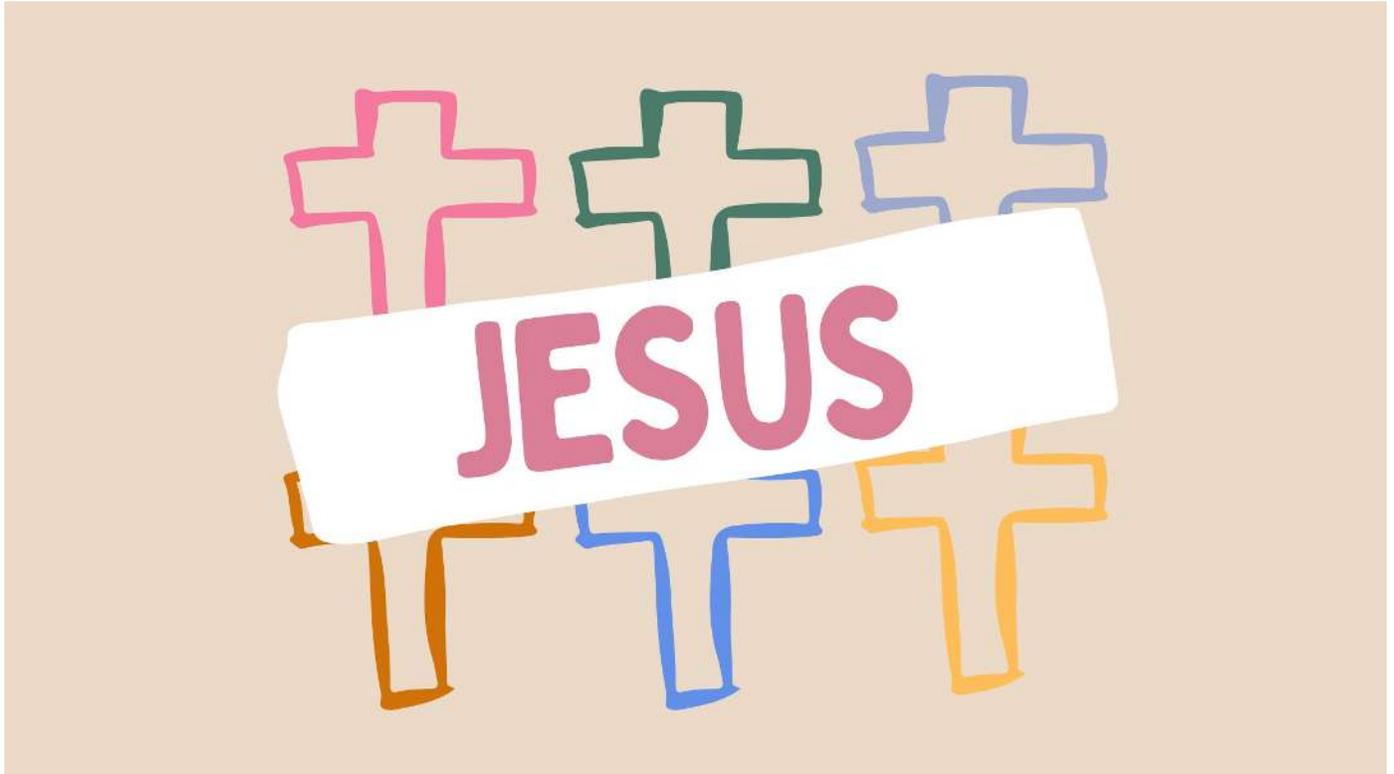


# Kids Club

Leader Guide

Apr  
Week 2

April 12, 2026



## Series Overview

This series will focus on the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior and what it means for those of us who follow Him. Kids will learn that Jesus came to Earth to save people from their sins and that Jesus actually traded places with people and gave them His righteousness. Kids will also learn that God's plan was still working while Jesus was dead in the tomb and that Jesus was resurrected so that we could join God's family.

# Lesson Overview

Today's lesson is all about Jesus's life and why He came. We will use colors to help us share the Gospel with each other.

