



VOLUME 10 SUGGESTED THEMES

Unit 28: Jesus Is Alive

How do we know that God wants us to know Him? We can know that God wants us to know Him because He has revealed Himself through His Word.

Theme Idea: Late Night Talk Show: After His resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days on earth interacting with people. In this unit, we get to learn from several different accounts of people who saw Him during that time. We will host a late night talk show with fun interviews and segments to connect with the stories from those 40 days. Decorate for this theme using a desk with a coffee mug, chairs or a couch, and a background of a skyline at night. Consider giving your talk show a fun name based on the name of your ministry or church name.

- Session 1: Tonight's show will open with the host interviewing a surprise guest. This guest could be a pastor or ministry leader from another area of the church, or it could be one of your volunteers dressed in a silly disguise. Connect this to how the apostles were surprised when Jesus appeared to them.
- Session 2: Tonight, the interview is with someone who had something amazing happen. Perhaps he won a year of free ice cream, grew the world's largest watermelon, or hopped on a pogo stick for a mile. The host refuses to believe him! In today's story, Thomas was told amazing news by the other disciples, but he refused to believe until he saw Jesus himself.
- Session 3: The guest tonight is the winner of a fishing competition, out of all the competitors, she caught the most fish. In today's Bible story, the disciples were fishing without success. But then, Jesus came and they caught 153 fish.
- Session 4: We're finishing up the season with a cooking episode. Tonight's guest is a chef, and the host must follow his every instruction to create a delicious dish. We are to be disciples of Jesus, which means to follow Him, and lead others to be His disciples.



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Unit 29: The Church Begins

How does the Holy Spirit help Christians? The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.

Theme Idea: Mini Golf Course: This unit focuses on the mission that Jesus gave His followers and help He sent through the Holy Spirit. We will be tackling our own mission throughout this unit in the form of a mini golf course. Decorate for this theme using golf clubs, golf balls, obstacles like a windmill or tunnel, and a putting green made out of green paper or turf.

- Session 1: Introduce the mission of the golf course to the player. Explain that the goal is to get the golf ball into the hole. The player will then attempt different silly ways to accomplish that goal, such as tossing it, rolling it with his hands, or just walking up to the hole and placing the golf ball in it. Clarify that there is a specific way to play golf. Connect this to how Jesus gave His followers a mission and then gave them a specific way to accomplish that mission through sending the Holy Spirit to help.
- Session 2: In this round of golf, the players get to compete on teams. However, one player has to leave for some reason. After some discussion, it is decided that one of the kids will now join the team as his replacement. In this week's Bible story, we learn that the disciples replaced Judas with Matthias.
- Session 3: In today's round of mini golf, the competition is strong, but so is the wind. The players are having to fight against strong gusts of wind as they golf. In this week's Bible story, a strong rushing wind filled the house where Jesus was and then the Holy Spirit filled the disciples.
- Session 4: It is the final hole of the course. But it's a trick hole! There are three different tunnels, but only one leads to the actual hole. Connect this to the false teachers that led believers astray in Galatia and the truth that God alone leads to salvation.



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Unit 30: Peter's Ministry

Why does God command Christians to tell others about Jesus? We tell others about Jesus so they will hear and believe the good news.

Theme Idea: Bake Off: We will be learning about Peter's ministry and how he followed Jesus' example so that others might come to know Christ. We'll use a baking competition to help kids connect with these truths. Decorate for this theme using a table, mixing bowls, kitchen utensils, cake pans, aprons, and shelf-stable ingredients, such as bags of flour and sugar.

- Session 1: People are noticing the different items on the table and starting to question what's going on. The baking competition is announced! Connect this to when Peter explained the arrival of the Holy Spirit to the crowds.
- Session 2: The bakers have begun, but one is mixing the batter with a mixing spoon. Another baker suggests he switch over to an electric mixer, which makes a big difference. Peter healed the man at the temple, which pointed to a greater, more powerful healing that we can find in Jesus.
- Session 3: The competition is getting more difficult as the weeks go on. This week, they are given the additional challenge of baking without using a recipe. Peter continued to preach the gospel, even when it was difficult.
- Session 4: The bakers look around and realize all of the different baked goods they have accumulated from their competitions. They decide to go into the community and share their creations with others. They chose to be generous with what they had, unlike Ananias and Sapphira in this week's Bible story.
- Session 5: It is the final competition. The bakers are asked to bake a specific cake, but all but one forgot to bring their recipes. The baker who remembered to bring the recipe decides to share it with the other competitors. Connect this with how we have been called to share the good news of Jesus with everyone.