

**Jesus Shows
He Is True God**

NEW TESTAMENT 2

ENGAGE



Opening Leader Outlines



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Welcome to Cross Explorations



Cross Explorations is a rotation model for Sunday School or Midweek School from Concordia Publishing House.

Basic course resources provide an hour-long program for children ages 5 to 12 in three main sites: **Engage** (opening), **Explore** (Bible lesson), and **Express** (crafts, music, skits, and activities).

You can easily extend the time to two or more hours with the many activities in the *Express Craft Booklet* and on the *Express Skit CD*, *Activities & More CD*, and *Music CD*.

Large-group Engage Openings are planned for fifteen minutes, but you can cut or extend this time as needed.

Engage Children in Openings

Engage Openings teach children how to worship. And because education flows out of worship, where God offers Word and Sacrament to His people, Openings help children recognize things used in both places, such as the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles' Creed. This plants the seeds for active and meaningful worship for years to come.

Since children learn by doing, invite participation and capture attention with responsive reading, praying, singing, sharing ideas during discussions, participating in mission projects, lighting or snuffing candles, and collecting offerings.

Choose resources that best fit your needs.

Bible challenge questions encourage students and teachers to talk about a lesson topic as others arrive. Use the PowerPoint slide, and click to give the answer before starting the opening. Or read the question from the *Bible Challenge Question* PDF file.

Opening sentences and prayers change weekly. Add local needs as well as praying the Lord's Prayer, Luther's Morning Prayer, or a thematic prayer. Consider using some time to pray in small groups.

Songs and hymns fit the themes and Bible stories for this quarter, but CD resources give you the flexibility to change them. See the music list on the back inside cover. Track numbers refer to the *Engage CD*. Hymn numbers refer to *Lutheran Service Book* from CPH.

Bible lesson introductions don't tell the Bible narrative; instead, they engage students so that they want to learn more in the Explore and Express sites.

The Apostles' Creed professes our faith in the triune God.

Special days, such as birthdays and Baptism anniversaries, are important recognitions. Get these days from your church office, or ask adults to provide them so that you can recognize all children on these days.

Offerings and mission projects help children learn to share God's love in Christ and to help others. They learn that all we have belongs to God and that we are merely stewards of His gifts.

You Need

- *Engage Leader Outlines*
- *Engage CD* (with music, PowerPoint slides & materials to print & copy, such as *Lesson Handouts*, *Lyrics*, *Bible Intro Posters & Melody-Line Scores*)
- Projection & audio system or CD player, pianist, or guitarist

Leader Tips

- See the quarter overview on the back cover.
- See Music & CD information on the back inside cover.

Using Engage Resources

Pull apart the *Engage Leader Outlines* in this booklet for each week. Read the week's *Preparing the Lesson* on the *Engage CD* to understand the Bible background and lesson focus.

Prepare to use one of these options for participants' resources.

1. Show PowerPoint slides from the *Engage CD*. Choose presentations with or without linked music.
2. Or print and copy PDF resources from the *Engage CD: Lesson Handouts, Lyrics, Bible Intro Posters, Song Scores, and Bible Challenge Questions*. (*Lesson Handouts* have student parts in bold, whereas these *Leader Outlines* have the leader sections in bold.)

For both options, play music on a computer or CD player, or get a pianist or guitarist.

You can adapt PowerPoint presentations to change order and add or subtract activities or songs. To help you do this more easily, see *PowerPoint Tips*, a PDF file on the CD.

Recruit someone to operate PowerPoint slides so you can focus on leading. You may want to recruit someone to lead singing. **Recorded music is not reproducible.** To make copies for your students or for any other purpose, call 1-800-325-0191 or email copyrights@cph.org for permission.

A Word about Lessons

This group of lessons provides a chronological study of a section of the New Testament. It is part of a set of nine units covering the basic events in the Bible.

Set Up Your Space

If you do not already have an altar in your space, set one up with a small table. Use a white cloth to cover the table. Add a standing cross and a Bible. You might also add traditional candles or electric candle lights and paraments that correlate with the Church Year.

Church Year Connections

To better meet the stated needs of customers, Concordia Publishing House now offers two separate Church Year resources.

1. **Church Year Connections** are available for Series A, B, and C Scripture readings. It includes recordings, melody-line scores, and PowerPoint slides for hymns and songs related to each season and Sunday; weekly object lessons; collects; an order of opening worship; and teaching points for children.
2. **Church Year Worship Kit** teaches the Church Year in child-friendly, age-appropriate ways for young children in preschool through early elementary grades.

The kit includes four extra-large posters with a church altar and furnishings, the Lord's Prayer, Luther's Morning Prayer, and a familiar image of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

The Leader Guide has teaching directions and blackline patterns.

