



Jesus and His Father's House

Lesson Aim: To inspire children to want to be in God's 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

Whisper Verse: "Jesus grew."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE (Challenge Verse for older children)

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

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 inspire children to want to be in God's house.
2	Jesus Is Baptized—Part 1 Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To see that God the Father loves Jesus and God loves each of us.
3	Jesus Is Baptized—Part 2 Mark 1:1-11	God told Jesus He loved Him and was pleased with Him.	To show God is pleased when we do what is right.
4	Jesus Calls His Disciples—Part 1 Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know Jesus calls each of us to follow Him.
5	Jesus Calls His Disciples—Part 2 Luke 5:1-11	Jesus called regular people to follow Him.	To know one way we follow Jesus is to pray.
6	Jesus Is Transfigured, Matthew 17:1-8	Jesus changed His appearance 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 for the children You will bring to us this year. Build our relationships with them as we study Your relationships on earth. Amen."

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THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Picture Schedule Cards	Cards with picture illustrating the activities: WELCOME, WORSHIP, BIBLE, CRAFT, PRAYER, SNACK, GAMES, COLORING, GOING HOME. Envelope labeled FINISHED. Optional: To display schedule, use Velcro to attach laminated Picture Schedule cards to a felt board.
		Treasure Chest	Stamp or sticker of a church building (or house)
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Jesus grew."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Songs: "Children, Obey Your Parents" or (Challenge) "The Word Became Flesh" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Blessed Are Those," "Give Thanks to the Lord," "I Can Do Everything," "It's Praise Time!" "Let Everything That Has Breath," "Sing Praises" Additional Song Suggestions: "I Love You, Lord"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Kings & Kingdoms Lesson 1 Delbert & Lello or Kingdom Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Luke 2:41-52	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Luke 2:46 Visual: Measuring tape Flannel board and figures: Young Jesus, teachers, Mary, Joseph, temple Clay/play-dough: House
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: I'm at Church	Standard-size sturdy white and yellow paper, glue, crayons or markers, optional: cloth and yarn
		Circle of Prayer or Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer word and picture book
		Snack: Eat and Grow	A healthy snack such as celery, carrots, or fruit slices
		Unit 1 Games: Sand Search	Bin or container of clean sand, toy house, toy dove (or bird), toy fish and boat or net, cotton ball
		Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down?	None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets
		Musical Chairs	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Children, Obey Your Parents" or "The Word Became Flesh," CD player, chair for each child
		"God Loves You" Ball Roll	Soft, textured ball
		Follow the Leader	None
		Scenes from Kingdom Adventures	The Kingdom Adventures scripts for Lessons 1, 2, 4, and 6
	Act it Out	Bible times clothing or stick puppets of Mary, Joseph, 12-year-old Jesus, adult Jesus, John the Baptist, dove, disciples, cloud	
Final 5	Final Five	Daily Way (Adaptation): Unit 1, Lesson 1 Color This Story: "Young Jesus at the Temple"	

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus grew

THE WELCOME

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WELCOME TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! Come and see what we are going to do today. Point to each card on the Picture Schedule board. **Today, we will WELCOME everyone. We will read the BIBLE story and make a CRAFT. We will have PRAYER time and eat a SNACK. We will play GAMES and enjoy COLORING a picture about today's story.**

Open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure. Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a church building or house. **Let this stamp (or sticker) remind you that Jesus went to God's house as He was growing up. Today's Whisper Verse is "Jesus grew."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Jesus grew."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with two hand motions:

"Jesus" The middle finger of one hand touches the middle of the palm of the other hand, then the same is repeated using the middle finger of the other hand. This action indicates the wounds in Jesus' hands after He was nailed to the cross.

"grew." Both hands move upward to show that someone is getting taller.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Jesus grew," Luke 2:52a. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as the King who is with us

THE WORSHIP

PICTURE SCHEDULE: WORSHIP TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WELCOME picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Welcome Time. Now, we will have our Worship Time.**

Children may worship in a large group setting with other classes or in a quiet room with a worship CD or DVD.

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, play "It's Praise Time!" as children move to a designated place for praise songs, offering, and the worship illustration. Children who are nonverbal may enjoy participating in the music by playing children's percussion instruments such as maracas, jingle bells, wood blocks, or small tambourines. Children who are sensitive to sound may prefer to wear noise reduction headphones.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the King who is with us. He came to be with us when He was born in a manger. Then Jesus grew to be a big, strong boy. That's our Whisper Verse for today. Review Whisper Verse together: "Jesus grew." Include sign language.



We praise King Jesus together in God's house. Any building where we gather to praise God, give our offering, sing and pray to Him is God's house. We also call it our Father's house because God is our heavenly father. Each church building is called God's house. Let's start by giving our church offering now. Sing: "Give Thanks to the Lord" while collecting the offering.

Growing up, Jesus loved to be in God's house. He called it His Father's house because Jesus' Father is God in heaven. Do you like to come here to God's house like Jesus did? (Children respond.) **I do, too! I love to sing praises with you! Let's sing!** Sing: "Sing Praises" and "Let Everything That Has Breath."



