



COMMITMENT | WEEK 4 | MAY 22-23, 2021

Virtual 4th-5th Lesson

Whatcha Say

Life App: Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice

Bible Story: Whatcha Say (Peter Says That Jesus Is the Messiah) • *Matthew 16:13-20*

Key Question: **Who can you talk to about God?**

Bottom Line: Practice talking about God

Basic Truth: **I am made for a purpose** so I can tell people about God.

Memory Verse: “Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come.” 1 Timothy 4:8, NIV

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Growing in faith is not something that happens by merely cramming more information about the Bible into a child’s brain. All of that knowledge in their head means nothing if we don’t help kids experience what that knowledge can do in their hearts. To fully experience faith, we want kids to practice their faith. And that takes commitment.

God keeps all His promises and puts His plans into action. Because God has followed through on those plans, we get the chance to be with God forever. We reflect God’s commitment to us when we can make a plan and stick to it. This month, we’ll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. Commit to practicing faith by reading God’s Word, praying to Him consistently, talking about Him with friends, and living out that faith every day.

Key Question: Who can you talk to about God? Talking about what God is doing in your life is a significant part of growing in faith. This can feel overwhelming to kids who’ve never really chatted about their faith with anyone before. This week, we help kids figure out the trusted people who can be a sounding board to help them process their questions and listen to their faith stories.

For week four, we head to **Matthew 16:13-20**. Jesus asked his disciples about who people thought He is. Then Jesus turned the question on them: after everything they’d seen Jesus do and heard Jesus say, who did they think He was? This gave Peter the perfect moment to declare what he believed about Jesus—that He truly is the Son of God.

Bottom Line: Practice talking about God. We can know God better by talking about Him with others. As kids process their growing faith, they will have questions and doubts. We want kids to practice the faith skill, TALK, and learn how to talk through their questions about God with others who believe in Jesus.

SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION

("Copy That!" Activity Page, Paper Markers)

What You Do:

- As kids join the meeting and get settled, engage them in conversation about the past week.
- If you choose, consider using an icebreaker question to get kids talking.
- Practice saying the memory verse together.
- If you've chosen to watch the Bible story video presentation as a group, get that started once you've given latecomers a chance to join the meeting, and once the group feels settled (Video found at theparenthub.net).

Activity:

What You Do:

- Start by asking kids to share what they remember about the Bible story from the video:
 - Who were the main characters in the story?
 - Where did the story take place?
 - What were some of the emotions the people in the story may have been feeling?
 - What stuck out most to you from today's story?
- Then lead kids in a guessing game.
- Ask them to think of a common noun, such as mom, brother, garage, bedroom, swimming pool, bicycle, etc.
- Let a volunteer be the first to give the group clues about what their noun is or is not.
 - For example, if their word is "swimming pool," they could say, "I AM filled with water, I AM NOT usable in the winter, I AM a lot of fun," etc.
- After they've given what they feel is a sufficient amount of clues, they should say, "What would you say that I am?"
- The first person to raise their hand (using the hand-raising feature of the meeting app) gets to take a guess.
- If the guess is correct, they get to be the next clue giver.
- If the guess is incorrect, call on the next person who raised their hand.

What You Say:

- Tell kids that knowing what something IS, is as important as knowing what it is not.
- Ask:
 - What are some true things about who Jesus is?
 - What are some things that are NOT true about Jesus?
 - Why do you think Jesus wants people to know who He is?
 - Why is it sometimes hard, weird, or awkward to talk about Jesus? How can we gain the confidence to overcome those feelings in order to make talking about Jesus part of our normal, everyday life?
 - When YOU have questions about God, who can you talk to?

Close your group in prayer:

"Dear God, help us look for opportunities share what we love about You with others by telling them what You have done and what You are doing in our lives. We need courage to not shy away from a conversation that could literally change someone's life. You've challenged us today to stand up for what we believe about You. Now help us practice talking about You with others this week. Amen!"