

SMALL GROUP | DAY 4

HOW CAN I GET TO KNOW JESUS BETTER?



Bible

Matthew 11:28-30 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Supplies

- Bible
- Charade cards
- Markers and pencils
- Black scratch art and scratch tools
- "Getting to know Jesus" print out (1 per camper)

Digging Deeper

We learned this morning that the biggest gift Jesus gives us is a relationship with him. He doesn't need us to be perfect or impress him with gifts; he just wants to love us and help us to get to know him better. Matthew 11:28-30 says that Jesus wants us to come to him, no matter what. We can find rest in him.

Knowing Jesus does not just affect us. When we get to know Jesus better, we start to love the things that he loves and act more like he does. Remember the joy and love that Jesus gave people from our stories earlier this week? Jesus noticed people, welcomed people, helped people, and brought people joy. When we get to know Jesus, he helps us do those same things for others.

Knowing Jesus can also fill us with joy. Not just happiness for one moment, but deep joy that reminds us that we are loved, never alone, and cared for by Jesus, no matter what is happening in our lives.

Jesus wants to know you right now—not someday when you're older, smarter, or have everything figured out.



**Knowing Jesus is worth
celebrating.**

START THE PARTY! | JOY

DREAM

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Activity – Charades

Use the Charade cards of different ways to get to know someone. One camper at a time selects a slip and silently acts out the activity while the rest of the crew guesses what it is. Continue until everyone has had a chance to participate, or longer if campers are enjoying it.

Discussion Questions

- How do you like to spend time with your friends?
- How do you think the father from our story felt when his son came home?
- If you could ask Jesus one question, what would it be?
- What is one thing you learned about Jesus this week?

Activity – Black Scratch Revealing

Give each camper a piece of black scratch art paper and a scratch tool. Explain that when we first meet someone, we often only see what is on the surface. As we spend time with them, ask questions, listen, and build a friendship, we begin to discover more about who they really are—just like the colours hidden beneath the scratch art.

Invite campers to create a picture that reminds them of ways to get to know someone better.

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Real Talk

- What are some joyful ways that people connect with Jesus?
- What can make it hard to spend time with Jesus?
- Do you think knowing Jesus changes you in any ways? What ways?
- How do you want to spend time with Jesus this week?

TODAY'S TAKE ACTION



Today, ask one person in your life at home (a sibling, parent, grandparent, friend...) how they would get to know Jesus in their own life. If possible, join them in that way of getting to know Jesus! Write down what they do to get to know Jesus in your Playbill, and make sure to bring it tomorrow to show your crew leader!

Prayer

Before praying for the group, invite campers to pray if they would like. Remind them that prayer is talking to God - it doesn't require perfect words or a specific format. God wants to hear from everyone!

Dear God, we learned today that even when we make mistakes, you love us and want a relationship with us. Help us learn how to get to know Jesus better, whether we do it through music, reading the Bible, going on walks, dancing, or any other ways that we can spend time with you.

You love us no matter what, and we're so grateful to be able to know you. Thank you, Jesus. Amen.

START THE PARTY! | JOY