

CITY LG – February 5th, 2023

Today's Bible Story: For the Sake of the Call (Calling of the Disciples) • *Luke 5:1-11, 27-32*

Today's Bottom Line: Include people who are left out.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Do to others as you want them to do to you.* Luke 6:31 (NirV)

WORSHIP:

Chasing Me

Believe It

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups

“Hi, everyone! It’s great to see all of you here in the CITY! This month, we’re talking all about RESPECT What do you think respect is? (*ask a few kids what they think*)

SLIDE: *Virtue*

“Respect is showing others they are important by what you say and do. I want you to circle up in your small groups and discuss the answers to a question together. **The question is: How can YOU show respect for others?** I want you to talk about this as a group.

- Some suggestions—being kind, listening to someone, taking turns, not making fun of someone because they look or act differently, not talking behind someone’s back, including others and not ignoring them, etc.

Give the groups about a minute to discuss. Walk around and help them with some of the suggestions above if they are struggling with answer.

“Ok, what is one thing your group came up with as a way you can show respect to others? (*call on groups to tell you one of their answers*)

SLIDE: *Theme*

“Awesome job you guys! Our words and actions are such a big deal! God can help us use our words and actions for good by showing respect to other people. It’s kind of like when you’re driving down the street in a car. (*Pretend to steer an imaginary steering wheel.*) You have to follow the rules of the road, right? The rules keep you safe, and they also help you respect other drivers.

“Well, all year, we’ve been going through the Bible together. We’ve seen how God created the world and everything in it—including people. God loved the world and people so much. But because people turned away from God, the world became broken. Still, God had a plan to make everything right. God sent Jesus to be born in Bethlehem.

“Jesus grew up, and He was baptized by His cousin John in the Jordan River. God spoke from heaven and said . . .

Open the Bible to Matthew 3:17 (NIRV) and read.

“This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him.

“After that, Jesus spent 40 days in the desert. Then He began to travel from town to town, teaching and healing people. And here’s the really interesting thing. Jesus didn’t spend most of His time with people who were considered important, like religious leaders. Jesus spent His time with ordinary, everyday people. And He chose some of the most unlikely people to be His closest friends and followers. Let’s hear more about His friends in the Story Lab”

Lesson Video

“Jesus included everyone! He wasn’t worried about what other people thought about who He spent time with, or what people expected Him to do. The religious leaders thought they were too important to need help. They were upset that Jesus would give His time and attention to people who they felt weren’t as good as them. But Jesus chose to spend His time with people who saw how much they NEEDED Him—people who had been left out.

“And because Jesus treated people this way, we can, too. That’s one thing we can do to respect others. Let’s learn our bottom line for today!”

Bottom Line Video

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Include people who are left out.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us do that.”

PRAY: “Dear God, it’s so cool to see how Jesus chose people like Peter, James, John, and Matthew to be His closest friends. He included people who others might have left out. Thank You so much for including each of US and for loving us the way You do. Help us love other people the way You love us and include people who are left out. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

“How amazing is that Jesus made EVERYONE feel loved. He chose to be friends with people who others wouldn’t talk to. He invited the most unexpected people to follow Him and learn from Him.

“Jesus treated people in a way that showed each person that they were made in God’s image. Jesus showed that each person is extremely valuable! And that’s something we have the opportunity to do too. Remember . . .

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] “Include people who are left out.

“I know whenever I’ve felt left out, it’s meant a lot to me when someone reached out and included me. That’s like what Jesus said in this month’s memory verse, Luke 6:31.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

“Do to others as you want them to do to you. (Luke 6:31, NIV)”

Let’s all say that again together.”

“Do to others as you want them to do to you.” (Luke 6:31, NIV)”

OFFERING:

As some of you may already know, we are highlighting some of our Parkview Global Missionaries from the beautiful country of Mexico. Here is a picture of our Missionary Friends Eli and Mandy Garcia!

CG: Eli and Mandy

Parkview has spent many years developing a very important partnership with an organization called Vida Nueva Ministries in Mexico. This group has been working in many of the under-resourced areas to plant churches, start schools, and care for the amazing people of Mexico. Here’s a picture of some of the kids at the school down in Mexico.

SLIDE: Kids at School (Image 6620)

So if you brought an offering today, you can bring it up now knowing that it is going to help a lot of people just like you in the great country of Mexico!

“Great job! I sure have enjoyed hanging out with all of you today. Have fun in Small Group!”