



# Jesus and His Father's House

**Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to be in His house.**

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The King Who Is with Us

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Luke 2:41-52

**What He Has Done:** God came to earth and grew up as a boy of faith.

## THE WAY

**Bible Memory Verse:** "Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

Unit 1: The King Who Is With Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	Jesus and His Father's House, Luke 2:41-52	God came to earth and grew up as a boy of faith.	To know God wants us to be in His house.
2	Jesus Is Baptized, Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him.	To know God loves us.
3	Jesus Is Tempted, Matthew 4:1-11	Jesus did what was right.	To know Jesus wants us to do what is right.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples, Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls each of us.
5	Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15-17	Jesus cleared the temple.	To know God's house is holy.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-8	Jesus' face shone like the sun and God said to listen to Him.	To know God wants us to listen to Him.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Ephesians 4:11-16. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, God, for the children You will bring to us this year. Build our relationships with them as we study Your relationships on earth. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

The focus of this unit is "The King Who Is with Us." Young children like to know Jesus is always with them. Talk about how much Jesus loves us and how we can come close to Him by spending time with Him in prayer, in worship, and in learning about Him.



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a church building (or house)
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> God's House	Coloring pages of young Jesus at the temple, crayons or markers
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Growing Up	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Block and Car Center:</b> Going to Church	Blocks, cars
	<b>Dramatic Play Center:</b> Children, Obey Your Parents	Dishes, pots and pans, play food	
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Jesus Loves Me" "Jesus Loves the Little Children"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Children, Obey Your Parents" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Blessed Are Those" "Do You Love Me?" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" "We Love"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
	<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 1	
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Luke 2:41-52	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 2:46 Visual: Picture of the Bible story
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> I'm at Church	Standard-size sturdy white and yellow paper, glue, crayons or markers, optional: cloth and yarn
		<b>Game:</b> Here Is the Church	None
		<b>Game:</b> At Church I Like To...	Soft ball for rolling
	<b>Snack:</b> Eat and Grow	A healthy snack such as celery, carrots, or fruit slices	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 1, Lesson 1
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Luke 2:41-52	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Jump to Obey	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Mother, May I?	None
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about growing up

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the King who is with us

## **THE WELCOME**

### **WELCOME**

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a church. **Let this stamp (or sticker) remind you that Jesus went to God's house as He was growing up.**

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**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

### **COLORING CENTER: GOD'S HOUSE**

#### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of young Jesus at the temple, crayons or markers

#### **DO**

Children color while talking about what they like to do in God's house.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**I'm so glad you came to church today. Whose house is the church? (God's.) We call it God's house because we come here to learn about and worship Him. What do you like to do in God's house? (Sing, pray, read Bible stories, play, etc.)**

### **PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: GROWING UP**

#### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

#### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while talking about growing up. Encourage children to make healthy foods with the play-dough.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**This week, we will hear a story about Jesus when He was 12-years-old. Jesus was growing up. What can you do to grow up strong and tall? (Eat good food, get rest, play or exercise, etc.) Can you use the play-dough to make some pretend foods that would help you grow strong and tall?** Help children create pretend foods with the play-dough. Talk with them about what foods are healthy to eat and will help them grow strong and tall.

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **BLOCK AND CAR CENTER: GOING TO CHURCH**

### **SUPPLIES**

Blocks, cars

### **DO**

Children build a church to learn about God.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**How did you get to church this morning?** (Children respond.) **It is good that we can come to God's house to talk about God and to worship Him. Let's build a church with the blocks. Then, everyone can come and learn about God.**

## **DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS**

### **SUPPLIES**

Dishes, pots and pans, play food

### **DO**

Children pretend to help their parents prepare a meal.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**We have a new Bible Memory Verse today. It is "Children, obey your parents." What are some things your Mom or your Dad or the people who care for you ask you to do?** (Children respond.) **Let's pretend we are helping our family by making dinner.**

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

<b>"Children</b>	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
<b>obey</b>	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
<b>your parents."</b>	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
<b>Ephesians 6:1</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the King who is with us

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus the King who is with us. We can pray and talk with Him together here in God's house, the church. Let's do that now.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, we come to church to learn about You and to praise You. Thank You for always being with us. Amen.**



**Let's praise God for loving us.** Sing: "We Love."

**Jesus loves everyone, from the littlest child to the oldest person. When we give our offering, we are helping the church show people Jesus loves them. Let's give our offering now.** Sing: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" while collecting the offering.



