



# 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.

## THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "He is coming."

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

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

<b>Unit 6: The Promise of Heaven</b>			
	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 Tips:** Prophets & Promises Lessons 22-31 (Units 5-6) feature 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 symbol and the envelope with the printed letter in a mailbag or tote bag known as the "Special Delivery Mailbag."



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Mailbox</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of clouds
		<b>Whisper Verse</b>	Sign language for "He is coming."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Can Do Everything" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Not by Might" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The New Testament Overture" (Ages 6-12 BMVS) "We Love" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Jesus Loves Me"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 6, Lesson 30
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Special Delivery:</b> Revelation 1:1-2, 7; 22:12	Visuals: New Testament letter (available at ResourceWell.org), Bible, mailbag or tote bag, toy or real binoculars
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Jesus' Return	Standard-size sturdy paper, white felt or cotton balls, crayons or markers, glue
		<b>Game:</b> We Will All See Jesus	Picture of Jesus, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"
		<b>Game:</b> He Is Coming	Picture of Jesus coming through clouds (may use same picture as in the craft), envelope
		<b>Snack:</b> Fluffy Clouds	Marshmallows or cotton candy
		<b>Circle of Prayer</b>	None
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 6, Lesson 30 Color This Story: "A Letter from John About Jesus' Return"
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> More Letter Games	Today's New Testament Letter in an envelope, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or "The New Testament Overture"
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Bible Books Dance	"The New Testament Overture" song
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Down From Heaven	Sturdy box or step (no more than one foot in height)
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Through The Clouds	White balloons or soft toy balls, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon"
Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about Jesus' return	

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



He is coming

## THE 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 unlocks the mailbox to receive a stamp or sticker of clouds. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of clouds help you remember Jesus is coming back. Today's Whisper Verse is "He is coming."** 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: "He is coming."**

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

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

- "He (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.
- "(is) coming."**      Point both index fingers out and move hands toward self.

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:** "He is coming," Revelation 1:7. 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.



The Spirit who shows us

## THE WORSHIP

**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 the Holy Spirit who shows us the exciting things Jesus is going to do. The Holy Spirit showed these things to John, then John wrote them down on a scroll so he could share them with us. The most exciting thing the Holy Spirit showed John was Jesus is coming back for us one day. That is our Whisper Verse today. Let’s say it and sign it together.** Review the Whisper Verse: “He is coming.” Include sign language.



**We can’t wait to see Jesus because we love Him and we know He loves us. Let’s sing about His love while we give our offering to help His church.** Sing: “Jesus Loves Me” or “We Love” while collecting the offering.

**Because Jesus loves us, He promised to come back for us one day. That promise is our Bible Memory Verse. Let’s say it together:** “Behold, I am coming soon.” **Let’s celebrate that promise!** Sing: “Behold, I Am Coming Soon.”



**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.



**On the day Jesus comes back with the clouds, He will lift His followers up to heaven to be with Him forever and to stand around His throne and praise Him! Let’s imagine what that will be like as we praise Him now.** Sing: “Let Everything That Has Breath.”



Jesus is coming soon

## THE WORD

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.

In the Bible, there are special letters written by believers to people like you and me. Last time, we learned God is very strong. We have learned many things from the letters in the Bible. Today, we will learn about a different kind of letter written by one of Jesus' followers named John. God's angel showed John what will happen one day. In a letter, John wrote what he saw. John also wrote down everything he heard Jesus say.

### **SPECIAL DELIVERY: REVELATION 1:1-2, 7; 22:12**

**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 and toy or real binoculars in a mailbag or tote bag (Special Delivery Mailbag).

Let's open the **Special Delivery Mailbag to find this week's letter.** Choose a child to open the mailbag, remove the Bible, and hand it to you.



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! My reward is with Me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done."

Love,  
John

**Who is coming with the clouds?** (Jesus.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "He is coming."** Include sign language or hand motions. **When is Jesus coming back?** (Soon.) **Let's find our answer in today's letter from the Bible.** Read the answer from today's New Testament Letter. **Who will see Him when He comes with the clouds?** (Everyone.)

**Our symbol for this letter is binoculars.** Invite a child to reach into the mailbag to find today's symbol (binoculars). **The binoculars remind us that one day we will all see Jesus coming through the clouds.**

**PASS THE BINOCULARS:** Ask the question below and give the binoculars to a child who has raised his or her hand. The child gives his or her answer and then gives the binoculars to another child whose hand is raised. **How will you feel to see Jesus coming on the clouds?**



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**

#### **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. Let's say and sign our Whisper Verse together.** Children say and sign, **"He is coming."**

## **GAME: HE IS COMING**

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

**Supplies:** Picture of Jesus coming through 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 and signs the Whisper Verse, **"He is coming."** You may choose to have all the children say and sign the Whisper Verse 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 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.
  - **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!**
  - **That's like our Whisper Verse! Who remembers it?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "He is coming."
  - **When is Jesus coming?** (Soon.)



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

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 each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "Jesus' Return" craft. Tell someone that one day Jesus is coming back through the clouds!

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how Jesus promised to come back soon.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "A Letter from John About Jesus' Return." Discuss Jesus' return and play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Behold, I Am Coming Soon," as the children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### **GAME: MORE LETTER GAMES**

**Purpose:** Children play games using today's New Testament Letter.

**Supplies:** Today's New Testament Letter in an envelope, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or "The New Testament Overture"

**Directions:**

1. To create a fun atmosphere, play the Bible Memory Verse Song, or "The New Testament Overture" during the game.
2. Divide children into two groups.
3. Groups stand at opposite ends of the play area in a line.
4. Give the letter to the first child in one of the groups.
5. Before the child starts his or her delivery, call out the method by which he or she must deliver the letter. For example, he or she might hop, crawl, walk backwards, skip, dance, fly like an airplane, ride a motorcycle, or gallop like a horse.
6. On your signal, the child delivers the letter to the first child in the second group.
7. Call out a new method of delivery. The child with the letter then returns the letter to the next child in the first group.
8. Continue until each child has a turn delivering the letter.

**Imagine how excited the people were to get a letter from one of the disciples. Isn't it wonderful to know that same letter was delivered to us through the Bible?** (Children respond.)

### **GAME: BIBLE BOOKS DANCE**

**Purpose:** To familiarize children with the concept that the New Testament contains stories about Jesus and many letters from those who believe in Him.

**Supplies:** "The New Testament Overture" song

Hold up the Bible. **God gave us the Bible. The first part of the Bible is filled with true stories about God and His people. The second part of the Bible is filled with true stories about Jesus and letters from some of His followers.**

**Directions:**

1. **Let's see if we can listen closely to hear the names of the New Testament books of the Bible in this song while we move and dance. When you hear the book of name a New Testament book in the song, sit down as fast as you can.**
2. Play "The New Testament Overture."
3. Children dance until they hear the name of the book you said.
4. Children sit.
5. Play as many times as you like, calling out a different book each time.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: DOWN FROM HEAVEN**

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

**Supplies:** A sturdy box or step (no more than one foot in height)

**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!** Read Revelation 1:1-2, 7; 22:12 with your family. The angel talked to John and showed him what will happen one day. John wrote down everything he saw and heard in a book of the Bible called Revelation. What will Jesus do one day?

**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 on a blanket, and watch the clouds in the sky. Sometimes a cloud shape may remind you of the shape of an animal, a flower, or a face. What do the cloud shapes look like to you? Imagine what the clouds will look like on the day Jesus comes back with the clouds.

#### **Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse:**

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