





Group Time Guide

Supplies Needed: Pickle.

1. Getting Started

Encourage kids to discuss this question: Pickles or no pickles?

2. Discussion Questions

- Why was Bowie feeling upset? (He didn't feel comfortable with everyone knowing he followed Jesus.) Have you ever felt that way?
- How do we know if someone follows Jesus? (The way they live, the things they say, the things they do.)
- What's an example of a "symbol," something that stands for something else? (A sports mascot, a country's flag.)

3. Hands-On Option

Look Up and Read: Colossians 3:8-11. These verses are saying that we have a brandnew kind of life in Jesus. (Know that a "Scythian" is a nomad, a wandering person from the Bible days. The point is, they were outsiders, but Jesus cares about them, too!)

Do This: Show kids the pickle.

Say This: For two thousand years, followers of Jesus have been getting baptized. They are lowered under the water, and then pulled back up. This is an example, or a "symbol" of what happens inside us when we decide to follow Jesus with our life. The verse we read says that we have a new life in Jesus. We are completely changed, but we're still ourselves. It's like how this pickle is changed from a cucumber into a pickle.

Ask: How do you make a cucumber into a pickle? (You put it in vinegar)

The Point: This cucumber is "baptized" by vinegar, that is, the vinegar changes every part of the cucumber into something different. That's like how God changes our lives. Everything we think, say, and do becomes different, because we are living for the God who made us and loves us! Being baptized in water shows others that we want God to be the leader of our whole life.

4. Wrap-Up and Prayer

Ask: What was the best part of your week? What was something tough that happened this week?

Do This: Pray with the kids.