

RB Kids December 2018 Elementary Service Enhancements

November 29 & December 2--**Next Steps. (Space Ninjas vs. Pirate Squirrels Week 4)**

Before the final worship song and giving time, say, **“We talk a lot about NEXT STEPS when we’re together and usually when we talk about NEXT STEPS we mean something you can do to take steps toward following Jesus. But today’s NEXT STEPS are a little different.**

Since our Bible story teaches us that we need each other, I want to encourage you to look around. Who do you know that needs to be here? I don’t mean kids who sometimes come but might be sick or on vacation. I mean who do you know that never comes and needs to hear a cool story from the Bible so they can know about God’s love. Who needs to know about Jesus and how we can receive forgiveness and have life in Him?

- **Most people, including kids, come to church for the first time because they were invited by someone. Who can you think of that needs to be invited to come to church?**
- **We have a very cool new event coming soon called Classic Christmas (Slide). It’s the weekend right before Christmas (confirm your campus’ service times). This is going to be a family friendly service with drama and music and it’s going to be an awesome way to celebrate Christmas. Wouldn’t it be cool to invite a friend or a neighbor and their family to come see Classic Christmas?**
- **So here’s your NEXT STEP for this week. I want you to talk to your parents or grandparents and ask them to help you identify a friend or family that you can invite--people that currently don’t attend church. Maybe you’ll come up with more than one! Next week we’re going to provide you with an invitation that you can give them with everything they need to know about it.**
- **The story of Nehemiah shows us that God wants us to be part of a community of believers, but we have to work hard to make our church community bigger. And when we do that, we’re sharing God’s love with others and helping THEM take NEXT STEPS toward Jesus, too!**

Transition to the next element of LG.

December 6 & 9--**Invitational Tool/LG Prayer Project-(HSK Christmas Mystery Week 1)**

Choose an appropriate time during the LG lesson to take some time to pray, preferably after the Bible story and Main Point emphasis. Tech volunteers should adjust lighting and background music to enhance the mood. Say, **“Last week we talked about Classic Christmas (SLIDE), a cool new family event with drama and music on the weekend before Christmas (Confirm service times for your campus). We said our**

NEXT STEPS from last week were to identify a friend, neighbor or family that we could invite. Did you do that? If so, great! If not, that's OK, there's plenty of opportunity still. As you leave SG today, we're going to give each of you a **Classic Christmas invitation you can give to those people.**" (Show the invitation and take some time to read through the handout so kids can understand how to use it.) Say, **"In order to prepare to invite people we should pray. Let's take some time right now to pray for those folks God has put on our hearts and minds:**

- **Ask kids to gather around a small group leader on their rug or another rug nearer to where they are sitting. Help kids prepare to sit still and be reverent during this time.**
- **Begin prayer time by praying out loud that kids will be led by the Holy Spirit as they seek to find a family to invite. Ask the Spirit to speak to kids hearts. (one minute)**
- **Encourage kids to sit still and quietly listen to hear God encourage their heart. Maybe he will reveal the name or face of a friend that needs an invitation. Maybe he will help kids understand the best way to extend that invitation. (one minute)**
- **Ask small group leaders to pray out loud over the kids in their group that God will bless them as they plan to invite someone to church. Ask for boldness and courage. Ask that people would be open to and respond to that invitation. (two minutes)**
- **Close the time of prayer by thanking God for Jesus--our great rescue plan--and for the way God brought Him to earth. Pray that many, many people would choose to follow Jesus this season (one minute).**

Transition to the next element of LG.

December 13 & 16--Invitational Tool/Show Baptisms--(HSK BIG Christmas Mystery Week 2)

Today we will watch a video of Jeremy Hooper, our Dalton Kids Minister baptizing a young lady. Let's celebrate that together!

Say, "Did you know that most people who get baptized were first invited to come to church by someone? Imagine if someone YOU invited to church eventually chose to follow Jesus and share that decision by being baptized. Imagine that we were watching a video of that kid right now! How amazing would that be?"

Say "That's not an impossible dream! We actually have a great opportunity to invite new people to church for our Classic Christmas (Slide) service next weekend. Maybe you'll even invite someone who has never heard the story of Jesus' birth.

Show the Invitational tool and show kids how they can use it.

Say, "At the end of SG today each and everyone of you will get one of these to take home. Sit down with your family and decide who you're going to invite. And make sure to pray, pray, pray that one day we might see that person being baptized on our screens!"

We want to make baptism more visible for our kids and so while our adults are viewing baptism every third week of the month, we want our kids to be able to do that, too. So we will provide a video of recent Rock Bridge baptisms (could be from any RB campus, any age group). We want to insert this into our program right before our final worship song/giving time.

This is a great moment to remind kids that baptism is a step (a next step) in following Jesus after we have made our initial decision. The act of baptism does not make us a Christian, but our obedience to God in the act is important. Feel free to use your own words and comfortable language to describe this.

Finally, check with your campus kids minister to see if they might be planning to escort kids to watch baptisms live in your adult venues. This may not be possible depending on your campus configuration, but your kids minister will be looking for potential opportunities.

**December 20 & 23--Invitational Tool/Share the Gospel (HSK BIG Christmas Mystery 3)
Again, feel free to share the gospel in your own words, but here is an outline.**

Before the final worship song and giving time, say, **“Jesus came to earth as a baby to save the world. It’s crazy to think that God’s great rescue plan started in a lowly manger, but that’s just what happened. And many, many years later you and I can know God because we can have a relationship with Jesus.”**

You see, God demonstrated His love for us by sending Jesus to not only be born, but to die on the cross to take our punishment. The Bible says that the punishment for sin is death--eternal separation from God. We need Jesus to bridge the gap between God and us. AND the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus. What an amazing gift! And we can accept that gift in this way...

A-Admit--We admit that we are sinners and our sin separates us from God. There is nothing we can do on our own to fix this problem so we turn away from our sin and ask God to forgive us.

B-Believe--We confess that we believe that Jesus, God’s only Son, died for our sins and rose from the grave. He’s alive! And we can have a real relationship with Him!

C-Choose--We choose to follow Jesus forever, committing to grow closer to Him each day. We choose to make Jesus the most important person/relationship in our life.

Say, “If you want to talk more about what it means to follow Jesus for your whole life talk to your small group leader or our kids ministry director or me! Christmas is an amazing time to begin following Jesus. Maybe today you’ll choose to become a baby Christian as we worship the baby King!

Transition to the Worship and giving time.

December 27 & 30-Communion

We're going to have a very directed communion time today. More information and instructions to come! We will send out a special guide about how to lead this very soon!