



A Letter About Jesus' Return

Lesson Aim: To know Jesus is coming back.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The Spirit Who Shows Us

THE WORD

New Testament Letters: Revelation 1:1-2, 7; 22:12

What He Has Done: God revealed to John that Jesus will come back to earth.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Behold, I am coming soon." Revelation 22:12

Unit 6: The Promise of Heaven			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
28	A Letter About Weakness, 1 Corinthians 2:1-3, 5	God revealed to Paul that He shows His power through our weakness.	To know we are weak, but God is strong.
29	A Letter About Strength, Ephesians 6:10, 13, 15-18	God showed Paul how He strengthens us.	To learn about the armor of God that helps us to be strong in the Lord.
30	A Letter About Jesus' Return, Revelation 1:1-2, 7; 22:12	God revealed to John that Jesus is coming back.	To know Jesus is coming back.
31	A Letter About Heaven, Revelation 21:1-4, 18-19, 21, 23	Jesus showed John a vision of what heaven looks like.	To know what heaven will be like.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Revelation 7:9-17. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for giving us Your letters to the churches. Open our ears so we may hear Your Word speaking into our lives and the lives of Your children. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Jesus' Return and Heaven. Lessons 30 & 31, we will be discussing Jesus' return and heaven. Heaven can be a difficult concept for two and three-year olds. Keep the conversation simple and focus on what a great day it will be when we will see Jesus face to face.

Prophets & Promises Lessons 22-31 (Units 5-6) feature various letters of the New Testament. Replace the Treasure Chest with a mailbox to hold THE WELCOME stamp or sticker. In THE WORD, since the letters are not Bible stories, create interest and encourage involvement by placing the letter in a mailbox known as the "Special Delivery Mailbox." See THE WORD for more details.



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Mailbox, stamp or sticker of clouds
		Coloring Center: Jesus Is Coming Back!	Coloring pages of Jesus in the clouds, crayons, "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"
		Play-Dough Center: A Wonderful Day	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Bubble Center: Looking for Jesus	Bubbles, bubble wand
		Letter Games	See GOT TIME?
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "My God Is So Big" "Jesus Loves Me"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Can Do Everything" "I Will Remember" "Not by Might" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "The Lord Is Faithful" "With God All Things Are Possible"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 6, Lesson 30
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Revelation 1:1-2, 7; 22:12	Visuals: Today's New Testament letter (available at ResourceWell.org), envelope, teacher's Bible, mailbox, cotton batting or cotton balls
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Jesus' Return	Standard-size sturdy paper, white felt or cotton balls, crayons or markers, glue
		Game: We Will All See Jesus	Picture of Jesus, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"
		Game: He Is Coming	Picture of Jesus coming through clouds (may use same picture as in the craft), envelope
		Snack: Fluffy Clouds	Marshmallows or cotton candy
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 6, Lesson 30
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Game: Letter Games	Today's New Testament letter in an envelope, Bible, mailbox
	Up to 10	Game: Down From Heaven	Sturdy box or step (no more than one foot tall)
	Up to 10	Game: Through the Clouds	White balloons or soft toy balls, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about Jesus' return

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The Spirit who shows us

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the mailbox to find today's special delivery.** Child opens the mailbox to receive a stamp or sticker of clouds. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of clouds help you remember Jesus is coming back.**

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 IS COMING BACK!

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Jesus in the clouds, crayons, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"

DO

Children color as they talk about Jesus' return. Optional: Play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Behold, I Am Coming Soon," while children color.

TALK ABOUT

Can we see Jesus right now? (No.) Where is Jesus? (In heaven.) In your picture, Jesus is coming with the clouds. Some day, Jesus will come back for us and we will be able to see Him just like I can see you and you can see me.

Would you like to see Jesus? (Children respond.) The day Jesus returns will be an amazing day. We will be with Him forever, standing around His throne and praising Him!

