

# Jesus Changes Everything – Remember & Celebrate

Galatians 1:1-24

**God Statement: Jesus Is Our Hope** 

**KEY VERSE:** "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

(John 14:6, 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.

MAKE: Pipe Cleaner Flowers
(To be done during check-in, prior to Explore Activity)

As kids check-in, invite them to make a craft to give to the elderly in Senior Centers that we partner with.

Supplies: pipe cleaners, pony beads, liquid glue

**Directions:** If kids want to, they can come make a pipe cleaner flower to give to our Senior Centers. Kids can get creative with how they make the pipe cleaner flowers, by stringing pony beads on "pedals" and attaching them to a stem.

Leave completed crafts in classroom/folder to be gathered and delivered to Senior Centers.







# **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 Changes Everything**

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus changes everything.

#### SAY:

We've spent the last couple of months learning about how Jesus is our hope! What does that mean to you? What is one thing you've learned about the hope of Jesus? Let kids share responses for a few minutes.

Well, today we're going to spend some time remembering and celebrating all that Jesus has done for us. Does anyone know why we always do Remember & Celebrate weekends? Let kids respond. We model Remember & Celebrate after the feasts and festivals in the Old Testament, when the Israelites would pause and spend intentional time reflecting on God's faithfulness and goodness in their lives. That's exactly what we want to do. As we remember all God's done for us, we can celebrate the hope we have in Jesus! Jesus changes everything for us! How has Jesus changed your life? Let kids share with each other.

#### PLAY:

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

#### Bless You, Bless You, Amen!

Supplies: none

**Say:** Jesus changes everything! We have the hope of Jesus, and He calls us to share that hope with others. We're going to play a kind of silly game to help us remember to share God's love with others.

**Directions:** Have children sit in a circle. Pick one person to start and have them walk around the outside of the circle. As they walk they point at each child and say "bless you" "bless you" "bless you" when they say "amen" that child jumps up to tag the person on the outside of the circle while the other child runs around the circle to sit in the now empty spot. This game is just like "duck, duck, goose".

# **LARGE GROUP**

## (25 minutes)

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

#### **REMEMBER & CELEBRATE**

#### Host

Briefly introduce the morning reminding kids that this weekend is Remember & Celebrate. Use this time to reference the "Feasts & Festivals" table on stage, talking about what it represents.

**Say:** It's Remember & Celebrate weekend! Do you notice anything different on the stage today? That's right! This table – we call it the Feasts & Festivals table! Let's name some of the items we see on the table. *Use the laminated guide in the F&F Bin to discuss what some of the items represent.* I can't wait to spend more time today remembering all God has done for us and celebrating His faithfulness. Let's get started!

#### **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 – FINAL WEEK**

#### Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:

We are wrapping up our Fasting Bible Challenge. We have spent the last couple of months creating space to spend time with God. Would anyone like to share a highlight from their experience? What did you find easy? What did you find hard? Even though we're no longer doing this challenge, we can still find things that we can give up in order to fill up our time with God.

Allow a few kids to share their experience before moving forward.

\*\*\*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.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

(John 14:6, 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 Changes Everything

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:** SDC cards

God has done so much for us. We have so much we can remember and celebrate because Jesus really changes everything for us. What can we do for Him? *Let kids answer.* 

Those are great ideas. Do you remember what we learned about last week? We learned that God calls us to serve others, right? Can you tell us about who you served this week? *Let a few kids answer*.

I want you to think of some friends and neighbors that you have. Can you think of someone? Maybe it's your cousin. Maybe your neighbor. Maybe a friend from school. Maybe it's someone at school who isn't really your friend.

Let's pray for that person right now. Everyone bow your heads for a minute as we pray quietly in our heads. *Let them pray quietly at their seat.* 

Summer Camp is a great way to hear about Jesus! It's coming up soon and you can invite people to come. What a great way to spread the hope of Jesus to others!

It can sometimes feel scary to invite others to hear about Jesus, but Jesus loves everyone so much and we want to share that good news! Not only that, but if you've been to camp before, think about how fun it was for you as you share with your friend. Tell them about your experience. Talk to your grownups about helping get your friend to camp.

We've got a few stations around the room with cards that you can take to invite someone to camp. We're going to take a few minutes to keep praying for our neighbors and friends. When you're ready, come grab a card or two and sit back down to pray for the person who will get that card.

Turn on soft worship music as kids get cards and pray. Then, gather everyone back together to close time.

You can use these cards to invite someone to camp, and by doing that, you are helping them hear God's love and hope!

#### Close time in prayer.

\*\*\*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 – Senior Centers**

#### 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:** Do you ever get lonely or sad? What makes you happy when you feel that way? Well, we have a special opportunity to help the elderly in our community to feel loved and happy too! We got to make special crafts during our classroom time that will be given to Senior Centers around town. We want our friends in those senior centers to know that we're thinking of them, praying for them, and love them. Let's take a minute and pray for our friends in the Senior Centers.

\*\*\*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 we love Jesus because He loves us first!! Share that love with someone this week.

# **SMALL GROUP**

## **Classroom Teachers**

# (10 minutes)

As part of Remember & Celebrate, use this time to chat with kids about all they have to be thankful for and enjoy a snack together.

Pass out goldfish bags during this time and break into a few small groups to chat together. Use the questions below as a guide to lead the conversation, but feel free to insert your own questions as the conversation develops.

#### **Younger Kids:**

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

- 1. What did you learn about God from our story today?
- 2. Briefly retell the Bible story Galatians 1:1-24
- 3. What is the good news we get to share with others? (That Jesus died for our sins!)
- 4. God can change us, just like He changed Paul. Sometimes we make poor decisions, and we sin, BUT who came to earth to conquer sin and give us new life? (Jesus).
- 5. Just like Paul shared the "good news", we get to share the good news too! Let's remember some of the promises we have learned about. What promises do you remember? (God transforms us, God calls us His own, God wants everyone to know Him).
- 6. Let's take a few minutes to remember and thank God for His promises to us.

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. What did you learn about God from our story today?
- 2. Read Galatians 1:13-16

What is the good news we get to share with others? (That Jesus died for our sins!) Who used to preach against Jesus? (Paul)

3. Read Galatians 1:23-24

Paul used to attack the church and preach against Jesus. What happened to Paul? (He was saved by Jesus and God changed him).

- 4. God can change us, just like He changed Paul. Sometimes we make poor decisions, and we sin, BUT who came to earth to conquer sin and give us new life? (Jesus).
- 5. Just like Paul shared the "good news", we get to share the good news too! Let's remember some of the promises we have learned about. What promises do you remember? (God transforms us, God calls us His own, God wants everyone to know Him).
- 6. Let's take a few minutes to remember and thank God for His promises to us.

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.

#### MAKE - Prayer Box!

**Supplies:** foldable boxes, stickers, bags with paper strips, markers

**Directions:** Pass out one box per child (put together the box first) and then allow them to decorate the box with stickers. Pass out bags of paper strips to each child to take home. Explain that as they go through their week they can remember and celebrate how wonderful and faithful God is to us. Tell the children that they can write down prayers on the strips of paper and add them to their special prayer boxes as they remember to pray to God throughout the week.

**Say**: Jesus really changes everything, and that gives us so much to celebrate! We've spent today looking back on His faithfulness, but we also have to remember to go to God during the good and the bad. Each of you get to make a prayer box that you can take

home. You can write down your prayers on these strips of paper, praises or requests, and put them in your special box!

# **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.