

CITY LG- January 14th/15th

Bible Story: Jesus' baptism & John calls Jesus Lamb of God • *John 1:19-42 (Supporting: Matthew 3, Mark 1:1-11, Luke 3:1-22)*

Bottom Line: Discovering what God says helps you follow Jesus.

Memory Verse: "Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is like a light that guides me." *Psalms 119:105 (NIRV)*

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

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Worship leader: "Hey kids! We are so excited to be here to worship with you. So, stand up and let's get going!! Our first song is "Alive".

Great job!

Our 2nd song is our theme song for the month. It's about how God's love can move us to do some amazing things...it's Movin' Me."

Large Group:

"Hey Parkview kids, how are you doing today? My name is [Host's name] and welcome to the City. We are continuing our series called Brain Games. Have any of you heard about the game Pictionary? Well, that is a brain game because you use your brain to win. Well, we are going to play another brain game called ABCD.

CG: ABCD game

For leader: (You will have a list of questions on the screen with suggested answers underneath. You will have to read the questions and answers to the kids. In each corner will be the letters A B C D. If they think the answer is any of those, they will go to that corner. Give them about 10 seconds to run to their letter. After that give a cue to the tech booth to reveal the correct answer.)

"Like I said, we are talking about brain games. We have been looking at knowledge all month. I know that you KNOW all about knowledge, but here is a definition just in case you need a reminder."

CG: Knowledge Slide

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

"Knowledge isn't just going to school, in fact, knowledge is knowing more about anything. How many of you have ever ridden a bike before? If you were anything like me, you might have fallen on the bike a few times right? Well you probably got better and developed the knowledge to do better at it. That is what we are talking about when we are saying knowledge.

"In the same way we gain knowledge about God and Jesus as well. This is not just knowing it with your brain, but knowing it in your heart. You know what, maybe our Bible story can help clear up some things.

SETTING UP THE STORY

"If you can remember all the way back to last month, we looked at the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth.

If you weren't here, let me give you a brief summary. Zechariah was a priest, which means that he served God and taught others about God. An angel came to Zechariah and said he was going to have a son. Not just any son, but a son who would tell everyone about Jesus. Since, Zechariah didn't believe what God was saying, God shut his mouth and he couldn't speak until John was born.

"Well, that same John grew up and started to tell everyone that the Messiah was coming. He went around telling people to turn away from doing wrong and to get baptized. Something happens today that changed everything for John. So face towards the screens and check out today's videos.

CG: 252 Basic Story Video

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

"John did some pretty crazy stuff. I mean the guy ate bugs! Eww (*Give a look of Disgust*). However, he got to see something really special. John was able to hear God's voice. Imagine what was running through John's mind. God had just showed him that his cousin, Jesus, was the Savior, the messiah that God's people have been waiting for.

"Now, God might not talk to us audibly like he did to John, but we have something that John never had. Yes, we have the Bible. The Bible is all of God's instructions to us of how we are supposed to follow Jesus. You see, God wants us to be more like Jesus because Jesus made all the right decisions. So when you read the Bible, you are learning to be more like Jesus and make the right decisions. When you make the right decisions, you become wise and you can live a better life.

In fact, check out the Bible says about this exact thing.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

"Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is like a light that guides me." Psalm 119:105 (NIRV). Let's read that one more time (*Repeat Slide*).

"The Bible is the lamp that shows us where to go on our adventure with Jesus. It shows us the right and wrong ways to go. The more that you discover about God's word the more it can help you follow Jesus. That's what our bottom line is today."

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "Discovering what God says helps you follow Jesus. Can we say that together? (*Repeat Slide*)."

"So maybe you have someone in your class you really don't like because they are really mean to you. You want to know what Jesus would do for someone who doesn't like him? You could look in God's word in Matthew 5:39 and see that God doesn't want us to fight or hate that person. Instead, God wants us to forgive them and pray that they would start following Jesus."

"No question is too big and you can find just about anything in the Bible. If you can't find it, you can ask your parents or your small group leaders for help. They would love to help you any way they can. Let's pray."

Pray

“God, thanks for giving us Jesus, Your Son, to be our Rescuer, our Savior, the Lamb of God. Please help us to look for ways to hear what You say, to read what You say, and to talk about what You say so that we can learn to follow Jesus. This week, please help us to learn to follow Jesus even more closely than before. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Dismiss children to their small groups.