

CITY LG- January 28th/29th

Bible Story: John the Baptist in prison • *Matthew 11:1-6 (Supporting: James 1:5)*

Bottom Line: When you don't know what God says, ask.

Memory Verse: "Your word is like a lamp for my feet. A light on my path." *Psalm 119:105 (NIV)*

Life App: Knowledge—learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

CG: Pre-Show

"Hello Parkview Kids, how are you doing today? *(Pause)* Well great to hear, my name is [Host's name] and welcome to the City. I'm super excited for you to be here with me and I hope you have a lot of fun today. Today we are going to start off the lesson with a game called Remote Control. Here is how you play.

Remote control is similar to red light, green light. Have all the kids line up on one side of the room and their goal is to be the first kid to the other side. However, you will call out different commands for them to follow. If a kid fails to follow all the host's instructions, they must go back to the beginning and start over. Have some leaders stand on each side and them referee the game.

Here are the commands

Fast Forward – Students run to finish line.

Rewind – Students move backwards.

Pause – Students freeze.

Slow Motion – Students move super slowly.

Power off – Students crouch down like an egg

Power on – Students stand up.

"This is our last day of our series called Brain Games. We have been looking at Knowledge. Yes, Knowledge. Now knowledge isn't just knowing a lot of stuff about school. Here is a definition of Knowledge.

CG: Knowledge Slide

"Knowledge is learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.' Say that with me. *(Repeat Slide).*"

"So knowledge isn't something you just get from school, knowledge is something you gain when you learn a new karate move. Or when you learn how to juggle. Or when you learn to play Minecraft for the first time. Those are all things where you LEARNED what to do and gained the KNOWLEDGE.

"Well today we are going to be learning about something really important. We are going to be looking at what we can do when we have a really big question for God. I mean REALLY BIG question. Like maybe what would Jesus do if he was bullied in school? Well, the Bible didn't say Jesus was bullied. So, does the Bible have anything to say about being bullied? Well, that is what today's story is all about."

SETTING UP THE STORY

“So we need to first review what has happen so far this month. We first looked at Jesus as a kid. We looked at how Jesus stayed at the temple asking the experts of the Bible, or the Rabbis, questions. Jesus was really, really smart. Then, after Jesus grew up, we saw John the Baptist baptize Jesus and God opened the sky and revealed that Jesus was his son. Then last week, we learned about Jesus in the wilderness and how Jesus resisted the temptations of the devil. In today’s story, John is in a bit of trouble and really needs to ask Jesus a really important question. So, find a place others won’t distract you and check out the video on the screen.

CG:252 Basic Story Video

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

“What a cool story. I don’t know about you, but it must have been really hard to be John. He went around doing the right thing only to get thrown in jail! I am sure if I was John I would be confused. I think that’s why John asked Jesus those questions, just to make sure he knew he was doing the right thing. The awesome thing was that Jesus answered his question.”

“Now what about us, how do we get our answer from Jesus? We can’t just ask Jesus a question face-to-face like John did. Well, here’s how we can ask God questions, it’s called prayer. Yes, prayer... that thing you do sometimes before you eat dinner. How many of you have ever heard of prayer before?
(Pause for response)

“Prayer is you talking to God; while the Bible is one way God talks back to us. Yeah, when we pray we can let God know that we are sorry for a sin, what we are thankful for, or ask for help. In fact, that last one, asking for help is our bottom line for this week.”

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “When you don’t know what God says, ask. Let’s say it together. (Repeat Slide).”

“Remember you can ask God for help with any question or help with anything. God might not answer the question right away, with the answer you want, or even the way you expect, but God is always listening. God loves to hear you pray because he cares about you and gets really excited when you ask really good questions.

Another thing you can do is read the Bible. I know that I said earlier that some our answers to questions can’t be found in the Bible, but the Bible has plenty of answers to almost every problem you might have. The Bible is God’s instructions of how we can be more like Jesus. Check out what our Memory Verse says.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“Your word is like a lamp for my feet. A light on my path.” *Psalm 119:105 (NIV)* Say that with me.
(Repeat Slide).

“The Bible can answer a lot of questions and help us know God better. The last thing you can do is ask an adult. Yeah, your small group leader. Some of them have been following Jesus for a long time and have a bunch of wisdom. Ask them a question and they might have the answer.”

“So, I asked at the beginning what would Jesus do if he were bullied. I am sure that the Bible teaches us to love our enemies and treat them with kindness.”

“Maybe someone in your family is sick and isn’t getting better. Rather than getting angry at God, we can instead turn towards God and pray to God that He would be here with us and help let us know that He loves us.”

“Or how about a harder one, maybe you have a really hard question about Jesus or the Holy Spirit. You looked everywhere in the Bible and you can’t find the answer anywhere. Well, you can pray that God would help give you the answer and would reveal the answer to you. These are all things you can do to ask God when you are unsure of an answer. Let’s pray.

Pray

“God, thank You for always being there. You’re never too busy, You answer us when we ask, when we need You, when we pray. Please make Your voice the loudest thing these kids hear this week, because when questions come and when hard times come and we turn to You, I know You’ll have an answer for us. Thank You for always loving us, God. We love You, too, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Dismiss children to their small groups.