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: A WONDERFUL DAY

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children play with the play-dough while discussing today's lesson aim. Encourage children to make a gift, a birthday cake, or a favorite toy with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

Give each child some play dough. Ask them to try to make it look like a gift, a birthday cake, or a favorite toy. **I love celebrations like birthdays and Christmas. What do you like to celebrate? (Children respond.) Is it difficult to wait when you know something special is going to happen? (Children respond.) The Bible says Jesus will return to be with us one day. What a wonderful celebration that will be! We will all gather around Him and sing His praises.**

THE WELCOME *continued...*

BUBBLE CENTER: LOOKING FOR JESUS

SUPPLIES

Bubbles, bubble wand

DO

Children learn Jesus will come back with the clouds while playing with bubbles.

TALK ABOUT

As I blow the bubbles, watch them float through the air. Blow the bubbles a few times and encourage the children to let them float to the ground. **When you are outside, what do you see in the sky?** (Birds, places, clouds, etc.) **The Bible tells us that one day, we will see Jesus in the sky. He will come back with the clouds and we will be able to see Him face to face just like I can see you now.**

Even though we can't see Jesus with our eyes right now, we can still thank Him for all the wonderful things He has made, like bubbles and clouds. Each time the children suggest something God made, blow bubbles for them to catch.

LETTER GAMES

SUPPLIES

Today's New Testament letter in an envelope, Bible, mailbox

DO

Play one of the Letter Games listed in GOT TIME?

TALK ABOUT

Use the letter games to help children understand the letters we are learning are found in the Bible and are God's letters to us.

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)

"Behold, I am coming soon." Revelation 22:12	Make "V" shapes with both hands. Move them forward from the eyes outward. (I) Point to self. Point both index fingers outward and then move them toward the chest. Touch tip of pointer finger to tip of thumb and tap the chin. Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.
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Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The Spirit who shows 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.



What can we do to show Jesus we love Him? (Pray, read the Bible, sing, help someone.)
Let's pray right now. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us. We love You so much. Help us to remember to show You our love each day. Amen.**



Let's show Jesus we love Him by being joyful and singing to Him. Sing: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God."

As we give our offering, let's remember the amazing things Jesus has done. Sing: "I Will Remember" as the offering is collected.



Because Jesus loves us, He promised to come back for us one day. Let's see if Posty knows anything about Jesus' promise. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 6, Lesson 30.



An angel from God showed Jesus' friend John that Jesus would come back for us one day. Revelation 22:12 says, "Behold, I am coming soon." Let's say our Bible Memory Verse with the motions. Practice the verse together with the motions.

"Behold,	Make "V" shapes with both hands. Move them forward from the eyes outward.
I am	(I) Point to self.
coming	Point both index fingers outward and then move them toward the chest.
soon."	Touch tip of pointer finger to tip of thumb and tap the chin.
Revelation 22:12	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Sing Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Behold, I Am Coming Soon."

Teacher Tip: Keeping the attention of young children during quieter or slower songs can sometimes be challenging. Prepare the children by talking to them quietly. Find motions that fit the song, such as having the children walk in a circle while holding hands. Change directions when you get to the chorus or add other movements such as stretching your arms high or clapping.



Jesus is coming soon

THE WORD

Supplies: Today's New Testament letter (available at ResourceWell.org), envelope, teacher's Bible, mailbox, cotton batting or cotton balls

Prepare: Today's New Testament letter is available at ResourceWell.org or you can create your own by writing the words in the box below on a piece of paper. Enclose the letter in an envelope and place it inside the teacher's Bible. Place the Bible in the mailbox used for THE WELCOME.

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

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	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.

Hide the cotton batting where the children can't see it. **Today, I brought something soft and white. Can anyone guess what it is?** Allow the children to make several guesses. Show the cotton to the children. **Cotton is very soft and fluffy.** Allow the children to take turns feeling the cotton. **What else can you think of that is white and fluffy?** (Lamb, bunny, blanket, pillow, feathers, stuffed animal, clouds.)

I love to sit outside and look at the clouds. Do you ever do that? (Children respond.) **The Bible tells us some day Jesus will come with the clouds and we'll be able to see Him and talk with Him, just like I can see and talk with you!**

In the Bible, there are special letters written by believers to people like you and me. Today's letter was written by Jesus' friend, John. God's angel showed John what will happen one day when Jesus returns. Who would like to open the Special Delivery Mailbox for this week's letter? Choose a child to open the mailbox, remove the Bible, and hand it to you. **We can find this letter in the last book of the Bible, Revelation.** Read the letter.



