

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

for 2K-5K

DATE: 3/22/20 - 3/28/20

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:41-52

LESSON: *Who Is This Child?*

INTRO

Parents read this to your kids at the beginning.

Wow! This week has been a little crazy, huh? We're not meeting all together as a church on Sundays and we're all out of school! But isn't it great news that even when life changes so much, God is always with us, no matter what?! And no matter what, it's important that we spend time with Him together as a family, so we're going to have our own "Kidtown" at home! Alright, how does Kidtown normally start? That's right! With play time! So ...

PLAY (10 minutes)

In a time of high anxiety and stress, play is an easy, fun way for kids to feel relief and safe. Far from a copout, play is actually helpful for kids and adults. Below we have given some suggestions for group games. Use whichever of these works best for the kids in your family. If you don't like these games, feel free to make arts and crafts, color or give the kids some free play time.

Option 1: Simon Says

Start by selecting someone to be "Simon". Next, kids must do whatever Simon says when starting a command with "Simon Says", for instance, "Simon Says touch your nose." If a child fails to do it before you finish saying before Simon gives the next command, then they are "out" of that game. You can also attempt to get children "out" by saying commands that don't start with Simon Says. If a child follows that direction then they are "out". The last kid that is "in" gets to be Simon. If you want to make the game difficult for older kids, simply issue commands faster and faster, and make the needed actions more and more difficult to complete. This game is great, because it can be one of the most adult-controlled physical games for kids. They get some exercise, but you can keep the rowdy down as Simon.

Option 2: Color Scavenger Hunt

Name a color and have kids find something in the room that is that color. To make this game a little more difficult, say more specific colors ("Find something that is light green.")

SING (5 minutes)

Kids love singing and it's a great way to start to direct their energy in a Godward direction before the lesson.

Here are some songs we sing in Kidtown with toddlers and preschoolers, but you can use any songs that you and your kids love!

- Jesus Loves Me
- Jesus Loves the Little Children

LESSON (10 minutes)

*One of the most important ways we get to disciple kids is by helping teach the truth of God's Word and how it points towards Jesus. Our Preschoolers and Toddlers are going through a series of books, the "God Loves Me Storybooks". These books tell the story of scripture over 12 books, one for each month of the year. **For one month kids hear and interact with the same story** so that they can learn it well! Each week there is a different activity for the story:*

WEEKLY BREAKDOWN

WEEK 1: **Read the Story**

WEEK 2: **Act it out** while you read it.

WEEK 3: Read it again and do a **craft!**

Or Read it again and do a **creative activity!**

WEEK 4: Review - **Kids tell the Story!** (interactive)

For months with 5 Sundays - WEEK 5: **Story Party!**

This week is Week 4 for this story when we have the kids tell the story. To facilitate this, use the pdf below to show them the pictures on each page and have your children tell you what's happening. After you have gone through the entire story, ask some of the following questions to get kids to tell the story back to you.

Book: [Who is This Child?](#)

Questions

- What do you remember from the story? *Try to get kids to answer as much as they can, but when they get stuck move onto the following questions.*
- Who were the main characters in the story? *Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the religious leaders in the temple*
- Where did Jesus, Mary, and Joseph go? *To Jerusalem*
- What happened when Mary and Joseph left Jerusalem? *They couldn't find Jesus*
- Where did they find Jesus? *In God's temple*
- What was Jesus doing in the temple? *Talking to the religious leaders*

Isn't it cool that Jesus was once a child just like you? Let's pray to thank Him right now!

"Dear God, thank you that Jesus was once a child too. We're glad you love us just like you love your Son, Jesus! Amen"

SNACK (5-10 minutes)

Taking a break for a snack helps give kids a developmental break after the lesson and be used as a simple reward/incentive for focus during Story Time. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Cheerios for most kids and Gummy snacks for kids who have gluten allergies.

LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

This lesson activity is optional based on time. If you need to fill time it can help reinforce what the kids learned in the lesson, but can easily be cut if you're running short.

Option 1: Seek and Find

Pick an object and have kids take a good look at it and then have all of the kids close their eyes, hide the object (use your judgement on how difficult to make the hiding spot) and have kids search for it.

Say - Jesus's parents looked everywhere for Him, and they didn't find Him until they looked in the temple.

Option 2: Coloring Activity

Ask kids about their favorite new place they have ever been to, give them a sheet of paper and crayons and have them draw a picture of what they saw in that new city or place!

PRAYER TIME! (15 minutes)

From an early age, we want to teach our kids that prayer is the fuel for our lives as Christians. We depend on God for everything and prayer helps us remember that. Especially in these uncertain times, prayer is one of our most important disciplines as God's people.

Pray For Each Other:

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?

Pray: If your child is able, have them pray for another member of your family. You may need to pray and have them repeat after you.

e.g. "Dear God, please help daddy trust You."

Pray For Others:

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of ours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?

Pray: If your child is able, have them pray for one of the people you all thought of. You may need to pray and have them repeat after you.

e.g. "Dear God, please help Johnny believe in You."