

God's Kid

Luke 3:1-22

God Story

Jesus' Baptism
Luke 3:1-22

Big Idea

Jesus is God's kid.

Key Verse

"We have come to believe
and to know that you are
the Holy One of God."
John 6:69

Leader Tip

Pray for the students in
your group before they
arrive.

My Story

1. Conversation Starter

7 MINUTES

Review what the series has covered so far and introduce today's Big Idea. Talk about why the students love certain people, then lead into the God Story.

2. Intro Activity

5 MINUTES

Ask the students to end this sentence: "People say they know I am my mom's or dad's kid because of my..." Then lead everyone to guess one another's answers.

God Story | Life Story

3. Weekly Video

12 MINUTES

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

My Story

4. Application Activity

12 MINUTES*

Read aloud Luke 3:1-22 and create comic strips based on the passage.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

10 MINUTES

Read Luke 3:22 and encourage everyone to fill in their own names as dearly loved children of God.

Our Story

6. Dismissal

2 MINUTES

* Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.

My Story

1. Conversation Starter

Supplies

- None

Leader Tip

Be ready to share your own age-appropriate examples. It's fun for everyone to hear about your experiences and get to know you, too.

Instructions

- As the students arrive, greet them and gather everyone together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week went.
- Remind the group that we're in the middle of a series about Jesus' life. We've talked about how he is God's greatest promise and that Jesus lived a human life just like us.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: Jesus is God's kid.
- Ask:
 - Last week, you wrote some questions that you have about God, Jesus, and faith. Did any of you find answers to your questions or have some conversations about them?
 - Think of someone you love—it could be a parent, a sibling, or a friend. Why do you love them?
 - How many of you have cousins? One of Jesus' cousins plays a big part in today's God Story. Is it weird to think about Jesus having cousins?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

2. Intro Activity

Supplies

- Index cards
- Markers

Instructions

- Give each student an index card and a marker.
 - Ask them to finish the following sentence: "People say they know I am my mom's or dad's kid because of my..." Encourage them to write a characteristic or brief description (e.g., sense of humour, nose, height) on their cards.
 - Collect the cards and shuffle them.
 - Read them aloud one at a time, pausing after each one and prompting the students to point at who they think wrote it.
 - After everyone points to their guess, have the person who wrote the card identify themselves.
 - Emphasize that Jesus is God's kid. Explain that Jesus shows us what his father, God, is like.
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God Story | Life Story

3. Weekly Video

Instructions

Supplies

- Video file

- a. Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Jesus' Baptism | Luke 3:1-22)
 - Life Story (Kids share their perspectives on how they know and experience their parents' love.)
- b. Invite the students to give a quick recap of what happened in the God and Life Stories.
- c. Ask:
 - What stood out to you in these stories?
 - How do they connect together and also to the Big Idea?
 - Why do you think it matters that **Jesus is God's kid**?

My Story

4. Application Activity

Instructions

Supplies

- Comic Strip activity pages
- Markers
- Pens

- a. Give each student an activity page and something to draw with.
- b. Read the passage below and follow the prompts to pause.
- c. When you pause, direct everyone to draw what they heard in one section of their comic strip. They could also write a word or phrase that stands out to them.

Luke 3:1-22 (NLT)

¹ It was now the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius, the Roman emperor. Pontius Pilate was governor over Judea; Herod Antipas was ruler over Galilee; his brother Philip was ruler over Iturea and Traconitis; Lysanias was ruler over Abilene. ² Annas and Caiaphas were the high priests. [pause]

At this time a message from God came to John son of Zechariah, who was living in the wilderness. [pause]

³ Then John went from place to place on both sides of the Jordan River, preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. ⁴ Isaiah had spoken of John when he said, "He is a voice shouting in the wilderness,

'Prepare the way for the Lord's coming! Clear the road for him! ⁵ The valleys will be filled, and the mountains and hills made level. The curves will be straightened, and the rough places made smooth. ⁶ And then all people will see the salvation sent from God.'" [pause]

⁷ When the crowds came to John for baptism, he said, "You brood of snakes! Who warned you to flee the coming wrath? ⁸ Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones. ⁹ Even now the ax of God's judgment is poised, ready to sever the roots of the trees. Yes, every tree that does not produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰ The crowds asked, "What should we do?" [pause]

¹¹ John replied, "If you have two shirts, give one to the poor. If you have food, share it with those who are hungry." ¹² Even corrupt tax collectors came to be baptized and asked, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He replied, "Collect no more taxes than the government requires." ¹⁴ "What should we do?" asked some soldiers. John replied, "Don't extort money or make false accusations. And be content with your pay." [pause]

¹⁵ Everyone was expecting the Messiah to come soon, and they were eager to know whether John might be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered their questions by saying, "I baptize you with water; but someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷ He is ready to separate the chaff from the wheat with his winnowing fork. Then he will clean up the threshing area, gathering the wheat into his barn but burning the chaff with never-ending fire." ¹⁸ John used many such warnings as he announced the Good News to the people. [pause]

¹⁹ John also publicly criticized Herod Antipas, the ruler of Galilee, for marrying Herodias, his brother's wife, and for many other wrongs he had done. ²⁰ So Herod put John in prison, adding this sin to his many others. [pause]

²¹ One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy."

5. Wrap-Up Activity

Supplies

- Bibles

Instructions

- Ensure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- Guide the students to look up Luke 3:22.
- Read the verse together.
- Highlight that in the same way that God loves Jesus, he also loves each of us!
- Encourage the students to read the verse again and fill in their own names (e.g., "Cassie, you are my dearly loved daughter, and you bring me great joy").

Our Story

6. Dismissal

Supplies

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

Instructions

- a. Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
 - b. Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
 - c. Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
 - d. Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.
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