



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 is coming back.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "He is coming."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

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

Challenge Verse for older children:

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

Optional: Memorize the names of the books of the New Testament.

Unit 6: The Promise of Heaven			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
28	A Letter About Strength—Part 1, Ephesians 6:10, 13, 15-18	God showed Paul how He strengthens us.	To know we are weak and need the invisible armor of God.
29	A Letter About Strength—Part 2, 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 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 symbol and the envelope with the printed letter in a mailbag or tote bag known as the "Special Delivery Mailbag."

Permission is granted to reproduce these materials. Not for resale. Use is subject to the Terms of Use available at ResourceWell.org. Terms are subject to change without notice. All other rights are reserved.



**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.
		Mailbox	Stamp or sticker of clouds
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "He is coming."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or "The New Testament Overture" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "At The Name Of Jesus," "He Is Mighty to Save," "I Can Do Everything," "Not by Might," "To Him Who Sits on the Throne," "Praise Time!" "Let Everything That Has Breath" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Jesus Loves Me"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Prophets & Promises Lesson 30 Delbert & Lello or Mail Call script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Special Delivery: Ephesians 6:10, 13, 15-18	Visuals: New Testament letter (available at ResourceWell.org), Bible, mailbag or tote bag, toy or real binoculars Flannel board/figures: Jesus, 2 adults, 2 children Clay or play-dough option: Cloud
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Jesus' Return	Standard-size sturdy paper, white felt or cotton balls, crayons or markers, glue
		Circle of Prayer or Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer word and picture book
		Snack: Fluffy Clouds	Marshmallows or cotton candy
		Unit 6 Games: Sand Search	Bin or container of clean sand, cross, white pompom or cotton ball, laminated picture of a sword or shield, candle or penlight, craft jewel
		Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down?	None, optional: hand puppet or finger puppets
		Blanket Ball	Blanket or tablecloth, inflatable ball or balloon
		Bible Books Dance	"The New Testament Overture" song, CD player
		Scenes from Mail Call (older children only)	Mail Call scripts for Lessons 29, 30, 31
		Musical Chairs	Chairs, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player
		Bean Bag Toss	Several beanbags, hula-hoop (or rope or floor tape)
		Bible Memory Verse Bubbles	Bubbles, bubble wand, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or "The New Testament Overture," CD player
		Final 5	Final Five

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



He is coming

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 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. 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.)

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

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 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 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" 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."

* May substitute Lesson 30 Mail Call script or storybook.



Jesus is coming soon

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.**

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 a toy or real binoculars in a mailbag or tote bag (Special Delivery Mailbag). 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 cloud from clay or play dough as they listen to the story.

Let's open the Special Delivery Mailbag to read this week's letter from the Bible. Choose a child to open the mailbag, remove the Bible, and hand it to the leader or teacher. 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! 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.)

PASS THE BINOCULARS: Ask the question below and give the binoculars to a child who has raised his or her hand. **The binoculars remind us that one day we will all see Jesus coming through the clouds.** The child gives his/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

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: 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...*



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: 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 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.
 - **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.)

THE WAY (GAME OPTIONS)

UNIT 6 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 New Testament Letters or the Unit 6 Worship Attribute: The Spirit Who Shows Us.

Supplies: Bin or container of clean sand, cross, white pompom or cotton ball, laminated picture of a sword or shield, candle or penlight, craft jewel

Prepare: Place all items beneath the surface of the sand.

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 6 New Testament Letters. The candle or penlight reminds us of God's Word as the light that leads us (Bible Memory Verse Challenge). The picture of the shield or sword reminds us that God gives us truth, faith, and His Word to protect us just as armor protects a soldier. The cross reminds us that Jesus forgives us and will one day come back to take all who believe to live with Him in heaven. The white pompom or cotton ball reminds us of the clouds Jesus will come through when He returns to earth. The jewel reminds us that the city walls of heaven are decorated with beautiful jewels.

