



Holy – Lesson 3

4K and 5K

Divine Attribute: God is holy

Heart Response: Repent

Memory Verse: Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Points of Emphasis:

1. Jesus is God’s Son.
2. Jesus is perfect and holy, but we are sinners.
3. Sin separates us from God.
4. Jesus came to save us from our sins.
5. We need to be sorry for our sin.

PERSONAL PREPARATION

It’s the greatest story ever told. The entire Bible points to this moment—when Christ would come and restore the relationship between God and his people. And so often we forget that this is what it’s all about! Jesus was born to die, to take on our sin and shame, so that we could be reconciled back to our Heavenly Father. It’s the best news of our lives!

As you prepare to share the incredible news of our holy and redeeming Savior with your class, take some time to reflect on what this news means in your own life. Do you share in the joy of the crowd on Palm Sunday—welcoming Jesus with shouts of praise? Do you lift him up as your Savior and King—the answer to the sin and brokenness in your life? Or are you like Peter—hesitant to admit that you are a Christ follower and conforming to those around you? Pray and seek God’s wisdom and guidance. Repent to the one and only Holy God—the One who loves you so much that he came to earth to redeem your whole life and make it brand new. We were meant to live a life in a perfectly beautiful relationship with our Creator, one where we worship our worthy and Holy King with all of our lives. And because of his sacrifice, we can do just that.

You have an incredible opportunity now to participate in God’s amazing love story and share with his children how he came to rescue and redeem us. He loves us so much that even though he does not need us, he wants us. He treasures our relationship and loves us so much that he died so that we may have life with him.

CENTER TIME

10-20 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

To help the children transition into class, please use a center format at the beginning of each service. Set up three centers in your classroom to allow children options of activities. Ideas include, but are not limited to:

1. Read books on the floor.
2. Color at the table.
3. Play with blocks on the floor.
4. Play with puzzles at the table.
5. Play with Play-Doh at the table.

OPENING ACTIVITY

10 minutes at the start of service

The following activity is provided to begin engaging the children for the upcoming lesson. As the teacher of your class, you have an important opportunity to come alongside the parents of these children to teach them about God.

Bucket Toss

Supplies:

Basket or large bowl (one per bin)
Beanbags (two per bin)
Painters tape

(Teachers, put a strip of tape on the floor. Then, place the basket eight feet away from the tape line.) **I want to see if you can throw the beanbags into this basket/bowl. Let’s make a line behind this piece of tape, and each person will get to**

throw two beanbags and try to get them in the basket/bowl. (Give each child a chance to throw both beanbags.) **That wasn't easy, was it? It is hard to get the beanbags into the basket/bowl from so far away. Today in our Bible lesson, it was time for Jesus to do something very difficult, so he went to God in prayer.**

BIG GROUP TIME

please check your classroom schedule

Please talk to your class about the purpose of this time—to have fun worshiping God together. Give your class practical ideas of what this means (obey the teachers up on the stage, sing and praise God with a happy heart, keep your hands to yourself, etc.). Teachers, you are crucial in helping create a peaceful, orderly environment to worship God during this time. Thank you for your help!

SMALL GROUP TIME

25-30 minutes

Bible Story

Bible (Matt. 26:36-46, Mark 14:32-50, Luke 22:40-46)

Does anyone remember our memory verse? (Allow children time to answer.) **Our verse comes from the book of Romans. It is Romans 6:23 “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Can anyone say that verse?** (Let volunteers repeat the verse. Encourage any attempts to do so.) **Let's say the verse together. “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23.**

(Teachers, open your Bible to Mark 14:32-50) **Last week, our lesson was about Jesus having a special meal with his disciples. During the meal, Jesus told the disciples to continue to remember him by celebrating together what he was going to do for them. We still celebrate what Jesus did for us on the cross. We call this celebration the “Lord's Supper” in our church.**

After the Passover meal, Jesus knows it is his time to give his life for our sins. So, after Jesus

and his disciples finish the Passover meal, they leave the room and go to a special place called the Garden of Gethsemane. They have been there many times before. Jesus wants to go there and pray.

What is prayer? (Allow children time to answer.) **Prayer is talking to God. Just like when you talk with your parents, brothers and sisters, or friends, you can talk to God every day.**

Jesus talked to God, his Father, often. In fact, Jesus always started his day talking to God. He would get up very early, go out alone, and spend time talking to God every morning. Jesus also prayed to God throughout his day. If Jesus, who lived a perfect life and never sinned, needed to talk to God often, that means we also need to talk to God often.

