

Children's Ministries Lesson – Twos/Toddlers

Jesus Goes to Heaven

Luke 24: 50-53; Acts 1: 1-11

May 3, 2020

Children's Ministries purpose is to build a spiritual foundation in each child that lasts a lifetime.

We hope this lesson provides additional opportunities for your family to strengthen your relationship with each other and with Jesus. This lesson has components of both Children's Church and Sunday School fused together.

As you prepare for this lesson and the space you will use, please gather supplies, create a worship focal point (ideas: A Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container), and remove other distractions from the area. Read through this lesson before beginning. *Wording in BLUE italics is information for the family leader(s). BLACK italics are actions to do.*

With love, from your Children's Ministries Team and Worship Leaders, Ashley Hymel, Thanushka Lewkebandara and Tina Throckmorton.

BIBLE STORY POINT: Jesus is in heaven, right next to God to care for us and love us forever!

SUPPLIES: Worship focal points: Bible, cross, candle (lit or unlit), and offering container; link to worship songs; link to Bible story video; Bible

FAMILY CHANT: *During Sunday School, your children begin with a "class chant". To bring that to your home, create a family chant that you can say each time. Create your own or use this one. The chant helps connect mind with body and connects everyone together.*

Motions/actions are in parentheses.

Let's create our own family "chant" as we begin our time together. Repeat what I say and do.

I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*) I reach up (***reach both hands up to the sky***)

I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*) I reach down (***reach both hands down to their toes***)

I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*) I share a smile to everyone (***smile at each other***)

I see you (*point to each other*) I see you (***point to each other***)

You see me (*point to self*) You see me (***point to self***)

Together we make the [*insert family name*] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)

Together we make the [*insert family name*] family. (***put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle***)

OPENING PRAISE SONGS:

[Click here](#) for the full playlist of St. Luke's Children's Praise Music!

Supplies: Select the links for Praise and worship Music:

["This Little Light"](#) (Tina Throckmorton, Sunday School Music Teacher)



["Deep & Wide"](#) (Tina Throckmorton, Sunday School Music Teacher)



OFFERTORY:

Determine where your offering will go. You may select an organization of your choice, or save it until we return to Sunday School/Children's Church to give to our current mission, or add it to your 75th anniversary piggy bank. The scripture below is the scripture we use each Sunday during our Offertory time.

Let us say this scripture together. "God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.

PRAYER:

Now, let us say this prayer as an “echo” prayer. I will say some words and you repeat them with me.

Dear God, **Dear God,**

Thank you for your son, Jesus. **Thank you for your son, Jesus.**

Help us tell everyone, **Help us tell everyone,**

that Jesus is alive, **that Jesus is alive,**

and He loves us. **and he loves us.**

We love you. **We love you.**

Amen. **Amen**

INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE STORY

Easter is the day we remember that Jesus is alive forever! We can celebrate Jesus each and every day. Today, we are going to watch and listen to a special Bible story and learn what Jesus told his friends right before he went to Heaven to be with God forever.

BIBLE STORY

Bible story video link is [here](#).



Discussion Questions: *(ask some or all of these questions)*

1. Where did Jesus say he was going? *(to heaven)*
2. What is the job Jesus told his friends to do? *(He told them to tell everyone that He is alive!)*
3. Who appeared after Jesus' friends could not see him anymore? *(two messengers (or angels) from God)*
4. What did the messengers tell Jesus' friends? *(one day they would see him again)*
5. Was Jesus still with his friends even though they couldn't see him? *(yes)*

ACTIVITY OPTION #1 – Finger Play

Each family member hold up the number of fingers in the chant. Parents and older siblings can model the hand movements and say the words slowly with younger children.

Five happy children came to church today. (*Wiggle all five fingers.*)
The first child said, "Thank you, God, for Jesus." (*Hold up one finger.*)
The second child said, "I'm so glad it's spring." (*Hold up two fingers.*)
The third child said, "I've a happy song to sing." (*Hold up three fingers.*)
The fourth child said, "Here's a wonderful surprise." (*Hold up four fingers.*)
The fifth child said, "Our friend, Jesus is alive! (*Hold up all five fingers and wiggle them high in the air.*)

ACTIVITY OPTION #2 – Hide and Seek

Let's play a kind of hide and seek! This first time I will be Jesus and hide. You and the family can help look for me. *The rest of the family can try to find Jesus as a group version of hide and seek.*

Take turns being "Jesus" and hiding.

After playing a couple times ask, "Was "Jesus" still here even when we could not see him/her till we found them? (yes) Just like the Jesus in our game, Jesus is also with us all the time, even when we cannot see him!

CLOSING PRAYER:

Adapted from http://www.mybethel.org/aws/BETHEL/asset_manager/get_file/115286?ver=1

Thank you, Jesus,
for being such a special friend.
We know you are always with us.
We love you, always.
Amen.

CLOSING SONG:

Supplies: [Click here](#) for closing song, "We Will Worship" (Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)

Play the closing song.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES – to continue our worship all week! (see below)

NEW!! Cover Art for Senior Adults Birthday and Thinking of You Cards:

Supplies: ½ sheet of paper, markers and/or colored pencils

St. Luke's has a special ministry for senior adults who are age 80 and older. One way we show love to our senior friends is to send them birthday cards. Can you guess how many birthday cards get sent out to this fabulous group of people each month? Each month, we send out around 40 to 50 birthday cards! We also want to send some "thinking of you" cards each month, too.

We would love for your family to create cover art for these birthday cards. We know the senior adults will love getting a birthday card or thinking of you card that was specially created by a St. Luke's child. (Their art work will be sized, copied and turned into a card. We have volunteers who write a personalized message on the inside of each card sent to our beloved friends.)

Directions:

- Give your child a half sheet of paper.
- Ask your child to create a birthday or thinking of you card cover. Encourage them to do their best work and to be creative. They can do a birthday theme (balloons, cake, etc.) or they can draw a fun or joyful scene (beach, picnic, sunrise, hearts, a Bible story.).
- When your child is finished, ask them to write their first name and their age in the corner of their card. Then take a picture or scan it and send it to jellerbrock@stlukesmethodist.org.

Thank you!