3

SERIES: VERSUS FOR KIDS

Church Is Important

4th-5th

PursueGOD.org

Lesson Overview

Today we're going to learn about church. Did you know that going to church is good for you? It is and here's why. When we go to church, we get to hear about how great Jesus is and why he died on the cross for us. He did it to save us from our sins. At church, we also get to meet new friends who love Jesus and encourage us to live to honor him. And, going to church means we get to use the special gifts God has given us to help others. For example, God may have given you the gift of hospitality which means you're kind and friendly to the new kids who show up to your class. Being nice to a new kid helps them to want to know Jesus. So, remember, going to church is good for you.

Big Idea

Going to church is good for us

Key Question

What happens when we don't make church a priority?

Memory Verse

Hebrews 10:24 | Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1. (Answers to puzzle: Church, Friends, Jesus, Gifts. Message: Church is good for us!**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: What are some of your favorite things about going to church?** (Tip: Church is fun! You get to play games, sing and learn about how cool Jesus is and why he's worth getting to know.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **We forget about Jesus and what honors him**. (Going to church reminds us of how great Jesus is and why we should follow him. We also learn what honors God and the things we should avoid. And, when we go to church, we meet other friends who love Jesus and they will help us to live for him. If we don't ever go to church, we'll forget about Jesus and we won't care about what honors him. We'll be lost doing our own thing.)
   - **Bonus Questions:** Why is church important? What happens when we don't make church a priority? **4-5th:** What are some other reasons for going to church? What are some things that honor God?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read** Galatians 5:22-23**. List all the fruit God wants us to produce in our lives. Which one do you need to work on growing more of in your life?** (Answer: The Fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. Producing these fruits in our lives will help us to honor God.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT RACE

Instructions:

- Divide the class into teams of 4.
- Write the Explore verse, Galatians 5:22-23, on the whiteboard big enough for the kids to see.
- Give each team a set of Fruits of the Spirit (page 5).
- Have kids put the fruits face down on the floor. When you say, "Go!" have teams race to flip them over and put the fruits in the correct order as stated in Galatians 5:22-23.

Supplies needed:

Whiteboard and marker, Fruits of the Spirit template (pg. 5, precut, 1 set per team)

Bonus Activity:"Fast Facts"

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

1. At church, we learn about __(Jesus)
2. We can use our ___at church to help others. (gifts)
3. Our memory verse if from the book of ___(Hebrews)

OPTION 2: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT GAME

Instructions:

- Write the Explore verse, Galatians 5:22-23, on the whiteboard big enough for the kids to see.
- Have the Fruits of the Spirit (page 5) in a bowl in the front of the room. Have kids take turns pulling out a fruit from the bowl and then have them tape the fruit up on the whiteboard.
- When all the fruits have been pulled and taped, work as a class to move the fruits in the correct order as stated in the verse.
- Remind the kids that going to church will help them to grow the Fruits of the Spirit in their lives.

Supplies needed:

Whiteboard and marker, Fruits of the Spirit template (pg. 5, precut, 1 set per class), Tape, Bowl

Bonus Activity: "True or False"

See who's the quickest to answer correctly.

1. At church, we learn about Jesus (T)
2. God gives us special gifts to help others. (T)
3. Our memory verse if from the book of Matthew. (F)

3

SERIES: VERSUS FOR KIDS

Church Is Important

4th - 5th

PursueGOD.org

Hey kids, have you ever thought about why you go to church? Maybe you go to church because your parents make you. Or because you get a snack from your kids' church teacher. Or maybe you go because you have lots of friends there. These reasons aren't bad, but there are some even better reasons why you should go to church.

Reason #1: To connect to _____

You usually don't learn about Jesus in school, so where else are you supposed to learn about him? At church! This is important because the more we know about Jesus, the more we can connect with him. Let's look at the Bible to see why that's important.

> ***John 15:4-5*** *Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.*

Reason #2: To _____ to other Christians

You can't be a great Christian all on your own. That's why being friends with other Christians is really important. Let's take a look at why it's so important to connect with others. **Memory verse!**

> ***Hebrews 10:24*** *Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.*

Reason #3: To find and use your _____

God gives us these gifts so that we can work together to honor him and to help other people to come to know Jesus, too.

So kids, next time you don't really feel like going to church, think of these three things. Because going to church is one of the very best ways to be a better Christian kid!

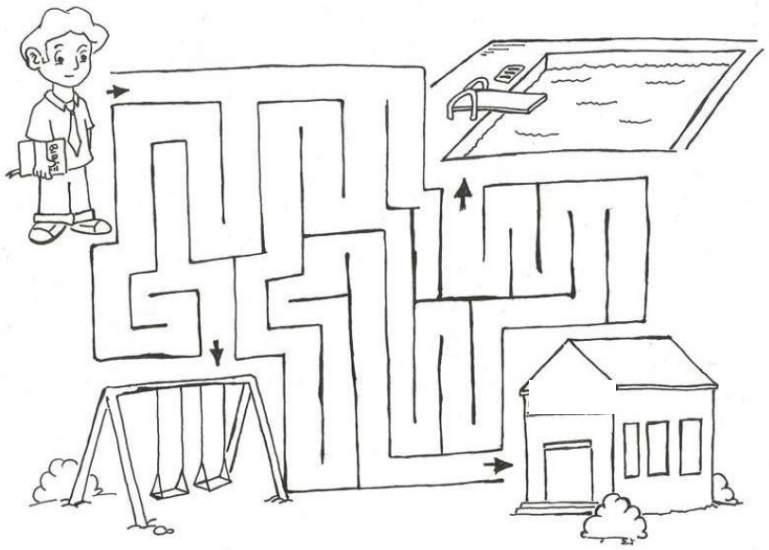
Answers: Jesus, connect, gifts

Parent Signature:_____

Questions:

1. *What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?*
2. *What are some of your favorite things about going to church?*
3. *What are the 3 reasons why we should go to church?*
4. *Why do we need Jesus? (See Foundations for Kids)*
5. *What are some of the gifts God has given you? How can you use those at your church to help others?*
6. *Read Galatians 5:22-23. List all the fruit God wants us to produce in our lives. Which one do you need to work on growing more of in your life?*
7. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.



Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Hebrews 10:___ | Let us

_____ of ways to

_____ one another

to acts of _____ and

good works.

CHCURH

1	2	13	12	5	6

SIDNERF

	4				10	14

JUSSE

			3	

TIGSF

9	7	11		8

									O	O			O						!
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			10	11		12	13	14			

3

SERIES: VERSUS FOR KIDS

Church Is Good

4th-5th

PursueGOD.org

LOVE	JOY
PEACE	PATIENCE
KINDNESS	GOODNESS
FAITHFULNESS	GENTLENESS
SELF CONTROL	