



5

The Life of Christ

Key Theme

- The Bible records actual history.

Key Passages

- Birth: Luke 2:4–7
- Early Life: Luke 2:42, 2:46–49
- Baptism: Luke 3:21–22
- Taught in Synagogues: Luke 4:14–15
- Healed the Sick: Luke 4:38–39
- Controlled Nature: Luke 8:22–25
- Taught His Disciples: Luke 11:1–4
- Trial before Pilate: Luke 23:13–15
- Crucified on the Cross: Luke 23:20–21
- Rose from the Dead: Luke 24:5–7
- Ascended to Heaven: Luke 24:50–53

Objective

Students will be able to:

- Identify some key events in Christ's life on earth.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will practice the memory verse by working on the Memory Verse Puzzle and reciting the verse to a friend.



Activity 1: The Life of Christ Class Notes

Students will fill out The Life of Christ Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

The Gospels tell us about Jesus our Savior—His humble birth, His early years, His miracles, His teachings, His death, His Resurrection, and His ascension.



Activity 2: Four in a Row

Students will review the lesson by playing a game of Four in a Row.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print the Memory Verse Puzzle from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Puzzle for each student



THE LIFE OF CHRIST CLASS NOTES

- Print one The Life of Christ Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.
- Print, collate, and staple The Life of Christ Scripture Sheets from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- The Life of Christ Class Notes for each student
- The Life of Christ Class Notes Answer Key
- The Life of Christ Scripture Sheets for each student
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



FOUR IN A ROW

- Print one Four in a Row Teacher Guide from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Prepare a 16-section square grid on the floor with masking tape.
- Cut 8 red circles and 8 black circles from red and black construction paper.
- Bring in one beanbag, rolled sock, or other appropriate item to toss for each team.

- Four in a Row Teacher Guide
- Masking tape
- 8 red and 8 black construction paper circles to mark grid
- Beanbag, rolled sock, or other appropriate item



Memory Verse

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

► **Pace your lesson!** Use the clocks to mark the time you want to finish each section. This will help you stay on track and finish on time. You may need to shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

How could one possibly write an overview of the life of Christ in one lesson? We are reminded of the verse the Apostle John ended his Gospel with, John 21:25: “And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.”

The important thing to remember here is that we know that what has been recorded about Jesus Christ—His birth, His life, His death, His Resurrection, and His ascension—is true history. Not only are they true historical events, but His brief life was more significant than any other life ever lived, for it affected all humanity for all eternity.

We will take a bird’s-eye view of Jesus’s ministry from the book of Luke, discussing only a few of the myriad of events that were significant as He ministered, taught, preached, warned, and proclaimed the way to eternal life through humble faith and trust in Him.

Jesus’s birth (Luke 2:4–7): In fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, the Bible records a humble birth for the King of kings, laid as an infant in a feeding trough because there were no rooms available.

Jesus’s early years (Luke 2:42, 2:46–50): At twelve years old, Jesus was already about His Father’s business, listening to and asking questions of the teachers in the Temple, astounding them with His understanding and answers.

Jesus’s baptism (Luke 3:21–22): As Jesus was baptized by John, He humbly associated Himself with sinners and exhibited His humility and obedience to His Father, who proclaimed that this was indeed His beloved Son in whom He was well pleased.

Jesus taught in synagogues (Luke 4:14–15): Once Jesus started His adult ministry, we read of Him being in the synagogues, expounding the Scriptures with authority.

Jesus healed the sick (Luke 4:38–39): In this account, Jesus healed Simon Peter’s mother-in-law of a high fever. This was just one of many instances where Christ revealed His power over sickness and His compassion for others by healing them of various illnesses.

Jesus controlled nature (Luke 8:22–25): Here is one example of many where Jesus manifested His power over nature. So amazing was His stilling of the storm that His disciples said to one another, “Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!”

Jesus taught His disciples (Luke 11:1–4): Jesus taught often in the synagogues. But He also spent much time teaching His disciples. In these verses, we learn that His disciples asked Him an important question about prayer. And Jesus answered by revealing a model for prayer that refuted the vain repetitious prayers common among the religious leaders (see Matthew 6:7).

Jesus’s last Passover meal (Luke 22:14–20): Jesus knew the time for His suffering was at hand, and He shared this last Passover meal with the Twelve Apostles. It was at this last meal that He established the Lord’s Supper to be shared for generations to come as a remembrance of His death and the redemption it provides all who believe, until He comes again.

