



3RD - 5TH

34-1
The Church
Met Together



CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids: **Do you have a close friend you like to do things with? What do you do with your friends?**



CAN YOU HOLD IT ALL?

Start by 9:20/10:45

Assign each kid a number. Distribute a few items to each kid such as a ball, book, bag, apple, etc. Instruct kids to walk about the room until you shout a number. The kids must give all of their items to the kid whose number was called. Challenge him to hold all of the items. The goal is that the kid will struggle to hold all the items and will be overwhelmed by the weight and number of items. Repeat as time allows, seeing who can hold the most number of items.

It was challenging to hold all of those items. Imagine having to carry around the items all the time. We would grow weary and tired. This is how it is when we try to obey God to earn our salvation. We simply can't do it. In our story, we will learn the good news of how Jesus has made the way for anyone to be free of his or her burden of sin through faith in Him.

START BY
9:30/10:55

REVIEW **3** BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



LARGE GROUP

SMALL GROUP



BIBLE REVIEW

Distribute Bibles and guide kids to open their Bibles to Acts 15.

- Acts is considered to be church history because it describes how the early church began and spread into the world. In the book of Acts we see our mission is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Choose a volunteer to read aloud Acts 15:8-11.

Following rules or obeying the law can't save us. Only faith in Jesus can take away our sins. Even when God gave His law to the Jews, it wasn't meant to help them earn their way to Him. The law showed them their sin and helped them see they needed a Savior.

God sent Jesus to save both Jews and Gentiles. Anyone who trusts in Jesus is forgiven and receives the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit works in us, helping us live in a way which honors Him and makes us want to tell others about Jesus.



DISCUSSION

- **Peter said that both Jews and Gentiles are saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus (Acts 15:11). But what is grace?** Grace is God's love that we don't earn or deserve. God forgives us and saves us because of what Jesus did for us—not because of anything we do. Grace means we can't earn our way to God; it's a gift He gives us because He loves us. (Read Ephesians 1:7)
- **Have you ever tried to earn forgiveness or God's love?** Answers will vary. Encourage kids to remember we can sometimes feel like we need to earn God's love when we sin. God showed His love to us when He gave His only Son to die for our sin. God's grace covers past, present, and future sins. (Read Romans 5:8.)
- **Why is Jesus' death and resurrection enough to save us?** Only Jesus lived a perfect life which made Him the perfect, spotless sacrifice for our sin. Jesus' blood completely washes away our sin forever and His resurrection defeated death. (Read Galatians 2:16.)



KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Psalm 96:3 together.

Our new key passage reminds us that we get to share God with the world. The gospel is for all people, everywhere.

Write the key passage on a dry erase board. Read the key passage aloud three times. Then erase two or three words and recite the key passage again. Repeat until the key passage is entirely erased.



Key Passage: *Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!*
Psalm 96:3



Big Picture Question: *What is our mission as Christians? Our mission is to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit.*



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers.
Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.