

KIDS' LIFEGROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 10/27/19 - 11/2/19

OVERVIEW:

- Part 1: Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- Part 2: Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- Part 3: Reflection And Prayer (10 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
- Part 4: Pray For The Mission (15 Minutes)

PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

Setting: Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids will help everyone engage and pay attention better. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

Vision: God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time think of any.

PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

Vision: God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

Lesson: Judah Taken Captive

Bible Passage: 2 Chronicles 36

REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
 - God/Jesus! (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
 - The people of Judah
 - The bad kings of Judah (insert names)
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**
 - Story Point #1:** The people in Judah were enslaved because of their sin.
 - Story Point #2:** God patiently warned the people of Judah but they would not listen.
 - Story Point #3:** God loved the people of Judah too much not to discipline them.
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**

Christ Connection: Like the people of Judah, we are enslaved because of our sin. But Jesus came to set us free!

Transition: That was awesome! Ya'll did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.

Leader Note: Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

Story Point #1: The people in Judah were enslaved because of their sin.

- Question: In the video, what did it say about how God's people treated His messengers and prophets?
- Teach: God doesn't tell us not to sin because He's trying to keep us away from the good stuff. He's trying to protect us because He loves us.
- Question: What do you think it means to be "enslaved" because of your sin?
- Teach: (Encourage any of their right answers then summarize:) For the people of Judah, they were literally captured and made slaves! For us, it means that sin has us caught in a trap and without Jesus, we can't get free from sin.
- What specific sins are you "enslaved" to? What are the hardest things for you to stop doing (Adults answer first... then let the kids answer.)

Story Point #2: God patiently warned Judah, but they would not listen.

- Question: Have you ever ignored a warning from your parent or someone else? What happened? (Let the kids answer and empathize with them when you can. “I know what that’s like.” “I remember a time when that happened to me...”)
- Question: Have you ever warned someone about something bad for them, but they didn’t listen? (Adults answer first) How did that make you feel?

Story Point #3: God loved Judah too much NOT to discipline them.

- Teach: Warning and discipline are God’s grace to us. Romans 1 says when God lets us keep sinning, that’s not grace. It’s actually His punishment.
- Question: Why was it loving for God to discipline Judah? (Otherwise, they might have thought life was better ignoring God and walked in more sin and pain.)
- How should we respond when God or our parents disciplines us? (Thankfulness. God and our parents care about us and want to help us grow. They know what’s best for us and what’s not... even when we don’t understand why!)

REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:

Christ Connection: Like Judah, we are enslaved to sin. But Jesus came to set His people free!

- Adults - how is that good news to you? Where have you seen Jesus help set you free from sin throughout your life?

Main Application(s): Sin enslaves us. Jesus sets us free.

- Adults first then Kids - When is it hardest for you to believe/remember that sin is not the good stuff?
 - How can you repent and grow in trusting that God knows what’s best?

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE:*

Ask any of the kids if they can remember the key passage. Help lead them through it leaving out words and see if they can fill them in.

If My people, who bear My name, humble themselves, pray and seek My face, and turn from their evil ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

PART 3: REFLECTION AND PRAYER (10 minutes)

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).

As well, have everyone (kids and adults) share an area in their life that they need God’s help. Have the person sitting to their right pray for them.

OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Bad King, Bad King, Good King

Instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Select a kid to start the game by walking around the outside of the circle, lightly tapping the other kids' heads one at a time. Each time she taps a kid, she will say "bad king." After a few taps, she may choose a kid by saying "good king" when tapping his head. The "good king" will then hop up and chase her around the circle. If he catches her, she will sit in the center of the circle. If she reaches his spot around the circle before he catches her, she is safe. The "good king" will now walk around tapping kids.

SAY • Judah had kings who trusted God and led His people to obey Him. However, most of Judah's kings were evil men who led the people away from God. After years of disobedience, God disciplined His people.

OPTION 2: "Mud" paint

Prepare various colors of "mud" paint by mixing washable tempera paint, flour, and water. Provide the kids with heavyweight paper, sponge brushes, and cups of water. You may choose to lay down drop cloths to protect floors. Use use smocks or oversized T-shirts to protect clothing, and have wet wipes on hand for cleanup.

SAY • That paint was a gloopy mess! But you made some beautiful pictures out of it anyway. In a way, that reminds us of God. Our sin makes a mess of our lives, but God can turn even the messiest situation into something beautiful for His glory and our good.

OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn't eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

PART 4: PRAY FOR THE MISSION (15 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

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?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

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!