



# Jesus in the Garden

Lesson Aim: To know God wants us to watch and pray.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The King Who Loves

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Matthew 26:36-41

**What He Has Done:** Jesus prayed in the garden.

## THE WAY

**Bible Memory Verse:** "We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Unit 3: The King Who Loves			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
12	Jesus Is Anointed, John 12:1-3	Jesus approved of Mary's gift.	To give our treasure to Jesus.
13	The Triumphal Entry, Mark 11:1-10	Jesus rode into Jerusalem as King.	To praise Jesus as the King who came to save us.
14	Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet, John 13:1, 4-7, 12-17	Jesus washes His followers' feet.	To see Jesus' example of loving through serving.
15	Jesus and the Last Supper, Luke 22:14, 19-20	Jesus gave His followers a way to remember Him.	To know Jesus used His Last Supper to help us remember Him.
16	Jesus in the Garden, Matthew 26:36-41	Jesus prayed in the garden.	To know God wants us to watch and pray.
17	The Cross: Peter Denies Jesus, Luke 22:54-62	Jesus is denied by Peter.	To know we can tell others we know Jesus.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Ephesians 6:18-20. Please join us in praying, "Thank You for submitting to Your Father's will to save us. Go before us this week, filling each classroom with Your Spirit that You might be pleased with our prayers and that the students might somehow grasp the power of prayer. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

Talk with the children about what prayer is and why it is important. When we pray, we are talking to God. Praying helps us grow closer to God. We can encourage the children to pray by taking time in class to ask children to pray. At snack time, ask each child to give a sentence prayer, such as, "I thank God for \_\_\_\_." or "Dear God, please help \_\_\_\_." Keep it simple and let them know God always hears their prayers.



# THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of praying hands
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Jesus in the Garden	Coloring pages of Jesus in the garden, cotton balls, bright-colored non-toxic paint
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Praise Prayers	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Block and Car Center:</b> Are You Sleeping?	Blocks and cars
	<b>Dramatic Play Center:</b> Supper Prayer	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"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "We Love" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Give Thanks to the Lord" "How Wide?" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
	<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 3, Lesson 16	
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Matthew 26:36-41	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 26:36 Visual: Picture of the Bible story, phone (can be a home, cell, or toy phone)
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Watch and Pray Flower	Sturdy green paper, small paper plate or sturdy white paper, large craft stick, tape or glue, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> Prayer Walk	Pictures of various places we can pray (i.e. home, church, playground, backyard, grandparents' house, daycare, school)
		<b>Game:</b> Prayer Postures	None
	<b>Snack:</b> Garden Goodies	Food grown in a garden (e.g. carrots, tomatoes, etc.)	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 3, Lesson 16
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Matthew 26:36-41	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Pass the Love of Jesus	Large heart-shaped item, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love"
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Hugs of Love	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love"
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about praying

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

THE WORSHIP, THE WORD & THE WAY ~ © 2011. Northland, A Church Distributed, Inc. ~ ResourceWell.org

Kings & Kingdoms Unit 3, Lesson 16 ~ Ages 2-3

Page 2 of 11



Jesus as the King who loves

# 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 praying hands. **Today, we will hear how Jesus prayed in the garden. He told His friends there to watch and pray.**

---

---

**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: JESUS IN THE GARDEN

### **SUPPLIES**

Jesus in the Garden coloring pages, cotton balls, bright-colored non-toxic paint

### **DO**

Give children a small amount of paint on a paper plate. Allow children to add flowers to their coloring pages by dabbing paint on with cotton balls.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**When we pray, who are we talking to? (God.) God loves when we talk with Him. Today, we will hear how Jesus spent time praying in a garden. Where are some of the places you pray?**  
(Children respond.)

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: PRAISE PRAYERS

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while talking about prayer. Encourage children to make things they praise God for with the play-dough.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Today, we are going to talk about prayer. Who do we pray to? (God.) When we pray, we are talking to God. What do you like to talk to God about? (Children respond.) One thing we can do when we are talking to God is to praise Him. We can praise Him for who He is and all He has done. Let's think of some things we can praise God for.** Allow children to lead sentence prayers: **"God, I praise You for \_\_\_\_\_."** Children might praise God for a person, something God has made, or something good that has happened to them.