## **Lesson 2:**

Luke 22:14–16, 39–44; Luke 23:32–34; John 19:28–30

## **Bottom Line:**

Jesus traded places with us.

## **Memory Verse (Series):**

"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NLT)

## Schedule

### **1. Welcome & Connection (10 minutes)**

Kids check in, play together, and connect with leaders. Encourage older kids to include younger ones. Give prompts for questions the teacher can ask to build relationships. Lessons 2-4: review the previous lesson's take home challenge.

### **2. Group Gather & Bible Focus (10 minutes)**

Short lesson with Scripture and discussion. This should be very engaging, with lots of opportunity for movement and kids participating.

### **3. Review & Practice (10 minutes)**

Practice engaging with Scripture from lesson and series memory verse.

### **4. Prayer & Worship Group Activity (15 minutes)**

Reinforce the truth that God has a plan through creative, hands-on and meaningful discussion. Ideally kids are working in pairs or groups. Either a game, craft, or other activity. Incorporate a prayer or worship practice.

### **6. Wrap-Up & Structured Free Play (10 minutes)**

Review the main point, play together, and give a take-home challenge.

# SUPPLIES

## 1. Welcome & Connection

- Items for structured free play
- Upbeat worship music (playlist or speaker)

## 2. Group Gather & Bible Focus

- Bible (leader)
- 4 colors of dot stickers (or crayons, construction paper, etc. just items with 4 distinct colors)
- Chairs/Sit spots (minus 1 - think "musical chairs")
- Masking tape (for a way to mark the center of your circle of kids)
- 1 robe
- 1 crown
- 1 black sheet/blanket/towel
- Inflatable globe/beach ball or soft ball

## 3. Review & Practice

- Bible (leader)

## 4. Prayer & Worship Activity

- Blocks or cups for stacking

# Welcome & Connection (10 min)

*As kids arrive, invite them into free play (coloring, games, playdoh, Legos, etc.). Actively coach older kids to notice younger kids and invite them into what they are doing. Play upbeat worship music as kids play/create.*

**Hi, friends! I'm really glad you're here for Kids Club today. This is a place to play, laugh, learn about Jesus, and help each other grow. Big kids, one of your jobs today is to notice younger kids and make room for them. We're going to have fun together, and we're also going to hear something really important about how much Jesus loves us.**

## **Connection Prompts:**

- What is one thing you own that you'd never trade?
- What's something fun you did this week?
- Would you rather play a board game or a card game? Which ones do you like?
- Who did something nice for you recently? What did they do?

*Give a two minute warning before transition.*

# Group Gather & Bible Focus (10 min)

*Supplies: Eggs (specific colors) filled with the associated Bible verse, container to hold them*

## **Take My Place**

*Arrange kids in a circle. Mark the middle of the circle with masking tape. Give each kid a colored dot sticker. One child starts in the middle.*

*The kid in the middle calls out one of the colors that the other kids have. Everyone with that color gets up and finds a new chair. The middle child tries to take one of their spots. Whoever is left without a chair becomes the new caller. The caller can also yell "Rainbow!" and everyone must move.*

**We're going to play a game called Take My Place. If the person in the middle calls your color, jump up and find a new seat fast. If they yell 'Rainbow!' everyone moves. The goal is to find a new place before someone takes yours.**

*Play 3–5 quick rounds.*

That was fun and a little wild. In that game, people kept taking each other's places. Today we're learning something huge: Jesus took our place. Jesus traded places with us so we could be forgiven and brought close to God.

- *Leader or helper wears robe and simple crown*
- *Black sheet represents sin*

A long time ago, people's sin separated them from God. Sin is anything we do that goes against God like lying, disobeying, hurting, or choosing our way over God's way. Before Jesus died on the cross, people offered sacrifices again and again. But those sacrifices were temporary. They pointed forward to someone better. Who is that?

*Have kids all whisper: "Jesus."*

Jesus knew He was about to suffer. In the garden, He prayed. He knew it would be painful and hard. And Jesus still chose to obey the Father because He loves us.

