



Jesus is Our Teacher – Jesus Chooses His Disciples

Gospels

God Statement: Jesus Is Our Hope

KEY VERSE: “In the same way, let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

(Matthew 5:16, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: Jesus is Our Hope

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus is our Hope.

SAY:

Have you ever heard the word disciple? What do you think disciple means? A disciple is a follower of Jesus! They are someone who learns from Jesus. Jesus chose special people to be His disciples when He lived on earth. Do you know how many disciples Jesus chose? 12!

Jesus chose 12 specific men who followed Him around and learned from Him. Jesus was their teacher. We all have teachers, don't we? Well, did you know that Jesus is our teacher too! We are all disciples of Jesus too because we learn from Him and follow Him. How do we learn and follow Jesus? *Pause for responses.* By reading the Bible, by praying, by telling others about Jesus, by coming to church, etc.

PLAY:

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Disciples Memory Match

Supplies: 4 sets of memory cards

Say: *Today we get to learn about Jesus' disciples! Let's see how many we can find. Take turns trying to find a match for the disciples, in your group or with your buddy.*

Directions: Have children get into groups of 3-4. Give each group a set of memory cards. Have children take turns playing memory match to see if they can match all of the disciples.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the Bible Challenge slide..****

BIBLE CHALLENGE

Host

Use this time to get kids engaged in large group and introduce/review the current Bible Challenge.

Spiritual Discipline – Fasting

Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:

Throughout the Old and New Testament, the Bible teaches that there are times we should give up something important to focus our hearts on prayer and listening to God. Although for children, this may not look like fasting from food, the idea of giving up something important to us in order to devote that time to God is important to our spiritual walk. Encourage kids to talk to their families and think of things they can “give up” to focus on God more – i.e. video games, watching tv, etc.

As the kids take on the challenge, encourage them to share with their class in small group time how their family is learning about and engaging with the idea of fasting.

******After Bible Challenge, transition the power point to the “Key Verse” slide.******

KEY VERSE

Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God’s Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

**“In the same way, let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16, NIRV)**

****** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.******

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don’t forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it’s not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

****** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.******

BIBLE STORY**Lesson Video**

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Jesus is Our Teacher – Jesus Chooses His Disciples

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE**Host**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Supplies: tea bags, mason jar, hot water

Prepare ahead: boil hot water and set object lesson up

Jesus chose certain people to be His disciples, His followers. They spent time with Him and He showed them how to live and how to act like Him. Jesus is our teacher and shows us how to live. How did Jesus act? What did He do? **Let the kids answer.** Jesus loves us, forgives us, heals us, is kind to us.

- He is our teacher. Can we learn to do the things He did? It's only through God that we can do anything.
 - A verse in the Bible says: ***I can do all this by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.*** Philippians 4:13
 - In another verse, Jesus says: ***you can't bear fruit unless you remain joined to me.*** John 15:4

What do you think this fruit is? Apples, oranges, bananas?? No. The Bible tells about fruit that grows when we abide in Jesus, the Holy Spirit grows this fruit in us.

- Galatians 5:22-23 - ***But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful²³ and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.***
- How can we abide in Jesus?
 - Read the Bible, pray, worship Him, sings songs to Him, think about Him, come to church to learn more about Him.

Pull out object lesson – water, jar, and tea bag demonstration.

Watch this teabag. When I just dunk it quickly, the water doesn't change color. But when I let the teabag sit in the water, when the teabag remains joined to the water, it abides in the water, the water changes color to be more like the teabag.

That's kind of how we can stay in Jesus, remain in Him, abide in Him and we become more like Him.

I've got a challenge for you this week. Ask your grownup sometime this week to help you make tea. As you make the cup of tea and drink it, think about Jesus and remember that the more time we spend with Him, in the Bible/prayer/worship, the more we can be like Him. Jesus is our teacher!

Pray to close out.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.******

CLOSING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

******After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the "Compassion International" slide.******

COMPASSION & OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

******After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – REFUGEES IN GREECE

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

Say: Right now, our special missions focus is on refugees in Greece. Refugees are people who have left their homes and need a safe place to go, usually a country nearby. The country of Greece currently has over 50,000 refugees who are living there. Most of these people are from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. Can you imagine having to leave your home without knowing if you'll ever return?

Say: Even during these scary and uncertain times, God is using people in Athens, Greece to love and serve these refugees. They are sharing the love of Jesus by providing food, education and other supplies to help the refugees get settled into their new homes. **You can help, too, by praying for the refugees and the churches that are serving them!**

****After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.****

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Friends, may you always remember that Jesus WANTS you to spend time with Him. He calls to you to talk to Him and read His word and just sit quietly thinking about Him. He is your teacher and He loves you!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper.

Younger Kids:

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

1. **Briefly retell the Bible story of Jesus and His Disciples (Matthew 4:18-22).**
2. **What were the men doing when Jesus told them to follow Him?** (They were fishing).
3. **What did Jesus tell them they were going to be?** (Fishers of men).
4. **What does it mean to be “Fishers of men” or a disciple?** (We lead others to follow Jesus).
5. **What are some ways we can lead others to follow Jesus too?**
6. **How can we follow Jesus?** (read our bibles, pray, memorize His word, go to church, show others kindness and love like Jesus).

Close small group in prayer.

Older Kids:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **Read Matthew 4:18-22**

What were the men doing when Jesus told them to follow Him? (They were fishing).

How do you think they felt when Jesus called them to follow Him?

2. **What did Jesus tell them they were going to be?** (Fishers of men).

Do you think they were confused by what he meant?

3. **What does it mean to be “Fishers of men” or a disciple?** (We lead others to follow Jesus).
4. **What are some ways we can lead others to follow Jesus too?**
5. **How can we follow Jesus?** (read our bibles, pray, memorize His word, go to church, show others kindness and love like Jesus).

Close small group in prayer.

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

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MAKE – Books of the Bible Craft

Supplies: 1 page per child, markers/crayons, scissors, glue sticks

Directions: Pass out one page set per child. Have the children cut out the bible pages on the dotted lines. Attach the Old Testament and New Testament to the activity page. Add the labels on the outside of the books. Once completed, have the children read the books of the Old Testament and New Testament with a buddy.

Say: *Who remembers what our Bible challenge was for Winter? (Memorizing the books of the Old Testament). God's word is the one thing we have that we know is ALWAYS true. As we continue to learn about the Bible, let's make a craft to remind us of the books we have been learning about!*



CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.



Matthew

Created by
Annette@booksandbubblesfamilycare.com



James the
Lesser



Simon



Bartholomew



Judas



John



James



Andrew



Simon Peter



Phillip



Thaddeus



Thomas

Created by
Annette@booksandbubblesfamilycare.com



Jesus

Jesus and
His 12
Disciples/
Apostles
Memory



Jesus



Phillip



Thaddeus



Thomas



Matthew

Created by

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James the
Lesser



Simon



Bartholomew



Judas



John



James



Andrew



Simon Peter

Books of the Bible

