

Tuesday Evening Church Group Time

Bible Story: Peter Walks on the Water • *Matthew 14:22-33*

Bottom Line: Jesus invited people to follow Him.

Memory Verse: “Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them.”
John 7:38 (NIV)

Before Coming to Camp, pray for the kids. Pray for those who might be at camp for the first time. Pray specifically for those who may be beginning to hear the spirits call to salvation. Pray that they would answer Jesus’ invitation to follow Him!

1. Catch the Wave

What You Need: “Catch the Wave” Activity Page, markers (supplies provided at camp)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Catch the Wave” Activity Page
- Set out the markers.
- Instruct the kids to decorate their surfboard.
- When everyone is finished decorating Say: “What are some ways we can “make waves” by following Jesus and spreading His love to others?” If kids struggle with ideas here are a few to help them...Pick up trash that isn’t yours, hold the door for someone, compliment someone, say thank you, etc.
- Invite children to write down the responses around their surfboard.
- Ask: “What could happen if you do these things?”
 - For example: If we show kindness by holding the door open for someone—treating them how Jesus would want us to treat them—maybe that person would do the same and we could start a wave of kindness!
- Instruct the kids to focus on one surfboard each day with their family so they can “make waves” together!

What You Say:

“Jesus didn’t just invite people to follow Him so their lives could be changed. **[Bottom Line] Jesus invited people to follow Him** so that we could make waves in the world around us! Think about how much better our schools, neighborhoods, parks, and our entire world would be if we all acted a bit more like Jesus.

“How would things look different? *(Allow time for responses.)* I love those answers! Jesus has created some pretty sweet waves for us to catch and make a big difference in this great, big world. Whether it’s a wave of kindness, generosity, or compassion, we get to help change the world because Jesus has invited us to.”

2. Follow Me

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Together, look up John 7:38.
- Invite a volunteer to read John 7:38 to the group.
- Recite John 7:38 a few times.
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Invite the kids to make up motions to the Memory Verse.
- Allow the teams to use the Bibles for reference.
- When kids have their motions ready, take turns letting each group be the “leader group” and teach the other team their motions for the Memory Verse.

What You Say:

“Following Jesus isn’t always as easy as these sweet moves you’ve come up with, but it’s always worth it. Just like our verse says, whoever believes in Jesus will have living water flow from them. The living water is God’s Holy Spirit. He lives inside of us and will help us follow God.

“**[Bottom Line] Jesus invited people to follow Him.** And His Holy Spirit will help us! Jesus is kind and good and loving. And we follow Him when we live like Him. I can’t wait to hear how you decided to follow Jesus this week—whether you put others first by letting your sister pick what show to watch, serve your family by cleaning up after dinner without being asked, or love someone by including them in a game at recess. I know you will make big waves this week!”

3. Prayer Card Activity

What You Need: “Prayer Card: Day 2” Activity Page, markers (supplies provided at camp)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a prayer card
- Point out the “wave” symbol on the prayer card.
- Remind kids that **[Bottom Line] Jesus invited people to follow Him.**
- Say: “When we choose to follow Jesus—when we do what He did, and love like He loved—we can make waves and change the world around us!”
- Invite the kids to turn the prayer card over and write down one way they can follow Jesus this week. (They can use the same idea as the one they thought of for the surfboard activity.)

Pray and Dismiss when bell rings