



WHO IS JESUS?

Life & Ministry of Jesus • Intro 1st-3rd Grade • June 4, 2023

Concept

Jesus is the only way to God, the Father.

Goal

Students will get to know their class for this year! They will be introduced to the teachers, learn the class expectations and schedule, and be given an overview of the coming year. They will be challenged to come prepared each week to learn something new about Jesus as they study His life!

Passage

Key Verse: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (NIV)

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Learning Activity #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grab bag with various items from storage room, 20 items/room <p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Children's Guide to the Bible, Robert Willoughby</i>• <i>Adventure Bible Handbook</i> <p>Optional Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hackey sack/kickball	<p>Activity Stations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printed key verse, 1/student• 8½" x 11" acetate, 1/student• Scissors• Markers• 2-3 staplers• Staples• Glue sticks• Variety of colors of ½" x 12" strips of tissue paper• Hole punch• Yarn

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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This year we will be taking children on a journey through the gospels to learn about the life and ministry of Jesus. "I first got acquainted with Jesus when I was a child, singing 'Jesus Loves Me' in Sunday school, addressing bedtime prayers to 'Dear Lord Jesus,' watching Bible Club teachers move cutout figures across a flannelgraph board. I associated Jesus with Kool-Aid and sugar cookies and gold stars for good attendance.

"... I recalled the Sunday school image of Jesus that I grew up with: someone kind and reassuring, with no sharp edges at all—a Mister Rogers before the age of children's television. As a child I felt comforted by such a person.

"Later, while attending a Bible college, I encountered a different image.... Here was the cosmic Christ, the One in whom all things inhere, the still point of the turning world. This world figure had come a long way from the lamb-toting shepherd of my childhood...

"... It dawned on me that virtually all portrayals of Jesus, including the Good Shepherd of my Sunday school...and Jesus of my Bible College, showed him wearing a mustache and beard, both of which were strictly banned from the Bible college. Questions now loomed that had never occurred to me in childhood.

"... Among his (Jesus') contemporaries he somehow gained a reputation as a 'wine-bibber and a glutton.' Those in authority, whether religious or political, regarded him as a troublemaker, a disturber of the peace. He spoke and acted like a revolutionary, scorning fame, family, property and other traditional measures of success. I could not dodge the fact the words...from Matthew's gospel...did not fit my prior conception of Jesus."
[1]

Our goal this year is to dispel unbiblical beliefs about Jesus and to present the real Jesus to the children. In this you, as teachers, will also need to evaluate your beliefs against the biblical record. He is above all a lover of people, the God of grace and mercy.

[1] The Jesus I Never Knew, Philip Yancey, 1995, Zondervan Publishing House, pp. 13-16.

Activity Stations

- **Craft – The Only Way to God Hanging**

- **Instructions:** Give each student a piece of acetate and a key verse. (See verse at the bottom of lesson plan) Cut the page of acetate in half and draw a desired shape on one sheet of acetate to fill the space. Put the 2 pieces of acetate together and cut out the shape. Put glue on the printed side of the key verse. Glue it to one piece of the acetate so that it shows through. Glue a mosaic of colors of tissue paper to the inside of the other piece so that the tissue mosaic and the key verse are both inside the shape when the two pieces are put together. Hold the two pieces together and punch holes through both pieces around the edge of the shape. Weave the yarn through the holes to keep the two pieces together. To hang, punch a hole in the top and put a piece of yarn through the hole. The finished product should look like a stained glass hanging.

Discipline and Procedure plans

Instructions for the teachers: "The most successful classes are those where the teacher has a clear idea of what is expected from the students and the students know what the teacher expects from them." [1] To head off potential discipline problems, class expectations, rules, and procedures must be communicated on the first day and consistently enforced throughout the year. It is essential that your team meet and together agree on simple, clear rules and specific expectations, e.g., keep hands, feet and objects to yourself, listen when others are talking, and respect others. To add some humor and clear understanding to your presentation, you can role-play appropriate and inappropriate behavior. Clearly explain the consequences of inappropriate behavior as presented in the OASIS Handbook and, as a team, be prepared to consistently follow through. Once the rules and consequences have been taught to the students, it is their responsibility to follow them; it is your responsibility to fairly and consistently enforce them. You should also cover your expectations regarding class procedures, such as how to sign in and enter the classroom, lining up for the multi-grade gatherings, small group, large group, and other transitional times. Explain and teach what you expect your students to do during these times.

