

Kingsquad Teaching – Spring Term (3) 2007

Summary of teaching

Week	Story and Bible Reference	Teaching Point
1	The arrest of Jesus John 18 v 1 -11	Jesus loves us even when we act before we think – We need to think about what Jesus would do before acting impulsively
2	A mother asks Jesus to favour her sons Matthew 20 : 20 - 28	Jesus loves us to serve – Jesus wants us to think of others more than ourselves.
3	Jesus calls Philip to be his disciple John 1 : 43 – 50	Jesus loves us to tell our friends about him – Jesus wants us to introduce him to other people
4	Jesus calls Matthew to follow him Mark 2 : 13- 17	Jesus loves us even though we have faults – Jesus cares for us no matter what we are like and wants us to do the same for other people.
5	Jesus appears to Thomas John 20 v 24 - 29	Jesus loves us even when we doubt – We need to believe in God and His power even though we can't see Him.
6	Jesus talks to his followers (The Great Commission) Matthew 28 v 16 - 20	Jesus loves us and wants us to be like Him – Jesus wants us to be more like Him and He will help us do it.

This pack also includes some ideas for memory verse activities and a disciples quiz which is an extra resource.

Jesus loves us even when we act before we think

Theme: We need to think about what Jesus would do before acting impulsively.

Games:

Floppy Bunnies : All the children pretend to be bunnies, hopping about the room with their hands at the side of their heads to make ears. Allocate an area to be the “hutch”. When the leader calls out “Here comes the hunter!” they must all immediately stop moving and keep absolutely still until the leader calls out “The hunter’s gone!”, then they can hop about again. Any child wobbling or falling over when they should be kept still is sent to the “hutch” and has to be tagged by another player before they can rejoin play.

Pretend : Children stand in a semi-circle with arms folded, the leader stands in the middle with a ball which is either thrown to a child (in which case it must be caught) or pretended to be thrown (in which case the arms must not move). If a child does move their arms in response to the pretend throw, they must move to the bottom of the semi-circle. If a child fails to catch a thrown ball, they also move to the bottom of the semi-circle.

Memory Verse : Psalm 32 v 8 - The Lord says, “I will teach you the way you should go.”
(See *memory verse resources for ideas*)

Introduction : Ask the children to do the ‘Three Minute Time Test’ from the resources section. Tell them they are being timed. When everyone is finished you will probably find most of the group have not followed the instructions (i.e. completed everything instead of just sentence two). Ask them how many were so eager to get it done in three minutes they just rushed on without thinking. Introduce today’s story as being about a person who acted before thinking.

Story John 18 v 1-11 – Jesus arrest in John includes the cutting of the servants ear but not the healing, as mentioned in Luke. Both are well illustrated in the Miracle Maker video. If you do not have a copy, it is a good story to act out.

Application : Peter’s story is really a question of trust and faith. Ask the children to think about situations when they have to stop and think before acting. (i.e. when crossing the road when we rush back from the park). What advice have parents, teachers etc given us for these situations that we should stop and think about when faced with them? Peter was reprimanded by Jesus for not thinking He had it all in hand. Almost to say, “Don’t you believe I am God’s son and would be saved by Him if it was what He wanted?” Ask the children to consider that God wants us to think before we act, to ask ourselves “What would Jesus do?” (WWJD).

Prayer : Try a prayer tunnel. Set up two lines of children facing each other who then join hands with their opposite to form one long arched tunnel. Each child in turn walks through the tunnel while a designated child prays for them.

Resources : There is a fun sheet, memory verse ideas and Three Minute quiz in the resource section.

Song : “Hey, hey” on the Fandabidozzie CD

Jesus loves us to serve

Theme : Jesus wants us to think of others more than ourselves.

Games:

Triangle Tag : Divide children into groups of four. Three of them form a triangle by holding hands and the fourth person is outside of the triangle. One person in the triangle is the target. On go, the fourth person tries to tag the target person. The "Triangle" must move in a way to protect their target person. Keep holding hands. If tagged, swap the 4th person for the tagged target. Continue for a few minutes.

You have to lose to win: Divide group into teams. Have a pile of objects in the centre. On "Go" first team member runs to centre grabs an object and takes it back to team, tags next player. At no point state how the winner will be decided. Once all objects have been collected, call an end to the game and have teams count their objects. The team with most objects will probably assume they are the winners. In fact, the winning team is the one with **least** objects.

Memory verse : Matthew 20: 26 "If one of you wants to be great, he must be the servant of the rest." *See resources for memory verse activity ideas*

Introduction : Prepare a pass the parcel with enough sweets for all the children to share in the middle. About 5 layers will be enough. After the pass the parcel reaches its final layer and is won, halt the game before the present is unwrapped. Ask the winner how he/she feels. Pleased ? Ask the children how they feel towards the winner ? Are they a bit envious ?