Jesus’s trial before Pilate (Luke 23:13–15): Both Pilate, the Roman governor, and Herod, the tetrarch of Galilee, found Jesus innocent. He had done nothing that deserved the death the chief priests were demanding. Due to public pressure and the outcry of Jesus’s Jewish accusers, Pilate sent Him to be crucified.

Jesus crucified on the Cross (Luke 23:32–34): Jesus was crucified on the Cross between two criminals. In a demonstration of mercy before His death, He cried out, asking the Father to forgive even those who put Him to death. And we know this forgiveness was accomplished through His very death—to all who would put their faith and trust in Him.

Jesus rose from the dead (Luke 24:5–7): In glory and majesty, revealing the omnipotence of God who alone can raise the dead, Jesus came forth from the tomb. God has power over life and death, and through the Resurrection of Jesus, we have hope that eternal life awaits all who repent and believe in Him. This is our hope. This is what enables us to abound in hope amidst dark and disturbing circumstances.

Jesus ascended to heaven (Luke 24:50–53): His earthly ministry was finished. Jesus had accomplished all that the Father had sent Him to do. In the presence of many witnesses, He ascended to heaven. He now reigns from heaven, preparing a place for believers in order to one day come back to take them to their eternal home (John 14:2–3).

What a Savior! What a Man! This merely scratches the surface of who Jesus was, what He did, and what He will do for those who follow Him in repentance and faith! Again we can recall John 21:25, knowing that the world itself could not contain the books that could be written about this Man, Savior, Friend, Redeemer, Lamb—the eternal and everlasting God!

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

So far in *Answers Bible Curriculum* through the Old Testament lessons, we have presented the history of redemption chronologically. However, as we study the New Testament and the ministry of Jesus, there will be times when we don't follow a strict chronology.

Outlining a detailed chronology of the events in Jesus's life is difficult. There are discrepancies among scholars as to the exact timing of events in Jesus's life. Take His birth, for example. The New Testament does not give us dates based on our modern calendar. Luke tells us that Joseph took Mary to Bethlehem for a census ordered by Caesar Augustus when Quirinius was governor of Syria (Luke 2:1–2). This gives us a historical context within which we can place the birth of Jesus.

When did this census take place? From other historical records, we know that Caesar Augustus ruled from 31 BC to AD 14, giving us a range. This is where it gets tricky. Herod the Great was king at the time of Jesus's birth (Matthew 2:1), and there are no other historical records of a census taking place at this time. We can be certain that Luke's audience of the time would have known about the census and understood exactly when the census and, consequently, the birth of Jesus occurred. It is difficult for us to know precisely, but based on the evidence, it is generally believed that Christ was born between 6 and 4 BC.

Determining chronology within the four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—is also difficult. These accounts were written under the direction of the Holy Spirit by four unique men writing to different audiences. Consequently, they do not follow the same sequence of events, but present a more complete account of Jesus's life and person when they are considered all together.

Defining precise dates for the events recorded is often difficult. For example, John records that Jesus cleansed the Temple only a few months after His baptism (John 2:13–22). Another cleansing is recorded by Matthew, Mark, and Luke during the week of the Crucifixion (Matthew 21:12–13; Mark 11:15–17; Luke 19:45–46). Some people believe these are the same

event, but a comparison of the four accounts suggests that the cleansing recorded in Matthew, Mark, and Luke are the same, while John records a previous cleansing of the Temple.

Skeptics often reject the Bible because of difficulties in precisely identifying when events occurred. Understanding the nature of the Gospels as eyewitness accounts, and knowing that each author crafted his Gospel for a specific purpose, can help to answer the skeptics' questions. Unfortunately, much skepticism seems to be an excuse to dismiss the authority of Scripture caused by their spiritual blindness and rebellion against their Creator.

With all that in mind, realize that we have done our best to be faithful to the Scriptures as we present the dates and order of events in the life of Christ through this curriculum and on the New Testament History Poster. You may come across dates you disagree with for particular reasons, but don't get lost in examining the bark on the tree and miss the beauty of the forest. The life that Jesus lived on this earth was lived in perfect obedience to the Father, in the power of the Spirit, fulfilling exacting details of prophecy and climaxing with His death and Resurrection. His saving work is the only hope we have for eternal life after our death, whenever that day may come.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Dear Heavenly Father, you have given me another opportunity to praise you as I've studied through this lesson. Yes, this was a quick overview of the astounding life of Jesus. But the details of His life never cease to inspire awe in me. His power beyond measure, His love beyond comprehension, His words perfectly spoken, each life who encountered Him—changed. This is the Jesus my students need. This is the Jesus revealed to us through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This is the Jesus I want them to know. Prepare their hearts now for an encounter with the Word made flesh.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will review the memory verse by completing the Memory Verse Puzzle using the puzzle piece shapes as clues. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a friend or to the class.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided a worksheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



The Life of Christ Class Notes

MATERIALS

- The Life of Christ Class Notes for each student
- The Life of Christ Class Notes Answer Key
- The Life of Christ Scripture Sheet for each student
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print the class notes and Scripture sheets for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Students will read the verses from the Scripture sheets and complete the class notes during the lesson.