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **BLOCK AND CAR CENTER: ARE YOU SLEEPING?**

### **SUPPLIES**

Blocks and cars

### **DO**

Children talk about the Bible story while they play with the blocks and cars.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**In our Bible story today, Jesus asked some friends to stay with Him while He talked to God. It was late at night and Jesus' friends were tired. Do you know what happened? They fell asleep! Have you ever fallen asleep when you didn't want to? (Children respond.) What do you think Jesus' friends could have done to stay awake? (Children respond.)**

## **DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: SUPPER PRAYER**

### **SUPPLIES**

Dishes, pots and pans, play food

### **DO**

Children prepare and serve a meal for each other or do other tasks to help each other.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**God loves when we talk with Him. We can tell Him how much we love Him. We can thank Him for all the wonderful things He's given us. We can ask Him to help us when we are scared or lonely. We can talk to God about anything at any time. One time we can talk to God is at meals. Do you have a special prayer you say before you eat? (Children respond.) Can we say our Snack Time prayer together?**

### **Blessing Song**

(Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.)

**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.  
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**

---

---

## **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))

**"We love because  
He first  
loved  
us."  
1 John 4:19**

(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
(He) Point to the sky.  
Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.  
The index finger moves from one shoulder to the other.  
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 loves

# 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 King Jesus who loves us. Jesus loves to hear us pray. Let's do that right now.** Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us. Help us to remember to take time each day to pray and talk with You. Amen.**



Sing: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God."

**We can watch and pray anywhere we go. We can watch for things to pray about and people to pray for. We can pray for others to grow closer to God and to love one another.** Sing: "Love One Another" while collecting the offering.



**We love Delbert and Lello. Let's find out what our favorite donkey and lamb are doing today.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 3, Lesson 16.



**Jesus loves to hear us pray and He loves to hear us share His words from the Bible. Let's share our Bible Memory Verse with each other.** Practice the verse with the motions.

<b>"We love because</b>	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>He first</b>	(He) Point to the sky.
<b>loved</b>	Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>us."</b>	The index finger moves from one shoulder to the next.
<b>1 John 4:19</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**No matter where we are or what we are doing, we can always talk to God. In our prayers, we can tell Him we love Him and we can ask Him to help us love others.** Sing Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "We Love."



Jesus prays in the garden

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 26:36, picture of the Bible story, phone (can be a home, cell, or toy phone)

**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.

As children arrive, pretend to be talking on the phone. After a short period of time, pretend to say goodbye to the person on the phone with you. **Well, hello boys and girls! I was just talking with a friend of mine that I haven't seen in a very long time. I enjoy talking with my friends and family on the phone because I can't always see them in person.**

**Do you know who else I like to talk with?** (Children respond.) **I like to talk to God; but, I can't see God. Do you think I could use my phone to call Him?** (No.) **I know! I'll write Him a letter?** (No.) **You don't think He'd get my letter?** (Children respond.) **Well, how do you talk to God?** (Prayer.) **That's a great idea. Let's talk to God through prayer right now. Dear God, we thank You for hearing our prayers. Help us to remember to talk with You every day. Amen. In our Bible story today, Jesus asks His friends to stay with Him while He prays. Let's find out what happens.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 26:36.



### **WATCH THE WORD: MATTHEW 26:36-41**

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 took His friends to the garden.**
- **He said, "Sit here and wait."**
- **He told them He was very sad.**
- **And then He went over to pray.**
  
- **When He came back His friends were asleep,**
- **They must have had a long day.**
- **Jesus asked them to stay awake.**
- **He told them, "Watch and pray."**

**What was Jesus doing in the garden?** (Praying.) **What did Jesus want His friends to do while He prayed?** (Watch and pray.)



Watching and praying

## 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: WATCH AND PRAY FLOWER**

**Purpose:** This craft remind children that Jesus wants us to pray to Him.

**Supplies:** Sturdy green paper, small paper plate or sturdy white paper, large craft stick, tape or glue, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** From sturdy green paper, cut two praying hands shapes. Cut around the edge of the paper plate to create flower petals. On the paper plate, print:

**“Watch and pray.”  
Matthew 26:41**

**Teacher Tip:** Instead of pre-cutting the praying hands, trace and cut out the shape of each child’s closed hand twice.

#### **Directions:**

1. Color the paper plate to look like a flower.
2. Tape or glue the paper plate to the craft stick for a stem.
3. Tape or glue one of the praying hands to each side of the craft stick for leaves.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **Where did Jesus go to pray?** (A garden.) **God heard Jesus praying in the garden.**
- **Do you think Jesus wants you to pray to Him?** (Yes. He wants us to watch and pray.)
- **We made flowers like the ones that were in the garden where Jesus prayed. Put your flower in your favorite place to pray so you can see it when you are praying!**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: PRAYER WALK**

**Purpose:** This game will teach children to watch for prayer needs and pray for them.

**Supplies:** Pictures of various places we can pray (i.e. home, church, playground, backyard, grandparents' house, daycare, school)

**Where did Jesus pray?** (In a garden.) **God heard Jesus' prayer in the garden. We can pray anywhere and God will hear our prayers. Follow me and let's see where we can pray. Let's watch for the people and things for which God wants us to pray.**

### **Directions:**

1. Tape pictures of places we can pray at the children's level around the room.
2. Have children form a line behind you.
3. Play "Follow the Leader" and make up actions for the children to follow as you walk.
4. Lead children to the first picture. **What is this a picture of?** (Children respond.)
5. **Who might we see in this place?** (Children respond.) **Let's pray for them right now.**
6. Say a quick prayer: **Dear Jesus, we pray for insert people who were mentioned. Please watch over them and help them grow closer to You. Amen.**
7. Repeat steps 4-6 for each picture.

