

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Jesus wants to give us the Holy Spirit and eternal life.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that Jesus is preparing a place for us in Heaven, and that his Holy Spirit is with us on earth.

KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:1-4, Jesus Prepares a Place, John 14:26-27, The Holy Spirit

MEMORY VERSE:

“May you have power with all God’s people to understand Christ’s love. May you know how wide and long and high and deep it is.” Ephesians 3:18 (NirV)

SUMMARY:

Jesus spent a short time on earth after his resurrection before ascending into heaven to prepare our heavenly home. Kids will learn that Jesus is still with us on earth, through the Holy Spirit that he sent to us to live in all believers.

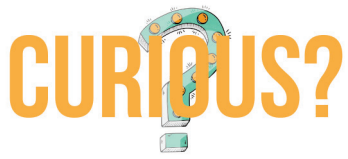
SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of eternal life.

In Jesus’ name,

Amen



MEMORY VERSE

"May you have power with all God's people to understand Christ's love. May you know how wide and long and high and deep it is." Ephesians 3:18 (NirV)

LARGE GROUP:

Split the main group in two. See which group can recite the memory verse from memory the loudest.

SMALL GROUP:

Without putting the verse on display or looking it up, see how many kids can recite the memory verse.

SKIT

PSST! WHERE IS JESUS NOW?

ITEMS NEEDED:

Two trench coats
Two pairs of shades
A folder full of “secret” documents

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

1M, 1F

CHARACTERS:

Kim - A girl with questions
Clint - A mystery man with answers

Clint enters from stage left in a trench coat and shades. He stands calmly at center stage. Kim enters stage right in a trench coat looking sneaky. She looks both ways. She’s clearly up to something and trying not to look like it, which only makes it more obvious. Kim walks up to Clint.

KIM: Okay, let’s have it.

CLINT: Let’s have what?

KIM: The pass phrase. I know you changed it again.

CLINT: How do you know that? Have you tried the old one?

KIM: I tried it the last two weeks, and you kept changing it.

CLINT: Did you try last week’s pass phrase today?

KIM: No.

CLINT: Then how do you know I’ve changed it?

KIM: Okay. Han Solo shot first.

SKIT

CLINT: Nope, that's not the pass phrase now.

KIM: Ugh, I knew it.

CLINT: But that IS the pass phrase this week!

KIM: Ugh, I knew it?

CLINT: I know, not the most original one I've had, but it worked. What can I do for you this week?

KIM: I want to know where He is.

CLINT: He who?

KIM: Who have I been asking about the last three weeks? And don't say the designated hitter in baseball!

CLINT: I know who you mean.

KIM: Do you know where He is?

CLINT: Of course I do.

KIM: Well?

CLINT: He's here, and He's not here.

KIM: How is that supposed to make any sense?

CLINT: It makes perfect sense. When His work was done on Earth, He left to go back to His Heavenly Father. He's preparing a place for everyone who believes to live forever.

KIM: So how is He also here?

CLINT: After He left, He sent His Holy Spirit to dwell with those who believe. So anyone who believes can know him personally.

KIM: So He's in Heaven building a home for us?

CLINT: He is.

KIM: And His Spirit is here on Earth.

SKIT

CLINT: You're trying to find Him, aren't you?

KIM: How did you know?

CLINT: Once you know who Jesus is and what He did, why wouldn't you want to find Him? He died for your sins. Who wouldn't want to receive that kind of forgiveness?

KIM: So how do I contact Him? You got a file folder with his phone number?

CLINT: I don't need one. Just close your eyes and say a prayer.

KIM: And He will hear me? Without a phone?

CLINT: He's been with us since we first started meeting. He's here now. Pray and He will hear. He will send His Spirit to you.

Clint exits.

KIM: Jesus, I hope you can hear me. I know who you are now. I want you to be my Savior.



OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A compass

If you were lost in the woods, and you didn't have any signal on your phone, how would you find your way out? How could you get moving in one direction and keep moving until you found your way to the edge of the woods? Since we can't always rely on getting phone signal in the woods, it's a good idea to take an old fashioned compass. The compass doesn't need a signal or a battery. It always points to true north so we can navigate our way.