In God's house, we see our friends who love King Jesus. Let's see how our friends Delbert and Lello* are doing today. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 1, Lesson 1.*



Jesus was a good boy who obeyed His parents. That sounds like our new Bible Memory Verse Song. Let's try our new song now. Sing: "Children, Obey Your Parents."

* May substitute Lesson 1 Kingdom Adventures script or storybook.



Jesus goes to God's house

THE WORD

PICTURE SCHEDULE: BIBLE TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the WORSHIP picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Worship Time. Now, we will have our Bible Time.**

Last time, we learned how God sent a star to the wise men. The wise men followed the star to find baby Jesus. Today, we'll hear about when Jesus was a growing boy and He went 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 points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a measuring tape, to symbolize how we grow bigger. Have children assist by placing Bible Story figures on a flannel board. Other visual options include Color This Story or a related picture. Optional: To help children focus, have them create a house from clay or play-dough as they listen.

- **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 did Jesus do after He was born in a manger? (He grew.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Jesus grew." Include sign language or hand motions.



The temple was called God's house because people came there to praise God, give their offering and pray to Him. They also came there to learn about God. What did Jesus do when He was at the temple? (He listened and asked questions.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Luke 2:46 from the teacher's Bible. **Jesus was listening at God's house, just as you are listening in God's house right now!**



We can go to God's house

THE WAY

PICTURE SCHEDULE: CRAFT TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the BIBLE picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Bible Time. Now, it is Craft Time.**

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.

Teacher Tip: If a child needs assistance, try the hand over hand technique by placing your hand over the child's hand to guide his or her movements. Always encourage artistic self-expression whenever possible.

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 wherever you choose, 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 at 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...*



CIRCLE OF PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PICTURE SCHEDULE: PRAYER TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the CRAFT picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Craft Time. Now, it is Prayer Time.**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (say every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen. You may add the Lord's Prayer with the word picture book.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: SNACK TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the PRAYER picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Prayer Time. Now, it is Snack Time.**

Teacher Tip: It is important to keep a record of all dietary restrictions and allergies accessible. Some parents may prefer to bring their child's snack. Depending on the dietary needs of your classroom, you may determine it is best to omit snack time completely.

SNACK: EAT AND GROW

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

Snack: 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.
 - **Who remembers today's Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "Jesus grew."
 - **Today, we are eating a healthy snack to help us grow. The Bible says Jesus grew taller. Do you think that you have grown taller?** (Children respond.) **What is your favorite food that helps you grow taller?**
 - **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 in the Lord, for this is right."** Invite each child to say the verse with you.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

UNIT 1 GAME OPTIONS

Play one or more of the activities below until the last five minutes of class then proceed to Final Five.

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GAMES TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the SNACK picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Snack Time. Now is our time to play Games.**

GAME: SAND SEARCH

Purpose: This sand sifting activity soothes children. The items in the bin can be used to introduce the Bible stories or the Unit 1 Worship Attribute: The King Who Is with Us.

Supplies: Bin or container of clean sand, toy house, toy dove (or bird), toy fish and boat or net, cotton ball

Directions:

1. Children take turns reaching into the sand in search of the objects.
2. Teacher and children discuss each object as it is located.
3. When all the objects have been located, display them on a tabletop or on the surface of the sand.
4. Children feel each item as the teacher explains their connection to the Unit 1 Bible stories. **The house reminds us that Jesus spent time in God's house when he was a boy. The dove reminds us of the dove that came down from heaven when Jesus was baptized. The fish and boat (or net) remind us that Jesus called fishermen to follow Him. The cotton ball reminds us that a bright cloud came around Jesus when He was on the mountaintop.**

GAME: THUMBS UP OR THUMBS DOWN?

Purpose: This nonverbal true-false game helps children master the Bible story or the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets

Directions:

1. Teacher or puppet retells today's Bible story or Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each phrase to say, "Thumbs up or thumbs down?"
 - If retelling the Bible study, read it in phrases. For some phrases, state accurate descriptions. For other phrases, replace the truth with silly facts. For example, say, "**Jesus grew both wise and short. Thumbs up or thumbs down? Thumbs up or thumbs down?**" Children respond with thumbs down. "**Jesus grew both wise and tall. Thumbs up or thumbs down?**" Children respond with thumbs up.
 - If reviewing the Bible Memory Verse, read it in phrases. For some phrases, read it correctly. For other phrases, replace a word with a word that makes no sense. For example, say, "**Children, obey your friends, for this is right. Thumbs up or thumbs down?**" Children respond with thumbs down. "**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Thumbs up or thumbs down?**" Children respond with thumbs up.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This version of Musical Chairs familiarizes children with the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Children, Obey Your Parents" or "The Word Became Flesh," CD player, chair for each child

Prepare: Set chairs back-to-back in a row.

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed; all the children remain in the game. Leave one or more spaces at the end of the row of chairs for any children in wheelchairs. Encourage quick listening and affirm those who are the first to hear the music stop and are seated.

