

Lifegroup Kids Guide: Jesus is preparing a place for us!

WELCOME & VISION DANCE (about 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 (about 2 minutes)

We have 3 Lifegroup rules.

- 1. Be kind and respect ourselves
- 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)

BIBLE STORY (about 10-15 minutes)

Opening question: ask the kids questions about celebrations or parties.

- Who's like to go to a party?
- What kind of party did you go to?
- What do you like about going to parties?
- Why do we have parties?

Then share with them that today we will learn about a party—the most amazing party ever! And how everyone is invited to it.

Bible Story

Have kids get their Bibles and help them locate the scriptures, then read John 14:1-3 and Revelation 21:3-5.

"Did you know that Jesus is in heaven, right now, getting a place ready for all of His friends?! Would you like to hear what heaven will be like? In heaven, there is no more sickness, pain or suffering. Everyone can run and play, and no one ever gets hurt in heaven! Bye- bye, bandages! In heaven, no runny noses, no tummy aches, no earaches. Everyone is healthy in heaven! In heaven, we will never be sad. Because sad things don't happen in heaven. There will be nothing to worry about and no reason to be afraid. In heaven, we will have everything we need. We will be happy all of the time, because we will be with our friend, Jesus. It will be like an amazing party that never ends! It is so exciting when you think about it! Jesus is in heaven, right now, getting heaven ready for all of His friends! For you and for me and for all of the people around the world that have chosen to follow Jesus! That is so awesome!"

(READ SCRIPTURES) "What stood out to you? What did you learn about God? If you were to draw a picture of a party in heaven, what would you draw?

Ask a kid to pray thanking God for sending Jesus and for preparing the most amazing party for us.

PRAYER (about 7-10 minutes)

Break into groups of 3-5 to pray together.

- We want to help others follow Jesus too. Who is someone else you could invite to know Jesus in your life? Ex: friend, classmate, etc.
- Help them pray for that person.

GROUP GAME (choose 1 - about 10 minutes)

Party Tag: Two players are designated as It and link arms The Party. Whenever they tag another player, that player joins arms with The Party. The Party players need to work together to navigate and tag others. Once The Party captures all of the players, start over again.

EXTRA IDEAS IF YOU STILL HAVE TIME...

ART

Give each child a paper and something to write with. Have them draw what they envision Jesus' amazing party to be like and to thank him for inviting us. Have kids share at the end if they feel comfortable.

PRACTICE MEMORY VERSE

Walk (walk in place) in the way of love (cross arms over chest), just as Christ (point up) loved us (point to self),' Ephesians 5:2."

PLAY!

- Soccer
- Tag
- Simon Says
- Hide n Seek
- Rock/Paper/Scissors

DANCE!

- Play the monkey video and dance along. <u>Monkey video</u> (if you're trying to calm kids down - do not play this song
- Freeze Dance Have the kids dance to upbeat music and when it stops they
 have to freeze until the music starts playing again. If they move when the music
 has stopped, they are out. Play until there is only a handful of kids left then play
 again if time allows.