



THE MESSY PARTY

IT'S TIME TO PARTY!

It's your party, but we are here to help. Check Out these resources:

- A Sample Schedule to Guide Your Event
- A Bible Story with Large Group Games, Large Group Lesson, Group Questions, Skit and Crazy Parent Games
- Themed Snack Ideas Plus Simple Snack Suggestions
- Craft Ideas to Take the Lesson Home
- Leader Resources to Equip Your Family to Reach Families

This Summer, we are throwing parties throughout the Crossroads so that we can introduce people to Jesus, the life of the party. To do this, we will equip your family to reach families. Think about who you could reach with a fun, family party that points people to Jesus:

- *Neighbors
- *Sports Teams
- *Friends from School
- *Family Members
- *Coworkers Families
- *Apartment Complexes
- *Underserved Areas in Our Communities

You create the connections. You pick the location, date, and time for your party. We will provide the resources (Bible Lessons, Ideas for Games, Crafts, and Snacks) and the coaching that you need to successfully build a team, reach your friends and lead people to say yes to Jesus.



THE PARTY

Summer 2018

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

TEAM PRAYER

*Before attendees arrive, please lead your team in prayer.

MAKE THE CONNECTION (15 MINS)

Use this time to interact with kids and parents while people are still arriving. Feel free to add your ideas to these:

1. Bubbles
2. Frisbee Toss
3. Football Throw
4. Sidewalk Chalk
5. Hula Hoop Competition

LARGE GROUP GAME (10 MINS)

Play the large group games we have provided or create your own that ties into the lesson.

LARGE GROUP LESSON (10 MINS)

Teach kids and parents about Jesus using the provided Bible lessons.

SKIT (10 MINS)

Use the skit to reinforce the big idea from the Bible story. If you use the skit provided, volunteers are welcome to read off of the script.

CRAFT (10 MINS)

Use the crafts if you expect to have younger kids at your party. Encourage kids and parents to work together.

CRAZY PARENT GAME (5 MINS)

Get families laughing through the recommended Crazy Parent Games

CLOSING CONNECTIONS

During this time, focus on building relationships with the kids and parents. Remember that this may be the first opportunity some of the kids have heard about Jesus. Also, some of them may have made the decision to believe in Jesus for the first time. Our job is to build relationships, invite kids to Jesus, and provide them a chance to respond to the invitation.

BOTTOM LINE:

Jesus can forgive our sins and help us start anew.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn how Jesus can help us clean up even the biggest messes.

KEY PASSAGE:

John 21:15-19. Jesus forgives Peter's denial.
Luke 22: 54-62 Peter Denies Jesus

SUMMARY:

Making messes is inevitable. We are sinners, and we will always stumble. Sin is anything that goes against God's rules. But Jesus can forgive our sins, wash them away, and give us a new start if we believe in Him.

MESSY: CLEANING UP THE MESS

LARGE GROUP GAME

Supplies needed: paper plates, trash bags to cover kids' clothing, chocolate syrup, whipped cream, marshmallows, or a cupcake

Choose four volunteers. Tell them that you need some help cleaning off the messy plates. Give each volunteer a plate covered with as many of the items listed above as you can (not so much that they won't be able to finish it, but enough to make a messy plate). Give the kids 1 minute to "clean their plate" using only their mouths. No use of hands allowed during the game. When time is up, the kid with the cleanest plate wins! Allow audience members contribute to deciding who has the cleanest plate. The goal is to see the big mess made when the kids were eating!

Point of the game: It took a little work to clean up those messy, sticky plates, but it takes Jesus to wash our sins away.



LARGE GROUP LESSON

INTRO

Everyone, take a look all around us. You see the trees, the huge sky, everything around us. In the beginning, when God created everything, it was all perfect. But then people started to make a mess. Today, we'll be talking about the things that can make messes in our lives. I'm sure we can all think of a time when we told a lie that caused us more trouble than we were in before we started lying. Pride can cause us to make messes when we think we can get by without God. Pride is when we think we can achieve everything on our own without help. Another feeling that leads us to trouble is when we can't sit quietly and wait. That's called being impatient. Lying, being prideful, being impatient, cheating - when we do these things, it's called sin. Sin is going against God's Word. When we sin and break the rules, it can get very messy and dirty. God's rules are given to us to show us how God wants us to live. God wants us to put Him first before our own selfish wants and when we don't do that it can make a mess in our heart and lives..

Thankfully God has given us the perfect cure for sin - His son Jesus. Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. Because He died and rose again, Jesus can forgive us and give us a new life.

MAIN POINT

The awesome thing is that no sin too great or too horrible that Jesus cannot forgive. We know this because the day Jesus was arrested, his close friend Peter lied and pretended he didn't even know Jesus. Peter created a REALLY big mess when it came to his friend, Jesus. Sometimes we make a big mess when it comes to our friends. You see, Peter was a mess. He always had been. He was impatient, always thinking negative thoughts about people, and he lied. But even after all this, Jesus still went back to Peter and forgave him after he rose from the grave. Jesus still wanted Peter to be his friend and be on his side.



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LARGE GROUP LESSON

DRIVE IT HOME

When we make a mess, normally we feel bad. We know we messed up, and when we think about what a failure we are we tend to beat ourselves up and struggle to forgive ourselves. I'm here to tell you that Jesus doesn't want you to feel that way. Whatever sins you brought with you today, hear this – Jesus can forgive them! He wants to forgive them! Only Jesus can take your tears, your disappointments, your failures AND he can make you new. When you believe in Jesus, who He is and what He did, He sends his Holy Spirit to live inside of you and He is with you every day of your life. He will speak to you; help you; guide you; comfort you and keep your heart clean. We won't always be perfect, but He will forgive us when we mess up. We can call on Him to help us when we need Him.

