jesus mean by this? (No one is worthy of salvation because everyone sins. But we become worthy of God's kingdom when we receive Jesus as our Savior. When we receive Jesus as our Savior, He makes us worthy of God's kingdom.)
- How does this parable bring both warning and joy? (We are warned that there will be a judgment for those who are not saved by Christ. It brings joy for those saved by Christ because we know we will one day live with God in His kingdom.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Allow time for TeamKIDs to complete side two of their activity pages. Kids will work their way through the maze to reveal Today's Point.

PRAY

Lead the children in a prayer. Give thanks for the invitation God gives us to trust in Jesus and be invited into His kingdom. Ask God to help us share Jesus with others so they can know they are invited into the kingdom of God.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: KINGDOM HOOPS

Provide: Basket or box, balls or crumpled paper balls

- Form groups of three and give each team a basket and some balls or crumpled balls of paper. Give each team five minutes to spell out the word “kingdom” by getting a letter (K-I-N-G-D-O-M) for each ball shot into the basket.
- Direct kids to take three shots each and then pass the ball to the next person in their group. Kids will keep their place in the word until it is their turn again. The first one to spell out kingdom in each group wins!
- Remind TeamKIDs that Jesus continually taught about the kingdom of God and that He came to invite people into His kingdom.

OPTION 2: CLOTHED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Provide: Towels and/or blankets for each kid— pile towels/blankets on one end of the room for each team; Bibles

- Form four groups and guide each group to line up on the opposite end of the room from the towels. Direct each group to choose who will go first and on your start, she will race down, pick up a towel/blanket, wrap the towel blanket over their shoulders (like a robe), and run back to her team. Explain that these are meant to symbolize the wedding clothes mentioned in today’s Bible study. Continue playing until one team has all group members in their new robes.
- Give each group one of these Bible verses to find and read in their Bibles: 2 Corinthians 5:21, Philippians 3:9 Titus 3:5, and Ephesians 4:24. Ask each group to read their verse aloud. Discuss the following key truths from the verses:
 - Jesus became sin for us that we might be made righteous.
 - Righteousness does not come from ourselves but only through faith in Jesus.
 - When we believe in Jesus we are made new.
 - As followers of Jesus we choose to live for God.
- Remind TeamKIDs that salvation only comes through faith in Jesus.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “Letters and Numbers in American Sign Language” (item 50), “Hands Giving Hope” missions video

- **Say:** The kingdom of God is for everyone, even people who can’t hear the gospel with their ears.
- Let’s learn how missionaries who are deaf are sharing the message of Jesus with people who are deaf around the world through sign language.

Play the missions video. Ask kids if they know someone who is deaf or if they have seen someone speak sign language before. Explain that being deaf doesn’t have to be a disability; it’s just about communicating in another language.

Show “Letters and Numbers in American Sign Language” (item 50) and practice the alphabet and numbers together, using the diagrams of the hands. Encourage kids to try to sign their names.

- **Say:** Maybe some of you will learn sign language one day and can tell people who are deaf about Jesus.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: KINGDOM FOUR SQUARE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 53)

Provide: Soft playground ball, masking tape or boundary markers to create a Four Square grid

- Lead players to form four equal teams and assign each team a square of the playing area you have prepared. Players may take a position anywhere in their own square. The first team serves the ball to any of the other teams. The server stands outside of his team's square, bounces the ball once, and hits it underhanded to another square. The ball must bounce once in another team's square before it can be returned. The ball is dead if it bounces in the server's square, hits a line, or goes out of bounds. Rotate players on each team throughout the game.
- After each play the serve passes to another team. A team has only one hit to return the ball to any team. A player may not cross into another team's square. The last team to hit the ball successfully inbounds scores a point. No points are scored on unsuccessful serves. If the ball strikes another player, the team that hit the ball loses a point. The first team to reach 15 points wins.
- Play the game once, then announce one of the following variations from the TeamKID Playbook: naming Gospel books, sharing something new learned at TeamKID, saying today's Key Verse.
- Debrief: Discuss how we have been learning about who Jesus is as the promised King, and how He calls people to live as part of His kingdom. Everyone who believes the good news of the gospel is called a child of God and a citizen of God's kingdom.

PARTY CRASHERS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 66)

No supplies needed

- Choose one player to be the guard to the party. The other players will be party crashers who are trying to sneak into the party. Players can only move when the guard has his back turned. If the guard is looking, they have to freeze. If the guard catches a player moving, she has to go back to the start. The first player to touch the guard then becomes the guard.
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDs that we cannot sneak into the kingdom of God. It is only through faith in Jesus that we are welcomed into His kingdom to enjoy Him forever.

INVITATION ROTATION (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 67)

Provide: 4 Bean bags (Invitations)—place in middle of circle

- Lead TeamKIDs to join wrists and form a giant circle. Count off each player by repeating the numbers 1,2,3,4 until everyone has one of those four numbers. Direct players to stop holding hands and rotate the circle by walking to their left. Call out 1,2,3,or 4. Players with the number will run to the center of the circle and try to snag an invitation (beanbag). Players who do not get the invitation are out. Play until one player remains.
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDs that everyone is invited to trust in Jesus and enter His kingdom. But not everyone will accept His invitation. Encourage TeamKIDs to think about how they can invite people to church or how they can share the gospel.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: "Questions with Kids" slide

Display the "Questions with Kids" slide.

- **Ask:** What is something from today's Bible study that you learned about God or yourself?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today's study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today's activity page.

- **Say:** Remember that **Jesus taught that everyone who believes in Him is invited into God's kingdom.** Everyone is invited, but not everyone accepts the invitation. We can pray for people who haven't trusted in Jesus yet, and we can be part of sharing this good news with others.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, "Key Verse" slide

Read the Key Verse together from a Bible or the "Key Verse" slide. Remind TeamKIDS that people who are part of God's kingdom are called to serve others. Part of serving others is telling them about the good news of Jesus. Discuss how everyone who trusts in Jesus as his Savior is welcomed into the kingdom of God. Remind TeamKIDS that if they have already trusted in Jesus then they are called to invite others to trust in Him. Encourage TeamKIDS to think about how they can share the gospel and how they can live to show others that they belong to the kingdom of God.

PRAY

Lead a prayer or ask any TeamKID who wants to pray. Ask God to use kids as His servants to tell others about His kingdom. Thank God that in Jesus everyone who trusts in Jesus for salvation is made righteous.

DISMISS

Provide: "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

Play a quick game of "Pass the High Five".

Lead TeamKIDS to sit in a circle. The leader will start by saying something he learned at TeamKID and then high five someone else in the circle. That TeamKID will say something she learned and then pass the high five to her neighbor. Continue until everyone has shared who wants to share.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

SESSION 26

THE REWARDS OF THE KINGDOM

TODAY'S POINT: THE PEOPLE OF GOD'S KINGDOM KNOW THAT JESUS IS THE GREATEST REWARD.

BIBLE STORY

The Greatest Will Serve (Matthew 20:20-28)

KEY VERSE

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. Matthew 20:26b

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video
- Activity Books (1 per child)
- 10 rectangles of blue paper
- 10 rectangles of green paper
- Paper bag
- Bibles

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

LOOKING FOR NEEDS

- Dry erase board and markers
- Researched age-appropriate local news articles
- Church prayer list (optional)

SERVING OTHERS IS TO TREASURE JESUS

- Bible
- Marker
- Cardstock

MISSIONS

- "Hands Giving Hope" missions video
- "Deaf Fast Facts" (item 51)

GAMES

KINGDOM FOUR SQUARE (PLAYBOOK, P 53)

- Soft playground ball
- Masking tape or boundary markers

SERVANT SHUFFLEBOARD (PLAYBOOK, P 68)

- Masking tape
- Coins
- Tables

HOW LOW CAN YOU GO? (PLAYBOOK, P 69)

- Broom or yardstick
- Music

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)
- Flashlights
- Index cards

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: HELPFUL SERVICE (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, 10 rectangles of blue paper, 10 rectangles of green paper, paper bag

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Form two teams of kids. A player from one team will choose a rectangle from the bag. If he chooses a blue rectangle, he must tell a way that he can serve someone else. His team may keep the rectangle. If he chooses a green rectangle, he must give one of his team’s blue rectangles to the other team.

Play alternates until all the blue rectangles have been chosen. The team with the most blue rectangles wins the game.

Discuss how it may not have always been easy to share a rectangle with the other team.

- **Say:** Sharing is often a challenge because we want to do what we want to do more than thinking about other people.

Explain that today’s Bible study will tell your group more about what Jesus has to say about serving others.

BIBLE STUDY: THE GREATEST WILL SERVE (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 55 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** We have been learning about what it looks like to live as people of God’s kingdom. When we talk about God’s kingdom, what we are talking about is God’s rule and power over all He has made.
- God wants people to follow and submit to His rule and authority because they love and trust Him.
- God’s kingdom is happening right now. One day, Jesus will return and restore God’s kingdom to perfection again. Everyone who is a follower of Jesus is part of God’s kingdom and how we live right now, until Jesus returns, matters!

DEFINE IT: SACRIFICE—something a person brings to God to show love, thanksgiving, or the need for forgiveness

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

THE GREATEST WILL SERVE BASED ON MATTHEW 20:20-28

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Read: Matthew 20:20-21 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

James and John were two of Jesus' disciples. Their mother came to Jesus and asked a very interesting question. She saw that her sons had given up so much to follow Jesus and wanted to know that they would be rewarded for their loyalty to Him. She knelt beside Jesus and said, "Promise that these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right and the other on your left, in your kingdom." She wanted her sons to be considered great in the kingdom of God. But she didn't understand the ways of God's kingdom and that being great does not mean to have a place of importance.

Ask: Do you think it was right for the mother of James and John to ask this of Jesus? Why or why not? (Lead TeamKIDs to respond. Encourage them to remember that being part of God's kingdom means serving others, not seeking to be served.)

Read: Matthew 20:22-23 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

Jesus was about to do the most selfless act anyone could do. He was going to show His disciples (and the world) what it looks like to be the greatest in the kingdom of God. Jesus was about to lay down His life for the sake of others. Jesus would suffer and die to take the punishment for our sin, so we can be forgiven when we trust in Jesus. And while Jesus said the disciples would also suffer for Jesus, they would not endure the same amount of suffering that Jesus did. Following Jesus cost the disciples their comfort, but they believed that loving Jesus and following Him was better than any earthly treasure.

Read: Matthew 20:24-25 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

Ask: How did the other ten disciples respond to this question? (Answer: They were jealous and became angry with the two brothers.)

Jesus saw that His disciples all had jealousy in their hearts, wanting to fight for a position of importance in God's kingdom by sitting at His right and His left. Yet, Jesus wanted them to understand that positions of power or being seen as great are not what define the people in His kingdom. We are not called to live like the world and try to make ourselves great. Rather, we are to be like Jesus and be defined by service and sacrifice.

Read Matthew 20:26-28.

Ask: Who is the greatest in God's kingdom? (Answer: those who choose to serve others and follow the example of Jesus)

Jesus told His disciples that to become great in the kingdom of God, they must serve others. Just as Jesus came to serve others and gave His life to rescue us from sin and death, so should we seek ways to serve the people in our lives. We show that our hearts care less about power, status, fame, or fortune and more about glorifying the Lord. When we believe that nothing in this world is better than Jesus Christ, we joyfully serve others and show that He is our greatest reward.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** This world desperately needs to see the bright light of Jesus. All people need to know His love
- for them and find that what they really long for is a relationship with Jesus. When we serve other
- people, we give them a glimpse of Jesus and help them to better see His love for them. We choose
- not to chase after being seen as great or important. Rather, **the people of God's kingdom know**
- **that Jesus is the greatest reward.**

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- Who did Jesus say is the greatest in His kingdom? (those who serve others)
- How can you serve other people and show the love of Jesus? (Answers will vary. Lead TeamKIDs to share how they can put others first this week. Give examples that are age-appropriate and relevant to the group.)

Older Kids

- Serving others often requires sacrifice. When have you had to sacrifice to serve someone? (Answers will vary. Be prepared to share a personal story of serving others.)
- When have you struggled to put others before yourself? (Answers will vary. Be prepared to share an age-appropriate example of when you have struggled to put others before yourself because you wanted your own way. Remember to also share about how you confessed your sin to God and repented by choosing an action that obeys God and His commands.)
- Share ways you have seen Jesus in others as they have served you. How does serving people show that Jesus is your greatest reward? (Answers will vary.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to the back of their activity pages to complete "Jesus' Example." Direct kids to use the hand and arrows to find the letters needed to answer the question: What did Jesus come to do?

PRAY

Lead the children in a prayer. Ask God to help them serve others and show that Jesus is their greatest reward. Thank God that Jesus came to serve us and sacrificed His life for our freedom.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: LOOKING FOR NEEDS

Provide: Dry erase board and markers, researched age-appropriate local news articles, church prayer list (optional)

- Share that today we have been learning about what it looks like to serve others. As followers of Jesus, we can use our resources to help people in need, both other believers and non-believers. Let's see how we can respond and meet needs.
- Distribute the prayer lists or researched, age-appropriate news articles from the community. Guide kids to form small groups to learn about the need and be ready to share answers to the following questions:
 - Who has the need?
 - What is the need?
 - What would meet the need?
 - How can the Bible encourage someone in this situation?
- Lead a discussion on practical ways we can serve others in our church and community. Explain how God wants us to respond with compassion and do what we can to help with the resources we have. This week, be alert to people with needs and ask God to help you know how you can use your resources to meet needs and share the gospel.

OPTION 2: SERVING OTHERS IS TO TREASURE JESUS

Provide: Bible, marker (1 per group), cardstock (1 piece per group) with the following references, one on each: Matthew 25:34-36,40; Hebrews 6:10; Mark 9:41; Proverbs 19:17; Matthew 20:28

- Form groups of three or four, and give each group a marker. Assign each group one of the Bible verses and ask them to read it together.
- Invite each group to write ways that each verse shows that when we serve others we are loving Jesus. For example: Matthew 25 shows us that when we take care of the needs of others we are loving Jesus. Review each poster as a class and encourage TeamKIDs to think about ways they can love Jesus by serving others.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "Deaf Fast Facts" (item 51), 1 copy per TeamKID

Direct kids' attention to the handout.

- **Say:** These facts describe people who are deaf who live around the world. It's good for us to know the many ways that Christians can communicate the message of God's kingdom to others.

Discuss signs that hearing people make every day to communicate. Let kids demonstrate signs that the others would recognize. Demonstrate a few signs:

- Wave to say "hello."
- Motion for kids to come here.
- Put your finger to your mouth to say "be quiet."

- **Say:** Signs we make with our body language are very effective ways of communication—like smiling! Let's pray that more and more people who are deaf around the world will understand the gospel. Thank God for missionaries who communicate with people who are deaf.

Consider reviewing the "Hands Giving Hope" missions video from session 25.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: KINGDOM FOUR SQUARE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 53)

Provide: Soft playground ball, masking tape or boundary markers to create four square grid

- Lead players to form four equal teams and assign each team a square of the playing area you have prepared. Players may take a position anywhere in their own square. The first team serves the ball to any of the other teams. The server stands outside of his team's square, bounces the ball once, and hits it underhanded to another square. The ball must bounce once in another team's square before it can be returned. The ball is dead if it bounces in the server's square, hits a line, or goes out of bounds. Rotate players on each team throughout the game.
- After each play the serve passes to another team. A team has only one hit to return the ball to any team. A player may not cross into another team's square. The last team to hit the ball successfully inbounds scores a point. No points are scored on unsuccessful serves. If the ball strikes another player, the team that hit the ball loses a point. The first team to reach 15 points wins.
- Play the game once, then announce one of the following variations from the TeamKID Playbook: naming Gospel books, sharing something new learned at TeamKID, saying today's Key Verse.
- Debrief: Discuss how we have been learning about who Jesus is as the promised King, and how He calls people to live as part of His kingdom. Everyone who believes the good news of the gospel is called a child of God and a citizen of God's kingdom.

SERVANT SHUFFLEBOARD (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 68)

Provide: Masking tape, coins, tables

- Form six equal teams of players. Place two teams at a table, one on each end. Explain that each team will be playing a game similar to shuffleboard, but the goal is to have the lowest score. Each team must keep score and the team with the lowest score wins!
- Provide each team with three coins. Instruct the teams to slide a coin across the table trying to land in the space farthest away. This space is worth one point. The middle space is worth two points and the nearest space is worth three points. Each team will take turns sliding coins. Each team must keep score and the team with the lowest score wins
- Debrief: Read Matthew 20:16 and remind TeamKIDs that in God's kingdom we don't try to become the greatest. Instead, we seek to be last and serve others first.

HOW LOW CAN YOU GO? (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 69)

Provide: Broom or yardstick, music

- Ask players to form a single line. Leaders will hold up a broom or yardstick that players will have to limbo under. Play music and drop the limbo pole after each player has gone through once. Continue playing until one player remains.
- Debrief: Encourage kids to remember that we are not seeking a high place of importance in the world. Rather, we are willing to lower ourselves and serve others for God's glory.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** How can you pray and ask God to help you follow Jesus’ example by serving others this week?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Jesus came to serve us and showed us that those in God’s kingdom are willing to put others before themselves. Think about ways you can show others the example of Jesus living in you as you serve them. Remember that **the people of God’s kingdom know that Jesus is the greatest reward**, not how important or great we might look to others.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDS in a prayer or invite a child to pray. Ask God to help you follow Jesus’ example of humble service. Thank God that He sent His Son to serve us so that we could live with Him forever.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections” (item 39), flashlights, 5 index cards with one letter of “S-E-R-V-E” written on each card. Hide cards around the room.

Pass out a flashlight to each child. (If there are not enough flashlights for every child to have one, pair children with a partner.)

Tell the group that you have hidden the letters of the word SERVE in the room and ask them to use their flashlights to search for it.

Remind TeamKIDS that the more we serve others the brighter Jesus shines. We make Him our greatest reward and are willing to be humble servants for His glory.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

SESSION 27

WAITING FOR THE KINGDOM

TODAY'S POINT: ONE DAY, JESUS WILL RENEW AND RESTORE HIS KINGDOM. UNTIL THEN, WE LIVE IN EAGER EXPECTATION FOR KING JESUS TO RETURN

BIBLE STORY

The Bridegroom and the Talents
(Matthew 25:1-46)

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 39).

KEY VERSE

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. Matthew 20:26b

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Opening Slides
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video

- Index cards (1 per kid)
- Pens (1 per kid)
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

KEY VERSE MATCH UP

- Bible
- Construction paper
- Markers

TALENT SHOW

- Paper
- Crayons/markers

MISSIONS

- "Christian Manga" (item 52)
- Paper
- Art supplies (crayons, stickers, etc.)

GAMES

KINGDOM FOUR SQUARE (PLAYBOOK, P 53)

- Soft playground ball
- Masking tape or boundary markers

GAME DAY READY (PLAYBOOK, P 70)

- Sports equipment for each sport selected (equal number of items per team)

BOP IT (PLAYBOOK, P 71)

- *No supplies needed

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Unit 3 Parent Connections" (item 39)

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: CAN'T WAIT (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Index cards (1 per kid), pens (1 per kid)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Pass out an index card and a pen to each child. Ask TeamKIDs to write down or draw about three things they are really looking forward to. These could be events that they just can't wait for like a birthday or special vacation.

Invite TeamKIDs to walk around and share what they can't wait for with other kids or leaders.

- **Say:** We all have events that we are excited about and can't wait to happen. In today's Bible study we are told that a very special day is coming, one that we should be so excited about! But while we wait, we need to be prepared. Let's learn what Jesus has to tell us about this very special day.

BIBLE STUDY: THE BRIDEGROOM AND THE TALENTS (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 57 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** When Jesus came to earth, He told people about God's kingdom.
- Jesus told people to repent and believe in Him so they could be part of
- God's kingdom forever. In the Bible verses we are going to read in the book
- of Matthew, Jesus explained to His disciples that He would go to heaven and
- come back again one day.
-
- Jesus was about to leave the earth and wanted His disciples to be prepared for when He comes
- again. We don't know when Jesus will come again, but we can wait with hope and excitement. While
- we wait, we can study our Bibles to learn more about God and how He wants us to live so that we
- will be prepared for when Jesus does return. Let's open our Bibles to Matthew 25 and discover more.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: FAITHFUL—steadfast, dedicated, dependable, and worthy of trust

DEFINE IT: EAGER EXPECTATION—excitedly looking forward to something; Christians wait with excitement for Jesus to come again

THE BRIDEGROOM AND THE TALENTS BASED ON MATTHEW 25:1-46

.....

• In Matthew 25, Jesus told three different parables or stories about God’s kingdom.
• In the first one, we learn of five wise bridesmaids (women who are part of a wedding) and five foolish bridesmaids who went out to meet the groom. Each of these bridesmaids had a lamp, but only five of them brought oil for their lamps. They all fell asleep while they waited for the groom. At last, the groom arrived in the middle of the night and the bridesmaids were about to go out to meet him. But the foolish bridesmaids did not have oil to light their lamps. The foolish bridesmaids asked the wise bridesmaids for oil, but there was not enough to share. The foolish bridesmaids had to go and buy oil.

Read Matthew 25:10-13.

• **Ask:** What happened to the foolish bridesmaids? (Answer: The door was shut and the Master would not open the door because he did not know them.)

• In this parable we learn that like the five wise bridesmaids, we should always be prepared for when Jesus returns because we do not know when it will be.

• Jesus told a second parable. A man was about to go on a journey and he trusted his servants to care for his possessions while he was away. Each servant was given a different amount of money and the man expected the servants to make more money while he was gone. While the man was away, the servant with five talents invested them and earned five more. The servant with two talents invested them and earned two more. But the servant with one talent dug a hole and hid the master’s money.

Read Matthew 25:19-27.

• **Ask:** What did the master call the servant with only one talent? (Answer: Evil and lazy because he did not use what the master gave him for good.)

• Jesus was teaching that followers of Jesus should not hold tightly to what God has given as though the gift is the reward. Rather, we should take the gifts God has given and use them to tell others about Jesus. We should use our money, time, skills, and possessions in ways that show God’s kingdom is where our true treasure is.

• Jesus said someday He would return. He said when that happened, He would separate people like a shepherd separates sheep from goats. Some people will have cared for others and produced good fruit of faith. Others will be people who did not love others. Those who will be welcomed into the kingdom of God proved their faith in Jesus was genuine through their motivations and actions. Those who rejected Jesus will be cast away and separated from the King forever.

Read Matthew 25:34-43.

