



UNIT 19 | SESSION 5 | MARCH 28-29, 2020

2nd-3rd Lesson

Jesus as a Child

Bible Passage: Matthew 2; Luke 2

Story Point: Even as a child, Jesus wanted to do His Father's plan.

Key Passage: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." John 1:1-2

Christ Connection: God blessed Jesus as He got ready to follow His Father's plan: to die on the cross and rescue people from sin.

**KID CONNECT:
10 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:
30 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:
20 MINUTES**

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The Gospel of Luke records just two narratives about Jesus' childhood: His dedication (Luke 2:21-40) and His visit to the temple when He was 12 years old (Luke 2:41-52). The Gospel of Matthew includes another story: a visit from some wise men. These stories of Jesus as a child set the stage for Jesus' ministry as an adult.

After Jesus was born, God put a star in the sky as a sign. Wise men from the east followed the star to Jerusalem, looking for a new king. They found Jesus, who was probably 1 or 2 years old, in Bethlehem and they worshiped Him as King. Later, Jesus and His family settled in Nazareth, where Jesus grew up.

In Bible times, a Jewish boy became a man at 13. His father would train him to take on all the responsibilities of adulthood—social and spiritual. Joseph was a carpenter, and he likely trained Jesus in his trade. When Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, Joseph might have taken Jesus, who was about 12, around the city to teach Him the significance of the temple and to explain the purpose of the Passover feast.

Jesus' parents headed home after the feast. They assumed Jesus was among their traveling

companions, but He wasn't. Jesus had stayed behind at the temple. A full day passed before Mary and Joseph noticed Jesus was missing. They hurried back to Jerusalem and finally found Him at the temple. Jesus asked His mother, "Didn't you know that I had to be in my Father's house?" Mary and Joseph did not understand. But Jesus is God's Son, and it was necessary that He honor His true Father. In all this, Jesus did not sin.

The Bible does not give many details about Jesus' childhood, but we know that as Jesus got older, He grew "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people" (Luke 2:52). Jesus carried out God's plan to reconcile the world to Himself. (2 Cor. 5:19)

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: INTRO/OUTRO MUSIC)

Play intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group.

TOUGH QUESTIONS

(No Supplies Needed)

Invite the kids to come up with appropriate, silly questions to ask a child volunteer. The volunteer must attempt to answer the question without laughing or smiling. She may make up the answers, and the answers do not have to be accurate. Whoever makes her laugh gets to answer questions in the next round. Play as time allows.

SAY • Those questions were pretty silly. Sometimes though, we face real questions that are difficult to answer because they require more wisdom than we might have. Today we will learn about a time Jesus proved He understood difficult questions and had lots of wise answers, even while He was just a boy.

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as you transition to Large Group. Set it to end as the session begins.

LARGE GROUP GAME

(CG + SFX: GAME INTRO SLIDE + MUSIC, CG: GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS TRIVIA GAME SLIDES)

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS TRIVIA GAME

(Tape Separating the Room in Half, "A" on One Side and "B" on Other Side)

SAY • Let's play a game! Raise your hand if you have ever heard of the Guinness World Records before. Yes, this is where someone or maybe a group of people do something amazing and set a world record and Guinness puts it into a book. Well today we're going to play a game called Guinness World Records Trivia Game. Everyone stand up! I am going to put a trivia question up on the screen and if you think the answer is A, move over to the "A" side of the room and if you think it's B, move over to the "B" side. Pretty simple rules! The theme for this Guinness World Records Trivia game is KIDS. So *all* of these world records were actually set by kids roughly your age! Ready? Let's play!

Play Guinness Trivia Game.

Good job! Wow, those were some amazing world records. Kids can do some incredible things!

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: THE RIVER, VIDEO: LET IT BE KNOWN)

SAY • Let's worship God!

INTRODUCE THE SESSION

(CG: LGL SELFIE PHOTO)

(Smartphone, Selfie Stick, Photo Release Sign)

SAY • Hey, kids! So all month we have been talking about families and looking at some funny/awkward photos that they have taken...but you know what we've never done?...taken our OWN awkward family photo. Let's do that now! We're all kind of like a KidCity family anyway, so why not? I will use this smartphone to take a selfie with all of you guys behind me and let's capture this amazing moment.

