

Kids Games 2016 Teaching

Colossians 3:2-3

God's mysterious plan is Christ himself. In him lie hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge

Teaching focuses on encountering Jesus, in whom all God's wonderful treasures are hidden. *When we are friends with Jesus,*

1. We are never the same again
2. He is always with us
3. He loves to give good gifts
4. We have the Greatest Treasure (to share)!

TREASURE ONE - New Identity

K-2: Kelly J

3-6: Jimmy B

Learning Intention: When we are friends with Jesus, we are never the same again

Bible Character: Saul to Paul (Acts 9)

Teaching Strategy: The Jesus Story Book Bible (p332-338) and Video

Content:

Explaining that Saul was never the same again once he encountered Jesus

- We are going to meet someone who met Jesus. The real alive Jesus and they changed so much that they got a new name.
 - Introduce how names can have a special meaning. Share a couple or get kids to share a couple
 - Saul:
 - thought that to be right with God, you had to do all the right things and **follow the rules**.
 - good family, good education, good at obeying all the rules. But he was also **boastful** and **mean** to people who he didn't think obeyed the rules properly..
 - he thought the people who were following Jesus were just stupid. I mean he died didn't he? The Romans killed him. He didn't think Jesus was God's son
 - Share story on the road to Damascus using the story book pictures (or video)
 - Jesus stopped Saul's eyes from seeing for 3 days, so he could learn to see in a new way.
 - He realised all the things Jesus said about himself were true. He is God's son. He is not dead, but alive. And he had done everything right, to free us from always having to be right.
- Lucky, cos Saul himself had got an awful lot of things wrong about Jesus and hurt some of Jesus' followers
- After he met Jesus, he realised it was not about what he does, but what Jesus has done- died and rose again!
 - So now he didn't want to boast about himself anymore. He only wanted to tell everyone how amazing Jesus is.
 - So he changed his name to Paul, which means small or humble (the opposite of boastful!)
 - See how he explained things later to his friends:

"Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish!" Eph 2:8-9 (Message Bible)

In small groups: Kids will be sorting the story card pictures and comparing Saul and Paul using these words. It would be worth using them in the story so small group builds up on it:

Saul – Paul
Mean- Grateful
Boastful - Humble
About the rules – About Jesus being alive
Hurting people- Telling people about Jesus

TREASURE TWO- Best Friends Forever

K-2: Louie Z **3-6:** Ben R

Learning Intention: When we are friends with Jesus, He is always with us

Bible Character: Peter (John 14 and Acts 2)

Teaching Strategy: Peter Soliloquy (After he has just heard Jesus is leaving compared to after he has received His Spirit just like Jesus promised)

Content:

Peter realised that when we are friends with Jesus, he is always with us so we don't have to be afraid.

- Peter was one of Jesus' best friends. He was one of the first disciples to start following Jesus.
- You may want to review some things the children might know about Peter on whiteboard or through slides from events in storybook bible.
eg fisherman
 - brave - tried to walk on water to Jesus
 - Had Jesus stay in his house in Capernaum where a man came through the roof and got healed.
 - Was the first one to say Jesus was the Messiah - the one God had promised to send.
 - Not so brave when Jesus wasn't around - ran away and denied he knew Jesus 3 times when Jesus was arrested.
- One day while they were all eating together (last supper), Jesus told the disciples that he would soon be going away. (John 13:33)
- How do you think that would have made Peter feel? (go to first Peter monologue)
- Peter was worried. What would he do without Jesus? Why can't he go too? (v37).
- But Jesus said "Don't worry. I won't leave you alone, I'm sending you my Spirit to be with you always. So you won't be lonely." Jesus told them so that they would know when it happened that everything he was saying is true.
- Worth emphasizing that Holy Spirit is Jesus' Spirit.
- John 16: 7-15 What does the Holy Spirit do?

Teacher
Comforter
Never leaves
tells the truth
gives peace
FRIEND

- It happened exactly how Jesus said. He was arrested. And he did die. Everyone was very sad. But on the third day, Jesus came alive again, just as he said he would. That's what we celebrate at Easter time. Jesus did leave though, just as he said and returned to Father God in heaven
- Then Peter and his friends waited until one special day Jesus sent the friend he had been talking about (cut to next monologue)
- Peter wasn't afraid anymore, and he wanted to tell everyone that Jesus is ALIVE. And that he is God's son, the Rescuer.
- He remembered what Jesus had said before he left -
"Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Mat 28:16
- So everyone who trusts in Jesus and believes that he was sent from God receives His Spirit, just like the disciples did. So just like Peter we know that Jesus never leaves us alone. He is always with us. He is our Forever Friend.
- Activation ?

