

WHO IS JESUS? KIDS EDITION

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON:

Text: John 3:16; Matthew 1:23; Matthew 18:11; Luke 19:10; Isaiah 53:5–6; Acts 4:12

HEARTPRINT: I CAN TRUST JESUS

Target Time: 45 to 50 Minutes

Format: Four distinct teaching segments (5-10 minutes each)

Scripture: King James Version exclusively

TEACHING OVERVIEW

Last week we learned that God is the Great Creator who made everything.

This week, we learn that God didn't stay far away in Heaven.

He loved us so much that He stepped into His own world!

He came as Jesus to be our Rescuer.

Because Jesus is the only One who knows how to save us,

We listen to His voice,

We obey His commands,

We follow Him!

HE IS THE LEADER AND HE KNOWS THE WAY

SEGMENT 1: JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD (5-10 MINUTES)

Theme Statement

"He Made the world and He came to Help the world."

Scripture Focus

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

JESUS CAME TO HELP US - He Did Not Send a Substitute

Not an angel, a prophet, or a good man. The plan was for God Himself to go.

Matthew 1:23 gives Him the name that settles it: *"and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is **God with us.**"*

GOD IS RIGHT HERE WITH US.

- God stepped into this world to help us.
- **THIS WAS "GOD'S ON PURPOSE PLAN"**

OBJECT LESSON – "A MAP TO GUIDE US".

Object: A MAP

The Illustration: The Helper vs. The Guide

- **The Scenario:** Hold up a map or a set of written instructions (or a picture of a friend). Tell the kids: "If I wanted to show you how to find your way through a dark forest, I could give you a map. The map is very important! It tells you exactly where to go and how to stay safe. But does the map hold your hand when you are scared?"
- **The Engagement:** Ask: "If you heard a loud, scary noise in the woods, would a map be enough to make you feel safe? No! You would want someone to be standing right there beside you, holding your hand."
- **The Truth:** "God gave us His Word to show us the way, and we treasure it every day. But when we were lost in the 'dark forest' of sin, God did something even more wonderful than giving us a map. He came Himself! He didn't just send instructions; He stepped into His creation to walk with us. That is why we call Him *Immanuel*—**God with us.**"

SEGMENT 2: GOD IS LOOKING FOR US (5-10 MINUTES)

Scripture Focus

Matthew 18:11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

First, He came to **seek**. That means He comes searching because He wants to find something very valuable . . .

Second, He came to **save**. That means that the ones who are lost need to be rescued.

WHEN JESUS CAME LOOKING

- **He healed the sick.** Sickness did not frighten Him away.
- **He fed the hungry.** He cared about the body as well as the soul.
- **He preached about a place called Heaven** He wants us to go there.
- **He taught love, forgiveness, and humility.** He wants us to be kind.
- **He was not afraid to help us.** He helps us because He loves us.

HE DID ALL OF THAT BECAUSE WE ARE SPECIAL AND HE LOVES US

OBJECT LESSON – "THE LOST TOY"

- **Goal:** To explain *seeking* and *saving*.
- **Object:** A favorite toy or a stuffed animal.

The Illustration:

- Before class, hide the toy somewhere in the room (not too hard).
- Act a little worried: *"Oh no! My favorite toy is gone! I can't just sit here and hope it finds me. I have to get up and GO LOOK for it!"*
- Walk around the room looking under chairs and behind the teacher's desk. When you find it, hold it up and hug it.
- **The Truth:** *"Just like I had to get up and look for my toy, Jesus came from Heaven to look for us. We were 'lost' like this toy, and Jesus is the great Rescuer who came all the way down here to find us and bring us back to God."*

SEGMENT 3: HELP! (5-10 MINUTES)

Scripture Focus

Isaiah 53:5 But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

The Illustration: A Rescue in Progress

Have the class imagine a rescue operation. A building is burning, a ship is sinking, and a man is pinned under rubble

(PERHAPS A STUDENT TRAPPED UNDER A CHAIR AND PRETEND).

A trained RESCUER arrives on the scene.

What does the RESCUER say to the one being rescued?

"I am here to help you BUT you must listen to me. You must do everything I tell you. If you do, we will get out of here alive."

Now ask the class two questions:

1. **Why would the rescuer say Listen to me?** Because he knows how to help us. He knows what to do, where the floor will collapse, and which exit is still open. The one trapped does not know any of that.
2. **Does the rescuer have the right to make such demands?** Yes. He has the knowledge, he has the authority, and he is risking his own life to do it.

That is exactly what Jesus is doing.

He knows how to rescue us.

He knows how to save us from dying lost in our sin.

He knows how to get us to Heaven.

WE MUST LISTEN TO HIM!

SEGMENT 4: JESUS IS THE ONE WHO RESCUES (5-10 MINUTES)

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

The Rescuer Is the Leader – JESUS IS THE LEADER

Return to the rescue illustration one final time.

- Listen to His voice.
- Obey His commands.
- Do what He asks.
- It is for your own good.
- Listen, obey, and live.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

— John 3:16

FINAL WRAP-UP & THE HEARTPRINT

Goal: Making it personal.

- **Heartprint:** *I can trust Jesus.*

Activity: Have the children draw a heart on a piece of paper. Inside the heart, have them draw a small stick figure of themselves.

- Tell them: *"Every time you feel like doing something wrong, remember: God wrote His law in your heart to keep you safe."*
- *When you listen to Jesus, you are trusting the only Rescuer who can get you out of trouble and all the way to Heaven."*

TEACHER'S NOTE FOR THE PRAYER:

Make sure to emphasize the **"Lordship"** aspect of your prayer.

I want you to know that Jesus is my Leader – Yes – Jesus is my LORD.

Help the children pray: "Thank you for being the Leader, my King, and my Rescuer. Help me to follow You today." THANK YOU, LORD JESUS. AMEN!

This reinforces that Jesus isn't just a "friend" who gives us nice things, but the **Lord** who leads the way!