Alley Rundown—January 15th, 2023

Today's Bible Story: New Attitude (Jesus' Baptism) • *John 1:19-42; 3:22-36 (Matthew 3)*

Today's Key Question: When have you discovered something new?

Today's Bottom Line: When you discover something new, it can change you

Monthly Memory Verse: The LORD gives wisdom. Knowledge and understanding come from his

mouth. Proverbs 2:6 (NIrV)

CG: Dude Perfect Filler Videos

"Hello, everyone! So good to be together. I *definitely* learned a lot about our leaders in that game! Speaking of learning, how many of you have tried to learn something new? Yeah? Me too . . .

Share a personal story of learning something new, like an instrument. Focus on a time when you felt really confident in what you knew but then realized you had more to learn. Something like the following.

"Maybe some of you are learning how to play an instrument. Growing up I learned how to play the piano. I started in fourth grade. Of course, at first, it was pretty simple. I learned the basic notes and chords, where to put my fingers, and how to play easy songs on one hand. Soon enough, though, I started learning more difficult songs. For my sixth-grade spring recital, my teacher had me learn a SUPER challenging piece. She gave it to me in the fall, so I practiced that whole school year, and eventually I mastered each and every note. At the recital, I played with perfection! I thought I was the best piano player in the world . . . until the following fall when she gave me the piece, I'd be learning for my seventh-grade recital. More challenging, more notes, more intricate playing patterns . . . and this was pretty much how it went all throughout my time taking piano lessons. I always had a more difficult piece, more to practice, and more to learn.

"Has anyone had ever a situation like that? Anybody want to share?"

Allow for responses. Take one or two stories from the kids as time allows.

"Those are some great stories! Isn't it crazy how even when we think we know everything about what we're trying to learn, we can suddenly realize there's so much that we actually don't know, right? This happens when we learn an instrument or a new sport or even a new subject in school. But is this something that happens when it comes to our relationship with God?

"Have you ever wondered if you'll ever learn everything that can be known about God? God is so amazing, so wonderful, so vast, and so big, that we'll always be learning more about who God is and how God is working in the world. But if we'll never really know everything about God, why should we keep trying? What's the point in talking about God and learning more from our leaders here at church or our mom at home?

"That's a great question to figure out. Sometimes we can be overwhelmed by all there is to know about God that we figure it's not worth even trying. But the truth is learning about God, even if we'll never know everything, is really, really important. People throughout history—including those we read about in the Bible—have shown us that knowing God makes all the difference in the world! Let's find out more about that with the help of this week's Episode."

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:00)

"For John, he knew what was true about Jesus, and it changed his perspective on how he saw his own life. He understood where he fit in God's mission for the world and was willing to point others to Jesus.

"But did you also see what happened with his disciples? They didn't know who Jesus was yet.

When they had the opportunity to learn what was true about Jesus, that He is God's Son and the true Messiah, they became HIS followers. It changed THEIR lives completely. Now that they knew who Jesus was, they knew it was worth following Him.

"This is true for us, too. The more we learn about what God is doing in the world, the more we know our part in God's plan. The more we see what's true about Jesus, the more it will change our perspective and cause us to want to follow Jesus more and more. We'll find that Jesus can truly be trusted. We'll find ourselves willing to follow Him with our whole lives. So keep learning and growing in your faith in God. Discover how God can use you to point people to Jesus with what you know about living for Him."

"Today as you go to groups, think about this:

SLIDE: Key Question

"[Key Question] When have you discovered something new? When did what you discovered start to change the way you lived? Think about how this gives us a picture of what it means to also be a follower of Jesus. If you're not sure how you'd answer some of those questions, that's totally fine. You'll talk more about all of this with your Small Group. Before you head out, let's pray and thank God that we can be like the disciples in today's story. Let's thank God for inviting us to follow Jesus with everything we have! Let's pray!"

Dismiss students to their small groups after prayer, offering and SuperStart! Announcement.

OFFERING:

As some of you may already know, we are highlighting some of our Parkview Global Missionaries from the beautiful country of Mexico. Here is a picture of our Missionary Friends Eli and Mandy Garcia!

CG: Eli and Mandy

Parkview has spent many years developing a very important partnership with an organization called Vida Nueva Ministries in Mexico. This group has been working in many of the under-resourced areas to plant churches, start schools, and care for the amazing people of Mexico. Here's a picture of some of the kids at the school down in Mexico.

SLIDE: Kids at School (Image 6620)

So if you brought an offering today, you can bring it up now knowing that it is going to help a lot of people just like you in the great country of Mexico!

CG: SuperStart! Video Promo and Slide

"SuperStart! is coming up very soon and you won't want to miss this yearly event. It's an overnight event just for you- where you'll get to play games, eat, make new friends, and hear an awesome message about how much Jesus loves you. You'll receive a card with all the details on your way out. Sign up today!"