TREASURE THREE- Good Gifts

K-2: Julie S

3-6: Josh R

Learning Intention: When we are friends with Jesus, He loves to give us good gifts

Bible Character: Bartimaeus aka Blind Bart (Mark 10:46-52)

Teaching Strategy: Puppet Drama on Video

Content:

God loves to give good gifts to His children. Jesus will always help us.

Bart found out that he can boldly ask Jesus for what he needs - and finds the greatest treasure in following Jesus.

- Best told as a story, stopping and making points along the way:

v 46 Jesus and the disciples are on the way to Jerusalem for the Passover. They are with a big crowd that are all going there. Its a bit like everybody going to the Easter show, walking up from the station or the buses in a big happy crowd.

One person was left out of the celebrations.

Bart was blind and he made his living by sitting by the side of the road and begging. He would spread his cloak out in front of him, sit on the ground and hope that people would toss coins (we have bought some for a prop if you need it) in as they walked past.

v47 B. hears the big crowd going past him and asks why there are so many people all at once. They said, 'Its Jesus of Nazareth! We are all going up to Jerusalem with him for the passover.' Now Bart had heard of Jesus. He'd been teaching people all around the country side- and healing people with all sorts of illnesses. Suddenly a hope welled up in Bart. Maybe Jesus would heal me too! I've heard that he is kind, I've heard that he is powerful. I wonder if he would be bothered with me.

So he shouted out - Have mercy on me Jesus!

v48 When they heard him, the crowd around Jesus told him to be quiet. Don't bother Jesus - can't you see he's busy? He's on the way to the big city. You are just one person in this whole crowd, why would he bother with you? Bart was full of hope however and didn't listen and kept shouting loudly.

v49. Jesus heard him and stopped. And he.... Tell him to be quiet? No, he calls him over! Jesus had time for Bart, and Jesus has time for us.

The people around said "Cheer up! Come on, he's calling you!" B. throws his cloak away and hurries to Jesus.

v 51 Jesus asks what He can do for him and Bart asks to see.

v 52 Jesus says - your faith has healed you.

Immediately Bart was healed. And he followed Jesus along the road.

- Bart was bold to ask when other people said that Jesus was too busy or he was not important enough. Jesus shows God loves to give good things to us.
- What would have happened if he didn't ask? (cf James 4 - you have not because you ask not)
- He found that Jesus was willing and able to heal him.
- He threw away his cloak when Jesus called him and followed Jesus - the greatest treasure.
- So God loves us to ask for what we need (Matt 7:7)
- Jesus has time for Bart, and he has time for us. Jesus cared for Bart and he cares for us. Jesus cared about what Bart cared about, and it's the same for us.
 - He has already given us Jesus and happy to add all the resources of heaven. God's resources never run out (Romans 8)

TREASURE FOUR- The Greatest Treasure

K-2: Lara W

3-6: Sophie W

Learning Intention: When we are friends with Jesus, we have the greatest treasure (to share!)

Bible Character: Women at the Well (John 4)

Teaching Strategy: Storytelling?

Content:

Review of the other treasure through the story of the Women at the Well, who was one of Jesus' greatest treasure!

- Jesus: If only you knew who I was, and how ready I am to give you the greatest treasure.
- Jesus is the only treasure that doesn't run out. V 14
- His job of loving us is more important than anything else v33
- Jesus showed the women that she was KNOWN, ACCEPTED, and HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO FIND HER
- Jesus knows us, accepts us, and He went out of His way (all the way from heaven) to find and rescue us.
- When he finds us, we find the greatest treasure.
- In a big crowd, he doesn't miss you. He doesn't miss anyone.
 - This treasure is too good to keep to ourselves, we can share the message that we are all Jesus' greatest treasure! And he can be ours if we choose.
 - Also important is what happened next. The woman ran back to her town to tell everyone about amazing Jesus. He fills us with so much of his life and his blessings that they overflow to the people around us. Its just too good to keep to ourselves.
 - so recap of the week:
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All the blessings God has in mind for us as a good Father we get by meeting and trusting in Jesus. When we meet him and believe his good news - that God loves us and that Jesus is the rescuer who can bring us home to our father God - then things happen!

1. We are changed - we know that the most important thing now is not how good we are, but what Jesus has done for us.

2. We get Jesus' own spirit to live with us in our hearts
3. we can ask God for the things we need because he loves to give us good gifts
4. we understand that our friendship with Jesus is the greatest treasure.

Jesus came all the way from heaven to meet us because God was looking for treasure too. God's treasure is his children. You are HIS greatest treasure - and he wants you back.

That's why Jesus came. To show us just how much God loves us, by dying on the cross for us, paying the price to win God's treasure back - YOU.