• **Ask:** What did the King mean when he said, “whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”? (Answer: when we love and serve others we do so because we love God. We obey His command to love others because by loving others we are also loving Him.)

GOING DEEPER

One day, Jesus will renew and restore His kingdom. Until then, we live in eager expectation for the King to return. While we wait we make sure we are ready, using our talents for God's kingdom and seeking to love others as though we were serving Jesus.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- **When is Jesus coming back again?** (*We don't know the time, but we trust in His promise that He will return.*)
- **What can you do while you wait for Jesus to come back?** (*We can be prepared by trusting in Him, we can serve others, we can help build His kingdom by telling others the good news of Jesus, we can learn more about God through studying our Bibles, and so forth.*)

Older:

- **Why should the followers of Jesus be excited about His return?** (*We don't need to fear the return of Jesus because we are completely forgiven through Jesus. We are excited because we will live with Him forever in His kingdom.*)
- **How are you using your skills while you wait for Jesus?** (*Answers will vary but may include: using spiritual gifts to encourage others, walking by faith, serving others, and so forth.*)
- **Who can you serve while you wait for Jesus to return?** (*Lead TeamKIDs to consider who they encounter each week who they can show kindness and service toward.*)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. Lead TeamKIDs to read the selected verses on their pages and underline the correct answers to the questions.

Guide kids to turn to the back of their activity pages to complete "I Can Study My Bible: Study a Bible Verse."

- **Say:** Great job! You are learning more and more about the good news of Jesus every time you read and study your Bibles. Learning about God isn't something that is only for adults. The Bible is for kids, too! We can learn more about God by reading our Bibles or listening to someone read the Bible and then doing what it says.

PRAY

Lead the children in a prayer. Ask God to help them wait with joyful hope in Jesus' return by loving others well. Thank God that Jesus is coming again.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: KEY VERSE MATCH UP

Provide: Bible, construction paper, markers—Write the words and the reference of Matthew 20:26 on sheets of paper, 1 word per paper. Make 2 sets.

- Show the kids where Matthew 20:26 is found in the Bible.
- In order, place one set of word papers on the floor or a table. Lead the kids to say the verse with you. Choose one or more of the following options to help TeamKIDS learn the Key Verse.
 - Invite kids to take turns removing one word paper at a time, saying the Bible verse each time a word is removed.
 - Place both sets facedown and play a memory game.
 - Challenge the kids to say the verse as they move to each word taped to the floor.
- Ask for volunteers to say the verse by memory. Remind TeamKIDS that Jesus wants people to serve others and think of other people more than we think of ourselves.

OPTION 2: TALENT SHOW

Provide: Paper, crayons/markers

- Invite TeamKIDS to think for a moment about a talent they may have that God has given them. Maybe they can sing, dance, play an instrument, wiggle their ears, remember facts, are really good at math, and so forth. Anything that they recognize as something they enjoy and/or are good at.
- Invite TeamKIDS to draw a picture of their talent and then share with the group. Encourage the kids in their talents and give thanks to God for how He has made them with special gifts and talents.
- Discuss how God has given us talents to help grow His kingdom. While we wait for Jesus' return we can use our talents for the kingdom of God by serving others and telling people about the good news of Jesus. Encourage kids to use their gifts and talents for the Lord as they wait for Jesus' return.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "Christian Manga" (item 52), paper, art supplies (crayons, stickers, etc)

Make copies of the photo for each kid.

- **Say:** We've been learning in this unit how missionaries are sharing the gospel. There are so many ways missionaries are telling God's stories: songs, henna, the Jesus Film, sign language, and today, we'll learn about a fun way missionaries are getting people interested in the gospel in Japan.

Distribute the "Christian Manga" (item 52) handout and ask for a volunteer to read the caption aloud. Ask if kids have heard of manga (maang-guh). Manga are comics or graphic novels that come from Japan.

Distribute paper and art supplies. Ask kids to create a drawing (or poem or letter) that tells about Jesus. If they'd like, they can try to design their own manga or trace the one on the photo.

- **Say:** You can share the love of Jesus with someone like the missionaries do. Think of a creative way to tell someone that she is important to Jesus.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 3 GAME: KINGDOM FOUR SQUARE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 53)

Provide: Soft playground ball, masking tape or boundary markers to create four square grid

- Lead players to form four equal teams, and assign each team a square of the playing area you have prepared. Players may take a position anywhere in their own square. The first team serves the ball to any of the other teams. The server stands outside of his team's square, bounces the ball once, and hits it underhanded to another square. The ball must bounce once in another team's square before it can be returned. The ball is dead if it bounces in the server's square, hits a line, or goes out of bounds. Rotate players on each team throughout the game.
- After each play the serve passes to another team. A team has only one hit to return the ball to any team. A player may not cross into another team's square. The last team to hit the ball successfully inbounds scores a point. No points are scored on unsuccessful serves. If the ball strikes another player, the team that hit the ball loses a point. The first team to reach 15 points wins.
- Play the game once, then announce one of the following variations from the TeamKID Playbook: naming Gospel books, sharing something new learned at TeamKID, saying today's Key Verse.
- Debrief: Discuss how we have been learning about who Jesus is as the Promised King, and how He calls people to live as part of His kingdom. Everyone who believes the good news of the gospel is called a child of God and a citizen of God's kingdom.

GAME DAY READY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 70)

Provide: Sports equipment for each sport selected (equal number of items per team)

- Lead TeamKIDs to form teams of four. Assign each team a sport such as baseball, football, soccer, or basketball. Scatter sports equipment for each sport in the middle of the playing area. At your signal, one player from each team will run and grab a piece of sports equipment for her sport and run back to her team. The first person to reach her team gets a point. The team with the most points wins.
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDs that we do not know the day or hour of Jesus' return. But we need to be ready. Just as you get yourself ready for a game by having all your equipment on, so we need to be ready by living for God's kingdom now.

BOP IT (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 71)

No supplies needed

- Guide TeamKIDs to form a large circle. Choose one player to be "It". The player who is "It" will choose one player in the circle and say "boppity, bop, bop, ____." That player must respond with "bop" before "It" finishes the sentence. "It" can fake out the player by saying bop before boppity and if the player is tricked, he is out.
- Debrief: Discuss how during this game players needed to be ready to respond correctly. Talk about how players had to eagerly expect a response. Compare this to today's Bible study. Remind TeamKIDs that **one day, Jesus will renew and restore His kingdom. Until then, we live in eager expectation for King Jesus to return.**

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** How can we be faithful while we wait for Jesus to return?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Jesus calls us to love and serve other people while we wait for Him to return. When Jesus does return, we want to be found faithful living as people of God’s kingdom. Let us live now for the kingdom as we walk by faith, use our talents for Jesus’ glory, and love others well. Think about how you can live your life hoping in Jesus’ return.

PRAY

Lead a prayer or invite a TeamKID to pray. Ask God to help us to wait for Him with joy and anticipation. Ask God to help us be ready for when Jesus comes again.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 3 Parent Connections” (item 39)

Turn off or dim the lights in the room. Explain that TeamKIDs can walk around the room while the lights are dimmed. But when the lights are turned on fully, everyone must freeze in place. Anyone who is caught moving will sit out one round and then rejoin the group.

Play several rounds. Remind TeamKIDs that just like they didn’t know when you were going to turn on the lights, we also do not know when Jesus is coming back. As we wait for Jesus to come back, we can live for Him now and tell others the good news of Jesus!

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

THE ANOINTING

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS WAS ANOINTED WITH OIL TO PREPARE HIM FOR BURIAL.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Was Anointed (John 12:1-8)

KEY VERSE

Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion. Look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt. John 12:15

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 28 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video

- Markers
- Paper
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

KEY VERSE BANNER

- Large piece of craft paper
- Markers

TRUE, FALSE HOP

- *No supplies needed

MISSIONS

- "A Legacy" missions video
- Small gift items (stickers, rubber balls, small crosses)
- Tissue paper—wrap each gift item
- "World Map" (item 8)

GAMES

KANGAROOS AND CROCODILES (PLAYBOOK, P 73)

- Cones

BALLOON LEG RELAY (PLAYBOOK, P 76)

- Inflated balloons (1 per team and several extra in case one pops)
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)

MUSICAL HULA HOOP HOP (PLAYBOOK, P 77)

- 10 hula hoops
- Upbeat music

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)

- Paper
- Scissors
- Markers

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: RE-CREATE IT (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Markers, paper

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Instruct kids to find a partner and give each TeamKID a marker and a piece of paper. One kid from each pair will draw something simple on her paper without her partner seeing it. She will then give her partner step-by-step instructions on how to draw it while her partner follows along, recreating the picture on his paper. When finished, TeamKIDs will switch places and repeat the activity.

- **Say:** Great job everyone! Was it hard to know exactly what your partner wanted you to draw?
- Without knowing what the picture would look like in the end, it was a little tricky to know what to do. Today we’re going to hear a story about a time a woman anointed Jesus with oil. This means
- that she poured oil on Jesus, but the other people around had no idea why! Only Jesus, who knew
- how the whole story would unfold, understood why.

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS WAS ANOINTED (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 59 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** It is true that the Bible is God’s Word. It comes from God and everything we read in it is true. We can trust what it says and obey it.
- The Bible is a story about God and what He has done. Everything in the Bible points us to Jesus, our Savior King. Today our story is about what it looks like to worship God with our whole hearts.

- **Ask:** What is the most expensive thing you own? Would you be willing to give it away?

- **Say:** Our story is about a woman named Mary who was willing to give up something of great value as a way of worshiping Jesus.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: ANOINT—to pour oil or perfume on someone to show he is being set apart for a special purpose

JESUS WAS ANOINTED BASED ON JOHN 12:1-8

Read John 12:1 or invite a TeamKID to read this verse aloud.

• **Ask:** What incredible thing did Jesus do for Lazarus and his two sisters, Mary and Martha? (Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.)

• Jesus is God the Son, and He can do anything. Jesus had even raised Lazarus from the dead. Mary had seen this with her own two eyes and she knew that Jesus is truly the Son of God. This knowledge of who Jesus really is sank deep into her heart, allowing her to love Jesus with everything she had. When we know what is true about God, and believe it in our hearts, it changes the way we live.

Read John 12:2-3 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses aloud.

• **Ask:** What did Mary do for Jesus? (Mary poured expensive oil on Jesus' feet.)

• Mary believed that Jesus was God the Son, and she was willing to give up something incredibly valuable: perfume that was worth almost an entire year's salary! Mary understood the cost of the perfume as she poured it out onto Jesus' feet and she gave it up willingly. Compared to Jesus the perfume was worthless because Mary understood that a relationship with her Savior was priceless.

Read John 12:4-8 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses aloud.

• Not everyone in the room was happy about what Mary had done. Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' twelve disciples, thought Mary was being wasteful with her money to pour out the perfume on Jesus' feet. He said they should have sold the perfume and used it to help the poor, but Judas really didn't care about the poor. He cared about the money. Judas knew that he could have stolen some of the money and kept it for himself.

• **Ask:** How did Jesus respond to Judas? (Jesus told Judas to leave Mary alone. He reminded Judas that the poor would always be with them, but He would not.)

• Jesus told His disciples that Mary had done something even more important than any of them realized. Jesus said she had anointed Him for burial. Back in those days, oil was used to anoint kings. You might remember that Samuel anointed David to symbolize that he would be the next king of Israel. Oil was also used to anoint a body when someone had died. **Jesus was anointed with oil to prepare Him for burial.** In just a few days, Jesus would be arrested, put on trial, and crucified on a cross. All of this was part of God's bigger plan to rescue people from sin. Jesus would take the punishment we deserve for our sin and die on a cross. Then, after three days, Jesus would come back to life!

GOING DEEPER

Jesus was anointed with oil to prepare Him for burial. It might seem strange that Jesus said Mary had anointed Him for burial. After all, Jesus was still alive! But throughout His ministry, He talked about the fact that He was going to die and be raised to life. He knew from the beginning that His life on earth would end with death on a cross to rescue the world from sin. Thankfully that's not how the story ends! Jesus did die on the cross, taking our sin on Himself and suffering the punishment we deserve. But three days later He rose from the dead, defeating sin and death once and for all. Later Jesus ascended (went upward) into heaven, and is now seated on the throne, ruling His eternal kingdom. Mary anointed Jesus for burial, but also as King!

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- Jesus was having dinner at whose house in the story? (Lazarus, Mary, and Martha; John 12:1)
- What did Mary do as a way to worship Jesus? (poured perfume on His feet; John 12:3)
- Which disciple did not like Mary's behavior? (Judas Iscariot; John 12:4)
- What did Jesus say Mary had done? (anointed Him for burial; John 12:7)

Older Kids

- If you were there during this event, how would you have responded to Mary? (Lead TeamKIDs to discuss how they might have reacted to watching Mary pour oil on Jesus. Would they have said something to Judas? Would they have worshiped Jesus, too?)
- What does Jesus' response to Mary tell us about what He is like? (Encourage TeamKIDs to consider Jesus' response of compassion and kindness toward Mary for her worship.)
- Jesus is worthy of all our worship! What are ways you can worship Him this week? (Help TeamKIDs define worship [giving honor, reverence and praise to God] and give practical ways they can worship God this week.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to side two of their activity pages to complete "Faces of Worship." Kids will think about the different ways that people responded to Jesus, including themselves. Discuss with the kids how everyone responds to Jesus in his own way. Some people reject Him, and others believe the gospel and trust in Him. In the Bible study, Mary was willing to pour out one of her most prized possession as an act of worship. Ask the kids to consider what they are willing to give up as a way of worshiping God.

PRAY

Lead the kids in prayer or ask a volunteer to pray for the class. Thank God for this example of what it looks like to love Jesus with our whole hearts. Ask God to help us love Him more than anything else this week.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: KEY VERSE BANNER

Provide: Large piece of craft paper, markers

- Spread the craft paper on the floor and invite the kids to write out the Key Verse in large letters. Encourage them to decorate the banner with pictures. Hang up the banner somewhere in the room to reference for the next few weeks.
- **Say:** Our Key Verse for the next few weeks comes from the book of John, just like today's Bible study. This verse is actually a reference to verses in the Old Testament books of Isaiah and Zechariah. It is a prophecy about the coming Messiah and how He would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey's colt. Imagine a king riding into a city. You might imagine a huge parade with beautiful, strong horses and soldiers in gleaming armor. Does it surprise you that Jesus, the King of kings, comes into Jerusalem on a donkey? What does this tell you about the kind of King He is?

OPTION 2: TRUE, FALSE HOP

No supplies needed

- Instruct the kids to line up along one wall. Ask the following true/false questions. If the answer is true the kids should give a thumbs up. If false, they will give a thumbs down. For each correct answer the kids will take two hops forward, but two hops backward if they get it wrong. If the answer is false, choose a volunteer to share how to make the statement true.
 1. Jesus was eating dinner at Zaccheus' house. (*false—Lazarus' house*)
 2. Mary and Martha were the sisters of Lazarus. (*true*)
 3. Martha anointed Jesus with oil. (*false—Mary anointed Him*)
 4. Peter was upset with Mary's actions. (*false—Judas Iscariot*)
 5. Jesus said Mary had anointed Him for burial. (*true*)
 6. Mary anointed Jesus as an act of worship. (*true*)
- **Say:** "Great job everyone. **Jesus was anointed with oil to prepare Him for burial.** This was a beautiful act of worship for Mary. She loved Jesus and was willing to give up something precious to worship and honor Him."

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "A Legacy" missions video, small gift items (stickers, rubber balls, small crosses) wrapped in tissue paper (1 per TeamKID), "World Map" (item 8)

- **Say:** Many years ago, a missionary couple named Jim and Elisabeth Elliot went to the Amazon jungle to tell people about Jesus—people who had never even heard of Jesus. Let's find out more about how they obeyed God and sacrificed everything to share the gospel.

Play the video, then ask a volunteer to point to South America on the "World Map." Ask kids to sit on the floor and explain that you will stand and drop small gifts on the floor for them to catch. Invite kids to pick up one gift (just one) that falls near them. Tell them to hold their gifts unopened until everyone has one. When each kid has a gift, invite them to open the gifts.

- **Say:** When Jim and his friends wanted to make friends with the Waorani people, they dropped gifts from an airplane. They wanted the people to know that they were friendly. Gifts included tools and clothes. The real gift they wanted to give them, however, was Jesus. Because they were not afraid and chose to be friends, many Waorani people today are part of the kingdom of God.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: KANGAROOS AND CROCODILES (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 73)

Provide: Cones

- Line up cones at either end of the area to create each team’s “safe zone.” Then, line up cones in the middle of the playing area. Form two teams of players (Kangaroos and Crocodiles) and instruct the teams to line up in the middle of the room, each player facing a player from the opposing team. The leader will call out either “Kangaroos” or “Crocodiles.” Whichever team is called must run to their team’s safe zone without getting tagged by the opposing team. Once a player reaches the safe zone she must call out Today’s Point. For each safe player at the end of the round, the team will get a point, but for each player tagged, one point will be deducted. Play several rounds. For an added challenge, kids can start off in the middle by lying down, standing on one leg, or kneeling with their eyes closed.
- Debrief: “Great job everyone! Today we learned that **Jesus was anointed with oil to prepare Him for burial**. Mary poured expensive perfume on His feet and wiped them with her hair. What a humbling experience that would have been. She knew that Jesus was the promised Messiah and her Savior. She was willing to give up something very valuable as a way to worship Him.”

BALLOON LEG RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 76)

Provide: Inflated balloons (1 per team and several extra in case one pops); “Allergy Alert” (item 4)—latex

- Form two or three equal teams and instruct teams to line up along one side of the play area. Give each team an inflated balloon. The first person on each team will put the balloon between his knees and run/hop to the other side of the room and back. Teams will run relay style until everyone has made it back.
- Debrief: “You guys looked pretty silly running with the balloons between your knees. Sometimes the things we do might look silly or strange to others, especially if they don’t understand our reasoning. In our Bible study, Mary worshiped Jesus by anointing Him with oil. Judas Iscariot was angry that Mary worshiped Jesus in this way. He selfishly wanted to sell the perfume so he could steal some of the money. Mary was willing to pay a high price to worship Jesus because she knew that Jesus was worth far more than money or earthly possessions.”

MUSICAL HULA HOOP HOP (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 77)

Provide: 10 hula hoops, upbeat music

- Spread hula hoops in a large circle. Explain that when the music is playing everyone must walk in a circle around the hoops. When the music stops, everyone must find a hoop to stand in. The challenge is to have both feet in a hoop. With each round, remove one hoop. Players who can’t get both feet in a hoop are out.
- Debrief: “That was really fun! It was hard to get everyone to fit in the hula hoops, especially when we only had a few left. Our game reminds me of Jesus and His followers. Early on in Jesus’ ministry He had a lot of people who wanted to follow Him and learn from Him. But the closer He got to going to the cross the fewer followers He had. He told His disciples that it would be costly to follow Him. We know that Jesus is better than any earthly treasure.”

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** Why do you think Jesus wants us to worship Him?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** In our Bible study Mary was willing to give up her expensive perfume to worship Jesus. She knew that nothing she had would ever amount to what she gained by knowing Jesus. Jesus is the King God promised, but He did not come in the way many people expected. Instead of riding on an expensive horse, Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey’s colt. Jesus came in humility to take the punishment for our sin. When we trust in Him for salvation, we are forgiven of our sin and become part of God’s kingdom.

PRAY

Invite one of the kids to pray if she would like, or the leader can pray for the group. Thank God for today’s Bible study and ask Him to help us worship Him with our whole hearts this week.

DISMISS

“Unit 4 Parent Connections” (item 53), paper, scissors, and markers

Distribute paper, scissors, and markers to each kid. Invite kids to think about ways they can worship God this week. Encourage them to consider how they might give sacrificially of their time, money, or talents to glorify God. Kids will write their ideas on their papers and then decorate them to look like gifts. Encourage kids to keep their gifts where they will see and remember this week to worship God.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 29

THE KING

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM AS THE KING GOD PROMISED.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Entered Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11, Luke 19:28-44)

KEY VERSE

Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion. Look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt. John 12:15

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 29 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video
- Bibles
- Activity Books

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

KEY VERSE BALLOON POP

- Balloons (2 different colors),
- Slips of paper with words of the Key Verse (2 sets)
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)

WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

- *No supplies needed

MISSIONS

- "A Legacy" missions video
- "Jim and Elisabeth Elliot Story" (item 54)
- Building or craft supplies

GAMES

KANGAROOS AND CROCODILES (PLAYBOOK, P 73)

- Cones

JESUS IS KING RELAY (PLAYBOOK, P 78)

- Plastic balls or plastic eggs per team (1 set per team)

POM-POM PARADE (PLAYBOOK, P 79)

- Plastic spoons (1 per kid)
- Pom-poms
- 2 buckets

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)
- Dry erase board and markers

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Luke 19:28-44 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

In this session we will discuss how Jesus is our Savior King, but His kingdom looks very different from any earthly king. In God's kingdom it is the humble who are exalted and the least who are greatest. Jesus came to earth as the perfect example of humility and grace. He showed us what it looks like to love and serve others, even to the point of death. Jesus died on the cross to rescue us from our sins, but He rose again so that when we trust Him we too can have eternal life. But that eternal life isn't reserved for the day we die. It starts here and now. God invites us to be part of building His kingdom on earth.

In this passage we read that Jesus wept over Jerusalem because the people rejected His offer of peace. They were so busy trying to get to God in their own strength that they missed the promised Messiah. Jesus calls us to cease from our striving and let Him give us the peace we so desperately seek. When we submit to Jesus as our King He offers us peace with God the Father and peace with others.

As you prepare to teach this session, think about the ways you participate in building God's kingdom. We're called to share the gospel with those who don't yet know Jesus. We're commanded to love others with a selfless love that Jesus showed to us. We're invited to give of our resources, our time, and our very selves for the sake of others. Pray that the kids would have open hearts to hear God's Word and receive His invitation to His eternal kingdom.

CONSIDER

- What does it look like in your life to give of your resources, time, energy, and talents to build up God's kingdom?

- What might God be calling you to step into to stretch your faith and help you learn to trust in Him?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: LINES AND BLOBS (5–10 MINUTES)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Explain to kids that you will call out a number or descriptor and the kids will either need to form groups of that number, get in groups based on the description, or form a line in order of the command. (example: get in groups based on how many siblings you have, line up in order of birthdays, and so forth.)

