



Jesus is God's Son – Going to the Temple

Luke 2:41-52

God Statement: Jesus is Our Hope

KEY VERSE:

“Let your light shine so that others can see it...” Matthew 5:16, NIRV

CHECK-IN

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.

As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you've completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.

If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.

Use the “Connect” reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!

CONNECT WITH KIDS

Purpose: Building relationships & prioritizing safety for our youngest children.

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

The 4 S's are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:

When a child feels...(most of the time)

SAFE: physically and emotionally

SEEN: known and understood
SOOTHED: calmed and supported
They can become **SECURE.**

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

(10 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 Our Hope

In today's lesson, we are going to learn that Jesus is our hope:

Say: Do you know who Jesus is? Do you know who His daddy is? God, that's right! Jesus is God's Son. God loves Jesus very much, but God also loves us very much. Show me with your hands how much you think God loves us. *Pause and allow kids to show how much God loves them.* God loves us SOOOO much that we can't even show how much! God sent Jesus to earth because He loves us.

MAKE: Jesus in The Temple Coloring Sheet

Supplies: *paper, markers/crayons*

Directions: Pass out the coloring pages and have children color them.

Say: *Friends, do any of you know who the little boy on this paper is? It's Jesus! As a young kid! Did you know Jesus was your age at one point too? Let's color this picture of Jesus in the temple to help us remember that Jesus is God's Son.*

While you are working with each child:

- Talk about how we go to church to learn about God and worship Him. Jesus went to the Temple to worship God too.
- Jesus went to the Temple with His parents to worship God. His parents thought He was lost. They couldn't find Him. He was busy talking to all the teachers about God.

CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.

Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."

LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time. .

WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

WORSHIP

(5-7 minutes)

Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex (Miss Mindy) to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

- *My God is so big*
- *Only God can do*
- *God is so Good*

READ A BIBLE STORY

Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!

This month, read about a story about how God in ***Jesus Calling: Bible Story Book*** on ***pages***.

BIG IDEA:

God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to live on earth. Jesus grew up just like you and me, and He worshipped and praised God just like we can.

As you read, try to engage the child(ren) even more by pointing to the pictures as your read, allowing the kids to turn the page or repeating key words and phrases. It's ok if you don't read every word on the page! Kids have very short attention spans (1 minute for each year of age) so try to keep your interactions short and don't get discouraged if a child loses focus!

BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Jesus is God's Son

Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.

Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton has special clothes on (a fabric wrapped like a shawl or use baby clothing from classroom toys).

Say: Hi Hamilton! You have some special clothes. You are all dressed up. **Ham nods.** What are you doing? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** Oh, you're going to church? Cool. Sometimes we dress up to go to church. Kids, do you like coming to church? Yay! I do, too. Do you know that Jesus went to church? It was called the Temple. He loved worshiping His father, God. Let's read about this story.

Read the Bible lesson using the printed Toddler Story in the curriculum folder or find the story in the "Jesus Calling: Bible Storybook" on pg. 152.

Say: Wow! Jesus was a kid just like each of us! But, He seemed pretty special, didn't He, Hamilton? **Hamilton nods.** Jesus knew that God is His Father, and He knew that the Temple was where He could worship God! Hamilton, I think we should spend some time praising and worshipping God! Would you like to join us? **Hamilton nods excitedly.** Let's all shout, "Jesus is our hope" on the count of three. Ready? One, two, three! Jesus is our hope!

Say: Good job, friends! Let's pray together and thank God for sending His Son! **Pray with class.** Thanks for helping us learn about Jesus, Hamilton. Bye, Hamilton! **Hamilton waves goodbye to class.**

SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)

This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.

We are learning that God is our Leader. *Point to the large poster that will be on the wall in your class all quarter: "Jesus is our Hope!" (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times) "*

WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)

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.

Encourage class to sit quietly.

Say: Jesus loved going to the Temple to worship God. We can worship God too. Worship means telling God how great He is. Let's sing "My God is so Big!" to worship Him.

Use Plex on your classroom TV to play this song for worship response. Go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

Pray to close Large Group time out.

BLESSING (1 minute)

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.

Kids, remember that we can worship God. He loves us! Let's tell Him how great He is.

PLAY!

Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

PLAY: Find The Bible

Supplies: Bible (found in classroom)

Prepare Ahead: Have a few places that are age-appropriate to “hide” the Bible.

Directions: Have each child sit on the carpet or chairs. Hide the bible as you instruct each child to close their eyes for 5 seconds. (You can help them count) once you have hidden the bible, the class has to work together to find it!

Say: Friends, can you tell me what we call God's Word? ***Kids answer: the Bible*** That's right! God's Word is called the Bible. The Bible teaches us all about God and how to live.

We are going to practice finding the Bible so we can learn from God!

Suggestions of activities:

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball

CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent.

Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"

Story



When Jesus was a boy, He travelled with His family to Jerusalem.

Jerusalem was a big city with a big temple.

On the way home, Mary and Joseph noticed Jesus was missing.

They were very worried. They searched for Him everywhere.

Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the temple learning from the Bible.

Everyone was amazed at Jesus' understanding.

Mary and Joseph told Jesus it was time to go home.

He knew it was important to obey His parents.

Jesus travelled back home to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph.

Mary treasured these moments in her heart.

Jesus continued to grow up.

Jesus is Our Hope -
Jesus Goes To The Temple
Luke 2: 41-45

