



JUNE & JULY WITH JOHN



Ideas to spark conversations, explorations, and activities related to the themes found in John.

ORIGIN STORIES

John 1:1-18

Big Idea: Beginnings are important. Jesus' beginning begins before his birth.

Explore the theme:

Superhero stories.
Your family tree.
How things are made.
(recipes, plants, art)

Go do!

Spfd starting places:
birthplace of Rt 66, the
Calaboose, cashew
chicken, Gray/Campbell
Farmstead.

Car Convo:

Look up a few starts of
your kids' fave books:
Why is the start of the
story important?
What do we learn in the
first few words? (use
John too!)

PARTY PEOPLE

John 2:1-12

Big Idea: Jesus often
enjoys his human life,
and encourages us to
help others to too.

Explore the theme:

Weddings,
Graduations, Milestones.
What makes us feel
celebrated.

Go do!

Host a party you can
treat some friends at.
Share a refreshing drink
with someone-lemonade
stand? Unsheltered folk?

Car Convo:

If you could invite Jesus
to the most fun thing
you've ever done, what
would it be?
Who do we know that
deserves some
celebrating? How?

BIG LOVE

John 3:16-17

Big Idea: God loves us a
lot. Like a lot, a lot.
That's what Jesus comes
to let us know.

Explore the theme:

Movies that highlight the
love of a parent (*Finding
Nemo, The Lion King*).
Ways to show our love.

Go do!

Learn to say "I love you"
in different languages.
Send a card or letter to
someone you love.

Car Convo:

Pick out a few love songs
(churchy or otherwise)
that you can learn to sing
in the car together.
Why do we sing songs
about love?
Who loves you? How do
you know?

SIGNS

John 4,5,6

Big Idea: John likes to
show who Jesus is, not
just tell. The miracles in
John are signs pointing
to Jesus' identity.

Explore the theme:

Treasure maps.
Show & Tell. (Why both?)

Go do!

Play charades.
Create a treasure map
or trail for someone
else to follow.

Car Convo:

Talk about the things
along the roadway that
tell us where we are and
how to keep moving
toward where we're
going (signs, stoplights).
Why do we have signs?
What would happen
without them?

JUNE 1

JUNE 8

JUNE 15

JUNE 22





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I AM THE WALRUS

John 6:35, etc.

Big Idea: Jesus uses "I am" word pictures to tell us who he is (8:12; 10:7,11; 14:6, 15:1)

Explore the theme:

What is a metaphor?
Secret Identities.
Autobiographies.

Go do!

Create some metaphors about people you know (grandpa is an airhorn when he sneezes).
Write or draw the start of your autobiography.

Car Convo:

What's a gate?
Look for gates.
In John 10:7 Jesus calls himself "The Gate for the Sheep." Who are the sheep? What could he mean?

FEETSIES

John 13:3-16

Big Idea: Near the end of his life, Jesus washes the feet of his closest friends. He leads with service.

Explore the theme:

Feet: what do they do?
Service: what is it?
People who do unexpected generosity.

Go do!

Pedicures!
Walk a bit for a meal. (picnic, downtown etc.)
Do something to "serve" a neighbor.

Car Convo:

Why do our feet get smelly?
Would you wash someone's feet?
Would you rather have really long toes or really short fingers?

WE'VE GOT SPIRIT!

John 14:25-27

Big Idea: As Jesus is preparing to die, he promises that the Holy Spirit will come. Even though no one has ever heard of the Holy Spirit before.

Explore the theme:

Sunday scaries.
Comfort foods/blankets/stuffies.

Go do!

Think of someone who might be feeling a little alone. How could you help?

Car Convo:

Is there something you used to be scared of that you aren't any more?
How did that happen?
What helps you feel brave?

HARD/HAPPY DAYS

John 18,19, 20

Big Idea: Jesus died in a really hard way. But because Jesus was God, he came back to life. People were very surprised!

Explore the theme:

If you're ready to talk about death, the book *Water Bugs & Dragonflies* can be helpful.

You could also focus more on what it's like to be hurt by a friend, and what it means to forgive.

Go do!

Mini-Easter in July!

Car Convo:

How can we know God loves us?
How can we help others feel loved?

JUNE 29

JULY 6

JULY 13

JULY 20