Today we're asking one final question: where is Jesus? The Bible tells us He is in Heaven, preparing a place for everyone who believes in Him to live forever. The Bible also tells us His Holy Spirit is here on Earth. The Holy Spirit is God's presence. In a way it is our compass and our guide, pointing us to Heaven so we can move closer and closer to Jesus while we live here on Earth.

Jesus is alive. He is preparing a place for us, and He sent His Spirit to guide us home. Will you ask Jesus to be your Savior today? Will you start your journey home?

LARGE GROUP GAME

PING IT HOME

ITEMS NEEDED:

Two cups
Two putters
Ping pong balls

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two teams for this game. Give each team a putter and each player a ping-pong ball, and have them stand on opposite sides of the stage. Set a cup on its side beside each player.

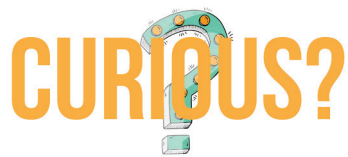
The each players will have to see who can putt their ball into the cup on the opposite side of the stage first. The team who can send their ping pong ball “home” the most wins.

VARIATION:

This can also be a Minute to Win It game, with one player trying to putt a ping-pong ball into a cup starting from 20-30 feet away.

WHAT’S THE POINT?

Jesus is preparing a home for us and has sent His Holy Spirit to be our guide.



LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Jesus wants to give us the Holy Spirit and eternal life.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that Jesus is preparing a place for us in Heaven, and that his Holy Spirit is with us on earth.

KEY PASSAGE:

John 14:1-4, Jesus Prepares a Place, John 14:26-27, The Holy Spirit

INTRO:

For the last couple of weeks we've asked some pretty big questions to satisfy our curiosity about Jesus. We asked who Jesus is, and we learned that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. God promised to send a Savior who would save the world from sin, and Jesus did that when He died on the cross.

We asked if Jesus had human problems like us, and we saw that the answer is a resounding yes. Jesus knew hunger, tiredness, sadness, loneliness, fear, frustration. Jesus knew what it felt like to be tempted to sin, but because He was also God, He never gave into that temptation. He felt every emotion we will ever feel. He felt physical pain and the pain of a broken heart. He understands what it is to be human!

We asked if Jesus really rose from the dead, and the answer to that question was once again – yes! We learned that there have been conspiracy theories claiming that Jesus' resurrection was faked from the very beginning. We learned that many people saw Jesus alive with their own eyes, and we learned that the men who saw Jesus alive were willing to die rather than take back what they preached. Jesus is alive, and He has conquered sin and death.

That brings us to today's question. If Jesus is alive, where is He? What's He doing now? There are two parts to that answer. At the end of the gospels, we read that Jesus returned to Heaven after commanding His followers to spread His name to all the Earth. On the night He was betrayed, Jesus told His disciples why He had to leave them.

READ JOHN 14:1-4

Jesus is preparing our forever home in Heaven. We will live in a new Heaven and a

LARGE GROUP LESSON

New Earth, and all who believe in Jesus will live with Him forever. Jesus also promised to show us the way to get there. He did that by sending the Holy Spirit.

READ JOHN 14:26-27

MAIN POINT:

The Holy Spirit is God's presence in the hearts of believers. It is part of the Trinity with God the Father and God the Son. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit so that we could have a personal relationship with Jesus. When we pray, we pray through the Holy Spirit, and through the Spirit, we grow closer to God.

Where is Jesus? He is preparing a place for us in Heaven, and He is leading us there step by step through His Holy Spirit. Jesus is with us now, and if we believe in Jesus as our Savior, we will live forever with Him in Heaven.

DRIVE IT HOME:

We've asked a lot of questions during this series. They are not easy questions to answer, but the Bible makes it clear who Jesus is, what He did for us, and what He is doing now. Given all we have learned about Jesus, we are curious to know one thing. What will you do with what you have learned? What will you do with the answers we have given you about Jesus?

