# LITTLE VILLAGE

# PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM

**NEW TESTAMENT / Ages 1–2** 

A GOD-CENTERED, GOSPEL-CENTERED STUDY OF GOD'S BIG STORY

#### LITTLE VILLAGE PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM PHILOSOPHY

The most joyful thing in all the world is knowing God; that's why our kids need to hear who God is and what He has done in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

In fact, God's big story (see the God's Big Story Timeline in the Appendix)—from creation to redemption to restoration displays Him as Hero. **The Bible is God's True Word. It is from God and about God.** Sadly, we sometimes miss that point and make everything about ourselves. Our kids need a different vantage point:

God, in His wonder, shows us His love

while we are yet still sinners.

#### THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Even though our hearts are by nature opposed to God in every way, Jesus died on the cross for us so that our sick hearts (see Sick Heart/Healthy Heart visuals in the Appendix) could be made healthy, and now everyone who loves and trusts Jesus will get to live with God forever!

#### A STRONG FOUNDATION

The lessons throughout this curriculum highlight one of these Six Foundational Truths: **God Made Everything**, **God Is in Charge of Everything**, **God Is Good**, **Jesus Came to Save Sinners**, **God Wants to Talk With Us**, and **The Church Is God's Family**. This helps us keep the focus of every lesson on the main point of the story: God! And what do we do in response? Worship! **Worship is how we show that God is most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We use our voices, minds, and bodies to worship God.** 

#### OUR PRAYER

We pray that God would show the next generation the reason for the hope that we have. May we faithfully tell God's big story, laying kindling in the hearts of children that the Lord might ignite for the praise of His beautiful name.



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- **13** God Promises A Savior
- 14 Jesus Is Born
- **15** Shepherds and Angels Worship Jesus
- **16** Jesus in the Temple
- 17 Jesus Chooses the 12 Disciples
- **18** Jesus Feeds the 5,000
- **19** Jesus Calms the Storm
- 20 Jesus Loves the Children
- 21 Jesus' Triumphal Entry
- **22** Jesus Comes Back to Life
- 23 Jesus Goes Back to Heaven
- 24 God Saves Saul
- **25** The Church Begins
- 26 Jesus Will Come Again

### Appendix

Class Rules Six Foundational Truths Sick Heart/Healthy Heart God's Big Story Timeline Gospel Fingerplay Have You Heard About Jesus? Map Glossary



### **God Promises A Savior**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

In the beginning, God Made Everything! Everything God made was good. God was with Adam and Eve in the beautiful garden He made.

God gave Adam and Eve one good rule that would keep them safe and let them be with Him. One day, a snake came into the garden and lied to Eve. He told her to break the rule God had given them. Eve believed the snake instead of God.

This was so sad! When Adam and Eve did not listen to God's rule, this was sin. This sin broke the perfect world God had made.

Adam and Eve tried to hide from God because they knew they had sinned. God sent them out of the garden to punish them for their sin.

Before He sent them out, He made a promise. God promised that He would send a Savior to rescue God's people! The Savior would fix everything that was broken. He would beat the snake who lied to Eve.

That Savior was Jesus! God's people waited, and one day, when no one was expecting it, God's promise came true.

#### **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

#### TEACHER DOES

- Show PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to Save Sinners!
- Show **PICTURE 2** Adam and Eve in the garden
- Show **PICTURE 3** Adam and Eve talking to the snake
- Show **PICTURE 4** Adam and Eve eating the fruit
- Show **PICTURE 5** perfect world/ sinful world
- Make a sad face.

Pretend to be hiding.



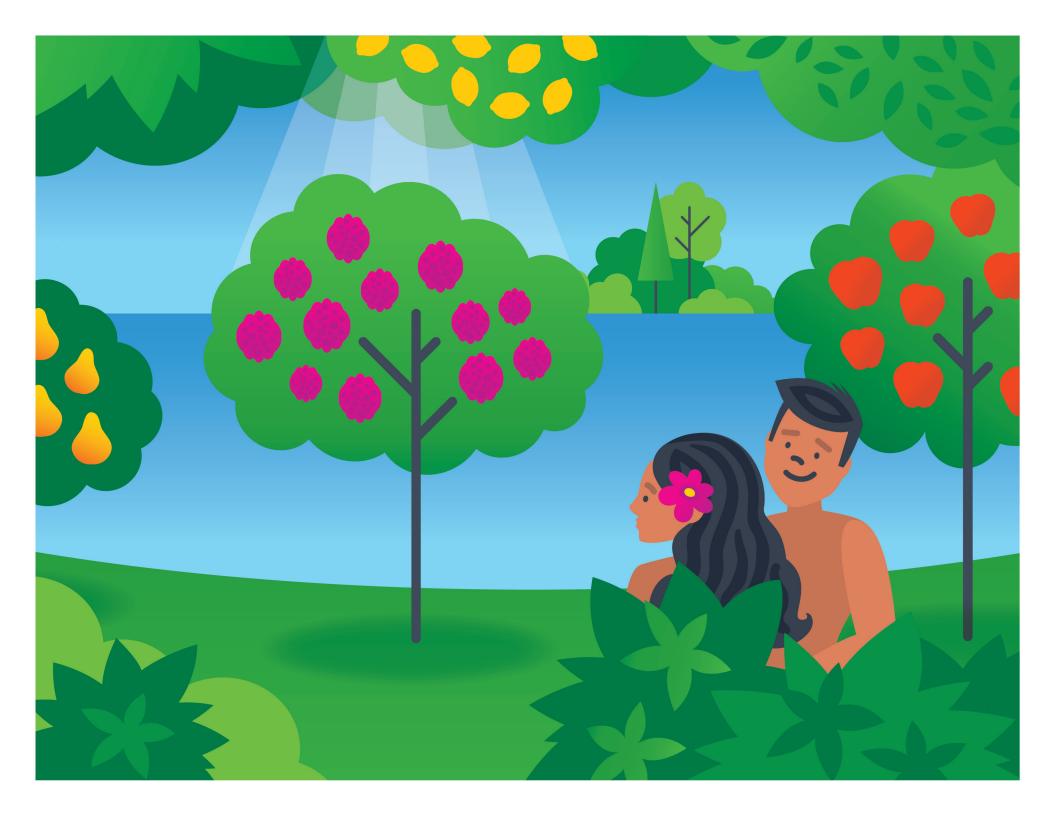














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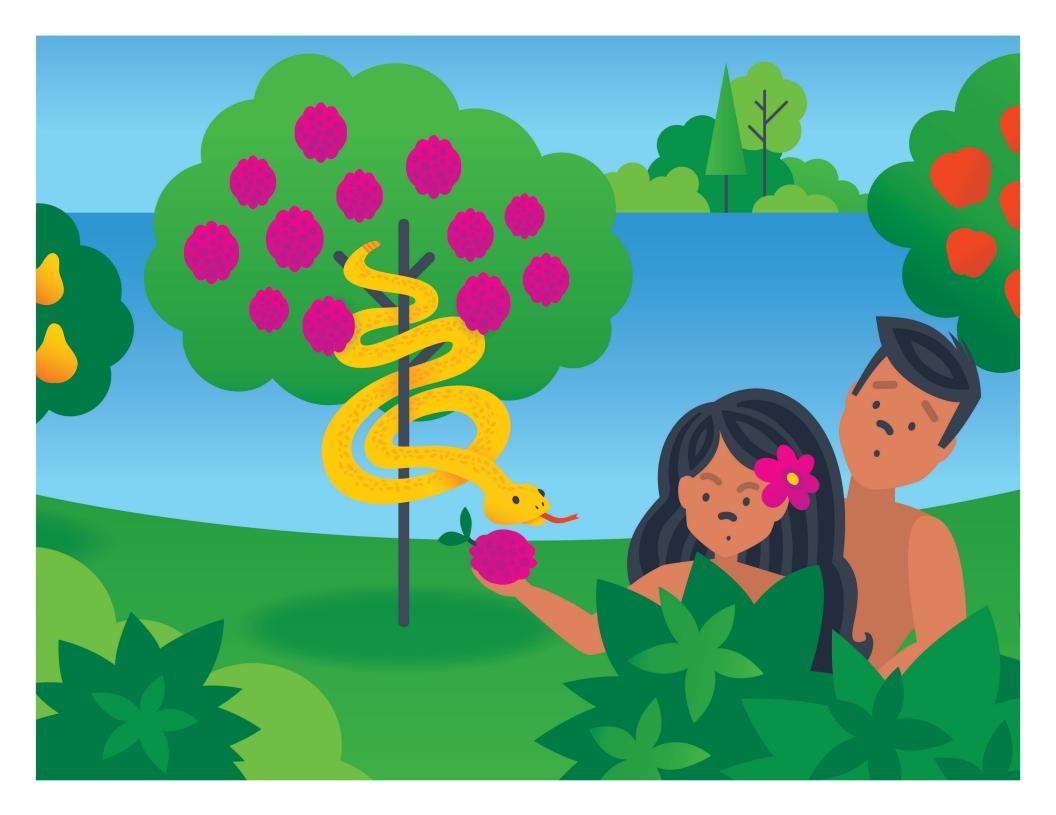














