



April 1-2, 2017

DATE

John 13-16

WHERE TO FIND IT

The Last Supper

LESSON TITLE

God wants us to be connected to him.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (15 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you all have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

# tips

Having FUN is one of the most important parts of Kids' Club! Why? Because it's a language that every kid speaks! When you make things fun, kids are more likely to listen, respond and remember what they heard!

### check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to show their journals (notepads) to their parents. Encourage them to share the way they plan to stay connected to Jesus this week.

# large group heads up

Jesus knew his disciples needed some teaching and encouragement before he left. So he spent his last meal with them, modeling servant-love and preparing them to stay connected with him even if he wouldn't be physically present with them much longer.





## connect time

**GOAL:** Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.

#### **CONNECTION GAME**

- Split kids into groups of 15
- Give one kid a ball of yarn
- He/she holds the end of it and tosses it to someone else across the circle
- This continues, creating a web, until the yarn runs out
- Have kids look at their shape and how they're all connected by the yarn
- While standing, connected, discuss:
  - How are you guys connected? Are there other ways to be connected to people? Describe them.
  - Have you ever had a friend or family member live far away? How do you stay connected?

\*Throw away the yarn when your group is done with it.

Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.





## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) understand the purpose of Jesus' last meal with the disciples and (2) understand that we can connect with God, even when we can't see Him.

**Why?** Kids are literal, and it can be hard for them to understand how to spend time with Jesus when he's not physically here with them. We want to give them really concrete ways for them to talk to him.

**Tip:** Try introducing ways that kids already connect with people they cannot see or those who are far away (ie. writing letters, Facetime, phone calls, etc)

# small group

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

- 1. Did anybody hear from God during Large Group? Or a different time?
- 2. Why was Jesus having supper with his disciples? What did he talk to them about?
- 3. Why did Jesus send the Holy Spirit? How does the Holy Spirit help us?
- 4. Why do you think communion is a special way to stay close to Jesus?
- 5. Why does Jesus want us to stay connected to him?
- 6. How can we stay connected to Jesus? (Serving, obeying, getting help from the Holy Spirit, talking to and listening to Jesus, communion.)

#### MAKE IT PERSONAL- CONNECTION JOURNAL

- Staying connected to Jesus might seem hard, but there are things we can do every single day. Ask the kids to think of some things that they have to do each day (ie. eat, brush our teeth, go to the restroom, etc.)
- Explain that we are going to make a special journal for them to keep to remember to stay connected to Jesus.
- Give each kid one journal:
  - PAGE 1: Encourage them to write or draw one thing they do every day. Tell kids that every time they do the thing on the first page, they can talk or listen to Jesus. (It will help them connect with him more often.)
  - o PAGE 2: Write/draw a picture for Jesus
  - o **PAGE 3:** Take a moment and listen for Jesus. Write or draw anything you think he might be saying to you. He might even give you an idea of how to serve someone. (If they don't hear anything, it's OK!) Ask kids to share.
- Encourage kids to fill up as many pages as they want with things to help them stay connected with Jesus. It can be anything that reminds them to spend time with him, listen to him, talk to him, or serve him.

(Continued on next page.)



Extra time? Draw pictures of each of Jesus' reminders:

- 1. Jesus started dinner by doing a dirty job that no one else wanted. What was that job? (He washed his friend's feet.) Why did Jesus wash their feet? What did he want them to remember? (To serve others.) Draw some feet, a towel, or water. This is to remind us all to serve others, even if it's a dirty job.
- 2. Jesus told His friends to expect a helper. Who was that helper? (The Holy Spirit) Everyone draw something that helps you remember the Holy Spirit. It could be a heart, a picture of you, or a picture of a smiling face.
- 3. Jesus told his friends to stay connected to him like what? (Vines to a branch) Can everyone draw some vines or branches to help remind us to stay connected? If there is additional time, have kids do a coloring page.



# 3rd-5th

# special notes

The lesson explains how Jesus wanted to connect to his friends. Remember to emphasize that Jesus ALWAYS wants to connect with us, we just have to make time to reach out to him.