When researchers look for questions and find answers, they must ask themselves, what do we do with these answers? Historians ask questions about history to understand how we can avoid the mistakes of the past. Scientists look for answers to try to improve our understanding of the world and make the world a better, safer, and healthier place. Athletes look for answers in their performance, trying to learn how they can become better, stronger, and faster. We've asked these questions and given you these answers in the hopes you will apply them to your life.

Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was fully God and man, and He knows all it is to be human. Jesus died for our sins and rose from the grave. He conquered sin and death so He could give you eternal life. He is in Heaven right now, and He wants to build a forever home for you. He will send His Holy Spirit to begin a personal relationship with you and lead you toward that eternal home. But before you can begin that journey, you must answer one more question for yourself.

Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God? Do you believe Jesus died for your sins? Do you believe He rose again? Do you want to have eternal life?

Maybe you have a few more questions about Jesus. Maybe you want to know before you make that decision. That's okay! Come and ask those questions.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

We will be happy to help you find the answers.

Maybe you have all the answers you need. Maybe all that's left is to give Jesus your answer. If that answer is yes, then let us know. We want to help you to begin your journey with Jesus today. If you're curious to know what life is like living with the Holy Spirit, we can help you answer that. We invite you to receive Jesus as your Savior, and to receive the gift of eternal life.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of eternal life.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

Are there any questions about Jesus you would still like answered?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Ephesians 3:18

Without putting the verse on display or looking it up, see how many kids can recite the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pair the kids off, and have each of the kids share one big, cool thing about themselves other people don't know with their new friend. Then have all the kids introduce one another and share those things.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read John 14:1-4, 26-27

Where did Jesus go after He left Earth?

What is Jesus doing in Heaven?

How long does Jesus want us to live in Heaven with Him?

Whom did Jesus send to be our guide?

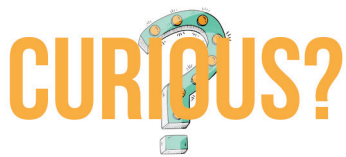
How can we receive eternal life?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for the Holy Spirit and all you do for us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

Are there any questions about Jesus you would still like answered?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Ephesians 3:18

Without putting the verse on display or looking it up, see how many kids can recite the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pair the kids off, and have each of the kids share one big, cool thing about themselves other people don't know with their new friend. Then have all the kids introduce one another and share those things.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read John 14:1-4, 26-27

Why did Jesus return to Heaven?

What is Jesus doing there?

Whom did Jesus send to be our guide?

How can we receive the Holy Spirit?

Is anyone ready to give their lives to Jesus today?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for the Holy Spirit and all you do for us.

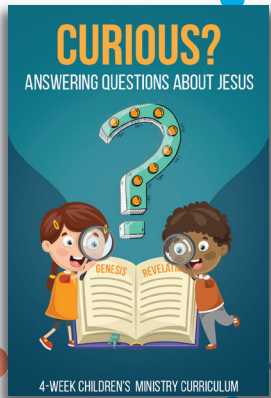
In Jesus' name,

Amen

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

REVIEW

1. After forty days in the wilderness, Jesus felt _____.
A. happy and excited
B. tired and hungry*
C. confident and refreshed
2. Jesus' fear in the garden before He died proves that He _____.
A. was not really God
B. had sinned and messed up
C. felt human emotions like we do
3. The guards and the High Priest made up a story that _____.
A. the disciples had stolen Jesus' body*
B. the man they killed wasn't really Jesus
C. Jesus is alive
4. Jesus is preparing a place for us in _____.
A. Fiji
B. our church
C. Heaven*
5. Whom did Jesus send to help us pray and grow close to Jesus?
A. The Holy Spirit. *
B. Our pastor.
C. Our parents.



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Curious Lesson 4

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: CURIOUS: WHERE IS JESUS NOW?



