



Jesus is God's Son – At The Temple

Luke 2:41-52

God Statement: Jesus Is Our Hope

KEY VERSE: "Let your light shine so that others can see it..."
(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:

We are starting a new quarter, and guess what that means! We have a new God Statement. Over the last few months, we've been learning about how God is our leader as we saw how He led the people of the Old Testament. Who did we learn about? *Let kids share some of the people we learned about – Israelites, Joshua, Samuel, Saul, David, etc.*

Now, we're going to look at a very important person in the Bible, in the New Testament – Jesus! Our new God Statement is: Jesus is our hope! What do you think hope means? Turn to the person next to you and tell them what you think hope means.

That's a pretty big word, but don't worry, if you don't know what it means, we're going to spend the next few weeks learning about it! Hope, as we see in the Big God Story, is what we have when we believe in who Jesus is and what He did for us. Over these next few weeks leading up to Easter, we are going to learn all about what Jesus did in His ministry on earth, and why He is our hope. First let's play a game.

PLAY:

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

Old Testament Books of the Bible Card Race

Supplies: 2 bags of Old Testament books of the Bible cards and mats

Say: *Who remembers the special Bible Challenge we just finished last week? That's right! Learning the Old Testament Books of the Bible! Well, before we jump into learning about Jesus in the New Testament, we want to test our knowledge. We're going to get into a few groups, and you have to work together to put these cards with the names of the Old Testament books in order.*

Directions: Split the class into two teams. Have an LIT or helper sit in each group. Give each helper a bag with Old Testament matching cards and a number mat. Have the helper flip over the cards face down and shuffle them around. Allow the children to flip over one card at a time and match them to the corresponding number on the chart. The LIT or helper can then read the cards in order. The first team to finish wins.

LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

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

WORSHIP & CHLOE'S RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

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!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing

them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

CHLOE'S RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Chloe's Rules in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Chloe's Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides. ****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

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

"Let your light shine so that others can see it..."
(Matthew 5:16, NIRV)

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the "What's It" is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to "spy" on the What's It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What's It in the host's ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What's It: Height Chart

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What's It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Once the children have guessed correctly, retrieve the What's It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

ASK:

Hmm... this is an interesting one today. Does anyone know what this is? What do you use this for? It's a **height chart**! Does anyone have something like this at your house? What do you do with it? You measure yourself or your brothers or sisters on it to see how much you've grown! I wonder why this is in our Wardrobe today. Oh! I know! We're learning about how Jesus is God's Son. Did you know that Jesus started out as a kid, just like you? Do you think Jesus had a height chart too? Probably not, but I'm sure He grew and grew just like you do. I can't wait to learn more about Jesus as a kid! Do you know what time it is? It's time for us to dive into God's Word together!

**** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to 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 God's Son – In the Temple

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 this time.

Supplies: Cross station and world map

Did you know that Jesus was a refugee? A refugee is someone who must leave their home because they are being persecuted. Hurt for their beliefs. When Jesus was very young, King Herod was trying to hurt Jesus and His family so an angel told them to go to Egypt where they would be safe. So, they left their own country and traveled to Egypt.

There are refugees today who must leave their homes because they are not safe.

- Many countries are not safe for people to live in. Their government tells them what to do and the families can't do it because it goes against what they believe.
- Or their government punishes them for what they believe. To keep their family safe, they leave their country and go to another one.

- This is very difficult since often they don't have very much money and the government doesn't want them to leave so they must sneak away at night.

Imagine if you were one of these refugees who had to leave their homes behind. Your beds, your rooms, your friends, your neighbors, your school, and everything you know – you have to leave that all behind and move somewhere you don't know. How would that make you feel? ***Allow a few kids to share their responses.***

Walk over to or bring map onto stage to show kids. Look at this map. Here is Syria. Syria is one country where many refugees come from. It is not a safe place for many people. Millions of people have left Syria to find a safe place to live. This includes many, many children, just like you. The new countries can't help too much since they have their own people to take care of.

Here are some of the countries Syrian Refugees go to. ***Point to Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan.*** Here is Greece. Our church helps Syrian Refugees in Greece get the help they need.

We give food and money to the Refugees. Some people can help with school for the children. There are many needs.

Something you can do for the children is to pray for them.

- Some of them don't believe in Jesus.
- You can pray that Jesus will show up in their dreams and that they will believe in Him.
- You can pray that the kids will be safe and warm.
- You can pray that their parents will find work.
- You can pray that there will be a safe school for the kids.
- You can pray that someone will tell them about Jesus.

Let's pray now. ***Let a few kids pray out loud or show them the worship response station where they can pray individually.***

After a few minutes of prayer, close this time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Compassion & Offering slides.******

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 to 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.

May you always remember that God is faithful. May you praise Him for He is good and He loves you SO much!

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 (Luke 2:41-52)**
2. **Where did Jesus go with Mary and Joseph?** (The festival for Passover).
3. **What happened to Jesus after the festival?** (He stayed at the temple while His parents had left).
4. **What happened to Mary and Joseph? What did they do?** (They realized Jesus was missing so they went back to find Him).
5. **What was Jesus doing when Mary and Joseph found Him?** (He was teaching).
6. **Jesus had earthly parents (Mary and Joseph), but who is Jesus' Father?** (God).
7. **God is our father too, and he loves us so much. He gives us hope and He protects us. Jesus was God's son, but he also had earthly parents (Mary and Joseph). Jesus wanted to share the hope of God with others. What is one way that we can share this truth with others too?**

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 – Jesus Is God’s Son – Temple Craft

Supplies: temple activity page, scissors, markers, glue

Directions: Pass out one temple page to each child. Have them cut out Jesus as a boy and glue him into the temple. Allow children to color their pages. This can be sent home with children if there is not enough time to complete it in class.

Say: *Today, we learned how Jesus is God’s Son! Jesus knew from the very start that even though He had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, He had a Heavenly Father too, God! Where did Jesus say He was when He was at the temple? God’s house! Let’s make this craft to help us remember that Jesus is God’s Son and our Hope!*

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.