A CD features hymns and songs for the Church Year, Baptism anniversary celebrations, reproducible parent connections to send home, and PDF copies of information from the printed booklet.

Lesson 1 Leader Outline

Jesus Changes Water into Wine

John 2:1–11



Bible Challenge Question

Show the *Bible Challenge Question* slide for people to chat about as others arrive. When ready to start, click to show the answer.

Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Song

Sing “Big, Bold, Powerful God,” Track 1.

Opening Sentences

Wisdom and Knowledge

Leader: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.
(Psalm 111:10)

People: We praise You, God our Father!

Leader: All those who practice it have a good understanding.

People: His praise endures forever!
(Psalm 111:10)

Leader: In [Christ] are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Colossians 2:3)

People: We praise You, Christ Jesus!

Leader: Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.
(Psalm 90:12)

People: We praise You, Holy Spirit!

You Need

- Lesson 1 Engage Leader Outline
- Engage CD
- Lesson 1 Slides, projection & audio system; or print/copy Lesson 1 Handouts, Lyrics, Bible Intro Posters from the CD
- CD player

Leader: [Christ] we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.
(Colossians 1:28)

People: Thank You for giving us faith in Jesus, our Savior.

Leader: Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16)

People: We praise You—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! Amen.

Song

Sing “For God So Loved the World,” Track 2.

Introduce the Bible Story

Show the *Bible Intro Slide* or *Bible Intro Poster 1*.

Ask What's your favorite thing to do with water? Let children share ideas such as drinking, playing, washing, and Baptism.

Say Jesus used water to make a miracle at a wedding. Find out what He did in our Bible lesson today.

Recognition

Recognize birthdays and Baptism anniversaries. You can add names to the slide. Sing a birthday song, or give each person a small gift.

Offering and Mission Minute

If your Express Leader chose a mission project for the month, or if you designated offerings for a specified mission, talk about it with the students.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Pray for specific needs; then pray or sing "The Lord's Prayer," Track 3.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Song

Sing, "Jesus, I Believe In You," Track 4.

Last Words

Tell students what they do next, and dismiss them to Explore areas.

Say May you find wonder in the words and actions of our Savior, Jesus, today.

Lesson 2 Leader Outline

Jesus Clears the Temple

John 2:13–22



Bible Challenge Question

Show the *Bible Challenge Question* slide for people to chat about as others arrive. When ready, click to show the answer.

Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Song

Say Let's begin with a song of praise to Jesus.

Sing "Oh, How I Love Jesus," Track 5.

Opening Sentences

Jesus, God's Promised One

Leader: Through the prophet Isaiah, God said about the promised Savior, "Behold My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen, in whom My soul delights; I have put My Spirit upon Him." (Isaiah 42:1)

People: The promised Savior would have God's Spirit upon Him.

Leader: And God also said, "The eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy." (Isaiah 35:5–6)

People: The promised Savior would do these amazing miracles.

Leader: And God also said, "I will give You as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind." (Isaiah 42:6–7)

People: The promised Savior would let spiritually blind people see His grace.

You Need

- Lesson 2 Engage Leader Outline
- Engage CD
- Lesson 2 Slides, projection & audio system; or print/copy Lesson 2 Handouts, Lyrics, Bible Intro Posters from the CD
- CD player

Leader: So when disciples of John the Baptist asked Jesus if He was the Savior, Jesus said, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them." (Luke 7:22)

People: See? Jesus did everything God's prophets said the Savior would do.

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)

People: Hear? Jesus, our Savior, is the only way to know God our Father.

Leader: Jesus is the Savior God promised to send to His people.

People: Jesus opens our eyes and ears.

Leader: Jesus died to pay for our sins. Jesus rose to give us new life, now and forever.

People: We believe in You, Jesus, our Savior!

All: Thank You, Jesus! Amen.

Song

Sing "For God So Loved the World" Track 2.

Introduce the Bible Lesson

Show the *Bible Intro Slide* or *Bible Intro Poster 2*.

Ask If your table at home had empty dishes like this one on it, what might your parent ask you to help do? Students may say the table needs to be cleaned off or someone needs to put things away. If so, help them think of other phrases that mean this. You want students to know the phrase "to clear" the table.

Say In our lesson today, we'll hear about how Jesus "cleared" something else. Listen carefully to find out what that was.

Recognition

Recognize birthdays and Baptism anniversaries. You can add names to the slide. Sing a birthday song, or give each person a small gift.

Offering and Mission Minute

If your Express Leader chose a mission project for the month, or if you designated offerings for a specified mission, talk about it with the students.

Prayers

Luther's Morning Prayer

Pray for specific needs; then pray together:
I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Song

Sing "These Things Are Written," Track 6.

Last Words

Tell students what they do next, and dismiss them to Explore areas.

Say In your study of God's Word today, may you learn more about the work and love of Jesus, our Savior.