



Lesson 54

1st-4th

I (JESUS) AM THE VINE

August 29 & 30

GOD GROWS US



LESSON GOAL:

Background: In the Old Testament, God asked the Jewish people to slow down each season and celebrate the work He was doing in their lives. We call this Remember & Celebrate.

Lesson Goal: For kids to spend time reflecting on and celebrating the ways God has grown us over this past season!

John 15: 1-17



KEY VERSES *from this quarter:*

"Even the Son of Man did not come to be served. Instead, he came to serve others. He came to give his life as the price for setting many people free."

Mark 10:45, NIRV

"Finally, let the Lord make you strong. Depend on his mighty power."

Ephesians 6:10, NIRV

"I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and my sheep know me."

John 10:14, NIRV



KEY VERSE *for today:*

I am the Vine. You are the branches If you remain joined to me, and I to you, you will bear a lot of fruit. You can't do anything without me..

John 15:5, NIRV

5:45-6:10pm
8:45-9:10am
10:45-11:10am

CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.



SAY:

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**!

Grab today's **Lesson Card**. Look up the Bible passage in your own Bible or a classroom Bible and leave your card there as a bookmark. Then, you can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

6:10-6:25pm
9:10-9:25am
11:10-11:25am

EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



DISCUSS: Remember & Celebrate!

Help kids connect relationally by asking them about their week, then discuss the lesson topic for the day and read the Bible passage together.



SAY:

Let's take turns sharing three words about our week. I'll go first!
Share your three words then invite the next child to share.



SAY:

Today is a very special day called Remember & Celebrate! We are pausing to think about and celebrate how **God Grows Us** in our lives! Let's look at our Bible passage for today, **John 15:5**! Can you open your Bible to the passage with me so we can read it together?



DO:

Read the Bible passage aloud or pick a child to read it aloud.



CONNECT: Feasts & Festivals



Help kids understand the value of looking back and remembering what God has done in their lives and celebrating His goodness throughout history.



SAY:

Today, we want to take time to Remember & Celebrate! What are some special things you like to celebrate? (**examples: birthdays, holidays, getting good grades in school, winning sports events**) Why do you like to celebrate these things? (**allow kids to respond**) We celebrate things that are important to us or have a special meaning in our lives.

In the Old Testament, God asked the people to do the same thing! He wanted the Jewish people to slow down each season and celebrate the work He was doing in their lives. He gave them a religious calendar of seven special feasts and festivals to participate in that all pointed back to one thing - Jesus!

God wants us to slow down and celebrate, too. Sometimes that might look like participating in a feast of our own or sometimes that looks like sitting in a circle and sharing how God has helped us. However it looks, we want to take time to Remember & Celebrate together!



MAKE: God Grows Us Plant

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

Supplies: 5oz cup, soil, seeds, God statement sticker



DO:

Today we learned that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. Just like a plant needs water, sunlight, and good soil to grow, we need to stay close to Jesus so He can help us grow. God is always working in our hearts, helping us become more like Him!



SAY:

Help each child fill their cup with soil and plant the seed. Add water and place the "God Grows Us" sticker on the cup. Encourage kids to take their plant home and remember that just as their seed will grow, God helps us grow when we stay connected to Jesus.



CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.



Craft Example



6:25-6:50pm
9:25-9:50am
11:25-11:50am



LARGE GROUP

REMEMBER & CELEBRATE



EXPECTATIONS

As kids transition to Large Group time, play the expectations video.



HOST MOMENT

The Host welcomes the kids as they enter for Large Group.



SAY:

Welcome! You may have noticed it looks a little different in Large Group today. That's because today is Remember & Celebrate! We're going to spend some time reflecting and thanking God for all He has done! God is faithful!

REMINDER

Remind kids that even though today looks a little different, we still need to follow our Large Group expectations.



WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song video. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.

SONG 1: Where Would I Be

SONG 2: Bloom



LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.



WORSHIP RESPONSE

Lead the kids through a quiet time of responding to what God is teaching them.



PRAYER

Help create a smooth transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

May you continue let God grow you as you spend time with Him! He loves you!

WORSHIP RESPONSE



REFLECT: God Grows Us!

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

Worship Response Station

Supplies: None



SAY:

God grows us when we stay close to Jesus. Just like a branch needs a vine to grow fruit, we need Jesus to help us grow strong, kind and full of His love.



DO:

- Ask the kids to quietly participate in the following activity. Say:
 - Jesus said He is like a vine, and we are like branches.***
 - A branch cannot grow fruit if it is not connected to the vine. In the same way, we cannot grow strong in love, kindness, and faith unless we stay close to Jesus.***
 - God helps us grow by giving us His Word, His love, and His help every day. Let's practice growing with God right now.***
 - Invite kids to curl up into a tight ball like a seed. Then have leaders walk around to each kid and pretend to pour water on them as you say, "God grows you." Then, have the kids slowly start to grow taller and taller.***
 - How can you grow with God this week? Let a few kids share.***



PRAYER

Help create a smooth transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



SAY:

God gives to us...so we give back to God! Offering is an opportunity every week to give some of our money to God as a way to say "Thank you, God!" for all He has done for us.



BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.



SAY: *May you continue let God grow you as you spend time with Him! He loves you!*

6:40-7:10pm
9:40-10:10am
11:40am-12:10pm

RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



CHAT & CHEW

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



Supplies:

Pretzel sticks (10 sticks per child), fruit snacks (1 package per child), hand sanitizing wipes, lesson review cards



SAY:

Today, we learned that **GOD GROWS US!** To celebrate all we've been learning for the last few months, we've got a special snack that's also an activity to help us remember this truth!

Pass out the following items to each child:

- 1 hand sanitizing wipe (to use before touching/eating snack)
- 1 vine & branch placemat
- 10 pretzel sticks
- 1 package of fruit snacks

Before you eat your snack, use your placemat to build the vine & branches! As we take turns sharing the "fruit" that God has grown in us, you can eat each part of your snack!

CHAT & CHEW QUESTION: How have you grown in your relationship with God lately? Or how can you grow? ***Have kids take turns sharing.***

After everyone has shared, show the class each of the review cards. Ask kids to share any learnings or thoughts that come to mind as you review.



PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together. Use the Prayer Tags from Check-In to write down prayer requests to take home and pray for during the week.



SAY:

Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud.



DO:

Invite kids to pray for each other, then the leader closes in prayer.

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RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



IF TIME ALLOWS: Growing Fruit Together

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

Supplies: fruit of the spirit cards, tree poster (2 sets per classroom)



SAY:

Let's play a game to help us celebrate that God grows us! In the Bible, God gives us a list of important fruit that He wants us to grow. These are called the fruits of the spirit and includes: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. When a tree is healthy and growing, it produces fruit. God wants to grow good things in us too! Let's work together to fill the tree with fruit!



DO:

Place the tree poster on the wall or floor on one side of the room and the "fruit of the spirit cards" on the other side of the room. Have kids start on the side by the tree poster and work one at a time to gather each fruit from the other side of the room.

As each child brings a fruit card back, they must say "God grows **name of fruit** in me" as they tape the fruit to the tree! When the tree is filled, practice reciting each fruit of the spirit together!

For older groups, divide the class into two teams and turn this into a friendly relay competition to see which group can finish first!

As parents
arrive after
service

CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



DO:

Encourage kids to finish their activities or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any announcements while handing them the announcement card and ensuring they take their **Explore Activity**.