



BECAUSE JESUS IS...

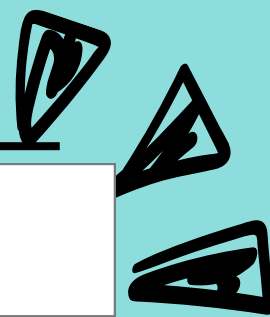
I WILL...

Unit 2

Parent Guide



LESSON 5 AT A GLANCE



I AM the Resurrection and the Life. February 2, 2025

Objective

Teach the kids the first of seven “I AM” statements of Jesus: “I AM the Resurrection and the Life.” Explain how because of Jesus’ resurrection we know that we will live forever.

Big Question

Ask at the beginning of the lesson; answer at the end.

Question: How can I be sure that I will live forever?

Answer: Jesus’ resurrection is the proof of my coming resurrection.

Scriptures

Teach from: John 11:1-46; 1 Corinthians 4:13-18
Lesson Key Verse: John 11:25
Unit Memory Verse: Exodus 3:14

Key Takeaways (3 Keys)

Recite at the beginning, middle, and end of the lesson.

Jesus cares about the suffering of people.
All our suffering and death will eventually be done away with.
Because Jesus is the resurrection, I will live forever.

HIStory

This passage takes place around 2,000 years ago during Jesus’ earthly ministry before He was crucified and resurrected.

Good News

Jesus is the Good News! He not only gives us the promise of resurrection and eternal life, but He is our resurrection and eternal life. If we have Jesus, we have it all.

God

Jesus can say that He is the resurrection because He is God and as God, He is the source of all life!

Foundation

Jesus is God, and just as God is the source of all life, so Jesus is the source of all life!

Application

Because we will live forever if we trust Jesus, we can face trials and difficulties. When we remember that the troubles of this world are temporary compared to the eternity that we will live, it helps us trust God through those troubles.

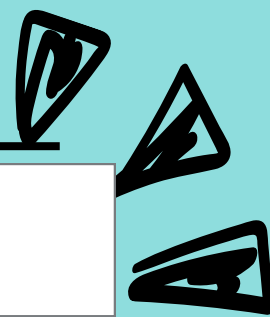
Teaching kids about death

Death can be a challenging topic to discuss with children, but the Bible provides hope and comfort through Jesus' promise of eternal life. It helps to remind kids that God understands our sadness when we lose someone we love. That is evident by the fact that He wept with Mary and Martha when their brother and His friend, Lazarus, died.

In John 11:25-26, Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." Explain that while our present bodies may die, our souls live on forever with God if we trust in Jesus. This truth reminds us that death is not the end but a doorway to eternal life with Him.

Emphasize Jesus' victory over death through His resurrection. When discussing the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead in John 11, point out that Jesus has power over life and death (because He is the Great I AM). Use this as an opportunity to remind your child of Jesus' own resurrection, which ensures that all who believe in Him will one day be raised to life in heaven. Encourage them to see that even something as hard as death is a part of God's bigger plan, where He promises to wipe away every tear and make all things new (Revelation 21:4).

LESSON 6 AT A GLANCE



I AM the Way, Truth, and Life. February 9, 2025

Objective

Teach the kids the first of seven “I AM” statements of Jesus: “I AM the Way, Truth, and Life.” Explain how we can believe what Jesus says because He is the source of all truth.

Big Question

Ask at the beginning of the lesson; answer at the end.

Question: Why should I follow Jesus?
Answer: I should follow Jesus because He is the source of all truth.

Scriptures

Teach from: John 14:1-6, 1 John 5:20
Lesson Key Verse: John 14:6
Unit Memory Verse: Exodus 3:14

Key Takeaways (3 Keys)

Recite at the beginning, middle, and end of the lesson.

Whatever is true, is true for all people.
Jesus is the source of all truth.
Because Jesus is the Truth, I will believe what He says.

HIStory

The passage in John took place around 2,000 years ago during Jesus’ earthly ministry before He was crucified and rose again.

