LESSON PLAN

RICH YOUNG RULER

SERIES: Following Christ
THE POINT: Jesus is worth more than anything I own
BIBLE STORY: Rich Young Ruler || Mark 10:17-31
AGE: Grade 3 - Grade 6

ABOUT THIS LESSON

In Week 4 of the "Following Christ" series, children explore the story of the Rich Young Ruler. This story helps children understand that following Jesus is not just about believing the right things, but about trusting Jesus with every part of our lives, including what we own. Jesus challenges the rich young ruler to think about others, not just himself. This lesson encourages children to see what they have as gifts from God that can be used to bless and help others, even when it costs us something.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Learn, understand and retell the story of the Rich Young Ruler
- Understand that God gives them things so they have opportunities to bless others
- Recognise that following Jesus can involve sacrifice and choosing others over themselves

BIBLE CONTEXT

In Mark 10, a rich young man approaches Jesus and asks what he must do to inherit eternal life. He explains that he has kept God's commandments, but Jesus lovingly points out what is still holding his heart. Jesus challenges him to give up his wealth, help the poor and follow Him. The man walks away sad because he is unwilling to let go. Jesus then teaches His disciples that while following Him can be difficult, nothing is impossible with God. This story shows that following Jesus requires trust, surrender and a heart that cares for others.

SERIES MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 16:24 (NIV) "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Pages 2-4 have a variety of different activities to add onto the Link Crew Video!

Make this toolbox your own! Use it in whatever way helps your group dive deeper into the lesson. The goal is deep understanding and great discussions.

Page Number	Name	Activity Description
2	Discussion Guide	Discussions guides, application "Faith in Action" statements and prayer pointers to help facilitate a greater discussion.
3	Activities Page	Fun, topic based activities like a craft, game, quiz and Memory verse activity that bring the learning to life.

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

RICH YOUNG RULER

START THE CONVERSATION

"What is a gift that you have that you already use to bless people with? Crafts? Singing? Being kind?"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS, GRADE 3 - 4

1. The rich young ruler had followed all of God's commands but found it hard to give them up. How do you think you are going at following God's commands? How can sharing what we have help others?

2. Jesus said that with God, all things are possible. How does this give hope when following Jesus feels hard? How can God help us make sacrificial choices?

3. God gives us things like time, talents and belongings. What is one thing God has given you that you could use to help someone else this week?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS, GRADE 5 - 6

1. The rich young ruler wanted to follow Jesus but struggled to trust Him fully. Why can following Jesus sometimes feel costly? What things can distract people from following Jesus today?

2. Jesus challenged the man to think about others, not just himself. How does generosity show that we trust God? What does generosity look like in everyday life for kids?

3. Following Jesus involves our hearts, not just our actions. What might Jesus be asking people to trust Him with today? How can we practise surrender in small ways?

FAITH IN ACTION

God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others. When we choose generosity, we show trust in God and love for people. Think of one way you can bless someone this week.

- "I can share with others what I have."
- "I can give my time to help someone else."
- "I can be generous with kindness and love for others."
- "I can try to think of others before I think about myself."

Pray

Go around the class asking your kids if there is anything they would like prayer for. Ask if anyone would like to pray for each other, and give them the opportunity to. If not, then pray for the needs as the teacher / facilitator. Remember to pray for the children to recognise what gifts they have that they can share with those around them.

Take note of any prayer requests to be passed onto your child's support network.

Lesson Wrap-up

The rich young ruler teaches us that following Jesus is about trusting Him with everything. God gives us good things so we can use them to help others and show His love. When we choose generosity, we grow closer to Jesus.

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ACTIVITIES PAGE

RICH YOUNG RULER

ACTIVITY - CREATE A GIFT

Supplies Needed: Paper, Pens or Pencils, College, Paint, Clay, (anything)

Have the children create a gift with their gifts that God has given them for someone else. This could look like a drawing,painting, college, song, dance, or clay sculpture. Allow the children to share their gifts in this activity and as they do this remind them that God has given us all things to give to others as this is what following christ is all about. Loving others.

GAME - REVERSE ROB THE NEST

Supplies Needed: Balls, Designated Areas (hula hoop or cones)

Have the children split into 4 teams and put an equal amount of balls in each teams area. On go the children can take ONLY ONE ball at a time run and place it into another groups area. This repeats until the game is stopped after a few minutes. The balls are recounted and the group with the least amount of balls in their area wins.

BIBLE QUIZ

1. True or False: The rich young ruler was not good at following the original commands from God. (False)

2. Multiple Choice: What did the man ask Jesus? (a)
   a) How to inherit eternal life
   b) How to get rich
   c) How to be good

3. Short Answer: What did Jesus tell him to do? (Give what he had to the poor and follow Him)

4. Short Answer: Why did the man walk away sad? (He did not want to give up his wealth.)

5. Multiple Choice: What is the main lesson of this story? (a)
   a) Jesus is worth more than anything I own
   b) Money is bad
   c) Only rich people struggle

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: MEMORY TRICK MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 16:24 (NIV) "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

Supplies Needed: Pens and Paper

Give the children 5 minutes to come up with an acrostic or some sort of memory trip that helps them remember the memory verse. Once completed have them show it to the rest of the group and remember the memory verse to see how effective it is.

GAME

You can find a list of small group games at https://lmnetwork.com.au/small-group-games/

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