



## Holy – Lesson I

### 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.

### Memory Verse Poster

#### Supplies:

Memory verse poster (one per bin)

Piece of paper – already in room (one per child)

Hang the verse poster on the board. You can give each child a piece of paper to color as you go over the memory verse with them a few times, if you like. You may want to prompt them to color specific things related to the lesson/unit/verse.

(While they are coloring, talk with them about the new verse.) **This week, we have a new memory verse.** (Teachers, open the Bible to Romans 6:23.) **Our verse comes from Romans 6:23. The Bible says, “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”** Listen to the first part of the verse, and then repeat it with me. “The wages of sin is death.” Say that part with me. “The wages of sin is death.” Great! Now listen to the second part of the verse. “But the gift of God is eternal life” Say that part with me. “But the gift of God is eternal life” Great! Now listen to the last part. “Through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Say that part with me. “Through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**Great! Now let’s say the whole verse together.** “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”  
**Romans 6:23**

This verse tells us that because we have all sinned, we all deserve death! But, the good news is that God is perfect in love and he loves us all so much that he sent Jesus to rescue us from the punishment of sin so God could have a relationship with us. God has given us a wonderful gift—Jesus! Jesus came to pay the price for our sin so that we can live in a relationship with God forever. We can live forever with him if we put our faith and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

## **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**

#### **Supplies**

Bible (Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:29-38, John 12:12-15)  
Large, artificial palm branches (two per bin)

I am going to open up my Bible to Mark 11, the place our lesson comes from. (Open your Bible to Mark 11.) We know the Bible is God’s Word and all of it is true. In our lesson today, Jesus has been at his friends’ house in the town of Bethany. He is there with his friend, Lazarus (whom Jesus raised from the dead) and Martha and Mary (Lazarus’ sisters). Many people have seen the miracles Jesus has done and want to make Jesus their king! The Jewish leaders are very upset because the people want to follow Jesus instead of them.

When Jesus leaves Lazarus’ house, he and his disciples head to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. Many other people are also in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. When they hear that Jesus is coming, they are very excited!

As Jesus comes into Jerusalem, he says to his disciples, “Go into the village and as soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie the colt and bring it here. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ you say, ‘The Lord needs it and will return it soon.’”

When the disciples go into the village, they find the colt just as Jesus had said. As they start to untie the colt, a man asks, “Why are you untying this colt?” They answer him just as Jesus told them and say, “The Lord has need of it.” The man tells them they can take the colt, and they bring the colt to Jesus. They put their coats on it, and Jesus sits on the colt. As Jesus rides into Jerusalem, the people spread their coats on the road and others wave and put down palm branches that they have cut from the trees.

**The people shout, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

**Let’s act out that part. We will take turns with the palm branches.** (Let each child have a turn with a palm branch as the others say, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”)

**These people want to make Jesus their king here on earth, but we know that is not the kind of king God planned for Jesus to be at this time. Jesus is our King, but at this time, God planned for Jesus to die to pay for our sin.**

**Jesus is God’s Son. He came and lived a perfect, holy life—which means he never sinned. Our sin separates us from God. Jesus came to save us from our sins by giving his life to pay for our sin. We need to be sorry for our sin and ask God to forgive us when we sin, and he will forgive us!**

## **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.

**God, thank you for sending Jesus to live a perfect life and to die to pay for our sins. We want to praise Jesus as our King and live to please you. Thank you for forgiving us for our sins when we pray and ask you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

## **Donkey for Jesus**

### **Supplies:**

Donkey worksheet (one per child)  
Scrap of fabric or construction paper (one per child)  
Googly eyes (one per child)  
Crayons  
Glue/glue sticks

Tell your class that they will be making something to remind them of Jesus riding into Jerusalem. Have the children color the donkey with crayons. Then, help them glue a piece of fabric or construction paper to the back of the donkey (like a blanket or

coat) and add a googly eye. Write the child’s name on the back of their craft and set it aside to dry.

\*\*\*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. Who did Jesus’ friends want Jesus to be?** (Their king on earth.)
- 2. What did Jesus tell his disciples they would find tied to a tree?** (A colt, a donkey that had never been ridden on.)
- 3. What did the people wave at Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem riding on the colt?** (Palm branches.)
- 4. What did the people shout as Jesus rode on the colt?** (Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!)

## **He Destroyed the Wall**

### **Supplies**

Bible  
Blocks

(Have the children sit in a circle on the floor next to the blocks in the room.) Let’s all say our new memory verse together. **“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23. Let’s talk about this verse. What is sin?** (Allow children to give examples. Teachers, give examples if they do not come up with any.) **Sin is anything that we do, say, or think that does not please God. Sin is anything that is not holy. God is perfectly holy. He has no sin. We are not perfectly holy. We all**

**sin. Because God is perfectly holy, he cannot be around sin, so our sin separates us from God.**

**Do you see these blocks? We are going to use them to build a wall to show how our sin separates us from God. Each of you will get two blocks and then I want you to line up. We are going to take turns putting our blocks down to make one big wall, and we are not going to knock it down until I say to.** (The teacher's helper can help by having the kids take turns and start building the wall one block at a time while you continue to teach.) **When we choose sin like telling mommy or daddy "no," throwing a fit, or pouting because we didn't get our way, our hearts are choosing to do what we want and not what pleases God. God cares about our hearts, and he knows what is best for us. If we have a bad attitude when we choose to obey, we still sin in our hearts. Sin always leads to pain because it separates us from God and his great love for us.**

(The teacher's helper should hide behind the wall that was just built.) **So let's look at this wall. This wall is like our sin. It separates us from God, just like this wall is separating us from \_\_\_\_\_** (teacher's helper behind wall). **Because we sin, we need a savior. We need Jesus. So God sent Jesus to earth to break down this wall between God and us. Jesus came to live a perfect life, never sin, die to pay for our sin, and then conquer death. Jesus was holy and perfect. He was the only one who could pay the price for our sin. Will you help me knock down the wall? Great! This reminds us that Jesus knocked down the wall between us and God that we build with our sin. Jesus died on the cross and paid the price for our sin. God wants us to see that we sin so that we can repent and turn away from that sin. When we repent and tell God we are sorry for our sin, God will forgive us. He can then change our hearts so that our attitudes and actions can become more like Jesus.**

[Main Points: God is Holy. He has no sin. We all sin. Sin separates us from God because he is perfectly holy. We need a rescuer to save us from our sin and turn us back to God. God sent Jesus to rescue us and tear down the wall that our sin puts between God and us. Because of what Jesus did on the cross, we can have a relationship with him forever. When we tell God we are sorry for our sin, he forgives us. When we turn from our sin and look to God, he can change our hearts, attitudes, and actions. We begin to want what he wants which is holy and good instead of our selfish wants.]

## **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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