



The Transfiguration – Jesus is God’s Son

Matthew 17

God Statement: Jesus is Awesome

KEY VERSE: "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world. He sent His Son to save the world through Him."

(John 3:16-17, 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 God’s Son!

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus is God’s Son!

SAY: Have you ever had something that means a lot to you? Maybe a toy? Or a game? Or a special item? **Let kids respond.** How about a person? Who is someone that you love more than ANYONE else in the whole world? **Let a few kids respond.** It’s amazing to have something/someone that means a lot to us! Can you imagine giving up that item or

person? What would that feel like? **Let kids respond.** It could feel sad and heartbreaking to lose someone or something we care so much about.

Do you know that God gave up someone special? Who was it? **Let kids respond – Jesus** That's right! Jesus! Jesus is God's son. He sent Him to do something very special. Do you know what it was? **Let kids respond.** Yes, He sent Jesus to die for our sins. He gave up His one and ONLY son to die for YOU and for ME! Jesus is God's son and He came to Earth, died for our sins, and rose again! What an incredible gift. I can't wait to learn more in our lesson today, but first let's do an activity!

MAKE: Transfiguration Stick Craft

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

Supplies: transfiguration craft paper set, stick, glue, markers/crayons

Directions: Pass out one stick and transfiguration paper set per child. Help children glue the pages front and back onto the stick (if it is not already pre-glued). Have children color their craft and talk about Jesus.

SAY: Jesus taught everyone about God's love and did lots of miracles when He was on earth! He had people who followed Him called disciples. We get to learn about a time when Jesus prayed and God spoke to the disciples and told them Jesus was His son! There was a bright light around Jesus. Let's make a craft as we prepare for our lesson today!



LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

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

WORSHIP & LARGE GROUP 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.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- Super Wonderful
- The Way
- WRS: Run to the Father

LARGE GROUP RULES

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

**** After Worship & Large Group 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.****

***"God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son. Anyone who believes in Him will not die but will have eternal life. God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world. He sent His Son to save the world through Him."
(John 3:16-17, 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: A Transfiguration Outline of Jesus

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. Accept around three questions and then three guesses. You can allow the kids to whisper their guess to their neighbor to allow for more sharing before you reveal the item. 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.

SAY: What do you guys see? It's Jesus! But does anyone know what the outline is? **Let kids respond.** This is called the Transfiguration of Jesus. Transfiguration is a big word! Can you say that with me? **Transfiguration.** Good! The transfiguration of Jesus means that he started to look bright as the sun since he was going back up to Heaven. I know this may be a bit confusing right now, so how about we dive into God's true and awesome word today to learn more.

**** 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: *The Transfiguration – Jesus is God's Son*

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.

DO: Drawing Jesus Coming to You

Supplies: Drawing Tools, Paper (1 per child), WRS Song

SAY: How would you feel if Jesus appeared to you and told you He was God's son? Would you be pretty amazed? Would you be a little scared? Would you feel seen? Well, that's what happened to three of Jesus' followers. After Jesus was put on the cross, died, and was buried, He proved He was God's son by not staying dead! He visited three of His followers to show that He truly was the Messiah. Jesus was glowing! His face was shiny, and He was all bright.

DIRECTIONS: Have each child find a quiet space in the room. Hand each child something to write with and a piece of paper. Turn on soft worship music and quietly have the child draw Jesus visiting them.

SAY: Jesus is God's Son. He wants us to know Him and have a relationship with Him. Each day take a minute to look at your drawing of Jesus visiting you and think of how you would feel. Think about the truth of Jesus being God's son and how important it is for us to remember and live out this truth in our lives.

Close time in prayer.

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

OFFERING**Host**

Before closing large group, take a moment to explain that every week, we provide an opportunity for our Woodmen Kids to participate in tithing. We believe God is our provider, and it is our privilege to give back to God what He has so graciously given us. Then, remind kids that if anyone brought an offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Teacher Bags

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: How would it make you feel if I said, “Thank you for sitting and listening well during large group. It makes me feel respected and like you care what I have to say.” Or what if I said, “I love how God made you! You are so fun and creative!”

Would you think I am thankful for you? Would you feel appreciated or like that I see what a great job you are doing?

SAY: God gives us many relationships to enjoy and to learn and grow from. It is important that we show gratitude for how the people in our lives care for us, help us grow, and help us to have fun. As the school year ends, take the opportunity to thank your teachers for their hard work! Tell them how much you appreciate them. We will be decorating teacher bags so teachers can know we appreciate all they do for us.

Maybe, on your bag, you can write something like...

- *You work really hard! Thank you!*
- *What you do matters!*
- *Teachers are the best!*
- *You make learning fun!*

Let’s take a moment to pray for teachers!

Pray that teachers who receive teachers' bags will feel loved and appreciated.

Invite someone to pray.

******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.

SAY: ***May you remember that Jesus is God’s Son. He loves you and has an amazing plan for you.***

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10minutes)

Younger Kids 4-K:

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper. If children need a quick break before doing questions, have them do some jumping jacks or exercises before doing small group questions to help them refocus.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (Jesus is God's son)
2. **Read/Recap today's story: Matthew 17:1-13**
 - **What happened to Jesus when he was praying?** (His face shined like the sun and his clothes turned white like light.)
 - **Who else appeared on top of the mountain?** (Moses and Elijah, God)
 - **When God appeared in the bright cloud, what did He tell the disciples?** (This is my dearly loved son who brings me great joy, listen to Him.)
3. **When the disciples saw Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah, he wanted to do something, but instead he could have just worshipped, listened, and learned. Sometimes we get caught up in all the things we think we need to do or should do when the right thing to do is to slow down and just listen and learn from God.**

How could you take time to pause and listen to what He might want to tell you?

(Model your own example first, then take ideas from the kids; have quiet time every day to pray, read the Bible, or worship; take time to be silent and just allow God to speak to you, etc.)

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

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.

PLAY: Search in the Word: Bible Relay

Supplies: Bible

Directions: Have children get into groups with a leader/LIT or teacher. Make sure to have at least one bible per group and one leader per group.

Have children try to find these verses in their groups to learn more about using the Bible!

You can use this activity as a race for older kids or go step by step through each one with younger kids.

Find:

- Daniel 3:25 (Who was in the fire with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?)
- Colossians 1:13 (Who is this verse about?)
- Genesis 7:1 (Who is this story about?)
- John 3:16 (What is this verse? What does it mean?)
- Find the last book of the bible! What is it? (Revelation!)
- Proverbs 2:6 (What does this mean?)
- Isaiah 7:14 (What did God promise?)
- Proverbs 15:3 (Who knows everything?)
- Luke 4:32 (Who's teaching should we follow?) (Jesus' / God's)
- John 10:7-10 (Who saves? Who are the sheep? Who should we follow?)

SAY: Today we are going to use God's very special gift that He gave us, the Bible! We are going to see if we can find some special verses and passages in the Bible. Sit in a circle with your group/leader. Take turns using the Bible to look up the passage when I say "go". If you do not know how to find it, ask your leader to show you how to use the table of contents to find the book you are wanting to look up. Read and talk about each section with your group. Then, pass the Bible to the next person to help them find the next verse, book, or passage. Let's see if we can use God's word to remember some of the wonderful promises He keeps and ways He helps us. You can always use your Bible to learn more about God and grow closer to Him!

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.