Take a selfie (widescreen) with everyone behind you. Try to have fun with it and allow them to be crazy but don't allow them to do anything inappropriate. Make sure your tech is ready to be able to take that photo and drop it into ProPresenter so that the kids in the room can see it up on the screens during Small Group/Dismissal time.

Yes! Now THAT will be one awkward family photo! Great job guys. Let's jump into our Bible story today. We will be learning about when Jesus Himself was a kid.

GIANT TIMELINE

(CG: GIANT TIMELINE)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY • A few weeks back, we talked about Jesus' family. We learned that Jesus' family line proved He is the Messiah. Later we learned that John was born to prepare the way for Jesus, and Jesus was born to be God's promised Savior. When Jesus was dedicated at the temple according to God's law, Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus as the Messiah. This week, we will hear about something else from Jesus' childhood.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: JESUS AS A CHILD, CG: BIBLE STORY PICTURE, CG: STORY POINT)

(Bible)

Show the Bible story video “Jesus as a Child.”

SAY • In any other circumstances, a mom and dad would probably be very worried if strangers showed up at their door with presents for their child. But Jesus was not an ordinary child. The wise men understood who He was and offered great treasures to worship Him. And we see more clearly who Jesus is from the next part of the story.

Some of you may have had scary situations where you got separated from your parents in a crowded place. It can feel terrifying—especially for a parent. Imagine how Mary and Joseph might have felt. God had given them the important job of raising the Messiah, and they left Jerusalem without Him!

But remember, Jesus was no ordinary child. While you or I might have been afraid or gotten ourselves into trouble without parents around, Jesus was in the temple discussing God with the teachers of the law! The Bible tells us that everyone there was amazed by Jesus’ ability to understand the Scriptures.

Even as a child, Jesus wanted to do His Father’s plan. He understood all along that He would glorify God by obeying God’s plans.

CHRIST CONNECTION

(CG: CHRIST CONNECTION)

Note: You may use this opportunity to use Scripture and the guide provided to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.

SAY • God sent Jesus to earth with a purpose. Even as a child, Jesus wanted to honor God. God blessed Jesus as He got ready to follow His Father’s plan: to die on the cross and rescue people from sin. When we trust in Jesus, God forgives our sin and makes us part of His family. When we trust God, He will use us in amazing ways to spread the good news. That is His plan for believers, and we can all be a part of it.

KEY PASSAGE

(CG: KEY PASSAGE)

(Bible)

Show the key passage slide. Open the Bible and lead the kids to read John 1:1-2 together.

SAY • Our key passage reminds us that Jesus—the Word—has always existed. In the beginning, He was there with God the Father. He is God the Son and will continue to exist for eternity.

INVITE-A-FRIEND + BAPTISM ANNOUNCEMENT

(CG: INVITE-A-FRIEND SLIDE, CG: BAPTISM SLIDE)

SAY • Easter is only 2 weeks away so don't forget to invite a friend to KidCity for Easter! We're going to have a really fun time with games, prizes and learning about the amazing true story of Easter. So be thinking about who you want to invite and ask them! Also, before we head to small groups, I want to let everyone know that this weekend we are having baptisms. Baptism is a celebration when a person shares that they have decided to follow Jesus. Do we have any kids in here getting baptized today? (*If so, celebrate with kids*) I want to encourage everyone to go outside and cheer on all our friends getting baptized today right after service.

PRAY AND DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS

SMALL GROUP

Bible Passage: Matthew 2; Luke 2

Story Point: Even as a child, Jesus wanted to do His Father's plan.

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Christ Connection: God blessed Jesus as He got ready to follow His Father's plan: to die on the cross and rescue people from sin.

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

(Key Passage Poster, 1 per group)

Invite volunteers to say the key passage from memory. Praise each kid's efforts and encourage all the kids to continue working to memorize the key passage. Then instruct the kids to sit in a circle. Each kid will place her left hand under the right hand of the kid on her left. Kids will then take turns saying each word of the key passage in order.

