

## Jesus Rejected in Nazareth

Luke 4

**Did Jesus ever sin?**  
No, Jesus never sinned.

"But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin."  
1 John 3:5

### Story Point:

Jesus taught that He is the Messiah.



### PREPARE HEARTS

- Starter Activity and Question of the Day
- 11:00 - Kids Worship



### ACTIVATE HEARTS

- Lesson Review - Jesus Rejected in Nazareth
- Discussion Questions
- Group Activity: Mission Match Up
- Group Demonstration: Accept or Reject?



### ENGAGE HEARTS

- Group Activity: Mystery Me
- Share and Care Prayer Time
- Group Activity: Believe It or Not

## SHEPHERD GUIDE

This week's session helps kids see that Jesus is not just a good teacher—He is the promised Messiah foretold in Scripture. In His hometown of Nazareth, Jesus boldly claimed this identity by reading from the book of Isaiah and saying, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled." But instead of celebrating, the people rejected Him. True worship begins with believing who Jesus really is, even when others don't. To help prepare your heart to teach, spend time reflecting on your own response to Jesus' divine authority. Do you truly believe and worship Jesus as the promised Messiah? Are you ever tempted to reduce Him to a more comfortable version of your own making?

**Jesus is the promised Messiah from the Old Testament.** When Jesus read from the scroll of Isaiah in the synagogue, He declared, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled." In doing so, He made it clear that He is the promised Messiah the prophets spoke about. Jesus came to bring good news, healing, and freedom—just as God had foretold. This truth reminds us that Jesus is the centerpiece of God's plan to rescue people from sin.

**People often reject truth when it challenges their expectations.** The people of Nazareth were amazed at first, but they quickly turned against Jesus when He claimed to be the Messiah. They couldn't accept that someone they knew could be God's chosen Savior. Their expectations blinded them to the truth. This shows us that pride or familiarity can keep people from recognizing who Jesus truly is.

**Even when others reject Jesus, He continues His mission.** Though the crowd in Nazareth rejected Jesus and even tried to harm Him, He didn't stop His ministry. He continued to teach, heal, and call people to believe in Him. Jesus knew that not everyone would accept Him, but He remained faithful to His purpose. His example teaches us to stay committed to God's truth—even when it's hard or unpopular.

As you teach, remind kids that faith in Jesus calls for a response. Not everyone believed Him then, and not everyone will believe now—but Jesus is still worthy of our trust and worship. Point kids to the unshakable truth that Jesus is the Savior sent by God to rescue us from sin, and that believing in Him is the first step in a life of worship. Keep planting seeds of truth.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 10:20 - 10:30 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.



# GRADES 3-4

## KNOW + LOVE + FOLLOW

June 21, 2026  
2<sup>nd</sup> Service

### MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

- \*KNOW that Jesus is the promised Messiah from the Old Testament.
- \*ACCEPT Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
- \*SHARE Jesus' love with those around them.



*As you arrive and children come and go - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the others. Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.*

*Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc.*

*When most kids have arrived for 2nd service (by 10:50ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.*

*\*Option - Pen Pal Kit!!*



### PREPARE HEARTS

#### Question of the Day:

**Has someone ever told you something that was hard to believe?**

#### Starter Activity

Welcome and Question of the Day

Maybe a friend announced that they were able to dunk a basketball. Or maybe your little sister said the family dog could talk—but only to her. Sometimes people say outrageous things that seem untrue. Other times, we hear amazing things that are true. In our Bible story, we'll hear that JESUS TAUGHT THAT HE IS THE MESSIAH—the one who would save people from their sin. That's a big claim! And a lot of people didn't believe Him. In fact, many people rejected Jesus altogether.



### KIDS WORSHIP

**11:00**

**Kids Worship for Pre-K - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade in LG2.**



## ACTIVE MINDS

You can use the REVIEW VIDEO on your TV and / or use this lesson as a review of what was taught 1st service.

### Jesus Rejected in Nazareth

Bibles,  
Review Video –  
Bible story on TV

Open your Bible to Luke 4. You can use the Kids Sermon Outline as you go through the story.

KIDS SERMON OUTLINE:

**Jesus is the promised Messiah from the Old Testament. (Luke 4:16- 21):** Jesus read Isaiah and said, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled,” confirming He is the one Isaiah wrote about.

**People often reject truth when it challenges their expectations. (Luke 4:21-24):** The people of Nazareth struggled to see Jesus as the promised Messiah.