Good News

When we know and believe that God loved us so much that He sent His Son to live a perfect life on our behalf and die the sinner’s death that we deserve, the Bible says to receive forgiveness and eternal life.

God

Jesus can say that He is the truth because He is God and God is the source of all truth.

Foundation

Truth is objective and universal. That means that what was true in the Bible is true for us today too.

Application

This week, when we’re tempted to disobey Jesus, let’s challenge ourselves to ask, “Do I really think Jesus is lying about knowing what is best for me?” This will help us resist temptation and obey Jesus out of trust.

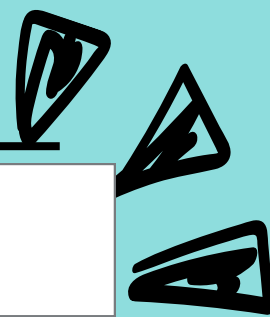
Knowing what kids are up against

Kids today are constantly exposed to the idea of relative truth—the belief that what is true depends on personal feelings, circumstances, or cultural opinions. Whether it’s through social media, school, or conversations with friends, they are often told that everyone can have “their own truth” and that all beliefs and lifestyles are equally valid. This worldview may sound appealing because it promotes “tolerance and acceptance,” but it creates confusion and undermines the idea that there is an absolute standard of right and wrong, truth and falsehood. As Christian parents and teachers, it’s vital to help children recognize and navigate this pervasive ideology.

The concept of relative truth is both incorrect and harmful. Truth, by its nature, cannot be subjective—something cannot be true for one person and false for another. When children embrace relative truth, they lose a firm foundation for making decisions and understanding the world. This mindset can lead to moral chaos, as there is no clear way to distinguish right from wrong. It also fosters insecurity, as kids are left to rely on their feelings or societal trends, which are constantly changing. Worse, it denies the existence of God’s absolute truth, leaving them vulnerable to spiritual deception and the consequences of sin.

Providing children with a biblical worldview offers them clarity, stability, and hope. The Bible teaches that truth is absolute because it comes from God, who is unchanging and perfectly trustworthy. Jesus declared in John 14:6, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” When kids understand that God’s Word is the ultimate standard for truth, they gain a reliable foundation for life. A biblical worldview helps them discern right from wrong, navigate challenges, and resist cultural pressures. Most importantly, it points them to a relationship with Jesus, the source of all truth, enabling them to live with confidence and purpose in a world full of uncertainty.

LESSON 7 AT A GLANCE



I AM the Vine. February 16, 2025

Objective

Explain to the kids that Jesus is our source of life, and we grow spiritually by staying connected to Him.

Big Question

Ask at the beginning of the lesson; answer at the end.

Question: How can I grow spiritually?
Answer: By staying connected to Jesus.

Scriptures

Teach from: John 15:1-11
Lesson Key Verse: John 15:5
Unit Memory Verse: Exodus 3:14

Key Takeaways (3 Keys)

Recite at the beginning, middle, and end of the lesson.

Jesus is our source of life and godliness.
Jesus wants us to grow spiritually.
Because Jesus is the vine, I will stay connected to Him.

HIStory

Our passage in the Gospel of John took place during Jesus' earthly ministry before He was crucified and rose again about 2000 years ago.

Good News

Jesus is everything we need. He said that apart from Him, we can do nothing. We can't change our own hearts or make ourselves godly. We can't give ourselves eternal life or produce the fruits of the Spirit. It has to be Him.

God

Jesus is the source of power that helps us become more like Him. He can say that because He is God and only God can change people from the inside.

Foundation

It's through trusting in God (faith) that we stay connected to Him, and in being connected to Him, we have all we need!

Application

What things might Jesus cut out of our lives to help us spiritually mature? What is our part in that work? [By faith, we say yes to things He tells us to say yes to and no to things He tells us to say no to.]