**Today, we will hear a story about when Jesus was twelve years old. Let's find out what our friends Delbert and Lello know about our story.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 1.



**Part of growing up is learning to obey your parents and the people who care for you. That sounds like our new Bible Memory Verse Song. Let's try our new song now.** Sing: "Children, Obey Your Parents."



**Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse with the motions.**

<b>"Children</b>	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
<b>obey</b>	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
<b>your parents."</b>	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
<b>Ephesians 6:1</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Jesus goes to God's house

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 2:46, picture of the Bible story

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

**What do we call the building we're in right now?** (Church.) **We come to church to worship and learn about God. Let's learn a rhyme about the church.** Guide the children in the following motions.

1. Fold hands together, as in prayer, with fingers crossing each other. Turn fingers so they are hidden between the hands, still interlocked.
2. Hold thumbs so thumb tips are touching. Say together: **"Here is the church."**
3. Point index fingers straight up and touch at the fingertips. Say together: **"Here is the steeple."**
4. Leaving the fingers interlocked, flip hands over and wiggle the interlocked fingers. Say together: **"Open the doors and see all the people."**
5. **Who is inside the church?** (The people.) **We are the people inside the church!**

**Today, we will hear about Jesus when He was just a child like you! In our story, Jesus goes to God's house. We call God's house "the church."** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 2:46.



### WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 2:41-52

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Jesus was born and He began to grow**
- **'Til one day when He was twelve years old,**
- **He traveled with His parents to Jerusalem.**
- **But on the trip home they could not find Him.**
  
- **His mother and father looked high and low.**
- **They asked, "Where did Jesus go?"**
- **They found Him after a three-day search**
- **Talking with the teachers about God's Word.**
  
- **"Where've you been?" His mother frowned.**
- **Jesus said, "Right here in My Father's house."**
- **And Jesus grew both wise and tall.**
- **He was loved by God and liked by all.**

**What was Jesus doing in God's house?** (Talking with teachers about God's Word.) **What are you doing in God's house right now?** (Learning about God.)



We can go to God's house

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: I'M AT CHURCH**

**Purpose:** To create a picture of themselves in their Father's house, just as Jesus was.

**Supplies:** Standard-size sturdy white and yellow paper, glue, crayons or markers, optional: cloth and yarn

**Prepare:** Draw or copy a simple outline of a child and an adult in a church or classroom setting on white paper. Cut a 2-inch x 4-inch cross from sturdy yellow paper.

#### **Directions:**

1. Each child receives a paper with the outline of a child and an adult in a classroom setting.
2. **Color the adult as your teacher.**
3. **Color the child as yourself.**
4. **Place the cross on the church (or in the room), to show it is God's house.**
5. Optional: Add pieces of cloth for clothing and yarn for hair.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **When Jesus grew older, He wanted to be in God's house. His parents found Him sitting with His teachers at God's house. What did Jesus do there?** (He listened and asked questions, and gave answers.)
- **Where do we gather to sing and pray and learn about God?** (Church.) **What is another name for a church building?** (God's house or our heavenly Father's house.)
- **Who do you learn about when you listen to your teacher in church?** (God.)

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: HERE IS THE CHURCH**

**Purpose:** This simple, traditional child's hand game helps children begin to understand they are a part of a church community.

**Supplies:** None

Repeat the finger play from THE WORD. **We call God's house, the church. If you go to church, raise your hand. Let's review the rhyme we learned about the church.**

### **Directions:**

1. Fold hands together, as in prayer, with fingers crossing each other. Turn fingers so they are hidden between the hands, still interlocked.
2. Hold thumbs so thumb tips are touching. Say together: **"Here is the church."**
3. Point index fingers straight up and touch at the fingertips. Say together: **"Here is the steeple."**
4. Leaving the fingers interlocked, flip hands over and wiggle the interlocked fingers. Say together: **"Open the doors and see all the people."**
5. **Who is inside the church? (The people.) We are the people inside the church!**

## **GAME: AT CHURCH I LIKE TO...**

**Purpose:** Children will share reasons they like to attend church.

**Supplies:** Soft ball for rolling

**Jesus sat and listened to the teachers. He called the temple His Father's house. Jesus' Father in heaven is God. Our Father in heaven is God, too! We call our church building our heavenly Father's house. When the ball rolls to you, tell us your favorite thing to do at church, your heavenly Father's house.**