## **GAME: PRAYER POSTURES**

**Purpose:** For children to understand God hears them no matter how they choose to pray.

**Supplies:** None

**There are many different ways to pray. When Jesus was in the garden, He knelt on the ground to pray. Let's kneel and pray like Jesus did. Then you can watch and pray with each other!**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children kneel on the floor and close their eyes.
2. Pray: **Thank You, God, for hearing our prayers.** Children respond by saying: **Amen.**
3. Let each child take a turn choosing a prayer position (i.e. standing, sitting, laying, kneeling, hands raised high, hands clasped in front).
4. Have all the children watch and copy that child's position so they can pray together.
5. Lead that child in the following prayer: **Lord, I pray for insert name of someone they love.**
6. All the children respond by saying: **Amen.**
7. Continue until each child has a turn to pick a prayer position and a person to pray for.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: GARDEN GOODIES**

**Purpose:** Children enjoy garden fruits or vegetables as they discuss the story of Jesus in the garden.

**Snack Suggestion:** Food grown in a garden (e.g. carrots, tomatoes, etc.)

### **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.
  - **Jesus needed to talk to God. What did He do? (Pray.) Where did He pray? (In the garden.)**
  - **We can pray and talk to God, too. Where can you pray? (At home, at church, outside, inside, on the playground, in the car, and everywhere.) God will always hear your prayers!**
  - **Jesus prayed in the garden at night. What time can you pray? (Morning, lunch time, before bed, and anytime.) God will always hear your prayers!**
  - **Jesus prayed by Himself. Who can you pray with? (Anyone including parents, family members, friends, or alone.) God will always hear your prayers!**



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>"We love because</b>	(love) Fists closed, arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>He first</b>	(He) Point to the sky.
<b>loved</b>	Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>us."</b>	The index finger moves from one shoulder to the next.
<b>1 John 4:19</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: MATTHEW 26:36-41**

**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 leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Jesus took His friends to the garden.** (Hug self as hugging a friend.)
- **He said, "Sit here and wait."** (Extend palm as stop signal.)
- **He told them He was very sad.** (Make a sad face.)
- **And then He went over to pray.** (Fold hands in prayer.)
  
- **When He came back His friends were asleep.** (Rest head on folded hands.)
- **They must have had a long day.** (Pretend to yawn.)
- **Jesus asked them to stay awake.** (Open eyes wide.)
- **He told them, "Watch and pray."** (Palms together in prayer position.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

### **GAME: PASS THE LOVE OF JESUS**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Large heart-shaped item, Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love"

**As we say our new Bible Memory Verse, we are going to pass the heart around the circle. We will be sharing Jesus' love with each other.**

**Directions:**

1. Stand in the circle with the children.
2. Say the Bible Memory Verse, pausing after each phrase for children to repeat.
3. Have the children pass the heart around the circle as they repeat the Bible Memory Verse.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: HUGS OF LOVE**

**Purpose:** Children practice showing love as instructed in the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "We Love"

**What does Jesus want us to show each other? (Love.) We can show each other love by giving hugs. When the music starts, hug as many as you can before the music stops.**

### **Directions:**

1. Start the music.
2. Children hug as many other children as they can before the music stops.
3. Stop the music.
4. Play again, as time allows.



## **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 praying.

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

Unit 3, Lesson 16: Jesus in the Garden

**PONDER!** Jesus wanted to talk to His Father in heaven so He went to the garden and prayed (Matthew 26:36-41). What did Jesus want His friends to do? (Watch and pray.)

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, help us watch and pray for the needs of others. Thank You for hearing us everywhere we pray. Amen."

**PLAY!** Go on a Prayer Walk with your family. Walk to different rooms in your home and places in your neighborhood. Stop to pray at each place. Pray for the people there to love one another and grow closer to God. Remember to watch and pray every day!

### **UNIT 3 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

<b>"We love because</b>	(love) Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>He first</b>	(He) Point to the sky.
<b>loved</b>	Fists closed, both arms move to the body and cross in front of the chest.
<b>us."</b>	The index finger moves from one shoulder to the next.
<b>1 John 4:19</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.