Children’s Lessons
Feast of Tabernacles 2016
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Feast of Tabernacles 2016 – Supply List

K-2

Construction paper – cards, leaves for tree
Cardstock 11”x17” – tree
Double-sided tape
Crayons
Markers
Pencils

Grades 3-5 or 3-6

Stapler – prayer book
Construction paper
Markers
Crayons
Pencils
Copies of the plan of God (number of copies will depend on the number of groups anticipated)
Children’s Lessons K-2
Lesson 1
Kingdom of God Part 1: What is the Kingdom?

ATTENTION GETTER: allow approximately 5-10 min.

Ask: How did you travel to the Feast? Why do you think people leave their homes and stay in a house or hotel? What does this time picture?

Do: Lead the children to mention the time picturing Jesus’ rule on earth. Ask the children to draw what they think the Kingdom of God will look like.

Note: The children do not have to finish the drawing. Have them finish it at “home” and bring back to the instructor the next day. (Arrange to meet the children in a specific area to deliver their drawings.) Have the finished drawings displayed from the next day, if possible, for a day or two. If there is no suitable place close to the main hall or in the main hall, have a place to display them in the classroom during the second class. Invite others to view the drawings at a convenient time. This may be before or after the lesson time.

BIBLE LESSON: allow approximately 15 min.

Say: You have just made a picture of what you think God’s Kingdom will look like, but do you know what a kingdom is made up of?

Say: Yes, a kingdom has a king, subjects (people to rule), a place, and rules.

Ask: Who will be the King in God’s Kingdom? Who are the people? Where will be the place?

Possible answers: Jesus, God; the people left on earth learning God’s way; earth. (Some may say heaven. Gently lead them to the correct answer.)

Ask: Do you know that last year at the Feast we talked about the rules—the ten commandments? They will be written in our hearts, and we will live by them.

Ask: How will God’s Kingdom be different from how the world is today?

Possible answers: The animals will not hurt people. People will love each other. Everything will be beautiful. Everyone will learn God’s way.

Ask: Do you know that the Bible says that the Kingdom of Heaven (God) starts with very few people and then grows tremendously? Let’s hear what the Bible says. If you have your Bible, read along with me.
Do: Read Matthew 13:31 or have a child who is willing (some second graders love to read), read it. Explain that God’s Kingdom grows and is growing now. It started with a few faithful men in the Old Testament (name a few), then the disciples and apostles in the New Testament (you may tie in Pentecost), now God’s people here at the Feast, and will include everyone after Jesus returns.

Say: We will now work together to show how God’s Kingdom starts small and grows like the mustard seed grows into a huge tree.

Note: The mustard tree is not like what we have here. It refers to the ones in the biblical regions—in case a child asks. You may want to use the comparison of a mighty oak tree growing from a tiny acorn.

LESSON ACTIVITY: allow approximately 10 min.

Children and the instructor and helpers will add leaves to a tree that is growing from a tiny mustard seed (see sheets with tree and leaves). Have everyone write his or her name on a leaf before putting it on the tree (made of cardstock) with double-sided tape. The instructor may write some leaders of the church on some leaves.

MEMORY VERSE: allow approximately 5 min.

Matthew 6:10 “Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Do: Have the memory verse written out and held up or displayed for the children to see.

After repeating the memory verse a couple of times, see who is able to repeat it without seeing it. This is simple, so there should be many volunteers.

MUSIC: allow approximately 5 min.

God Is Calling Children (COGWA Hymnal #157)

God is calling children to His royal family,

Sharing in His blessings, living in His love.

Note: Do have the children learn this verse (they may already know it) and sing it joyfully. Ask them to try to learn the entire hymn for next lesson.
THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE A MUSTARD SEED THAT WHEN IT IS GROWN, IT BECOMES A TREE

MATTHEW 13:31-32
What We Learned

We learned about the Kingdom of God by discussing the components of a kingdom and the “Parable of the Mustard Seed.”