## presenter tips

Here's a link to today's video:

God's Story / The Last Supper: <a href="https://vimeo.com/30378807">https://vimeo.com/30378807</a>

# script

#### **WELCOME AND INTRO**

**Main Goal:** Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

#### \*Click to play intro music.

- SAY: Hi everybody, welcome to Kids' Club! Today, we're
  going to hear a few things Jesus taught his friends about
  how to stay close to him. But first, let's talk about the game
  you just played.... It looked like you guys were completely
  connected by a web of yarn. That looked fun!
- ASK: I also heard you talking about some other ways we can stay connected to people, even if they live far away.
   What are some of the ways we can be close to people, even if we aren't holding the same piece of yarn? (Let kids respond.)

# JESUS INSTRUCTS THE DISCIPLES AT THE LAST SUPPER

**Main Goal:** Jesus wants us to be connected to Him.

- SAY: Those are great ways to stay connected to people that we care about! And remember, Jesus wants us to be connected to him. In fact, right before Jesus rescued us, he had one last dinner with his disciples. We call it the Last Supper. It was a chance for Jesus to remind his friends of some ways to follow him, even though he would soon be in Heaven.
- (Image: Vine and branches.) Jesus told his disciples how to act and then said he wanted them to be connected to him like a vine is connected to branches, or a leaf is connected to a tree.



# JESUS EXPLAINS THE IDEA OF THE VINE

**Main Goal:** We can only be like Jesus if we stay connected to him.

- ASK: What do you think would happen if you ripped a
  grapevine off that branch? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, it'll
  die. And we won't be able to act like Jesus if we aren't
  connected to him.
- SAY: Let's watch a video about the ways Jesus taught his disciples to stay connected to him. As you watch, see if you can find at least ONE way we can stay close to Jesus. You'll see lots of ways, but try to find at least one.
- Video: God's Story / The Last Supper
- SAY: Wow, it's pretty cool that Jesus had that special dinner to tell his disciples important stuff, isn't it!? What are some of the ways we can stay connected to Jesus? (Let kids respond.)
- SAY: That's right! We can be connected to Jesus by acting like him and serving other people, obeying him, and asking the Holy Spirit to help us act like Jesus. We can also talk and listen to Jesus by spending time praying. He even prayed for his disciples, to make sure they knew that praying is just talking to God!
- SAY: Let's watch another short video about how powerful things can be when they are connected. As you watch, see if you can find the things that get connected and how powerful they are when they are together!
- Video: Storks / Wolf Pack Formations
- SAY: Wow, that was pretty incredible! Who stayed connected in the video? (Let kids respond) Right, the wolves. Did you notice how powerful and strong they were when they were connected? Jesus wants us to stay connected to him just like the wolves.
- SAY: When we stay connected to God, we get to hear his voice, just like the lead wolf, and we get to follow his instructions.

# JESUS SERVES THE DISCIPLES

**Main Goal:** Jesus wanted to connect to the disciples by serving them.

- SAY: Let's think about what Jesus taught his friends.
  Before dinner started with his friends, Jesus came up with
  this very unique way to serve them. Does anyone
  remember how he served his friends? (Let kids respond)
  Right, he washed their feet!
- ASK: Do you remember what the video said about people's feet back then? (Let kids respond.)Yes, they were very smelly and could have even been covered in camel poop. Yuck!



# JESUS SERVES THE DISCIPLES

**Main Goal:** Jesus wanted to connect to the disciples by serving them.

#### ASK: Let's stop and think for a minute, have you ever washed someone's feet? That must have made his friends feel very loved. Just think if you were covered in mud and someone washed it off of you. Wouldn't you be very thankful?

- ASK: When Jesus was washing the feet of his friends, what did he want them to remember? (Let kids respond.) That's right! To serve others.
- ASK: What are some ways that we can serve Jesus? (Let kids respond) Great Ideas! We can connect with Jesus by sharing our time and helping our brother or sister clean their room... or praying for someone... or by giving a friend a hug when they need one! There are lots of ways to help others.
- SAY: Turn and tell a friend one way you can serve or help others this week. (Let kids turn and tell a friend.)
   What are some good ways to serve others? (Let 3-5 kids share.)
- ASK: Who can we ask to help us act like Jesus? (Let kids respond.) Yes! The Holy Spirit! Jesus knows it can be hard to act like him and obey him. So he sent us a helper to guide us, teach us, support us—even stand up for us when we mess up!