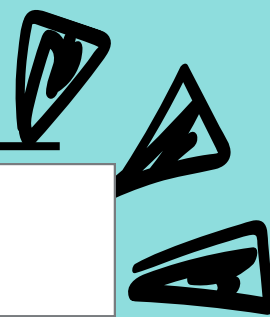
One size doesn't fit all

When helping kids understand what it looks like to “abide in the vine,” be careful to manage the tension of giving them structure and healthy habits without making your preferred methods seem like commands from God.

For instance, you might encourage them as a teacher or command them as a parent to read three chapters of the Bible every morning because that is what someone taught you to do. That's a perfectly okay thing to do, but remember to tell them this is just one of many ways to stay connected to Christ through His Word. We want kids to have disciplined routines, but we also want them to own their sanctification. One child might find reading the Bible at night before bed easier. Others might need to listen to an audio Bible as they follow along on the page, while others may enjoy reading a psalm and a proverb every day for now. Abiding in Christ shouldn't just be a checkbox to them.

The point is that kids often take what we say about Biblical habits as what God says. The problem with that is that the first time they don't read all three chapters or don't read as soon as they wake up, they feel like they've let God down when really, they just did what we all do—imperfectly live out our habits. Let's encourage kids to build healthy habits of abiding in Christ while, at the same time, giving them some ownership of those habits between them and Jesus.

LESSON 8 AT A GLANCE



I AM the Gate. February 23, 2025

Objective

Explain to the kids that Jesus is the gate, the only gate, that we go through to be brought back to God. Like a gate, He also keeps us safe. Nothing can ever separate us from God if we are inside the gate.

Big Question

Ask at the beginning of the lesson; answer at the end.

Question: How can I help others come to God?
Answer: By leading them to Jesus.

Scriptures

Teach from: John 10:1-10
Lesson Key Verse: John 10:9
Unit Memory Verse: Exodus 3:14

Key Takeaways (3 Keys)

Recite at the beginning, middle, and end of the lesson.

We all need to be brought back to God.
Jesus is the gate we must come through.
Because Jesus is the gate, I will lead others to Him.

HIStory

Our passage in the Gospel of John took place during Jesus' earthly ministry before He was crucified and rose again about 2000 years ago.

Good News

Jesus, like a gate, lets us into a relationship with God and keeps us safe. We never have to worry about something separating us from God again if we are inside the gate! Jesus did this through His life, death, and resurrection on our behalf.

God

Jesus is the gate that lets us into a relationship with God. Because He is God, only He can do what we need Him to do to bring us back to the Father.

Foundation

We are eternally secure in Jesus. He is the way to the Father, and He won't let anyone or anything snatch us from His hand. Even in our darkest moments, if we are with Jesus, the gate, He keeps us safe with Him.

Application

We can be part of Jesus' work by sharing the Gospel with people here, going on mission trips to share with people far away, praying for people who don't know Jesus, or inviting them to places where they will hear about Jesus.

Kids can share the Gospel

Knowing that Jesus is the Gate and that there is no other way to be brought back to God but through Him is a tremendous responsibility. Because we know this truth, we are obligated to share it. Kids can do this, too!

There are many simple ways to help kids share the Gospel. Here are a few.

1. Share your personal testimony. A common way to do this is with this formula: “My life before Jesus was...I realized my need for Jesus when...Now that I have trusted Jesus, my life is different in these ways...”
2. Use the six points in the curriculum: **God, man, sin, Christ, response, restoration.**
3. **God** is holy and just. He created **man** in His image to know and reflect Him. But we have all rebelled against Him and deserve punishment because He is holy and just. We are slaves to **sin** and can't get ourselves out of this condition, but because God loves us so much, He sent **Christ**, His Son. He lived the perfect life we can't live so that He could credit that to us and died the sinner's death that we deserve and rose on the third day so we could be forgiven. He commands a **response** from us as a result. That response is to turn to Him and trust in His Son. When we do, He forgives us and makes us new. In fact, one day, He will make all things new. There will be a great **restoration!** Everything that is wrong with the world will be made right and we get to be a part of that if we trust Jesus!
4. Use the 3 circles method. You can find videos for this at namb.net

