



## Jesus is Awesome – Remember & Celebrate

Parables & Miracles

### 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:**

Do you know what today is? It’s Remember & Celebrate! Raise your hand if you’ve been here for a Remember & Celebrate before. What does it mean to remember something? *Let kids respond.* That’s right, it means to look back and think about something. What does celebrate mean? *Let kids respond.* Celebrate means to do something special to honor something or someone or express happiness.

We have Remember & Celebrate every couple of months as a way to pause from our normal routine, look back on all God has been doing, and celebrate who He is, what He has done, and where He has brought us! Throughout the Bible, God's people would have their own "Remember & Celebrate" times where they would have special feasts and festivals to honor God.

Today, we're going to take time to remember all we've learned this summer about Jesus!

**PLAY:**

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

**Grow the Kingdom Race**

**Supplies:** 16 character cut outs, kingdom poster

**Say:** *Over the past few weeks we have learned about a lot of Jesus' Parables and Miracles. Did you know that these were all used to grow God's kingdom? People began to follow Jesus and learn from him. Let's play a game to see how big we can make this kingdom grow.*

**Directions:** Place the kingdom poster across the room. Have children cover their eyes. Hide the 16 characters throughout the room. Set a timer for 2 minutes and see how many characters can be found and brought back to the kingdom.

## 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.\*\*\***

**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!

**BIBLE CHALLENGE****Host**

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

**New Testament Books of the Bible – FINAL WEEK**

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

We have spent all summer working on learning the books of the New Testament! We’re so proud of each of you and the hard work you put in to learn the names. We’re going to celebrate as a class later today with a special treat!

*\*\*\*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.

#### ***THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Jesus is Awesome – Remember & Celebrate***

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:** Awesome God song in PowerPoint, chalkboard worship response station, chalk

**Prepare ahead:** Write "Jesus is Awesome..." on the top of the chalkboards

We've learned and talked about some AMAZING things that God has done this summer. Let's spend some time celebrating all God has done.

We're going to listen to a worship song that talks about how awesome God is. As you listen to this song, take time to do two things:

1. **Listen & Pray** – For the first part of the song, spend time listening to the words of the song. You can close your eyes or lay down. As you listen, talk to God about what's on your mind.

2. **Respond** – Then, after you’ve listened and prayed, you may go up to a chalkboard station to respond. Think about how awesome God is, how it makes you feel, and what He has done for us. Draw or write your response on the chalkboard.

Before we listen to this song and respond, I’m going to pray to ask God to be with us in this time.

***Play the Awesome God by Shane & Shane song in the PowerPoint. Remind kids of the two steps – listen/pray & respond. Song can be cut short or repeated if kids need more time.***

***After all the kids have had a chance to respond, gather them back up to close out time.***

God is so awesome. He is so powerful, and He loves each of us so much! Don’t forget that.

***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 – 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!

**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, as you go, may you always remember who God is and what He has taught us. He is with us wherever we go, and He is awesome!***

## SMALL GROUP

*Classroom Teachers*

(10 minutes)

***Pass out snacks 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.

**\*\*check for allergies before giving kids snacks\*\***

### **ALL Kids:**

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

1. **Who remembers what God Statements we've learned this summer?** (*The Holy Spirit is With Us, Jesus is Our Teacher, Jesus is Awesome*)
2. **What has been your favorite Bible story we've learned this summer and why?**
3. **Jesus came to die for our sins and give us hope and a new life with Him. He is AWESOME! How can you share this joy you have learned about to help grow God's kingdom too?**
4. **Spend time sharing highlights from the summer – encourage every child to share.**
5. **What are you most excited for this school year? What are you most nervous about?**

**Close small group in prayer – spend time praying for specific school prayer requests.**

## 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 Loves Me Button**

**Supplies:** 1 button pin per child, one paper circle, crayons/markers

**Directions:** Pass out one paper 'Jesus loves me' circle to each child. Have them color and decorate their circles. Then place the circle into the button and snap closed. Children can take home their button as a reminder that Jesus loves them and that He is awesome!

**Say:** *We have learned about so many miracles and teachings from Jesus these past few weeks. We want to always remember that Jesus loves us and wants a relationship with us. He is AWESOME. Let's make a button to take with us to remind us of this great fact!*

## 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.*