- **Say:** Great job everyone! This is a great way for us to get to know each other, but it also reminds
- me a bit of the Bible passage we are going to study today. Today we’ll hear how **Jesus entered**
- **Jerusalem as the King God promised.** Just like we were in large groups in our activity, there were
- lots of people around Jesus shouting and waving palm branches. They were so excited to see Jesus
- because they thought He was the long-awaited Messiah that God had promised many years ago.
- But we’ll learn that Jesus wasn’t the kind of king they expected. We’ll find out that Jesus is our
- Savior King!

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 61 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** The Bible is a truly spectacular book. It’s made up of
- 66 books that all tell one big story about God and His love for
- us. We have been studying about the Gospel books—Matthew,
- Mark, Luke, and John. These four books teach us so much
- about Jesus’ life and ministry while He was on earth. Jesus is
- the Promised One who came to fulfill God’s plan and begin God’s
- kingdom on earth. Today, we are going to study two Gospel books,
- Matthew and Luke, to learn about how this Promised King arrived in Jerusalem where He would
- fulfill God’s plan. Let’s open our Bibles to Matthew 21 to read about what happened.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

Open your Bible to Matthew 21:1-5. Hold the Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

DEFINE IT: PROPHECY—Word from God given to a group of people, usually from a prophet

JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM BASED ON MATTHEW 21:1-11, LUKE 19:28-44

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Read Matthew 21:1-5.

- These verses from the book of Matthew quote Old Testament passages from
- the books of Zechariah and Isaiah. Zechariah was written over 500 years before
- Jesus was even born. Zechariah wrote that the Promised King would come into
- Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Jesus entered Jerusalem as the King God promised.

Read Matthew 21:6-11.

- Jesus rode into Jerusalem right before the Passover Festival was to take place.
- The city was packed with people who had traveled from all over the place to take
- part in the festival. Many of these people had seen or heard about the incredible
- miracles Jesus had done, so when they heard that Jesus was coming into town
- they rushed out to meet Him.

Read Luke 19:37-40

- **Ask:** What did the people shout as Jesus passed by? (Blessed is the King who comes in the name
- of the Lord.)

- The people spread their cloaks and palm branches on the road. This is the type of
- thing people would do when a king was coming into the city. They were treating
- Jesus like a king! Does anything surprise you about this scene? When you imagine
- a king riding into town, what kinds of things do you picture in your mind? Perhaps
- you imagine the king riding in on a strong war horse and a large parade of soldiers
- accompanying him.

- **Ask:** How is the scene with Jesus different? (Jesus rode on a donkey.)

- Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey. This was not exactly the impressive
- parade you might associate with a king. Jesus came to Jerusalem in a humble way.

- **Ask:** What does this tell you about the kind of King Jesus is? (Jesus is humble. He came in humility
- to fulfill God's plan.)

- The people believed that Jesus was the King that God had promised, but Jesus
- didn't turn out to be exactly the king they were expecting. The Israelites were ruled
- by Rome at this time and they wanted an earthly king who would set them free
- from Roman rule. They were expecting a military leader, but that's not the kind of
- King Jesus is. Jesus is our Savior King. He came into the world to set us free from
- an even greater enemy than Rome. He sets us free from our sin!

Read Luke 19:41-42 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

- Jesus was about to enter the city when He began crying. He was sad because He
- knew that the people were going to reject Him. God longed to be with His people,
- but because of their sin they were separated from Him. The only way to be brought
- back to God was to recognize Jesus as their Savior King. Jesus alone rescues us
- from our sin. It's only through Jesus that we can know the Father. It broke Jesus'
- heart to know that the people would reject their opportunity to be close to God.

GOING DEEPER

The Bible tells us that Jesus is the King of kings. He is the ruler over all creation, yet He came to earth humbly. He lived a quiet life as a carpenter for many years before starting His ministry. Throughout His ministry Jesus gathered just a few people around Him to learn from Him as disciples. **Jesus entered Jerusalem as the King God promised.** He rode into the city on a donkey and just a week later would be put to death on a cross. This isn't what we would expect from any earthly king. But God's kingdom isn't like any earthly kingdom. Jesus laid down His life to rescue us from our sin. He came to be a sacrifice for us so we could have life with God forever!

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- What kind of animal did Jesus ride? (donkey; Matthew 21:6-7)
- What city did Jesus ride into? (Jerusalem; Matthew 21:10)
- Which Old Testament prophet wrote about the King entering the city on a donkey? (Zechariah; Zechariah 9:9)

Older Kids

- How did the people respond to Jesus? (The people were shouting, "Hosanna" and praising Him; Matthew 21:9)
- Why did Jesus weep over Jerusalem? (He knew that He would be rejected and the people wouldn't have peace with God; Luke 19:41-42)
- Why do you think it's important for us to understand who Jesus is? (Lead TeamKIDS to discuss. Share that Jesus is not just a good person. The Gospels teach us that everything Jesus did was for a purpose. He came to show people how to be part of God's kingdom, and then He died on the cross to make a way for people to be part of that kingdom.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDS are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to side two of their activity pages to complete "Finish the Picture."

Discuss with the kids what it would have been like to be part of the crowd as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the donkey. How do they think they would have felt in that moment?

PRAY

Lead kids in prayer or ask a volunteer to pray for the group. Thank God for today's Bible study and for keeping His promise to send Jesus as our Savior King. Ask God to help TeamKIDS respond to Jesus in faith.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: KEY VERSE BALLOON POP

Provide: Inflated balloons (two different colors); “Allergy Alert” (item 4)—latex; slips of paper with words of John 12:15 (2 sets, place in balloons before inflating, one set per color)

- Review the Key Verse. Form two teams. Put each team’s set of balloons at one end of the room, and instruct kids to line up at the opposite side. Each kid will run relay style to grab a balloon, pop it, collect the word, and bring it back to her team. The first team to assemble the Key Verse in the correct order wins.
- Explain this verse shows us the humility of Jesus. Rather than riding into Jerusalem on a war horse, Jesus came on a donkey. Jesus is our Savior King, and He is unlike any earthly king that has ever lived. Jesus is a perfect King.

OPTION 2: WHERE IN THE BIBLE?

No supplies needed

- Explain that the kids will start out in the middle of the room. You will give a brief summary of a Bible story and the kids will try to figure out if it’s in the Old or New Testament. If it’s in the Old Testament they will run to the right, and if it’s in the New Testament they will run to the left. Use these examples or create your own.
 1. God created everything. (Old)
 2. Jesus was born. (New)
 3. Esther became queen (Old)
 4. Jesus was baptized. (New)
 5. Jesus entered Jerusalem. (New)
- Remind TeamKIDs that the Bible is filled with stories that all fit together to tell one big story. It’s the story of God loving us, even when we rejected Him. The Bible is amazing because it isn’t like any other book.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “Jim and Elisabeth Elliot Story” (item 54), building or craft supplies

- **Say:** We’ve been learning about missionaries who are committed to going to people who might be hard to reach with the good news of King Jesus. Jim and Elisabeth Elliot were missionaries to Ecuador. They reached out to people who lived deep in the Amazon jungle. Let’s hear more.

Ask a volunteer to read the missions story aloud. Help kids understand that Jim’s choice to sacrifice his life so that people could know Jesus is sad, but it’s also a good thing. He was willing to give his life because Jesus had given His life for Jim.

Invite kids to gather around the supplies.

- **Say:** When missionaries go deep into the jungle, they might have to make their own shelter using the things they find in the jungle. It’s not always comfortable, but missionaries are willing to go to the hard places to share Jesus.

Invite kids to work in pairs or small groups and make a miniature hut or house using the materials you’ve provided. As they work, remind them that God might ask them to go to another place one day, maybe even stay in a hut, to tell people about Jesus. Give kids time to show their huts to each other.

Consider reviewing “A Legacy” missions video from session 28.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: KANGAROOS AND CROCODILES (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 73)

Provide: Cones

- Line up cones at either end of the area to create each team’s “safe zone.” Then, line up cones in the middle of the playing area. Form two teams of players (Kangaroos and Crocodiles) and instruct the teams to line up in the middle of the room, each player facing a player from the opposing team. The leader will call out either “Kangaroos” or “Crocodiles.” Whichever team is called must run to their team’s safe zone without getting tagged by the opposing team. Once a player reaches the safe zone she must call out Today’s Point. For each safe player at the end of the round, the team will get a point, but for each player tagged, one point will be deducted. Play several rounds. For an added challenge kids can start off in the middle by laying down, standing on one leg, or kneeling with their eyes closed.
- Debrief: “Throughout the Bible God has made a lot of promises, and He always keeps every single one! Way back in the Old Testament book of 2 Samuel God made a promise to David that someone from his family would always be king over Israel. This promise is fulfilled in Jesus. David was one of Jesus’ ancestors, that’s why Jesus is sometimes referred to as the “Son of David.”

JESUS IS KING RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 78)

Provide: Plastic balls or eggs labeled in numerical order for how many players are on each team, 1 set per team

- Form equal teams. Explain that the balls are marked in number order up to the number of players on each team. A sequence of balls will be tossed randomly at an accessible, short distance from the team. When signaled, the first player of each team finds the ball with a number one, then runs back to his team. The player will toss it back into the play area and shout, “Jesus is King!” As soon as player one has thrown the ball, player two can retrieve the number two ball. Play continues with the rest of the team. The first team to have retrieved and thrown all of the balls in order wins.
- Debrief: “That was great! You all had a lot of work to do to complete this game. But, when we trust in Jesus, there are not a lot of steps we have to do. We are saved by grace through faith. There’s nothing we can do to earn our salvation. It is all through faith in King Jesus.”

POM-POM PARADE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 79)

Provide: Plastic spoons (1 per kid), pom-poms, 2 buckets

- Form two equal teams. Give each team a bucket full of pom-poms (an equal number in each). Explain that the teams will stand in line, each player holding a spoon. The first kid will put a pom-pom on his spoon. The goal is to pass all the pom-poms to the end of the line using only the spoons. If one is dropped, players start over.
- Debrief: “That was really fun! It was fun watching all the pom-poms go down the line. It was almost like a parade. That reminds me of the Bible story we heard today. Jesus came into Jerusalem with people on either side of the road. They laid their clothes and palm branches in the road. Do you remember what they were shouting? That’s right, the people were shouting, “Hosanna” and “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” The people were praising Jesus as He came into the city.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** Why do you think it is important for us to understand who Jesus is?

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Today we learned that **Jesus entered Jerusalem as the King God promised.** Jesus is unlike any other king on earth, but He invites us to be part of His kingdom. When Jesus forgives our sin, He also welcomes us into the family of God. We get to be part of building God’s kingdom here and now. We can do that by sharing the good news of Jesus with others. We can show the love of God to people around us, especially people who don’t know Him.
- **Ask:** Can you think of someone you could show kindness to this week? What could you do to show God’s love to that person? (Allow TeamKIDS to respond and discuss.)

PRAY

Lead the kids in prayer. Thank God for teaching us about Jesus coming as the King He promised long ago. Ask God to help us live our lives for King Jesus. Thank God for His amazing love and His grace in our lives.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 4 Parent Connections” (item 53), dry erase board and markers

Play a round of “Build a Man” using the phrase, “Jesus is the King God promised.” Draw spaces for each letter in each word. Each time a kid guesses a letter correctly, write it in the correct space. Each time a letter is guessed incorrectly, add a feature to a stick figure man until he is drawn completely. Kids must guess the phrase before the man has been completed. After the first round, invite other kids to come up and think of a phrase related to today’s Bible study to use.

- **Say:** Today we’ve talked about how **Jesus entered Jerusalem as the King God promised.** It’s important for us to understand that as our King, Jesus is in authority. That means He is in control, and we’re called to obey Him. Jesus is a good King, and we can trust that He will always do what is best for us.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

THE LAST SUPPER

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS GAVE THE BREAD AND THE CUP TO SYMBOLIZE HIS SACRIFICE FOR OUR SIN.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus and the Last Supper
(Luke 22:14-20, Revelation 19:6-9)

KEY VERSE

Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion. Look, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt. John 12:15

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 30 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video

- "Flags" (item 55) or "Flags" slides
- Paper
- Markers
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

STORY SEQUENCING

- "Story Sequence Strips" (item 56) (1 per group)
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors

GET TO KNOW PETER!

- Index cards
- Bibles (1 per group)
- Paper
- Pens/markers

MISSIONS

- "Reaching the Hard-to-Reach in the Amazon" missions video

GAMES

KANGAROOS AND CROCODILES (PLAYBOOK, P 73)

- Cones

PASSOVER FEAST PASS (PLAYBOOK, P 80)

- Ping pong balls (1 per pair),
- Bowls (2 per pair)

FOUR CORNERS OF REMEMBRANCE (PLAYBOOK, P 81)

- Four pieces of paper
- Tape
- Marker

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- "Key Verse" side

- Slips of paper
- Gift bag or paper bag
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: FLAGS (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: “Flags” (item 55) or “Flags” slides, paper, markers

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Display the flags for the class to see. Discuss the different colors and images used and how these things often represent something that is important to each country. Distribute paper and markers to the kids and instruct them to create their own flags (for themselves or their families) by using colors or symbols that represent something important to them.

- **Say:** Your flags look amazing! The symbols that you used are things that are important to you.
- They also help you remember what you or your families value. Today we are going to hear a story about a special meal that Jesus shared with His disciples. It was the Passover meal, which was a celebration to help God’s people remember something important about what He had done for them.
- Let’s get ready to hear more!

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS AND THE LAST SUPPER (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 63 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** The Bible is God’s Word to us, and it is a privilege that we are able to read it for ourselves. Not everyone around the world has this same privilege to read a Bible. When we read our Bibles it’s important that we ask God to help us understand what we read. We depend on God to give us wisdom as we read His Word.

- Today, we are going to study out of the Gospel of Luke. Luke wrote down the events of Jesus’ life and ministry so people could understand who Jesus really is—the Promised King that God spoke about in the Old Testament. In today’s passage, Jesus shared a special meal with His disciples called the Passover Feast. This meal was a way to remember what God had done for His people in the Old Testament when He brought them out of Egypt. (See Exodus 12:12-14.) God had spared the firstborn son of every Israelite family who put the blood of a lamb over their doorpost. Each year this meal was eaten as a way to remember what God had done in the past. In today’s passage, Jesus gives this meal new meaning. Let’s open our Bibles to Luke chapter 22 and learn more.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

Open your Bible to Luke 22:14-20. Hold the Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

DEFINE IT: LORD’S SUPPER—a special time to help Christians remember Jesus’ death and resurrection. The bread and the cup remind Christians that Jesus died for their sins. Jesus took the first Lord’s Supper with His disciples.

30

JESUS AND THE LAST SUPPER BASED ON LUKE 22:14-20, REVELATION 19:6-9

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Read Luke 22:14-16 or ask a TeamKID to read these verses aloud.

- Jesus' disciples went into the city to prepare the Passover meal. (Luke 22:7-8)
- When the meal was ready, Jesus and His disciples reclined at the table. Jesus
- knew His time on earth was almost over and He would soon return to the Father in
- heaven.

Read Luke 22:17-19 or ask a TeamKID to read these verse aloud.

- **Ask:** What did Jesus do with the bread? (Jesus prayed and gave thanks for the bread. Then, He
- told the disciples that the bread represented His body and they should eat it.)

- At the end of the meal Jesus took the bread that was traditionally present at
- Passover, broke it, and gave it to His disciples. He told them that the bread was
- like His body; it would be broken so that people could be saved from their sin.

Read Luke 22:20 or ask a TeamKID to read this verse aloud.

- **Ask:** What did Jesus say the cup symbolized? (The new covenant [promise] in His blood)

- Jesus took the cup and gave thanks. He gave it to His disciples and told them to
- drink from it. The cup would symbolize the new covenant (promise) that Jesus
- would establish through His death on the cross. Jesus' blood would be poured out
- on the cross so that our sin could be forgiven.

- At the Passover, Jesus shared His last meal with the disciples before His death and
- resurrection. Jesus said that He would not eat this meal again until it is fulfilled in
- the kingdom of God one day.

Read Revelation 19:6-9 or ask a TeamKID to read these verses aloud.

- **Ask:** What type of feast is mentioned in this passage? (The marriage feast of the Lamb)

- During his last supper with His disciples before His death and resurrection, Jesus
- told the disciples that He wouldn't participate in this meal again until He was with
- them in His Father's kingdom. These verses in Revelation are a vision John had of
- heaven. In his vision, John saw a wedding feast that we will someday be part of
- in God's kingdom. The church, everyone who follows Jesus, is symbolized as the
- bride while Jesus is symbolized as the bridegroom. These verses in Revelation are
- a picture of what heaven will be like and the joy we will experience when we are
- united with God forever!

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** The Passover meal Jesus shared with His disciples before His death and resurrection was a special one. During this meal, Jesus established the first Lord’s Supper. **Jesus gave the bread and the cup to symbolize His sacrifice for our sin.** Christians still celebrate the Lord’s Supper to remember the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross. We also look forward to the day we will be united with Jesus forever.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids

- What were Jesus and His disciples celebrating? (the Passover Feast; Luke 22:15)
- At the end of the meal what did Jesus give to His disciples? (bread and the cup; Luke 22:19-20)
- When did Jesus say He would eat this meal again? (in His Father’s kingdom; Luke 22:16)

Older Kids

- Why do Christians celebrate the Lord’s Supper? (to remember Jesus’ sacrifice and to look forward to being united with Him)
- Why do you think it’s important that we do things to remember what God has done for us? (When we remember what Jesus has done for us, it leads us to worship Him. It also helps motivate us to love and care for others and tell them about the good news of Jesus.)
- What are some things you do throughout your week to help you remember God’s goodness and faithfulness to you? (Lead TeamKIDS in a discussion. Give examples of ways the group can remember God such as reading their Bibles regularly, prayer, talking about what God is teaching them, and so forth.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDS are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to side two of their activity pages to complete “Study a Bible Person: Peter.”

Remind TeamKIDS that when we study our Bibles, we can learn about different people in the Bible and how God worked through them, even though they were not perfect. Share that Peter was one of Jesus’ closest friends and was with Jesus at the Last Supper. (See John 13:1-11.)

If time allows, guide TeamKIDS to turn in their Bibles to John 13 and review what happened with Peter and Jesus at the Last Supper.

PRAY

Lead kids in prayer thanking God for giving us Bibles to learn more about Him and His good plan for us. Ask God to help your group remember Jesus’ goodness and faithfulness this week.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: STORY SEQUENCING

Provide: “Story Sequence Strips” (item 56)—1 set per group, cut apart; construction paper; glue; scissors

- Form groups of three to five TeamKIDs. Give each group a set of the story sequence strips and instruct them to work together to put the story in order. Once the strips are in order kids can glue them on the construction paper.
- Remind TeamKIDs that today’s Bible study had a lot of parts that came from all over the Bible, from the Old Testament all the way to the last book of the Bible. Share that the Lord’s Supper is important because it teaches us to remember who Jesus is (the King God promised) and why He came (to rescue us from sin). Christians share the Lord’s Supper to remember Jesus’ life and death and to tell others about Him!

OPTION 2: GET TO KNOW PETER!

Provide: Index cards with the following verse references, one on each card: Matthew 14:22-33, Luke 5:1-11, Acts 2:37-41, Acts 3:1-10, Acts 12:1-17, Acts 9:36-43; Bibles (1 per group); paper; pens/markers

- Form six groups and give each group a verse reference card. Instruct kids to find the passage in a Bible and read it together. Then, they will use the paper and markers to draw a picture of the scene with Peter in it. Explain that Peter is also referred to as Simon in some of these passages. When all the groups are finished, they can share what they learned about Peter with the rest of the class.
- Explain that Peter was one of Jesus’ closest disciples and friends. He went through quite a transformation from the time he met Jesus until the day he died. Jesus changed Peter from the inside out and helped him grow into the man God wanted him to be. Peter was there to witness incredible miracles and inspired teaching from Jesus. After Jesus rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, Peter traveled around the area telling others the good news of how they could be saved.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “Reaching the Hard-to-Reach in the Amazon” missions video

- **Say:** Missionaries are taking the stories of Jesus to places that are hard to get to. In the Amazon jungle, missionaries often hike for days before they find a village. In that village are people who have probably never heard of Jesus. Let’s learn more about mission work in the Amazon jungle.

Play the video, then ask kids who likes the idea of going into a jungle as a missionary. Explain that God has a special plan and purpose for everyone. Part of that purpose to share the good news of Jesus with people all around us.

Explain that missionaries who serve in jungle regions have three main ways to travel: small airplanes, boats, or hiking. Ask kids to stand up and act out the following commands as you say them: plane (spread arms as if to fly), boat (paddle as if in a canoe), hike (march in place). Play a simple game by saying the words in different orders and asking kids to do the motions. Mix up the order and go faster as kids try to keep up.

- **Say:** It might seem scary to go into a jungle and meet new people, but whatever God asks you to do will be worth it. Missionaries today are seeing many people receive Jesus and choose to be baptized. God might ask you to be a missionary in a jungle, or desert, or big city, or even your neighborhood. I hope you will say “yes” when God asks you to be on mission for Him.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: KANGAROOS AND CROCODILES (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 73)

Provide: Cones

- Line up cones at either end of the area to create each team’s “safe zone.” Then, line up cones in the middle of the playing area. Form two teams of players (Kangaroos and Crocodiles) and instruct the teams to line up in the middle of the room, each player facing a player from the opposing team. The leader will call out either “Kangaroos” or “Crocodiles.” Whichever team is called must run to their team’s safe zone without getting tagged by the opposing team. Once a player reaches the safe zone he must call out Today’s Point. For each safe player at the end of the round, the team will get a point, but for each player tagged one point will be deducted. Play several rounds. For an added challenge kids can start off in the middle by laying down, standing on one leg, or kneeling with their eyes closed.
- Debrief: “Good work everyone! Each time you made it to the safe zone it was important to remember Today’s Point from our story: **Jesus gave the bread and the cup to symbolize His sacrifice for our sin.** Part of why Jesus gave us the gift of the Lord’s Supper is so we would have a way to remember His sacrifice on the cross. Every time we take the bread and cup, we look back on Jesus’ death on the cross, but we also look forward to the promise of being with Him in His kingdom forever.”

PASSOVER FEAST PASS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 80)

Provide: Ping pong balls (1 per pair), bowls (2 per pair)

- Instruct players to find a partner and ask pairs to line up facing each other. Each player will have a bowl and one from each pair will have a ping pong ball. The pairs will toss their balls into each others’ bowls. Each time they get the ball in the bowl they must take one step away from each other. The pair that makes it the farthest wins.
- Debrief: “Great job! When Jesus shared the Passover meal with His disciples, they reclined at the table and shared the meal together. There were many special foods prepared in special bowls that were used to celebrate this feast. The most important parts of the meal were the ones Jesus talked about in today’s Bible study, the bread and the cup. When we take the Lord’s Supper we remember what Jesus has done for us and look forward to His promised return.”