*Invite kids to freeze in a kneeling prayer pose for 3 seconds.*

**Then Jesus was arrested and nailed to a cross.**

*Bring forward the helper in robe/crown. Place the black sheet over their shoulders.*

Jesus had never sinned. Not once. But on the cross, He took the punishment for sin, not His sin, because He had none, our sin. He took our place.

*Ask: Whose place did Jesus take? Let kids answer: "Our place."*

**Right before He died, Jesus said, 'It is finished.' That means His work to pay for sin was complete.**

*Pull off the black sheet dramatically.*

**Jesus traded places with us. When I point to you, everybody say, 'It is finished!'"**

*Point to the group. Kids shout: "It is finished!"*

**Have kids say together: Jesus traded places with us.**

# Review & Practice (10 min)

## Find It First

*Split kids into mixed-age pairs or trios. Make sure older kids help younger kids.*

**Big kids, your job is not just to win, your job is to help everyone learn where to find things in the Bible. When I say the verse, work together to find it in your Bible.**

*Use the references below from today's lesson. After each one, briefly ask: "What happened here?"*

- **Luke 22:14** - Jesus ate with His disciples
- **Luke 22:39** - Jesus went to pray
- **Luke 23:34** - Jesus asked God to forgive them
- **John 19:30** - Jesus said, "It is finished"

**Older kids, show younger kids how you knew where to look.**

## Memory Verse: Pass the World

*Use the globe/beach ball. Kids stand in a circle and gently toss the ball while saying the memory verse one phrase at a time.*

*Break it up like this:*

- "For this is how God loved the world:"
- "He gave his one and only Son,"
- "so that everyone who believes in him"
- "will not perish"
- "but have eternal life."
- "John 3:16."

*Every time you catch the ball, say the next part of the verse. If you don't know it, your team can help you. Big kids, help the younger ones say it with you.*

*Repeat 2–3 rounds, a little faster each time.*

# Prayer & Worship Activity (15 min)

## **It Is Finished Towers**

*Put kids into mixed-age groups of 2–4. Give each group blocks or stackable cups. Have kids build a tower together. As they build name examples of sin and the need for Jesus. Keep tone gentle, not heavy.*

**These blocks are going to remind us of sin stacking up. Not because we want to sit in shame, but because we want to remember why Jesus came. As you build, make sure everyone in your group gets a turn.**

*Sin examples: lying, fighting, ignoring God, disobeying, taking things that aren't yours, not taking care of your body, making fun of people, etc.*

*Have kids pause and look at the towers.*

**That's a lot, isn't it? Can we fix sin on our own? No. We need Jesus. Jesus took our place. Jesus said, 'It is finished.'**

*Have kids place a hand on their tower or hold hands with their group. Let's be quiet for a moment and thank Jesus for taking our place.'"*

**Jesus, thank You for loving us so much that You took our place. Thank You that what You did on the cross was enough. Help us trust You, love You, and live like kids who belong to You. Amen."**

**Ready? On three, we'll all shout, 'It is finished!' and knock down the towers. Count down and let kids do it together.**

## **Ask:**

*What do you notice when the tower falls?*

*How does it make you feel to know Jesus took your place?*

*Who in your group helped someone else today?*

# Wrap-Up & Structured Free Play (10 min)

Today we learned that sin separates people from God, and people could not fix that on their own. Jesus came to do what no one else could do. He chose to suffer and die on the cross for us. Jesus took our place and paid for sin completely. That's why His words, 'It is finished,' are such good news. Because of Jesus, we can be forgiven and brought close to God.

- *What do you remember most from today?*
- *What does it mean that Jesus took our place?*
- *How did older kids help younger kids today?*
- *What did Jesus say on the cross?*
- *How can you thank Jesus this week?*

## **Closing Prayer:**

*Invite a kid to pray over the group.*

*Invite kids into free play (coloring, games, playdoh, Legos, etc.). Actively coach older kids to notice younger kids and invite them into what they are doing. Play upbeat worship music as kids play/create.*

## **Optional Closing Game: Switch If...**

*Have kids stand in a circle and call out different things they may have in common:*

- *Switch if you like pancakes.*
- *Switch if you have a sibling.*
- *Switch if you helped someone today.*
- *Switch if you remember today's Bottom Line. (Prove it!)*