



Kids Club

Leader Guide

May
Week 3

May 19, 2024

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Key

Chairs for musical chairs

Question Cards, pens/pencils

Optional: Magnifying glasses or detective hats for added fun

Optional: construction paper

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:

Jesus was the only person who could save us from our sins. He did it because He loves us.

WEEKLY VERSE:

"My thoughts are not like your thoughts. And your ways are not like my ways," announces the Lord." Isaiah 55:8 (NIRV)

KEY PASSAGE:

John 3:16 & John 10:11-18, The Good Shepherd

ROCK BRIDGE MISSION:

We know that Jesus is the only one who can save us, so we build bridges to help glorify God by connecting people from all walks of life to life in Christ.

PRAYER:

Dear God, we praise you for the wonderful plan you have to save us. Thank you for your amazing love! In Jesus' name, Amen

INTRODUCTION:

ICEBREAKER- DO THIS AS KIDS ARRIVE: If you were a detective, would you wear a trench coat or not? What would you do to help yourself stand out as unique?

OBJECT LESSON:

Keys are made for a specific place and time. What are some things that need a key? Keys are often clues in the investigation of a mystery. A key found on a suspect or at a crime scene might unlock a storage locker, a safe deposit box, or some other place that holds the final clue to solving a mystery.

In our final lesson on Mysteries from the Bible, we are going to reveal the key to understanding the mystery of the Bible! The key is this one fact: Jesus is the only person who could have died for us. We learned last week that Jesus was both God and man. He is the only man who never sinned, and that means He's the only man who could have died for our sins. Because Jesus died for us, we can live forever. He is the key to our freedom from sin.

Jesus died to save us. Why? Because He loves us! He unlocked the door to Heaven, and all who believe in Him can enter!

SAY THIS: Over the last several weeks we've been looking at the mysteries of the Bible. The Bible is filled with unsolved mysteries. How did God make the world? How did he pause time to help Joshua defeat the Amorites? How can Jesus not only be both God and man, but part of the Trinity? Today we want to not only explore a mystery, we want to solve it. We want to find out, once and for all, who can save us from our sins?

Sins are all the things we think, say, and do that break God's commandments. Lying, stealing, taking God's name in vain, disobeying our parents, all of these are examples of sin. Our sin has created quite a debt between us and God, and the Bible says the price of sin is eternal death – separation from God.

There are many religions that address the question of sin. There are many false gods and philosophies that claim they can help us resolve our sins. The Bible makes it clear that there's nothing we can do to pay off our debt. We needed someone to pay that price for us. But who? There's only one man who can do that for us, and that's Jesus. Jesus makes it very easy to solve this mystery. He tells us in John 3:16 why He came to Earth.

READ: John 3:16

TALK ABOUT THIS: Jesus was both God and man. He is the only man who never sinned. He is the only one who could have died for us. Every other man and woman who had ever lived has sinned. They can't pay our sin debt because they have a sin debt of their own. Jesus is the only man who never sinned. He is our only hope.

Jesus not only tells us that He did it, He tells us why. It's because He loves us. God loved the world so much, He gave His only Son up for us. Because Jesus died, we can have eternal life. If we profess our faith in Jesus, he will make our debt disappear and take us to live with Him in Heaven!

LEADER TIP: *If you think your kids are really familiar with this lesson already, then flip the script and let them share what they know! Who can recite John 3:16? Pair them up and let them practice sharing the Gospel with each other, or choose a couple of kids to share it with everyone! We never graduate from the Gospel, it should move us and affect us and remind us of the burden we have to spread this Good News!*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

ASK THIS:

1. Who was the only man who could save us from our sins?
2. When did He come to Earth?
3. What did He do to save us from sin?
4. Why did He choose to die for us?
5. How can we receive Jesus as our Savior?

ACTIVITY:

SG/ACTIVITY - DO THIS: It's time for you to lead your own Bible Detective Investigation! You're going to investigate the mystery of Jesus' sacrifice by searching for clues in the Bible.

Form groups of kids and give them Bibles, pens/pencils and the **Question Cards** as you introduce them to the main questions that great detectives ask: Who, What, Where, When, How, and Why. Encourage them to answer each question by gathering clues from the Bible!

SAY THIS: Why would the only person who NEVER sinned, have to pay the price for our sins? We were all in debt because of our sin. The price to pay that debt was death. The only person who could pay that price for us, would be someone who didn't have the same debt themselves. Jesus was perfect and did not deserve death, but He **CHOSE** to die on the cross as a sacrifice to pay for our sins. With His sacrifice and resurrection He made all of our sin debt disappear so that everyone who believes in Him can live with him forever.

Scripture References:

1. Who:

- John 3:13 (NIRV):
 - i. "No one has ever gone up into heaven except the one who came down from heaven. He is the Son of Man."

2. What:

- The specific action or deed of Jesus' sacrifice is described in various passages throughout the New Testament. One example is:
 - i. Matthew 20:28 (NIRV):
 1. "The Son of Man did not come to be served. Instead, he came to serve others. He came to give his life as the price for setting many people free."

3. Where:

- The location of Jesus' crucifixion and burial is documented in the Gospels. One example is:
 - i. Matthew 27:33-34 (NIRV):

1. "They went to a place called Golgotha. In Hebrew it was called The Place of the Skull. There they nailed Jesus to the cross. They also nailed the two criminals to crosses, one on each side of Jesus."

4. When:

- While the exact date of Jesus' crucifixion is not explicitly stated in the Bible, historical records and biblical context indicate it occurred during the reign of Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea. The Gospels provide accounts of Jesus' ministry and crucifixion during this time. An example is:
 - i. Luke 3:1-2 (NirV):
 1. "It was the 15th year of the rule of Emperor Tiberius. Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea. Herod was the ruler of Galilee. His brother Philip was the ruler of Iturea and Traconitis. Lysanias was ruler of Abilene. Annas and Caiaphas were high priests. At that time, God spoke his word to John, son of Zechariah. John was in the desert."

5. How:

- The method and significance of Jesus' sacrifice are explained throughout the New Testament, particularly in the Epistles. One example is:
 - i. Romans 5:6-8 (NirV):
 1. "At just the right time, Christ died for ungodly people. He died for us when we had no power of our own. It is unusual for anyone to die for a godly person. Maybe someone would be willing to die for a good person. But here is how God has shown his love for us. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

6. Why:

- The reason for Jesus' sacrifice is expressed in various scriptures, but one of the most famous passages is:
 - i. John 3:16 (NirV):
 1. "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life."

Gather the kids back together and discuss their findings! Remind them that the Bible holds all the clues to the mystery of Jesus' sacrifice. This is an open and shut case. Jesus died for our sins because He loves us. He's the only one who can save us. The only real question that remains is for us to answer. Do we believe Jesus died for our sins? Are we willing to place our faith in Him? The evidence is all there. Each one of us will get to choose whether we believe Jesus and choose to let Him lead our lives! Encourage them to continue exploring the Bible to learn more about Jesus and His love for them.

OPTIONAL CRAFT:

Encourage the children to create detective badges or certificates for successfully solving the mystery. Invite them to share what they learned with their families or friends at home.

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

"My thoughts are not like your thoughts. And your ways are not like my ways,"
announces the Lord."

DO THIS: Play a round of musical chairs, eliminating one kid at a time until there's one left. When a kid is eliminated, ask them to say the Memory Verse.
OR Have the kids do a Memory Verse relay where kids stand in a line, one kid says it then tags the next person to have a turn.