



MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE

The Story of God's Kingdom: Session 3

The Kingdom on Earth

Key Statement: God's kingdom was intended to display 1) God's royal place, 2) God's royal people, and 3) God's loving rule.

::CONNECT::

Activity 1: Travel Brochures

- Guide students to come up with a list of famous places, fictional or real (ex: the Batcave; Hogwarts; Buckingham Palace; Jurassic Park). Lead each student to make a travel brochure for his or her fictional place.
- Now, guide them to make another travel brochure: this time, to Eden. They should focus their brochure on the ideas put forward in part one of the lesson, but they can also draw from parts two and three. Part two will help them talk about the kind of people travelers would meet there and part three would help them talk about what a fantastic place Eden/the kingdom of God is.
- Allow students a few minutes to share their brochures. Talk about cool connections between their first destination and the kingdom of God. Discuss why Eden surpasses any other place.

Activity 2: Talk Show

- Break students up into three-person teams. Each team needs at least one boy and one girl. Assign each student one of three roles: talk show host, Adam, and Eve. The talk show host (radio or TV; your pick) should prepare some questions to interview Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve should study the passages from the lesson to prepare to answer the host's questions (they should not work on these together).
- Allow students a few minutes to conduct their interviews. Point out highlights of the story, as mentioned through the interview.

Activity 3: Counseling

- Present students with a list of difficult life situations (ex: concern about making a team, dealing with divorce, facing rejection from asking someone out, etc.).

- Guide students to pair up. Instruct a member of the pair to pick one of the situations from the list and role-play that situation. The second student should try to counsel and minister in that situation. Prior to their role-playing activity, remind students of part two of the lesson: they are made in God's image to display His glory. Help them modify their role-playing to fit that point. For example, the student concerned about making a team should realize that she is a significantly valued by God, that her acceptance is found in Jesus, and that she is made in God's image...so she should do her best to magnify Him, but she shouldn't worry because He loves her regardless.

:: CONVEY ::

If you are pressed for time this week, consider only covering points one and two of the lesson.

Remember, this is merely a suggested outline adaptation for a middle school group. If you decide to incorporate one or more option into your group time, you will likely have to be very selective on the material you decide to teach through. Keep in mind that each class is different, and as the leader guide suggests, personalize the lesson content for your class by determining what elements are most applicable. Don't feel pressured to teach through all of the content in a single meeting, but instead help middle school students to see the main overall point and big picture the lesson is conveying.

:: COLLIDE ::

See Leader Guide