3's and PreK

(RE)SET

DATE(S)

Feb 28/March 1, 2009

LESSON TITLE

Week 2

OBJECTIVE

Kids will discover that Jesus did surprising things and how that's a good thing.

BIBLE STORY

Levi's banquet: Luke 5:29-32
Then Levi gave a huge dinner for Jesus at his house. A large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. But the Pharisees and their teachers of the law complained to Jesus' disciples. They said, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" Jesus answered them, "Those who are healthy don't need a doctor. Sick people do. I have not come to get those who think they are right with God to follow me. I have come to get sinners to turn away from their sins."

TIPS/SCHEDULE

3's – PreK: Oakley
Saturday
5:30 – Free time
5:40 – Large group in Pod
6:00 – Small Group

Sunday
8:30; 10:00; 11:45 – Free time
8:40; 10:15; 12:00 – Large Group in Pod
9:00; 11:35; 12:20 – Small Group

3's – PreK: Mason
Mason Sunday
9:00; 10:30 – Free time
9:10; 10:40 – Large Group
9:30; 11:00 – Small Group

LEADER PREP

Jesus often did unexpected things--amazing displays of grace and mercy that always seemed to surprise some people and make others mad. Some were changed forever by these unexpected acts, but others...not so much.

We're going to be exploring the story of Levi and the banquet he threw for Jesus--a great example of Jesus doing surprising things. This is a great display of God's grace and is a reminder of how much mercy God extends to us. Receive God's grace this week and extend it to others. Pray that the kids in your class come to receive God's grace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Knock Knock
Who's there?
Who
Who who?
Is there an owl in here?

Did you know...?

Pigs get sunburned...
You have to play ping-pong for 12 hours to lose one pound

DAILY BREAKOUT

CHECKIN / CHECKOUT

As parents pick up their children, take a moment to pass along something special you noticed about their child (no matter how "small" it might seem).

Explain to them that each child has some special Jesus glasses to help us see people like Jesus did. Make sure they get a parent page, too.

LARGE GROUP HEADS UP

We're going to be opening some surprise boxes that will help tell the story of Levi and the banquet he threw for Jesus and some friends. Ultimately we're going to be learning that Jesus does surprising things. He looks at people with love and we can look at people like Jesus does.

SMALL GROUP

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

QUESTIONS

1) Whose house did Jesus go to for a party?
(Levi)

2) Why did some people get upset with Jesus for going to Levi's house?
(They didn't like Levi; they thought Jesus shouldn't hang out with a person like Levi or Levi's friends;l Levi had taken money from them)

3) How did Jesus surprise people while he was at Levi's party?
(Jesus showed love and kindness to Levi and Levi's friends; He looked at Levi with love and he wanted Levi to know what God is like)

4) How can we show love to others, like Jesus does?
(invite someone to play with me; when someone is mean to me I can choose to not be mean back; I can remember that Jesus loves everyone; etc.)

STUFF TO DO, SO THINGS AREN'T BORING

ACTIVITIES

Part 1
Today we're going to put on our "Jesus Glasses". Each child will receive a pair of glasses (to keep and take home) and we will practice looking at others the way Jesus would look at them--through Jesus' eyes.

When we look at someone like Jesus would, it's surprising, because it's not the normal way of looking at someone. It helps us treat someone the way Jesus would treat them.

Lead kids to decorate their glasses with stickers, foamies and yarn. As they decorate their glasses, talk about how Jesus looked at Levi--he saw what other people couldn't see. Encourage them to surprise other people by looking at other people the way Jesus would, treating them the way Jesus would treat them.

NOTE: Make sure kids understand that they don't have to have their glasses on to see people like Jesus sees them--they can see people like Jesus does anytime.

Part 2
Use the following pictures and talk about how we might look at these people w/our Jesus glasses:
- kid who fell off their bike
- kid that is crying/sad
- kid that is making a mean face
- kid that is alone/separate from the group

DAILY BREAKOUT CONT'D

SMALL GROUP

Play the 'Name Game'
(OPTIONAL IF TIME PERMITS)
It is best to play the 'Name Game' in smaller groups at your tables so that kids don't feel embarrassed to speak in front of a larger group. You may want to play it prior to going into Large Group as a way to prepare the kids for the rest of the hour.

Here's how to play:

Gather kids together in a group.

Explain the game to the kids and tell them there are two reasons we play it:
1. We want them to know that God knows each of us by name (we are special to God)
2. To help us learn each others' names

A volunteer leads the game and begins by pointing to a child. The child says his/her name. Then the entire group says "Jesus loves _____!" Then, the volunteer points to the next child.

Continue around the circle or table until every kid has a chance to say his or her name and hear that Jesus loves him! When the kids are finished, make sure you include the volunteers.

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITY

LARGE GROUP SCRIPT

SPECIAL NOTES

Place your boxes in order so you can move from one to the other easily.

Arrive to the large group area a little early to make sure all of the needed props are present.

PRESENTER TIPS

Move around on stage as you lead the songs. You can even move out into the audience from time to time. Kids love when you smile at them, so make sure you're smiling as you're singing and leading motions for the songs. Also make lots of eye contact!

SCRIPT

Presenter: Hi kids! Welcome to Kids' Club! I'm _____ (insert your name) and I'm soooooo glad you're here today. We're going to do some surprising things together, but I can't tell you what they are just yet...It's a surprise!