### **Directions:**

1. Seat children on the floor in a circle.
2. Teacher rolls the ball to a child.
3. All children chant: **"Child's name, what do you like to do at church?"**
4. Child answers and rolls the ball to another child.
5. Continue playing until everyone has a turn.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: EAT AND GROW**

**Purpose:** Children will enjoy a healthy snack while they discuss growing taller and wiser.

**Snack Suggestion:** A healthy snack such as celery, carrots, or fruit slices

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Today, we are eating a healthy snack to help us grow. The Bible says Jesus grew taller. Do you think you have grown taller?** (Children respond.) **What is your favorite food that helps you grow taller?** (Children respond.)
  - **The Bible says Jesus grew wiser. That means He made good choices. One wise choice Jesus made was to obey His parents. We can make that wise choice, too.**
  - **Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together: "Children, obey your parents," Ephesians 6:1.** Invite each child to say the verse with you.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"Children</b>	With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
<b>obey</b>	Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
<b>your parents."</b>	The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
<b>Ephesians 6:1</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### SAY & DO: LUKE 2:41-52

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus was born and He began to grow,** (Stretch arms wide.)
- **'Til one day when He was twelve years old** (Stand tall like a 12 year-old.)
- **He traveled with His parents to Jerusalem.** (Walk in place.)
- **But on the trip home they could not find Him.** (Searching pose.)
  
- **His mother and father looked high and low.** (Look up and down.)
- **They asked, "Where did Jesus go?"** (Palms up, shrugging shoulders.)
- **They found Him after a three-day search,** (Show 3 fingers.)
- **Talking with the teachers about God's Word.** (Open and read imaginary book.)
  
- **"Where've you been?" His mother frowned.** (Fold arms; make a frown.)
- **Jesus said, "Right here in My Father's house."** (Point to floor.)
- **And Jesus grew both wise and tall.** (Reach high.)
- **He was loved by God and liked by all.** (Hug self.)



### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Children, obey your parents." Ephesians 6:1

### GAME: JUMP TO OBEY

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**Jesus obeyed His parents. He wants us to obey our parents and the people who care for us. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. Let's learn it together.**

**Directions:**

1. Children stand in a line, shoulder-to-shoulder.
2. Teacher says the Bible Memory Verse, "**Children, obey your parents,**" pausing after each word for children to repeat.
3. Each time they say a word, they jump forward one time.
4. Repeat with other motions as time allows: Clap, stomp, turn around, touch the floor, etc.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: MOTHER, MAY I?**

**Purpose:** Children practice obeying their parents as instructed in the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**One way we can make God happy is by obeying our Moms and Dads and the people who care for us. Let's play a game where we practice obeying! In this game, you must remember to ask: "Mother (or Father), may I?" before you follow the instructions.**

### **Directions:**

1. Children line up ten feet from the teacher who acts as "Mother" or "Father."
2. "Mother" or "Father" gives a simple instruction to a specific child. For example: "Michael, take one big step forward." (Instruction examples: Jump up and down, laugh out loud, flap your arms, run in place, sit on the floor, spin in a circle, etc.)
3. Child asks: "Mother (or Father), may I?"
4. Mother (or Father) says, "Yes, you may." The child follows the instruction. If they forget, gently remind them to ask.
5. Be sure each child has a turn following instructions.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about gathering at God's house.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 1, Lesson 1: Jesus and His Father's House

**PONDER!** When Jesus was growing up, He went to church (Luke 2:41-52). The church is God's house. What is your favorite thing about going to God's house?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for showing us how to grow and learn at church. Help us to listen, ask questions, and learn more about You. Amen."

**PLAY!** Create a church building shape by interlocking your ten fingers with fingertips next to the palms of your hands. Raise and connect tips of index fingers to form a steeple. Say, "Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the doors and see all the people!" Now wiggle all of your "finger people" inside your church building!

### **UNIT 1 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

- "Children** With your right hand, pat the imaginary head of one child and then another child to the right of the first child.
- obey** Place fists at forehead. Open them as you move outward, staying level with forehead.
- your parents."** The thumb of the open right hand taps the forehead (father), then the chin (mother).
- Ephesians 6:1** Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.