Explain to the students:

We have a short time together each week and, as your teachers, God has given us the wonderful job of sharing with you about Him. He has amazing things to teach you this year. We want each of you to get all that God has for you; therefore, we will expect you to listen while others are talking, to cooperate in all activities and to participate.

[1] The First Days of School, How to be an Effective Teacher, Harry Wong.

Transition

Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group

Let's play a game and see if we can't begin to get to know each other.

Game – Make a Wish [1]

Instructions: Sit in a circle on the floor and have kids number off by fours. Place a grab bag item for each student in the center and allow each one to choose an item to hold. Direct students to hold their items up for 15 seconds and to remember who has which item. After 15 seconds, have the students hide the items in their laps. Roll the number cube and call out the number rolled. Each player with that number gets to ask for an item by pointing at another player and saying, "My name is <<name>> and I wish for a <<name of item a student is holding>>. If the appointed player has the item wished for, he or she must give it to the "wisher". Continue until everyone has "wished" for an item at least two times. Have the students return the items for use in the next class.

[1] Susan L. Lingo, Instant Games for Children's Ministry, © 1995 Susan L. Lingo, Group Publishing, Inc., p. 23.

Transition

Lesson Lg. Group

Now that we know each others' names, let's talk about what we are going to do this year.

This year we will be taking a journey through the gospels to learn about the life and ministry of Jesus. Who can tell us what the gospels are? Many of you probably think you know all about Jesus and His life, but I know each time I study I learn something new about Him! So come prepared every week to learn something new about Jesus. The most important thing we need to know about Jesus is why He came to earth. The key verse is "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). Jesus came to make it possible for all people to have a relationship with God. Because we are sinners when we are born we cannot have a relationship with God. Our sin separates us from God. Jesus is the only way to come to God because He came to earth to take the punishment we all deserve for our sin. When He died on the cross He paid for all the sins of all the people in the entire world for all time. To have a relationship with God we must believe that Jesus is the only way. When we ask Jesus' death on the cross to count as punishment for our sins, we are forgiven. Because our sin is forgiven it no longer keeps us from a relationship with God. That's why Jesus is the only way to God.

Research

Instructions: Using The Children's Guide to the Bible, pp. 76-87 and The Adventure Bible Handbook, pp.150-183, have students look together at the books to try to find four facts about Jesus that are new to them. Encourage them to ask questions if they have any!

Learning Activity #2 Sm. Groups

Optional Activity

Discussion Groups

Instructions: Use this time to get to know more about the students.

- Who would like to tell me one of the new things you learned about Jesus in your reading?
- What are some questions you have about God or the Bible that you would like to learn about this year? (ex: what is heaven like?, etc. Be ready with some examples of your own.)
- What do you like most about Oasis?
- What do you think we can do this year to make our Oasis classroom the best and most fun it can be?

Missions Prayer: Talk about and pray for the Oasis giving campaign.

Let's pray now and thank God for a new year and new opportunities to learn more about Jesus. Let's thank God that Jesus came to earth to die for our sins.

Games:

- **Hackey Sack**
- **I'm Going on a Trip**
 - **Instructions:** Go around the circle, the first person saying his/her first name, a location—city, country or state—that begins with the first letter of his/her first name, and an item with the first letter of his/her first name to take on a trip to that location. For example, "My name is Karen, I'm going on a trip to Kentucky and I'm going to take a kangaroo." The second person says, "This is Karen, she's going on a trip to Kentucky and she's going to take a kangaroo. My name is Sally, I'm going on a trip to San Diego, and I'm going to take a salamander." Continue around the circle progressively, repeating all the information that has been passed on until all students and teachers have been named.