

SECTION
3.7

Jesus Wants You to Share the Gospel



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Extra! Extra!

What You'll Need: Newspaper, magazine, tablet, or smartphone

PREP: Search a newspaper, magazine, or online news media for a popular but positive recent news article. Be ready to share the highlights with the kids.

STEP 1: Share the news story with the kids. Be sure to tell them the source of the story, and assure them the story is true.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why do we want to share good news with others?
- How do you feel when you get to share good news with someone?
- How do you feel when you hear good news?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The gospel is the good news that Jesus died and rose again to pay the price of sin.
- Hearing and responding to the gospel is the only way that a person can be right with God.
- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His followers to share this good news with everyone. We, too, can share the wonderful true story of Christ's love to those around us.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus wants you to share the good news.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Popular Video

What You'll Need: Computer, video projector

PREP: Search online for one or two funny, clean, popular short videos. Be prepared to show it to your kids.

STEP 1: Share the video(s) with the kids.

Ask the following questions:

- What makes a video popular?
- When we see a popular video, why do we want to share it with others?
- How do you feel when someone shares a popular video with you?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- The gospel is the good news that Jesus died and rose again to pay the price of sin. It is the **MOST IMPORTANT** news we can share with someone.
- Hearing and responding to the gospel is the only way that a person can be right with God.
- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His followers to share this good news with everyone. We, too, can share the wonderful true story of Christ's love to those around us.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus wants you to share the good news.

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Philippians Focus

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to Philippians 1:12, Acts 26:22-23, and Philippians 4:13.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 16:15. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He had a special message to give to His followers.
- He told them to go into the whole world and preach the gospel to everyone.
- The gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that Jesus wants us to share the gospel with others, but that is sometimes not easy.

Ask the following question: Why might a kid your age be afraid of sharing the gospel? (Possible answers: They wouldn't know what to say, they are afraid someone will make fun of them.)

STEP 3: Tell kids that the apostle Paul is an example of someone who shared the gospel even in hard times. Ask a volunteer to read Philippians 1:12.

Share these concepts:

- When Paul lived on earth, many people did not believe that Jesus is God's Son. They did not want Paul to share the gospel.
- Paul was beaten and thrown into prison to stop him from preaching.
- When Paul wrote the book of Philippians, he was in prison.

STEP 4: Explain to kids that Paul was focused on sharing the good news and encouraging other followers of Jesus to do the same.

Ask a volunteer to read Acts 26:22-23.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul shared the gospel to everyone around Him. Jesus wants to use us right where we are to share the good news of Jesus with others (Acts 26:22-23).
- We can share the gospel with those around us — our friends, our family, and our neighbors.

STEP 5: Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or a pencil. Encourage them to write the names of two people to whom they can share the gospel. Then ask a volunteer to read Philippians 4:13. Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes it is hard to share the gospel. We may be afraid of what to say or how others may respond.
- But God gave us the Holy Spirit who lives in us; we are never alone. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength to share the gospel with those around us (Philippians 4:13).

STEP 6: Close in prayer, asking God to help your kids have the strength to share the gospel with those around them.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

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Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: You Can Share the Good News

What You'll Need: Bibles, Grace in Action Student Handbooks, highlighters (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 16:15. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He had a special message to give to His followers.
- He told them to go into the whole world and preach the gospel to everyone.
- The gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ.

STEP 2: Ask the following question: Why might a kid your age be afraid of sharing the gospel? (Possible answers: They wouldn't know what to say, they are afraid someone will make fun of them.)

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- We need to know the good news in order to share it with others.
- The more we practice sharing the good news, the easier it is to share it with others.

STEP 4: Give each kid a highlighter, and have kids work in groups in groups of two or three. Encourage them to turn in their handbooks to units 3.3 and 3.7 and highlight key phrases and verses that talk about the good news of Jesus Christ.

Share these key concepts:

- The gospel is the true story of how Jesus, God's Son, came to earth.
- Jesus lived a perfect life and chose to take the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross.

- Three days later, He rose again.
- If we trust in Him as Savior, we will one day live in heaven forever with God (John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 15:4).

STEP 5: Remind kids that there are people in their lives who need to hear the good news of the gospel.

Share these key concepts:

- We can share the gospel with those around us — our friends, our family, and our neighbors. Jesus wants to use us right where we are to share the good news of Jesus with others (Acts 26:22-23).
- Sometimes it is hard to share the gospel. We may be afraid of what to say or how others may respond. But God gave us the Holy Spirit who lives in us; we are never alone. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength to share the gospel with those around us (Philippians 4:13).
- We can share the gospel with those around us — our friends, our family, and our neighbors.

STEP 6: As time allows, encourage kids to take turns sharing with one another the key truths of the gospel. Have leaders walk among the groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

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