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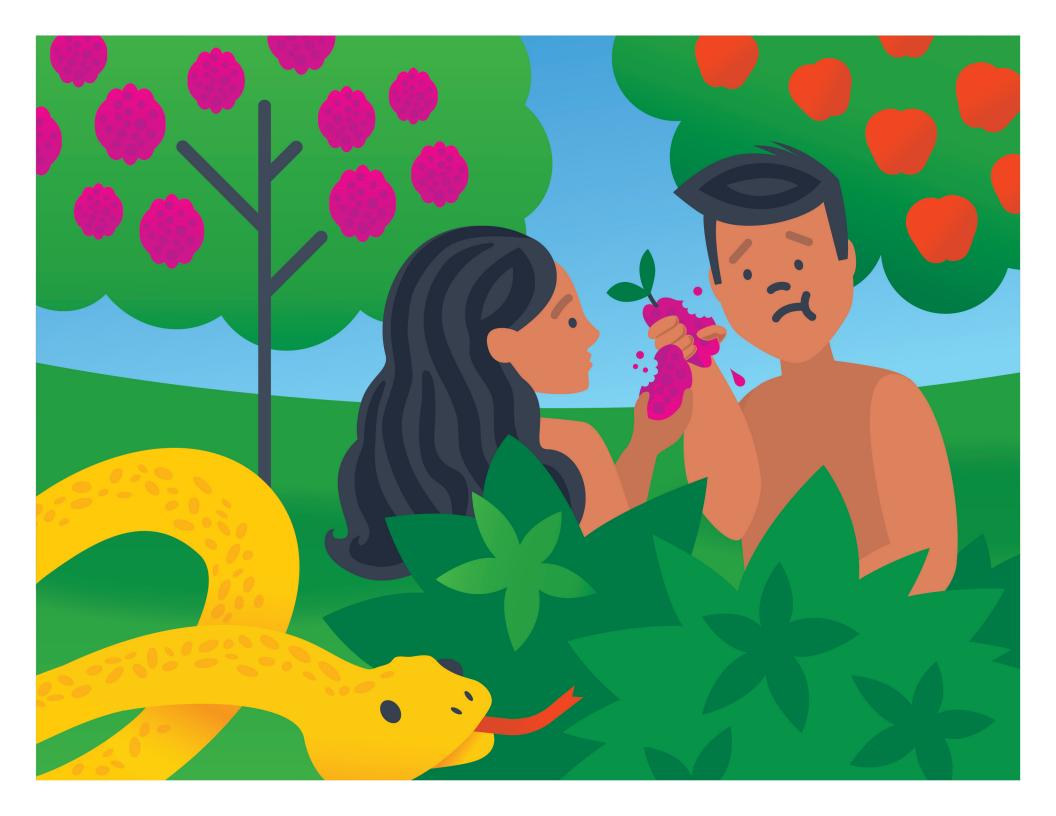














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#### JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS















# **Jesus Is Born**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

An angel came to tell Mary and Joseph that they were going to have a special baby. The baby was God's Son. The baby was Jesus. **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** 

Before Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had to go on a long trip. Mary and Joseph went to a town called Bethlehem.

There were lots and lots of people in Bethlehem. Joseph looked and looked for a place for Mary and Joseph to sleep at night. He could not find one. All of the rooms in Bethlehem were full of people.

Mary and Joseph had to sleep in a stable. A stable is like a barn. It is where sheep, cows, horses, and pigs live. That night in the stable, Jesus was born. Jesus is God's Son. It was a very special night.

Jesus grew up. He lived a perfect life. Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins.

#### **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

#### TEACHER DOES

- Show **PICTURE 2** An angel and Mary
- Show **PICTURE 3** Mary and Joseph traveling
- Act like you are searching.
- Shake your head "no."
- Show **PICTURE 4** Mary, Joseph, and Jesus in the manger
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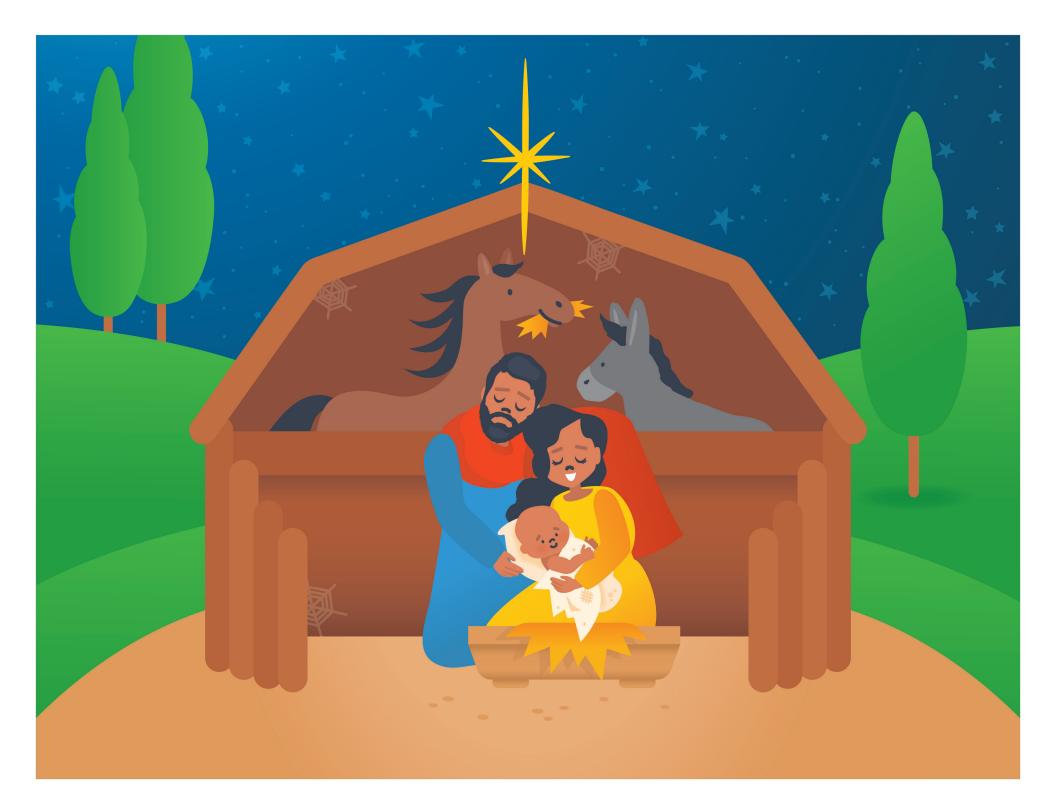














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There were a lot of people in Bethlehem. There was no place for Mary and Joseph to sleep at night. Mary and Joseph had to sleep in a stable. A stable is where sheep, cows, horses, and pigs live. That night in the stable, Jesus was born. Jesus is God's Son.

