



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Is the King
Winter Year 1, Lesson 40

The King Sends His Men

Take Home Point: *We represent the King.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Matthew 9:37-10:28, Jesus sends out the twelve.

Key Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:20: "Therefore, we are Christ's representatives, and through us God is calling you."

We will help kids know:

- Jesus sent out his 12 disciples with spiritual authority to be his representatives.
- Jesus wanted his disciples to depend on him so they might have the right words and operate with his authority.
- Jesus wants to send us into our world as his representatives.




We will help kids feel:

- Confident because God's power goes with them as they represent the King.
- Inspired so they would speak up for Jesus.

We will help kids do:

- Use a ring and its imprint as a reminder of their spiritual calling to represent the King.
- Think of situations they might encounter this week in which they can represent the King.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3-4	Kids hear a story of a boy who was asked to represent a king. God chose them to be a very important representative for him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> stamp or ring with cross wax
Large Group 	4 7-8 8 9-10	Overview Puppet Presentation: "Gordy Gets Important" Video: <i>The Visual Bible: Matthew</i> 9:37-10:28 Puppet Presentation Conclusion: "Gordy Gets Important"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gordy orange safety vest whistle video, <i>The Visual Bible: Matthew</i> (Visual International and Visual Entertainment, Inc., 1997) cued to Matthew 9:37-10:28
Small Group Application 	4-6	Have kids make a parchment document similar to a king's document telling what their duties are as representatives of the king. Then they will seal the parchments. This reinforces that when Jesus was talking to the disciples and telling them what they were to be doing as representatives of the King – he was also talking to each of us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> stamp or ring with cross (orientaltrading.com or novelty toy stores) cross ring for each child (<i>optional</i>) wax copy of king's document for each child (see appendix)

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction! Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.*

Use wax and a stamp or cross ring to make something like a king's seal on paper. While telling the story, make a seal using wax and a stamp or cross ring on paper. Begin with:

Let me tell you a story. Many years ago kings used rings to give their official power to someone. This is the way it worked.

When they made a special rule or agreement with someone, they would pour wax onto a paper. Before the wax had dried, they would press their ring into the wax. Then the wax was left with a mark that came from the king's ring. Whenever the mark from the king's ring was on a piece of paper, people knew for sure that was what the king said or wanted.

There was a small kingdom that wanted to make an agreement with the king of a large and mighty kingdom. The small kingdom asked that the powerful king would visit them so they could make an agreement of peace. They were told that such a visit would happen. Eagerly, they waited for the arrival of such an important person.

On the day he was to arrive, they were surprised and disappointed to see nothing but a small boy who was driven to their kingdom in a royal coach. "How could this be?" they asked. "We were waiting for the powerful and mighty king and this is but a small boy. How can such an agreement of peace be made between our two countries if the king won't come and see us?"

At that, the small boy approached the officials of the small kingdom. He took out a piece of paper that was an agreement of peace and dripped wax onto it from a candle. Then he took a ring from his pocket, put it on his finger, and left the ring's mark in the wax. All were amazed to see it was the seal of the king.

The boy said, "It is as if the king himself were here for he has given me his royal ring to seal the agreement."

A hush fell over the crowd as the paper with the king's seal was held high for all to see. Soon the officials of that land bowed before the boy and the paper, recognizing that it

was the king's action that had happened. The people cheered for the agreement was settled.

Do you see how in this story the little boy was a representative of the king? Since he wore the king's ring, all knew the king had given him the authority to make an agreement for him. The same is true for us. Jesus has called us to be his representatives. He has given us his power or authority to act in his place.

Did you know that you are like that little boy in the story—you represent the king too! Today we will find out that God chose you to be a very important person for him. We will discover some of the important things we can do for him as **we represent the King.*

Large Group: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible Event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Overview

Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Gets Important”

Gordy represents the principal as a safety patrol helper at school. This means he gets to wear a special orange vest. He is given the authority to make sure kids don't run into the street as they come in from recess.

Video: *The Visual Bible: Matthew 9:37-10:28*

Puppet Presentation Conclusion: “Gordy Gets Important”

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion, but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

In the Bible event today, we saw how the disciples were representatives of the King. Let's look at the Bible and see if we can find out more about what it means to be the King's representative.

Have kids refer to Matthew 9:37-10:28 in their Bibles.

When Jesus saw crowds, he felt sorry for the many that were sick and the many who did not know him. What did Jesus tell the disciples he needed? (*Matthew 9:38. Workers to harvest his crops.*)
What does it mean to be “workers in God’s harvest”?

What were the disciples supposed to harvest? (*Followers of Jesus.*)

When Jesus called his 12 disciples, he gave them the authority or power to do what? (*Matthew 10:1. To force evil spirits out of people and to cure disease and sickness.*)

Read Matthew 10:7.

What was the message the disciples were to spread when they went out? (*The kingdom of heaven is near.*) **What do you think Jesus meant when he said the kingdom of heaven is near?**

Read Matthew 10:8.

What are some powerful things Jesus gave the disciples the authority to do? (*Cure the sick, bring the dead back to life, cleanse those with skin diseases, force demons out of people.*) **Why did he give them that authority?**

Will everyone be happy to receive the followers who come in Jesus’ name? (*Matthew 10:22-23. Some will hate them and persecute them.*)

Why shouldn’t Jesus’ followers be afraid of people who can kill the body? (*Matthew 10:28. Because they can’t kill the soul.*)

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

In Matthew 10:9-10, Jesus tells the disciples not to bring money or extra supplies for their travels. Who do you think was going to take care of them? (*Matthew 10:11. People in the village. In verses 30 and 31 Jesus tells them that the Father will take care of them.*)

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Just like in the story we heard earlier about the king giving authority to the little boy, Jesus has given us his power or authority to act in his place. One of the most important things we can ever do is to represent the King. We can tell others how Jesus gave his life for us. Because of that, God’s kingdom is near to anyone who believes. We

can show people God's love and we can even pray for their healing. God will give us the power to be his representatives.

