



COMMITMENT | WEEK 4 | MAY 22-23, 2021

Virtual K-3 Lesson

Livin' On a Prayer

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*

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, NIRV

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.

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

("I Am Not" Activity Page)

What You Do:

- As kids join the meeting and get settled, engage them in conversation about the past week.
- If you choose, consider doing some ice breaker questions with your group (how was your week, would you rather..., etc.)
- Practice saying the memory verse together.
- If you've chosen to watch the Bible story video presentation as a group (Find video at theparenthub.net), get that started once you've given latecomers a chance to join the meeting, and once the group feels settled.

What You Do:

- Read a riddle from the Activity Page.
- Prompt kids to either physically raise their hand (as long as you can see all of them on your screen) or use the hand-raise feature of the meeting app.
- Go through as many riddles as time and interest allow. If you have kindergarteners, give them a couple extra clues after reading the riddle, if they have trouble figuring out what the answer is.
- After the game, review the Bible story, using the following questions to start the conversation:
 - What were Jesus and His disciples doing in our story today? (traveling; walking from Galilee to Caesarea Philippi)
 - What question did Jesus ask His friends on their journey? (Who do you say I am?)
 - How did the disciples answer His question? (They told Jesus what others were saying about who He is; Peter said Jesus is the Messiah)

What You Say:

“Sometimes, we are shy or embarrassed to **[Bottom Line] practice talking about God**, because we think that it means we have to have all the answers. Have you ever felt like that? (Invite kids to raise their hands in response.)

“But that’s the opposite of true! In fact, part of talking about God is asking questions and thinking about the answers. Who could you ask questions about God? (parents, Small Group Leaders, church friends, other people who follow Jesus) Yes! Discovering who God is takes our whole lives! God is so big that we could talk about Him forever and never run out of stuff to think about or wonder.

“What is one question you have about God? (Invite kids to talk together.) Let’s play from our game—what is one thing that God is NOT? (God does not lie or cheat or forget. He does not sleep or get bored. He doesn’t break promises.) What is one thing you know God IS?” (loving, kind, wise, faithful, healing, etc.)

DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- Who is someone you trust and can talk to when you have questions about God or your faith?
- If you could tell someone anything you want to about God, what would it be? Who would you tell?
- What is something God is doing in your life right now? Who can you share that with?
- How can we know that what we’re telling others about Jesus is true?

Close your group in prayer:

“God, we know that Jesus did EVERYTHING for us on the cross when He died. Help us be brave enough to talk about You. We know that You are always with us, encouraging us to speak up and make sure everyone knows who You are. Please help us have courage to keep talking about You to other people. We love You, and we pray all of this in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