We will be reading the Scriptures for today's lesson from these Scripture sheets and completing these class notes as we study the Bible passages. Do not work ahead. We will fill them out together.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

How can we summarize Jesus's whole life in one lesson? That is what we will try to do by reading about some important events in Jesus's life—starting with His birth and ending with His Resurrection!



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Refer to the Lesson 4 Lesson Theme Poster. Last time we took a quick look at each of the four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Although these Gospels are all inspired by God, they are not the same because they were written by four men who were very different from each other. We saw that these Gospels work together to reveal who Jesus is. Matthew wrote

to the Jews and revealed Jesus as the Son of David. He was the promised King and Messiah. Mark wrote about Jesus as a suffering servant who came to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. Luke described Jesus Christ as the Son of Man, who is fully God and fully man, who came to earth to seek and save the lost—sinners like you and me! And John wrote so that we would know that Jesus is the Son of God, and that by believing in Jesus we might have life in His name.

Today we are going to take a look at some of the events in Jesus's life—starting at His birth and ending when He returned to His Father in heaven. We are going to cover a lot!

John 21:25

But before we get started, let's read John 21:25. *Assign a reader.*

- ? Who is this verse talking about? *Jesus.*
- ? What does this verse say about the things that Jesus did? *If they were all written down in books, the world could not contain the books that would be written.*

John wrote this at the end of his Gospel. When he finished writing, he realized that there was no way he could possibly write everything about Jesus. That is because Jesus and God are infinite.

- ? Who can tell me what I mean by infinite? *Allow discussion. Refer to Attributes of God Poster.*

Infinite means it is beyond what we can imagine. John understood Jesus was infinite when he said that all the books in the world couldn't hold all the information about Jesus. Jesus is God! And we will never understand God completely. But God has given us His Word so we can know SOMETHING about God and Jesus.

Let's get started! First things first—Jesus's birth as it's recorded by Luke. Luke 2:4–7. It's the first passage on your Scripture sheet. Follow along with me as I read. *Read the verse enthusiastically! Or, if you have a strong reader, choose a student to read.*

EXAMINE THE WORD

That passage may sound familiar. It's read a lot at Christmas. I want to ask you some questions about it.

Observe the Text

- ? First, where does this verse say Joseph went? *Luke 2:4. To Bethlehem.*

Luke gave quite a description. Look at the verse. Joseph went up from Galilee, out of Nazareth, went into Judea, to the city of David, which is Bethlehem. He gave a lot of detail here.

- ? And who was with him? *Luke 2:5. Mary.*

INFINITE

(Refer to Attributes Poster.)

Luke 2:4–7

► Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson. Emphasize that Jesus ministered only 3 years and He lived only about 35 years. Yet His life changed the world forever and brought eternal life to all who believe.

? Then what happened while they were in Bethlehem? *Luke 2:7. Mary had a baby.*

? Yes! And where was Jesus laid after He was born? *Luke 2:7. In a manger.*

A manger is a feeding trough for animals. What a humble beginning! God became a man in the small city of Bethlehem and was laid in a manger.

Will someone read #1 on the class notes? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Manger.*

We will move on to Jesus's early years. The Bible doesn't tell us much about Jesus growing up. In fact, the next time we hear of Him, He is 12 years old. That is what we will read now. Let's read the verses under #2 on your Scripture sheet. *Choose several students to read Luke 2:42, 2:46-49.*

Luke 2:42, 2:46-49

? How old was Jesus when this took place? *Luke 2:42. Twelve years old.*

Yes. When Jesus was 12 years old He went to Jerusalem with His family. They traveled in large groups, and they were headed home when Mary and Joseph realized Jesus was not with them! They had to go back to Jerusalem to find Him.