Dear family of God,

The angel spoke to me about Jesus, "Look, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him." Jesus said, "Behold, I am coming soon!"

Love,
John

Who is coming with the clouds? (Jesus.) **Who will see Him when He comes with the clouds?** (Everyone.)



We will all see Jesus

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: JESUS' RETURN

Purpose: To remind the children that Jesus is coming back just as He said He would.

Supplies: Standard-size sturdy paper, white felt or cotton balls, crayons or markers, glue

Prepare: From white felt, cut two cloud shapes or use cotton balls for clouds. Fold a standard-size sheet of sturdy paper into thirds, as if folding a letter into an envelope. Fold the two outer segments in half with the edges of the paper facing outward. On the outside two segments, draw several circles with mouths and small circles for eyes. Write the word **"Look!"** on one of the outside edges of the sheet of paper. On sturdy paper, print and cut out a picture of Jesus and the words:

"He is coming."

Revelation 1:7

Adaptation for Ages 2-3: You may choose to set out eye-colored crayons for children to choose from when coloring the eyes on the faces. This is a great time to talk to the children about their own eye color. Talk about how some are the same and some are different but Jesus loves us all the same.

Directions:

1. **John said in his letter that an angel told him every eye would see Jesus. Color the eyes on the faces different colors to remember everyone will see Jesus when He comes.** Color the eyes on the faces in different colors.
2. Color the picture of Jesus and attach it to the inside middle of the paper.
3. **The angel also said Jesus would come with the clouds. Let's attach some cloud shapes (or cotton balls) to represent the clouds.** Attach the clouds at Jesus' feet.

Craft Discussion:

- **What do you think it will look like to see Jesus coming with the clouds?** (Children respond.)
- **What did Jesus say about His coming?** ("Behold, I am coming soon!")

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: WE WILL ALL SEE JESUS

Purpose: Children will remember that we will all see Jesus when He returns.

Supplies: Picture of Jesus, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"

Show the children the picture of Jesus. **Let's play a game where I hide this picture of Jesus. Close your eyes. When I begin to play our Bible Memory Verse Song, open your eyes and let's see who can find the picture of Jesus first.**

Directions:

1. Children cover their eyes while you hide the picture of Jesus somewhere in the room.
2. When you begin playing the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon," the children open their eyes and search for the picture of Jesus.
3. The child who finds the picture hands it to you.
4. Play as many times as you like. You may choose to allow the children to take turns hiding the picture.

Was it difficult to find the picture of Jesus? (Children respond.) **When Jesus comes back, it won't be difficult to see Him. Everyone will see Jesus when He returns.**

GAME: HE IS COMING

Purpose: Children will receive a "message" that tells them about Jesus' return.

Supplies: Picture of Jesus coming through the clouds (may use same picture as in the craft), envelope

Prepare: Place a picture of Jesus in an envelope.

Someday, Jesus will return. He wants us to tell others His message. Show children the envelope and the picture of Jesus that is inside. **In this game, we will share Jesus' message with each other.**

Directions:

1. Divide the group into two teams.
2. Each team stands at one end of the play area in a line.
3. Give the first child on one of the teams the envelope.
4. On your signal, that child runs to the first child on the other team, hands him or her the letter, and says **"He is coming!"** You may choose to have all the children say it together to help those children who are not comfortable doing it on their own.
5. The child who had the envelope then sits down.
6. The child with the letter runs back to the next child on the other team and repeats steps 4-5.
7. Play until each child has shared the message. The last child to receive the envelope can share the message with you or the first child to have the envelope.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: FLUFFY CLOUDS

Purpose: Children eat a fluffy, white snack like the clouds Jesus will return with when He comes again.

Snack Suggestion: Marshmallows or cotton candy

Directions:

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "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.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Hold your snack up high. Pretend it is a big, fluffy cloud. Can you imagine Jesus coming back through the clouds?** (Children respond.) **Let's eat our fluffy cloud snack!**
 - **After He rose again, Jesus' friends saw Him go through the clouds to live in heaven. Soon, He will come back through the clouds again!**
 - **Who will see Him when He comes with the clouds?** (Everyone.)