**Even when others reject Jesus, He continues His mission. (Luke 4:31-44):** Jesus didn’t let rejection stop Him. He kept teaching, healing, and calling people to believe.

While Jesus was traveling through Galilee, He came to the city of Nazareth, where He had grown up. He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, as He did every week. He stood up to read and was given a scroll that contained the writings of the prophet Isaiah. Here is what He read:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because He has anointed me  
to preach good news to the poor.  
He has sent me  
to proclaim release to those in prison  
and to give sight to the blind  
to set free those in oppression,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then Jesus rolled up the scroll and sat down. Everyone in the synagogue was looking at Jesus as He said, “Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled.” Jesus was claiming that Isaiah was talking about Him!

Everyone was amazed by the way Jesus was talking. But they also said, “Isn’t He Joseph’s son?” The people had known Jesus since He was a boy, and they wondered how Isaiah’s words could be about Him.

Then Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown. But I say to you, there were many widows living during the time Elijah was serving God as a prophet. At that time, there was no rain for three years and six months, and many people were starving and in need of food. Yet Elijah was only sent to save one woman who was not from Israel.” Jesus also said, “And in the time of the prophet Elisha, many people suffered from leprosy. But only one man was cleansed: Naaman the Syrian.”

This made the people in the synagogue very angry. They chased Jesus out of town and planned on throwing Him over a cliff! But Jesus passed through the crowd and went on His way.

## CHRIST CONNECTION

All people sin and need a Savior, but not everyone will believe in Jesus. Only those who believe the good news about Jesus and repent will be rescued from sin and death.

**Where was Jesus, and who was listening to Him as He read from the Scriptures?** (Read Luke 4:16-20.) [Allow responses.] Jesus was teaching Jews in the synagogue in Nazareth. Jesus read from the Old Testament book of Isaiah. Jesus announced that He is the promised Messiah. He told the people He had come to bring good news to the poor and set the captives free. In a unique way, Jesus told them He had come to rescue them from sin. **How did the Jews respond?** [Allow responses.] JESUS TAUGHT THAT HE IS THE MESSIAH, but the people in Nazareth didn't believe Him.

All people sin and need a Savior, but not everyone will believe in Jesus. Only those who believe the good news about Jesus and repent will be rescued from sin and death. This is an important question for you today: How will you respond to Jesus? That's something you have to decide for yourself. We aren't saved by coming to church or reading our Bibles. We are only saved through faith in Jesus. Romans 10:9 tells us that people are saved by confessing that Jesus is the Son of God and believing that God raised Him from the dead. We don't have to do anything special to earn our salvation; we respond to Jesus with faith.



## Discussion

Discussion questions listed here

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

**Can only good people enter the kingdom of God?** We all sin and fall short of the perfect goodness required to enter the kingdom of God. But Jesus perfectly obeyed God in our place and offers His perfect goodness to us. God sent Jesus to save us from our sins and allow us to enter the kingdom of God. We can only enter the kingdom of God through Jesus. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ephesians 2:8-9.)

**How does Jesus' death display God's love for us?** God loved us so much that He created a plan to rescue us from our sins by sending Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life and became the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He took the punishment our sin deserves so that we can be forgiven and have eternal life with God. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read John 3:16.)

**What does it mean to be born again?** When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are born again. God no longer sees our sinful state, but instead He sees the perfect life Jesus lived in our place. The Holy Spirit works in our lives, changing us to be more like Jesus and giving us a new life in Him. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 2 Corinthians 5:17.)



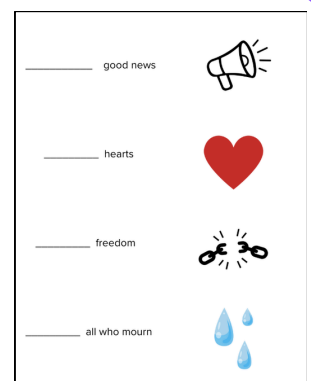
## Mission Match Up

- Bibles
- Envelopes with matching cards
- Pencils

Pass out Bibles and have them find Isaiah 61:1-3. Read Isaiah 61:1-3 as a class. Ask: **What did Jesus come to do?**

Give each table group an envelope with cards to fill in and then match with the picture. Have them add ways that Jesus does each of these things and ways that they can also show the love of Jesus in these ways in their everyday life.

Come back together as a class and share what they found.





