

# FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

## *for 1st-5th grades*

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

**SCRIPTURE:** Luke 2:41-52

**LESSON:** *Jesus as a Child*

## INTRO

*Parents read this to your kids at the beginning.*

Well we've officially finished our first whole week of being out of school. Let's all give each other high fives! This week has involved a lot of change and new rhythms. But no matter how much other things change, one thing that never changes is that we are a Jesus-centered family.

And so we're going to take some time to do Kidtown at home! Just like we would do if we were all gathered together on a Sunday. We're going to play, sing, learn from the Bible and talk about how Jesus wants to grow us as His followers. At the end we'll pray for our family and for others! Y'all ready to go?

## 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 can actually be helpful for kids and adults alike. Below we have given some suggestions for group games. Use whichever of these works best for your family. If you don't like these games, feel free to make arts and crafts, color or give your children some free play time.*

### **Option 1: Balance Beam (3k - 3rd Grade)**

*Supplies Needed: Colorful (not clear) Tape*

Clear some space in a room. Use tape to create straight or curved lines to walk on. You can use multiple colors and have unique rules for how the child has to walk on them. For example, if the tape is blue, the child has to walk with one hand on his head. Or if it is green, he has to jump on one foot. The child has to follow the rules and walk only on the tape and not on open land! If he does, he's out. The child who walks the length of the tape without stepping on the bare floor wins. Increase the difficulty of the rules for older children.

### **Option 2: In and Out Hangman (1st - 5th Grade)**

*Supplies Needed: something to write on and something to write with*

In the classic version of hangman, you guess the letters that are in the phrase or word that the leader comes up with. In this version, you alternate between letters that are in the words and letters that are not in it. So on the first guess, your child guesses a letter that is 'in' the word. And on the next guess, he guesses a letter that is NOT in the word or phrase. If your kids are younger, it might be good to remind them each time if they are guessing a letter that is in the word or not in the word. If your kids are older, make it part of the game that they have to remember which they are guessing.

## 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. To make it easy, you can have the kids sing along to the lyric videos linked below.*

- [James 1:5](#) (A Kidtown Favorite!)
- [The Word Was God](#) (Current Key Passage Song)

## 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.*

### Tell the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Luke 2. Show the Bible story video [Jesus as a Child](#).

That was a pretty exciting story about Jesus when He was a kid! In this story, we get to see Jesus as a kid, what He was like and what His life was like! So, let's get into...

**Story Point #1! (Kids repeat, "Story Point #1!") Jesus and His parents went to Jerusalem for a huge party. (kids repeat).** God's people gathered in Jerusalem every year for the Passover feast. This was a huge party with worship and feasting to remember when God brought His people out of slavery in Egypt! Jesus was 12 years old when He and His parents went on this trip to Jerusalem. Do you remember our last family road trip? Wasn't it so fun to go to a new place? I bet Jesus and His family had a great time too. Until something not great happened:

**Story Point #2! (Kids repeat, "Story Point #2!"): Mary and Joseph accidentally left Jesus in Jerusalem. (kids repeat).** Jesus' family was traveling with a HUGE group of people. So, they didn't notice at first that Jesus wasn't with them. They had been walking for a full day when they realised that Jesus wasn't with them! How do you think they felt when they realized He wasn't with Him? That's right. They probably panicked. Just like I would panic if I couldn't find you. They went back to Jerusalem and searched everywhere for Jesus! They searched high and low all throughout the city. Finally they looked in the right place...

**Story Point #3! (Kids repeat, "Story Point #3!) Jesus's parents found him in the temple. (kids repeat)** Phew! How relieved do you think Jesus' parents felt when they found Him? But along with feeling relief, they were also amazed to find Jesus talking to the religious leaders and asking them questions. These were really smart, well-educated grown men. Everyone who heard Him was so surprised at how wise He was, even though He was very young. Jesus told His parents that they should have known He would be in His Father's house. Jesus wasn't being disrespectful. This was one of the many times that Jesus told people He was God's Son.

**Christ Connection! (Kids yell, "Christ Connection!") Jesus is God's one and only Son. (kids repeat)** While God has many kids in one sense, Jesus' relationship with God the Father is totally different. Jesus is God's one and only. His Beloved. Jesus has always lived in a perfect relationship with His Father. And that's what He came to earth to give to us! Jesus wants us to have a restored, perfect, loving relationship with God the Father like He does. He wants this for us so much that He was willing to die in the cross to pay for our sins and give it to us.

## RESPONSE TIME (15 minutes)

*The goal of this time is to discuss and apply what we learned from the Bible.*

### Discussion

What stood out to you from this story?

- *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- *Why did Mary and Joseph travel to Jerusalem each year? (for the Passover, Luke 2:41)*
- *Why do you think Jesus' understanding and wisdom were so surprising? Help kids understand that Jesus would have seemed like an ordinary 12-year-old just by looking at Him. Remind kids that Jesus is fully God and fully human. Jesus was able to understand and explain God's Word as One who had studied it for many years, despite His young age.*

Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?

- *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know and then tell your director afterwards.*
- *If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us at [kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com](mailto:kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com)*

**Main Application:** We can spend time talking about God's Word together just like Jesus did in the temple.

- Adults first then kids - Is it always easy to read and study God's Word?
- Adults first then kids - What makes it difficult to read Scripture?
- Adults first then kids - Who in our life needs to know about the perfect relationship with God that Jesus came to give us? We'll pray for them in a bit.

### Reflection

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

## 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 Small Group Time. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish 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.*

### Seek and find

Have your kids go find as many action figures, stuffed animals, or dolls as they can. Have your kids leave the room or face the wall and close their eyes while you hide their toys. Give your kids a big, loud countdown and then time them as they go find the figures. If time allows, hide the figures again while the rest of the group faces a wall and closes their eyes. Then play again.

Say • *Finding those people in the room wasn't easy, was it? And that was just in one room. Imagine looking for one person in a city of thousands of people! That's what Mary and Joseph had to do when they were looking for Jesus.*

## 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?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

### Pray For Jesus' Mission:

#### Questions to Ask (pick 1):

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

**Pray:** Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!