Suggested Family Activities

Parents, ask your children to tell you what a kingdom consists of and have them tell you what it will be like in God’s kingdom. Let them complete the drawing that they started and help them learn Hymn 157 in the COGWA hymnal.

Memory Verse

Matthew 6:10

“Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Next Class

Topic: Kingdom of God Part 2: Preparing for the Kingdom
Children’s Lessons K-2
Lesson 2
Children’s Lessons FOT 2016 – K-2

Kingdom of God Part 2: Preparing for the Kingdom

ATTENTION GETTER: allow approximately 5 min.

Ask: What do you want to be when you grow up? What are you good at doing? Do you think that your talent is valuable to God? Can you serve Him with your talent?

BIBLE LESSON: allow approximately 15 min.

Say: Today’s lesson is about preparing for the Kingdom of God. One way to prepare for His Kingdom is by getting better at what we are good at (the talents or the gifts He gives us) so that we can help and serve others.

Say: I need you to help me with this lesson. I will read the Parable of the Talents. Listen to see one way we should prepare for God’s Kingdom.

Paraphrase the parable of the Talents taken from Matthew 25:14-29.

Do: Choose some children ahead of time to act out the parable as you read. You may choose who comes early to the lesson or watch the children in the first lesson to see who may be willing to take part. Have a child be the man traveling. Give out “talents” (circular pieces of paper or what you choose to use as the talents) to those involved and have them trade with the other children who got their “talents” from the man” who is traveling.” You may have a teen helper be the person with the one “talent.”

Discuss with the children the importance of developing their talents (things they are good at) through service. Let them know that God has blessed everyone with one or more talents to use to help others as preparation for serving in the Kingdom.

LESSON ACTIVITY: allow approximately 15 min.

Children will make “Thank You” cards to give to those serving at the Feast: ushers, song leaders, workers at the information desk, pastors, elders, etc. The children may approach these individuals with their parents or guardians. Encourage the children to make cards for someone other than their own family or relatives.

MEMORY VERSE: allow approximately 7 min.

Matthew 25:21 “His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’”
Do: Have the memory verse written out and held up or displayed for the children to see.

Note: Repeat the memory verse several times. Depending on the room and the space you have, you may use a chair to have the children march around while you or a helper sings the song below. You may stop at any point in the song and ask the child in front of the chair to sit in the chair. Whoever sits in the chair tries to repeat the memory verse without seeing it.

**MUSIC: allow approximately 3 min.**

See how many children can sing more than one verse.

**God Is Calling Children (COGWA Hymnal #157)**

1. God is calling children to His royal family,

   Sharing in His blessings, living in His love.

2. Make Your children wiser, make Your Children purer,

   Make us like our Father, living in His love.

3. Help us live more simply, teach us to teach others,

   Help us come out of this world, living in Your love.

4. We can live forever, helping all God’s children,

   Building in His Kingdom, living in His love.
Children’s Lessons 3-5 or 6
Lesson 1
Children’s Lessons FOT 2016 – Grades 3-5 or 6

Kingdom of God Part 1: God Has a Plan

ATTENTION GETTER: allow approximately 5-10 min.

As the children enter the room, have them pull a number—1-3 from a container. This will be used in the activity section.

Have the children make a bookmark of the steps in the plan of God. (See bookmark sheet.) The children will write “Plan of God” at the top on the back of the bookmark and write the Festival names to match.

BIBLE LESSON: allow approximately 15 min.

Say: God has a plan for us that leads to entering into His Kingdom. He teaches us His plan through the festivals of God. There are seven steps in God’s plan.

Ask: Why do we need to know the steps in God’s plan? Answers will vary.

Say: Each step shows God’s loving guidance as He points people to His Kingdom. As we keep these festivals, they help us to change our lives to become more like God and Jesus Christ. (Explain each step in detail. You may want to mention that the first step, the Passover, is a festival, but not a holy day.)