Story : Matthew 20 : 20-28. Choose a suitable version to read then prepare the same story again with obvious errors. As the children hear an error, they put their hand up.

Application : The sons of Zebedee, James and John , were known as the Thunder Brothers – maybe because they often had lots to say for themselves and weren't shy about giving their opinions . Sometimes, they angered the other disciples because they thought Jesus loved them more and wanted Jesus to give them special treatment. James and John learned that they needed to listen and serve. They also learned that no disciple was more important than another. God had called them all to serve and it was in serving other people that they would become great. We need to learn that too. Think about times when putting others first has given us more pleasure than always wanting to be first.

Prayer : Pray that God will give us a desire to serve others, just as Jesus did. Sit in a circle and encourage everyone to name one way they could serve someone else, maybe clearing away their plates from the table without being told or playing with someone who seems lonely.

Resources : There is a fun sheet and memory verse activity ideas in the resources section

Song : *I can walk, I can run* (Okey Dokey, Doug Horley CD)

Jesus loves us to tell our friends about him

Theme : Jesus wants us to introduce him to other people.

Games:

Simon Says: One person is chosen to lead the game, they will call out various actions. The action should only be done if the leader says “Simon says” first.

Link Tag: The group pairs off and each pair should stand back to back and link elbows. One pair is “it” and attempts to catch another pair. When the “it” pair catches another pair, that pair becomes “it” and the original “it” must now avoid capture.

King Maker: Identify four areas of the room to be bases. Give each base a colour name. Choose one person to be the “king maker”. Give them a number of brightly coloured sticky labels or post-it notes. The idea is for the king maker to tag the other players with a sticky label. During the game, a leader will designate one of the coloured bases as a safe zone . Any children in the safe zone cannot be tagged. Leader keeps changing the safe zone to other colours to ensure children have to move.

Memory Verse: Acts 2 : 18b - “I will pour out my spirit in those days, and they will proclaim my message.” Divide into groups, give each group a chunk of the memory verse. Point at each group in order and get them to shout their part as loudly as they can. Go round several times so that there is fluency. Then ask the children to repeat the whole verse.

Introduction: Ask the children to tell you about something good that has happened recently for them, go on to explain that if they hadn’t told you about those good things you might never have known.

Story: John 1: 43 – 50 - Jesus calls Philip and Phillip goes to get Nathaniel straight away. (see resources)

Application: Jesus wants us to tell our friends about him. As in the earlier game, the king maker had to tag as many people as he/she could with stickers, so Jesus wants us to tell our friends and other people about him. Ask the children how it felt to be able to share something good that had happened to them. Explain that this is how it can feel like when we are telling people about Jesus and all the wonderful things he has done for us. This is an opportunity for testimony.

Prayer: Explain to the children that you will say a short prayer and tell them that when you say a specific word each person should shout the name of one of their friends as loudly as they can. This is a really good opportunity to use the prayer drill. (*You can find both an example prayer and instructions for the prayer drill in the resource section*).

Resources : There is a story, prayer idea and fun sheet in the resource section.

Song: “Oi Oi we are gonna praise the Lord” King of Heaven track 3

Jesus loves us even though we have faults

Theme : Jesus cares for us no matter what we are like and wants us to do the same for other people.

Games

Pirate : **You need :** 4 hoops / box in each corner of the room. In the middle of the room, place 7 beanbags . **To play:** Divide into 4 teams, each sitting in a corner with a hoop. On signal, first player of each team runs to centre, collects beanbag and places in hoop before tagging next player. After a few goes, there will be no more beanbags so next player may “steal” a bean bag from an opposing team. Of course, while the player is away, someone from another team may be stealing from them. **Rules :** only one team member to move at a time with one beanbag; no team members may prevent their beanbags being taken. Winners are the first team to have four beanbags in their hoop.

Matchbox Relay : **You need :** an empty matchbox per team. **To play:** Divide into teams. Each team lines up in pairs. Using only their noses, pairs of team mates pass an empty matchbox to the next in line.

Memory verse : On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.” Matthew 9:12. *See resources for some ideas for memory verse activities.*

Introduction : Send children to find hidden coins (real, plastic or chocolate) . Choose one child to be the tax collector. He/She must collect a coin from every child. Explain that in Bible times this would have paid for things like repairing the roads and the wages of the Roman soldiers. Explain that tax collectors were not liked or trusted because they weren’t always fair. Then get your tax collector to take more coins, pay a coin if you have black socks etc. Jesus sometimes chose surprising people to be his disciples, Matthew, a tax collector, was one of those.

Story : Mark 2 : 13 – 17

There is a simple script in the resources section, which could be used as written (with children reading script) or as a narration with children primed to act it out.