Some shepherds were watching their sheep in a field nearby. The shepherds saw an angel in the sky! The angel told the shepherds that Jesus had been born!

Then, lots of angels filled the sky and sang about Jesus. The shepherds were surprised! The shepherds left their sheep and ran to find Jesus. When they found Jesus, they worshiped Him. They told Jesus how great He was!

Jesus grew up and lived a perfect life. Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins.

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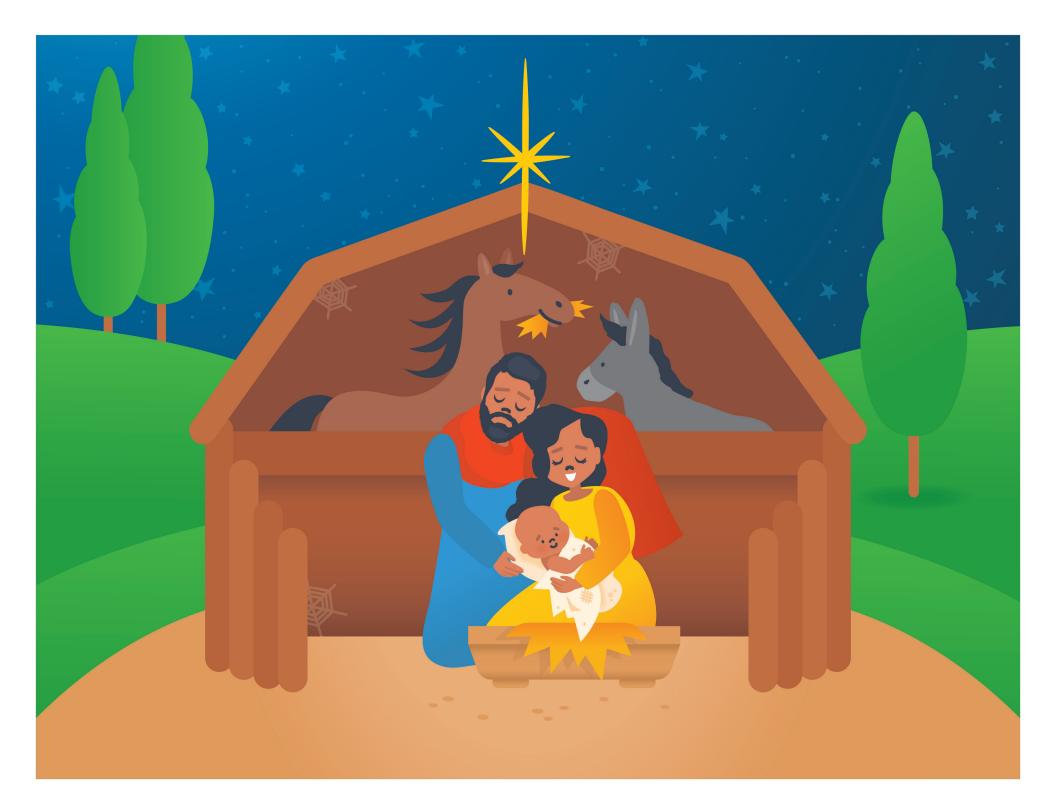














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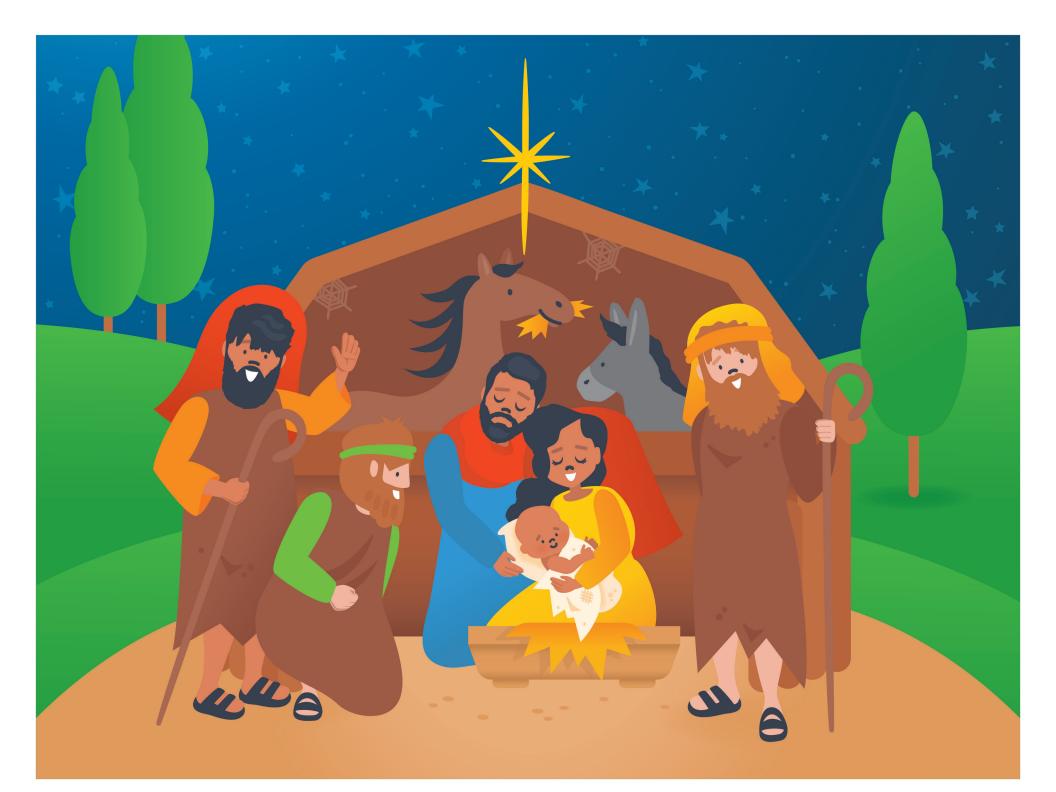














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#### Jesus in the Temple FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that God Wants to Talk With Us!

When Jesus was a child, He went with His family to the temple to pray and worship God.

When it was time to go home, Jesus stayed in the temple. But Mary and Joseph, Jesus' mommy and daddy, did not know that Jesus stayed in the temple. They began to look for Jesus and could not find Him.

It took three days for Mary and Joseph to find Jesus.

Jesus was in the temple talking with the grown-ups about God. The teachers were surprised by how much Jesus knew about God. Jesus knew about God because Jesus was God's Son.

Mary and Joseph did not understand why Jesus had stayed in the temple. Jesus told them that He wanted to be in the temple talking about God. God was His Father. Jesus loved to talk to God.

We can talk to God, too! When we pray, we are talking to God. God loves to hear us pray. God wants us to talk with Him.

God Wants to Talk With Us, too! God talks to us in the Bible. He wants us to know all about Him.

#### **God Wants to Talk With Us!**

#### TEACHER DOES

Show PICTURE 1 God Wants to Talk With Us!





- Pretend to look around the room. Count to three.
  - Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus talking with the teachers
- Show **PICTURE 4** Jesus talking with Mary and Joseph
  - Make praying hands.
  - Show the Bible.
  - Show PICTURE 1 God Wants to Talk With Us!

















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**God Wants to Talk With Us**, too! God talks to us in the Bible. He wants us to know all about Him.

#### **God Wants to Talk With Us!**

#### TEACHER DOES

Show **PICTURE 1 God Wants** to Talk With Us!