GAME: THUMBS UP OR THUMBS DOWN?

Purpose: This nonverbal true-false game helps children master the Bible story or Unit 6 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."
2. If retelling the Bible story, read it in phrases. For some phrases, state accurate descriptions. For other phrases, replace the truth with silly facts. For example, say, "**The armor of God can be bought at the grocery store.** Thumbs up or thumbs down?" (Children respond with thumbs down.) "**The armor of God is invisible. It is a way to describe how God protects us.**" (Children respond with thumbs up.)
3. 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, "**Behold, we are coming soon.** Thumbs up or thumbs down?" (Children respond with thumbs down.) "**Behold, I am coming soon.**" Thumbs up or thumbs down?" (Children respond with thumbs up.)

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

GAME: BLANKET BALL

Purpose: Children catch a ball in a blanket to remember the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Blanket or tablecloth, inflatable ball or balloon

Optional: For a more challenging game, list the books of the New Testament or the Unit 6 Bible Memory Challenge Verse (Psalm 119:105). Phrases may be divided as follows: "Your word/ is a lamp/ to my feet/ and a light/ for my path."

Let's use this blanket to toss the ball into the air. When the ball lands on the blanket, we will say a part of the Bible Memory Verse (Revelation 22:12): "Behold/ I am/ coming soon."

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle holding the edges of the blanket.
2. Place an inflatable ball or balloon in the center of the blanket.
3. Together, children quickly raise the blanket to toss the ball into the air.
4. When the ball lands back on the blanket, lead children in saying a word or a phrase ("Behold/ I am / coming soon") of the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Play several times.

GAME: BIBLE BOOKS DANCE

Purpose: To familiarize children with the names of the New Testament books.

Supplies: "The New Testament Overture" song, CD player

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.
4. When the children hear the name of the book you called, they sit.
5. Play as many times as you like, calling out a different book each time.

GAME: SCENES FROM MAIL CALL

Purpose: To learn applications of the Unit 6 Bible stories, older children act out today's Mail Call script.

Supplies: Mail Call scripts for Lessons 29, 30, 31

Directions:

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

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

GAME: MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: This version of Musical Chairs familiarizes children with the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song.

Supplies: 1 chair per child, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player

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

Teacher Tip: In this version of musical chairs, no chair is removed; all 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: BEAN BAG TOSS

Purpose: To help children review the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Several beanbags, hula-hoop (or rope or floor tape)

Prepare: Use hula-hoop, rope, or floor tape to create a large target area on the floor.

Directions:

1. Give a beanbag to the first child.
2. Stand with the child approximately 6 feet from the target.
3. Before tossing the beanbag, the child says part of the Bible Memory Verse. (The teacher may say it with the child, as needed.)
4. Child tosses the beanbag at the target.
5. Children take turns to see who can reach the target.
6. Play again, as time allows.

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE BUBBLES

Purpose: Children blow bubbles as they listen and sing the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song.

Supplies: Bubbles, bubble wand, Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or "The New Testament Overture," CD player

As we sing our Bible Memory Verse Song, let's take turns blowing bubbles. If you are seated, you may pop or blow the bubbles that float toward you.

Directions:

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. As the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song plays, children sing along.
3. Teacher dips the wand in the bubbles and offers each child a turn at blowing on the wand.

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 "Jesus' Return" craft. Tell someone that one day Jesus is coming back through the clouds!

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 how Jesus promised to come back soon.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "A Letter about Jesus' Return." Discuss the return of Jesus and play the Unit 6 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Behold, I Am Coming Soon" or "The New Testament Overture" as the 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 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. Talk about the different cloud shapes. Sometimes a cloud shape may remind you of the shape of an animal, a flower, or a face. What do the cloud shapes remind you of? 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

Unit 6 Bible Memory Challenge Verse:

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105

Optional: Memorize the names of the books of the New Testament.