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Jesus spent a short time on earth after his resurrection before ascending into heaven to prepare our heavenly home. Kids will learn that Jesus is still with us on earth, through the Holy Spirit that he sent to us to live in all believers. John 14:1-4, Jesus Prepares a Place, John 14:26-27, The Holy Spirit



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Ask your kids what they think Heaven is like, and ask them how the Holy Spirit can be our compass, guiding us ever closer to Jesus.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Where is Jesus right now?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- How can we receive the Holy Spirit and eternal life?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"May you have power with all God's people to understand Christ's love. May you know how wide and long and high and deep it is." Ephesians 3:18 (NIRV)



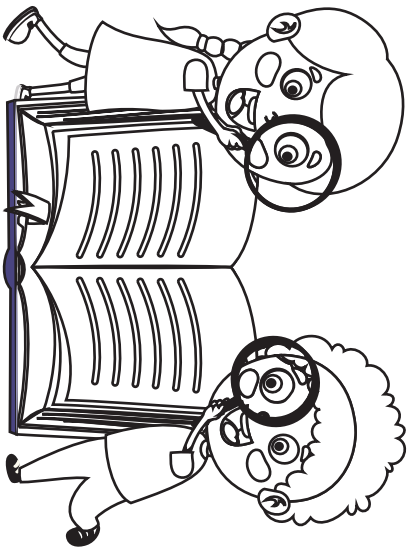
PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

Jesus is preparing a place for us to live for eternity. The Holy Spirit will help us stay on track and follow Jesus. Talk with your kids about what it means to become a Christian, and if they are ready, encourage them to make that decision today!

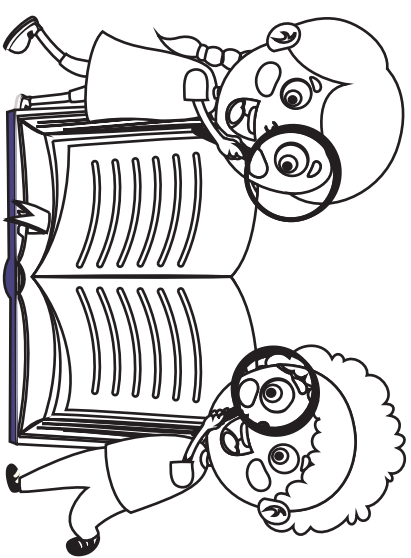
CRAFT ACTIVITY

Each week, have the kids make a game card (like Trivial Pursuit) or flash card with the week's question on one side and the answer on the other. The kids can write these themselves or cut out typed questions and answers to glue on note cards. The kids can then decorate the cards with crayons.



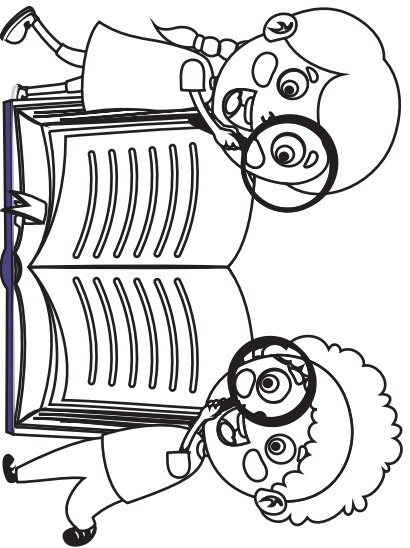
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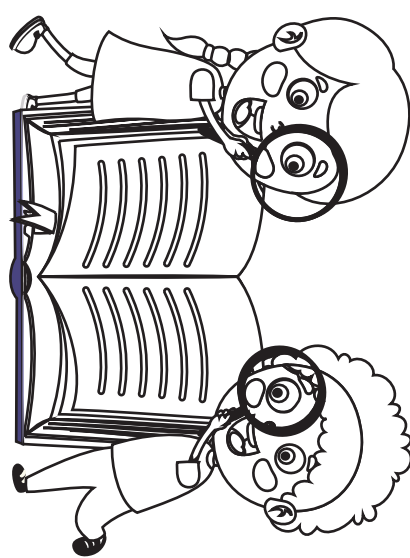
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