Application : Jesus cared for Matthew even though other people did not, just as He loves each one of us despite our faults. Meeting Jesus changed Matthew. He invited Jesus to his home where there were also people who were considered to be outcasts and sinners. Some people thought it was wrong that Jesus should eat with them but, just like a doctor, Jesus went to the homes of the people who needed Him and He touched them and made them whole. Jesus wants us to accept others whatever they are like, even if it means caring for people who aren’t very likeable. Do the children think this will be easy?

Prayer : *See resources for the simple instructions for this prayer craft :*

Resources : *A drama sketch for the story, memory verse activity ideas, prayer resource and a fun sheet are in the resources section.*

Song: *Put your hands in the sky (Doug Horley – Whoopah Wahey)*

Jesus loves us even when we doubt

Theme: We need to believe in God and His power even though we can't see Him

Games :

Heads down thumbs up : 3 children are the "squeezers". The others close their eyes; put their heads down and their thumbs up. The "squeezers" then squeeze three people's thumbs. The others open their eyes and, in turn, guess which child squeezed them! If guessed correctly, the squeezed becomes the "squeezer"!!

Funny feelings : Divide children in to teams and give each team a bag containing 10 different items e.g. a hole- punch, a fruit. They have to feel and guess what each item is. Supply paper and pencils and the teams with most correct answers in two minutes are the winners.

Memory verse : "How happy are those who believe without seeing me." John 20 verse 29. Play as a blindfold relay. Divide children in to teams and put pieces of the memory verse at the opposite end of the room for each team to collect. Each child takes it in turns to be blindfolded and their team has to shout instructions for them to walk and collect one piece of their own puzzle. First team with the completed puzzle wins.

Introduction : Play "Pass the bag." Sit the children in a circle and pass round a bag filled with funny hats, sunglasses, scarves etc. When the music stops, the child left holding the bag takes out one item and wears it. Explain that God knows us whatever we look like but can we believe in Him without seeing Him?

Story : John 20 verses 24-29. This is a lovely story to act out with the children or, if you have a copy of "The Miracle Maker", you can show the relevant scene on video.

Application : Get the children to blow out some candles and then ask them to show you what they used to do it! The children can't see their breath but they saw that it was capable of blowing out the flames. Explain that sometimes people find it hard to believe in a God that they can't see and so they doubt His power. Thomas needed to see Jesus to believe that He'd risen from the dead. But Jesus still loved him and even offered the proof Thomas needed. Jesus understands our doubts but really wants us to believe in Him without seeing!

Prayer : Light a candle. Ask God to help us not to doubt His love and power. If the children have specific requests, let them voice them before blowing out the flame and thanking God for taking away our disbelief.

Resources : There is a fun sheet in the resources section

Song : *"Faith as small as a mustard seed"* Whoopah Wahey CD by Doug Horley

Jesus loves us and wants us to be like Him

Theme- Jesus wants us to be more like Him and He will help us do it.

Games:

Follow the leader : Have an energetic game including star-jumps, leaps and running round the room. Let the children take it in turns as leader.

Pictionary : Divide the children into teams, giving each paper and pen. Have a list of different occupations such as Doctor, Teacher etc. ending with Jesus! One child from each group comes to you for the first name then, back in their groups, without saying a word, they draw and the others guess which occupation it is they've drawn. The "guesser" rushes to get the next occupation to draw and so on until all have been guessed. Quickest team wins.

Pass the action : In a circle, the first person does a simple action. The next person repeats the action and adds one of their own. This continues until you get back to the first person and there is a whole chain of actions to remember.

Memory verse : "Since you are God's dear children, you must try to be like him." Ephesians 5 verse 1. Make paper doll chains (*see resource section*) and write the verse on them.

Introduction: In pairs, ask the children to play mirrors, with one leading and their partner copying. They could mime their favourite hobby or "getting up in the morning". Explain that in the story today, Jesus asks his disciples to go and copy his example.

Story : Matthew 28 verses 16 – 20. You'll need to give the background to this story. Ask the children what they know about Jesus' death and resurrection then explain what happened when Jesus reappeared. How fantastic that Jesus chose each one of us to go out and do His work!

Application : Jesus had shown the disciples the kind of people they should be and now it was time for them to go out and do His work. How would the children describe the disciples we've been focusing on? Do you think they found it easy to follow Jesus' example?

What would help them to do that? What can each one of us do to be more like Jesus?

Prayer : Get the children to write their prayers and stick them on the cross. Pray that God will make us more like Him. Play "I want to be like Jesus" track 8 on "Great Big God 3" CD, during the prayers.

Resources : There is a fun sheet in the resources section

Song : "Help me be your eyes Lord Jesus" track 9 Fandabidozzie CD