



# Kids Club

Leader Guide

May  
Week 4

May 26, 2024

## **SUPPLIES NEEDED:**

A giant beach ball

## **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 will return; we must live for Him each day until He returns!

## **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:**

Matthew 24:35-44, The Day is Unknown & John 14:1-4, Preparing a Place

## **ROCK BRIDGE MISSION:**

We know that holiness honors God, so we strive for excellence in living a life that  
pleases Jesus until He returns!

## **PRAYER:**

Dear Jesus, help us to live each day for You as we prepare for the day You  
return. In Jesus' name, Amen

## INTRODUCTION:

**DO THIS AS KIDS ARRIVE:** If you could know one thing about the future, what would you want to know?

**SAY THIS:** Detectives can uncover valuable clues from a phone beyond just contacts and messages. Apps like the calendar reveal details about a person's activities and associations, aiding in creating timelines and identifying key suspects for further investigation.

There's one thing you won't find on a calendar: a return date for Jesus. There's no date to record because no one except God the Father knows when it will be! It could be another thousand years, or it could be tomorrow. Rather than try and solve the mystery of Christ's return, we should live each day as if He were coming tomorrow. We should make our hearts ready by growing our relationship with God, and we should share the good news with friends and family so they can be ready as well. We don't know when Jesus is coming back, but our prayer is that we will all be ready!

**SAY THIS:** Detectives can solve a lot of crimes. They can find clues, piece together timelines, determine motives, and recreate crime scenes. Detectives are dedicated puzzle solvers who make it their life's work to solve crimes!

But one thing a detective can't do is STOP a crime. Criminals don't put their crimes on a master calendar for everyone to see. They don't send Facebook invitations. Detectives, for all their cleverness, can't predict the future.

We've looked at a lot of mysteries in the Bible these last eight weeks, and we're going to end with yet another unsolved mystery. Before Jesus even died on the cross, He told His disciples He was going away to prepare a place for us.

**READ:** John 14:1-4

**TALK ABOUT THIS:** Jesus also told His followers He was coming back for them – for all of us. He made this promise before and after His death and even after His return to Heaven. The one big mystery is... when? When is Jesus coming back? The answer to this mystery is... who knows? No man or woman on Earth knows when Jesus is returning. It could be tomorrow. It could be today! It could be a

hundred or a thousand years from now. The early church believers lived every day expecting Him to return, and it's been 2000 years since Jesus first made that promise. We're still waiting for His return.

Does that mean God has forgotten His promise? No! God wants everyone to have the opportunity to know Jesus as their Savior, and every day Jesus waits is a day we can use to make sure the world knows about Jesus. We know Jesus is returning. We don't know when. So we must live every day like it's our last. We must grow in faith with Jesus. We must share Jesus with others. We must work for the Lord every day so we can be ready when He does return!

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

#### **ASK THIS:**

1. What is Jesus doing for us in Heaven?
2. Is there any way to know when He will return?
3. How can we grow closer to Jesus?
4. How can we prepare our friends and family to meet Jesus?
5. Who knows when Jesus will return?
6. What else can we do to stay ready for Jesus to return?

**SAY THIS:** How do we know Jesus is going to keep this promise to return? It has, after all, been 2000 years since Jesus walked the Earth. Has God forgotten us? Has He moved on to other things? Would He really wait this long to fulfill His promise?

We can look to the Old Testament, to the promises God made before Jesus was born. For centuries the prophets of God recorded all the promises made about the coming Messiah. The prophets told us that Jesus would be born of a virgin, born in Bethlehem.

They said He would be an ancestor of King David. They said He would come before the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem. They said He would speak in parables and perform miracles. They said He would be humble and meek. The prophets predicted that Jesus would be betrayed. They predicted He would be beaten and then killed. They predicted He would rise from the grave. The prophets told us that Jesus would become the Savior not just of God's

chosen people, but the whole world. They said He would establish a kingdom that would last forever.

Jesus told His followers He was going to prepare a place for us. His kingdom is being built, and when the time is right, He will return, just as He came before. If we want to be ready, we need to live each day like that day is tomorrow. We need to have a daily walk with Jesus, spending time in Bible study and prayer each day. We need to serve others the way Jesus humbly served and gave Himself to others. And we need to share the good news that "Jesus has come and is returning!" with everyone.

No one knows when He is coming back. So let's live like it could be today. If you've never made the decision to follow Jesus, remember that is a choice you can make at any time. And if you're already a child of God, let today be the day you start sharing your faith with others. Let's give Jesus our best every day so we won't be surprised by His return. Let's be ready, and let's get our friends and family ready. It's going to be one glorious day!

### **ACTIVITY:**

#### **DO THIS:**

Divide the group into 2-3 smaller groups. Have the groups bunch together. Have the groups stand in a semi-circle around the game leader with each group an equal distance from the leader. Each team starts with five points. The leader will hit the beach ball at one of the groups. They must hit it back without letting it hit the ground, or else they lose a point. Once a team has lost five points, they must sit. Keep going until only one team remains standing!

#### VARIATION:

You can break the room up into more or less teams, depending on the number of kids, and you can change the number of starting points to 3 for a quicker game.

**SAY THIS:** We do not know when Jesus is returning; let's live every day ready for His return.

## MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

**SAY THIS:** Play a game of Duck Duck Goose, but instead of just chasing them around the circle, they can choose to say the Memory Verse before they reach back to their spot. Remind the kids to always be ready to recall the Word of God.

\*Hot potato is a great alternative!

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITY:

If enough of your kids have been around for the Bible Mysteries series, remind them of the main stories!

1. Who created the world from nothing?

GOD

2. Who was the Man Who Didn't Die but went to Heaven in a chariot of flames?

ELIJAH

3. Who asked God to stop time so Israel could defeat their enemies?

JOSHUA

4. Who tested God with the mysterious fleece?

GIDEON

5. Whom did God test by asking him to sacrifice his son?

ABRAHAM

6. Who was the only perfect person?

JESUS

7. True or False: Jesus chose to die for us because He loves us.

TRUE

8. Does anyone but God know when Jesus will return?

NO