

Preschool Small Group

Day 3



Today's Bible Story

Jesus' Crucifixion and
Resurrection
Luke 23:32-45, 55-56

Bottom Line

Because of Jesus,
I am saved.

Memory Verse

John 14:6 (NirV):
"Jesus answered, 'I am
the way and the truth
and the life.



Small Group Leader Guide Day 3

Kingdom Quest VBS

Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection

Today's Bible Story

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Resurrection
Luke 23:32-45,55-56

Bottom Line

Because of Jesus, I
am saved.

Key Question

What's the greatest
thing anyone has ever
done for me?

Theme

SAVED

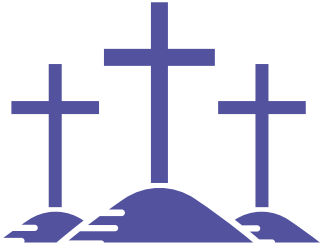
Preparing for the Day

Set up the room:

- Prepare the wrapped gift box with the cross, stone, and light inside. Test the light so it turns on easily during the story moment.
- Set out pasta necklace supplies by crew in small trays or bowls. Tape yarn ends to tables ahead of time.
- Place Bible story visuals where they are easy to access during teaching.

Tips for leaders:

- Reinforce the Bottom Line: **Because of Jesus, I am saved.** Use the phrase often.
- Keep it active and visual. Build energy when the stone rolls away and celebrate when the light turns on.
- Use short call and repeat phrases to maintain engagement.
- Incorporate movement often. Arms wide, hands over heart, arms in a cross, hands raised high.
- Give short, specific choices instead of open-ended questions.
- Praise bravery, focus, and positive behavior.
- Use Crew Leaders and Assistant Leaders intentionally. Assign clear roles.
- Give clear instructions to other leaders so they know how to support transitions, props, and crafts.
- Keep the tone hopeful and focused on love, rescue, and celebration.



What You Need

- Themed stickers/tattoos to give kids who brought back their KQ Log
- One empty gift box or bag 1/station
- tea light 1/station
- stone/small rock 1/station
- small cross
- Day 3 Bottom Line Poster (1/station)

Welcome (1-2 minutes)

Welcome back, Quest Crew! I'm [name], your Crew Guide for the week.

This week we are on Kingdom Quest to discover God's Kingdom. Let's review what we've learned so far.

Day 1: **Jesus invites us to follow Him**. Point to Day 1 Bottom Line Poster.

Day 2: **Jesus helps us trust Him!** Point to Day 2 Bottom Line Poster. Today we are learning: **Because of Jesus, I am saved!**

Opening Activity (1-3 minutes)

Fixed on Jesus

How You Prepare

- Place several ordinary items in a gift box (rocks, paper, string, coins, etc.).

What You Say

Hold up the closed gift box and announce with excitement:

Friends, today I brought something super special. It's a gift! Can you guess what's inside?

Pause and let 1-2 kids offer guesses.

Before we open it, what's the best gift you've ever gotten?

Invite 1-2 kids to answer briefly.

Slowly pull out one item at a time, asking with wonder:

Would this be the best gift for you? Why or why not?

Encourage a few quick responses after each item.

After the last item, close the box and emphasize:

See, these gifts are okay... but the greatest gift doesn't even look like a gift at first. Sometimes it's surprising, even hard to understand, but it changes everything!

Today we are learning about the greatest thing anyone has ever done for us. It didn't look like a gift at first. It didn't feel exciting or happy. But it changed everything! That's our Bottom Line: **Because of Jesus, I am saved.**

What You Need

- Gift box from opening activity
- Gospel Posters (1/station)

Bible Story Review (3–5 minutes)

How You Prepare

- Keep gift box with items close by.

What You Do

- Retell today's story in a fun, dynamic way.
- Select a volunteer leader from each crew to help hold props or demonstrate motions.

What You Say

Friends, are you ready for a Kingdom Quest? Today we are learning about the greatest rescue plan ever!

Before we start, let's do our Kingdom Quest Chant together. Repeat after me and add your motions:

Jesus invites us to follow Him—I follow His light! (Kids repeat)

Called on a quest to do what's right! (Kids repeat)

Step by step, I trust and obey! (Kids repeat)

His Kingdom grows in me each day! (Kids repeat)

Hold up the gift box.

Earlier, we looked inside this box and saw ordinary things. Some of them didn't look very exciting. Sometimes the greatest gift doesn't look like a gift at first.

Hold up the cross.

When Jesus died on the cross, it didn't look like a gift. It was sad and hard to understand.

Hold up the stone.

They placed Him in a tomb and rolled a big, heavy stone in front. Nothing about this felt like a gift—it felt hopeless.