Today's key verse, 2 Corinthians 5:20 says, *"Therefore, we are Christ's representatives, and through us God is calling you. We beg you on behalf of Christ to become reunited with God."*

The apostle Paul, who knew he was a representative of God and had the important job of telling others how to be reunited with God, wrote this. The same is true for us. We are his representatives and have the job of telling others how they can be reunited with God. Let's all think of something we can do this next week that shows **we represent the King* to someone else.

Application Activity:

Have kids make a parchment document similar to a king's document telling what their duties are as representatives of the king. Then use the wax and seal from warm-up and seal kids' parchments. This reinforces that when Jesus was talking to the disciples and telling them what they were to be doing as representatives of the King – he was also talking to each of us.

Examples to help children think of ways they can represent the King:

1. How can they speak about God and not be afraid if other people make fun of them?
2. How can they help people who feel lonely or left out?
3. How can they pray for people who are sick?
4. How can they take a stand for things that are right? What about choosing not to go to certain movies because they are inappropriate or violent even if other friends make fun of them for not going.

While sealing each child's parchment, reinforce the take home point:
****We represent the king.***

Optional:
Give each child a cross ring to take home.

Closing Prayer:

Close with prayer, giving thanks for opportunities to represent the King and the courage to do so.

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“Gordy Gets Important”

Puppet Presentation

Gordy will appear with an orange safety vest or something that gives him the appearance of a safety patrol kid. He should also wear a whistle around his neck. The sound of a whistle comes from offstage before Gordy appears.

Whistle blows from behind the puppet stage.

Mr. King: **Whoa! Wait a minute. What’s that whistling back there? Gordy, is that you?**

Gordy: *(Whistles again and then appears.)* Yeah, it’s me, Mr. King. I’m just practicing.

Mr. King: **Practicing for what?**

Gordy: I’m a safety patrol kid. Can’t you tell?

Mr. King: **Oh, that’s pretty impressive. I can tell by your orange vest that something is different.**

Gordy: You bet something is different! As a matter of fact, I’m so important I can tell you what to do.

Mr. King: **You can?**

Gordy: Sure! Come over here.

Mr. King: **Okay. How can you tell me what to do?**

Gordy: I already did. See? I told you to come over here and you did. Hee, hee.

Mr. King: **Oh.**

Gordy: That’s my job. The principal gave me the job of being the safety patrol kid.

Mr. King: **Safety patrol kid?**

Gordy: Sure! I tell people where to go and they go there. I make sure none of the little kids run into the street when we get back from recess.

Mr. King: **That is important!**

Gordy: And I get to wear this important vest. I even get to blow this whistle.

Mr. King: The principal even gave you a whistle?

Gordy: No, I brought it from home but it's a nice touch, don't you think?

Mr. King: Yes, I guess so. Let me get this right. The principal chose you to be a safety patrol kid.

Gordy: That's right.

Mr. King: And you have the authority or power to tell people where to go or, at least, help the little kids not run into the street.

Gordy: That's right.

Mr. King: So when you tell the kids where or where not to go, it's just as if the principal were saying it?

Gordy: Exactly!

Mr. King: So, in a way, you represent the principal by being out there helping make sure the kids are safe.

Gordy: You got it! That's why I'm so important.

Mr. King: Gordy, how would you like to represent someone more important than a principal?

Gordy: More important than a principal!? Who's more important than the school principal?

Mr. King: How about the King of the universe—Jesus.

Gordy: You mean I could represent him?

Mr. King: That's right. Today we will find out that **we represent the King*. Let's watch this video that will show us exactly what it says in the Bible beginning in Matthew 9:37.

Show Matthew 9:37-10:28 from the video, *The Visual Bible: Matthew*.

“Gordy Gets Important”

Puppet Presentation Conclusion

Mr. King: Gordy, what did you think of the video?

Gordy: Well, I noticed that Jesus sent out his 12 disciples. I also noticed that some people were very mean to them.

Mr. King: Yes. Some people didn’t receive the disciples. They even drove them out of their cities.

Gordy: But the disciples were representing Jesus. Doesn’t everybody love Jesus?

Mr. King: No. A lot of people don’t love Jesus. If you represent him, they might treat you badly just like they would treat Jesus badly.

Gordy: I don’t know if I would like having rocks thrown at me.

Mr. King: Gordy, not everyone will throw rocks at you if you represent Jesus. Many people will be very glad to hear you.

Gordy: They will?

Mr. King: Sure! When you represent Jesus, you can go to other people and help them. You can tell them that Jesus gave his life for them and that if they would trust Jesus as their Savior, they could be friends with God forever.

Gordy: Wow! That’s a pretty important message.

Mr. King: It’s the most important message in the whole world. And the King, Jesus, needs people to represent him and to tell others about him.

Gordy: He even needs kids like me?

Mr. King: Especially kids like you.

Gordy: Especially kids who are on the safety patrol and have one of these vests and whistles?

Mr. King: He needs those kinds of kids and he needs other kinds of kids too—like the kids out there. *(Points to the audience.)*

Gordy: You mean all of us?

Mr. King: All of us. Gordy, we represent the King. In our small groups today we are going to get a special reminder that will always remind us that we represent the King. Would you close us in prayer?

Gordy: Sure! Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, for being our King and letting us represent you. Help remind us that ****we represent the King*** and we can do things to help others find out about you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

