



Date: _____
Series: Raising Your Parents
Summer Year 1, Lesson 10

Having Fun With Your Parents

Take Home Point: *Have fun with your parents.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: 1 Thessalonians 3:12; John 2:1-2 (Verses 3-12 summarized)

Key Verse: 1 Thessalonians 3:12, "We also pray that the Lord will greatly increase your love for each other and for everyone else..."

We will help kids know:

- Having fun together as a family is an important way of showing love.
- Jesus' first miracle was at the celebration and fun of a wedding feast. He blesses fun times families have together.
- They can and should invite their parents to have fun.
- Having fun together can build relationships and help when they face tough times later.




We will help kids feel:

- Happy at the thought of having fun with their parents.
- Excited about trying some of the new ideas discussed today to have fun with their parents.

We will help kids do:

- Make ice cream floats while discussing fun foods to enjoy with parents.
- Brainstorm different fun activities in the categories of fun food, fun games, fun activities and traveling fun.
- Make twelve Family Fun Coupons to take home and be challenged to do one in the next week.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids make ice cream floats while brainstorming on FUN FOODS to eat with the family.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ice cream pop spoons glasses straws newsprint, poster board, or tablet paper to write down brainstorming ideas three Family Fun Coupons (p. 9)
Large Group 	4 7	Overview Teaching Point: Kids hear about the Bible event where Jesus celebrates and has fun at a wedding, performing his first public miracle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> simple grandparent costume
Small Group Application 	4	Kids brainstorm and make more Family Fun Coupons to share with their family. Kids are challenged to do one of their chosen family fun ideas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mystery coupons for the following categories: Fun Games, Fun Activities, Traveling Fun copy appendix (p. 9) and cut apart—each kid should have 12 coupons.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

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.

Summertime Options

Easier Summer Option: Place kids in groups of 8-16 for the activities in small group warm-up and small group application. There should be one shepherd per group. The large group presenter gives the questions and directions for all the kids and their groups.

NOTE: The small group activity will take longer because of making and eating ice cream floats. The rest of the lesson has been adjusted for that.

Supplies needed: pop, vanilla ice cream, cups, spoons, straws (for ice cream floats), newsprint, poster board or regular notebook paper (for recording "fun ideas," Family Fun Coupons with three FUN FOOD ideas written on the backs (examples: bake cookies together, make Jell-O sculptures, and a mystery meal. A mystery meal is when each family member gets three dollars to spend for supper at the grocery.) Option: small prizes for groups who have guessed fun ideas on the cards

Today we will talk about having FUN with our parents. I want you to think about some of the fun times you remember having with your parents. But, you can't use vacations.

As you discuss some of these fun times together in your small group, we will have a FUN time making ice cream floats!

Allow the kids to go to a table or bar and make their floats after all have shared a fun time with the group.

After kids are rounded up and back in their group, lead the following discussion while kids are enjoying their floats.

How important do you think it is to have fun with your parents? How much does it help your relationship? How many people would say having fun with their parent(s) is very important, kind of important, or optional?

Today we will discover that it *is* very important to **have fun with your parents*. This is one of the ways to show love and it helps to strengthen your relationship.

When you have fun times together, it helps later when you are going through tough times. The bond that was strengthened during fun times will support you and your family during tough times.

One last thing we will do before we go to large group is talk about how fun it can be to have FUN FOOD together as a family.

Each shepherd needs to have paper, newsprint or poster board to write down ideas. Over the course of the morning, they will brainstorm ideas about Fun Food, Fun Games, Fun Activities, and Fun Traveling.

Let's brainstorm about some FUN FOOD ideas we can eat with our families. An example is ice cream floats.

I have three FAMILY FUN COUPONS here with three ideas of FUN FOOD. If anyone comes up with one or more of the same ideas I have written here, you will receive a point (or a prize).

Shepherds write down ideas from the group to see if they match the presenter's FUN FOOD ideas.

Presenter reveals the hidden ideas to see if anyone has guessed them.

Large Group Overview: 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.*

Teaching Point: Kids hear about the Bible event where Jesus celebrates and has fun at a wedding, performing his first public miracle.

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?/ Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Have kids refer to John 2:1-12 in their Bibles.

When Jesus changed water into wine, what event was he attending?
(A wedding.)

Why do you suppose Jesus chose to make more wine for the feast instead of just letting it run out? Does this make you think Jesus did or did not like to have fun?

What do you think Jesus liked to do best at this big celebration, eat and drink or spend time building relationships?

Why do you think eating and drinking adds fun to any celebration?

The key verse from 1 Thessalonians 3:12 says, “We also pray that the Lord will greatly increase your love for each other and for everyone else...”

