

Lesson 1: Where do we look for Jesus? The Bible!

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Go through and understand John 1:1-2
- 2) Discuss who is Jesus – where do we find Him? - In the Bible.
- 3) Make bookmark to remind them to read about Jesus

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- Some students will still have trouble writing/reading so during activities read instructions aloud so they can follow along and keep writing tasks short.
- Help students who have difficulty sitting for long periods by sitting beside them to help them stay focused. Learn their names to help redirect them quickly.

Supplies: Coordinator will ensure these supplies are already in your room.

- Bible(s)
- Markers
- Pencil Crayons or Crayons
- Pens/Pencils with Erasers
- Attendance Sheet Set – one per class
- Stickers for each student to place on attendance sheet
- Stickers for Bookmarks – enough for each student to have some
- Bookmarks with Tags (printed on white cardstock paper – one per child (see template)
- 3 Fish puppets – for class to share if able purchase or make your own
- Puppet Stage or Table with blanket draped over to look like a stage
- Puppet show skit (3 copies one for each puppeteer student helper)
- Bible Word sheet - one per student

Optional

Snack: Graham Crackers	2-3 per child
Blue Jell-O	1 pkg. for 4-6 children
Swedish Fish or gummy fish	3-4 per child
See-through plastic cups	one per child
Napkins for crackers	one per child
Juice or water and cup	one per child

Lesson:

1) Introduction to lesson and Puppet Show:

10-15 minutes

Before class: set up a stage and ensure you have three fish puppets or ocean animals. If you don't have a stage, set up a blanket over a table so older kids can be behind the blanket holding the puppets above so the younger kids can enjoy the show and the older students get to help serve.

NOTE: *If all your students are too young to read, ask other teachers if they wouldn't mind having 3 teens or older Grade school students come and help for the first 10 minutes of this class. If possible, hand out the puppet show skit in advance for them to read. Help them to determine who will play what role. Have them go behind blanket/stage at appropriate time.

As students enter welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance with attendance sheet and stickers provided, let each child pick a sticker to place beside their name on the sheet.

Once children are seated introduce yourself and ask the students to go around the table saying their name if there are any new students. If you have an assistant(s) ask them to tell the students their name(s) also.

Say, **“I will be your teacher this quarter; I am very excited to be here. This fall is all about finding Jesus. We are going to look in different places to see if we can find Him. We will look in many places including the river, lakes, and oceans.** (Ask puppeteers to get into place)

Introduce today’s lesson and ground rules:

“It is very important that we all try to listen carefully to the speakers you will hear today. It is also important to listen to me when you are asked to do something.

“Can everyone look over there?” (Point to the puppet stage)

“If you look and listen carefully you will hear a story about how to find Jesus.” Cue the helpers to do the puppet show. After, have students thank the volunteers, have them come and join the group and continue class.

After the puppet show say, **“Just like Floppy, we need to Find Jesus. So next you are going to learn more about how to find Jesus! We learn about Jesus from the Bible.** (Hold up your Bible) **Did everyone bring their Bibles?** (For those that didn’t, hand out a Bible to them)

Verse Reading: Have students turn in their Bibles to **John 1:1-2** and read, then go to **2 Timothy 3:14-17** and read. Help students turn to these verses and follow along.

Can anyone tell me who Jesus is? Raise your hand if you know. (Encourage children to raise hands and tell you who they think Jesus issome examples of responses might be: Son of God, nice, powerful, the one they pray to, etc.)

“Jesus is the Son of God. Now let’s all turn to back to John; it is near the end of the Bible in the New Testament. Now that we found John, turn to Chapter 3 and verse 16. John 3:16 says, (turn to your Bible and read John 3:16)

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

What is this verse saying? Raise your hand if you have an idea. (God loves us, sent Jesus, if we believe and do God’s will we will go to heaven and live forever with Him.)

The Bible says that God sent His Son Jesus because God and Jesus love us very much. It also says that we need to believe in Jesus to have eternal life.