Example: Unleavened Bread – When we put sin out of our lives, we have to replace it with obedience to God and living a right life, serving others.

As you explain the steps, put them on the floor (only the festivals—not the meanings) like stepping stones. Place two chairs or two objects at the end of the “stepping stones” to form two posts to make an entrance (entering into the Kingdom).

Do: Have the children follow the path after all the festivals are laid down. They may go through the entrance and then back to their seats.

LESSON ACTIVITY: allow approximately 10 min.

Make sure that the bookmarks done in the attention getter are put away and that the “stepping stones” are not seen. (The instructor may keep the bookmarks until the activity is done.)

The children will get into groups depending on the number they pulled. (Use your judgement in determining how many groups you have. Your class may be small or it may be large.)
Do: Having prepared three sets of the festivals and their meanings, give each group the festivals and the meanings out of order and ask them to work together to sort them correctly.

Say: You will put these steps in order and match them with their meanings. The team to finish first, wins. Have the team leader raise his or her hand when the group is finished. (The instructor may opt to give an inexpensive prize to the winning team.)

MEMORY VERSE: allow approximately 5 min.

Matthew 7:21 “Not everyone who says to Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the Kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

Do: Have the memory verse written out and held up or displayed for the children to see.

Note: Repeat the memory verse a couple of times. Depending on the room and the space you have, you may use a chair to have the children march around while you or a helper sings the song below. You may stop at any point in the song and ask the child in front of the chair to sit in the chair. Whoever sits in the chair tries to repeat the memory verse without seeing it.

MUSIC: allow approximately 5 min.

God Is Calling Children (COGWA Hymnal #157)

God is calling children to His royal family,

Sharing in His blessings, living in His love.

Note: Do have the children learn this verse (they may already know it) and sing it joyfully. Ask them to try to learn the entire hymn for next lesson.
1. Jesus gives His life for all people. His blood will wash away all of our bad deeds.

2. We must put sin out and live by God's Word.

3. God gives us the Holy Spirit to help us live by His laws.

4. Jesus returns to earth from heaven to set up God's kingdom.

5. God will put Satan away so that the world can be at one with the Father and Jesus Christ.

6. Jesus will be King over all the earth, and there will be peace and happiness in God's Kingdom.

7. The rest of humankind will be brought back to life and invited to be in God's family.
Passover
Jesus gives His life for all people. His blood will wash away all of our bad deeds.
Days of Unleavened Bread
We must put sin out and live by God’s Word.
Pentecost
God gives us the Holy Spirit to help us live by His laws.
Feast of Trumpets
Jesus returns to earth from heaven to set up God’s Kingdom.
Day of Atonement
God will put Satan away so that the world can be at one with the Father and Jesus Christ.
Feast of Tabernacles
Jesus will be King over all the earth, and there will be peace and happiness in God’s Kingdom.
Last Great Day
The rest of humankind will be brought back to life and invited to be in God's family.
What We Learned

We learned about the Kingdom of God by discussing the plan of God as explained through the seven festivals.

Suggested Family Activities

Parents, ask your children about the bookmark that they made. Discuss the steps in the plan of God with them. Help them learn Hymn 157 in the COGWA hymnal.

Memory Verse

Matthew 7:21

“Not everyone who says to Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the Kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”

Next Class

Topic: Preparing for the Kingdom Through Service
Children’s Lessons 3-5 or 6
Lesson 2
ATTENTION GETTER: allow approximately 10 min.

The children will play a game called “Name That King.” Have the children pull a number—1-3 from a container. They will get into groups depending on the number they pulled. (Use your judgement in determining how many groups you have. Your class may be small or it may be large.)

Say: We will play a game where you are given clues that are about kings in the Bible. When you hear the clue, you will name the king who fits the clue. (See separate sheet for clues and answers.)

