



START *the* PARTY

Celebrate the Good News

MISSIONS

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Matthew's Party
Luke 5:27-32

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Jesus is a good reason
to have a party.**

KEY QUESTION

**What is your favorite
type of party?**

MEMORY VERSE

**"You always show me the path
that leads to life. You will fill me
with joy when I am with you."**
Acts 2:28, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

START THE PARTY INVITES

WHAT YOU NEED: "4-5 Interlocking Envelope" Activity Page; invite stickers, markers, crayons, or colored pencils; and dot stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Print the "4-5 Interlocking Envelope" Activity Page. Provide one for each kid.
- Place an Activity Page at each spot at the table, along with KSE information stickers
- Allow kids to decorate their envelopes however they want, making sure they include their name.
- Add a KSE information sticker to the middle of their envelope.
- Let kids use markers, crayons, or colored pencils to add dots of confetti or swirls and squiggles to decorate the message card. Tell kids to flip their template over to the blank side. Let them decorate the four side sections creating different patterns and colors with the writing tools provided. Also, encourage them to decorate the little tabs that stick out from the sides. Decorating these tabs will help them when they interlock the tabs.
- Instruct kids to flip their envelope over so they see the message side with the KSE information. Staring at the bottom, have the kids fold the flap to the center. Then, rotate and fold the next flap to the center, tucking the tab underneath the previous tab. Repeat with the third side.
- Show them how to rotate to the final side, fold the flap up, and tuck the right side of the flap itself under so that it's secure and looks like a wrapped gift.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Today, we're kicking off a week of celebrating and serving our community! We'll be focusing on helping the food pantry. They do amazing work in our city, and we're going to learn how we can support them.

Did you know that our local food pantry helps to feed . . . (*share all the facts you've gathered from your local organization*). We will help by collecting different food items each night. If everyone brings just one item, think how that can add up! It can be something simple like a can of corn or peaches tomorrow.

"Speaking of bringing something or someone back tomorrow, we know a party is always more fun with friends, so not only do we want you to bring back a canned good tomorrow, but we also want you to invite a friend or neighbor to come with you, too. That's why we made these Start the Party invites—to help you invite a friend who is not here today so they can party with us the rest of the week. Because remember, **Jesus is a good reason to have a party.**

"Will you pray with me? God, thank You for bringing all of us here this week. Help us to learn more about You. Show us little ways we can be a party starter for others around us. In Jesus' name, amen."

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus' Parable of the
Wedding Feast
Matthew 22:1-14

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Everyone is invited to the party.

KEY QUESTION

How does it feel to be invited?

MEMORY VERSE

"You always show me the path
that leads to life. You will fill me
with joy when I am with you."
Acts 2:28, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

I should treat others the way
I want to be treated.

PARTY BAGS - PART 1

WHAT YOU NEED: Brown grocery bags, washable paint, prepared balloon stamps, small plates, plastic tablecloths, wet wipes,

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place a grocery bag at each spot at the table, along with a balloon stamp.
- Squirt a small amount of paint on paper plates and set them in the middle of the table where kids can reach them.
- Demonstrate how kids can use the balloon stamp to dab in the paint and then dab on their bag to create a flower. Allow kids to use various colors as they choose.
- Ensure kids only decorate one side of their bag.
- While kids work, have leaders write kid's names on the bottom corner of their bags. They will use their same bag tomorrow.
- Collect bags and set them aside to dry.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Today we decorated grocery bags that will hold all of the food we are collecting for the food pantry. Tomorrow we will get to finish them. Remember that tomorrow we are collecting breakfast items. So ask your family if there is something you can bring and donate.

"The So & So Show talked about how Jesus has invited ALL of us to share in the party. We can put our faith in Jesus and live the life God made us to live. We can have a relationship with God that makes our lives better NOW, and we know the party will last forever!

"By decorating these bags, it allows us to make sure the people who receive the food feels loved and celebrated. Before we wrap up today, we're going to pray for the families who will receive our bags. Let's ask God to help them feel special not only when they get their bag, but every day, and ask Him to show us how we can make others around us feel like they are loved with the love of Jesus." (*Pray for the families who will receive the bags.*)

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Jesus' Parable of the
Lost Son**
Luke 15:11-32

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Celebrate the good news.

KEY QUESTION

**What's the best news
you've ever heard?**

MEMORY VERSE

**"You always show me the path
that leads to life. You will fill me
with joy when I am with you."**
Acts 2:28, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PARTY BAGS - PART 2

WHAT YOU NEED: Kids grocery bags from yesterday, table cloths, green markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Help kids find their bags that they decorated last night.
- Have extra bags prepared for new guests.
- Set out the green markers in the middle of the table.
- Encourage kids to use the markers to add stems and pedals to their flower stamps.
- Finish any bags for kids missing from the group
- Collect bags and save them for tomorrow night.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Today we're finishing our grocery bags we started last night.. These bags are going to be filled with food items that can be given to families through our local food pantry. Tomorrow we are collecting rice, pasta or other side dishes. So ask your family if there is something you can bring and donate.

"Remember, today we're talking about how much Jesus loves us. He loves us so much that He sent His son Jesus to die on the cross for us. Jesus also loves all the people who will receive these grocery bags filled with things they need. He loves them so much that He died for them too. I'm glad we can do something kind to show Jesus' love for others today. Let's take time before we leave to pray for those who may receive these bags."

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The Woman at the Well
John 4:1-26, 39-42

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is the life of the party.

KEY QUESTION

How can Jesus change your life?

MEMORY VERSE

**"You always show me the path
that leads to life. You will fill me
with joy when I am with you."**
Acts 2:28, NIRV

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

KIDS ON A MISSION

WHAT YOU NEED: Prepared grocery bags from last night, prepared encouragement cards, donated non-perishable items.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Before KSE starts, gather all of the donated food supplies and sort them into like piles in the lobby.
- Each pile should have enough items for every kid to pick an item for their bag.
- Help kids find their decorated bags from last night. Have a few extra prepared bags for new guests.
- Explain how kids will go in a line through the piles and pick out "x" items to put in their bags. Encourage kids to pick quickly and not hold up the line.
- Send small groups to the lobby to stuff their bags.
- Finish by adding an encouragement card to their bag.
- Have groups leave their bags in front of the wood wall.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"My favorite thing about our Bible story today is how Jesus knew the needs of the woman at the well and He met her with great love and compassion. He cared about the practical needs she had but also told her about her need for eternal life. He offered her a life that is better than any other kind of life. Isn't that the best? We want to help people this week so we can not only help meet their practical needs, but also pray that God uses that to give us opportunities to share about the joy-filled life only Jesus can give.

"Today we're filling our bags with all the food items we collected. When we finish today, let's thank God for the opportunity to meet the needs of others and ask Him to be with the families who receive the bags and food and that they will learn about Jesus and the joy He gives." *(Pray for the families who will receive the bags and food.)*