3's and PreK

(RE)SET

DATE(S)

Feb. 21-22, 2009

LESSON TITLE

Week 1

OBJECTIVE

Kids will discover that Jesus, although perfect, experienced life on earth much like we do.

BIBLE STORY

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.
Luke 2:52

TIPS/SCHEDULE

Tip: Have activities ready for kids when they arrive. Place coloring pages and crayons on the table. Help kids engage in other activities like playing with a truck or baby.

Use this time to get to know the kids individually. Ask them questions like: "Who brings you to church?", "What's your favorite...", etc.

Schedule: Insert your ministry's schedule here:

Crossroads uses this schedule, based on a 65 minute service (Beginning at the start of the service hour. There will be extra time on the front end when kids are dropped off early):

10 minutes: free play/relationship building/name game
20 minutes: large group
20-25 minutes: small group and snack
10 minutes: wrap-up/free play/group play

LEADER PREP

It's hard to imagine that Jesus, who was God, grew up in the same way we grow up. He came to earth as a newborn, learned to walk and talk, was potty-trained and grew taller. He developed friendships and memorized large portions of Scripture. He really did experience life in much the same way as we experience it--except he lived life perfectly. It's important that children begin to understand that Jesus was like them in many ways, yet perfect, and they can grow to know Jesus.
As you prepare this week, pray that each child in your class grows up to become who God wants them to be and that they will grow to know and love Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to the first week of the Journey. We will be learning about Jesus: who He is and what He is all about. Kids thrive with consistent leadership and would love to see you every week. You'll also find that you're impacted weekly by them!

Did you know?

Elephants are the only mammals that cannot jump

DAILY BREAKOUT

CHECKIN / CHECKOUT

As parents pick up their children, tell them that we discovered that Jesus is like us in many ways and that we can grow much like Jesus did.

LARGE GROUP HEADS UP

We're going to be discovering ways that Jesus was like us. We'll be showing pictures of kids and people engaging in certain activities and then talking about whether or not Jesus did those things. Some of those things include: playing, growing, going to school, eating and sleeping.

SMALL GROUP

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

QUESTIONS

SAY: Although Jesus always obeyed God, He was like us in many other ways. He was born as a baby and grew up tall and strong.

Hold up the baby doll and pass around the baby doll for kids to hold and touch. Ask the following:

1) Do you remember being a little baby? How have you gotten bigger since you were a baby?

2) What are some things you have learned to do that you couldn't do as a baby? (focus on aspects of growth that are tangible like learning to walk, skip, jump, talk, run, sing, draw, color, alphabet, colors, etc.)

3) Jesus was once a baby, and He grew up to be a grown-up. What are some ways that Jesus was like us? (He got tired/sleepy, ate food, went to school, helped with chores at home, played games with friends and family, got sad, laughed, etc.)

4) How was Jesus different than us when he was a kid? (perfect--that means he always obeyed God)

STUFF TO DO, SO THINGS AREN'T BORING

ACTIVITIES

Kids will identify things that Jesus did when he was living on earth as a kid by listening to various sounds. Each sound will be a separate track on the CD so you can pause after each sound and talk about it.

The following sounds will be on the CD:

Water splashing in a bathtub
Crying
Laughing
Toilet flushing
Singing
Someone reading a story that kids would recognize
Hammering a nail into a piece of wood
Snoring
Children reciting ABCs
Coughing/sneezing

DAILY BREAKOUT CONT'D

SMALL GROUP

Play the 'Name Game'
(OPTIONAL IF TIME PERMITS)
It is best to play the 'Name Game' in smaller groups at your tables so that kids don't feel embarrassed to speak in front of a larger group. You may want to play it prior to going into Large Group as a way to prepare the kids for the rest of the hour.

Here's how to play:

Gather kids together in a group.

Explain the game to the kids and tell them there are two reasons we play it:
1. We want them to know that God knows each of us by name (we are special to God)
2. To help us learn each others' names

A volunteer leads the game and begins by pointing to a child. The child says his/her name. Then the entire group says "Jesus loves _____!" Then, the volunteer points to the next child.

Continue around the circle or table until every kid has a chance to say his or her name and hear that Jesus loves him! When the kids are finished, make sure you include the volunteers.

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITY

LARGE GROUP SCRIPT

SPECIAL NOTES

Thanks for being special!! Just think, you have the privilege of helping kids discover who Jesus is. That is one of the highest privileges of all! Thanks for what you do and for taking the time to prepare so you can do it with excellence.

PRESENTER TIPS

There are a lot of pictures used in this presentation so you'll want to make sure you explain the pictures in the way provided. We don't want to talk for too long and lose their attention.

It's a hard concept to grasp that Jesus was human, yet He was God. We're talking about how Jesus was perfect, but like us in other ways. Preschoolers probably don't understand the word "perfect" so it's important to explain it as "Jesus always obeyed God".

