



LIGHT BRIGHT | WEEK 1 | SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Preschool Lesson

Jesus is the Light

Bible Story: *Jesus is the Light* • Jesus is the light of the world • *John 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5*

Memory Verse: “You are the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14, NIV

Key Question: Who can love like Jesus?

Bottom Line: I can love like Jesus.

Basic Truth: I am made by God to reflect His image (act like Him).

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In 1967, a new toy was introduced to the world, and on the box were these words:

*Create Beautiful Pictures With . . . Light.
It was the LiteBrite®! The LiteBrite was an instant hit and has remained such a favorite for all these years that families are still having fun making pictures with light.*

This month, we’re talking about a different kind of bright light. We’re talking about THE light that God sent into the world to shine bright for all the world to see. And THIS light has a name. His name is Jesus! Each time we choose to love like Jesus, we become a bright light. Just like each LiteBrite peg lights up to make a picture, each and every act of love is a bright light that makes a beautiful picture for the world to see Jesus.

Story Focus: Jesus is the Light of the World. God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World. Jesus is not a light like a nightlight or a glow stick. Jesus is a light that helps us see how amazing God is. When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. When Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → • You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → • A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow



KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

OPENING ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (*Kids respond.*) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (*List rules while counting on fingers*)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

“Can everybody follow those rules today? *(Kids respond.)* Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let’s say them all together! Are you ready?”

1. I am made by God. What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
2. I am loved by God no matter what. What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*

“It’s time for our memory verse. Let’s watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!”

Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.

‘You *(point to others)*
are the light *(twinkle fingers)*
of the world,’ *(make a circle with your arms)*
Matthew 5:14. *(Open hands like a book.)*

“Ok, Now let’s sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: BE A LIGHT, LOVE LIKE JESUS)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(8x10 Clear Plastic Picture Frame, 8x10 Black Paper with 2” Heart Cut-Out in the Top Center, Flashlight, (1) Colored Cellophane Square for Each Week (W1 Red, W2 Green, W3 Blue, W4 Purple), 11x17 Piece of White Paper, Tape and Story Box)

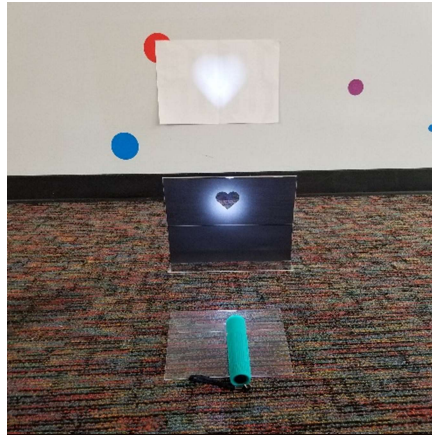
LGL brings the story box with the props and Bible to the center of the room. You should have an 8x10 frame with an 8x10 black paper with heart cut-out in center inserted into the frame, a flashlight, a colored cellophane square for the current week, an 11x17 piece of white paper and tape.

“I have my story box ready. I’m SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let’s see what I have in here...”

Pull out the frame with the black paper inserted, flashlight, a cellophane square for the current week, the 11x17 white paper and tape.

WOW! I have a lot of things in my story box today. A frame, a flashlight, a colored square, a piece of white paper and tape. That’s 1...2...3...4...5 things. This frame has a piece of black paper in it with a shape. Can you see what shape it is? *Put the frame up to your face and try to peer through the heart shape.* It’s a little hard to see. *Point your finger up.* I have an idea! Let me see if this flashlight will help you see the shape better.

- Place the frame on the floor facing a wall, about two feet away from the wall.
- Turn on your flashlight and shine it through the back of the frame towards the wall so the heart shape projects onto the wall. You can adjust the flashlight closer or further away from the frame to change the size and clarity of the heart.
- Tape an 11x17 piece of paper on the wall so the heart projection is even more visible (this will help identify the color when you attach the colored square to the frame).



Can you see what the shape is now? *(Pause for responses.)* YES, it's a HEART! Isn't that COOL! Now I have something even more COOL! Watch this! When I place this colored square on the frame it changes the color of the light. What color is it? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, it's red! It makes a **red heart**! So COOL! A heart reminds us of love. This whole month we are learning we can be a bright light when we love like Jesus. Are you ready for a story? *(Pause for responses.)* Great!

Let's get our eyes and ears ready! Let's click on our listening ears (tug on each ear, one at a time, as you make a click, click sound), let's put on our looking eyes (bring your hands, one at a time, to your eyes like binoculars as you say shook, shook) and let's put our hands that have been move and praising Jesus quietly in our laps.

Now we are ready. Let's watch today's true Bible story."

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"Wow! That was an amazing story! Jesus is the Light of the World, and we can be bright lights when we love like Jesus.

When I ask, 'Who can love like Jesus?' I want you to say, *[Bottom Line]* 'I can love like Jesus!' Are you ready? *(Pause for responses)*. 'Who can love like Jesus?' *[Bottom Line]* 'I can love like Jesus!' You've got it! *[Bottom Line]* I can love like Jesus."

SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am made by God to reflect His image (act like

Him). We reflect God's image and act like Him when we love like Jesus.

PRAY

"Let's get our hands ready to pray. *Open them close them, open them close them, give a little clap. Open them, close them, open them, close them, fold them in your lap.*

God, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. Jesus showed us how to love others. Help us to be bright lights and love like Jesus everywhere we go. We love you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *Jesus is the Light* • Jesus is the light of the world • *John 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5*

Memory Verse: “You are the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14, NIV

Key Question: Who can love like Jesus?