To practice our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's play Musical Chairs.

Directions:

1. As the Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children march around the row of chairs and sing.
2. The teacher stops the music at different times during the song.
3. When the music stops, children find the nearest chair and sit immediately.

GAME: "GOD LOVES YOU" BALL ROLL

Purpose: This game reminds the children that they are each loved by God.

Supplies: Soft, textured ball

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Teacher rolls the ball to a child and says,
"Child's name, child's name, **God loves you.**
Roll it to a friend to show God loves them, too!"
3. Teacher assists child in choosing another child and rolling the ball to that child.
4. Repeat chant to each child as he or she receives the ball.
5. Be sure each child has a turn receiving and rolling the ball.

GAME: FOLLOW THE LEADER

Purpose: Children remember Jesus words, "Come, follow Me," by following a leader around the room.

Supplies: None

Jesus said, "Come, follow Me." Let's practice following in this game of "Follow the Leader."

Directions:

1. One child marches around the room as the leader.
2. Remaining children form a line to "follow the leader" wherever he or she goes.
3. Be sure each child has a turn as the leader.

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

GAME: SCENES FROM KINGDOM ADVENTURES

Purpose: To learn applications of the Unit 1 Bible stories, older children act out the Kingdom Adventures scripts.

Supplies: The Kingdom Adventures scripts for Lessons 1, 2, 4, and 6

Directions:

1. Choose the script that corresponds with today's Bible story.
2. Assign each child a character name and improvise so all the children can be their favorite character, a new character, or just take turns being the same character.
3. Act it out!

GAME: ACT IT OUT

Purpose: To help children learn Unit 1 stories, children act out the stories in costumes or with stick puppets.

Supplies: Bible times clothing or pictures of the following characters attached to craft sticks: Mary, Joseph, 12-year-old Jesus, adult Jesus, John the Baptist, dove, disciples, cloud

Directions: With each phrase, teacher says phrase and acts it out with hand motions, then repeats same phrase and motions with children, or children wear costumes and act it out, or children hold craft sticks with characters. You may choose one or more stories.

JESUS AND HIS FATHER'S HOUSE

- **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.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*

Act It Out continued

JESUS IS BAPTIZED

- **At the Jordan River,** (Move hand like a wave.)
- **John baptized everyone.** (Hold nose and dip, as if going underwater.)
- **He preached about forgiveness.** (Hug self.)
- **He said the Lord would come.** (Point to heaven.)

- **He told them all to stop their sin** (Shake finger, as if scolding.)
- **And get ready for the Lord.** (Point to heaven.)
- **Then John baptized Jesus,** (Hold nose and dip, as if going underwater.)
- **And saw heaven's open door.** (Raise both hands to heaven.)

- **And then the Holy Spirit** (Fold hand in prayer.)
- **Came down on Jesus like a dove.** (Flap arms like a bird.)
- **God said, "With You I'm very pleased.** (Smile.)
- **You're My Son, Whom I love."** (Hug self.)

JESUS CALLS HIS DISCIPLES

- **Jesus sent some men to fish after they'd caught none all day.** (Show empty hands.)
- **Because Jesus said so, Simon Peter did obey.** (Salute to signal "Yes, sir!")
- **At once fished filled their nets until they began to break.** (Pretend to hold net filled with fish.)
- **Friends helped Simon Peter and both boats began to sink.** (Bend knees, as if sinking.)

- **Jesus told Simon Peter, "Do not be afraid.** (Point finger as if teaching.)
- **I'll make you fishers of men. Come, follow Me today."** (Point finger out and move toward self.)
- **They brought their boats and nets and fish to shore.** (Pretend to carry heavy net.)
- **They left all their things to follow Jesus forevermore!** (Walk in place.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS) *continued...*



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

PICTURE SCHEDULE: COLORING TIME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the GAMES picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Game Time. Now is our time for coloring the picture of today's story.**

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "I'm at Church" picture. Tell someone how Jesus went to listen to the teachers in God's house when He was growing up.

DAILY WAY (ADAPTATION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES): Distribute this version of the Daily Way, if available. **Show the Daily Way to your family. Talk about your favorite thing about coming to church.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Young Jesus at the Temple." Discuss Bible Story and play the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Children, Obey Your Parents" or "The Word Became Flesh" as children color.

As coloring is completed or parents arrive:

PICTURE SCHEDULE: GOING HOME

WELCOME > WORSHIP > BIBLE > CRAFT > PRAYER > SNACK > GAMES > COLORING > GOING HOME

Choose a child to remove the COLORING picture card and place it in the FINISHED envelope. **We have finished our Coloring Time. Now, it is time for Going Home.**

THE DAILY WAY

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

PONDER! Read Luke 2:41-52 with your family. When Jesus was growing up, He went to the temple. He called it His Father's house. We, too, can call our church building "our Father's house," because the church belongs to our heavenly Father. Discuss your favorite thing about going to church.

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 when we are at church. 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, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

Unit 1 Bible Memory Challenge Verse:

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14