FOUR CORNERS OF REMEMBRANCE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 81)

Provide: Four pieces of paper, tape, marker

- Lead players to think of four important words that remind us of Jesus (examples: merciful, faithful, loving, trustworthy, and so forth.) Write the four words on four pieces of paper and hang them in the four corners of the room. Using the words kids came up with, play “Four Corners.” Choose one player to be the caller and ask her to stand in the front of the room facing the wall. She will count to ten while the rest of the players run to a corner of their choice. The caller will call out one of the words and any kids in that corner are out. Play until only one kid remains. She will be the caller for the next round.
- Debrief: “Remind TeamKIDS that we want to remember who Jesus is and what He has done for us. Remembering how He has been faithful to us in the past gives us confidence as we continue to trust and follow Him in our present and future!”

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** What is one thing you can do this week to help you
- remember God’s faithfulness to you?

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Anytime we understand something that is true about God and believe it in our hearts, it
- changes the way we live. Today we learned that **Jesus gave the bread and the cup to symbolize**
- **His sacrifice for our sin.** As believers, when we share the Lord’s Supper, we are reminded of what
- Jesus did to bring us forgiveness from our sins. We can respond to His love for us with joy and
- praise! We can thank Him for what He has done and follow Him in obedience.

PRAY

Lead kids in prayer, thanking God for our time together today. Ask Him to help TeamKIDs remember what Jesus has done, and also to look forward to being united with Him in God’s kingdom.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 4 Parent Connections” (item 53); slips of paper with the following words: supper, bread, cup, Passover, lamb, wedding feast; gift bag or paper bag

Invite a volunteer to come up to the front of the room and draw a slip of paper out of the bag. Instruct the kid to act out whatever word/phrase is on the slip for the rest of the group to guess. Whoever guesses first gets to act out the next word/phrase.

- **Say:** Today, we learned that Passover was a Jewish holiday that helped the people remember
- something important about God: how He had shown them mercy in Egypt. Then we read that Jesus
- took the bread and cup and gave them to His disciples telling them that they represented His body
- and blood that would be poured out on the cross for the forgiveness of sin. Now when we celebrate
- the Lord’s Supper we remember what Jesus has done and look forward to being united with Him in
- God’s kingdom forever. It’s important that we remember what is true about Jesus and what He has
- done for us!

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

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SESSION 31

GOD'S KINGDOM HAS COME

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS WAS IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF HIS BETRAYAL AND ARREST AND CAME TO FULFILL GOD'S PROMISE.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus' Betrayal and Trial
(Matthew 26:31-27:31, John 18:1-19:16)

KEY VERSE

This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day. Luke 24:46b

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 31 slide

- "Unit 4 Countdown" video
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

PATHWAY TO GOD'S PLAN

- Construction paper
- Marker
- "The Gospel: God's Plan for Me" poster (item 10)

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE CHAIN

- "Books of the Bible Poster" (item 9)
- Construction paper, scissors, stapler, markers, and Bibles

MISSIONS

- "Reaching the Hard-to-Reach in the Amazon" missions video
- "Missions in the Amazon" (item 57)
- Blanket or sheet
- Table or chairs

GAMES

FILL IT UP RELAY (PLAYBOOK, 74)

- Plastic cups (2 sets)
- Water bottles full of water
- Paper towels
- Something to mark a "Start" line

HULA HOOP ROCK PAPER SCISSORS (PLAYBOOK, P 82)

- 15-20 hula hoops

VOLCANOES AND ICE CREAM CONES (PLAYBOOK, P 83)

- 15-20 plastic cups

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)

- Paper (1 per kid)
- "Airplane Instructions and Review" (item 61, optional)
- Dry erase board
- Dry erase marker

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 26:31–27:31 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

Today's session content is heavy, but the darkness we find here makes the light of the resurrection that much brighter. This week we will focus on Jesus' betrayal and trial. Jesus' disciples fled at His arrest. His accusers spread lies about Him and openly mocked Him. The crowds demanded His crucifixion. In Jesus' darkest moments everyone had turned away. Jesus not only knew this time was coming, He expected it. Nothing was a surprise to the Son of God.

This week we will focus on helping kids see that nothing happens outside of God's control. Jesus' arrest and desertion by His disciples, His trial, and His death were all part of God's plan for salvation. It couldn't have happened any other way. We can praise God for His sovereignty. Everything that happened in Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion was within His control and authority.

When we feel like things are spinning out of control, we can rest assured that God is in full control. He is never taken by surprise, nor does He ever have to change course because something unexpected has happened. Everything always happens according to God's plans.

As you prepare to teach kids this week, remember God's faithfulness in your life. Trust that God is with you, and He is still in control of your life. Rest in His promises that everything happens according to His will. God doesn't promise us an easy life, but He does promise to be with us and give us hope for eternity.

CONSIDER

- In what circumstances have you experienced fear or doubt that God is in control? Are there any patterns of struggling to trust God with the unknown?

- Do a search on a Bible app for words like "trust" and "steadfast." Choose a few Bible verses you can focus on this week as you consider the trustworthiness of God in your life.

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: SILENT CHALLENGE (5–10 MINUTES)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Challenge the kids to line up by height. But here’s the catch: they can’t make a sound! Give other challenges if time allows: line up by birthday, alphabetical order of first name, etc.

- **Say:** This was a really hard challenge wasn’t it? We’re used to being able to communicate with our words to say what we need. In fact, we use our words to communicate a lot, don’t we? We speak to share what’s on our minds with our families, tell people we care about them, and offer encouragement when someone is sad. Sometimes we need to speak up when someone does or says something that’s not right. In our story today we’ll hear about Jesus being on trial and how, even though people were saying things about Him that weren’t true, He never said a word. Let’s get ready to hear more.

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS’ BETRAYAL AND TRIAL (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 65 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Ask:** Have you ever been on a roller coaster? (Allow kids to share their experiences or stories.)
- **Say:** A roller coaster goes so fast and has so many fast twists and turns that it can feel like it’s running out of control. But the coaster cars stay right on track the whole time and eventually get you back to the station. The builder of the roller coaster had a plan, and while it can be a wild ride, everything is under control. In today’s Bible study it might feel like things were spinning out of control, but in reality, God was in complete control of everything that took place. Everything we are going to learn about today happened according to God’s plan. Today we will read the story of Jesus’ betrayal and trial. Let’s turn to the book of Matthew to hear it.
- Jesus knew that in a matter of hours He would go to the cross, and His heart was deeply troubled.
- Let’s read and find out what Jesus prayed in that moment.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: BETRAYAL—when someone breaks the trust and faith given to them by another person

JESUS' BETRAYAL AND TRIAL

BASED ON MATTHEW 26:31-27:31, JOHN 18:1-19:16

.....

Read Matthew 26:36-41.

Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples. He had just finished sharing the Last Supper with them and took the disciples with Him to the garden so they could stay up and pray with Him. Jesus became very sad and troubled. He fell facedown and prayed, "Father! If it is possible, spare Me from this. But I want to follow your plan." Jesus knew the suffering that awaited Him, and He prayed that God would take it away from Him. But Jesus also submitted to God's will above His own. Jesus knew that God's plan was worth the suffering He would endure. He knew it was the only way for us to be brought back to Him.

Read Matthew 26:47-50 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

While Jesus was in the garden, Judas, one of the disciples, arrived. A large crowd with swords and clubs was with him. The men grabbed Jesus and arrested Him. Jesus' followers ran away, but Peter stayed nearby to watch.

Ask: Do you think this crowd that had come to arrest Him surprised Jesus? (No, Jesus is God the Son. He knew everything that was about to happen and allowed it to happen.)

Read Matthew 26:57-58,62-64.

The men who arrested Jesus led Him to the house of Caiaphas the high priest. The religious leaders were trying to find a reason to kill Jesus, but they could not. The high priest asked, "Do You have anything to say? Are You the Messiah, the Son of God?" Jesus answered, "You have said it." Caiaphas and the religious leaders did not want to believe that Jesus is God's Son. They said that Jesus was lying, but Jesus was telling the truth. The crowd shouted that Jesus deserved to die. They spit in Jesus' face and hit Him.

Ask: How did Jesus respond to His accusers? (Jesus was silent before His accusers.)

Usually we get defensive when someone says something wrong about us. Jesus had every right to deny the wrong accusations and lies, but He didn't. Jesus was in complete control of all of these events, and He allowed them to take place because it was part of God's plan. The next morning, the religious leaders took Jesus to Pilate, the governor. Though Pilate questioned Jesus he could find no reason to sentence Him to death. But the Jews had formed a mob outside and were shouting "Crucify Him!"

Read John 19:8-11.

When we read this passage it might seem like the Jews, Caiaphas, or even Pilate the governor was in control, but that isn't true. God never lost control. Jesus' words remind us that everything was happening according to God's plan. Even though Jesus was sentenced to death by crucifixion, He submitted to God's plan and allowed these things to take place. This was God's plan from the very beginning.

GOING DEEPER

Jesus was in complete control of His betrayal and arrest and came to fulfill God's promise.

From the very beginning, God promised that a King was coming. This King would arrive when people did not expect Him and would not look like what they thought. He would tell people about God's kingdom and how they could be part of it. And then, He would become the sacrifice for sin, so that people can be forgiven when they trust in Jesus for salvation.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- What did Jesus pray in the garden? (He asked God to take the cup of suffering, but He wanted God's will to be done, not His. Matthew 26:39)
- How did Jesus respond when people said things about Him that weren't true? (He stayed silent. Matthew 27:13-14)
- What does God have control over? (God is in control over all things!)

Older Kids

- Why was it important that Jesus was obedient to be sentenced to death on the cross? (It was through Jesus' death on the cross that He made it possible for our sin to be forgiven. If Jesus hadn't died, we would still be in sin and have to suffer the punishment ourselves.)
- What is something hard, scary, or sad you are experiencing right now? How does it make you feel knowing that God is in control of the situation? (Remind kids that God is good and He has a plan for their lives. Life isn't always easy, but we can trust that God sees the hard things we are going through. He will help us when we pray to Him.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDS are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to side two of their activity pages to complete "What's Wrong?"

Lead kids to spot the items in the picture that shouldn't be there.

- **Say:** While it may seem to us that Jesus shouldn't have been in this situation at all, it was all part of God's plan. Things happened exactly as God wanted them to, so it didn't surprise Him when Jesus was arrested and put on trial. **Jesus was in complete control of His betrayal and arrest and came to fulfill God's promise.**

PRAY

Thank God for our time together to study His Word and learn more about Him. Thank God for His good plan of salvation, and for inviting us into His kingdom.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: PATHWAY TO GOD'S PLAN

Provide: Marker, construction paper with the following phrases written on individual sheets: *God Rules, We Sinned, God Provided, Jesus Gives, We Respond, "The Gospel: God's Plan for Me" poster (item 10)*

- Lay out the construction paper in a pathway across the room, with the order of the gospel plan mixed up. Review "The Gospel: God's Plan for Me" several times with the kids, then challenge them to make their way through the pathway, stepping next to the papers in the correct order. Lead kids to put the papers in the correct order and try again.
- Remind TeamKIDS that **Jesus was in complete control of His betrayal and arrest and came to fulfill God's promise**. While things might happen in our lives that we don't understand, we can trust that God's plan is bigger than ours, and thankfully, He is in control! His plan includes wanting everyone to know the good news of the gospel, to trust in Him for salvation, and to tell others about this good news, too!

OPTION 2: BOOKS OF THE BIBLE CHAIN

Provide: "Books of the Bible Poster" (item 9), construction paper, scissors, stapler, markers, Bibles

- Assist kids in cutting strips from the construction paper and writing the names of the New Testament Bible books, one on each strip. Encourage the kids to use their Bibles to put the strips in order and make a paper chain. Hang the chain up in the room.
- Share that the Bible has 66 books, 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New. Each book helps tell the story of God's plan to save sinners and welcome us into His kingdom. God inspired the writers of these books with the words He wanted us to have. It's such an incredible gift that we can hold the Word of God in our hands! Both the Old Testament and the New Testament are full of promises about Jesus.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "Missions in the Amazon" (item 57), blanket or sheet, table or chairs

- **Say:** When we talk about going into a jungle on mission, it's hard for us to know what that must be like unless we've actually been to a jungle. But we can imagine and learn so that we can know how to pray for missionaries there.

Consider reviewing "Reaching the Hard-to-Reach in the Amazon" missions video from session 30.

Invite kids to help you make a simple shelter by draping a sheet or blanket over chairs or a table. The shelter doesn't need to be big enough for all kids to get inside. Instead, invite them to gather near the shelter and imagine that they are in a jungle. Ask what sounds they might hear, what things they might see, and what they might smell in a jungle. Encourage them to use their imaginations.

Ask a volunteer to read the "Missions in the Amazon" story (item 57).

- **Say:** Jesus suffered and died so that the people of all nations could hear the good news of salvation. That's why missionaries will go into a jungle, even risk their lives, so that people who live very far away from all other people can have a chance to accept Jesus as Savior and Lord.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: FILL IT UP RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 74)

Provide: 2 plastic cups with the words or phrases of the Key Verse written on each cup at various levels (lined up at the opposite end of the play area from the “Start” line), 2 water bottles full of water, paper towels for spills, something to mark a “Start” line

- Form two teams and direct each team to line up behind the “Start” line. Explain that the first player on each team will carry a closed water bottle to the opposite end where plastic cups are lined up. The player will open the bottle and pour the water from the water bottle into the cup. Players should only fill the cup to the first line with the first words/phrases of the Key Verse marked. Position a leader to stand near the cups to check to make sure the players are pouring the water into the correct cups and do not exceed the marked line. After the player has filled a cup with water to the correct line, he will close the water bottle and walk back to the “Start” line. When a player returns successfully to the “Start” line, he will hand the bottle to the next player who will pour water to the next level. The team to fill the cup to all Key Verse markers, wins.
- Debrief: Remind players that Jesus is the King God promised. He came to fulfill God’s mission by dying on a cross and rising again three days later.

HULA HOOP ROCK PAPER SCISSORS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 82)

Provide: 15–20 hula hoops (the more the better)

- Lay the hula hoops out in a pathway across the playing area. Form two teams and ask each team to line up on opposite ends of the hoop path. The first kid on each team will hop forward through the hoops until the two meet in the middle. When they meet they will do a round of Rock, Paper, Scissors. Whoever wins continues through the path to the other side while the other player runs back to his team at the end of the line and the next player starts hopping. The first team to get all players on the opposite side, wins.
- Debrief: “It was difficult to make it from one end of the path to the other, but you all did a great job. From the moment Jesus came to earth He was on a path that led Him to the cross. All along He was following the plan God had made from the very beginning—to make a way for people to be forgiven of sin. It’s not a path most people would choose is it? The Bible tells us that God loves us so much that He was willing to give up His only Son to rescue us from our sin.” (See John 3:16.)

VOLCANOES AND ICE CREAM CONES (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 83)

Provide: 15–20 plastic cups

- Spread out the cups throughout the playing area, half facedown (these are volcanoes) and half faceup, resting on the base (these are ice cream cones). Form two teams: Volcanoes and Ice Cream Cones. When the game begins the teams will run through the playing area trying to turn over as many cups as they can for their team. At the end of 2–3 minutes, all players must stop and put their hands on their heads. The team with the most cones in their team’s position wins the round. Continue playing as time allows.
- Debrief: “Was it frustrating when the opposing team turned over a cup that you had just turned over for your team? There are a lot of things in life that might feel frustrating, but I want you to remember that even when we’re frustrated, God is still in control. He sees what we are dealing with and He cares about what we’re going through. We can always go to God in prayer and ask for His help when we feel frustrated. No matter what, God is still in control!”

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** Have you ever felt out of control? How can we remember that
- God is in control, even when we go through something hard?

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide,

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Today we learned that **Jesus was in complete control of His betrayal and arrest and came to fulfill God’s promise.** His closest friends had deserted Him, and one of them even betrayed Him to be arrested by the angry crowd. Jesus had prayed in the garden that God would remove this cup of suffering, but more than anything Jesus wanted to obey God’s plan. He knew that this was the way to provide forgiveness for sins, so Jesus was willing to go to the cross on our behalf. Never for one moment had God lost control of the situation. Jesus was exactly where He needed to be to fulfill God’s plan. We can trust that God is in control of our lives too, even when things feel out of control.

PRAY

Invite one of the kids to pray if she would like, or the leader can pray for the group. Thank God for bringing TeamKIDs here today to hear the message of the gospel. Ask God to let the good news of Jesus sink into their minds and hearts and change the way they live. Ask God to help us trust Him this week that He is in control even when we aren’t.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 4 Parent Connections” (item 53), paper, dry erase board, dry erase marker, “Airplane Instructions and Review” (item 61, optional)

Lead TeamKIDs to make a paper airplane. Consider using “Airplane Instructions and Review” (item 61) for additional instructions for kids to make their airplanes.

Draw a target on the dry erase board. Inside the concentric circles write, Something I learned about God, Something I want to remember, **and** Something that is true about Jesus.

One at a time allow each kid to throw his airplane at the target and share an answer to the question circle his airplane touches on the board.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 32

THE KING OF KINGS

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS DIED AND ROSE AGAIN TO COMPLETE GOD'S PROMISE TO MAKE A WAY FOR HIS PEOPLE TO BE WITH HIM AGAIN.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus' Death and Resurrection
(Matthew 27-28, Mark 15:20-47)

KEY VERSE

This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day. Luke 24:46b

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 32 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

CHEESY DROP

- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)
- 5 cheese puffs (per TeamKID)
- Packing peanuts (allergy friendly option)
- Cups (1 per TeamKID)

CLOTHESPIN RELAY

- Clothespins (36)
- Dry erase board
- Dry erase marker
- Clothesline

MISSIONS

- "Understanding Unreached and Unengaged" missions video
- Party invitations

GAMES

FILL IT UP RELAY (PLAYBOOK, P 74)

- Plastic cups (2 sets)
- Water bottles
- Paper towels
- "Start" line

BULL RUSH (PLAYBOOK, P 84)

- Cones to mark a "safe zone"

BLINDFOLDED MUSICAL CHAIRS (PLAYBOOK, P 85)

- Chairs
- Upbeat music
- Blindfolds

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)
- Sticky notes
- Pens

32

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 27:45-54 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

We have come to the darkest moment in the Bible: Jesus' crucifixion. It is the darkest, but possibly the most beautiful story in all of God's Word. The death of Jesus proves God's boundless love for His children. Nowhere in all of God's creation is such a deep and abiding love found. It can be difficult for us to wrap our minds around what Jesus Christ has done on our behalf. He endured mockery, abuse, horrific pain, and silence from heaven in order to save us. He knew where the path of love would take Him, and He went there willingly.

The moment Jesus died something incredible happened: the temple curtain was torn from top to bottom. That curtain had been what separated man from God's presence. Because of our sin we couldn't be close to Him. Only once a year was the High Priest given access to the Holy of Holies in the temple where God's Spirit dwelt. With Jesus' death comes access to God through response to the gospel. We can go to Him boldly in prayer, knowing that He is with us and loves us. Our sins are forgiven and we are made perfect in the sight of God.

CONSIDER

- Because of Jesus you have complete access to God's presence. How does knowing this truth impact your relationship with God?

- What stirs in your heart as you think about the truth that, in Christ, you are perfect in the sight of God? Is this a hard truth to believe? Why or why not?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE (5–10 MINUTES)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Guide the kids to sit in a circle. Choose one kid to go first. He will give three statements about himself, two that are true, and one that is false. The rest of the class has to guess which statement is false. Continue around the circle until everyone has had a turn.

- **Say:** Great job! Sometimes it was hard to know what was true and what wasn't, especially if you tweaked a true statement to make it false. There is a lot of information in the world and sometimes it's hard to know what's real. When we want to know what is true we can turn to the Bible. The Bible is God's Word to us, and we know that every word of it is true. Today we are going to hear the true story of Jesus' death on the cross. It's a difficult but beautiful story, since it shows us God's plan for bringing us back to Himself!

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 67 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Ask:** Have you ever asked for something for Christmas or your birthday, but you got something else?

- **Say:** Sometimes it's disappointing when we don't get the things we expect. But sometimes it's even better! Today our story is about Jesus' death and resurrection. It might seem unexpected that Jesus would have to die for us, but we know that it really was the thing we needed most in the world. Let's get ready to hear more.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT! CRUCIFIXION—method the Romans used to execute Jesus; this punishment on a cross was the most painful and shameful form of punishment in the ancient world

JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION

BASED ON MATTHEW 27-28, MARK 15:20-47

.....

Read Matthew 27:33-37.

• Pilate's soldiers took Jesus to the governor's palace and gathered around Him.
• They took off His clothes and put a scarlet robe on Him. They made a crown of
• thorns and put it on His head. Then they hit Jesus and mocked Him. "Hail, King
• of the Jews!" they said. The soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. Then they cast lots
• to decide who would get His clothes. They put a sign above His head that said:
• "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Two criminals were crucified next to Him. As
• Jesus was on the cross, people mocked Him. "He saved others, but He cannot save
• Himself!" they said.

• **Ask:** Could Jesus have saved Himself? (Yes, Jesus is God. He did not have to die on the cross, but
• He chose to fulfill God's plan. He suffered and died so we could be forgiven.)

Read Mark 15:37-39 or have a TeamKID read this passage aloud.

• **Ask:** What happened at the moment of Jesus' death? (The temple curtain was torn in two, and the
• soldier declared that Jesus was the Son of God.)

• From noon until three in the afternoon, darkness covered the land. Then Jesus
• cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Jesus shouted again with
• a loud voice. Then Jesus died. Suddenly, the curtain in the temple sanctuary split
• in two, from top to bottom, and there was an earthquake. One of the men near the
• cross said, "This man really was God's Son!" Jesus was buried in a rich man's tomb
• cut into a rock. A stone was sealed in
• front of the tomb and Roman soldiers stood guard so that no one could steal
• Jesus' body.

Read Matthew 28:1-10.

• On the third day after Jesus' death, Mary Magdalene and another woman went to
• Jesus' tomb. An angel of the Lord appeared and rolled back the stone from the
• tomb. He told the women not to be afraid. Jesus was not there because He had
• risen, just like He said He would.

