

Lifegroup Kids Guide:

Come to Me

INTRO

We encourage family Lifegroups to do welcome & vision, Lifegroup house rules, and worship all together – then have the kids and adults separate for discussion.

WELCOME & VISION DANCE (5 MINUTES)

Who loves Lifegroup?! Who can tell me why we do lifegroup?

We're going to teach you a simple way to remember why we do Lifegroup. It's called the vision dance. Are you ready?!

- Because Jesus loves us (point up, then point to yourself)
- We want to walk with Jesus (walk in place)
- Become like Jesus (cross arms over chest)
- Help others follow Him (point out to others, then point up to Him)

Do it again in slow motion or super fast. Have fun with it.

LIFEGROUP HOUSE RULES (2 MINUTES)

We have 3 Lifegroup rules.

1. Be kind and respect ourselves
2. Be kind and respect others and their things.
3. Listen and obey the first time.

Who can repeat these back to me?

Discipline Plan: 1st time is a warning, 2nd time you talk with kids leader, 3rd time we get your parents and you leave kids portion of lifegroup, but are welcome to come back next time

note to share any house specific rules

EX: No going into people's bedrooms, we take our shoes off at the door, etc.

GROUP ACTIVITY - DIAPER RELAY (10 MINUTES)

- Baby Doll or stuffed animal
- Diapers
- Timer on phone

Explain that we will have a race to see who can change the baby's diaper the fastest. Give a child the baby and a diaper and when you say "go" start the timer and stop it when they are done. See who can do this the fastest in the group.

Afterwards ask:

- How hard was it to put the diaper on the doll?
- How much can a baby do for itself? (nothing)
- Sometimes people think children should not be included because they need so much help. What do you think Jesus thinks about children?

BIBLE STORY (10-15 MINUTES)

- Bible - Mark 10:13-16

"Hi, friends! I am [your name] and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible. (Open Bible for children to see, then set it down) Are you a kid? Wave your hands up in the air if you're a kid! (Pause.) Yes! That's all of you! Put your hands down now. Today, I've got a story about some kids who wanted to meet someone very special. This true story from the Bible begins with Jesus. We know that Jesus is very special. Jesus is God's Son, and He came to do AMAZING things. Jesus and His friends, the disciples, did lots of important work. They taught people about God, and they helped people. Wherever they went, there was always a crowd of people who wanted to learn things from Jesus and get help from Jesus. EVERYONE wanted to be near Jesus. (Display Story Image 1) One day when Jesus was teaching, many, many people were around Him wanting to meet Him and get close to Him. There were lots of adults. Moms and dads and aunts and uncles. There were farmers and doctors and carpenters and fishermen. And there were children! (Display Story Image 2) The children knew Jesus was special and they wanted to see Jesus too! But Jesus' disciples stopped (Hold out flat palm to gesture "Stop") the children from getting near Jesus. What do you think Jesus thought about this? (Pause) Let's read to find out...

Mark 10:13-16 NIRV

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus. They wanted him to place his hands on them to bless them. But the disciples told them to stop. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was angry. He said to his disciples, "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. God's kingdom belongs to people like them. 15 What I'm about to tell you is true. Anyone who will not receive God's kingdom like a little child will never enter it." 16 Then he took the children in his arms. He placed his hands on them to bless them.

- What stands out to you?
- What do we learn about God?
- What do we learn about people?
- What does this mean for us today?

SMALL GROUP PRAYER TIME (10 MINUTES)

We can ALWAYS come to Jesus by praying to Him. Ask the kids what they need prayer for or what they can celebrate and thank God for.

Remind them that in all things we can come to Jesus. To thank him and celebrate good things and also to ask questions and share hard things. Take time for kids to share then have them pray for each other before closing in prayer.

GROUP ACTIVITY - Love Run (5-10 MINUTES)

Gather children in an open area. Encourage the children to run to you, one at a time, when you say, "Jesus loves . . ." followed by their name. Give them a high five and have them run back. At the end say, "Jesus loves everyone!" Have all the children run to you.

"Hi, friends! Follow me over here and make a line across the floor. I have a special game for us to play. Today we're going to play a special game that helps us to remember that Jesus loves us. When you hear me say, 'Jesus loves . . .' listen for your name. If I call your name, run to me. Then run back to your place. Are you ready, friends? (Pause.) Great, let's start! Jesus loves [child's name]! (Give a high five.) Jesus loves [child's name]! (Continue with each child.) Jesus loves EVERYONE! Everyone run to me! (Pause.) Hooray! That was so much fun! In our Bible Story today, we heard about how all the children wanted a chance to see Jesus, and His disciples stopped them. But Jesus wanted to see the little children, so He told the children to come to Him. Jesus told the crowd of people to never stop children from coming to Him, because Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"

EXTRA IDEAS IF YOU STILL HAVE TIME...

ART

Give each child a paper and set out colors. Have them draw hearts and write names of people God loves inside each heart.

PRACTICE MEMORY VERSE

Early Childhood

'Be kind and loving (cross hands over chest) to each other,' (spread arms out)
Ephesians 4:32. (Open hands like a book.)

Elementary

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” - Ephesians 4:32

Share the importance of meditating on and memorizing God’s word! Do you have a kid appropriate story of when God brought to mind scripture you had memorized to help you or encourage you or remind you of truth that you can share with them?

PLAY!

- Simon Says
- Rock/Paper/Scissors
- Play the monkey video and dance along. [Monkey video](#) (if you’re trying to calm kids down - do not play this song 😂)