

LEGACY

WEEK 3

BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work.

BIBLE

A New Apostle is Chosen: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; (I John 5: 9-13)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT?

MUSIC | Worship ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead the kids in worship, with fun songs like, "[Tell the World](#)," by Hillsong Kids.
- We are not afraid to tell the whole world who Jesus is! People in our lives need to know they are loved by the same God who created them.
- God invites us to be the ones to let our family and friends know they are loved! So, let's tell the world!

POLL | Bracket of Best Things ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Project the Bracket printable on to a dry erase board, use a photo or document editor on your computer, or recreate the bracket on a poster. There should be eight items to start with, ending in one ultimate best thing ever. Get kids into eight group and have them each come up with one item that they consider the best thing ever (other than God, of course) – for example, toilet paper. Put each of their answers on the outermost boxes of your bracket. Then have kids vote between each of the connected pairs, and write the winning answer in the space provided. Then compare the next

tier of responses, and keep working towards the middle until only one item is declared the "best thing ever!"

- It can be really hard to choose the best thing ever, right? Maybe your suggestion made it in the top eight, but didn't make it to the final two. So, you had to choose between two other things.
- Today's Bible story is about a time when a team had to make a decision. They all might not have wanted to have to make this decision, but we will see how the Holy Spirit helped them with the tough choice they had to make.

ACTIVITY | Pick Me ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out a popsicle stick to each kid and have them write their name on one end of the stick with a marker. Collect the sticks again and put them all into a can with the names facing down. Then make a variety of fun, positive, even silly statements about what kids might grow up to be or do in the future, and pick out names from the can (e.g., This person will grow up and travel the world. It's Grace!). Don't return the stick to the can. Keep making statements until all of the kids' names have been called. Some other statements you might make are: start a charity to save the environment, become a famous singer, find the cure for cancer, be the first person to land on Mars, set the world record for largest shoe collection, etc.*
- Well, that was just a silly game and of course these sticks weren't really predicting the future!
- In today's Bible story, the people use a system called "casting lots" to help them make their decision. They didn't do this to simply rely on luck or chance. They cast lots to be fair to everyone and to make sure nobody was playing favorites.
- For example, let's say we needed a team captain. If I just called out one of your names, you might say it's not fair. But if I picked your name out of can (*Take out a stick and read the name*), then you'll know that I didn't pick you or leave you out on purpose.

QUESTION | All By Myself ▲

- **What are some things you need help doing? What are some things you can't do by yourself, even if you tried?**

- Teamwork is really important. If you've ever acted in a play, sang in a choir, been on a sports team, or participated in a group project at school, you know how important it is to work together.
- God wants to make us part of a bigger story. But in order to do that, we need to work together with God and with each other.

SO WHAT?

SCRIPTURE | Acts 1:15-17 ▲

- **Have you ever been chosen to be part of a team?**
- Maybe you got to play on a basketball team you never thought you would. Maybe you were chosen to be the lead in the school play or were given the solo in the choir concert. It's a great feeling to be a part of a team. Especially if the team is *good!*
- It's time to travel to Acts 1, where we will find out how Jesus' friends figured out how they were going to add one more person to their disciple team.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use the time travel device from previous weeks. Point your arrow to the plate with the corresponding Scripture and play this [sound effect](#). Tell the Bible story in Acts 1:15-17. Choose eleven kids to be on the disciple team (use the popsicle sticks from the Pick Me activity!). Give them a set of same-colored t-shirts, buttons, and wristbands to put on to represent a team "look." Put out a spare uniform to be used later.*
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Let kids know ahead of time that there is a chance they might not get picked but that is okay. Give them pom-poms or noisemakers they can use to cheer on the people who do get selected.*
 - Jesus had a team that was made up of twelve people, called the disciples. Judas, one of the disciples, chose to leave the team forever. After Jesus returned to heaven, the disciples and other followers were together in a room. Peter stood up and told the rest of the team that they needed to pick a new person to fill in for Judas.
 - They nominated two new people. After praying, they did something to help them decide which one they should invite to the team. They cast lots.
 - **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Choose two more volunteers and have them play a quick game of "Rock, Paper, Scissors." Tell the winner, "Welcome to the team,*

Matthias!" and tell the other kid, "Thank you for trying out, Barsabbas!" Tell the two kids to shake hands and congratulate each other. Then, tell the disciples to give Matthias his team uniform.

- Guess what? Even though Matthias was chosen to be on the team with the other disciples, Barsabbas was still on the team, too.
- God wants us all on the team, too! The difference is, we don't need to cast lots or use any other method. There's no need to choose you over someone else or the other way around. Because of the legacy Jesus left, everyone can be chosen to do God's work.
- God has given us the Holy Spirit to coach us. The Holy Spirit guides us to make wise choices. The Holy Spirit gives us our own unique talents, gifts, and abilities, to share the good news of Jesus, and invite more people onto the team!

THE BIG IDEA | The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work. ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Fill the Big Idea canister with today's Big Idea words. Open the legacy pod and call up one kid at a time to pull out one sheet of paper or an index card at a time. Arrange the words into the correct order. Read the Big Idea out loud together.*

- **The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work.**
- Not only that, the Holy Spirit helps us know what God's work is. We can work together with other members of God's family to do the things God wants us to do!

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 3 ▲



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's [teaching video](#).*

ACTIVITY | Twelve Disciple Shuffle ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid the Twelve Disciple Shuffle printable and have them decorate and/or write their name on each of the person outlines. Then have them cut along the lines to create twelve trading cards. Have them walk around the room trading cards with people until they have eleven other cards in addition to one of their own.*
- The disciples were a team and they all had a part to play. Even though they were one short, their team became complete again when Matthias was chosen to join the team.
- Travel all over the world (this room) to make your own disciple team!
- No matter whose cards you hold in your hand, don't forget you are actually all on the same team!

SCRIPTURE | I John 5:9-13 ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read I John 5:9-13 (NIV).*
- One day, we get to live in Heaven forever because God gave us Jesus. These verses remind us we will live forever with Jesus and we should share this great news with everyone!
- The word that keeps coming up in this Bible passage is the word "testimony." A testimony is a true story about God, especially about what

God has done for you. When you share your testimony with others, you are doing God's work!

NOW WHAT?

PRAYER ▲

- Dear God, help us to be brave so we can share the most important message in the world with others. Help us remember that because we have the Holy Spirit, we can do your work! Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION ▲

- **Why did the disciples need to pick a new member for their team?**
- **How did the disciples decide who to choose and what was his name?**
- **Who helps us do God's work?**
- **According to I John 5:12-13, who can have eternal life?**
- **How can you help a friend find Jesus?**
- **What stops you from being coached by the Holy Spirit?**
- **How can you allow Jesus to coach you?**