• The women ran to tell the disciples. They were afraid and filled with joy at the
• same time. Just then, Jesus appeared to them, and they worshiped Him. Jesus
• told them to not be afraid. Jesus gave them a special message to tell the other
• disciples. He was going to Galilee, and they would see Him there.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say: Jesus died and rose again to complete God's promise to make a way for His people to be with Him again.** Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but He didn't stay dead. Jesus is the King
- God promised from long ago. He came to fulfill God's plan and provide salvation from sin and the
- promise of eternal life. God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus is alive and reigns as King over all
- creation.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- **What did the people say as they passed by Jesus on the cross?** ("Save yourself!" "Come down from there if you are the Son of God!" Matthew 27:40)
- **Where was Jesus buried?** (In a tomb cut out of the rock with a stone rolled in front; Matthew 27:60)
- **Who was the first person to see Jesus alive?** (Mary Magdalene and the women with her; Matthew 28:9-10)

Older Kids

- **Why was it important that the temple curtain was torn in two when Jesus died?** (The curtain separated people from God. When it tore, it symbolized how people can now come to God through Jesus without a priest going to God for them.)
- **Why was it necessary for Jesus to die?** (Jesus' death provides a way for us to be rescued from our sin. He paid the price that our sin deserves and offers us salvation and forgiveness.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to review their answers on side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDS are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to side two of their activity pages to complete "What's the Point?" Kids will color by number to reveal Today's Point. Discuss how Jesus died to pay the punishment we deserve for our sin. Then, Jesus came back to life. Jesus is God the Son and has power over everything, even death.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDS in prayer. Thank God for His amazing love for us, and for Jesus, who was willing to die so our sins could be forgiven. Ask God to help us consider how we need to respond to the good news of the gospel this week.

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BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: CHEESY DROP

Provide: "Allergy Alert" (item 4), 5 cheese puffs (per TeamKID) or 5 packing peanuts (allergy friendly option), cups (1 per TeamKID)

- Give each TeamKID a cup and five cheese puffs or packing peanuts. Explain that each kid's goal is to hold the object under his chin while standing and attempting to drop it into a cup on the ground. The first player who successfully drops five objects into her cup wins.
- Remind kids that sin means to miss the mark of God's perfect standard. We all sin and deserve the just punishment for our sin. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we can be forgiven of our sin when we trust in Jesus.

OPTION 2: CLOTHESPIN RELAY

Provide: Clothespins with words from the Key Verse (two sets), dry erase board, dry erase marker, clothesline

- Read the Key Verse (Luke 24:46) and write it on the board for kids to review. String the clothesline from one end of the room to the other. Guide TeamKIDs to form two teams and instruct them to line up on the side of the room with the clothesline. Their team's clothespins will be on the opposite side of the room. Explain that the teams will run relay style to the other side of the room, grab the first word of the verse, run back, and hang it on the clothesline. Kids will continue running to grab the next word of the verse until their team completes it.
- Say: What a powerful verse this is! Jesus died so our sin could be forgiven. This is the good news that everyone needs to hear. God wants all people to trust in Jesus so they can be forgiven and welcomed into His kingdom forever.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: Party invitations (1 per kid), "Understanding Unreached and Unengaged" missions video

- **Say:** We've heard before that some people have never even heard of Jesus. Missionaries use two words to describe these people groups: "unreached" and "unengaged." These might seem confusing, but let's watch a video that will help us understand how important it is for us to reach all people with the message that Jesus is the King of kings.

Play the video, then help kids understand key terms with these simple definitions:

- Unreached means that some Christians might be trying to share the gospel, but not many people in this group have trusted in Jesus.
- Unengaged means that no Christian has even found this people group or tried to tell them about Jesus yet.

Direct kids to spread out around the room. Explain that you are having a pretend party and want to invite them to come. Walk around the room and give the invitations to everyone but the other leader in the room. Invite kids with invitations to join you on one side of the room for the "party." Ask who is missing.

- **Say:** Someone didn't come to the party because he (she) didn't get an invitation! I should have given everyone an invitation. (Walk to the leader and give the invitation.) We want everyone in the world to know Jesus and follow Him. Missionaries are inviting people to be a part of the Jesus' kingdom. We can invite people around us to come to the party too!

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: FILL IT UP RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 74)

Provide: 2 plastic cups with the words or phrases of the Key Verse written on each cup at various levels (lined up at the opposite end of the play area from the “Start” line), 2 water bottles full of water, paper towels for spills, something to mark a “Start” line

- Form two teams and direct each team to line up behind the “Start” line. Explain that the first player on each team will carry a closed water bottle to the opposite end where plastic cups are lined up. The player will open the bottle and pour the water from the water bottle into the cup. Players should only fill the cup to the first line with the first words/phrases of the Key Verse marked. Position a leader to stand near the cups to check to make sure the players are pouring the water into the correct cups and do not exceed the marked line. After the player has filled a cup with water to the correct line, he will close the water bottle and walk back to the “Start” line. When a player returns successfully to the “Start” line, he will hand the bottle to the next player who will pour water to the next level. The team to fill the cup to all Key Verse markers, wins.
- Debrief: Remind players that Jesus is the King God promised. He came to fulfill God’s mission by dying on a cross and rising again three days later.

BULL RUSH TAG (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 84)

Provide: Cones or something to mark a “safe zone”

- Create a “safe zone” at one end of the playing area. Choose two kids to be “bulls” who will stand in the middle of the room. The rest of the players will line up on the other side of the room from the safe zone. When the “bulls” call “Bull Rush!” all the players will run to the safe zone. Any players who are tagged will become bulls for the next round. The player left who isn’t tagged wins the round and is the first bull in the next game.
- Debrief: “Ask for the players to share something they learned about Jesus from today’s story. Explain that, unlike the players trying to get to the other side of the room, nothing could stop God’s plan for Jesus to go to the cross. It was the way God would keep His promise to send a Savior to rescue us from sin.”

BLINDFOLDED MUSICAL CHAIRS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 85)

Provide: Chairs (one fewer than players), upbeat music, blindfolds

- Spread the chairs out in a large circle (one fewer chair than there are players.) Give each player a blindfold to wear and explain that they will play blindfolded musical chairs. Turn on some upbeat music and the kids will walk around the circle of chairs, occasionally feeling where the chairs are. When the music stops the players must find a chair. The last player standing is out.
- Ask the kids if they remember what happened when Jesus was on the cross. There was darkness over the land from noon to 3:00.
- Debrief: “Can you imagine if the sun suddenly went dark in the middle of the day? There were some other interesting things that happened when Jesus died.” Read Matthew 27:51-54. Ask kids to list the incredible events that happened (earthquake, dead people came back to life, temple curtain was torn in two).

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: "Questions with Kids" slide

Display the "Questions with Kids" slide.

- **Ask:** How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus died to set you free from your sin?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today's study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today's activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, "Key Verse" slide

Read today's Key Verse from a Bible or the "Key Verse" slide.

- **Say:** Jesus died and rose again to complete God's promise to make a way for His people to be with Him again. This is such good news for us! God knows that what is best for us is to be with Him. He loves us more than we can ever imagine and He has good things in store for us. He wants to set us free from our sin and empower us to help build His kingdom here and now. Followers of Jesus get to take the good news of God's love with us wherever we go.

PRAY

Invite one of the kids to pray if he would like, or the leader can pray. Thank God for your time together today and for helping your group understand His Word. Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross to pay the price for our sins. Praise God for setting believers free from shame and fear!

DISMISS

Provide: "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53), sticky notes, pens

Distribute the sticky notes and pens to each TeamKID. Invite kids to write one thing they want to remember from today's Bible study. As time allows, ask kids to share their ideas with the rest of the group. Invite the kids to ask any final questions they may have about the Bible study. Encourage kids to place the notes in their Bibles this week to help them remember what they have learned.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

SESSION 33

THE PROMISE KEPT

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS' RESURRECTION DEMONSTRATES THAT HE IS GOD THE SON AND HAS POWER OVER DEATH.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Is Alive (Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-23)

KEY VERSE

This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day. Luke 24:46b

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 33 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video
- Index cards
- Pens
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

TODAY'S POINT RELAY

- Inflated balloons
- "Allergy Alert" (item 4)

DO YOU KNOW?

- "Do You Know?" (item 58)
- 3-5 hula hoops
- Bean bag

MISSIONS

- "Understanding Unreached and Unengaged" missions video
- "UPG Prayer Requests" (item 59)
- Mirror

GAMES

FILL IT UP RELAY (PLAYBOOK, P 74)

- Plastic cups (2 sets)
- Water bottles full of water
- Paper towels for spills
- Something to mark a "Start" line

HOSPITAL (PLAYBOOK, P 86)

- Cones

EMPTY ZONES (PLAYBOOK, P 87)

- Masking tape
- Cones

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)
- Chairs

33

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read John 20:1-23 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

Mary Magdalene and the other followers of Jesus witnessed His crucifixion. They listened as He shouted “It is finished” from the cross before He gave up His spirit. They must have been confused, scared, and heartbroken that Jesus had died. Early on the morning of the third day the women went to the tomb to care for Jesus’ body. The scene they saw amazed them. They found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. The angels informed them that they were looking for Jesus among the tombs in vain. Jesus was alive.

It was here that Jesus appeared to Mary. Jesus meets us right where we are, in our own dead places and offers us new life. He does not look at us with shame, but with a love that has no bounds. Jesus welcomes us into God’s family and offers us a place in His eternal kingdom.

This week the session will help kids understand the importance of Jesus’ resurrection. You will guide them to see that because Jesus is alive, we have hope for eternity with God. Our Savior is alive!

CONSIDER

- Think about your own relationship with Jesus. Where did He first meet you? Reflect on the truth that Jesus meets us right where we are. How are you led to respond to Him, knowing this is true?

- The Christian life is a bit paradoxical. Abundant life comes out of death. In what ways have you had to die to your sin to be brought into full life with God?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: THREE THINGS (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Index cards, pens

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Instruct the TeamKIDs to find a partner. Give each kid an index card and pen. Encourage the kids to share three things about themselves with their partners. Give the kids a few minutes to write down three things about each other, then allow time for the partners to introduce each other to the rest of the group, sharing the three things they learned.

- **Say:** It was so fun learning new things about each of you! The more you know someone, the easier it is to introduce them to someone else. How well do you know Jesus? With your partner, come up with three things that you know are true about Jesus. Let’s see how many unique things we can come up with that are true about Jesus!

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS IS ALIVE (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 69 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** Think about a time you were surprised by something. Was it a good surprise? How did it make you feel? Today we’ll hear a story about something very surprising. Jesus’ followers discovered that Jesus, who had died, was alive. He had been raised from the dead! Today we will learn that **Jesus’ resurrection demonstrates that He is God the Son and has power over death.**
- The story of Jesus’ resurrection is told in all four of the Gospels. Do you remember what the Gospel books are? That’s right, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each of these accounts of Jesus’ life and ministry records slightly different details of the same story, so we can get a better idea of what happened when we read each one. Today we will look at two of the Gospel accounts: Luke and John. Let’s read and find out more.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: RESURRECTION—the historical event when Jesus came back from physical death to life with a glorified body, never to die again.

JESUS IS ALIVE

BASED ON LUKE 24:1-12, JOHN 20:1-23

.....

Read Luke 24:1-12 or ask a TeamKID to read this passage.

- **Ask:** Why did the women go to the tomb early in the morning? What did they find that surprised them when they got there? (They were there to anoint Jesus' body with and spices. They saw the empty tomb with the stone rolled away.)

- It was customary to anoint people's bodies with oil and spices after they had died.
- The women came early the day after the Sabbath (Sunday) to care for Jesus' body.
- The women saw two angels who told them that Jesus had been raised from the dead. The angels reminded them that Jesus had said what would happen to Him, that He would be crucified and three days later rise from the dead. When they heard this the women ran to where the disciples were with great fear and joy! They told the disciples everything they had seen.

Read John 20:3-10 or ask a TeamKID to read this passage.

- **Ask:** What did Peter and the disciple who was with him (John) see inside the tomb? (The burial cloths were lying where Jesus' body had been.)

- Peter and John ran to the tomb and found it empty, just as the women had told them. They also saw the burial cloths lying where Jesus' body had been. Can you imagine what they must have been thinking? The men went back to where they were staying, but Mary stayed at the tomb.

Read John 20:14-18 or ask a TeamKID to read this passage.

- **Ask:** Who did Mary think Jesus was? (The gardener)

- At first Mary didn't recognize Jesus, but then He said her name. Suddenly she knew exactly who He was, and she was overjoyed to know that He was alive. What He had said was true! Jesus had told His followers that He would die, but three days later He would rise from the dead.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** Jesus' resurrection demonstrates that He is God the Son and has power over death. The
- gospel is the good news about what Jesus has done for us through His life, death, and resurrection.
- God saves us by grace—we do not deserve salvation. We cannot do anything on our own to earn
- salvation; we receive it when we respond to the gospel in faith.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids

- What did the women see when they went to the tomb? (2 men [angels], the empty tomb; Luke 24:1-5)
- Why was Mary crying? (She didn't know what had happened to Jesus' body. John 20:13)
- What did Jesus tell Mary to do? (Go tell the disciples that He was alive; John 20:17)

Older Kids

- How did Jesus prove that He is God the Son? (Jesus defeated death by rising from the dead.)
- If you had seen the empty tomb, how would you have responded? (Lead TeamKIDs to think about if they would have been fearful, excited, nervous, or even skeptical. Talk about the responses of Mary, Peter, and John.)
- Why is it important that Jesus is alive? (Jesus' resurrection means He has power over death. The punishment for sin has been paid. We can be saved when we respond to the gospel by faith in Jesus and have life forever with God.)

Discuss the implications of Jesus' resurrection. Explain that Jesus' death was sufficient, or enough, to pay the price for our sin and make us right with God. Jesus defeated death and shows that even when we die, we too will be raised to new life with God in heaven forever if we respond to the good news of the gospel in faith.

CONNECT

Lead the kids to form smaller groups to complete side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide kids to turn to side two of their activity pages and complete "The Gospel of John." Guide kids to use their Bibles to complete John 20:31 and find out why John wrote this book.

- **Say:** The main focus of John's Gospel is helping his readers understand that Jesus is fully God.
- John recorded several of Jesus' miracles and His teaching, but at the end of the book it says that
- Jesus did many other things that were not written down. John said that there isn't enough room in
- the world for all the books that could be written about Jesus!

PRAY

Lead the TeamKIDs in prayer or ask a kid to pray. Thank God for sending Jesus to be our Rescuer and Redeemer.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: TODAY'S POINT RELAY

Provide: Inflated balloons with words or phrases of Today's Point written on each balloon (1 set per team); "Allergy Alert" (item 4)—latex

- Review Today's Point with TeamKIDs. Form two equal groups. Each group will have a set of inflated balloons on the opposite end of the room. They will line up and run relay style to grab a balloon and bring it back to the team. The first team to get the whole verse in order wins.
- Say: "Well done everyone! Jesus spoke these words to His disciples after He was resurrected. He wanted to remind them what was true about Him, that He was the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world. The news about Jesus would spread all over the world, including to us!"

Balloons are a choking hazard for kids under age 8. Make sure a leader inflates balloons.

OPTION 2: DO YOU KNOW?

Provide: 3–5 hula hoops, bean bag, "Do You Know?" (item 58)

- Assign point values for each hoop around the room. Form equal teams of TeamKIDs. One kid will toss the bean bag to one of the hoops and answer a Bible question from the "Do You Know?" handout. If he gets it right, his team is awarded that many points. Allow the teams to discuss before giving a final answer.
- Encourage TeamKIDs of how much they have been learning about Jesus through their Bible study. Remind kids that the Bible is for everyone. It isn't just for adults or people who like to read. Anyone can learn about God through studying his or her Bible. The more we read and learn about Jesus, the more we understand who He is, why He came, and how we can be part of His mission!

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "UPG Prayer Requests" (item 59)—tape around the room or down a hall, mirror

- **Say:** Some people in the world have never heard of Jesus and some people don't even have a missionary trying to tell them about Jesus. We need more missionaries to go into all the world and take the good news that Jesus is alive and that He wants us to have eternal life with Him.

Direct kids' attention to the prayer requests around the area. Explain that each request is for people who may not have heard about Jesus yet.

- **Say:** We might not be able to go find these people right now, but we can pray right now. That's very important for reaching all people with the message of Jesus. Let's walk around the area and pray for the people we see.

Move as a group (or form smaller groups) to the photos. Ask for one volunteer to read the prayer request and one to say a short prayer aloud. After you have prayed at each picture, lead kids to the mirror. Ask kids to look at themselves in the mirror and pray that God would use them to help people know Jesus. Remind kids that they can start right now by talking to people about Jesus and one day, they might be the ones God uses to take Jesus to an unreached or unengaged people group.

Consider reviewing "Understanding Unreached and Unengaged" missions video from session 32.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: FILL IT UP RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 74)

Provide: 2 plastic cups with the words or phrases of the Key Verse written on each cup at various levels (lined up at the opposite end of the play area from the “Start” line), 2 water bottles full of water, paper towels for spills, something to mark a “Start” line

- Form two teams and direct each team to line up behind the “Start” line. Explain that the first player on each team will carry a closed water bottle to the opposite end where plastic cups are lined up. The player will open the bottle and pour the water from the water bottle into the cup. Players should only fill the cup to the first line with the first words/phrases of the Key Verse marked. Position a leader to stand near the cups to check to make sure the players are pouring the water into the correct cups and do not exceed the marked line. After the player has filled a cup with water to the correct line, he will close the water bottle and walk back to the “Start” line. When a player returns successfully to the “Start” line, he will hand the bottle to the next player who will pour water to the next level. The team to fill the cup to all Key Verse markers, wins.
- Debrief: Remind players that Jesus is the King God promised. He came to fulfill God’s mission by dying on a cross and rising again three days later.

HOSPITAL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 86)

Provide: Cones

- Use cones to create the “hospital” off to the side of the playing area. Designate one player to be the tagger. Each player has two “bandages” (their hands). As players are tagged they must put a “bandage” on the spot where they were tagged. If they get tagged twice they must go to the “hospital.” To leave the hospital the player must say the Key Verse. Every few minutes choose another player to be the tagger.
- Debrief: “When we get hurt we might have to use a bandage, or possibly even go to the hospital if it’s a serious injury. Jesus wasn’t just injured, He died on a cross, but He didn’t stay dead. Jesus rose from the dead three days later, just like He said He would. Jesus didn’t need a doctor to heal Him. He was raised to life through the power of God. Nothing is stronger than that!”

EMPTY ZONES (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 87)

Provide: Masking tape, cones

- Using masking tape, create “Team Zones” (circles on the floor about 8–10 feet across). Place two cones on one side of each zone to designate the zone entrances. Form teams of six to ten players and instruct the teams to stand within the taped area of their team’s zone. Each team should choose one player to go first. To begin, the leader calls out “Come out” and the first player from each team will come out of the “zone,” run completely around the outside of the zone, go through the entrance again, tag another player and say, “Come out” and then sits on the side of the zone. The second player will do the same thing, and so on until all the players have come out from the “zones.”
- Debrief: Remind TeamKIDs that Jesus came out of something too, an empty tomb. Read Hebrews 9:14. Share how this verse tells us that Jesus has forgiven our sins so that we may serve God. Because Jesus gave His life for us, we belong to Him. We are saved from the punishment of our sin, and we are saved to live and serve God in His kingdom.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: "Questions with Kids" slide

Display the "Questions with Kids" slide.

- **Ask:** How would you have reacted if you had seen Jesus appear in front of you?

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today's study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today's activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, "Key Verse" slide

Read today's Key Verse from a Bible or the "Key Verse" slide.

- **Say:** Today we learned that **Jesus' resurrection demonstrates that He is God the Son and has power over death.** Jesus gives us hope for eternity with God, and He also gives us a place in His kingdom now. When we give our lives to Jesus He gives us the Holy Spirit. We have God Himself living inside of us, helping us to become more and more like Jesus. Amazing!

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDs in prayer or ask a kid to pray. Thank God for saving us from our sin and for welcoming us into His family. Ask God to open the hearts of the kids present who haven't yet put their faith in Jesus. Ask Him to make His presence real to all of you today.

DISMISS

Provide: Chairs, (one fewer than participants), "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)

Set the chairs up in a circle (one fewer than there are kids.) Choose one TeamKID to stand in the center of the circle. Have that kid say something that is true about himself. If that statement is true for other TeamKIDs in the circle they must stand up and run to find another chair. The last person standing says something true about herself.

- **Say:** Something that is true for everyone in the room is that Jesus died to set us free from our sin. We can have life with God forever when we have faith in Jesus. Ephesians 2:13 tells us that "in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ." At one time we were all separated from God because of our sin, but because He loves us so much we now have a way to be close to Him. When we respond to the good news of the gospel, we are forgiven of our sin and become part of God's family!

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 34

THE PROMISE FULFILLED

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS EXPLAINED TO HIS DISCIPLES THAT ALL OF THE OLD TESTAMENT POINTS TO HIM.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Appeared to His Disciples
(Luke 24:13-49, John 20:19-30)

KEY VERSE

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you." John 20:21

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 34 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video
- Paper with various words written for kids to describe
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

SALT PAINTING

- Construction paper
- Liquid glue
- Salt
- Watercolors
- Paintbrushes

BIBLE BINGO

- "Books of the Bible Poster" (item 9)
- "Bible Bingo Cards" (item 60)
- Small pieces of paper to use as game tokens

MISSIONS

- "Committing to Reach the Unreached" missions video
- "World Map" (item 8)

GAMES

DISC GOLF REVIEW (PLAYBOOK, P 75)

- Buckets and flying discs (1 per team)
- Cones or tape

ICEBERGS (PLAYBOOK, P 88)

- Mats or hula hoops

DISCIPLES AND JEWISH LEADERS (PLAYBOOK, P 89)

- Cones

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide
- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)
- Soft ball

34

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read John 20:24-29 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

Thomas was not with the rest of the disciples when Jesus first appeared to them. For him, their word wasn't enough to convince him that Jesus was really alive. Perhaps it wouldn't have been enough for us either. Thomas wanted to see Jesus with his own eyes.

It's pretty easy to relate to Thomas. He probably wanted to believe this amazing news, but his mind just wouldn't let him. He had too many questions. After all, if Jesus was alive, where was He? Jesus let a whole week go by before appearing to Thomas. It's comforting to read that Jesus didn't berate Thomas for his doubts. Jesus didn't send him away or shame him. Instead, Jesus gave Thomas what he needed so that he could believe what was true about Jesus: that He was alive!

