



2nd/3rd Grade

WEEK 2 - STARTER



Activity Name: King May I

What You Need:

- ☐ None needed

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to stand in a straight line, shoulder to shoulder, on one end of your group space.
- Stand across from them on the other end of your group space.
- Demonstrate and explain how to play:
Okay, friends, we're going to play a game called 'Leader, May I?' Here's how it works: I'll call on someone and give you a fun movement to do like tiptoeing, jumping, or taking baby steps. But before you move, you must remember to ask, 'Leader, may I take [number] [type of step]?' Then I'll say, 'Yes, you may,' or 'No, you may not.' If you forget to ask the right way, you'll go back to the starting line! We'll keep playing until someone makes it all the way to me!
- Continue playing until someone reaches you. Play again if time and interest allow.

What You Say:

I loved playing that game with each of you! You really had to listen carefully and remember the right way to respond. And you couldn't just do whatever you wanted—you had to ask! In our Bible Story today, Jesus told a story, or parable, about what we're supposed to do with the things God has given us. Let's go learn more!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: The Parable of the Bags of Gold • *Matthew 25:14-30 NIV*

Bottom Line: God's kingdom grows when you use what He has given you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit.* • *Romans 14:17 NIV*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did the master give each servant a different amount?
- What made the master happy—the money they earned or that they were faithful?
- What are some things that make people afraid to use their gifts or tell others about God?
- What has God given you?
- How can trusting God help you be brave?

Activity Name: Keychain Coins

What You Need: ☐ Bibles ☐ wooden circles ☐ coin cutouts ☐ bead keychains
☐ Index cards ☐ Coloring supplies ☐ glue sticks

What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible, and direct them to look up Romans 14:17.
- Repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to put their Bibles aside.
- Put out coloring supplies and glue stick to share.
- Give each kid a piece of coin cutout, a wooden circle, a bead ball keychain.
- Encourage kids to decorate both sides of their wooden circle and glue coin to one side.
- Show kids how to run their keychain through the hole and clasp.

What You Say:

These keychains are so cool! They remind us of the parable of the bags of gold. Jesus taught His disciples about God's kingdom. Jesus wanted them to know that when we live in God's kingdom, we're called to use what we've been given to love God and love others, and God will do great kingdom things with what we do.

The rich man in the story knew his servants were good at different things, so he gave them different amounts of money to take care of while he was gone. The rich man wanted his servants to use that money to make even more money for him. The first two doubled the amount of money they were given, but the third buried the money in the ground because he was afraid. So the rich man took the one bag of money from that servant and gave it to the servant with ten bags of gold.

Jesus, our master, has gone away to heaven, but He's coming back. And in the meantime, God wants you to use everything—absolutely everything—He's given you, and He will do great kingdom things with it. As we see from our Memory Verse, that kingdom God is growing is full of good things—like things that are right, peace, and joy! **[Bottom Line] God's kingdom grows when you use what He's given you.**

Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray as well.