Jesus is God’s Son – He is very special to us and we need to listen to Him and follow Him. So where do we look to know how to follow Jesus? (Bible)

Where do we find Jesus? Raise your hand if you know. (Bible)

2) Finding Jesus Word Search

10 minutes

We are going to do an activity sheet to help us remember that we can find Jesus in the Bible. The page we will hand out has a picture of a Bible with lots of words in it. As you look through try and find the word “Jesus” in the Bible. Remember we spell Jesus – J-E-S-U-S. (hand out crayons/pencils to children – remind them to look for the word Jesus – they can

circle them as they find them. At the top of the sheet is the word Jesus to help them see how it looks and is spelled. Remind them to write their names somewhere on their sheet.) For those who cannot read, circle the word “Jesus” that is in the title at the top of the page so they know what word to look for.



Jesus is found by looking in the Bible. If we read our Bibles we are learning about Jesus and we are able to find Him and follow Him!

3) Read John 1:1-2 5 minutes

Let's use our Bibles again and let's all go back and find the Book of John. Now that we all have found the Book of John – turn to Chapter 1 verse 1. Who would like to read Verse 1 and 2? Please listen as _____ reads.

John 1:1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”

This says from the very beginning God had the Word and the Word was with God. It also says the Word was God and was with God – The Word hear not only means word but Jesus. That means God and Jesus are the Word and the Words we read from the Bible today are God's. We also read that, “He was in the beginning with God.” That is Jesus.

Let's read these two verses again, only this time I will put the word Jesus in instead of the word – Word.

“In the beginning was **Jesus**, and **Jesus** was with God, and **Jesus** was God. **Jesus** was in the beginning with God.”

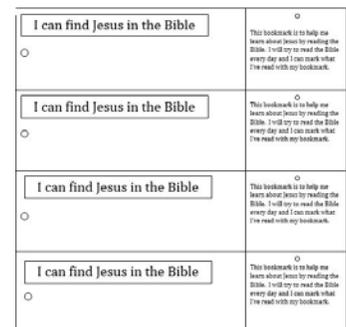
Jesus and God have always been together. And they gave us the Word. The Bible tells us all about Jesus and God and how we can make them happy and how they love us so much. So by reading the Bible we learn about Jesus and God and what they want us to do and how we can follow them.

We find Jesus in the Bible!

4) Bookmark Activity 10-15 minutes

Before class, ensure you have printed out bookmarks – one for each child. Gather stickers and crayons/markers.

We need to remember to read our Bibles. To help us we are going to make bookmarks. By making this it will remind you to read your Bible – and by doing so you will find Jesus. (Hand out a bookmark to every child. Have them write their name somewhere on the back of the book mark. Hand out pencil crayons and 3 stickers to each child – if there are choices you can ask them what stickers they would like)



Take the crayons and color your book mark – you can draw a picture about the Bible or about Jesus if you would like. When you are done coloring – peel the stickers and stick

them on the front of the bookmark. You will also get a tag that will remind you of why you made the bookmark. After kids are finished, read the tag and then help them to clean up. **Ask questions while students make their bookmark based on the verses they read earlier.**

5) Optional – Snack

5 minutes

*To be prepared in advance

Graham Crackers	2-3 per child
Blue Jell-O	1 pkg. for 4-6 children
Swedish Fish or gummy fish	3-4 per child
See-through plastic Cups	one per child
Napkins for crackers	one per child
Juice and cup	one per child

Prepare the blue Jell-O according to the package directions. Pour into see-through plastic cups. Before the Jell-O sets add 3-4 gummy fish to each cup. This will create an ocean in a cup look. Let the Jell-O set. Serve with graham crackers on the side. Discuss questions about finding Jesus while snacking.

6) Close in prayer

Thank God that He sent his Son Jesus and that we can learn about God and Jesus in the Bible. Pray that we will remember to read our Bibles as we grow and mature. Thank God for allowing us a way to find Jesus by searching the Scriptures. Pray for those who are away because of sickness or other reasons and pray they will return next week.

7) Ask Questions:

If time, ask the students questions about what they learned.

***Who is Jesus?** Jesus is the Son of God and is God and we learn from Him in the Bible

***Where do we find Jesus?** the Bible

***What does the Bible also say Jesus is called?** The Word

***Who was in the beginning together always?** God and Jesus

If time take students to **Genesis 1:1-2 and 26**. Have them read, explain that in the beginning God's Spirit hovered, God spoke and God said in verse 26 "Let us...." Now we know that God is talking about Jesus, the Holy Spirit and God! We learn this from John 1:1-2.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!