This week, help kids understand that doubt is not the same as unbelief. They may have a lot of questions about Jesus, and that's normal. God meets us in our doubts and helps us grasp with our minds and hearts the things we need to know to follow Jesus. He might not give us all the answers we're looking for. Nevertheless we can rest assured knowing that one day everything will be made perfectly clear, and we will see Jesus face to face.

CONSIDER

- Think about a time you have had doubts about Jesus. How did you process those questions? How did God meet you during that time?

- How might wrestling with doubt strengthen your faith?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: GUESS THE SURPRISE (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Paper with various words written for kids to describe

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

For younger readers, consider holding up actual items instead of words.

Instruct one kid to sit down facing the rest of the group. Hold a piece of paper above her head so the rest of the group can read the item written on the paper. The kid facing the group should not be able to see the paper. Call on one kid at a time to give a clue about what the item is. If the kid facing the group cannot guess the item after three guesses, reveal what the item is and switch kids. Continue playing as kids arrive.

• **Say:** Great job at guessing the surprise! When it was your turn to guess, did you enjoy when you didn't know what the answer was, but everyone else did? (Lead TeamKIDs to discuss.)

• Today we're going to hear a Bible story about an incredible surprise! But, not everyone was in on the surprise at the same time. Let's get ready to hear more.

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS APPEARED TO HIS DISCIPLES (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 71 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

• **Say:** We always read from the Bible. It's God's Word to us and we know that it is true. We can trust and obey what the Bible says. It is always so much fun diving deep into the stories of Scripture with you each week. One thing that is really cool about the Bible is how all the stories work together to tell one big story. It's the story of God's love for His people and His plan to redeem them from sin.

• Last week we heard the story of Jesus' resurrection and how Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene. That same day two of Jesus' followers traveled from Jerusalem to a town called Emmaus, about seven miles away. As they traveled, a stranger came and walked along with them. It was Jesus, but the men were kept from recognizing Him. Their faces were sad and they were talking about what had happened to Jesus, how He had been arrested and crucified. They told Jesus how the women had gone to the tomb and Jesus had appeared to Mary, but no one else had seen Him.

DEFINE IT! REDEEM—to have paid the price to get something back from someone else

JESUS APPEARED TO HIS DISCIPLES BASED ON LUKE 24:13-49, JOHN 20:19-30

.....

- These disciples walking to Emmaus had a really incredible encounter with Jesus
- as they walked along the road, even though they did not understand they were
- talking with Jesus. Jesus helped the disciples understand that the whole Bible is
- about Him as they walked. Let's read what Jesus told the disciples.

Read Luke 24:25-27 or have a TeamKID read these verses.

- When Jesus and the men reached the village, the men invited Jesus to stay with
- them and eat. Jesus was at the table with them and as He was giving thanks to
- God for the meal and breaking the bread, the men suddenly recognized Him. But
- Jesus disappeared from their sight. The men returned to Jerusalem at once to find
- the other disciples and tell them all that Jesus had said to them.

Read Luke 24:36-43.

- **Ask:** If you were there in the room when Jesus appeared, how would you react? Would you believe
- that He was really alive? (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss.)

- When Jesus appeared, the disciples were terrified and thought they were seeing a
- ghost. This passage tells us that were filled with joy and disbelief. Could it really
- be true? Jesus showed them the scars in His hands and feet, and He ate a piece
- of fish to prove that His body was real. Jesus helped the disciples understand
- that all of the things that had happened to Him were prophesied about in the Old
- Testament.

Read John 20:24-29 or have a TeamKID read these verses.

- **Ask:** What did Thomas want to see to believe Jesus was alive? (the nail marks in His hands and
- the wound in His side)

- Sometimes you might have doubts about Jesus, or even the Bible. Just because
- you have doubts doesn't mean that your faith is weak or that you aren't saved.
- It's good to ask questions and understand why you believe what you believe about
- Jesus. God can handle your questions, and He isn't angry with you when you have
- doubts. Jesus was gentle with Thomas. Rather than getting upset with him for
- doubting, Jesus came to Thomas and showed him the scars on His hands and side.
- Thomas doubted that Jesus really was alive, but Jesus helped Thomas have faith in
- Him. Jesus told Thomas that the people who believe in Him even when they don't
- get to see Him will be blessed.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** After Jesus rose again, He appeared to His friends. **Jesus explained to His disciples that all of the Old Testament points to Him.** You might think that Jesus didn't come on the scene until His birth, but actually Jesus was there at the very beginning. Jesus is fully God, and He has always existed as God the Son, along with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. While we don't see Jesus' name in the Old Testament, we see Him in every story. All throughout Israel's history God was preparing them for the promised Messiah, a promise that was fulfilled in King Jesus.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- What town were the disciples going to when they met Jesus? (Emmaus; Luke 24:13)
- What did Jesus help the disciples understand? (how all the Scriptures point to Jesus; Luke 24:27)
- What did Jesus show His disciples when He appeared to them? (His hands and side; John 20:20)

Older Kids

- How did Jesus prove He was really alive? (He showed the disciples His hands and feet. He ate fish to show His body was real. Luke 24:38-43)
- How did Jesus respond to Thomas when he doubted Jesus? (Jesus knew that Thomas needed to see Him and touch Him to truly believe, so Jesus allowed that. Jesus was gentle, but also encouraged Thomas to have faith. John 20:27-29)
- When you have doubts about Jesus, what can you do? (Encourage kids to take their doubts, fears, or questions to God. He is not angry with our doubt, and doubting doesn't mean that we don't have faith or we aren't saved.)

CONNECT

Lead the kids to form smaller groups to complete side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Guide the kids to turn to side two of their activity pages and complete "Eye Spy." Kids will find all the images in the picture.

Ask the kids to share what questions they have about the Bible story or about anything they have learned so far about Jesus. Explain that we don't always have all the answers to our questions, but we can still trust what is true about Jesus. God helps us have faith and believe the truth, even when we don't understand things fully. Consider having the kids choose a story from the Old Testament and walk through how that story points to Jesus.

PRAY

Pray with the group or ask a TeamKID to pray. Thank God for giving us His Word and for allowing us to understand it and how everything in the Bible points to Jesus. Ask God to give us faith, even when we don't have all the answers to our questions.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: SALT PAINTING

Provide: Construction paper, liquid glue, salt, watercolors, paintbrushes

- Guide kids to use liquid glue to create a fish shape on their construction paper. Then, guide children to sprinkle salt on top of the glue and let it dry for a few minutes. As it dries, review Today’s Point and talk about any questions TeamKIDs may have. Then invite the kids to use the watercolors to paint their salt fish designs.
- Share that one of the ways Jesus proved that He was really alive was by eating fish in front of His disciples. A ghost couldn’t do that! Not only did Jesus prove He was alive, but Jesus also explained to His disciples that all of the Old Testament points to Him. Jesus helped His friends understand that the whole Bible is about Him.

OPTION 2: BIBLE BINGO

Provide: “Books of the Bible Poster” (item 9), “Bible Bingo Cards” (item 60), small pieces of paper to use as game tokens (20 per TeamKID)

- Pass out bingo cards and game tokens to kids. Display the “Books of the Bible Poster” (item 9) and encourage kids to choose fifteen books from the New Testament to write on their bingo cards to fill in the squares. Randomly call out books of the Bible as kids put their tokens on any Bible books that are on their cards. The first TeamKID to get four in a row calls out “bingo!”
- Explain that on the way to Emmaus, and later with the other disciples, Jesus explained that all of the Old Testament points to Him. It’s important to read the whole Bible so we can understand how it all fits together.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “World Map” (item 8), “Committing to Reach the Unreached” missions video

- **Say:** The more we learn about Jesus, the more we will want others to know Him too. That’s why we support missionaries all over the world. We take up offerings so they can go. We pray for them. We learn about their work. We ask God how we can be on mission right where we are. Let’s learn about missionaries who are taking Jesus to people in South Asia.

Play the video. After the video, point out the country of India and surrounding countries on the “World Map” (item 8). This is the part of the world called South Asia, where the missions video was filmed.

Ask kids to find a partner and sit across the room from each other. Direct kids to reach across the room and try to hold hands. Encourage them to really stretch and try to touch hands.

- **Say:** Of course you cannot reach each other because you are too far away from each other. How can we make it easier for you to reach each other?

Wait for kids to respond, then direct one set of partners to get up and move close enough to reach each other. Explain that this is what missionaries do—they move close enough to people (even on the other side of the world) so they can reach them with the gospel.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: DISC GOLF REVIEW (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 75)

Provide: Buckets and flying discs (1 per team), cones or tape

- Form teams of four. Each team will start at its bucket's "Start" line. On "Go," the first player of each team will throw a flying disc toward his team's bucket. The second player in line will go to where the disc lands and throw the disc toward the bucket again. The team will continue this pattern until the disc lands in the team's bucket.
- Players must keep count of how many throws it takes to make it to their buckets. When teams are done with their first bucket, allow them to switch with another team. After each team has completed throwing its disc into three buckets, add up everyone's throws. The team with the least amount of throws wins! Play again, challenging TeamKIDs to say Today's Point or Key Verse if they toss the disc in the correct bucket.
- Debrief: "To complete the course, you had to work together and keep going. We've been learning about the Promised King, how Jesus died and rose again for all of us. This good news isn't something we are supposed to keep to ourselves. We can work together and keep going as we share the good news of Jesus with others."

ICEBERGS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 88)

Provide: Mats or hula hoops

- Spread the hoops or mats around the room. Instruct kids to run around the play area for 30–60 seconds. When the leader calls "Jesus is alive!" the kids will stop. The leader will then call out a number between 1–10 and the kids will have to form teams of that number on the mats or inside the hoops around the room. Any kids who are left out of a group must complete a challenge (example: saying Today's Point or Key Verse). Continue playing for several rounds.
- Debrief: "Jesus appeared to different groups of people. At first He appeared to just Mary, then to two disciples on the road to Emmaus, then to the other disciples. Jesus wanted His friends to see Him and know that He was alive. Later Jesus would give His disciples an important job to do: go tell others what they had seen!"

DISCIPLES AND JEWISH LEADERS (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 89)

Provide: Cones

- Create a "jail" using the cones. Choose five kids to be the "Jewish leaders" and the rest of the players to be "disciples." The leaders will try to tag the disciples, and if they do, they must go to "jail." To get out of jail the players must complete a challenge (example: do 5 jumping jacks, 5 push ups, or run in place for 20 seconds).
- Debrief: "Great job! Did you know that after Jesus' crucifixion that the disciples were hiding in the house together because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders? Jesus had been arrested and crucified, and His friends were worried that they would be next. The disciples had locked the door, but that didn't keep Jesus out. Jesus came right through and His first words to them were, "Peace be with you!" He knew the disciples were afraid, and He wanted to calm their fears and give them faith in Him."

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** How would you have reacted if you had seen Jesus appear in front of you?

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

- **Say:** We learned so much from today’s Bible study. We discovered that **Jesus explained to His disciples that all of the Old Testament points to Him.** We also heard about how Thomas, a disciple of Jesus, doubted that Jesus was really alive until he saw Jesus with his own eyes. We’ve talked about how sometimes you might have doubts about Jesus, and when you do you can pray and ask God to give you faith. God loves you so much and He wants you to know Jesus. We can learn more about Jesus through reading the whole Bible, because every story in Scripture points us to Him!

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Even though the disciples may have been frightened to see Jesus alive, He told them that He came in peace. Just as He came to bring the good news of God’s kingdom to us, He also sends us to tell others how they can know and believe in Jesus.

PRAY

Pray for the group or ask a TeamKID to pray. Thank God that Jesus is alive and is in control. We know that He is in authority over all things and we want to praise Him.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 4 Parent Connections” (item 53), soft ball

Instruct the kids to stand in a circle. Give one kid a ball and invite her to say one thing she learned today. After she answers she will toss the ball to another kid who will share his answer. Continue around the circle until all the kids have had a chance to answer.

- **Say:** I’m so encouraged to hear how many things you are all learning! No matter how many times you read the Bible, you will never run out of things that God wants to teach you. Sometimes we read a story for the first time so we learn something new. Other times we might read a story that is familiar, and God has something that He wants to remind us that is true about Him. It’s so fun to get to study the Bible with you every week!

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

SESSION 35

THE RESTORATION

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS FORGIVES AND RESTORES US OF OUR SIN.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus Forgives and Restores (John 21)

KEY VERSE

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you." John 20:21

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 35 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video

- Dry erase board
- Dry erase markers
- Slips of paper
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

AIRPLANE REVIEW

- "Airplane Instructions and Review" (item 61)
- Piece of cardboard with holes cut out and point values assigned
- Additional paper for paper airplanes

KEY VERSE PASS

- Dry erase board and marker (optional)

MISSIONS

- Paper
- Craft supplies
- Small, wrapped candy
- Tape

GAMES

DISC GOLF REVIEW (PLAYBOOK, P 75)

- Buckets and flying discs (1 per team)
- Cones or tape

THROW AWAY YOUR SIN (PLAYBOOK, P 90)

- Paper (1 piece per player)
- Masking tape

HEALING MAZE (PLAYBOOK, P 91)

- Masking tape

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)
- Large piece of craft paper
- Markers

35

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: FORGIVENESS Pictionary (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Dry erase board, dry erase markers, slips of paper with the following words: Jesus, fish, bread, fire, boat, Peter, sea, beach, sheep, forgive

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Form two groups. Explain that one at a time, each kid will choose a piece of paper with a word for him to draw. When the team guesses what his drawing is, his team gets a point.

- **Say:** Great job everyone! Some of those words were pretty tricky to draw. We have been learning stories about Jesus’ death, resurrection, and His appearance to His disciples after He was raised from the grave. Today we’re going to hear the story of Jesus appearing to the disciples on the beach near the Sea of Galilee. We’ll learn that Jesus forgave Peter for denying Him, and He gave Peter an important job to do. Let’s learn more!

BIBLE STUDY: JESUS FORGIVES AND RESTORES (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 73 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** When you’ve hurt someone, what do you usually say? We often say the words “I’m sorry” when we’ve hurt someone or done something wrong. Sometimes we don’t just say “I’m sorry.” We also ask, “Will you forgive me?” When we ask Jesus to forgive us, He is always faithful to say “yes.”

Our sin causes brokenness and separation, not just between us and God but also between us and the person we’ve hurt. Thankfully, Jesus doesn’t just say, “you’re forgiven.” He also heals the brokenness in our hearts and lives. Our story today shows us how **Jesus forgives and restores us of our sin.**

Today’s Bible study comes from the Gospel of John. Last week we heard how Jesus appeared to His disciples after His resurrection, and He explained how all of the Scriptures point to Him. Today we get to zoom in a little on the time Jesus spent with one disciple: Peter.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: RESTORE—to repair something or bring it back to its former condition

DEFINE IT: GRACE—to receive something good that you don’t deserve

JESUS FORGIVES AND RESTORES BASED ON JOHN 21

.....

- One night seven of the disciples were out fishing on the Sea of Galilee. Remember,
- they were there because Jesus had told them to go to Galilee, and He would meet
- them there. They had been out fishing all night but hadn't caught anything.

Read John 21:4-9 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

- **Ask:** When did the disciples realize it was Jesus on the beach? (when they caught so many fish)

- Do you remember what these men were doing when Jesus first called them to be
- His disciples? That's right, they were fishing! (See Luke 5:1-11.) At that time Jesus
- also told them to put their nets into the water again and suddenly the nets were
- full to bursting with fish. Back then Jesus had told His new disciples that one
- day they would be fishers of men, meaning they would go tell others about God's
- kingdom. This time, the same thing happened. The disciples caught so many fish
- because of Jesus. Perhaps Jesus wanted to remind them of that important calling,
- or job, that lay ahead of them.

Read John 21:15-17.

- During Jesus' arrest and trial, Peter had denied knowing Jesus three times. On the
- beach, Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Three times Peter answered,
- "yes." Jesus didn't ask Peter if he was sorry for what he had done. He didn't make
- Peter promise to never do it again. Instead, Jesus wanted Peter to think about his
- own heart. Did Peter truly love Jesus? Jesus wants us to love Him with our whole
- hearts. The love we have for Jesus will motivate our obedience to follow Him.

- **Ask:** What did Jesus tell Peter to do? (Jesus told Peter to feed His sheep, meaning that Peter would
- care for the other followers of Jesus, teaching them about God's kingdom.)

- Peter had denied that he knew Jesus the night Jesus was arrested and betrayed.
- But that didn't mean Peter had lost his salvation or that Jesus had stopped loving
- him. When we become Christians, we still struggle with sin. We may even deny
- knowing Jesus when someone asks us about our faith. But Jesus is faithful even
- when we are not. We are still safe in His kingdom, no matter what. God's love for
- us does not depend on anything we do, but on who Jesus is. There is nothing in all
- the world that can separate us from His love.

Read John 21:18-19 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

- **Ask:** What did Jesus tell Peter to do? (Follow Him!)

- Jesus told Peter that following Him would not be easy. Peter had told Jesus back
- in the garden of Gethsemane that he was willing to die for Jesus. In these verses
- Jesus told Peter that one day he would die for following Him. In the meantime,
- Jesus had a job for Peter—to tell others about Him and share this good news.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say: Jesus forgives and restores us of our sin.** There will be times throughout your life when you sin or are unfaithful to Jesus. He still loves you. Nothing will ever take away His love for you.
- When you have trusted in Jesus to save you, you are part of His kingdom forever. This story is a beautiful reminder that God's grace is bigger than our sin. He is so kind and gracious to forgive us
- when we turn our backs on Him. He just can't stop loving us! Jesus restores us and calls us to live on mission for Him.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- **What did Peter do when He realized it was Jesus on the beach?** (He jumped into the water and went to shore. John 21:7)
- **How many times did Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him?** (3; John 21:15-17)
- **What did Jesus tell Peter to do?** (feed His sheep and follow Him; John 21:15-19)

Older Kids

- **Why do you think Jesus asked Peter three times if he loved Him?** (Peter had denied knowing Jesus three times. By asking this question three times, Jesus gave Peter a chance to confess three times that he did in fact love Christ.)
- **What do you think it meant for Peter to feed and care for Jesus' sheep?** (Help kids see that Jesus was giving Peter a leadership role in the church. Peter would preach the good news of the gospel and help people understand the truth about who Jesus is. Followers of Jesus are like sheep, and Jesus has given us leaders in the church to help shepherd the people of God.)
- **What are some ways that we might know that we love Jesus?** (Answers will vary. Help kids understand that doing right actions comes out of a heart that loves Him. Serving others, showing kindness to those who hurt us, or leaning on Christ to give us faith in hard times are examples of evidence of a deep love for Jesus.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to complete side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to turn to side two of their activity pages and complete the activity. Assist kids as needed in coloring in the spaces with the correct colors or words to reveal the word "Grace" (the free gift of God's love and favor, even when it is undeserved). Discuss with the kids what grace is.

Help kids understand that we don't have to do anything to earn God's love. We are loved because we belong to Him. He created us and cares for us, even when we sin against Him. There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from God's love. He shows us grace when He forgives our sin and restores the brokenness that results.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDs in prayer, thanking God for His love for us, not matter what.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: AIRPLANE REVIEW

Provide: "Airplane Instructions and Review" (item 61) (1 per TeamKID), piece of cardboard with holes cut out and point values assigned, additional paper for paper airplanes

- Guide the kids to create paper airplanes with their pieces of paper. Print the airplane instructions for additional guidance. Use the review questions on page two of the handout to review today's Bible study. Instruct kids to line up a few feet away from the cardboard target. One at a time, kids will toss their airplanes into one of the holes and answer a review question about the story.
- Remind TeamKIDs that today's Bible study taught us that **Jesus forgives and restores us of our sin**. Explain that Peter had sinned when he denied knowing Jesus. Yet Jesus forgave Peter and gave him an important job in building God's kingdom. Peter's sin didn't keep him from being part of God's family. Instead, Peter got to see firsthand the grace, love, and restoration of Jesus.

OPTION 2: KEY VERSE PASS

Provide: Dry erase board and marker (optional)

- Review the Key Verse (John 20:21) several times with the group. Consider writing it on the board for the kids to read for the first round of the game. Instruct the kids to stand in a circle and choose one kid to start. He will say the first word of the verse and "pass" the word to the person next to him. Lead the group to go around the circle with each kid "passing" the next word of the verse. The kid who says the last word will sit down. Continue around the circle until only one kid is left standing. Play several rounds, challenging kids to increase their speed each round. As speed increases, if a kid hesitates or says the incorrect word, she sits down. Challenge anyone who wants to try saying the whole verse from memory.
- Ask TeamKIDs to explain what this verse means. Guide kids to understand that Jesus was inviting the disciples to be part of expanding God's kingdom. They had received forgiveness for their sin and were now part of God's family. But that wasn't the end of the story. Now they were ready to go out and tell others about Jesus' love for them. Jesus calls us to do the same thing.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: Paper, craft supplies, small wrapped candy, tape

- **Say:** Did you know there are people who aren't following Jesus in our own community? Some people in our families and in our neighborhoods haven't chosen to respond to Jesus yet.

Explain that one way to be on mission with God is to invite people to church or your home where they can get to know you and learn about what is important to you, like the good news you are learning at TeamKID.

Distribute the craft supplies and direct kids to make an invitation to an event at church or in the community. Write down the details for the event (example: TeamKID, Sunday nights at 6:00 p.m., First Baptist Church). Tell kids to include the details and to tape a piece of candy on the invitation as a small gift. As they work, ask kids who they might pray about giving their invitation to: maybe a friend at school, a family member, or someone from their team.

- **Say:** Even if we can't travel to the other side of the world right now, we can make sure that people around us are reached with the love of Jesus.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: DISC GOLF REVIEW (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 75)

Provide: Buckets and flying discs (1 per team), cones or tape

- Form teams of four. Each team will start at its bucket's "Start" line. On "Go," the first player of each team will throw a flying disc toward his team's bucket. The second player in line will go to where the disc lands and throw the disc toward the bucket again. The team will continue this pattern until the disc lands in its bucket.
- Players must keep count of how many throws it takes to make it to their buckets. When teams are done with their first bucket, allow them to switch with another team. After each team has completed throwing its disc into three buckets, add up everyone's throws. The team with the least amount of throws wins! Play again, challenging TeamKIDs to say Today's Point or Key Verse if they toss the disc in the correct bucket.
- Debrief: "To complete the course, you had to work together and keep going. We've been learning about the Promised King, how Jesus died and rose again for all of us. This good news isn't something we are supposed to keep to ourselves. We can work together and keep going as we share the good news of Jesus with others."

