

13

VERY COOL STORIES

and Why Jesus Told Them

**“I will speak to you in parables. I
will explain things hidden since
the creation of the world.”**

Matthew 13:35

How to Use These Sessions

First, thanks. Thanks for caring about children and for helping your kids dig into 13 cool stories that Jesus told. You'll get to share with kids the meaning behind these stories and what they tell us about Jesus, the kingdom of heaven, and our place in God's big story.

Welcome to Easy

These sessions for elementary kids are carefully designed to make your life easy. They're light on supplies, quick to prepare, and long on fun. You'll find most supplies in the church's supply closet or kitchen or at home in your garage, pantry, or junk drawer—no need to spend time ordering materials online.

Because these sessions are created so beginning teachers or mature teenagers can lead them confidently, you won't need highly trained teachers. And the variety of options in each session will snag the attention—and hold it—of first-grade through six-grade children, including the boys!

Best of all, you'll see kids grow in their faith as they open their hearts to what God shares with them through these 13 sessions.

Welcome to Simple Learning

Preparation is easy too. Each week you'll focus on one key Bible truth, which children will explore and apply. You'll drive that point home through Bible exploration, fun discussion, giggle-worthy games, and "Oh, wow!" activities that engage kids in multiple ways through multiple learning styles.

13 Very Cool Stories and Why Jesus Told Them

Welcome to Deep Bible Discovery

Each week, your children will actually *experience* a Bible story. They'll discover it, ponder it, talk about it, pray about it, and apply what they learn. If that's what you're looking for—for your children to *do* God's Word instead of just hear it—you're in exactly the right place. And here's a tip: supersize the learning by using a kid-friendly version of the Bible to make sure the stories are understood by children.

Welcome to Flexibility

We get it: sometimes you have to punt. A sermon goes long ... or short. Kids are quick to dive into a lesson or need some time to warm up to being together. Older kids might zip through an activity while their younger friends take longer.

Relax. We've got you covered.

You can use these sessions with kids in practically any setting: in Sunday school, children's church, evening programs, or while kids' parents are attending an adult class or small group. There's maximum flexibility because each session is written to last 45 minutes and then provides enough extras to fill a full hour. These sessions stretch to fit exactly what you need, when you need it. They're ...

- **multi-aged**—suitable for mixed ages of elementary children;
- **easily adapted**—sessions work for just a couple kids or a packed classroom;
- **relational**—children grow close to Jesus *and* one another
- **flexible**—brimming with options to fit varying time frames; and
- **fun**—even easily distracted kids can engage, learn, and grow!

So are you ready for some fun? Let's dive in!

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Trust Jesus.
John 10:11–15
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We can help our neighbors.
Luke 10:30–37
- SESSION 3** **The Story of the Vineyard**
Life's not fair—but God is always loving.
Matthew 20:1–15
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Use your talents to serve God.
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Obey Jesus.
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Stay connected to Jesus.

John 15:1, 4-5

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We can forgive others.

Matthew 18:21-35

SESSION 11 **The Story of the Wedding Feast.**

You're invited to God's party!

Luke 14:16-24

SESSION 12 **The Story of the Mustard Seed**

God helps our faith grow.

Matthew 13:31-32

SESSION 13 **The Story of the Precious Pearl**

Jesus is worth everything.

Matthew 13:45-46