

Unit 13 at a Glance

What Is a Disciple?

Unit Overview

In this unit, the children will take a journey with Jesus and his followers. They will watch as Jesus fills Peter's nets with fish as well as filling his heart with humility. They will imagine Jesus teaching his disciples to pray, and think of their own need for daily prayer. Ultimately, the children will learn about the choice that every person must make—to repent and be baptized. As they watch the prodigal son come out of the "pit," they will see that change is a good thing that leads to new life. As they conclude this unit with a lesson about baptism, the children will have a vision for making their own decision to follow Jesus one day.

Unit Goals

- The children will learn that a disciple is a follower of Jesus.
- The children will understand that disciples love God with all their hearts.
- The children will believe that God has a plan for their lives.

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Lesson 1 Putting God First

Scripture Memory Verse **Luke 5:5**
"Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

A hard day's night becomes an experience that's hard for Peter to forget. Jesus fills his nets and his heart! The children will learn that Peter obeyed Jesus even when he did not feel like it, as they think of ways to do the same.

Lesson 2 Depending on God

Scripture Memory Verse **Luke 11:9**
(New International Reader's Version)
"Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you."

Jesus teaches the disciples, as well as the children in class, to pray. The children will see that God knows their every need and wants to meet them. They will think of how they can ask, search and knock in prayer to God for their needs.

Lesson 3 Make That Change

Scripture Memory Verse **Matthew 18:3**
"Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Change is in the air and throughout this lesson about biblical repentance. The children will be able to define the word "repent" as a change in thought and action as they think of ways that they can change to please God this week.

Lesson 4 Putting It All Together

Scripture Memory Verse **John 3:3**
"I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

In this lesson, the children will learn that a person wanting to be a disciple must show his faith and love for God with a change of heart and action. Then he must be baptized for the forgiveness of sins. The children will be inspired as they hear the personal stories of disciples' baptisms and will be encouraged to look ahead and dream of their own.



Dear Parent,

In this unit, the children will take a journey with Jesus and his followers. They will watch as Jesus fills Peter's nets with fish as well as filling his heart with humility. They will imagine Jesus teaching his disciples to pray, and think of their own need for daily prayer. Ultimately, the children will learn about the choice that every person must make—to repent and be baptized. As they watch the prodigal son come out of the "pit," they will see that change is a good thing that leads to new life. As they conclude this unit with a lesson about baptism, the children will have a vision for making their own decision to follow Jesus one day.

On the reverse side of this page, you will find an outline and a description of the lessons that comprise this unit. Included with each lesson is a Scripture Memory Verse for you to review with your child at home.

Your active involvement outside the classroom is essential and will truly make the Kingdom Kids Curriculum a great success for your child. Here are some suggested ways you can reinforce these lessons at home:

- Take your family down memory lane with scrapbooks, photo albums, letters, cards, etc. of each child's birth. Try to make your child(ren) grasp the joy and thrill you felt at each of their births. Explain that this is how God feels when a person becomes a Christian. Help your child to see that God is excited about each and every person who is born again—just as you were about each one of your children. If you have pictures of your own baptism, show them the pictures of your "rebirth."
- Make plans to celebrate your spiritual birthdays this year in a special family celebration. If they do not already, make sure that your children know your spiritual birthday, as well as your physical one. Put candles on a cake and talk about how it feels to be another year older in your faith.
- Help your child to see that baptism and becoming a disciple is something that they can look forward to doing when they are older, hopefully when they are in their teen years. Talk with them about what they have been learning in Bible class. Encourage them for the ways you see them growing in their faith and love for God as well in their obedience and respect at home. Thank them for any changes you have seen them make to please you and let them know that you notice.
- In the car or on a walk, ask your child if they ever think about what their own baptism would be like. (Do not overreact if they do not respond enthusiastically. Remember that this is as unfamiliar to them as the idea of marriage.) Who would do it? Who would they want to be there? What scriptures would they want to read? Do they have a special song they'd like to have everyone sing? Write these thoughts down and save them for the future. By asking the questions, you are planting ideas that will grow over time.

We look forward to being partners with you as together we help plant Seeds of Faith in the heart and mind of your child.

Thank you,



Your child's teachers