

MD KIDS CURRICULUM: LUKE

Week 11: Cost of Discipleship (from Luke 9: 57-62)

To the Teacher:

This week's lesson is a difficult one, not just for kids but for adults too! It is hard to imagine Jesus asking someone not to say goodbye to their family or to take the time to bury their father. As you prepare for this lesson pray that God would give you insight into these difficult verses and that He would fill your heart with compassion for the kids who may have trouble making sense of this story. Ultimately we want the kids to understand that what Jesus is calling people to give up are the things that they are not able to keep in this life and what He is offering them are the things that they will not lose for all of eternity.

Big Idea and Missio Basic: To follow Jesus means to seek God's Kingdom and give up things in the world. But because God is great, we can trust Him.

Starter Ideas: You may choose to set up all or some of these activity centers for the children to play with or do as they arrive. Help children with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

1. Birds have a nest: Set out the coloring page (last page of this lesson) and have the kids color the birds nest, draw clouds in the sky. Next have the kids place bird stickers in the nest. As the kids color, talk to them about the birds having a home to keep them safe and go back to every night but Jesus did not have a home to go to.
2. Free Play: Allow the kids to play with the classroom toys. (dolls, basketball, cars, tea party set, dress up, etc)
3. Use play dough to make animals. As the kids make the animals, ask them where those animals live. In the ocean? In a tree? In the ground? In a house with people?

Circle Time: When all the kids have arrived and have had time to participate in at least one center, walk around the room and have each child follow you around the circle until you have a line with everyone in it. Lead them to the circle for prayer time. (Like playing follow the leader.)

Welcome Song: (To the tune of "Are You Sleeping?")

Welcome, [Name]
Welcome, [Name]
Hear God's Word
Hear God's Word

We can trust in Jesus.

We can trust in Jesus.

Welcome, friends.

Welcome, friends.

Repeat until every kid and adult has been welcomed.

Jesus taught us to share peace. We share peace in a special way by repeating Jesus' special words. Jesus used these words of peace when the disciples were scared. Jesus said, "Peace be with you." We share the peace of Jesus. During worship we can say, "Peace be with you."

Make sure kids are sitting in a circle on the floor. Kneel down in front of each person/kid and share God's peace by shaking their hand and saying, "Peace be with you." Remember to honor those kids who do not want to be touched!

Let's all say Jesus' words of peace. "Peace be with you." Repeat a few times before moving on to prayer.

Prayer Time:

Praying for Others: Ask the kids if they have anything that they would like to have prayed for. Share requests and then have someone pray for them.

Remind the kids to pray for friends throughout the week.

Praying Together: *Dear Jesus, often times following You can be difficult. Please help us to hear Your words, to believe them, and to live our lives the way that they tell us to live. Forgive us of the times when we do not listen to or obey you and comfort us when we are hurt by the things of this world. We love You and we trust that You always do what is good, right, and beautiful. Amen.*

Story: from Luke 9: 57-62

[READ]

One day Jesus and his disciples were walking along a road when a man came up to them. He said, "Jesus, I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus wanted the man to understand what his life would be like if he followed Jesus. Jesus said to the man, "Do you see how the foxes and other wild animals have dens where they can sleep? And do you see how even the birds have nests that they can go to at night? Unlike them I must keep traveling to tell people about God's Kingdom. I live without very many belongings because caring for them would take too much time and I will never have one place where I can go to lie down. If you follow Me that is what your life will be like too."

Then Jesus asked another person who was close by to follow Him. The man said, "Lord, my father has died. Please let me bury him before I follow you." Jesus said to the man, "Let the people who do not love God and are not doing His work take care of people that are already dead. It is important that you tell people about God's Kingdom right now while they are still alive!"

While they were still walking one more person came up to Jesus. They said to Him, "Lord I will follow you but please let me go back to my family first so that I can tell them goodbye." Jesus said to them, "God is your Father and it is time for you to do the work that He has for you. If you decide to go back to your old life, even for a little bit, then you will not be able to do what God wants you to do."

[Reflection]

1. Being a disciple of Jesus is not easy, He asks us to give up many things. For Jesus it meant not always having a place to sleep. Ask the kids "Where do foxes sleep?," (*in dens*) "Where do birds sleep?," (*in nests*) "Did Jesus have a home to go back to every night?" (*No. Because he traveled around from town to town sharing about the good news of the Kingdom.*)
2. Jesus wants us to remember that doing what God wants us to do is most important. Some times it can be scary but God is great and can be trusted.

Snack Time: Let's take a big stretch! Pause for kids to stretch and get the wiggles out. Clean the table for snack time. Help the kids wash hands together before delving into today's snack. Sing songs while you wash hands. You can give them each a wipe or a squirt of hand sanitizer. Have the children have a seat at the table. Today's snack is goldfish or veggie straws. Make sure none of the kids have an allergy to them. Begin passing out the napkins, goldfish or veggie straws, and cups of water.

BLESS Activity:

For kids to do during the week

*Take time this week to **Listen** to his words by asking your parents to read the Bible with you. Practice **Speaking** what was read back to your parents by retelling what they read.*

Optional playground time: If you have extra time please feel free to take the kids to the playground. Please be mindful that preschool playground time does not start until 5:30PM.

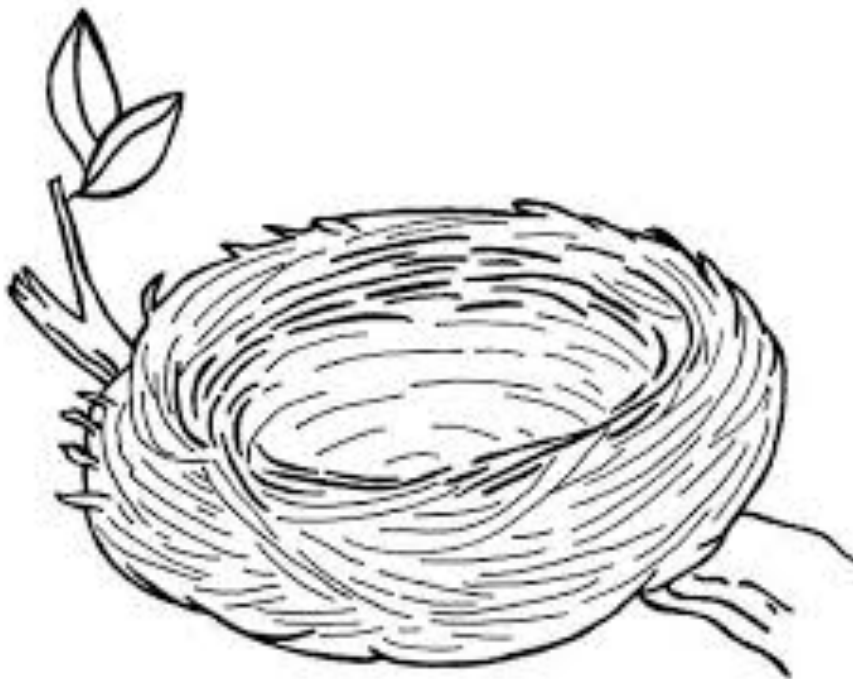
Closing Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for your word, The Bible.

Thank you that Jesus called people to follow him and sometimes that meant giving up things we love. But we love you most God and trust you.

Thank you God, Jesus and Holy Spirit.



Birds have a nest, foxes have a den...but Jesus
has nowhere to lay his head.

Luke 9