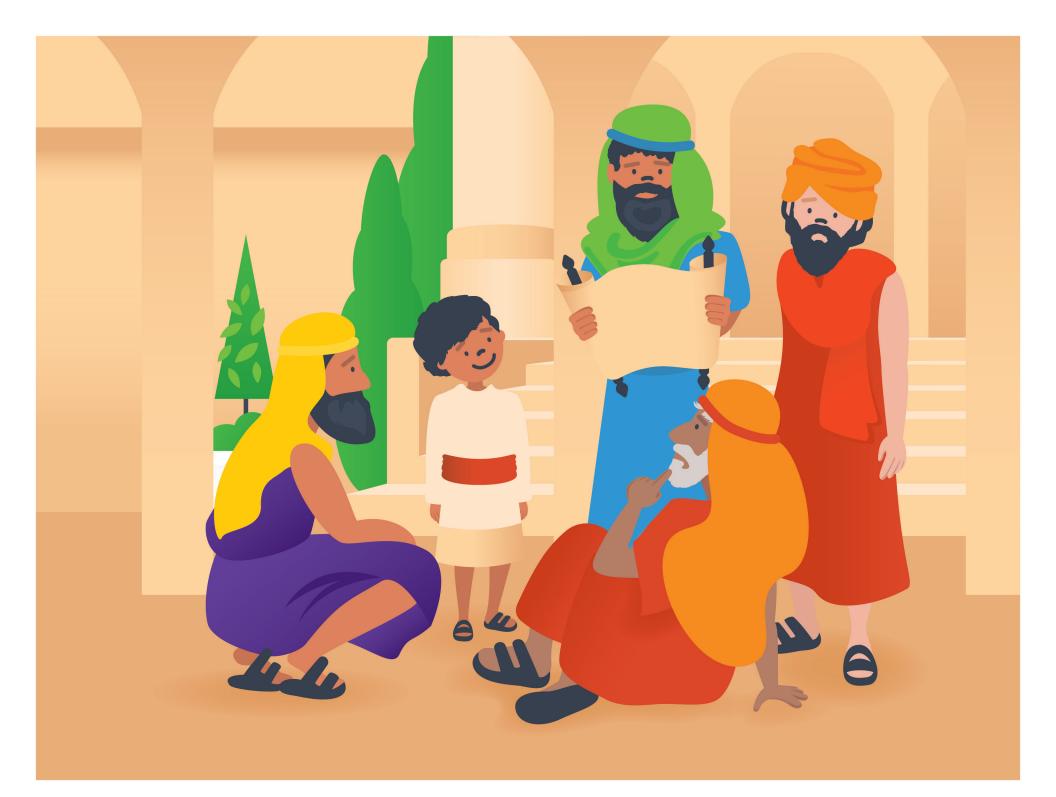
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# Jesus in the Temple

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that God Wants to Talk With Us!

When Jesus was a child, He went with His family to the temple to pray and worship God.

When it was time to go home, Jesus stayed in the temple. But Mary and Joseph, Jesus' mommy and daddy, did not know that Jesus stayed in the temple. They began to look for Jesus and could not find Him.

It took three days for Mary and Joseph to find Jesus.

Jesus was in the temple talking with the grown-ups about God. The teachers were surprised by how much Jesus knew about God. Jesus knew about God because Jesus was God's Son.

Mary and Joseph did not understand why Jesus had stayed in the temple. Jesus told them that he wanted to be in the temple talking about God. God was His Father. Jesus loved to talk to God.

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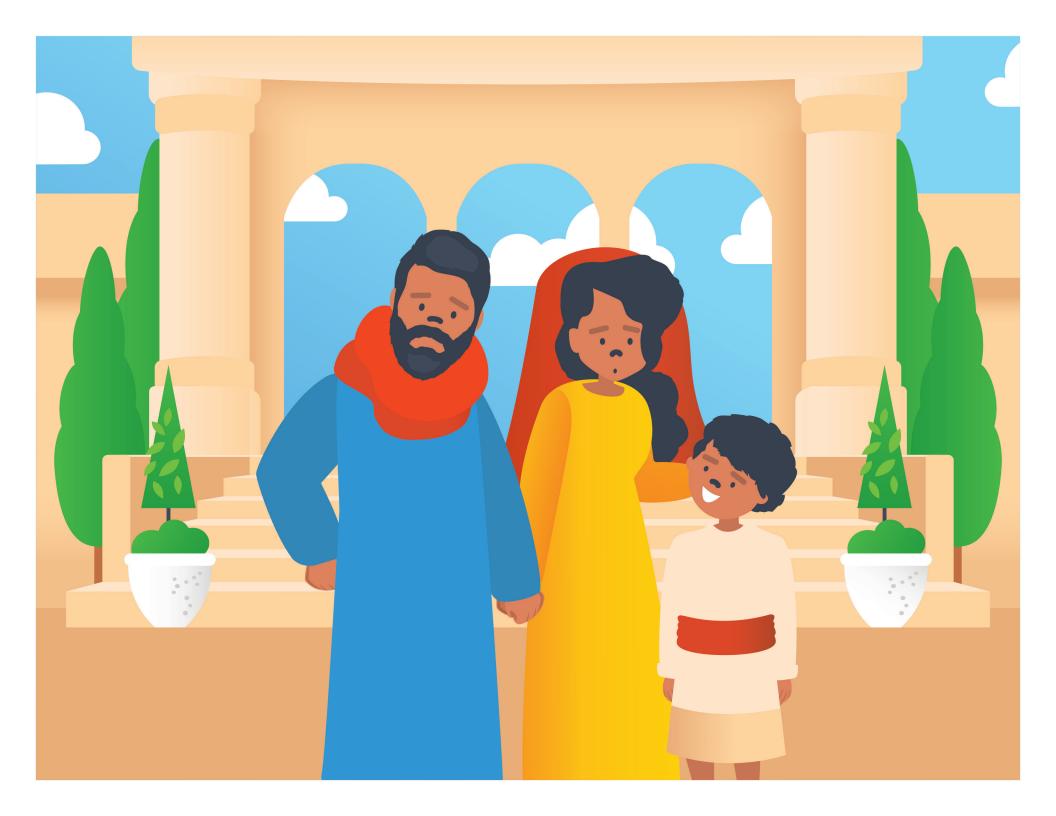
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## Jesus Chooses the 12 Disciples

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

When Jesus grew up, He began to travel around Israel telling people about God. Jesus invited other people to join Him as He told people about God. Jesus wanted everyone to know that He came to save sinners!

Jesus was walking by a lake and saw two brothers fishing. He told the brothers to follow Him. Instead of catching fish, they were going to tell a lot of people about God! The men left their boats and families to follow Jesus.

Jesus was in town and saw a man working. The man was a tax collector. His job was to take money from people. Jesus told the man to leave his job and follow Him. The man obeyed Jesus and followed Him.

Jesus invited 12 men to follow Him and be His very good friends. These 12 friends were called Jesus' disciples. Jesus gave the disciples new healthy hearts that loved and trusted Him. He taught the disciples about God and told His disciples to go and tell everyone what they had learned.

#### **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

#### TEACHER DOES

Show PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to Save Sinners!



- Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus calling a tax collector
- Show **PICTURE 4** Jesus teaching the disciples

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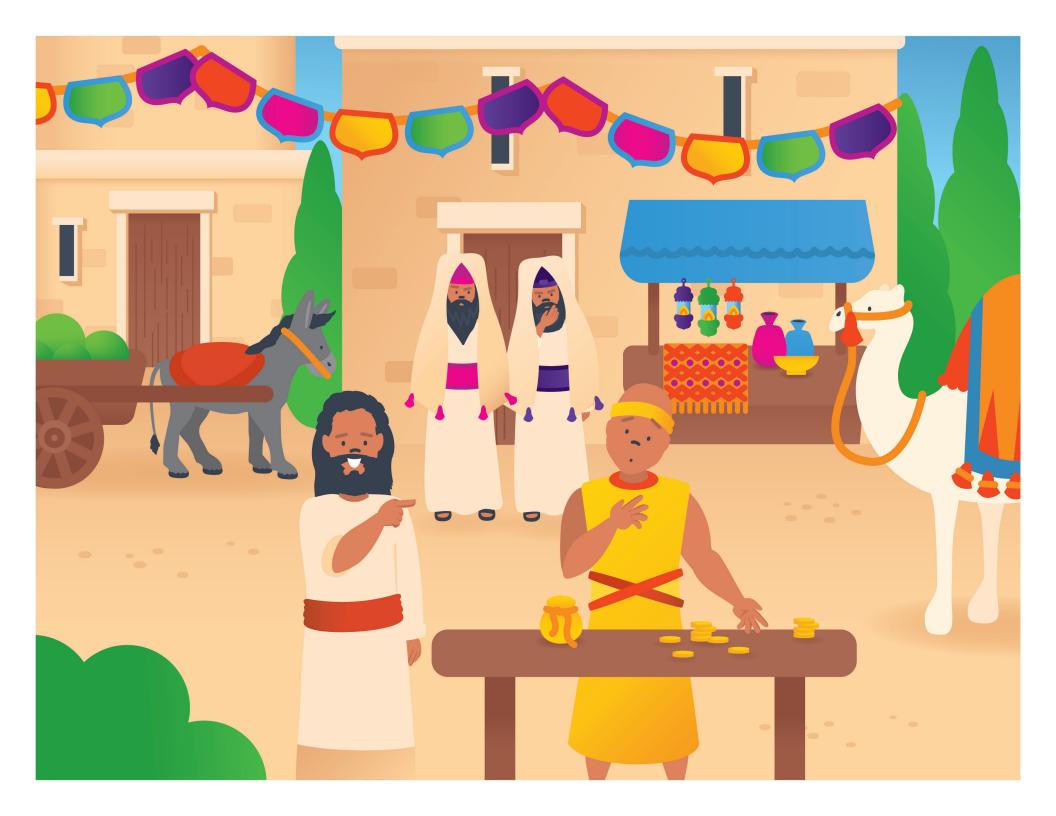














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## Jesus Feeds the 5,000

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that God Is Good!

A lot of people came to see Jesus. Jesus was kind to them. He helped the sick people feel better and told everyone about God.

It was dinnertime, and all the people needed to eat. They were very hungry, but there was nowhere to get food.

Jesus asked His very good friends and followers, the disciples, to find some food. They found five loaves of bread and two fish.

The disciples did not think the five loaves of bread and two fish would feed all the people, but Jesus knew there would be enough food for everyone.

Jesus prayed. He knew that **God Is Good** and that God would feed His people.

Jesus passed out the food. All of the people had lots of food to eat. They were so full! There was even food left over!

God was good to take care of the people when they were hungry. God loves us and knows what we need. **God Is Good!** 

- Show **PICTURE 1 God Is Good!**
- Show **PICTURE 2** The crowd of people around Jesus
- Rub your tummy.
- Hold up five fingers and two fingers.
- Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus praying and holding the bread and fish
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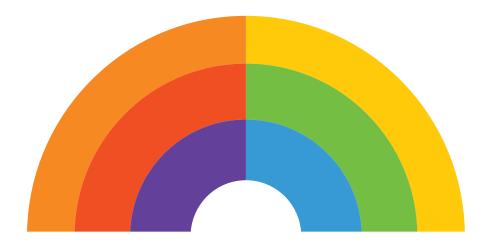












# GODIS GOODD



## **Jesus Calms the Storm**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD MADE EVERYTHING

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that God Made Everything!

Jesus is God. Jesus has the power to tell everything what to do because **God Made Everything!** 

One day, Jesus was on a boat with His very good friends and followers, the disciples. While Jesus and the disciples were sailing on the boat, a great, big storm came!

The wind was blowing, and there was lightning! The boat was rocking back and forth, and the storm was so loud. The disciples were very, very scared!

Jesus was not scared. Jesus was asleep! The disciples were so scared, they woke Jesus up.

When Jesus woke up, He told the storm to stop! And it did! The wind and the water listened to Jesus because He made them! **God Made Everything!** The disciples were amazed!

Jesus is God. **God Made Everything!** Everything that He made obeys Him.

TEACHER DOES

Show PICTURE 1 God Made Everything!



- Sway back and forth as you're talking.
- Show PICTURE 2 The disciples scared on the boat while Jesus slept



- Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus rebuking the storm
- Show **PICTURE 4** Peaceful sea
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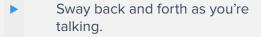
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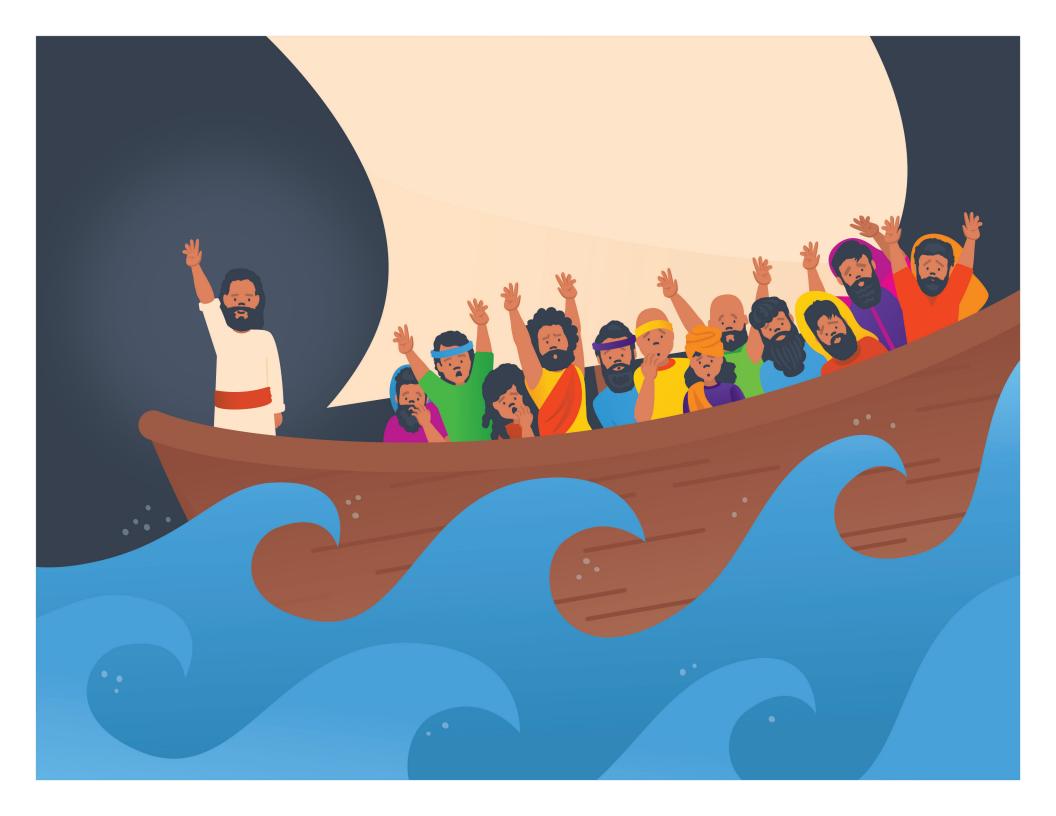


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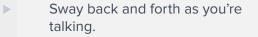
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#### Luke 18:15–17

## **Jesus Loves the Children**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that God Wants to Talk With Us!

Jesus is God.

One day, Jesus was teaching a BIG group of people. Mommies and daddies were bringing their children to see Jesus. The mommies and daddies wanted Jesus to spend time with their children.

The disciples were Jesus' very good friends and followers. The disciples were mad at the mommies and daddies for bringing their children to Jesus. The disciples tried to tell the mommies and daddies to take the little children away.

