

KIDS Home Lessons

LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF THIS TIME TOGETHER!

October 11 | Matthew 22:1-14 | Parable of the Wedding Feast

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- The Gospel Project Curriculum intentionally shares the whole story of Bible with kids on their developmental level over a 3 year cycle. Your child will be introduced to **gospel centrality** as their lessons connect all the pieces from individual stories in the Bible to show the **one big story of God's plan to redeem people through Jesus**. Our heart beat is to share the gospel of Jesus over and over again in order to anchor God's one big story into the hearts of kids.
- Gospel-centered parenting helps your child see that Jesus Christ is perfecter and the transformer of you and your child. Our aim is not to modify our children's behavior by teaching the Bible as a collection of moral stories and rules about how to behave. Rather when our children see that every story in the Bible points back to Jesus, they understand Jesus is God's plan from the beginning to rescue people from sin and death! The gospel changes everything, including us.
- A **catechism** is simply a method of learning the truths about God and his gospel by asking questions which prompt answers. We encourage you and your children to memorize the catechisms shared along with the accompanying **Scripture** to build a storehouse of knowledge that the Holy Spirit can use to transform us to look more like Jesus.
- **Repeat, repeat, repeat:** Throughout the lesson, repeat the **Big Picture Question** and the **Christ Connection** to remind the kids of what they've learned and why it's important. Make it fun to make it stick.
- **Make it stick:** We do activities and games, ask questions and review to help the Bible story stick. This helps kids know how to apply what they are learning. The goal of this time is to give them a chance to practice what they learned and give them an opportunity to share.

BEFORE I TEACH

1

Read the Bible Story to prepare yourself. After you read, **ask yourself:**

- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- What did I learn about God (or myself) that was hard to hear?
- Did God reveal anything new to me in the passage?

Read the Christ Connection and **Big Picture Question**. After you read, **ask yourself:** *Why does this matter for the kids?* Jot down your answer in a journal, and pray the Holy Spirit would give you insight to know what truths about God your child needs to hear today.

MEMORIZE

2

- **Catechism**
 - YOU ASK: **Who were our first parents?**
 - THEY ANSWER: Adam and Eve
- **Scripture Verse**
 - **Acts 17:26a** "And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth."

STORY & WORSHIP

3

- **Bible Story** | Help kids see that the Bible is true and it's full of stories that help us know God and trust Jesus.
 - Watch the video lesson provided on the website!
- Review the Big Picture Question and the Christ Connection after the story.
 - **Big Picture Question:** Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven? Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven, but few will choose to come.
 - **Christ Connection:** Salvation is a free gift. We can't earn our way into heaven. Jesus did all the work when He died for our sins on the cross. This story reminds us that we need to be clothed in Christ's righteousness. Jesus invites us to join Him in heaven—the great wedding feast. When we receive His invitation, Jesus gets us ready by clothing us in His righteousness.
- **Say** • How do we respond to this good news we just heard? **We worship God!**
 - Use the videos on the website to sing, dance and worship God together.