CALL IT OUT QUESTIONS

Use these questions to help kids process what they learned:

- *In the story that you heard today, who did Jesus forgive? (His friend Peter)
- *Who is the only person who can clean up the mess in our hearts? (Jesus)
- *What did Jesus do so He can forgive us? (He died on the cross and rose again.)
- *What do you think you need to do to receive God's forgiveness so that your messes are cleaned up? (Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sins/mistakes/messes)
- *How does Jesus help keep our hearts clean? (Praying to Jesus, asking Him to forgive us when we mess up, and asking Him to help us be more like Him.)

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

Forgive our sins and help us to see that we can change and be made new through believing in you and following you. Thank you that you love us even though we mess up.

I believe that you love me. I believe that you died and rose again. I believe that I am a sinner who messes up and only you can make me new. I believe that with you, my life will be forever different on earth and in Heaven. Thank you for giving up your life for me. Today I give you mine.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

KEY PASSAGE

54 Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. 55 And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. 56 A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

57 But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.

58 A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."
"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

59 About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

60 Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." 62 And he went outside and wept bitterly.

John 21:15-19 Jesus forgives Peter's denial, New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Reinstates Peter

15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

"Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you."

Jesus said, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." 19

Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" **Luke 22: 54-62**

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SKIT

ITEMS NEEDED: Plastic table cover to catch the confetti, Three bags of confetti

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: Two adult volunteers plus stage crew

CHARACTERS:

Vince- An announcer

Lisa- A girl

Stagehands (6 or more)

Lisa walks across the stage as if going somewhere.

VINCE: How many times a day do you sin?

LISA: Who, me?

VINCE: Yes you, the girl who just randomly walked on stage as if she's going somewhere. How often do you sin in a day?

LISA: Oh, I don't know. A couple times, maybe.

VINCE: Nope.

LISA: A dozen?

VINCE: Not even close.

LISA: How do you know?

VINCE: Let's say this piece of confetti represents one sin.

A stagehand carries a piece of confetti on stage and hands it to Lisa. The stagehand exits.

LISA: Okay.

VINCE: If that's one sin, here's how much you sin in a day.



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MESSY: CLEANING UP THE MESS

The stagehand enters with a bag of confetti and dumps it on Lisa.

LISA: Wow, that's a lot of sin.

VINCE: That? Haha. That's just before breakfast. Here's the rest.

Another stagehand enters and dumps a second bag of confetti on Lisa.

LISA: Really?

A third stagehand enters with a box and dumps another bag of confetti on Lisa.
The stagehand exits.

LISA: Come on!!

VINCE: Wow, that's a lot of sin!

LISA: You think?!

VINCE: Now... clean it up?

LISA: All this?

VINCE: It's your mess.

LISA: I can't clean all this up!

VINCE: You're right. You can't clean it up. Even if you tried, you'd just keep on sinning and adding to the pile.

LISA: Not more!

VINCE: There's only one solution.

LISA: Never walk randomly on stage as if I'm going somewhere again?

VINCE: The solution is Jesus!

LISA: Jesus?



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MESSY: CLEANING UP THE MESS

The stagehands enter and pick up the plastic table cover with the confetti all over it.

VINCE: Jesus is God's only son. God knew you could never clean up all your sins on your own. It's impossible! So he sent Jesus to clean up the mess. Jesus died and rose from the grave so he could forgive all the sins you have ever committed and will ever commit. Give your heart to Jesus, and he will take away all your sins.

LISA: ALL of them?

One of the stagehands takes the piece of confetti from Lisa's hand.

STAGEHAND: ALL of them.

LISA: Boy, you guys are good.

STAGEHAND: Us? This is just an illustration. We're sinners just like you. But God? God is good!

VINCE: And God will always be there to help you clean up the mess.

LISA: I am so glad!

VINCE: Glad you randomly walked on stage as if you were going somewhere?

LISA: Very glad!

CRAZY PARENT GAME

Items needed: Blindfold, Three large bowls, Three objects covered in slime

Preparation: Coat three "mystery" objects in slime and set one in each bowl.

Instructions: In this challenge, your hands will have to be your eyes as you try to identify three mystery objects coated in slime. If you can correctly identify the three mystery objects in the bowls before time expires, you win.



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SNACK IDEAS

Perfect for "Messy: Clean Up the Mess" Lesson
Funfetti Rice Krispie Treats Recipe

Ingredients needed: (Makes 16 bars)

- * 4 tablespoons of unsalted butter
- * 12 oz bag of mini marshmallows
- * 4 cups of Rice Krispie cereal
- * 1 cup of funfetti sprinkles

Directions:

Lightly grease a 9x13 baking dish. * Set aside

In a large skillet, combine the butter and marshmallows on medium heat. Keep stirring until the marshmallows are completely melted.

In a large mixing bowl, add the Rice Krispie cereal. When the marshmallows are completely melted, stir that into the cereal. Gently fold in the sprinkles.

Spread the mixture into the baking dish and gently pat down - make sure it is even all around.

Note If you would like thicker bars, you can use an 8x8 baking dish. It will only make 9 bars.



SIMPLE SNACK IDEAS

- *Individual store-bought snacks (Ex: Cheez-its, cookies, animal crackers, etc.)
- *Chex Party Mix
- *Fruit Kabobs (cooler needed)
- *Drinks could include water, Gatorade, Capri-sun, etc.

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CRAFT IDEAS

Fun for "Messy: Cleaning Up the Mess" Lesson

Cleaning is Fun

Supplies needed: Enough sponges or rags for each kid present; packages of sharpies

Give each of the kids a cleaning tool that they can decorate as a reminder that Jesus can clean up even their biggest messes.



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