How can doing fun things together with your parents increase your love for each other? *(Having fun with parents can help strengthen relationships. Kids and parents can appreciate different qualities about each other.)*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Supplies: Family Fun Coupons paper used in small group Warm-Up to write down brainstorm ideas; option: small prizes for those who guess the presenter’s mystery Family Fun Coupons, appendix page (copied and cut apart for each kid), pencils

In the Warm-Up activity, we brainstormed some FUN FOOD ideas to have fun with your families. Now we will brainstorm more ways to have fun with our parents.

With each of the following categories, have mystery Family Fun Coupons ready to show. For example, write three Family Fun Games on the back of the Family Fun Coupons such as Monopoly, UNO, Nintendo. Write three Fun Family Activities such as playing miniature golf, flying a kite, family bike trip. Write three Fun Traveling Together Coupons such as What Movie is this? (One person says a line from a movie and the others have to guess from what movie it came.), Bible trivia, I Spy, etc.

Again, give out points, adding them up to see which group is the winner, or have small prizes for those who guess one of your ideas. Begin with:

Let's brainstorm about Fun Games you play together as a family. What are some board games that you play?

Everyone shares their ideas while the shepherd writes them down.

Our next category is activities you can do with your family. These are things like making a movie together or having a family kick ball game. What are some of your ideas?

Shepherds write ideas down.

Now, I would like you to think about things you and your family can do to have fun in the car together. Examples of this are the Alphabet game (find all the letters of the alphabet from the signs), or Count the Cows (count on your side of the road. Cows are one point, horses add five, dogs subtract ten, and cemeteries, erase all.)

Pass out family fun coupons to the kids. They should each have twelve.

I would like each of you to pick out three activities you like best from each of the categories. Write them on your coupons. You should have a total of twelve when you are finished.

After allowing time for kids to record ideas, say:

Today we discussed many ways to **have fun with your parents*. I challenge you to try at least one of these activities this week and report back next week. I will be anxious to hear how the fun times went and all the laughs you had together as a family.

Let's spend some time in prayer and pray that our families will become closer by having fun together.

Closing Prayer:

Thank God that he sent Jesus so we can have life abundantly. Thank him for forgiveness of sins so that we can forgive others, especially our family members. Thank him for Jesus' example who loved to be with and have fun with others. Pray for families to come closer by having fun together.

Let kids pray for individual requests.

Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

Having Fun with Your Parents

The character for this series will play the part of a grandmother or grandfather. They can use their own last name, but be referred to as Grandma or Grandpa_____ (put in your own last name.) Simple costuming of a scarf, reading glasses, and a cane can be used. To make it more elaborate, add gray hair spray or gray wig.

Introduction

Hello, kids. My name is Grandma (Grandpa) _____ (your last name). I am here today to talk about raising parents. A lot of parents want to hear how to raise their kids, and I know there are many experts on THAT subject.

I am an expert, though, on how to raise your parents. I am sure there are many of you who have questions concerning this.

I have some very important advice for you youngin's that will help you help your parents become the very best they can be.

Personal Story by Presenter

Tell a personal story of when you had a special fun time with your parents or bring a favorite game from home to share.

Memories like this last a lifetime. This helps kids grow in their relationship with their parents and is a way they can express their love for each other.

Teaching Point: Explain the Bible Event

Ask a volunteer who likes to read to come up and read 1 Thessalonians 3:12.

"We also pray that the Lord will greatly increase your love for each other and for everyone else, just as we love you."

Ask your volunteer to share a story of having fun with his/her parents. Then have him/her return to his/her seat.

Summarize Jesus' First Miracle

Who remembers the first miracle Jesus performed? His first miracle was at a big family event. It was at a wedding. John 2:1-2 says,

“Three days later a wedding took place in the city of Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there. Jesus and his disciples had been invited too.”

Summarize verses 3-12 for the kids. Then continue with:

When Jesus turned water into wine, he demonstrated that the kingdom of God was coming to people and it was something to be celebrated. This Bible event also teaches that, like Jesus was celebrating at a wedding, our relationships are worth celebrating and having a lot of fun.

Jesus gave his whole life so that we would not only have life with God forever in heaven, but that our lives here would be filled with joy. He wants us to share that joy with others, especially with our parents.

Introduce the Rest of the Morning’s Activities

You will now go back to your small groups and continue brainstorming about fun things to do with families. Here is a challenge for you. After you have brainstormed fun ideas to do with your family, you can make several Family Fun Coupons with ideas to do with your family.

To use your coupons, you might have a parent pull a Family Fun Coupon out of a hat, or you might prepare a special activity for your parents to do with you.

Be creative. Your parents will be so delighted that you want to spend time with them. You need to invite your parents to have fun. They will be so excited to see you take the initiative to have a fun family activity. You will make memories that will last a lifetime.

Go back to small groups.