As each kid says a word on his turn, he will move his right hand to clap the right hand of the kid on his left. Then that kid will say the next word, and so on around the circle. The kid to the left of the kid who says the last word of the key passage will try to move her hand before he can clap it. If he claps his own hand, she wins. If he claps her hand before she can move it, he wins. Play as time allows or until all kids have the verses memorized.

SAY • Our key passage was written by the prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah's promise of a good plan was for the people of Judah, but we have similar promises through Jesus. God sent Jesus to die for us and make the way for us to have a relationship with God. When we trust in Jesus, we get to experience all the wonderful things God has planned for His people, including living with Him forever in His perfect kingdom.

GIVE YOURSELF

(Wrapping Paper Rolls, 2-3 per group, Adhesive Gift Bows, 2-3 per group, Tape, 2-3 per group)

Form teams of about three to four kids. Provide each team with a roll of wrapping paper and an adhesive gift bow. Challenge the teams to select one kid to wrap. The first team to wrap a kid

from shoulders to toe and stick their bow on top wins. You may also alter the game by awarding points for wrapping style or coverage, and declare a winner not based on speed. Be careful to not wrap near a child's face.

SAY •By the end of that game, some of you looked like giant presents that would have been fun to unwrap. In a way though, this isn't as silly as it sounds. We can give ourselves to God by trusting Him in all areas of our lives.

When we allow God to control our time, talents, money, or other treasures, we are giving Him ourselves. He can use us to bring glory to Himself and lead others to believe in Jesus. It doesn't matter that you are still young either. Even as a child, Jesus wanted to do His Father's plan.

DISCUSSION

(Bibles)

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help kids find Luke 2. Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

Why did Mary and Joseph travel to Jerusalem each year? *(for the Passover, Luke 2:41)*

How long did it take Mary and Joseph to find Jesus? *(three days, Luke 2:46)*

What about Jesus amazed people? *(His understanding and His answers, Luke 2:46-47)*

Why do you think Jesus' understanding and wisdom were so surprising? *Help kids understand that Jesus would have seemed like an ordinary 12-year-old just by looking at Him. Remind kids that Jesus is fully God and fully human. Jesus was able to understand and explain God's Word as One who had studied it for many years, despite His young age.*

Why do you think Jesus said it was necessary for Him to be in His Father's house? *Guide kids to understand that Jesus' Father is God. Remind them that Jesus is God the Son, and He knew God's plans for His life: to make the way for sinners to have eternal life. Jesus understood that He would need to rely on God's power to obey Him, and Jesus wanted to obey God always.*

How can we live out God's plans for us? *Discuss the idea that God's plan for all believers is for us to glorify Him by loving others, obeying Him out of love, and sharing the gospel throughout the earth. Remind kids that we can live on mission no matter where we are.*

SAY •Even as a child, Jesus wanted to do His Father's plan. He perfectly obeyed His earthly parents and all of God's commands, eventually dying for our sin.

BAPTISM

(Baptism Discussion Guide, Baptism stickers)

This weekend, Hope is celebrating baptisms. If you need to get out early or come late in order to be a part of or see the baptisms happening today, talk with your coach and other leaders in your room about how your group can be covered. Baptism is a once-in-someone's-lifetime experience, and we want to do everything we can to be sure you don't miss it.

Also, don't forget to talk with your group about baptism – celebrate those who are being baptized, and talk about how everyone can celebrate their relationship with Jesus by being baptized themselves. Use the Small Group Baptism Discussion page for questions, talking points, and ideas on sparking the conversation.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

(Journal Page - 1 per kid, Pencils)

Ask the kids the following questions:

What does this story teach me about God?

What does this story teach me about myself?

Who can I tell about this story?

Make time for prayer requests and pray for your group. If time allows, have kids to complete the Bible story coloring page provided with this session.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Older Kids Activity Page, 1 per kid)

Hand each 2nd-3rd grade kid an Older Kids Activity Page and encourage them to do it at home with their family this week.