Say: Each group will have the members put their hands up if they know the answer to the clue. I will call on the person who has his or her hand up first. If the answer is incorrect, the other groups will have a chance to raise their hands again to answer. If a group answers correctly, it gets a paper with the king’s name. The group to collect the most kings wins.

BIBLE LESSON: allow approximately 15 min.

Say: Last time we learned that God has a plan that leads us into His Kingdom. Today we will focus on one way we can prepare to enter the Kingdom. From the steps in the plan, we learned that Jesus Christ died for our sins. Passover also demonstrates service, as each baptized member washes another person’s feet. By starting His plan with Passover, God helps us to have a heart to continue serving others as we go about our daily lives. Because Christ died for our sins, we have to continue to keep sin away as seen in the second step in the plan of God (Unleavened bread). To do this, we must obey God and serve others.

Ask: Do you know of any ways you can serve others?

Ask: How should your attitude be when serving?

Say: God tells us in His Word that in order to be great, we must become servants. We will look at a great king who learned what it meant to be a servant before becoming a king. As you listen think about his attitude.

Do: Paraphrase some of King David’s life, highlighting when he was anointed king and how he served King Saul before actually becoming king. (See 1 Samuel 16:10-13, 15-23; 1 Samuel 18:5.) You may read these verses, or if the children have brought their Bibles, have volunteers read the verses after you have paraphrased or summarized an aspect of David’s life.
Example: While David was a shepherd, he was chosen by God to become king (1 Sam. 16:10-13). Before he could become king he had to learn more about serving. He was able to do this by serving King Saul when the king was troubled (1 Sam 16:15-23). Through his service and his good attitude while serving, David was respected, and he was prepared to be the king when the time was right (1 Sam. 18:5). God wants us to learn about service in order for us to be ready to serve in His Kingdom. David became king after King Saul died. You may read the entire account of David with your family in 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel.

LESSON ACTIVITY: allow approximately 10 min.

Service project: Have the children make books to record things to pray about. Ask the children to listen during announcements for any prayer request and then write it in their books. Let them know that praying for others is a great service. They may have one page for the sick (prayers for healing), a page for happy announcements (prayers of thanksgiving), and a page for those giving sermons, special music and playing the piano for hymn singing (prayers of blessing). Ask them if they can come up with other categories of prayer.

Note: The instructor may buy inexpensive note books from a dollar store and have the children decorate them, or he or she may have the children make the books from construction paper.

MEMORY VERSE: allow approximately 5 min.

Matthew 20:26, 28 “. . . but whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your servant—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

MUSIC: allow approximately 5 min.

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1. God is calling children to His royal family,
   Sharing in His blessings, living in His love.

2. Make Your children wiser, make Your Children purer,
   Make us like our Father, living in His love.

3. Help us live more simply, teach us to teach others,
   Help us come out of this world, living in Your love.

4. We can live forever, helping all God’s children,
   Building in His Kingdom, living in His love.
Name That King

Please put the names of the kings on separate pieces of paper or note cards to hand to the team that gives the correct answer. The team with most kings wins. You may use the second clue if none of the children can answer with the first clue. (Use your discretion.)

1. He was Israel’s first human king.
2. He became jealous of a shepherd.

**Answer:** King Saul

1. He was eight years old when he became king.
2. He repaired the temple.

**Answer:** King Josiah

1. Because of God’s help, he was the wisest man to live.
2. He built a temple out of the best materials for God.

**Answer:** King Solomon

1. He was very sick and almost died, but God heard his prayer and spared his life.
2. He stripped the gold from the doors of the temple of the LORD to give to the king of Syria.

**Answer:** King Hezekiah

1. He took Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego as captives when he conquered Israel.
2. He made a huge image of gold and commanded everyone to bow down and worship it.

**Answer:** King Nebuchadnezzar

1. His father’s name was Jesse.
2. He was a shepherd before he became a king.

**Answer:** King David

1. He will be King of kings and Lord of lords when He sits on His throne.
2. He died for us all.

**Answer:** King Jesus