

LEADER'S GUIDE

PRESCHOOL AND TODDLERS

BIG PICTURE:

PARABLES

BIG IDEA:

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE...

BIG POINT:

I BELONG TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD

BIG WORD:

"AND WE KNOW THAT THE SON OF GOD HAS COME, AND HE HAS GIVEN US UNDERSTANDING SO THAT WE CAN KNOW THE TRUE GOD." 1 JOHN 5:20A (NLT)



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DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture PARABLES. It contains an outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

The BIG 'Psalms, Proverbs, Parables - Wisdom for Life' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Learn what the kingdom of God is.
- Know that we belong to the kingdom of God.
- Discover the Parables Jesus told that teach us what God's kingdom is like.

BIG POINT:

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KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. Why is it called the 'kingdom of God'?

The kingdom of God is called that because God is the King! He is king over all the world and the entire universe. Different versions of the Bible call it the "kingdom of God" or "kingdom of heaven", it means the same thing. When God is the king of our hearts, the kingdom of God is within each one of us. You can't see it, you can't touch it. It is ever so real and is like a valuable treasure within us! Matthew 13:44 (NIV) "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field."

2. What did we learn about God's kingdom today?

Jesus shows us that the kingdom of heaven is precious and to be valued. You and I have a place to belong in the kingdom of God.

3. How do we belong to the kingdom of God?

When we make God the king in our life, we are part of God's kingdom. We are family, God the father and we are His children. All who believe are part of God's kingdom. Ephesians 2:19 (NIV) "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household". We belong to the kingdom of God.

THE BIG ACTIVITY

Purpose: For children to be reminded that they belong to the kingdom of God.

Directions: Give each child an 'I belong to the kingdom of God' photo frame printed from the print material files. Help them to colour it in and stick a magnet on the back. Children can take their photo frame home and stick a picture of themselves in the centre, to remind them that they belong to the kingdom of God.

Explanation: In God's kingdom there is no divide between country, colour, age or gender. We are family, God the Father and we are His children. All who believe are part of God's kingdom. Ephesians 2:19 (NIV) "Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household". I belong to the kingdom of God.

PLAYTIME LEARNING ACTIVITY

Set the children the challenge to throw the ball into to the net (or bucket). Each time the ball goes in, they are awarded a word from the Big Word. Help the children to put the words into the correct order and repeat the verse aloud together a number of times. "And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God." 1 John 5:20a (NLT)

PRAYER

Dear God,

You are king of all creation. We belong to Your kingdom. Show us how to bring Your kingdom here on earth so more people can know your goodness.

In Jesus name, Amen

Supplies Needed:

'I belong to the kingdom of God' photo frame printed for each child on cardpaper from the print material files. Stick on magnets, coloured pencils or crayons.

Supplies Needed:

Ball and net or bucket. Each word of the verse written on paper.