



OOEY GOOEY

2.2 Messy Inside

BOTTOM LINE:

There is always hope in Jesus!

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn, "Jesus can heal painful messes."

TAGLINE:

Jesus meets us in our mess.

KEY PASSAGE:

Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus- Jesus heals our Messy insides

MEMORY VERSE:

"Jesus heard that. So, he said to them, "Those who are healthy don't need a doctor. Sick people do. I have not come to get those who think they are right with God to follow me. I have come to get sinners to follow me." Mark 2:17

*"Jesus heard that. (cup hands around ears)
So, he said to them, (cup hands around mouth)
"Those who are healthy (hold up a thumbs up)
Don't need a doctor. (Cross arms to an X and bring down to side)
Sick people do. (Put thumbs down)
I have not come to get (shake head no)
Those (point forward)
who think they are right with God (point to head)
to follow me. (walk in place)
I have come to get sinners (point to self)
to follow me." (walk in place)
Mark 2:17 (Hold hands out like holding a Bible)*

SUMMARY:

Zacchaeus was a very short man, but that wasn't his biggest problem. His biggest problem was that he had a messy inside. He was selfish and greedy. He took too much money from people, and he wasn't kind. When Zacchaeus followed Jesus, his heart was changed. He probably still struggled, but Jesus helped him be a better man, and heal his messy inside.

MEMORY VERSE

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“Jesus heard that. *cup hands around ears*
So, he said to them, *(cup hands around mouth)*
“Those who are healthy *(hold up a thumbs up)*
Don’t need a doctor. *(Cross arms to an X and bring down to side)*
Sick people do. *(Put thumbs down)*
I have not come to get *(shake head no)*
Those *(point forward)*
who think they are right with God *(point to head)*
to follow me. *(walk in place)*
I have come to get sinners *(point to self)*
to follow me.” *(walk in place)*
Mark 2:17 *(Hold hands out like holding a Bible)*

Practice the new memory verse together with the motions. It’s long but tell the kids that they’re learning it for 2 months.

OBJECT LESSON:

ITEMS NEEDED:

PopRocks

INSTRUCTIONS:

Give each the kids a small cup with pop rocks in them. Tell them not to eat them yet.

Say: Last week, we learned that God isn't afraid of our messes. What does that mean? God isn't afraid of the messy things that we do, or the sins that we commit. It can also mean that God loves us, even when we don't feel like we deserve it.

Say: This week, we're talking about how God loves us, even when we have messes on the inside. Can you guys tell me some things that might be messes we can't, see?
Examples: Anxiety, guilt, doubt, mean thoughts, etc. Think of the things that make us feel unworthy of love.

Say: Now, everyone can eat your Pop Rocks. *Give them some time to giggle and laugh about the popping and sounds.* What happens when you close your mouth? You can hear the pop rocks in your own mouth, but you can't hear your friends pop rocks in their mouth. Because they're on the inside. But when you open your mouth again, can your friends hear it? Yes, they can.

Say: Today, we're going to talk about a man who had a messy inside, his heart was messy. He was greedy and selfish. And when our hearts are messy, our actions become messy too. And sometimes, those actions hurt the people around us. Just like how when we open our mouths, everyone can hear the pop rocks. Our messy insides make our outside messy too.

MAIN LESSON

READ-Luke 19:1-10

Say: Zacchaeus was a very short man. He was so short, that when the crowds came to see Jesus, he couldn't see over anyone's head. But Zacchaeus had a bigger problem than just being short. He had a **messy inside**. He was selfish. He was greedy. He took too much money from people. Nobody liked him because he wasn't kind. His messy insides were full of mean thoughts.

Say: One day, Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to his town. He wanted to see Him so badly! But the crowd was too big. So, Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed up in a tall sycamore tree. From there, he could see Jesus walking by. When Jesus came to the tree, He stopped. He looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down right now! I'm coming to your house today."

Say: Everyone gasped. *"Why would Jesus go to Zacchaeus's house? Doesn't He know Zacchaeus has a messy heart?"* But Jesus loves people, even with messy insides. And when Zacchaeus spent time with Jesus, something amazing happened—his heart changed!

Say: Zacchaeus jumped up and said, "Jesus, I will give half of my money to the poor! And if I have taken too much from anyone, I will pay them back four times as much! Wow! Zacchaeus's messy heart was cleaned up by Jesus. He wasn't selfish anymore. He was kind and generous. Jesus smiled and said, "Today, salvation has come to this house."

Say: Because when Jesus comes into our hearts, He heals our messy insides. He makes us clean, kind, and full of love. And we are called to share what Jesus does with everyone!

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION & SNACK

ICEBREAKER: What's the biggest mess you've ever seen?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What messy insides did Zaccheaus struggle with?
- Can Jesus heal our messy insides?
- Do you have any messy insides that sometimes lead to messy actions?
- What should we do to fix our messy insides?