

LESSON 1 MY DREAM WORLD

To the Teacher: It is so important for us to understand that the Kingdom of God is not only all around us, but within us in the form of the Holy Spirit. Our gifts and talents; our desires and interests; and our very thoughts and inspirations, if led by the Holy Spirit can be a reflection of His Kingdom on earth. Through this lesson, the students will not only discover this truth but also begin to apply principles as they look forward into their dreams and future.

Concept:

The Kingdom of God

Objectives/Goal:

- The students will discover the path to their dreams using Bible scriptures.
- The students will come to the realization that their dreams can be God given and God inspired.
- The students will learn that focusing on God and His Kingdom will empower the fruition of their God- Given dreams.

Plan Ahead:

- Print various related scriptures for discussion.
- Divide students into small groups and give each group different scriptures (teachers have the option to write out the scriptures or have the students look up scriptures themselves.)
- Hang a poster for the development of a chart: “The Kingdom of God.”.
- Prepare take-home handout and utilize use it to apply principles taught through the skit presentation.
- Print out the skit dialogue.

Launch Out:

Introduction: My Dream World

(Skit Cast: 3 students/third person can be a mentor) Jaxon and Halle are discussing Jaxon’s dream to become a physical therapist.

(Dialogue) **Jaxon:** Did you know, Halle, that the dream of my life is to become a physical therapist?

Halle: Really? What made you want to be a physical therapist?

Jaxon: Well, I am really interested in the human bones. That’s the part of my health class that really excites me.

Halle: Why not be a chiropractic doctor? They study the human skeleton too.

Jaxon: Yes, but when I think about being in an office manipulating people’s bodies all day, that does NOT really excite me-

Mr. Houston: Hey kids, I couldn't help hearing your conversation. That's a pretty good dream you have there, Jaxon. As your track coach and Health Science teacher, I have noticed your great interest in the study of the human skeletal. Did you know that whatever interests and excites you greatly, is a good indicator of the direction you should follow? As each of us is operating in our God- Given giftings, it actually reveals the Kingdom of God to those around us. If you stay a few minutes after track practice, I can show you in the Bible where God says that He "has a plan" for each one of us.

Jaxon: Thanks Mr. Houston, I will do that!

Halle: Wow, that sounds interesting! I would like to learn more about how to find God's plan for my life! Can I come along?

Looking Forward:

Teacher introduces whole group discussions and elicits student responses:

How do we know if a dream is God given? Let's use the following questions as a guide (teacher writes questions on the board):

1. Does the dream line up with God's character?
2. Has He equipped you with the gifting needed?
3. What doors has God opened?

Teacher introduces main scripture:

Please look up Matthew 6:33 in your Bibles and let's read it together. If Jaxon knew this scripture in his heart, how could he apply it to the fulfillment of his dream?

Break Out:

Teacher introduces small group activities:

Using your Bibles and the scriptures assigned, discuss these questions:

1. What is the Kingdom of God?
2. What does it look like to "seek first the Kingdom of God"?

Teacher brings students back to whole group and elicits response:

1. What did you discover about the Kingdom of God?
2. What is the Kingdom of God?
3. Let's develop our poster as we discuss and find out about the Kingdom of God.
4. What does it look like to "seek first His Kingdom"?
5. How would you suggest Jaxon should approach his dream?
(Students will develop the chart themselves as they give responses.)

Teacher:

Another scripture that will help us at this point is Psalm 138:8. Let's read it together and see how it can help us answer our questions.

Take Away:

The realization that God's Word gives us direction toward His plan for us is a valid method to help us choose our careers. Knowing that He gives us dreams, inspirations, and gifts to support them encourages us to move forward. As we focus on His presence, it releases His power to bring our dreams to fruition according to His plan.

Going Forward:

(Activation) Pass out the Handout Sheet: What is my Dream? Each student will record the development of his/her dream utilizing the same material and process used in class.

Teacher's Summary:

So today we have discovered a lot of things. We realized that God's Kingdom, through the Holy Spirit, is all around us and in us. In fact, we found out that scripture says that God has a plan for each one of us and has provided us with gifts and talents to fulfill that plan. We can use His Word and the voice of His Spirit as tools to discover more and to decide those things that are true and good for us. As we do that, we can be a reflection of Him and become world changers.

Teacher ends with prayer: "Let us end this lesson with a prayer."

Lord, we never realized just how much You want to be a part of our lives. Thank You for providing us with everything we need to follow the dreams You have placed within us. Help us to discover Your plan so that we can be a reflection of You in this world. In Jesus' Name we pray.

(Take-Home Handout)

GUIDELINES:

1. **Ask God for a dream.**
2. **What excites you?**
3. **What is fun for you?**
4. **What comes easy for you?**

WHAT IS MY DREAM?
(Student writes dream down)

How do we know if a dream is God given?

GUIDELINES : **“Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you.” (Matthew 6:33.)**

1. **Does the dream line up with God’s character?**
2. **Has God equipped you with gifting needed?**
3. **What doors has God opened?**

After evaluating your dream using the above questions, do you believe that your dream is inspired by God?

(SAMPLE CHART)

**THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS:
(Answers will be discovered and developed by students)**

**MATTHEW 6:33
PLACE/WAY
(Reigning Realm)**

**MATTHEW 4:17
KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND
(At Our Reach)**

**JOHN 1:4
LIFE/LIGHT**

**JOHN 3:5-6
HIS PRESENCE**

**MATTHEW 13:31-32
GROWS/SUPPORTS**

**1 JOHN 4:8
LOVE**

**REVELATION 3:20
INSIDE OF US**

**JEREMIAH 29:11
PLANS FOR US**

**PSALM 138
POWER TO ACCOMPLISH**