



I Can Choose the Door that Leads to Jesus Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: Jesus and Zacchaeus- Luke 19:1-10

Bottom Line: I can choose the door that leads to Jesus.

Leader Context: Most everyone has dealt with rejection, even Zacchaeus. Jesus did not see Zacchaeus as the cheat and liar the rest of the town saw in him. He saw him and loved him. Zacchaeus chose to love Jesus in return for the love that He had shown him. He turned from his old life of sin and emptiness and turned to a life full in Christ. We can choose to ignore the emptiness of the world and the lies we believe when we choose to love Christ and be reminded of who we are in Him.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Videos

Bible Story Video (5 minutes)

Transition to Teaching Video - Say This!

Why were the people not happy about Jesus being with Zacchaeus? *They didn't like Zacchaeus because he was a dishonest man. He lied to them and cheated.*

They didn't like Jesus being with someone like that.

Does Jesus want to be your friend? Yes!

In our video today Zacchaeus met Jesus and changed his response to people. Jesus saw Zacchaeus' response and told him, 'The Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.' When we choose to believe that Jesus is God's Son, sent to make a way for everyone to have life with Jesus forever by dying on the cross for our sins and raising in 3 days to prove He was God's Son, we can call Jesus our friend too. Let's watch this video together to see how to choose Jesus every day.

Teaching Video (10 minutes)

Coffee Filter Object Lesson (20 minutes)

What You Need: paper plates (1 per kid), coffee filters (1 per kid), red food coloring, dropper, pencil

What You Do:

- Give each kid a paper plate and coffee filter.
- Encourage them to write examples of different sins on their coffee filter with a pencil. Help write or spell words for them.
- Ask kids to place their coffee filter on their paper plate.
- Take turns dropping the food coloring on top of the written sins.
- The food coloring will blot out the writing, just as Jesus' blood clots out and covers our sins.

Say: Wow, how cool was it to see the way the food coloring blotted out everything we had written on the coffee filter. Jesus' blood- like the red food coloring- covered our sins when He died on the cross for us! That means all of our sins were covered up by His sacrifice. When you believe in Jesus for life, you don't have to hold onto our sins anymore because God has already removed them and forgave us.

What would you say or do if Jesus wanted to come to your house? *allow time for kids to share.*

Keep in mind their questions and things that need to be clarified as you go through the remaining questions.

Is there anyone in your life that you would be upset if Jesus wanted to spend time with them, like He did with Zacchaeus? *It's easy to start thinking not-so-nice things about other people when we think they're doing something wrong. But remember, everyone makes bad choices sometimes. Even you! Even me! Jesus loves all of us just the same, like we see with Zacchaeus. Even if we've made bad choices, He still loves us so much and wants us to be part of His family. Maybe you could start praying for those people that they would choose the door that leads to Jesus.*

Why did Jesus spend so much time with sinners? *He loved them and He wanted other people to see that He loved them! That way, they may realize even sinners are deserving of love and forever life with Jesus.*

How did Zacchaeus choose the door that leads to Jesus? *When he came face-to-face, he realized what he had been doing wrong. He told Jesus he would return the extra money he had taken and more and even give money to the poor. Because he believed Jesus was God's Son, he was forgiven and saved. Then, as a Christ follower, he showed that he wanted to honor God and stop sinning.*

How can you choose the door that leads to Jesus? *Just like Zacchaeus, when you choose to try your best to stop making bad choices and follow God instead, you are choosing to follow Jesus. As a believer, following Jesus means admitting that you still sin and turning the other direction to try to make the right choice every day. You may not always choose right, but that's ok! That's why we have Jesus who has already forgiven us for any wrong choices. It's important that you try your best and choose a life of following God instead of what's popular in the world.*

Say: "What a great reminder of how much we need Jesus. Just like you saw when I tried to erase the sins with only a paper towel, it didn't work. We need water just like we need Jesus. We can't do this on our own. Zacchaeus was a dishonest man, a sinner just like us. He needed Jesus to save him just like each one of us does too. I want to pray with you and ask God to help us see and turn away from our sins. **Pray-** Ask God to show you what kind of friend Jesus is. He is a good friend that we can trust, so ask God to reveal that to you. Ask God to help you see sins and to turn away from them. If you have never believed in Jesus you can pray, "Jesus I believe in you. I believe you died and rose again to give me life. In Jesus name, Amen." Now tell your group and your family that you believe.

Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.