The disciples thought Jesus didn't have time for the children, but they were wrong. Jesus wanted to talk with the children! Jesus told the disciples and the people that children are special to God. Jesus spent time talking with the children.

God wants to talk with children. He talks to them through the Bible. Children can talk to God through prayer.

#### **God Wants to Talk With Us!**

#### TEACHER DOES

Show PICTURE 1 God Wants to Talk With Us!



- Hold your arms open wide to communicate BIG.
- Show PICTURE 2 The disciples keeping the children from Jesus



- Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus sitting with the children
- Show the Bible. Make praying hands.
- Show PICTURE 1 God Wants to Talk With Us!







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# Jesus' Triumphal Entry

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

## TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

Jesus and His very good friends and followers, the disciples, were going to a town called Jerusalem. Jerusalem was the biggest and most important city. The disciples went to get a donkey for Jesus to ride into the city.

Jesus didn't come into Jerusalem on a big horse or anything fancy! Jesus came into Jerusalem riding on the back of a young donkey.

A huge crowd with lots and lots of people came to welcome Jesus to Jerusalem. They laid their coats down and big leaves called palm branches on the ground. They worshiped Jesus like a king!

The people waved their palm branches and said, "Hosanna, hosanna" which means, "Hooray, the Savior is here!"

The people celebrated that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

## TEACHER DOES

- Show **PICTURE 2** The disciples getting the donkeys
- Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus riding on a young donkey
- Show PICTURE 4 The people celebrating Jesus coming on the donkey
- Have everybody say, "Hosanna, Hosanna!" and wave pretend palm branches.
- Show PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to Save Sinners!















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## **Jesus Comes Back to Life**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

## TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

It was time for Jesus to die on the cross for our sin. The leaders of the city did not love and trust Jesus, and they wanted Him to die, so they nailed Jesus' hands and feet to the cross. Jesus had the power to make them stop, but He chose to die on the cross to rescue God's people from sin.

One of Jesus' friends took Jesus' body off of the cross and wrapped Him with cloth and put Him in a tomb. A tomb was a big hole, like a cave, where they would put someone's body when they died. They rolled a huge rock in front of Jesus' tomb so no one could see or take Jesus' body.

On the third day, the ground began to shake, and an angel rolled away the huge rock that was in front of Jesus' tomb! Jesus came back to life!

Jesus went to see His friends and followers, the disciples. Jesus came back to life just like He said He would!

Jesus died on the cross and came back to life because **Jesus Came** to Save Sinners!

### TEACHER DOES

- Show **PICTURE 2** Jesus dies on the cross
- Show **PICTURE 3** Closed tomb

- Show **PICTURE 4** Empty tomb
- Show **PICTURE 5** Jesus and the disciples
  - Show **PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to**Save Sinners!



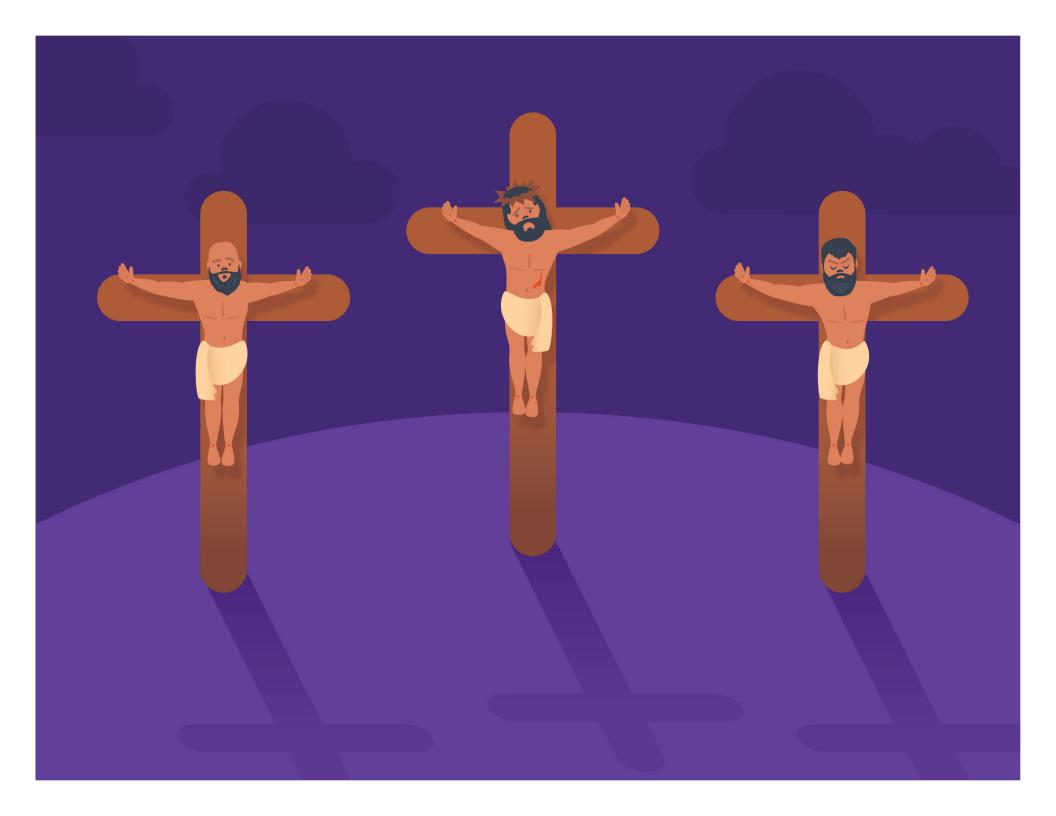














## **Jesus Comes Back to Life**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

## TEACHER SAYS

#### Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

It was time for Jesus to die on the cross for our sin. The leaders of the city did not love and trust Jesus, and they wanted Him to die, so they nailed Jesus' hands and feet to the cross. Jesus had the power to make them stop, but He chose to die on the cross to rescue God's people from sin.

One of Jesus' friends took Jesus' body off of the cross and wrapped Him with cloth and put Him in a tomb. A tomb was a big hole, like a cave, where they would put someone's body when they died. They rolled a huge rock in front of Jesus' tomb so no one could see or take Jesus' body.

On the third day, the ground began to shake, and an angel rolled away the huge rock that was in front of Jesus' tomb! Jesus came back to life!

Jesus went to see His friends and followers, the disciples. Jesus came back to life just like He said He would!

Jesus died on the cross and came back to life because **Jesus Came** to Save Sinners!

