

# MD KIDS CURRICULUM: LUKE

## Week 19: The Coming of the Kingdom (from Luke 17:20-37)

### To the Teacher:

This week you have the great task of explaining some of Jesus' most often misunderstood words to children. Please be in prayer. We pray with you that the Spirit will move and speak through you and open the children to understanding. Moreover, we pray this text will not just be informative, but will help us adults and children alike to open our eyes to the Kingdom of God.

- **Big Idea:** Jesus will return and bring God's Kingdom fully to earth... and he wants us to be part of it!
- **Question:** Can you think of a time it is good to destroy something?
- **Starter:** 'Destruction for Reconstruction'  
Before class starts, build any object with legos or other blocks. Once class has begun, ask the kids to use those same blocks to build a new object. For example, you may have built a house out of the blocks, but you want them to reuse them to build a tower. Once they've finished, ask them what their first step was. They may talk about building the foundation or coming up with a design plan, but reveal to them their first step was to tear down the first object in order to reuse the bricks. In the same way, Jesus must tear down the structures of this world in order to rebuild the Kingdom of God.
- **Story:** from Luke 17:20-37  
*[READ]*  
The Pharisees were asking Jesus when the kingdom of God would come, so he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming with something you can see. No one will say, 'Here it is!' or 'Look over there!' Because you see, the kingdom of God is in the midst of God's people."

Then he told his disciples, "The time is coming when you will want to see the Son of Man, but you won't. People will tell you, 'There he is!' or 'Here he is!' Don't follow or run after them. The Son of Man will be like lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. You'll know it when you see him! But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

"The days of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah: People went on eating, drinking, marrying, and living life until the day Noah boarded

the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all. It was the same in the days of Lot: People went on eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building. But on the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all.

“It will be like that on the day the Son of Man is revealed. On that day, a man must not rush to gather his belongings from his house. The man in the field must not turn back. Remember Lot’s wife! Whoever tries to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. I tell you, on that night two will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other will be left. Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left.”

“Where will they be taken, Lord?” they asked him. He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there also the vultures will be gathered.”

*[Things to Point Out]*

- What did Jesus mean by saying we can’t see the kingdom come, because it’s within His people? (*not just inside you individually, but within the Church*)
- Why did Jesus talk about looking for the Son of Man when he was asked about God’s kingdom?
  - ▶ Hint: Jesus referred to himself when he said, ‘Son of Man’.
  - ▶ You can’t talk about the kingdom without talking about the King!
- Jesus said when he, the King, returns to bring the kingdom it will be like when the flood came or when fire destroyed the city of Sodom.
  - ▶ First, nobody expected those things to happen. They were living normal lives when God did something to stop life as they knew it!
  - ▶ Second, both of those events were ones of destruction. Yet, they were also a restart - the flood wiped out most of the planet but it cleansed it and made way for new life to grow.
- When Jesus returns he will wipe out what is not of his kingdom and rebuild the kingdom of God here on earth!
  - ▶ Don’t try to hold onto the old things that will be destroyed, but look ahead to God’s kingdom coming!
  - ▶ What are some of the things outside of God’s kingdom that you try to hold onto?
- Many people think the ones taken away at the end of the story are ‘raptured’ up into heaven. This doesn’t seem to be what Jesus is saying at all...

- ▶ When his disciples ask where they will be taken his response is of a corpse and vultures; death. They are the ones taken by the destruction of all things not part of God's kingdom.
- ▶ It is the ones who are 'left behind' who survive the destruction and remain for the reconstruction of the kingdom on earth!
- ▶ How can we be part of God's kingdom? *By following the King, Jesus!*

• **Prayer:**

King Jesus, we want your kingdom to come! We want to live forever with you as our King! Please help our hearts to let go of the things that do not belong in your kingdom so that we can enter into your presence. Amen.

• **Craft:**

- DIY Binoculars using two toilet paper rolls, some tape, and string (*for searching for the kingdom*):  
<https://artscrackers.com/2015/08/17/themed-playdate-games-craft-tutorial-free-printable/>



- OR Create a Kingdom of God flag. Just like a flag would be carried by people into battle to represent their land and their king, this craft reminds our kids they are part of God's kingdom and represent Him. Use a straw or popsicle stick, glue a small (4x6) piece of paper to the top and allow kids to decorate the flag however they think it will best represent Jesus and his kingdom.
- There is also a coloring sheet attached

• **BLESS Activity:**

*\*For kids to do during the week\**

**SPEAK:** Who do you know who needs to hear about the kingdom of God? Do you know someone searching for something to make them happy?

Speak to them this week about God's love and how good His kingdom is, and that Jesus wants to welcome them into it!

Invite them to be around your friends who know Jesus, so they see the kingdom of God at work in our midst!

