



Jesus is Awesome – Jesus Raises Lazarus

John 11:1-44

God Statement: Jesus is Awesome

KEY VERSE: “Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With people, this is impossible. But with God, all things are possible.’
(Matthew 19:26, 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 Awesome

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

SAY:

We’ve been learning about miracles the last couple of weeks. What do you think a miracle is? *Let kids respond – an act/event that is impossible for man and only possible through the power of God.* Can you think of an example of a miracle in the Bible?

Today, we’re going to learn about a man named Lazarus. Have you heard of Lazarus before? Lazarus was one of Jesus’ really good friends, and Jesus loved him very much.

Elementary

We're going to learn more about what happened to Lazarus and what awesome miracle Jesus did in our story later today, but first, let's play a game.

PLAY:

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

That's a Wrap! Race

Supplies: 4 rolls of crepe paper streamers

Say: *Today we are going to learn about a very special man. He was a friend of Jesus! But he died.... He was all wrapped up. That wasn't the end of his story though! Something very special happens to this man. Let's play a game before we learn about him in our story today.*

Directions: Divide children into two teams. Give each team 2 rolls of crepe paper streamers. Place a leader or LIT in each group. Set a timer for 2 minutes. When the timer starts, each team has to cover and wrap the leader/LIT in their group as fast as possible. Some can wrap, others can make sure pieces stay on etc. When the timer stops, see who has the most wrapping around their leader!

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

Elementary

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

New Testament Books of the Bible

Share with the kids about our current Bible Challenge:

Our current Bible Challenge is for kids to memorize the Books of the NEW Testament right now. Use the song provided in the PowerPoint to help the kids practice the song each week. Encourage kids to take a “Bible Challenge” card home to remind them to practice at home as well!

****After Bible Challenge, 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 looked at them and said, ‘With people, this is impossible. But with God, all things are possible.’
(Matthew 19:26, 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.

Elementary

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Jesus is Awesome – Jesus Raises Lazarus

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: twine/wire worship response stations, cards, markers/pens

Jesus can do things that no one else can do. He is AWESOME!

What are some things we have seen that Jesus can do that no one else can do?

Let kids answer. If they need help remembering, you can give clues.

- Remember when everyone was standing outside listening to Jesus all day? They were hungry. What did Jesus do?
 - Yes, He fed over 5000 people with just a little fish and bread.
- Remember when the disciples were out in the boat and they saw someone coming toward them, walking on the water? Who was that?
 - Yes, only Jesus can walk on the water!
- Remember our story today? Jesus' friend Lazarus was sick and then he died. What did Jesus do?
 - Yes, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead! He made Lazarus alive again!

Jesus is AWESOME! Let's spend some time praising Jesus for how awesome He is. Take a moment to quiet your heart, and when you're ready, come up to a station. Take a card and a pen and draw your favorite thing that Jesus can do. Then, pin it to the board, and say "Jesus is awesome!"

Remind kids that this is a time of individual reflection and encourage them to engage and not distract their neighbors as they respond. After a few minutes, gather everyone back together.

Close time in prayer.

Elementary

****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 – ELIC & Iraq**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: For the next couple of weeks, we're going to be focusing on what God is doing in the country of Iraq. Have any of you heard of the country of Iraq before or know where it is on the map? **Point to Iraq on the classroom map.** This is where Iraq is, and it's pretty far away, isn't it? Well, in the country of Iraq, there is a lot of violence, war, and division, especially amongst people who believe different things about God.

Say: There is an organization called ELIC – let's say that together, ELIC – who sends teachers to this country of Iraq to help teach the English language. ELIC started sending English teachers to Iraq and other countries because they felt God calling them to do so!

Elementary

Say: Through teaching English, these followers of Jesus have had many opportunities to share God’s love with the people they encounter in Iraq. Isn’t that amazing? In a country with so much pain, violence, and hurt, God is still finding ways to show His love!

Say: It’s probably not easy to be a teacher in this country... Do you think that would be easy to live somewhere you don’t know and teach people another language? Especially in a place with so much division? Let’s take a few minutes and pray for the ELIC teachers there – that God would continue to protect them and give them opportunities to share His love.

Invite a kid to come up and pray for the ELIC teachers. Encourage kids to take a prayer card at checkout to continue praying at home.

******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 is Awesome! The Bible tells us that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. He was awesome in the Bible stories, He is awesome to us today and He will be awesome forever in Heaven.

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.

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: John 11: 1-44**
 - a. **What happened to Lazarus at the beginning of our story? (He died)**

Elementary

- b. **When Jesus went to Lazarus, what did He do??** (He brought Lazarus back to life!)
3. **Wow! What an incredible miracle! Lazarus died, and Jesus brought Him back to life again. We may not be able to see Jesus in person today, but He helps us too and takes care of us. Do you think Jesus can do incredible things in your life too? What is something Jesus has shown you?**

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: John 11:13-14**
 - a. **What happened to Lazarus?** (He died).
3. **Read scripture: John 11:38-44**
 - a. **What happened to Lazarus?** (Jesus raised him from the dead).
4. **Wow! What an incredible miracle! Lazarus died, and Jesus brought Him back to life again. We may not be able to see Jesus in person today, but He helps us too and takes care of us. Do you think Jesus can do incredible things in your life too? What is something Jesus has shown you?**

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: Lazarus Spoon Craft

Supplies: 1 spoon, 2 google eyes, glue, gauze (one strip per child)

Directions: Pass out one spoon to each child and gauze. Help them stretch out and tie one end to the bottom of the spoon. Have them wrap the spoon up and down and tuck the end into the gauze wrapping. Have children glue two google eyes to the middle of the back of the spoon.



Say: *Today we learned about how Jesus brought Lazarus back from the dead! Wow! What an incredible story. Let's make a fun craft to remind us of Lazarus and the beautiful miracle Jesus did by bringing him back to life.*

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.