

App Store

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Jesus wants to be our Savior.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will be able to say how they can become Christians.

KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:1-6, Jesus Is Preparing a Place for Us in Heaven

INTRO:

Years ago, a face book was an actual book full of faces. It was a photo book published on many college campuses so that students could look one another up and get to know each other.

Today, Facebook is one of the largest and most powerful companies on the Internet, and the Facebook app connects people all around the world. Facebook began as an electronic version of the traditional face books. It was intended to help college kids to meet one another not only on individual campuses but across campuses, but it has grown into so much more. More than one billion people use Facebook, Facebook messenger, and other Facebook-related apps to connect, to advertise, to share photos and information, and just have fun.

People connect on Facebook the same way they do in the real world - one person at a time. When you see someone you know, or want to know, you send them a friend request - an invitation to connect. If they accept your invitation, you become friends and you begin sharing everything - photos, wall posts, good news and bad news, you name it.

Facebook can connect people who live many miles away. You can even connect with people from other countries on Facebook. This one app has brought people together from around the world through common interests and common beliefs. That's pretty amazing.

Do you know what's even more amazing? The Bible tells us that long before Facebook was invented, Jesus sent us an invitation. Jesus has invited all of us to be his friend. Jesus wants to save us from sins and take us to Heaven. Let's hear part of Jesus' invitation from the Gospel of John.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

READ JOHN 14:1-6

MAIN POINT:

Jesus came to Earth to pay for our sins. He went back to Heaven to prepare a place for us. Jesus sent his disciples into the world to begin spreading the message: we are all invited to live forever with Jesus!

Becoming Jesus' friend is even simpler than becoming friends on Facebook. You don't have to have a computer, and you don't have to be in a certain place. You can accept his friend request right where you are.

Jesus is preparing room for all of us up in Heaven. He's waiting for us to answer his invitation.

DRIVE IT HOME:

Becoming a friend of Jesus begins when we admit that we are sinners. Sin is all the bad stuff we have done and all the bad stuff we will ever do. God knows we are sinners, and he knows that we can't save ourselves from sin. That's why he sent Jesus to do what we could not do on our own.

Jesus took the punishment for our sins when he died on the cross. Three days later he rose again. God gave Jesus the power over sin and death, and he gave him the power to give us new life.

When we ask Jesus to come into our hearts and be our friend, he sends his Holy Spirit to live within us. Through the Holy Spirit, we can pray directly to Jesus. We can get to know God through prayer. God will use the Holy Spirit to lead us and guide us. The Holy Spirit will help us to recognize and avoid sin, and it will help us to see when God is leading us.

Becoming Jesus' friend is a call to adventure. God will use us to share his love with other people. He will use us to serve those in need and to share our faith. Being a friend of Jesus does not mean life will be easy, but it does mean Jesus will be there, in good times and bad, to see us through.

Whether you have Facebook or not, all of you have an open invitation this morning to be friends with Jesus. Jesus is calling, asking you to accept that invitation and begin a friendship with him. If you have questions about what it means to accept Jesus as your Savior please talk to your parents or a small group leader today.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for inviting us to know Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen