



The Last Supper

Matthew 26

God Statement: Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

KEY VERSE: “Jesus answered, “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.

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 the Way, the Truth, and the Life

In today’s lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life!

SAY:

We’ve got a new God Statement this week and a new verse! Does anyone remember what our very special memory verse from Summer Day Camp (Jungle Quest) was last summer? **Let kids think for a moment and answer.** It was, “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” John 14:6. Our new God Statement is Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life!

What do you think it means that Jesus is the way? Who is Jesus the way to? **Let kids respond – God!** Jesus is the way to God! Do you know what holiday is coming soon? **Let kids respond – Easter.** Easter is coming up, and on Easter, we celebrate something very important – Jesus’ death & resurrection! It’s important because without Jesus dying on the Cross and rising from the dead, we wouldn’t be able to get to God! Thank you, Jesus!

Today, we’re going to hear about a very important meal Jesus had with his closest friends, his disciples, before He went to the cross. Do you know what that meal is called now? The last supper! But first, let’s do this activity.

MAKE:

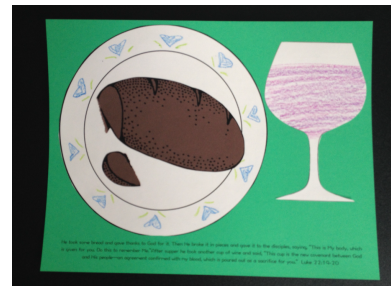
To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Last Supper Placemat

Supplies: one colored placemat, one bread cut out, markers, glue

Say: *Today we get to learn about the Last Supper! Jesus had the last supper with His Disciples. He had bread and wine with them to represent something very special! Let’s decorate our own placemats to take home after our lesson.*

Directions: Pass out one placemat per child and one bread per child. Have them decorate their placemats and glue their bread onto their last supper placemat.



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 “Worship” 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 answered, ‘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.

TODAY’S WORSHIP SONGS:

- The Way
- Waymaker
- Closing: Your Love is Deep

**** 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: The Last Supper

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: 13x19 Last Supper poster – 2-3 per class, markers/pens, verse cards – to be sent home in classrooms

Jesus knew He was about to go through something awful and painful, and what did He do? He sat and ate with His disciples one last time. His disciples, or followers, had a hard time understanding what Jesus was talking about when He said He had to go away for a while. But, Jesus did something really special with them – something we now model after in big church regularly. Anyone know what that is called? **Let kids respond – communion.** That's right, communion.

Do you remember what Jesus said when He handed the bread to His disciples? **Let kids respond.** Jesus said, this bread represents my body broken for you – eat this to remember what I've done for you. Then, Jesus gave His disciples a cup of wine and said it represented what? **Let kids respond – His blood.** He said it represents His blood, poured out as a sacrifice for our sins, and He told them to drink it to remember the sacrifice He made for them.

Today, as followers of Jesus, we participate in communion not because it makes us forgiven, but we participate to help us remember what Jesus did for us. What did He do? **Let kids respond - He died on the cross.**

If you have questions about what communion is or want to know more about it, we would love to talk more about it with you and your parents after large group!

GROUP RESPONSE ACTIVITY – LAST SUPPER:

Let's take some time and imagine what it would have felt like to be one of those people sitting at the table with Jesus as He talked about what He was about to do – leave them to die on the Cross.

Have leaders group kids up in a few groups per class. Each group will get a poster and some markers. As they sit around the poster, let kids draw themselves at the table with Jesus.

As you draw yourself at the table with Jesus, talk about it with your group. How would you feel? What might you ask Jesus?

Let groups participate for a few minutes while you play soft worship music in the background. Then after a few minutes, gather everyone back together and say:

The disciples must have felt pretty special to get to spend some of the last moments with Jesus before He went to the Cross. While we might not actually sit at a table with Jesus now, we know that He is right here with us. We also know that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life! Let's say that together: Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

When you leave today, you will each get one of these verse cards to take home. The verse says, "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" That's what Jesus explained to His disciples that night during their last supper with Him, and that's what He wants us to know too!

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 – Give A Goat with Compassion International

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.

Today, we’re starting a new mission focus! Do you remember last year when we raised money to give Bibles to kids around the world through Compassion International? Who remembers how many Bibles we were able to purchase? **Let kids respond – 100 Bibles, \$1000.**

Well, from now until April 30, Woodmen Kids is focused on raising money to help give goats to people around the world through Compassion International. Do you know why people around the world might want a goat? Well, let’s check out this video to see what impact a goat can have on a family in poverty/who is poor.

Show the Compassion Goat video provided in the PowerPoint.

Wow, a goat can give so many things to a family in poverty! It’s not just a fun pet to have. It’s a way to help show God’s love to our friends all over the world!

Each goat costs \$100, and we’ve set a goal to raise ____ goats for our campus! **(RR – 6 goats, MO – 4 goats, WH – 4 goats, SW – 2 goats)** Do you think we can meet our goal this month?

What are some ways you could earn/raise money to donate to our Give a Goat project? **Let kids respond.** I can’t wait to see how God shows up as we raise money! Each week, you can bring your donations/offering to large group time and we will track as our goats get closer to their new home **(reference poster on the wall).**

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the families who might receive a goat through our giving.

****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 trust that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. He loves you so much that He paid the ultimate sacrifice for you!

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

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. **Read/ Recap today's story: Matthew 26 Last Supper**
 - a. **What did Jesus say the bread represented during the last supper? (His body)**
 - b. **What did Jesus say the wine represented during the last supper? (His Blood)**
3. **When Jesus told this to His disciples, He wanted them to remember that He was going to die for their sins and our sins too. What emotions does this cause you to feel? Sadness? Happiness? Gratefulness?**

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 scripture: Matthew 26:26**
 - a. **What did Jesus say the bread represented during the last supper? (His body)**
3. **Read scripture: Matthew 26:27-28**
 - a. **What did Jesus say the wine represented during the last supper? (His Blood)**
4. **When Jesus told this to His disciples, He wanted them to remember that He was going to die for their sins and our sins too. What emotions does this cause you to feel? Sadness? Happiness? Gratefulness?**

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.

PLAY: Pass the Bread

Supplies: 1 toy bread

Directions: Have children get into a circle and face the center of the circle. Pick one child to be in the middle. Have the child in the middle close their eyes. Take the toy bread and place it behind your back. When the music starts pass the bread around the circle (make sure kids pass it behind their backs). When the music stops, have the child in the middle guess who has the bread. (Give the child in the middle three tries to guess where the bread is.) You can then pick a different child to be in the middle. Play a few rounds and then collect the bread.

Say: *Today we learned about the Last Supper. What a special moment and thing to remember! Jesus gave His life for us and He is the way, the truth, and the life! Let's play a fun game to remember our lesson.*

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.