# JESUS WANTS TO CONNECT WITH US THROUGH PRAYER

Main Goal: Jesus modeled prayer and wants us to pray to him too!

- (Image: Vine and branches) Jesus also gave his
  disciples the examples of how to stay connected to him
  like a vine to a branch. Remember, a vine that isn't
  connected just dies. And without Jesus, there's no way we
  can follow him!
- SAY: We need to stay connected too, and we can do that by talking and listening to Jesus. Even though he's not physically in front of us, he can always hear us, and he can always speak to us.
- **SAY:** We can share our most important thoughts, worries and hopes with God. He loves us so much that he wants to hear about everything that is going on in our lives. Let's read a verse that reminds us of how much God loves us!
- Slide: Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'



#### **RESPONSE TIME**

Main Goal: Give kids a chance to actively respond to what they heard, and listen to what God is telling them.

#### PRAYER AND WORSHIP

**Main Goal:** Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **SAY:** Jesus even gave his friends one other very special way to remember him and how much he loves us. It wasn't in the video, but it's in the Bible, during the story of the Last Supper.
- SAY: See, he showed his love to all of us by dying on the cross to take the punishment for all our wrong choices. But then, he showed he's stronger than death by coming BACK to life three days later! Because of what Jesus was willing to do for us, we can be a part of God's family and one day live with God and Jesus forever.
- (Image: Communion) Jesus wants us to ALWAYS
  remember what he did for us. So at the Last Supper, he
  pulled out some bread. He said they should remember that
  his body was broken for them. Then he poured a glass of
  wine. He said to remember that his blood was shed for us.
- ASK: Does anybody know what it's called to break off bread and drink wine? (Let kids say: communion.) Yes, communion! And when we believe that Jesus died to rescue us, we can take communion. It's another way to connect with him! Let's watch a music video about it:
- Music Video: Communion
- SAY: Let's talk to Jesus now and connect with the one who loves us so much. (Thank Jesus for teaching us how to act like him and be connected with him. Then ask him to speak to the kids. Sit quietly for a moment. Then wrap up.)
- **Pray:** Dear God, thank you for showing us how to connect with you. Help us make time this week to connect to you so that we can be like Jesus. We love you, Amen.
- Music Video: You Come in a Hurry

Dismiss kids to small groups.

#### connect questions

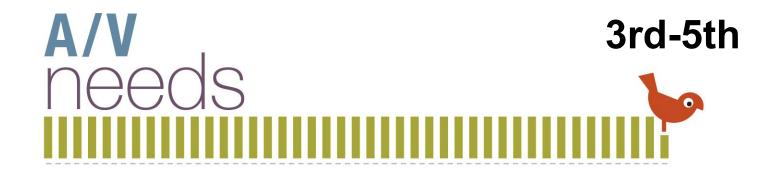
Tell me about the Last Supper. How can we stay close to Jesus?

### lesson supplies

Connect Time					
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by		
ball of yarn	1 per group of 15 kids- new ball of yarn for each service	Jo Ann Fabric; Red Heart Super Saver Yarn (royal blue); <u>Item</u> <u>#prd28157</u>	KC Central		

Small Group					
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by		
Markers	1 set per small group, reused		site		
Journal	1 per kid	Oriental Trading: Mini Laser Smile Face Notepads: Item #IN-9/668	KC Central		

Large Group					
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by		
Adventure Bible	1 per room		site		



- 1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
- 2. Image: Vine and Branches
- 3. Video: God's Story / The Last Supper (https://vimeo.com/30378807)
- 4. Video: Storks / Wolf Pack Transformation (0:00-3:30; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7jtdw3eipM)
- 5. Image: Vine and Branches
- 6. Slide: Matthew 22:37-39 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind.' This is the first and most important commandment. And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'
- 7. Image: Communion
- 8. Music Video: Communion (<a href="https://vimeo.com/5031802">https://vimeo.com/5031802</a>)
- 9. Music Video: You Come in a Hurry (https://vimeo.com/185495000)