? Look at Luke 2:46. How long did Mary and Joseph spend looking for Him? *Luke 2:46. Three days.*

? Three days! And where was He when they found Him? *Luke 2:46. In the Temple.*

? What was He doing in the Temple? Look at Luke 2:46. *Luke 2:46. Listening to the teachers and asking questions.*

? When Mary and Joseph found Jesus, what did Mary ask Him? *Luke 2:48. Why have you done this? We have been looking for you.*

? And what was Jesus doing in the Temple? *Luke 2:49. His Father's business.*

? Who was Jesus talking about when He said "My Father" here? *Luke 2:49. God.*

Even as a young boy, just 12 years old, Jesus knew why He had come to earth. He knew He had to be about His Father's business. He was in the Temple, listening to the teachers and asking questions, and the Bible says He astonished them by how much He understood!

? Someone read #2 on your class notes for us. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Temple.*

That was the only event recorded about Jesus's life as a young boy. The next time we hear of Him in the Bible, He's about 30 years old and getting ready to begin His Father's business. Let's read Luke 3:21-22. Look on the Scripture Sheet. *Assign a reader.*

Luke 3:21-22

? What was happening here? *Luke 3:21. The people were being baptized and Jesus was baptized, too.*

? After Jesus was baptized, He began to pray. What happened as He prayed? It is in Luke 3:22. *Luke 3:22. The Holy Spirit came down as a dove on Him.*

- ? As the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove, what did the people hear? *Luke 3:22. A voice from heaven.*
- ? Not just any voice, but this was the voice of God! What did God say? *Luke 3:22. You are my beloved Son. In You I am well pleased.*

At that special moment, we see Jesus as a man, the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove, and the Father as a voice from heaven telling everyone He was pleased with Jesus. The people saw Jesus being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending on Him, and they heard God the Father speak. This is the Trinity—one God, three Persons. Jesus was baptized with the people. His baptism showed us His humility and obedience to God the Father who had sent Him to save sinners.

- ? Someone read #3 on the class notes. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. God.*

Jesus was baptized. Shortly after that, He began His ministry. He went into the land of Galilee. We'll read Luke 4:14–15, #4 on your Scripture sheet. *Assign a reader. Luke 4:14–15.*

Luke 4:14–15

- ? Jesus was now teaching. Where was He teaching? *Luke 4:15. In the synagogues.*

Jesus was teaching in the synagogues. Jesus was a Jew. The synagogues were where the Jews went to study the Scriptures and learn about God. This is where Jesus went to begin His teaching.

- ? Could someone read #4 on your class notes? How will you complete that? *Assign a reader. Jews.*

Jesus taught in the synagogues. And Jesus also performed miracles. These were amazing things Jesus did to show the people that He really was God. In fact, miracles are things that only God can do and people can't explain how it happened. This verse tells us about one type of miracle we read about in the Bible.

Luke 4:38–39

Someone read Luke 4:38–39. *Assign a reader. Luke 4:38–39.*

- ? Where had He gone? *Luke 4:38. To Simon's house.*
- ? What was wrong with Simon's wife's mother? *Luke 4:38. She was sick with a fever.*
- ? What did Jesus do for this sick woman? *Luke 4:39. He stood over her and rebuked the fever.*
- ? And what did she do? *Luke 4:39. She got up and served them.*

Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law. Jesus had power over the fever, and at His word the fever left her.

So what have we seen so far? Jesus was baptized and His ministry began. He taught others in the synagogues. And He healed people—He had power over sickness!

? Will someone read #5 on your class notes? What is the answer to that?

Assign a reader. Sickness.

Jesus had power over sickness. He also had power over nature! We will read about that right now. Look at Luke 8:22–25. Follow along with me as I read. *Read Luke 8:22–25 aloud, slowly, with emotion. Emphasize the answers to the questions below.*

? In Luke 8:22, where were Jesus and the disciples? *On a lake in a boat.*

? What happened while they were on the lake? *Luke 8:23. Jesus fell asleep. A windstorm came.*

? And what was happening to the boat? *Luke 8:23. It was filling with water.*

? So, what happened according to Luke 8:24? *The disciples woke Jesus. He arose and rebuked the wind and the water. There was calm.*

The storm stopped. Just like that. At the power of Jesus's voice!

? What did the disciples wonder about Jesus after He calmed the storm. It is at the end of Luke 8:25? What did they ask? *They asked, "Who can this be?"*

? Why were they astonished? What had obeyed Jesus's very word? You will find that answer at the end of Luke 8:25. *Even the winds and water obeyed Him.*

Jesus performed miracles so that people would know that He is God. God showed His power through Jesus. No one else has the kind of power God has. No one!