## TEACHER DOES

- Show PICTURE 2 Jesus dies on the cross
- Show **PICTURE 3** closed tomb

- Show **PICTURE 4** empty tomb
- Show **PICTURE 5** Jesus and the disciples
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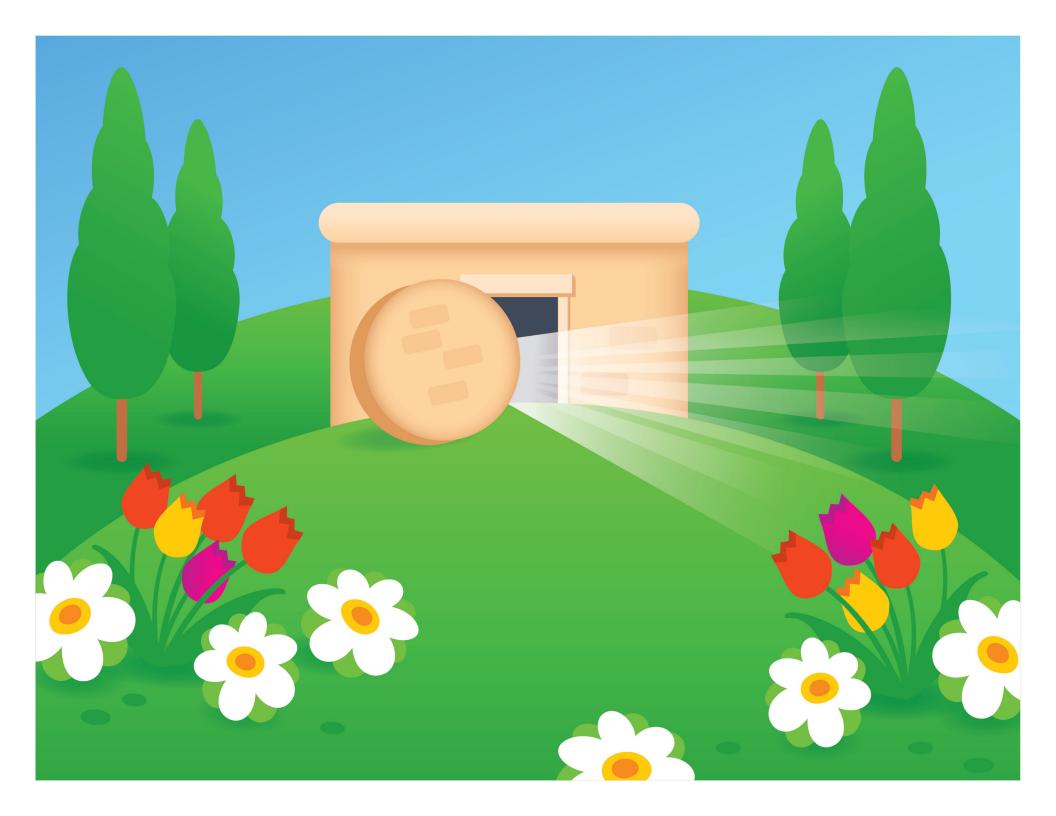














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## **Jesus Goes Back to Heaven**

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

## TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

Jesus died on the cross for sin. On the third day, the ground began to shake, and an angel rolled away the huge rock that was in front of Jesus' tomb! Jesus came back to life!

Jesus went to see His friends and followers, the disciples. Jesus made breakfast for them and told them what they would do when He was gone. Jesus was about to go back to heaven, and He wanted to prepare His friends.

Jesus gave His disciples a special job. They were to go everywhere and tell everyone that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** They were to tell everyone because everyone is born with a heart that is sick with sin.

Jesus promised His disciples that He would send the Holy Spirit to help them do their special job. After Jesus told them, He was lifted up into the sky, and a cloud took Him back to heaven.

Jesus finished the work to save sinners, so He went back to heaven. Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

## TEACHER DOES

- Show PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to Save Sinners!
- Show **PICTURE 2** Empty tomb
- Show **PICTURE 3** Jesus eating with the disciples
- Show **PICTURE 4** Sick heart
- Show **PICTURE 5** Jesus goes back to heaven



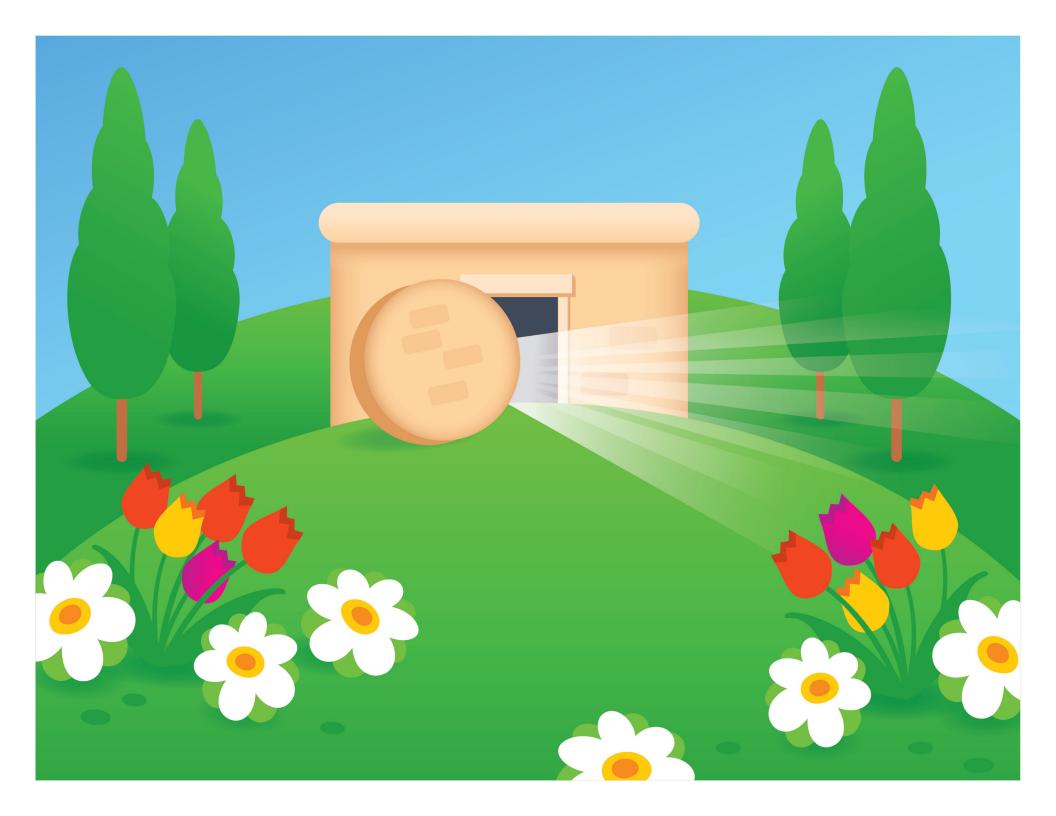














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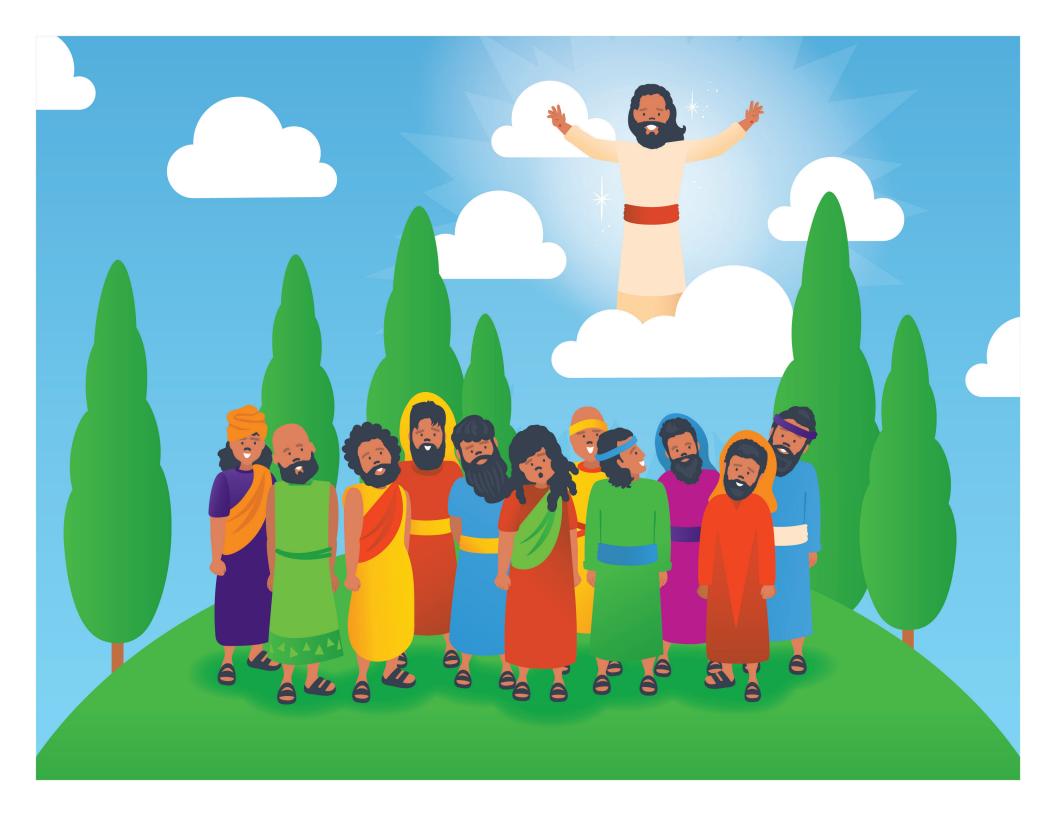














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## **God Saves Saul**

Acts 9

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

#### TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

Saul was a sinner. He had a sick heart. Saul did not love and trust Jesus.