TALK ABOUT THE STORY

4

- **PRE-K:**
 - Who was getting married? (the king's son)
 - To whom did the servants go first? (the people who were invited to the feast)
 - Did the guests come to the feast with the servants? (No! One guest went to his farm, another went to his work, and some guests were mean to the servants.)
 - Who did the king tell the servants to invite next? (everyone they could find in the streets)
 - Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven? Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven.
 - **Say** • Heaven is like a great wedding feast, and Jesus invites everyone to come. Jesus makes a place for people who say yes to His invitation, and they can be with Him forever.
- **1ST-2ND GRADE:**
 - Did the original guests invited to the king's feast attend? (No, they refused to attend, Matthew 22:3,5)
 - What did some of the original guests do to the king's servants? (captured them and killed them, Matthew 22:6)
 - Where did the servants find guests to come to the king's banquet? (from the streets outside the city, Matthew 22:9-10)
 - Why was one man thrown out of the wedding feast? (He was not wearing wedding clothes, Matthew 22:11-12)
 - Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven? Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven, but few will choose to come.
- **3RD-5TH GRADE:**
 - What type of party did the king have for his son? (a wedding feast, Matt. 22:2)
 - What did the invited guests say when the feast was ready? (They said they did not want to come, Matt. 22:3)
 - How did the invited guests treat the king's servants? (They ignored the servants or killed them; Matt. 22:5-6)
 - Whom did the king tell the servants to invite to the feast? (Everyone they could find, both evil and good; Matt. 22:9-10)
 - What was wrong with the man who came to the banquet? (He was not dressed for a wedding, Matt. 22:11-12)
 - Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven? Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven, but few will choose to come.
 - **Say** • Salvation is a free gift. We can't earn our way into heaven. Jesus did all the work when He died for our sins on the cross. When we receive His invitation, Jesus gets us ready by clothing us in His righteousness. Jesus invites us to join Him in heaven—the great wedding feast.

MAKE IT STICK

5

- **Activity for PREK:** Make invitations
 - Provide paper, envelopes, stickers, crayons, markers, ribbons, stencils, gems, pom-poms, glue, glitter, and so forth. Allow the children to use the materials to design a beautiful invitation to a fancy feast. If time permits, you may guide kids to set the table for a feast using toy dishes and toy food.
 - **Say** • The king sent his servants to tell his guests, “The feast is ready is ready! The king is serving his best food!” Did the guests come with the servants? No, they thought they had better things to do. **Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven?** Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven. Is there anything better than being part of God’s kingdom? No, there is nothing better than loving God and others!
- **Activity for 1ST-2ND GRADE:** Dress up relay
 - Distribute dress-up clothing evenly between the baskets and place the baskets on one side of the room. Use masking tape to make a starting line at the opposite side of the room. Form teams, and invite teams to line up single file behind the starting line. Children should listen for the signal to go. The first kid from each team will run to the basket, put on a clothing item, and run back to the end of the line. The next child in line then takes a turn, and so on. Once all the children from one team have put on clothing items, the whole team says the big picture question and answer together. The first team to say the question and answer wins.
 - **Say** • In the parable that Jesus told, a man was thrown out of the wedding feast because he was not wearing the right clothes. The man in the wrong clothes reminds us that the only way into the kingdom of heaven is through Jesus! **Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven?** Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven, but few will choose to come.
- **Activity for 3RD-5TH GRADE:** Clothed in righteousness | Write the following letters on separate sticky notes: I, S, A, I, A, H. On another sticky note, write 61:10. Hide the sticky notes around the room. Challenge the kids to find the seven hidden sticky notes. Then kids should work together to rearrange the letters and discover the Bible verse reference. Instruct a volunteer to find the verse in the Bible and read it aloud. Ask kids what this verse reminds them of in today’s Bible story. (the wedding clothes) **Say** • Salvation is a free gift. We can’t earn our way into heaven. Jesus did all the work when He died for our sins on the cross. When we receive Jesus’ invitation, Jesus gets us ready by clothing us in His righteousness. Jesus invites us to join Him in heaven—the great wedding feast. **Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven?** Everyone is invited to the kingdom of heaven, but few will choose to come.

LET'S PRAY

6

- Encourage kids that **Jesus hears them** any time they are talking to him! This is a great way to grow closer to your children and to hear their heart. Ask Jesus to help you believe and do what you've learned together.
- **Praying Together:**
 - Start a family journal where you can remember together what you are learning, what you and your children are praying for and praising God for
 - Ask your children for one thing they want to thank or praise God for and one way they want God's help so you can pray about that together.
 - Preschoolers can learn how to pray by repeating small phrases after you as you pray aloud.
 - Visit our Family Resources page for more ideas!



BONUS!

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they know what the word "gospel" means. Clarify that the word gospel means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.

- **God rules.** Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.
- **We sinned.** Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)
- **God provided.** Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.
- **Jesus gives.** Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.
- **We respond.** Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.