? Take a look at #6 on your class notes. Who can read it for the class? How will you answer it? *Assign a reader. Nature.*

? Jesus showed the power of God through the things He did. He showed He had power over nature and sickness. What is the attribute that describes God as all-powerful? *Refer to the Attributes of God Poster. Omnipotent.*

We saw earlier that Jesus taught in the synagogues. That was a public place. And lots of people came to hear Him speak. But He also taught His disciples alone. We are going to read about a time when He was speaking just to His disciples. He was teaching them how to pray.

Let's read Luke 11:1–4. *Choose students to read the verses.*

? What did His disciples ask Him? Look in Luke 11:1. *To teach them to pray.*

Yes. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. So Jesus gave them a model prayer—a prayer we often call "The Lord's Prayer" or the "Our Father." It was different from the prayers that the Jews often prayed where they repeated the same thing over and over. It was a special prayer and way of praying.

? Look at #7 on your class notes. Will someone read that? How will you answer it? *Assign students to read. Pray.*

Luke 8:22–25

► Read this verse and/or others enthusiastically to add some variety into the class.

OMNIPOTENT

(Refer to Attributes Poster)

Luke 11:1–4

Jesus taught His disciples how to pray in a way that pleased God. But Jesus also taught His disciples about many other things during their time together. He wanted them to be prepared for the time when He was no longer with them. And that time was coming soon! The Jews hated Jesus. They wanted Him dead. They were jealous of His power . . . and His teaching . . . and His miracles. These people did not want Jesus to change their world. They wanted Him dead! So they had Him arrested and brought before men named Pilate and Herod to be judged. That's what we'll read next.

Luke 23:13–15

Someone read Luke 23:13–15 on your Scripture sheet. *Assign a reader.*

? Did Pilate find any fault in Jesus at all? Look in Luke 23:14. *Luke 23:14. No.*

No! Pilate was the judge, and he found nothing wrong with Jesus. The Jews were accusing Jesus wrongly. Then Pilate sent Jesus to a man named Herod. Herod agreed with Pilate. Jesus had done nothing that deserved death.

? Can someone read #8 on the class notes? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Wrong.*

Luke 23:20–21

So, the people demanded that Pilate kill Jesus. Pilate knew He was innocent. Someone read Luke 23:20–21. *Assign a reader.*

? What did Pilate wish to do? *Luke 23:20. Release Jesus.*

? What did the people continue to cry out? *Luke 23:21. Crucify Him, Crucify Him!*

Pilate wanted to let Jesus go! But the Jews demanded that Jesus be killed. And finally Pilate agreed to crucify Jesus on the Cross. Jesus was innocent! But He died on the Cross, according to God's plan, so that whoever would believe in Him could be forgiven of their sins and have eternal life one day with Him.

? And how about #9 on your class notes? Will someone read that and answer it? *Assign a reader. Kill.*

Jesus died on the Cross. But something amazing happened after that. Jesus had been buried on Friday. On Sunday morning, certain women came to the tomb just after sunrise. When they got there, Jesus's body was gone! Instead they saw two angels. That is where we will start reading. The ladies were at the tomb and saw the angels! Let's read Luke 24:5–7. *Choose students to read the verses.*

Luke 24:5–7

? What did the angels say to the ladies? It is in Luke 24:6. *Luke 24:6. He is not here, but is risen.*

Jesus was risen. He wasn't dead! The angels reminded the ladies what Jesus had said. Jesus had told His friends that He would be delivered into the hands of sinful men to be crucified and die, but He would rise again on the third day. The ladies came to the tomb and Jesus was gone! He had risen just as He said.

When Jesus rose from the dead, it showed in the MOST amazing way God's power. God has power over life and death. He is the only omnipotent one!

Jesus rose from the grave and went to heaven where He now sits at the right hand of God. Jesus's Resurrection gives hope of eternal life to everyone who will repent and believe in Him. We don't have to fear death, because if we are in Christ, there is life after death with Jesus!

But how can we be sure this is all true? The Bible tells us that after Jesus's Resurrection from the dead, He stayed on earth and many people saw Him. His disciples knew He was alive. They talked with Him and ate with Him. And this was AFTER He had been killed on the Cross and rose from the dead.