Hold up the light and turn it on.

But the stone was rolled away, and Jesus rose again! Jesus is alive! The cross wasn't the end of the story—it was part of God's greatest rescue plan ever.

Let's remember why we needed that rescue. We'll do motions to help us remember: Teach motions quickly before starting. Point to Gospel Posters as you introduce each one:

- **God Created** - Arms wide
- **We Sinned** - Hands over heart
- **Jesus Saves** - Arms like a cross
- **We Choose** - Hands open in front

God created the whole world—the sun, moon, stars, animals, and people. He created YOU on purpose to know Him and belong to His family. Everything He made was very good.

Repeat after me: God created me for a purpose.

Kids: God created me for a purpose.

Adam and Eve chose not to trust God. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that goes against God. All of us have sinned, and sin separates us from God. We cannot fix it ourselves.

Repeat after me: Sin separates us from God.

Kids: Sin separates us from God.

God made a way! He sent Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life. He died on the cross for our sins. Three days later, He rose from the dead.

Jesus is alive! Because of Him, our sins can be forgiven.

Repeat after me: Jesus saves us.

Kids: Jesus saves us.

God invites us to choose to trust Him. He does not force us. When we choose to follow Jesus, He forgives us and welcomes us into His family.

Let's say our Bottom Line: **Because of Jesus, I am saved.**

Prayer & Reflection

(2-3 minutes)

What You Say

Friends, let's get our bodies ready to talk to God. Sit criss-cross on the floor, hands in your lap, and eyes looking up here. Let's make our bodies still and our voices quiet.

We're going to play "Freeze." When I say "Go," wiggle your fingers and toes.

When I say "Freeze," hold your body completely still like a statue.

Ready? Go!

Pause and let kids move.

Freeze! Great job! Let's do it one more time. Go!

Pause.

Freeze! Perfect. Now our bodies are ready.

We're going to say a prayer together and do motions to help us remember our story. Everyone put your hands over your heart and close your eyes. Repeat after me:

Jesus died for me – hug yourself gently.

Kids repeat.

Jesus rose for me – lift your hands up high.

Kids repeat.

Because of Jesus, I am saved – open your hands wide like a gift.

Kids repeat.

Wow! Jesus did the greatest thing ever for us. He loves us so much, and He made a way for us to be close to God.

Now, let's close our eyes one more time as I pray for you.

Jesus, thank You for loving us and saving us. Thank You for showing us the greatest rescue plan ever. Help these kids trust You, remember Your love, and follow You every day. Thank You for making each one of them special, brave, and never alone. Amen.

What You Need

- Dry pasta (penne, rigatoni, ziti)
- Food coloring or paint for pre-colored pasta
- Yarn or string cut to child wrist/neck length
- Markers or stickers for optional decoration of pasta
- Small trays or bowls for pasta sorting
- Tape to secure one end of the yarn
- scissors (prep only)
- Kingdom Quest Take Home Sheet (1/kid)

Coloring Pasta:

- in bowls/trays mix 2 tablespoons of vinegar with 1-2 drops of food coloring
- gently add dried, uncooked pasta and mix
- lay flat on parchment paper to dry
- let dry for at least a week
- For dye allergies, consider using Watkins or another "dye free" coloring

Craft (12-15 minutes)

Kingdom Charm Necklace

How You Prepare

- Pre-color pasta if desired (see instructions on left).
- Cut yarn to appropriate lengths. Tape one end to the table so it's easier for kids to string.
- Set out small bowls or trays for color selection.

What You Do

- Give each child a piece of yarn and a tray of colored pasta.
- Invite them to string pasta onto their yarn to make a necklace. Encourage creativity with colors, patterns, or optional stickers/marker designs.
- Once finished, tie the ends together or have a Crew Leader help.

What You Say

Today you are making a Kingdom Charm necklace! This is a reminder of the greatest gift ever given—Jesus.

Because of Jesus, you are invited into God's Kingdom. When you wear this necklace, it can remind you that Jesus loves you, forgives you, and is alive.

You can choose any colors or patterns you like. Each color can remind you of a part of the story or how much Jesus loves you. There's no right or wrong way to make your necklace—this is between you and God.

As you create, think about the part of today's story that stands out to you most. When you see your necklace later, remember: Because of Jesus, you are saved.

- Assist with stringing if needed; cut yarn shorter if hands are small.
- Encourage simple patterns and repetition of phrases like "Jesus loves me" "Jesus saves us" or "Jesus is alive."
- Focus on creativity and the joy of making something to remind them of God's gift.

TIP:

You can extend the activity by making them follow leader instructions to make a pattern all the same, repeat for a couple rounds and then let them do their own pattern finally to complete their necklace.