Before we do some of those surprising things, we need to go over our Kids' Club code word. Can anyone tell me what this letter is.....? (Go through each letter of NORP with the kids, spending no more than 15 seconds on each letter)

No talking out of turn
Obey your leaders
Respect others and their things
Put things back where you found them

(Presenter should turn away from the kids and put on a funny mask. Turn around quickly and surprise the kids with your mask!)
Have you ever been surprised by someone or something? Maybe someone like your brother or sister was hiding behind a door and jumped out and scared you. That would definitely be surprising (and maybe a little scary, too)!?! Maybe someone gave you a gift that you didn't expect to receive and you were surprised to get it. Have you ever been to a surprise birthday party? A surprise birthday party is when everyone meets somewhere to have a birthday party for someone but the birthday boy or girl doesn't know they're having a party. When the birthday boy or girl walks in the room, everyone yells, "SURPRISE"! Surprise parties are a lot of fun!

Today we're going to discover how Jesus did surprising things--things that no one expected him to do. (hold up Bible for kids to see) The Bible tells about a surprising thing Jesus did, and speaking of birthday parties, one of the surprising things Jesus did was at a party.

SCRIPT CONT'D

At parties you sometimes have these (Hold up one of the boxes wrapped as a present). One of my favorite parts of a party is discovering what's inside these boxes. It's always a surprise and it's fun to watch the people at the party when the boxes are opened.

Inside each of these boxes is a clue that will help us discover some of the surprising things that Jesus did at a party he went to. Let's open the first box and see what's inside...

(open box # 1 and pull out the coins inside)
Who can tell me what these are? (pause for responses) That's right. These are coins. You can buy things with these coins. These coins remind us of Levi, the man who threw the party that Jesus attended. Jesus first met Levi when he was sitting at a booth on the side of the road, collecting money from people for taxes. Not many people liked Levi because he would take extra money--more money than he needed to take. Jesus surprised people by being kind and showing love to Levi. Remember, most people didn't like Levi. Like Jesus, we can surprise someone by treating them with kindness even if they don't deserve it.

(open box # 2 and pull out the party hat and noise maker inside)
Whoa! What are these fun things? You might find these at a party. After Jesus met Levi, Levi had a party at his house and he invited all of his friends and he also invited Jesus. Levi's friends were people who were mean and they usually didn't get invited to parties. It might surprise you that Jesus liked to have fun, just like you and me, and he also liked to be with people, especially people who needed to know what God is like. Jesus was a lot of fun to be around and he looked at people the way God looks at people--with lots of love!

(open box # 3 and pull out the plate inside)
What is this? (pause for responses) Yeah, this is a plate. At Levi's party, Jesus and Levi ate a meal together and this made some people really mad. The people that didn't like Levi thought that Jesus shouldn't be a friend to Levi and he definitely shouldn't eat a meal with Levi. But remember...Jesus did surprising things. He knew Levi needed to be loved and Levi needed to know what God is like. Jesus didn't act like everyone else. He showed love to Levi when no one else wanted to and we can surprise people by showing love to them.

Do you think Levi felt loved by Jesus? (pause for responses)
Do you think Levi's friends felt loved by Jesus? (pause for responses)
Are you surprised that Jesus loved someone who was mean to others and took money from others?

The Bible (hold up Bible) says that Levi began to follow Jesus and Levi began to tell others about Jesus. Levi followed Jesus all of his life because Jesus had surprised him by showing him love.

(Pretend to just now notice box # 4) Oh--what is this? We have one more box to open. Let's see what's inside. (open box # 4 and pull out the sunglasses/"Jesus glasses")
When Jesus looked at Levi, he didn't see all of the yuckiness. Jesus saw someone that needed to know what God is like. Jesus knew that Levi needed love. You and I can surprise others by looking at them the way Jesus would look at them. (put on glasses) We can look at them through our "Jesus glasses" and show them love and kindness.

SCRIPT CONT'D

Let's talk to God right now and ask Him to help us look at people through our Jesus glasses.

Pray: (Lead kids in the following prayer, breaking it into smaller, repeatable phrases:)
"Hi God, thanks for loving me. Help me to see people like you would see them. Help me to love people like Jesus loves people. In Jesus' name, Aaaaaaaaaamen!

Sing: Deep and Wide
Trust in the Lord

Dismiss kids back to small groups.

NAME

PREP NEEDS

SMALL GROUP SUPPLIES

Coloring page
1 pair of sunglasses per child (OT IN-83/23)
Items to decorate the glasses: stickers, foamies with sticky/peel-off backs, pieces of yarn (8-10 inches in length)
1 set of pictures per small group (pictures of kid who fell off bike, kid that is crying/sad, kid that is making a mean face, kid that is alone/separate from the group)

LARGE GROUP SUPPLIES

4 boxes wrapped as presents. Each box needs to be marked numerically and inconspicuously so the Presenter can open the right box. Boxes should have tops that are removable.
Box # 1: 2 Coins (should be at least half dollar size and should be shiny if possible)
Box # 2: Party hat and noise maker
Box # 3: Plate (it needs to be heavy and non-disposable)
Box # 4: Oversized sun-glasses (like a clown would wear)

A/V NEEDS

NORP slides
Songs: Deep and Wide
Trust in the Lord

SPECIAL ROOM SET-UP

CONNECT QUESTIONS

How did Jesus do surprising things?
Tell me about your Jesus glasses.

PARENT PAGE

Jesus did surprising things--things no one expected him to do. Instead of treating Levi the way everyone else treated him, Jesus was a friend to him and showed him love. We want to learn how to look at people like Jesus does--through our Jesus glasses. Practice looking at people the way Jesus looks at people by putting on your Jesus glasses. Talk about how to respond in surprising ways. Make sure you check out the family guide this week!