



Kids Club

Leader Guide

Dec.

Week 3

December 17. 2023

Supplies Needed:

Whiteboard/Poster board to write the memory verse out for all kids to see it
Paper/Markers for each kid
Deck of cards to play “match”
Tape

Suggested Schedule:

5 minutes - Pick up kids/kids arrive - bathroom, wash hands, water break
20 minutes - Snack, Games, Prayer/Devotion, Quality Time, Clean-up
30-40 minutes - RBKids Lesson & Prayer
10-15 minutes - Free time, Clean-up and Dismissal

Today's Focus:

God Helps Us Do Hard Things!

Weekly Verse:

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."
Colossians 3:12 NIV

Rock Bridge Mission:

Loving God means choosing Him over what is easiest or more comfortable to do. We can trust Him to be with us when we do hard things.

Prayer: Please be intentional to pray with your kids throughout the lesson!

Do This As Kids Arrive:

Have the memory verse written on the board. As the children arrive, give them paper and markers. Have each child select one of the five characteristics: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, or patience. Then draw a picture of someone displaying this quality. You may want to offer suggestions, for example a mom putting a bandage on a small child to show compassion, or a boy petting a small dog to show gentleness. You may also want to assign one of the characteristics for each child to draw so you will have all five for use with the memory verse activity.

Introduction:

Before Jesus was born, there was a righteous man who was a descendent of King David. His name was Joseph. He was engaged to a young woman named Mary. In those ancient times when someone was engaged, it was almost like they were married, except they did not live in the same house. The engagement was a serious commitment. Joseph loved Mary very much, but when he found out she was already pregnant, he was very disappointed. Joseph was a good man, so he decided not to let anyone know what was going on. He knew that if he told anyone, Mary would be in really big trouble. So instead, Joseph quietly planned a divorce. Let's see what happened next.

Read Matthew 1:18-24

Have the kids find this story in their Bibles. Ask for volunteers to read the passage, or if you prefer you can read it to the children.

Talk About This:

1. What happened after Joseph decided to divorce Mary? *(An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.)*
2. Why did the angel visit Joseph? *(To tell him not to be afraid, and it was OK to keep Mary as his wife.)*
3. Why was a virgin chosen by God to be the mother of His Son? *(To fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet, that a virgin would give birth to Jesus.)*
4. What did Joseph do after he woke up from his dream? *(He took Mary home as his wife.)*

5. Why did God choose Joseph to be Mary's husband? *(Because he was a righteous man and a descendent of King David.)*
6. If we are troubled or worried about something, like Joseph was about Mary, what will happen if our heart is right with God? *(God will help us understand His plan for us, just as He sent an angel to Joseph to assure him everything would be alright.)*

Activity:

Have each kid write a guess for how many names they think they will recognize. Then, have the children look up Matthew 1:1-16 and see how many of the names they actually recognize. Explain that this is the genealogy of Jesus, as recorded in the Bible. This passage names 38 great grandfathers to Jesus. It is hard for us to know the name of our great-great-grandfather, let alone great to the 38th time. The genealogy shows that Jesus came from a long line of royal families and kings. Have kids compare their guesses from the actual number.

Say This: Guessing can be fun, and sometimes we do get things right! But sometimes, guessing can lead us to draw the wrong conclusions. Another thing we can learn from Joseph, is that he cared more about what God said than what other people would guess was true about his life. Some of the guesses that people had about him and Mary were not going to match what was actually true. But Joseph and Mary knew what was true! Let's use these cards to play a game of match as we remember that it's better for our lives to match what God wants than to worry about what other people might think.

Do this: Place matching cards face-down in a grid and allow kids to turn over two at a time to find the matching cards. Create multiple sets if you need to break your kids into smaller groups.

Say this: The Bible does not tell us too much about Joseph. Besides being a descendant of King David, and a caring and considerate husband to Mary, little is said of his personality. One thing we know for sure from our Bible passage today is that Joseph was a righteous man. Proverbs 20:7 says, "The righteous man leads a blameless life, blessed are his children

after him." Because of Joseph, and his willingness to be a faithful husband to Mary, all of us who are God's children have been truly blessed. Sometimes in our lives we are faced with difficult times or worries. But if we have faith, and trust in the Lord, He will always help us through the difficulties. He may send us a friend, a parent, a kind word, or perhaps even an angel. Next time you are faced with a difficult situation, stop and pray. Allow God to show you the way.

Memory Verse Activity:

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3:12 NIV

Tape the pictures drawn during the "As Kids Arrive" activity on the wall in the correct order. Then see how well the kids can say the entire verse using the pictures as a guide.

Next Week: Have everyone stand up. Then ask these questions: Who has walked a mile? If you have never walked a mile, sit down. Now for those still standing, who has walked five miles? If you have never walked five miles, sit down. Do the same for 10, 15 miles etc. until all the kids have sat down. Next week we will learn of a young married couple that walked over 50 miles just to be counted and pay taxes.