THROW AWAY YOUR SIN (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 90)

Provide: Paper (1 piece per player), masking tape

- Form two teams. Using the masking tape, divide the playing area in two. Give each player a piece of paper and instruct her to crumple it into a ball. Explain that on "Go" the kids will try to get as many of the paper balls on the other team's side. When the leader calls "time," kids must freeze. Count the paper balls on each side and the team with the fewest wins the round. Play more rounds as time allows.
- Debrief: "The paper balls help us think about sin. We want Jesus to throw our sin away and ask Him to forgive us when we disobey God. When we follow Jesus, He is faithful to forgive us from our sin and make us right with God. We can trust that our sin has been forgiven and Jesus heals us!"

HEALING MAZE (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 91)

Provide: Masking tape

- Create a pathway/maze on the floor using the masking tape. Choose one kid to be "It" and another to be the "Doctor." The goal is to get from one side of the maze to the other without being tagged by "It." Kids must stay on the line of masking tape. If a kid is tagged, the "Doctor" can heal him so he can continue moving along the line. Play for a few minutes before switching roles.
- Debrief: "In our game you needed a doctor to heal you and make you able to continue playing. We know that our sin causes pain. It's not always physical pain, but our sin hurts us and other people. We don't need a doctor to heal us from our sin. We need Jesus! And He is always faithful to forgive our sin and restore us."

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** How does it makes you feel knowing that Jesus is always
- happy to forgive you when you sin?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

- **Say:** When we understand and believe what is true about God, it changes the way we live. When
- our sin is forgiven, we no longer have to carry the guilt and shame that comes along with it. God
- doesn’t want us to go around feeling bad about our sin all the time! Jesus has forgiven our sin and
- He wants us to have peace in our hearts and peace with God.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide. Encourage TeamKIDs to share how they might explain this verse to someone who doesn’t know about Jesus.

- **Say:** We know that Jesus is the King God promised, and He came to teach us about God’s kingdom
- and how we can be part of it. But, that is not the end of the story. Even though Jesus does not live
- on earth right now, He has given us an important job to do until He returns. He wants us to tell
- other people about the good news of the gospel so they can know and trust in Jesus, too!

PRAY

Lead kids in prayer or ask a TeamKID to pray for the group. Thank God for your time together today and ask Him to help you all understand the beauty of His grace in your lives. Thank Jesus for forgiving us and restoring us from our sin when we trust in Him for salvation.

DISMISS

Provide: “Unit 4 Parent Connections” (item 53), large piece of craft paper, markers

Guide kids to use the markers to write “Forgiveness” on the banner and decorate it. Explain that Jesus is faithful to forgive us for our sin when we ask Him.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

SESSION 36

THE PROMISE CONTINUED

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS GAVE CHRISTIANS A MISSION TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND PROMISED TO BE WITH THEM ALWAYS.

BIBLE STORY

The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:14-16, Luke 24:50-53)

KEY VERSE

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you." John 20:21

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 53).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Unit 4 slide
- Session 36 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video

- Ball of yarn
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

FOUR ACROSS

- "Four Across Review Questions" (item 62)
- Dry erase board
- Dry erase markers (two colors)

MEMORY LIMBO

- Pool noodle
- Dry erase board with today's Key Verse written on it

MISSIONS

- "Brody Brewer Photos" (item 63)
- Index cards
- Pencils

GAMES

DISC GOLF REVIEW (PLAYBOOK, P 75)

- Buckets and flying discs (1 per team)
- Cones or tape

MOVEMENT RELAY (PLAYBOOK, P 92)

- Index cards

PLANT THE GOSPEL (PLAYBOOK, P 93)

- Cones
- Bean bags (10 or more)

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53)
- Slips of construction paper
- Tape or stapler

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Matthew 28:16-20 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

The Great Commission verses are some of the most quotable verses from the Bible. These are Jesus' last words to His disciples. Last words are important. Often when we have lost someone close to us we cherish the last words they spoke to us. Jesus' last words in this passage are wisely chosen. He began by reminding the disciples who He is. All authority on heaven and earth has been given to Him. He is the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world, and as He returned to heaven, Jesus prepared the disciples to continue the promise of hope for the world—sharing the good news of the gospel and inviting people to respond.

God kept His promise to humanity by sending Jesus into the world to save us from our sin. Jesus commissioned the disciples, and by extension us, to go into the world and tell others about Him. Now, Jesus invites us to be part of spreading the news by taking the gospel to those who are desperate to hear it.

This week you will guide kids to understand that, as Christians, we are invited to be on mission with God to share His love with others. We get to be part of taking the truth of the gospel to our family, friends, and neighbors. Help kids see that this is a gift and helps us grow our own faith as we follow Jesus wherever He may lead us.

CONSIDER

- When we become Christians God doesn't whisk us away to heaven. We're given the Holy Spirit and sent on mission. What part do you think God is calling you to play in building His kingdom?

- How might you step out in faith this week to show God's love to someone who needs encouragement?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: CIRCLE OF SHARING (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Ball of yarn

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Guide the kids to stand in a circle. Give one kid the ball of yarn and ask him to share one thing that is special about him. He will hold onto the end of the yarn and toss the ball of yarn to another kid in the circle who will share something about herself. Continue around the circle until everyone has had a chance to share.

- **Say:** We have learned some really cool things about each other! Each person is unique, special in your own way, but we all have something in common as well. We’re all created by God and made in His image. We’re designed to reflect God to the world and show others what He is like. In our Bible study today we’re going to learn that Jesus gave His disciples, and us, a job to do: tell others about Him. We get to share God’s love with people around us, and remind them that they too are made in His image!

BIBLE STUDY: THE GREAT COMMISSION (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 75 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** Imagine that you are moving away and you have a few minutes to spend with your closest friends. What would you say to them? (Allow responses.) You might tell your friends how much you care about them. Or you might leave them with some parting wisdom. Our story today is about some of Jesus’ last words to His disciples before He went back to heaven.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

- Remember, God promised long ago that He would send the Promised One, a King who would rescue people from their sin. At just the right time, Jesus arrived. He was not like the king most people expected. Jesus was humble. He taught people about God’s kingdom and performed miracles to point people to God’s power. Then, Jesus died on the cross and rose again to make a way for people to be forgiven of sin. Jesus had fulfilled God’s plan and His promise. But the story isn’t over yet. The promise of hope and inviting people into God’s kingdom continues! Let’s open our Bibles to the Gospel books to learn more!

DEFINE IT: GREAT COMMISSION—a job that Jesus gave to all of His followers to make disciples of Jesus

THE GREAT COMMISSION

BASED ON MATTHEW 28:16-20, MARK 16:14-16, LUKE 24:50-53

.....

- After Jesus rose again, He appeared to some of his followers. He sent a message with Mary to tell the disciples to meet Him in Galilee.

Read Matthew 28:16-20 or have a TeamKID read these verses.

- **Ask:** What did Jesus tell His disciples to do? (He told them to go make disciples, baptize them, and teach them to obey what Jesus had commanded.)

- Jesus had an important mission for His disciples. Those who follow Jesus are part of God's kingdom. Jesus was sharing an important task with His disciples to continue inviting others into God's kingdom by telling others about who Jesus is and what He has done.

- Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth." Jesus is God the Son; He always had authority. But after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, God gave Him all authority in heaven and on earth. Jesus is the King over all creation, and He rules over God's kingdom.

Read Mark 16:14-16.

- In Mark's gospel, we find similar words of a commission that Jesus gave to His disciples.

- **Ask:** Do you notice any new information that Mark's gospel gives? (Jesus told the disciples to preach the gospel to all creation. Everyone who believes will be saved, but whoever does not believe is not saved.)

- Jesus gave the disciples—and everyone who follows Him—a job to do. He said, "Go into all the world and tell people the gospel. Make disciples of people from every nation." The gospel is the good news of Jesus. It is the true story of how God sent His Son to rescue us from sin, and when we believe in Jesus, we can be saved. Jesus wants His followers to tell people all over the world how to be rescued from sin and death by trusting in Jesus' death and resurrection. Then those people who believe will become disciples of Jesus, too.

Read Luke 24:50-53 or have a TeamKID read these verses.

- Not long after Jesus said these things, He went up into heaven. The disciples watched Jesus until a cloud took Him out of their sight. (See Acts 1:9-11.) The disciples worshiped Jesus and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy.
- The rest of the New Testament books teach us about how the disciples did exactly what Jesus said. The disciples told others about Jesus, went to far away places to share the gospel, and then started churches and reminded them of how Jesus taught us to live as people in God's kingdom. We have a promise that Jesus will return one day. We don't know when that day will come. While we eagerly wait for Jesus to return, we are called obey what He has commanded us to do—tell others this good news and invite them into God's kingdom!

GOING DEEPER

- **Say: Jesus gave Christians a mission to tell others about the kingdom of God and promised to be with them always.** We often think that being a Christian means being saved from sin. We get to go to heaven and be with God when we die. But Jesus saves us for something, not just from something. It's true that we avoid punishment for our sin, but following Jesus also means building God's kingdom. We get to participate with God in the work He is doing in the world. God wants all people to know, love, trust, and obey Him. We get to share the message of the gospel with people who don't yet know Jesus and point them to God!

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids

- **What did Jesus tell His disciples (and us) to do?** (go make disciples, baptize them, teach them to obey Jesus' teachings; Matthew 28:19-20)
- **What did Jesus promise His disciples?** (that He would be with them always; Matthew 28:20)
- **What happened some time after Jesus gave the Great Commission?** (He went up into heaven; Luke 24:50-53)

Older Kids

- **How would you explain what the gospel is to someone who doesn't know about God or the Bible?** (Lead kids to share the gospel in their own words. Remind them that gospel is a word that means good news. The bad news is that people disobey God and that separates us from Him, but the good news is Jesus died and rose again so we can be forgiven of our sin. When we respond to Jesus in faith, our sins are forgiven, and are part of God's kingdom forever!)
- **How does knowing Jesus is with you always make you feel? Do you think Jesus' presence with us makes it harder or easier to obey His commands?** (Answers will vary. Guide kids to understand that we can have peace knowing that Jesus is with us. He helps us know what to say and do when sharing our faith with others, and He helps us obey His commands.)
- **What are some ways we can obey Jesus' instructions to make disciples?** (Answers will vary. Help kids see that we can teach people what the Bible says and help others understand what is true about God. We can also show love to people who disagree with us. Christians are called to be peacemakers. Encourage kids that when they come across people who don't want to follow Jesus, they can still pray for those person and continue to show them kindness and respect.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to complete side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to turn to side two of their activity pages and complete "I Can Study My Bible." Guide kids to connect each Great Commission verse to its reference.

PRAY

Lead the kids in prayer or ask a TeamKID to pray for the group. Thank God for allowing us to be part of building His kingdom here and now. Ask Him to give us courage to share the gospel with others and show His love to people.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: FOUR ACROSS

Provide: “Four Across Review Questions” (item 62), dry erase board, dry erase markers (two colors)

- Draw a grid of circles on the dry erase board, six down and seven across. Form two teams and assign a color to each team. Ask one team a review question from the “Four Across Review Questions.” If the team gets it right they get to color in one of the circles on the bottom row (as if playing Connect Four.) Teams can color circles on the bottom row or above ones that have already been colored. The first team to get four in a row wins. Explain that some of the questions will review stories from previous weeks, or other things about Jesus and the Bible.
- Remind TeamKIDs that we have heard so many amazing stories of Jesus’ healing and teaching, His death and resurrection, and now how He sent out His disciples (and us) to tell the whole world about Him.

OPTION 2: MEMORY LIMBO

Provide: Pool noodle, dry erase board with Key Verse written on it

- Say the verse several times to review with kids. Choose two kids to hold the pool noodle and instruct the kids to each say one word of the verse as they do the limbo under the pool noodle. Time the kids to see how fast they can get through the verse. Repeat with everyone who wants to participate
- Share that this verse is part of an important part of Jesus’ commission to His disciples. A commission is like a job or a special mission. Jesus sent His disciples out into the world to tell others about Him and how they can be saved. As Christians we have this same mission! We get to point others to Jesus and tell them about who He is and what He has done. It’s incredible that God calls us to be part of His mission on this earth as we build His kingdom.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “Brody Brewer Photos”(item 63, 3 copies), index cards, pencils

- **Say:** We’ve been learning about people who need to be reached with the gospel, about missionaries who are going to the hard places to reach them, and how we can be part of God’s plan to reach the nations. One 12-year-old boy named Brody Brewer found a cool way to be on mission.

Distribute copies of the photos to three volunteers. Following the numbers in the captions, ask the volunteers to show the photos to the group and read the captions to hear Brody’s story.

Ask kids what they think of Brody’s axe business. Brainstorm with kids things they could do to raise money for missions or something they could learn to do. Did Brody’s story give them ideas for how they can personally raise money for missions or how your group could be on mission together? Take notes of their ideas that you can encourage in the future. Also ask them to write down one thing on an index card from the ideas you’ve discussed and begin to pray about it and talk to their parents about doing something on mission for Jesus.

- **Say:** Brody’s story should encourage us to think about ways we can be a part of God’s mission. Let’s remember that God promises to be with us as we take the gospel to all nations.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

UNIT 4 GAME: DISC GOLF REVIEW (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 75)

Provide: Buckets and flying discs (1 per team), cones or tape

- Form teams of four. Each team will start at its bucket's "Start" line. On "Go," the first player of each team will throw a flying disc toward his team's bucket. The second player in line will go to where the disc lands and throw the disc toward the bucket again. The team will continue this pattern until the disc lands in its bucket.
- Players must keep count of how many throws it takes to make it to their buckets. When teams are done with their first bucket, allow them to switch with another team. After each team has completed throwing its disc into three buckets, add up everyone's throws. The team with the least amount of throws wins! Play again, challenging TeamKIDs to say Today's Point or Key Verse if they toss the disc in the correct bucket.
- Debrief: "To complete the course, you had to work together and keep going. We've been learning about the Promised King, how Jesus died and rose again for all of us. This good news isn't something we are supposed to keep to ourselves. We can work together and keep going as we share the good news of Jesus with others."

MOVEMENT RELAY (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 92)

Provide: Index cards with various types of movements listed, 1 set per team (examples: crab walk, walk backwards, hop on one foot, slide sideways, etc.)

- Form two teams and instruct both teams to line up on one side of the room. Give each team a set of the index cards. Explain that the first player from each team will choose the top card and will use that movement to get to the other side of the room and back. The next player will choose the second card and so on until the teams have gotten all their players down and back.
- Debrief: "The Great Commission is for everyone who follows Jesus. It began with His disciples, but we continue that same mission today. God can use us right where we are to obey Jesus' words and tell others about the good news of Jesus."

PLANT THE GOSPEL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 93)

Provide: Cones, bean bags (10 or more)

- Using the cones, divide the playing area into three sections. Place all the bean bags in the middle section. Form two teams and instruct the teams to begin on opposite ends of the room. The goal is for players to get as many bean bags back to their team's side as possible. They can snatch bean bags from the other team's side, but they may only take one at a time. At the end of two minutes, the team with the most bean bags wins. For an added challenge, guide the kids to balance the bean bags on their heads or hop on one foot.
- Debrief: "In our game we were trying to get bean bags onto our side of the playing field, but the other team was able to take them back. When someone decides to follow Jesus, he or she is saved and nothing can take away someone's salvation. Nothing in the whole world can separate us from God's love."

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: "Questions with Kids" slide

Display the "Questions with Kids" slide.

- **Ask:** How you can fulfill the Great Commission and tell others the
- good news about Jesus.?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today's study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, "Key Verse" slide

Read today's Key Verse from a Bible or the "Key Verse" slide.

- **Say:** As Christians, we are part of a big mission to share the good news of Jesus
- with others and invite people into God's kingdom. Jesus gave Christians a mission
- to tell others about the kingdom of God and promised to be with them always.
- Sometimes, we might feel nervous about talking to others about the gospel, but
- Jesus promised that He would give us peace and always be with us.

PRAY

Pray for the kids or ask a TeamKID to pray for the group. Thank God for our time together today. Ask Him to help us share the gospel with someone this week and show kindness to others. Ask God to help us grow our faith by obeying what He calls us to do.

DISMISS

Provide: "Unit 4 Parent Connections" (item 53), slips of construction paper, tape or stapler

Give each child a slip of construction paper and instruct her to write the name of someone she knows. Allow time for the kids to pray for these people. Then, create a paper chain to hang up in the classroom. Challenge the kids to do something kind for that person this week to show her God's love. Encourage TeamKIDS to pray for opportunities to share the good news of Jesus with these people.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

BONUS SESSION 3

JESUS IS ALIVE

TODAY'S POINT: JESUS IS ALIVE AND TAUGHT THAT EVERYTHING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT POINTS TO HIM.

BIBLE STORY

The Emmaus Disciples (Luke 24:13-35)

KEY VERSE

The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon! Luke 24:34

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 64).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Bonus Unit slide
- Bonus Session 3 slide
- "Unit 3 Countdown" video

- Flashlight
- Cutouts of different animals or objects such as a cat, horse, car, snake, banana, snowman, etc.
- Craft sticks (optional)
- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

GROWING PICTURE

- "Mystery Picture" (item 66)
- Sticky notes
- Coin

THE OLD TESTAMENT AND JESUS

- "The Old Testament and Jesus" (item 67)
- Bibles
- Clothespins

MISSIONS

- "Annie Armstrong Facts" (item 68)

GAMES

THE TRUE KING (PLAYBOOK, P 101)

- Hula hoops (one fewer than the number of kids)
- Boundary markers
- Music

REDEMPTION TAG (PLAYBOOK, P 102)

- Boundary markers

MOSES, PROPHETS, SCRIPTURES (PLAYBOOK, P 103)

- *No additional supplies needed

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slides
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Bonus Unit Parent Connections" (item 64)
- Flashlight

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: SHADOWS (5–10 MINUTES)

Provide: Flashlight; Pictures of different animals or objects such as a cat, horse, car, snake, banana, snowman, and so forth, craft sticks (optional)—Cut the pictures out so that you can easily distinguish their outline and shape. Consider attaching a craft stick to each image to hold up to the light easily.

Welcome TeamKIDS as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Turn off the lights in the room and turn on a flashlight.

- **Say:** I’m going to hold up an animal or an object in front of the flashlight. When you see the shadow, see if you can guess what it is.

Hold up each paper in front of the flashlight to cast a shadow on the wall. Turn on the light and show all of the cutouts in full color.

- **Say:** Great job! You were able to know what the object was based on the shadow. In today’s Bible study, we are going to learn that the Old Testament has lots of “shadows” of Jesus. These aren’t actual shadows, but they are glimpses of God’s promise that Jesus would later fulfill in the New Testament. Everything in the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments, points us to Jesus.

BIBLE STUDY: THE EMMAUS DISCIPLES (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child)

Invite kids to turn to page 81 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** Did you know that after Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to more 500 people?! Some of those people He saw after His resurrection were two men walking down the road to Emmaus. The men were very discouraged and confused because they did not understand why Jesus had to die. They were arguing with each other as they recalled Jesus’ death.

Open your Bible to Luke 24. Hold the Bible open on your lap and tell the Bible story in your own words.

DEFINE IT! OLD TESTAMENT—The first part of the Christian Bible; the Old Testament tells the history of the nation Israel and God’s people.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

THE EMMAUS DISCIPLES BASED ON LUKE 24:13-35

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Read Luke 24:13-16.

• **Ask:** Could the men recognize Jesus? (no)

• While the men were arguing during their walk from Jerusalem to Emmaus, Jesus appeared and asked them why they were arguing. However, the two men did not recognize Jesus. They looked discouraged and asked Jesus if He was the only one who did not hear about the events of the crucifixion. Then they began to tell Jesus all about how the Messiah was crucified by the chief priests and how they had hoped He was the Savior.

Read Luke 24:25-27 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

• **Ask:** Who did Jesus say Moses and the prophets wrote about? (Himself! Jesus.)

• Jesus taught the men that all of the Bible is about Him. Every page of Scripture is about how God was going to save His people through His promised Son. The men were so amazed by what Jesus was teaching them that they asked Him to stay with them. Jesus went with the men and while they were at the table Jesus blessed the food, broke the bread, and gave it to the men. When He did this, the men immediately understood that this man was Jesus. Jesus was alive, and He was with them!

Read Luke 24:31-32 or invite a TeamKID to read these verses.

• After Jesus left them, they immediately went back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples they had seen Jesus. All of those gathered told the men that Simon (Peter) had seen Jesus too. Then, the two men on the Emmaus road told the disciples how they had seen Jesus and were able to recognize Him when He broke the bread.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say: Jesus is alive and taught that everything in the Old Testament points to Him.** The whole Bible is about Jesus. When Adam and Eve sinned, God began working out His plan to send Jesus to rescue people from sin. All of the Old Testament points forward to Jesus' life, death, and resurrection—the time when Jesus would bring God's promised salvation for sinners.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- **When were the men able to understand that the man with them was Jesus?** (after Jesus broke the bread; Luke 24:30-31)
- **Reading the Bible is important because it tells us all about Jesus. When do you read the Bible?** (Allow TeamKIDs to respond and discuss. Encourage kids that the Bible is not just for adults, it is for them, too! They can study and learn more about God on their own or with a family member or friend.)

Older Kids

- **Can you think of a time when you had trouble understanding what was in the Bible? Who or what helped you understand?** (Remind TeamKIDs that the Bible is a big book, and we don't always understand everything in it all at once. It is important that we are patient with ourselves and others as we learn more about Jesus. We can pray and ask God to help us understand more. And we can ask other people who know about Jesus to help us, too!)
- **Jesus told the men that it was necessary for Him to die. Why?** (Jesus died because our sins needed to be forgiven. Only Jesus could take the punishment for our sins because He had never sinned. Jesus died to pay the punishment for our sin. After three days, Jesus rose again just like He promised and He is alive today!)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to complete side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to turn to side two of their activity pages and complete "The Old Testament and Jesus."

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDs in prayer. Thank God for sending His Son to die for our sin and for raising Him from the dead so that we may have life. Ask God to help you read the Bible and see how it all points to Jesus.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: GROWING PICTURE

Provide: “Mystery Picture” (item 66)—one copy per group, sticky notes—cover each copy of the picture with sticky notes, coin (1 per group)

- Form four equal groups of TeamKIDs. Assign each group a copy of the mystery picture covered in sticky notes and a coin. Explain that under all of the sticky notes is a mystery picture. Tell TeamKIDs that they will flip their coins to determine how many sticky notes they can remove. Heads=1 sticky note. Tails=2 sticky notes. Explain that groups are trying to uncover what is in their picture first.
- Discuss how as we read the Bible we are seeing a growing picture of Jesus. All of the Bible points to Him.