When are some times that you pray? (Allow children time to answer. Adjust your responses to what the children say.) **I heard some of you say that you pray before meals and before you go to bed; that is great! We can pray anytime. It is important to begin our day talking to God. Then, we can also talk to God throughout our day.**

When Jesus goes to the Garden of Gethsemane, he takes three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, into the garden. He asks them to watch and pray. Then Jesus goes a little further, kneels on the ground, and begins to pray.

Jesus knows he has something hard to do. The thing Jesus is about to do is going to be very hard, but it is the reason he has come to Earth. Jesus needs to talk to God, his Father, to get strength and comfort.

After Jesus prays for a little while, he goes back to where his disciples are. Peter, James, and John are asleep. Jesus wakes them up and again asks them to watch and pray with him.

He goes a little further away and prays again. Jesus prays for himself, for his disciples, and he even prays for us! Going to the cross to die for our sins is going to be very hard, but this is the only way we are able to receive forgiveness

for our sins. It is the only way to restore our relationship with him.

The second time Jesus goes to talk to his disciples, they are asleep again, because they are very tired. Jesus decides to let them sleep, and he goes back to pray a third time.

After praying for a while, Jesus knows that it is time. Judas, the disciple who has betrayed him, and the soldiers are on the way. Jesus goes and wakes his disciples. He tells them that the time has come, and as he is talking, Judas and the soldiers come into the garden with spears and clubs. Judas lets the soldiers know which one is Jesus, and they arrest him.

One of Jesus' disciples, Peter, tries to stop the soldiers. He takes a sword and cuts off the ear of one of the soldiers! But, Jesus immediately heals the soldier's ear and goes willingly with them.

Next week, we are going to hear where the soldiers take Jesus and what happens to him. This was God's plan from the very beginning. He would come and rescue his people from sin.

Prayer

Prayer time may not be appropriate immediately following story time. If this is the case, we ask that you be intentional about praying spontaneously or formally with the children at other times during class.

Father God, we are thankful that Jesus taught us how important it is to pray. We know that we can talk to you anytime. Help us remember to start our day by praying to you and to pray throughout the day. When we sin and we are truly sorry, we know we can ask you to forgive us and you will. Amen.

Prayer Book

Supplies:

Prayer book (one per child)

Crayons

Tell the children that they are going to make a prayer book to remind them of times when they can pray. Trace the child's left hand (with fingers closed to represent their praying hands) on the front of the booklet and their right hand on the back of the booklet.

Next, flip through the book and have the children identify what times of day the pictures show. Talk to them about how we can pray at any time and that these pictures will be a reminder of that. Have the children color the pictures on each page. They can also color their hands on the front and back if they would like. Write their name on (or in) their booklet.

***Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn't matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is. ***

SNACK & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

last 30 minutes

Please wash the children's hands before snack time and say a prayer thanking God for the food. As they are eating their snack, please take time to go over the review questions.

Review Questions

1. In our lesson today, where did Jesus go to pray? (The Garden of Gethsemane.)
2. Which disciples did Jesus take with him? (Peter, James, and John.)
3. What did the disciples do while Jesus was praying? (They fell asleep.)
4. What did Jesus ask them to do? (Watch and pray.)
5. What did Peter do when the soldiers arrested Jesus? (He cut off one of the soldier's ears, but Jesus healed the ear.)

Praying in the Garden

Supplies

Flower pictures (12 per bin)
Painters tape

Tape the laminated flowers to the floor (space them out around the room). Have the children stand on a flower. Let them walk around from flower to flower in the garden and tell them they can pray and talk to God about whatever they would like. When you call out “freeze!” they need to stop on a flower. Then ask them to think of something to be thankful to God for and share it. Let a few kids say out loud, “Thank you God for...” Then continue walking and praying in the garden. Next time you call out “freeze!” ask a few kids to share out loud, “God help me...” (or, “Give me strength with...,” or “I am afraid of...”). Remind them that Jesus prayed in the garden and he asked God for strength and help. Let the children continue walking and next time you say “freeze!” let a few children respond to, “I love you God because...” (Help them think of all the attributes we have talked about so far. God is creator, provider, rescuer, generous, all-knowing, always there, loving...) The last time you have them stop, ask them if anyone would like to pray to God, “God, please forgive me for...” or, “God I am sorry for...” Say to the children: **God wants to forgive us from our sin. We will make wrong choices and sin, but Jesus came to earth to rescue you from sin. He forgives us when we ask and we are truly sorry for what we have done. Remember, we can pray all the time and anywhere. We can pray quietly to ourselves or out loud with our eyes open and God will hear us no matter what.**

Resurrection Eggs

Supplies

Set of Resurrection Eggs (one per bin)

There should be a set of Resurrection Eggs in your room. Please feel free to use these to go over the Easter story. There is an information booklet in the box, but you can just summarize each part. Please be careful to return the items to the correct eggs so that they can be used again and again throughout the unit.



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