SCRIPT

Hello Friends! Welcome to Kids' Club (or your church/ministry program name). I'm _____ (insert your name) and I'm so glad you're here today! We're going to discover some ways that Jesus is like us. Although Jesus always obeyed God, he is like us in many ways. Before we discover more about Jesus and how he is like us, we're going to sing a song that requires some jumping. Do you think you can jump with me?

Song: Jump Into the Light

Great job singing! God smiles when we sing to Him. You probably don't remember being a little baby (hold up baby doll for kids to see), but you've grown in many ways since you were a baby. You've gotten taller. You've learned to walk. Your arms have grown longer. You're learning how to talk. Maybe you're even learning how to tie your own shoes or even write your own name. Maybe you're even learning how to ride a bike.

Did you know that Jesus grew up, too—just like you?? He came to earth as a little baby and He learned to walk and talk. He had parents that taught Him about God and how to make the right choice. He learned to read and write. He even learned how to skip and jump and run really fast.

Jesus was like us in many ways, but Jesus was also different than us. Jesus was perfect--that means he always obeyed God. Sometimes you and I don't always obey God, but Jesus always obeyed God.

SCRIPT CONT'D

The Bible (open and hold up Bible) says, "Jesus became wiser and stronger. He also became more and more pleasing to God and to people."

Since Jesus was like us in lots of ways, I wonder what kind of things Jesus did...? Let's look at some pictures together. If you think Jesus may have done this as a kid, give me a thumbs up. (demonstrate) If you think Jesus never did it, give a thumbs down. (demonstrate)

Do you think Jesus did this...? (show picture of kids playing a game). Jesus probably played games with his family and his friends. He liked to have fun and laugh just like you. I bet He even told funny jokes to His friends.

Do you think Jesus did this...? (show picture of someone sleeping). Jesus got tired like us and slept every night. He even took naps every now and then--just like lots of you! One time He even fell asleep while riding in a boat on the sea.

Do you think Jesus did this...? (show picture of a skinned knee) Jesus probably had many boo boos and had to have his mommy put a bandage on his boo boos--just like you.

Do you think Jesus did this...? (show picture of someone taking a bath) Jesus had to take a bath just like you and he had to scrub behind his ears and clean between his toes. I wonder if he splashed in the water while he was taking a bath??

Do you think Jesus did this...? (show picture of someone with a missing tooth) Jesus lost his teeth and got grown up teeth, too--just like you.

Do you think Jesus did this...? (show picture of a toilet) Jesus even had to go to the bathroom like you and me. I know that might sound funny, but Jesus was like us in many ways and he spent time in the bathroom like us.

Even though Jesus was perfect--that means He always obeyed God--He was like you and me in many ways. Just like Jesus, we can grow, too. In fact, we can grow like Jesus. Can you say that with me? We can grow like Jesus. Let's say it one more time: we can grow like Jesus. Let's pray and ask Jesus to help us grow like Him.

Prayer: Lead children in the following prayer, breaking the prayer into smaller phrases and having children repeat after you.

Hi God, thank you for helping me to grow. Help me to grow up to be like You! In Jesus' name, AAAAAAAAMEN!

Now we're going to sing one more song to God—a song that reminds us that we should love God with all of our heart. Let's sing together!

Sing: Love the Lord with all your Heart

Dismiss the kids back to small groups

SCRIPT CONT'D

NAME

PREP NEEDS

SMALL GROUP SUPPLIES

Coloring page
1 baby doll for each small group (babies should be ethnically diverse--at least one light skinned and one dark skinned doll per room)
1 CD of the following sounds per room: Water splashing in a bathtub, Crying, Laughing, Toilet, flushing, Singing, Someone reading a story that kids would recognize, Hammering a nail into a piece of wood, Snoring, Children reciting ABCs, Coughing/sneezing

LARGE GROUP SUPPLIES

1 baby doll
Bible

A/V NEEDS

Pictures of the following:
• someone running or jumping in the park
• someone crying or sad
• someone eating
• someone sleeping
• kids playing a game
• kid or kids in school
• someone doing a chore
• toilet
• someone with a skinned knee/getting a bandage
• someone with a missing tooth
• someone taking a bath

NORP Slides
Songs: Jump into the Light
Love the Lord with all your heart

SPECIAL ROOM SET-UP

CONNECT QUESTIONS

What is one way that Jesus is like us?
Pick up a Family Guide

PARENT PAGE

It's sometimes difficult to imagine, but Jesus was once a kid. To help your child grasp that Jesus grew like them in many ways, consider doing one of the following: get a picture of your child as a newborn or pull out your child's baby book and identify ways he/she has grown; read the story of Jesus at the temple from a children's Bible. As you do "normal" life activities, talk about how Jesus might have experienced those activities.