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SPECIAL LIGHT

(“Special Light” Activity Page Copied and Cut – one set per group, 12 paper/plastic cups)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Special Light” activity page on copy paper, cut and attach pictures to the inside of 12 paper/plastic cups.

During the Activity: Place cups upside down in a 4x3 grid in the center of your group. Have children take turns turning one cup over at a time to find Jesus, the Light of the World. **Optional for 2-3’s:** Place cups throughout your environment and help children find the cups then look inside them to find Jesus.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, Jesus came into the world to be a light for everyone. Let’s take turns finding Jesus, the Light of the World as we turn over these cups. Each friend will get a turn to turn over **one** cup. When we find Jesus, we are going to say, “Jesus is the light of the world!”

During the Activity: [Child’s name] you start. Turn over one cup. Do you see Jesus? No. [Child’s name], it’s your turn. Turn over one cup. Do you see Jesus? YES! Let’s say “Jesus is the light of the world! Ready? (*Pause for responses.*). Jesus is the light of the world!” Continue until each child has had a turn and all the cups have been turned over.

After the Activity: “God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World, a light who helps us see how amazing God is and shows us how God loves people and how we can love people too. We can all love like Jesus. **Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus. One more time! Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus.**”

SPECIAL LIGHT EXTENSION (4-5’s)

(“Story Lights” Activity Page – one set per group, Blocks/Cars/Pom-Poms – 1 item per child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Story Lights Jesus” 2-Sided on the Long-Edge and cut, one per Small Group.

During the Activity: Gather children in a circle. Review the Bible Story. Share 3 picture cards that

shows examples of someone loving like Jesus by *helping*, *forgiving*, and *sharing*, then encourage the children to act it out each example with the movements below.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hey, everyone! Come sit with me! We’re going to do a fun Bible Story review and act it out!”

During the Activity: “Today, we learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World. Jesus is a light who helps us see how amazing God is. When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. When Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too.

I have three pictures that show people loving like Jesus. Let’s look at each picture, then we are going to act out loving like Jesus.

Picture #1 (Children Cleaning Up Toys) **What are the children doing in this picture? (Pause for responses.)** Yes, they are working together and cleaning up the toys. When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. Now we all get to be bright lights. I have a bin of toys that I’m going to “dump” on the floor. We are going to work together and help clean them up and put them back into the bin. Awesome! You are a bright light when you help.

Picture #2 (Friend Hugging and Saying “I’m sorry I broke your truck”) **What happened in this picture? (Pause for responses.)** Yes, the wheel on the toy truck was broken. **What are the two friends doing? (Pause for responses.)** Yes, they are hugging. It looks like one friend is saying “I’m sorry I broken your truck, and the other friend is saying “I forgive you.” When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. Now we all get to be bright lights. Can you turn to a friend and give them a hug. So good! You are a bright light when you forgive.

Picture #3 (Friend sharing a car) **What are the children doing in this picture? (Pause for responses.)** Yes, they are sharing. When Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too. We get to be bright lights again. I’m going to give some of you a small toy (*pass out a block/car to every other child in your group*). Now I want you to turn to a friend that doesn’t have a toy in their hand and say “Here, would you like to play with this [name of toy]?” (*Pause for responses.*) That was awesome sharing! Now, let’s share again. Turn to another friend that doesn’t have a toy and say “Here is [name of toy], I’m sharing this with you. Great sharing, friends! You are a bright light when you share.

After the Activity: “Friends, God loves us, and God wants us to love like Jesus! When we help others or forgive others or share with others, we are loving like Jesus. Tell me: **Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line]** I can love like Jesus. One more time. **Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line]** I can love like Jesus!”

NEON HEARTS

(½ Sheet Black Construction Paper - 1 per child, Neon Heart Stickers - 4-5 per child, White Crayons, Neon Heart Label - 1 per child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cut ½ Sheet Black Construction Paper per child, Copy “Neon Hearts Label” on label paper, one label per child and prepare neon heart stickers per child.

During the Activity: Encourage children to fill their paper with neon hearts. Ask children to add the neon heart label to their paper. Use the white crayon to help children write their name on their paper.

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hello, friends! I love when we get to spend time together! Come sit with me.”

During the Activity: “We’re going to fill this black paper with these bright neon hearts. Hearts remind us of love. When you finish, I have a special label sticker that has the words we are learning this month. These words say, *[Bottom Line]* ‘I can love like Jesus.’ Let’s say that together.

[Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus. Great! This label also says where you can look in the Bible to find today’s true story.”

After the Activity: “Today, we learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World—not a light like a flashlight or glowstick or night light, but a light that helps us see how amazing God is! When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. When Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too. We can all love like Jesus. Who can love like Jesus? *[Bottom Line]* I can love like Jesus. One more time! Who can love like Jesus? *[Bottom Line]* I can love like Jesus.”

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster - 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

‘You (*point to others*)
are the light (*twinkle fingers*)
of the world,’ (*make a circle with your arms*)
Matthew 5:14. (*Open hands like a book.*)

PRAY

“Let’s pray together. (*Have kids “put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.”*)

God, thank you for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. We know that Jesus is the light of the

whole world and that He loves us! Help us to love others like Jesus and be bright lights this week. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen."

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.