## Accept or Reject?

- Pictures of items

Hold up pictures of items for kids to view:

- history book
- salad
- baseball
- video game controller
- dance shoes
- paintbrush
- apple
- calculator

As you show each item, have the kids move to one side of the room if it's something they love, the other side if it's something they dislike, or stay in the middle if they are indifferent.

**SAY:** It's interesting that the same items got very different responses from all of you. Some of us really enjoy math, while others find it boring or hard. We all have different opinions about things like food or sports or hobbies, and that's okay.

People also respond differently to Jesus, but it's never okay to reject Him! In our story we heard that the people of Nazareth rejected Him, to the point of wanting to throw Him off a cliff! As Jesus continued His ministry there were people who liked what He had to say but weren't ready to follow Him as their Savior. Still others put their faith in Jesus, trusting that He is who He says He is: the Son of God. Jesus didn't just claim to be the Messiah—or rescuer—He performed miracles, He healed people, He preached, and He showed compassion toward everyone. He proved who He is through the way He treated others. Even though Jesus isn't physically standing in front of us today, we have the same choice to make as the Jews in the synagogue that day. Each one of us must respond to Jesus. Will we reject Him? Or will we turn to Him in faith, believing that He truly is the one who can save us from sin and bring us back to God?



## Mystery Me

- Index cards with occupations
- Scotch Tape

Prior to the session, write various roles on index cards, one per child. Examples may include dancer, teacher, firefighter, artist, missionary, musician, singer, and so forth. (This will be done for you!)

Adhere a card to each kid's back using a small piece of scotch tape. Kids should not know what their card says. The goal is for each child to walk around the room and ask yes or no questions to figure out who they are. Encourage the group to give helpful clues without saying the exact word on the card. Once a child correctly guesses their occupation, they can help others still guessing.

**SAY:** That was a fun game! Some of those occupations were easy to guess, and some were really tricky. Isn't it interesting how hard it can be to figure out who someone really is—especially when we can't see the full picture or when we already have our own ideas? That's exactly what happened in today's Bible story. When Jesus taught in His hometown, the people didn't believe He was the Messiah. They saw Him as just 'Joseph's son'—a regular guy they grew up with—not the Savior God had promised.



## Continued...

Sometimes people miss the truth about Jesus because He doesn't match what they expect. But Jesus didn't let that stop Him. He kept teaching, healing, and calling people to believe in Him. In our game, we had to listen closely and ask questions to figure out who we were. In real life, we discover who Jesus is by listening to His Word, asking questions, and learning what the Bible says about Him.

So here's the big question: Who do you say Jesus is? That's the most important question you'll ever answer. When we believe Jesus is the Messiah—the Savior sent by God—that's the beginning of a life of worship and trust in Him.



## Share and Care Prayer

Spend some time as a class sharing about:

- Our Global Partner Family of the Month (**The Karthak Family**)
- Specific prayer requests from any of the kids about something going on in their own lives.

Have the class sit in a circle as you share and care for one another's needs. Ask for and share requests with one another. Review and follow up with any prayer requests from the chain made the week before. Use the Global Partner of the Month spotlight sheet (In the Pen Pal Kit) to talk about prayer requests from the Karthak Family



## Believe It or Not

- True or False Statements

Pull out the True or False Statement sheet.

Read each fun or strange statement aloud to the group, one at a time. After each statement, have kids vote by either standing up for "Believe It" or staying seated for "No Way."

Once everyone has voted, reveal whether the statement is true or false.

**SAY:** Some things are hard to believe—like a shrimp's heart being in its head. In our game, we had to decide what sounded true, even when it seemed strange. In today's Bible story, the people in Nazareth heard something that felt hard to believe too: JESUS TAUGHT THAT HE IS THE MESSIAH. But unlike fun facts, believing in Jesus isn't just about being surprised—it's about trusting the truth. Even when others don't believe or when we don't understand everything, we can believe in Jesus because He is who He says He is.

### True or False Statements

- A shrimp's heart is in its head. (T)
- Bananas grow on trees. (F)
- Octopuses have three hearts. (T)
- Goldfish only have a three-second memory. (F)
- Some turtles can breathe through their bottoms. (T)
- Lightning never strikes the same place twice. (F)
- A group of flamingos is called a "flamboyance." (T)
- Humans only use 10% of their brains. (F)
- Sloths can hold their breath longer than dolphins. (T)
- Peanuts are a type of nut. (F)
- Bulls get angry when they see the color red. (F)
- Your fingernails grow faster when you're cold. (F)
- The Eiffel Tower can grow taller in the summer. (T)
- Some frogs can freeze and still survive. (T)