

Lesson 18

-John The Baptist-

John the Baptist

2-5 Years:

Opening Prayer to welcome the start of the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together again today. Please help us to learn about you. Help us also to do the things you want us to do and follow in your footsteps. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the story of John the Baptist (Matthew 3: 1-17). You can use a children’s bible or just tell it in such a way that this age group can understand.

Matthew
3: 1-17

Discussion:

Ask the children if they ever tell their friends about God. Talk about why it is important for us to let others know about God and how He wants us to live.

Activity:

Play John Says (like Simon Says). If John doesn’t say, then they don’t do it. Here are ideas for the game:

- Touch your nose
- Jump three times
- Turn around
- Shake your head
- Hug a friend

Song:

Sing Be Careful Little Eyes



Oh, be careful little eyes, what you see.
Oh, be careful little eyes, what you see.
There's a Father up above, looking down in tender love,
so be careful little eyes, what you see.

2nd time through: Be careful little ears what you hear

3rd time through: Be careful little mouth what you say...

4th time through: Be careful little hands, what you touch...

5th time through: Be careful little feet, where you go...

Closing Prayer to ask God for help in telling other people about Him. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for helping us learn about you. Please help us to tell our friends about you. Keep us safe in your care. Amen.”

6-8 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together again on this day. Please help us to learn from your words and follow in your ways. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Tell the story of John the Baptist (Matthew 3: 1-17). You can use a children’s bible or just tell it in such a way that this age group can understand.



Discussion:

Ask the children if they ever tell their friends about God. Talk about why it is important for us to let others know about God and how He wants us to live.

Activity:

Play John Says (like Simon Says). If John doesn’t say, then they don’t do it. Here are ideas for the game:

- Touch your nose
- Jump three times
- Turn around
- Shake your head
- Hug a friend

Let each child have the opportunity to be “John.”

Closing Prayer to ask God for help in telling other people about Him. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for being there for us. Please help us to tell our friends about you and what you do for us. Keep us safe in your care. Amen.”

9-11 Years:

Opening Prayer to welcome the start of the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together to learn about you. Please help us to follow you and walk in your footsteps. Amen.”

Bible Story:

Have the several students take turns reading about John the Baptist from Matthew 3: 1-17.

**Discussion:**

Ask the students if they tell their friends about God. Discuss some good opportunities for them to talk about God.

Role Play:

Put the students into pairs. Have them pretend to be in a situation that was previously discussed as an opportunity to talk about God. Have them role play the situation, and then have them switch roles so that each student gets to practice telling the gospel and hearing the gospel.

Discussion:

Ask the students if they know why people get baptized. Explain what baptism is and the purpose behind it (a new life).

Closing Prayer to ask God for help in spreading the news about Him and to thank Him for the opportunity to live a new life. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for leading us in our fellowship. Please help us to tell everyone we know about you. Thank you so much for the opportunity to live a new life and come to your home in Heaven. Keep us safe in your name we pray. Amen.”

12-14 Years:

Opening Prayer to open the session. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for bringing us together to worship you. Please help us to gain a better understanding of you and your words. Help us to follow your path. Amen.”

Discussion:

Ask the students why we get baptized.

Bible Reading:

Appoint several students to read Matthew 3: 1-17. Have them read until the passage has been read completely. At the end of the passage discuss what happened in this story so that you can be sure that everyone understood what was read.

**Discussion:**

Ask the students if they talk about God with their friends, why or why not? Ask them why they should tell others the good news about God.

Role Play:

Put the students into pairs. Have them pretend to be in a situation that was previously discussed as an opportunity to talk about God. Have them role play the situation, and then have them switch roles so that each student gets to practice telling the gospel and hearing the gospel.

Discussion:

Refer back to the original discussion about baptism. Discuss the importance of it how it works in the church. Encourage those who are not yet baptized to take that step.

Closing Prayer to ask God for help in spreading the news about Him and to thank Him for the opportunity to live a new life. For example:

“Dear God, thank you for leading us in our fellowship. Please help us to tell everyone we know about you. Thank you so much for the opportunity to live a new life and come to your home in Heaven. Keep us safe in your name we pray. Amen.”