

# KIDTOWN GUIDE

## *for 2K-5K*

**DATE:** 3/29/20 - 4/4/20

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

**LESSON:** *Who Is This Child?*

## INTRO

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

So, we started to get into a routine of being at home. Maybe all of this change isn't so new anymore, or maybe it still feels kind of scary that there are a lot of things that are different right now. Either way, God is totally in control of everything, and it's important that we spend time with Him together as a family, so we're going to have our own "Kidtown" at home again! 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: Matching**

Get some colored construction paper and tape it to the ground or table. Go around the house finding things that match the color of each piece of paper. See who can find 5 items in each color the fastest, or make it more difficult by having a specific order that items must be found in.

### **Option 2: I-Spy**

Traditional game for kids of all ages! For a child who has never played, you can start by picking out a secret object within plain view and saying, "I Spy something blue." If there is only one child, then they can keep guessing until they get it right. If there are multiple children then they can take turns looking around and guessing. The first child who guesses correctly gets to spy something next.

## 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 suggest, but you can use any songs that you and your kids love!

- [He's Got the Whole World in His Hands](#)
- [Peace Like A River](#)

## 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 is Week 5 for this story when we have a story party. In Kidtown, this is typically a special snack (e.g. decorating cookies like a temple, animal crackers). Additionally, decorating or dressing up for story time is a great way to make this a special and memorable moment to help your kids remember this story!*

*Start by getting kids to tell the story to you before you read it, see what they remember from the past few weeks! Then it would be a great time to play a game of hide and seek and explain that Jesus's parents looked EVERYWHERE for Him and finally found Him in the temple. Then read through the story.*

### 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*

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

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: Act it Out

Pick two family members to act out what it might have been like when Mary and Joseph realized that Jesus wasn't with them. What might they have said? How might they have acted? How fast would they have run back to Jerusalem to look for Jesus?

### Option 2: Coloring Activity

Ask kids about their favorite part of the story. Give kids paper and crayons and have them draw a picture of their favorite part of the story. Have them show the picture to the family and retell that part of the story to everyone.

## 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."*