- ? Take a look at #10 on your class notes. Who can read it for the class? How will you answer it? *Assign a reader. Resurrection.*

But He did leave the earth. And His disciples saw it and wrote about it! It was time for Jesus to go. Let's read about it now. Let's read these verses together, Luke 24:50–53. *Read together as a class.*

Luke 24:50–53

- ? Where did Jesus lead His disciples? *Luke 24:50. To Bethany.*
- ? OK. And, once they were there, what did Jesus do? *Luke 24:50. He lifted His hands and blessed His disciples.*
- ? Then after the blessing, what happened? *Luke 24:51. He was carried up into heaven.*
- ? And what did the disciples do? How did they react? That is in Luke 24:52. *They worshipped Jesus. They returned to Jerusalem with joy.*

Yes! Jesus's work was finished and the disciples blessed God and praised Him as they returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

- ? Who can read #11 for us and tell us the answer? *Assign a reader. Work.*

Discover the Truth

The life of our Lord Jesus Christ! God was born a man, lived a life of obedience, taught the people, worked miracles among them, was crucified on the Cross, died, buried, and rose from the dead. And then He ascended into heaven to be with the Father! Jesus's humble life offers the only way to forgiveness and eternal life for those who believe in Him, turn away from their sins, and trust Him for forgiveness. What a privilege to know this Jesus who is fully man and fully God.





Four in a Row

MATERIALS

- Four in a Row Teacher Guide
- Masking tape
- Beanbag, rolled up sock, or other appropriate item
- Red construction paper—8 sheets
- Black construction paper—8 sheets

INSTRUCTIONS

Use masking tape to make a 16-section square on the floor. The square should be four sections wide by four sections high. Each section should be equal in size. Cut 8 red circles and 8 black circles from the red and black construction paper. Or use some other appropriate markers for the two teams.

Divide the students into two teams—red team and black team. Give each team eight paper circles—either red or black. Students will toss the beanbag to a square. They will answer a question. If correct, they can put a marker in that square. To win the game, teams must get four circles in a row on the grid—by answering the questions correctly and throwing the beanbags accurately.

This will be a fun review game. If you were listening, you'll have a better chance of winning the game! I'll put you into two teams: Red Team and Black

Team. We are going to play a game of Four in a Row. I want each team to throw the beanbag onto an empty square on the grid. I will then ask a question about what we have been learning. If your team answers correctly, mark the grid where the beanbag landed. If you don't get it correct, the other team will have an opportunity to answer and earn a space on the grid. We will alternate teams until one team gets four circles in a row. *Play the game using the Four in a Row Teacher Guide from the Resource DVD-ROM.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

We learned a lot about the life of Jesus today. The Bible tells us the truth about what Jesus did on this earth. Not everything He did and said was written down, but everything God wanted us to know is there. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life so that we could have eternal life with God. And only the Bible tells us all about it!



Applying God's Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

*Refer to the New Testament History Poster. **Wow!** That was Jesus's life in one lesson! Someone come up and point to Jesus's birth on our New Testament History Poster. Choose a volunteer to point out Jesus's birth on the poster.*

Jesus was a real man who lived about 2,000 years ago. What a Savior! What a man! This lesson merely scratches the surface of who Jesus was, what He did, and what He will do for those who follow Him in repentance and faith!

Remember John 21:25? Can someone find that in your Bible and read it again? *Choose a student to read the verse.*

? Does the Bible tell us everything there is to know about Jesus? *No!*

No. John makes that clear. We don't know everything there is to know about Jesus. In fact, we could never know all there is to know about Jesus. That's what God is reminding us of in this verse. However, we do know that Jesus is infinitely perfect—a Man, Savior, Friend, Redeemer, Lamb—the eternal and everlasting God! And He came to bring eternal life to all who would turn away from their sins in repentance and faith and believe in the truth about Jesus that we find in the Holy Bible.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

The Bible tells us everything we need to know about Jesus. Some people may tell you they don't believe that what the Bible says about Jesus is true because the Gospels written about Jesus are different. Well, you know better! Everything in the Bible is true. The Bible is God's Word, and God does not lie!

The message the Bible tells about Jesus is the most important message you will ever hear. Jesus is God! And Jesus is the only way sinners can be forgiven and accepted by God. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. He is the only way to get to God the Father. We must repent of our sins, turn to God, trust Jesus for forgiveness of our sins, and humbly accept the grace that God offers us.



➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the students to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise God because Jesus lived and died just as the Bible says.
- Thank God for every detail that has been recorded about Jesus, so that we can learn from Him and find out how to have eternal life with God.
- Ask God to help us to tell more people about Jesus because what the Bible says about Jesus is the most important message they'll ever hear.

