



Jesus is Awesome – Jesus Raises Lazarus

John 11:1-44

God Statement: Jesus is Awesome

KEY VERSE: “With God, all things are possible.”
(Matthew 19:26b, 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.

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.

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

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.****

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.

**"With God, all things are possible."
(Matthew 19:26b, 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: BANDAGE

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... what's this in here? What do you think you use this item for? That's right, you use a **bandage** like this when someone gets hurt. Have you ever gotten hurt and needed something like this? I wonder how this relates to our story today. Let's find out more. 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 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 this 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.

******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 – 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, 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)***

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)**
 - 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.

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.