OPTION 2: THE OLD TESTAMENT AND JESUS

Provide: Bibles, “The Old Testament and Jesus” (item 67)—print more than one copy if needed so that each kid can have a strip of paper and cut apart, clothespins

- Provide each TeamKID with a strip of paper and a clothespin. Ask each child to pin the strip of paper to the lower hem or sleeve of his shirt.
- Explain that written on the paper are Bible verses about Jesus from the Old Testament. Instruct TeamKIDs to try and snatch another person’s paper without anyone grabbing theirs. Tell TeamKIDs that once all of the papers have been retrieved, they will look up the Bible verses and write down what the passages say about Jesus on the back of the strip of paper. Review and discuss what each passage foretold about the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Remind TeamKIDs that we can trust and believe God’s Word because it is true and God has fulfilled these prophecies. Jesus is alive just as He promised.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: “Annie Armstrong Facts” (item 68)

- **Say:** At Easter, many churches celebrate that Jesus is alive by focusing on telling other people in North America about Him. One way they do this is by giving an offering to help support missionaries and pastors who start new churches right here in the United States. We have learned about some of those missionaries. One offering is named after a woman who strongly supported mission work. Her name was Annie Armstrong.

If your church participates in the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (or another missions offering), explain how your church is collecting money and what your goal is. Encourage kids to think of a way that they can give their own money to the offering: gift money, allowance, chores. Consider collecting an offering with your kids and putting that money toward your church’s goal.

Distribute the fact strips to volunteers and ask them to read aloud these facts about Annie Armstrong.

- **Say:** Annie Armstrong wanted everyone to hear about Jesus and know that He is the risen King.
- What can you do this Easter to help people hear about Jesus?

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

THE TRUE KING (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 101)

Provide: Hula hoops (one fewer than the number of kids), boundary markers, music

- Instruct players to line up around the perimeter of the playing area. Tell kids that the goal of this game is to find out who the true king is. Start the music. Direct kids to move to the rhythm of the music around the perimeter of the playing area. When the music stops, kids should run and stand in a hoop.
- When players run back to the perimeter for the next round, the player who did not find an open hoop must sit down in a hoop. Encourage kids who are sitting in hoops to try and tag other players from a seated position. Eventually, there will be two kids left and only one hoop. The kid who reaches the hoop first is the true king of the game! For extra fun, choose specific movements or motions kids must do each round.
- Debrief: “Great job! The whole time I was wondering who would be the true king. We know that Jesus is the King that God promised to save us. We don’t have to wonder because we know the true King is Jesus!”

REDEMPTION TAG (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 102)

Provide: Boundary markers

- This is an “everybody’s It” type of tag game! If a player is tagged by another player, he sits down right where he was tagged. The player sitting should keep an eye on the player who tagged him, because if that player gets tagged by someone else, the first player can jump back up and start playing again. If two players tag each other at the same time, they must play a game of “Rock, Paper, Scissors” to see who stays in the game.
- To add excitement, call out “Redemption Tag” when several players are sitting down, allowing them to jump back into the game.
- What were two ways to gain redemption and get back in the game? (Allow players to answer.) Explain that players could receive redemption when the person who tagged them got out or if you yelled, “Redemption Tag!” Jesus provides redemption for us because He fulfilled God’s plan to save us. We are separated from God because of sin, but Jesus lived a perfect life, died, and rose again so we can have a relationship with God! Jesus is the only Redeemer and the only way for us to have a relationship with God.

MOSES, PROPHETS, SCRIPTURES (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 103)

No supplies needed

- Form three teams: Moses, Prophets, and Scriptures. Ask players to arrange themselves in one big circle. Choose one player to remain in the center of the circle to be “It.” Whoever is “It” calls out either Moses, Prophets, or Scriptures. Whatever group is called must change places with another member of their team without getting tagged. Those who are tagged are out. Continue playing until one person remains.
- Read Luke 24:27 and remind TeamKIDS that all of the Bible is about Jesus. Encourage them to read God’s Word and ask God to help them learn more about Jesus.

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** When can you spend time reading your Bible and learning more about Jesus?

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Jesus is alive and everything in the Bible that told about His life, death, and resurrection came true. We can trust God’s Word because it points us to Jesus and helps us to see how much Jesus loves us. When we spend time reading and learning more from our Bibles, we are growing stronger in our faith.

PRAY

Lead TeamKIDS in a prayer or invite a child to pray. Give thanks for the Bible. Ask God to help us read God’s Word and follow His truth.

DISMISS.

Provide: “Bonus Unit Parent Connections” (item 64), flashlight

Invite TeamKIDS to sit in a row. Turn off the lights and hold up a flashlight. Invite each TeamKID to come to the front of the room and make a shadow with his hands in front of the flashlight beam. Allow the other kids to try and guess what the shadow is.

Remind TeamKIDS that the Old Testament gives us glimpses of Jesus. **Jesus is alive and taught that everything in the Old Testament points to Him.** Sort of like shadows help us see a reflection of the real image, the true promises in the Old Testament point us to Jesus.

As TeamKIDS are dismissed, give each child her personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

BONUS SESSION 4

THE MISSION OF THE KINGDOM

TODAY'S POINT: GOD'S KINGDOM MISSION CONTINUES THROUGH FOLLOWERS OF JESUS WHO TELL OTHERS HOW THEY CAN BE PART OF GOD'S KINGDOM.

BIBLE STORY

Peter Preached at Pentecost (Acts 2)

KEY VERSE

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19*

PARENT CONNECTION

Lead parents deeper into the Bible study and life application by sharing this meeting's "Parent Connection" (item 64).

AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP

- Bonus Unit slide
- Bonus Session 4 slide
- "Unit 4 Countdown" video

- Bibles
- Activity Books (1 per child)
- Dry erase board and marker (optional)

BIBLE ACTIVITIES

WHO AM I?

- Sticky notes with names of Bible people on them

GIANT BIBLE MEMORY

- Pieces of paper

MISSIONS

- "Short-term in Russia" missions video
- "World Map" (item 8)
- "Video Guide" (item 69)
- Pencils

GAMES

GOSPEL WHEEL (PLAYBOOK, P 104)

- Playground Ball

CLOTHESPIN TAG (PLAYBOOK, P 105)

- Clothespins (for each player)
- Markers
- Other small decorations

SUPPLY RUN (PLAYBOOK, P 106)

- Random items for kids to retrieve

CLOSING

- "Questions with Kids" slide
- Bible
- "Key Verse" slide

- "Bonus Unit Parent Connections" (item 64)
- Slips of paper with words from the session/unit
- Paper bag or gift bag

LEADER DEVOTION

OPEN THE BIBLE

Read Acts 2:1-4; 42-47 from your Bible or Bible app.

STUDY

When we begin a relationship with Jesus, salvation is just the beginning. Jesus makes us part of God's kingdom through faith in Him, and we get to continue growing deeper in our relationships with Him. God continues writing our story long after the moment of our conversion. Jesus saves us from our sin, and He also saves us to something. He saves us to bring us into the family of God, and He sends us out to invite others to be part of His kingdom, too.

This sending began with the Great Commission. Jesus spoke to His disciples telling them to go into the world and share the good news about Him with others, to baptize them and teach them to obey His commands to love God and love others. We get to be kingdom builders, but it's not brick and mortar we use; it's the love of God. We've been saved for a purpose: to use our gifts, strengths, and resources to point others to Jesus and welcome them into the family.

This week we will teach kids about their role in building God's kingdom. Consider sharing your own testimony with the kids and explaining the ways that God has used other people in your life to bring you to Jesus. Help the kids see that God is writing their stories and wants to use them in powerful ways to be a light for Him.

CONSIDER

- Who was it that first shared the gospel with you? Stop and thank God for using that person in your life to teach you about the gospel and God's kingdom.

- How has God used you to invite others into His kingdom?

LARGE GROUP (20–30 MINUTES)

OPENING ACTIVITY: EVERYTHING IN COMMON (5–10 MINUTES)

Welcome TeamKIDs as they arrive. Consider playing the “Unit Countdown” video to get started.

Instruct kids to form small groups. Challenge the groups to talk together and find one thing that the whole group has in common. It could be a common interest, food, hobby, or something else. Ask the groups to share what they had in common. If time allows, switch up the groups and have them find something else in common.

- **Say:** It’s so fun to hear what we have in common with other friends. One thing we all have in
- common is that God loves all of us. We know that God loves us because He sent His only Son, Jesus,
- to live the perfect life and die on the cross to save us from our sin. Not only are our sins forgiven
- when we trust in Jesus, but we are invited to participate in building God’s kingdom with Him. What
- an incredible gift! Today we’ll learn more about what it looked like for the early Christians to share
- the gospel with others and be part of God’s kingdom together.

BIBLE STUDY: PETER PREACHED AT PENTECOST (15–20 MINUTES)

Provide: Bibles, Activity Books (1 per child), dry erase board and marker (optional)

Invite kids to turn to page 83 in their books and follow along as you lead the Bible study.

- **Say:** Before He went back to heaven, Jesus gave Christians a mission
- to tell others about the kingdom of God and promised to be with them
- always. The good news that Jesus came into the world to save us from our
- sin is too good to keep to ourselves! Jesus promised His disciples that He
- would always be with them. He also promised to send them the Holy Spirit.
- God’s presence would live within them, helping them live out the mission of
- God! Let’s turn to the book of Acts and read more.

Consider marking Bible passages for kids to read during Bible study. Utilize slides as needed.

DEFINE IT: KINGDOM OF GOD—God’s rule with all power and authority over His creation. God wants people to follow His rule because they love and trust Him.

PETER PREACHED AT PENTECOST BASED ON ACTS 2

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BONUS
4

Read Acts 2:1-4 or have a TeamKID read this passage.

• **Ask:** What were the believers able to do when the Holy Spirit came on them? (Speak in other languages)

• God gave the believers the ability to speak other languages, even though they had never learned them! It was incredible! The believers were in Jerusalem at the time and there were Jews from all over the world. They were amazed when they heard the believers declaring the wonders of God in their own languages. God sent His Spirit to help and be with those who had trusted in Jesus Christ. Jesus had kept His promise. God gave the believers an important mission: tell the world about Him, and God also equipped them for this task! God always gives us what we need to do the things He has called us to do.

Read Acts 2:38-39 or have a TeamKID read this passage.

• **Ask:** What is the gift Peter said people would receive when they repented and were baptized? (They would receive the Holy Spirit.)

• Peter was a simple fisherman from Galilee. He wasn't powerful or important, nor did he have a lot of influence. The remarkable thing about Peter was that He had been close to Jesus. Jesus changed Peter from the inside out. He had forgiven Peter's sin and invited Him to be part of building God's kingdom. Peter knew Jesus, and he wanted to tell the world about how they could know Him too. The crowds listened to Peter as he spoke about Jesus and they wanted to know more! The Bible tells us that many people believed his words and were saved!

Read Acts 2:42-47 or have a TeamKID read this passage.

• **Ask:** What things did the believers do together? (They shared meals, prayed, listened to the apostles' teaching, and shared their possessions.)

• The disciples and other early Christians wanted to follow Jesus' command to tell the world about Him and build God's kingdom. They lived out this mission together. They worked, ate, prayed, and had fellowship (close relationship) together in community (a group of people). God calls us to live our lives with other Christians. We're not meant to go it alone. We are better and stronger when we work together with others who have given their lives to Jesus. This is what God's kingdom is all about! The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 2:5 that we are all like living stones, being built together. God's kingdom isn't a place or a building, it's people who love and trust God.

GOING DEEPER

- **Say:** Jesus has saved us from eternity without God, but He has also saved us to be part of something incredible. We're welcomed into God's kingdom and invited to participate in bringing in others as well. **God's kingdom mission continues through followers of Jesus who tell others how they can be part of God's kingdom.** When we give our lives to Jesus, He transforms us from the inside out, giving us new life with God forever. This is amazing news, and it's so cool that Jesus asks us to share it with others!

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Spend a few minutes asking kids the following review questions. Encourage kids to discuss their answers in small groups.

Younger Kids:

- What book of the Bible did our study come from? (Acts)
- Who did Jesus send to His followers? (the Holy Spirit; Acts 2:4)
- What did Peter do after he received the Holy Spirit? (He preached to many people about Jesus. Acts 2:14)

Older Kids

- God calls us to share our faith with others, but He doesn't leave us on our own. He gives us the Holy Spirit to help us and guide us. How does it make you feel knowing that God is with you wherever you go and He is always ready to help you? (Answers will vary. Guide kids to understand that God's presence with us is a gift. He comforts us, gives us courage, and gives wisdom to speak what is true about Him.)
- What are some ways you can participate in building God's kingdom? (Answers will vary. Help kids see that God equips each person to obey the Great Commission. It looks different for everyone. They can show God's love to the people in their families, friend groups, and communities. They can share their own stories of coming to know Jesus. They can build up the church by encouraging other believers to remember what is true about God.)

CONNECT

Lead kids to form smaller groups to complete side one of their activity pages. If older and younger TeamKIDs are together, consider forming two groups.

Direct kids to turn to side two of their activity pages and complete "What's Your Mission?" Kids will circle every third letter to reveal the phrase "Build God's kingdom."

Spend time discussing ways that the kids might participate in building God's kingdom. Consider writing their answers on the dry erase board. Guide the kids to think about what life looks like after you become a believer. Life looks different when you submit to Jesus as Savior and King. The early church shared their possessions and spent time praying, fasting, and fellowshiping together. They encouraged one another when things were hard, and they remained faithful to trust in God even when their faith was put to the test.

PRAY

Pray or invite a TeamKID to pray for the group. Ask God to help you all live on mission with other believers and share the gospel with people who don't yet know Jesus.

BIBLE ACTIVITIES (10–15 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: WHO AM I?

Provide: Sticky notes with names of Bible people on them (examples: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Mary, Paul, Peter, Sarah, and so forth.)

- Place a sticky note on TeamKIDS' foreheads, but don't let them read the name on it. TeamKIDS will walk around the room asking yes/no questions to the other kids to figure out who the people on their notes are.
- Explain that TeamKIDS all asked some great questions to figure out whose names were on their sticky notes. There are so many people in the Bible who are part of God's big story. We are part of God's story here and now, and we get to be part of telling others about His great kingdom. Remember, **God's Kingdom mission continues through followers of Jesus who tell others how they can be part of God's kingdom.**

OPTION 2: GIANT BIBLE MEMORY

Provide: Pieces of paper with Bible people/places/events on them (2 of each) (examples: Jerusalem, Jesus, Peter, John, Mary, Lazarus, Jesus' resurrection, the empty tomb, angels, and so forth.)

- Mix up the matching cards and lay them facedown on the floor in a grid. Form two groups. The first group will turn over two cards. If they get a match, they must give a brief recap/summary of who the person, place, or event is before collecting the cards. If it's not a match, turn the cards over and the other team gets a turn.
- Encourage TeamKIDS for learning so many things about the Bible. Share how fun it has been to learn more about Jesus together. Remind the group that all the stories that you have learned point to Jesus and how He is the Son of God who loves us so much that He was willing to die to save us from our sin. When Jesus rescues us He calls us to follow Him for the rest of our lives. Our faith will continue to grow each day as we trust and obey Him.

MISSIONS (10–15 MINUTES)

Provide: "World Map" (item 8), "Video Guide" (item 69)—1 copy per kid, pencils, "Short-term in Russia" missions video

- **Say:** Let's watch a video about missionaries who went to Moscow, Russia, to share Jesus. They went and told, just like the Bible tells us to do.

Ask a volunteer to find Russia on a "World Map" (item 8). Distribute the video guides and pencils. Ask kids to pay special attention to the video. Tell them to circle each item when they see it in the video. Play the video while kids complete their guides.

After the video, ask kids to compare their guides. Did they miss anything? If needed, consider playing the video again for kids to watch.

Ask kids to describe one of the main ways that the missionaries were getting to know people in Moscow (dance classes).

- **Say:** Even something like a dance class can be used to share the gospel. God can use a hobby or sport or special talent to share the good news of Jesus around the world.

GAMES (15–20 MINUTES)

Choose from the following games in the TeamKID Playbook.

GOSPEL WHEEL (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 104)

Provide: Playground ball

- Instruct players to stand in a circle and explain that someone will stand in the middle of the circle and count to twenty silently. As the child counts, the other players will pass a ball around the circle. When the player gets to twenty, she will yell, “The gospel is for everyone.” The kid who is holding the ball when the Counter yells is now a part of the “wheel.” She will stand with her arms straight out to her sides and make it more challenging for the ball to be passed. From now on, to pass the ball, the kid next to her must toss the ball to pass it to the kid on the other side of her. Continue playing and prepare for many laughs as more kids get out and the players who are still in have to toss the ball over multiple sets of arms.
- Debrief: “The book of Acts tells us the story of the early church. In it we read how the Holy Spirit moved powerfully in the lives of the believer. We also learned how they were able to step out in faith again and again for the sake of making the name of Jesus known. The early church was all about the mission of God, and they were devoted to each other and to sharing the gospel with others.”

CLOTHESPIN TAG (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 105)

Provide: Clothespins (1 for each kid), markers, other small decorations

- Distribute the clothespins and instruct the players to decorate them however they wish. They may choose to write the Key Verse or Today’s Point. When they are finished, have them clip the clothespins to their sleeves or edges of their shirts. Choose one player to be the tagger. That kid will try to snag as many of the kids’ clothespins as she can in two minutes. When two minutes are up, give everyone his clothespin and choose another tagger.
- Debrief: “The goal of this game was for “It” to get as many clothespins as possible. Sometimes we might think that life is all about acquiring as much stuff or money or fame as possible, but the Bible tells us a different story. We know that when we have Jesus, we become part of God’s kingdom and we get to enjoy His presence for eternity. God wants us to give our lives to Him, using what He has given us to glorify Him.”

SUPPLY RUN (TEAMKID PLAYBOOK PAGE 106)

Provide: Random items for kids to retrieve

- Form at least two even teams and instruct them to line up at opposite ends of the playing area. Assign each player on the team a number. The opposing team will have matching numbers. When all of the players are lined up, call out a number and an object that is in the middle. Each of the kids with the number you call out should run to the middle, try to retrieve that object, and run back to her line. If a player makes it back to her line with the object, her team receives a point.
- Debrief: “Jesus asks us to join Him in the work He is doing to invite others to be part of God’s kingdom. It doesn’t matter what we look like or what we have done in the past. God loves us and wants us to follow Him!”

CLOSING (5–10 MINUTES)

QUESTIONS WITH KIDS

Provide: “Questions with Kids” slide

Display the “Questions with Kids” slide.

- **Ask:** If you could go back in time and ask any question to one of the early Christians, what would you ask?

Encourage kids to discuss key points from today’s study and share any thoughts, ideas, encouragement, or questions they may have. If time allows, encourage kids to write down their thoughts and questions on side two of today’s activity page.

KEY VERSE

Provide: Bible, “Key Verse” slide

Read today’s Key Verse from a Bible or the “Key Verse” slide.

- **Say:** Today we learned that **God’s kingdom mission continues through followers of Jesus who tell others how they can be part of God’s kingdom.** We talked about some ways that we get to participate in God’s kingdom, such as sharing our story of getting to know Jesus. We can also show people God’s love by being kind and respectful, even when they aren’t kind or respectful to us. God has made all people in His image and He uses us to bring others into His kingdom.

PRAY

Pray or invite a TeamKID to pray for the group. Thank God for your time together today. Ask Him to help you all, through the Holy Spirit, to love Him and love others this week. Ask God to use you all to build His kingdom.

DISMISS

Provide: “Bonus Unit Parent Connections” (item 64), slips of paper with words from the session/unit (examples: “resurrection,” “Great Commission,” “disciples,” “prayer,” “preaching,” “languages,” “Holy Spirit,” “kingdom,” and so forth.), paper bag or gift bag

Place the slips of paper in the bag. Have the kids sit in a circle and give each child a number one or number two. All the ones are on a team and twos are a team. Give the bag to a kid and have her pull out a slip of paper. She will try to get her team to guess the word on the paper in 30 seconds. The team with the most correct guesses wins.

- **Say:** It has been a blast learning more about God’s kingdom with all of you. I can’t wait to see how God uses each of you to be part of building His kingdom and welcoming others into God’s family.

As TeamKIDs are dismissed, give each child his personal belongings, activity page, and a Parent Connection.

Be prepared to discuss any questions kids may have about responding to the gospel. See page 12 for leader helps on engaging in these conversations!

BONUS
4

NOTES PAGE

NOTES PAGE

Get the most from your study.

Customize your Bible study time with a guided experience and additional resources.



TeamKID is a fun, high-energy ministry that encourages kids to know Jesus Christ and to grow in a relationship with Him. That's why TeamKID ends with KID. KID stands for Kids in Discipleship! All parts of TeamKID—Bible stories, Scripture memory, missions activities, life application, and recreation games—connect to teach life lessons to kids.

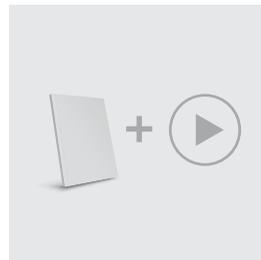
This study will equip you to guide kids and their families as they pursue Jesus in practical ways through:

- Key Bible stories about the life and ministry of Jesus
- Interactive Bible study
- Mission experiences that ignite hands-on-learning
- Practical application points of how kids can live out their faith
- Fun Bible activities that build Bible skills and understanding
- Engaging activity books that reinforce key truths each week
- Family connection pages with key summaries and practical next steps for families

Your TeamKIDs will walk away from this study:

- Excited to pursue their faith
- Confident in how to study their Bibles
- Equipped to live out their faith in daily life

Lifeway designs trustworthy experiences that fuel ministry. Today, the ministries of Lifeway reach more than 160 countries around the globe. For specific information on Lifeway Kids or TeamKID resources, visit lifeway.com/teamkid.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS YOUNGER KIDS ACTIVITY BOOK

Activities for 40 sessions of TeamKID: Good News (9781087766805)
Digital: (9781087767017)

TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS OLDER KIDS ACTIVITY BOOK

Activities for 40 sessions of *TeamKID: Good News* (9781087766812)
Digital: (9781087767000)

TEAMKID: GOOD NEWS MISSION DVD

Mission videos to accompany 40 sessions of *TeamKID: Good News* (9781087766836)

*Also available on the DVD-ROM in the Leader Kit or Digital Leader Kit

TEAMKID ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDE

A helpful guide that provides everything needed to begin a TeamKID ministry (978108777702)
Digital: (9781087778112)