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.

"Behold,	Make "V" shapes with both hands. Move them forward from the eyes outward.
I am	(I) Point to self.
coming	Point both index fingers outward and then move them toward the chest.
soon."	Touch tip of pointer finger to tip of thumb and tap the chin.
Revelation 22:12	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?

GAME: LETTER GAME #1

Purpose: Children play a variation of "Telephone" to represent sending a message, like the letters in the Bible are God's messages to us.

Supplies: None

God led Paul to write a letter to people saying it is not by our own power that we point people to Jesus, but God's power showing through us. That special message was delivered to us through the Bible. Let's practice sending messages by playing, "Pass the Message."

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. The teacher whispers, **"God is strong,"** into the ear of the first child.
3. Each child whispers what they hear to the child next to them.
4. The last child says what they heard, to see if the message was delivered. Teacher's Note: It is likely the message will change as it passes from one child to another. Laugh together as the message gets mixed up.
5. Play the game as often as you like, using one or more of the phrases below:
 - Jesus loves me.
 - God is so big.
 - With God all things are possible.
 - God is mighty.
 - I am coming soon.

Optional: For younger children or for added fun, have children make faces instead of sharing messages. The first player makes a face at the second, who then tries to duplicate it for the third, etc.

GAME: LETTER GAME #2

Purpose: Children play a hiding game using today's New Testament letter.

Supplies: Today's New Testament letter in an envelope, Bible, mailbox

Remove the Bible with today's New Testament letter from the mailbox used in THE WORD. Open the Bible in your lap with the New Testament letter laying on top. **God helped a man named John write a letter about love. We find it in the Bible. The letter guides us in how to love one another. Let's play a game of hiding the letter. When we find it, we will read the letter together.**

Directions:

1. Choose a child to hide the letter in the envelope.
2. While the other children close their eyes, assist that child in hiding the letter.
3. On your signal, the other children open their eyes and search for the letter.
4. The child who finds the letter opens the envelope and hands the letter to you.
5. Read today's letter to the children and put it back in the envelope.
6. Choose a different child to hide the letter and play again.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Behold, I am coming soon." Revelation 22:12

GAME: DOWN FROM HEAVEN

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Sturdy box or step (no more than one foot tall)

Jesus said, "Behold, I am coming soon." He is coming back from heaven! Let's pretend to be like Jesus. Jump down from heaven while you say Jesus' words.

Directions:

1. Place the box on the floor.
2. Have children line up behind the box.
3. One at a time, children jump off the box and say the Bible Memory Verse.
4. Play multiple times, having the children say the Bible Memory Verse different ways as they jump. (For example: shout, sing, whisper, etc.)

GAME: THROUGH THE CLOUDS

Purpose: To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: White balloons or soft toy balls, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"

Prepare: Inflate balloons with air.

Teacher Tip: For large groups of children, divide into smaller groups and give each group a balloon.

Where is Jesus? (In heaven.) One day, Jesus is coming back. He said, "Behold, I am coming soon." Let's pretend this balloon is a cloud. When you look up to the balloon, pretend you see Jesus coming back through the clouds.

Directions:

1. Play or sing the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song.
2. Children bat the balloon in the air as they sing the song.
3. If the children are able to keep one balloon in the air without it hitting the floor, add a second balloon.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be any Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about Jesus' return.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 6, Lesson 30: A Letter About Jesus' Return

PONDER! Jesus will come back with the clouds one day (Revelation 1:1-2, 7; 22:12). Who will see Him? (Everyone.)

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for promising to come back soon. We can't wait to see You coming through the clouds! Amen."

PLAY! Go outdoors with a friend or family member. Lie on your backs and watch the clouds in the sky. What shapes do you see in the clouds? Talk with each other about what the sky might look like on the day Jesus comes back with the clouds.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Behold,	Make "V" shapes with both hands. Move them forward from the eyes outward.
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coming	Point both index fingers outward and then move them toward the chest.
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