Saul was very, very mean to the people who loved and trusted Jesus. He hurt them because they believed that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** 

Jesus Came to Save Sinners and came to see Saul one day.

Saul was on his way to hurt more people when Jesus stopped him on the road. Jesus spoke to Saul in a bright light. Jesus loved Saul and gave Saul a heart that loved and trusted Him.

Saul started going by a new name: Paul! Paul was very different after Jesus gave him a healthy heart.

Paul did not hurt the Church anymore. He was part of the Church and told lots and lots of people that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** 

- Show PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to Save Sinners!
- Show **PICTURE 2** Angry Saul
- Have the children make a sad face with you.
- Show the **PICTURE 3** Saul persecuting the church
- Show **PICTURE 4** Saul blinded on the road
- Show **PICTURE 5** Healthy heart
- Have everyone clap and cheer!
- Show PICTURE 1 Jesus Came to Save Sinners! (point to sky, cross wrists, lay crossed wrists on chest)



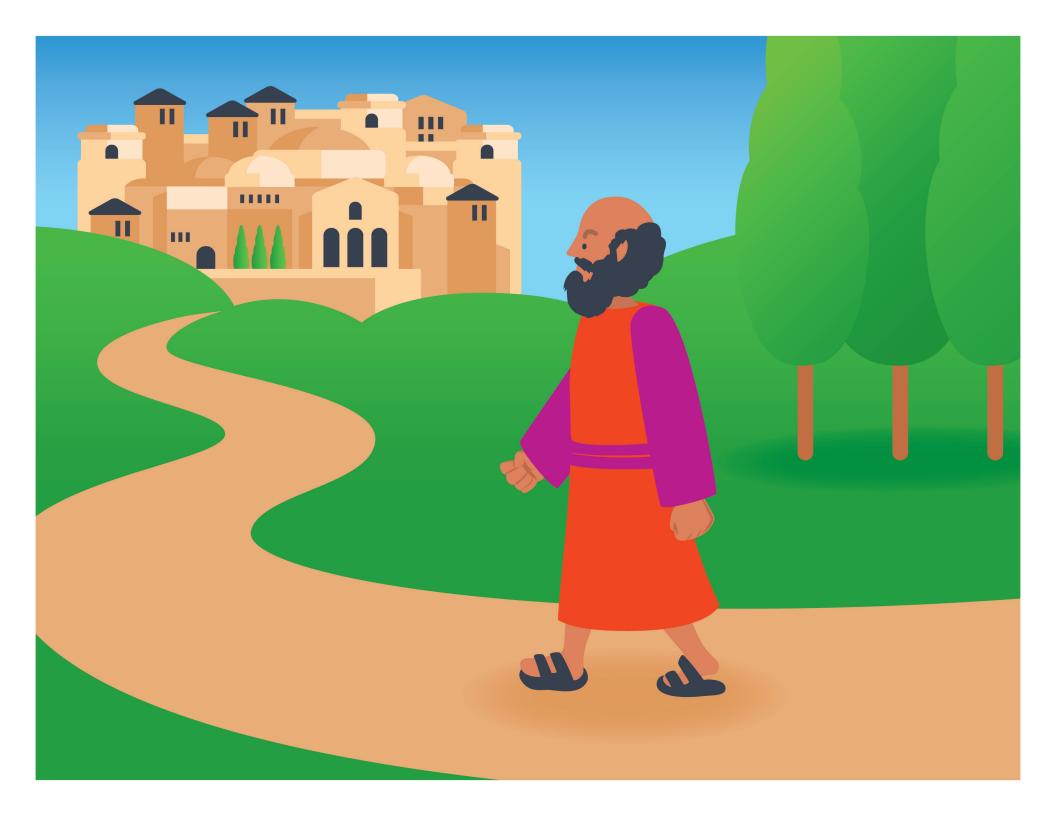














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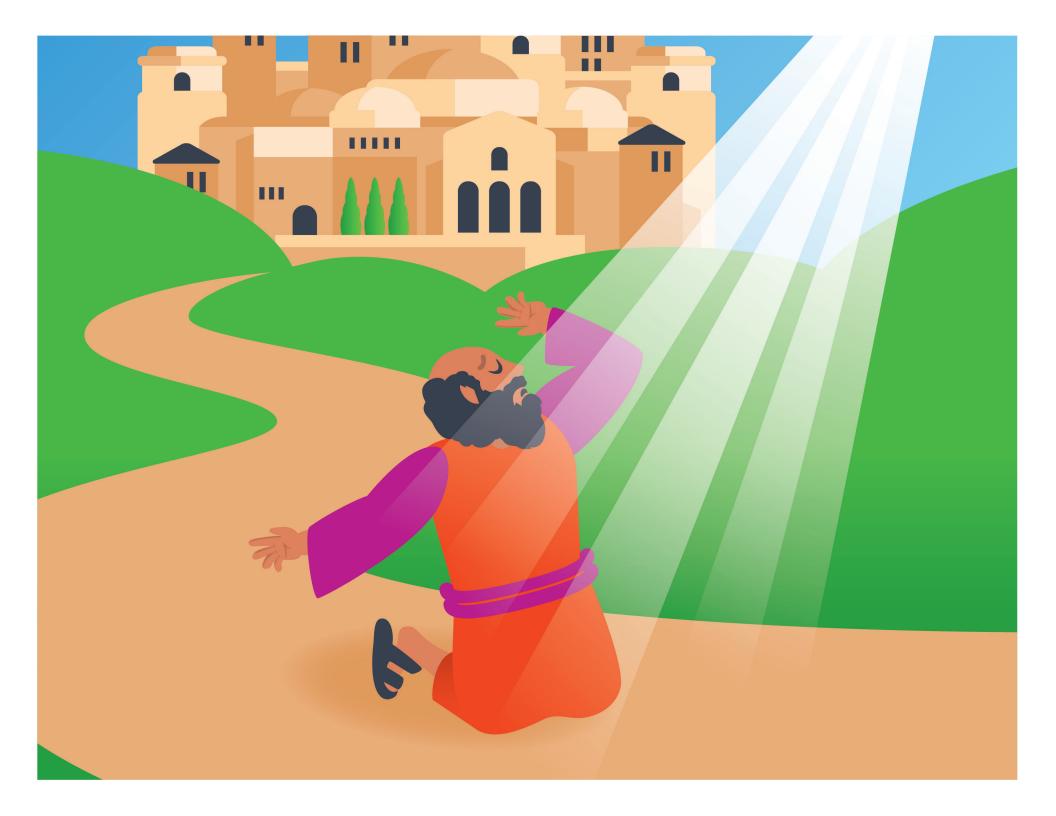














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# Acts 2

# The Church Begins

## TEACHER SAYS

Today we are going to learn that **The Church Is God's Family!** 

The Church is made up of all God's children who love and trust Jesus.

The Church began when one of Jesus' friends, Peter, told people that Jesus came to save sinners. God helped the people believe!

The Church spends time together. The Church learns about God and the Bible together.

The Church tells and shows God that they love Him. They sing and pray and obey God to show Him they love Him.

The Church tells others that Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

The Church helps each other! God takes care of his people through His Church.

God made the Church to spend time together, show God they love Him, and help tell others about Jesus.

# The Church Is God's Family!

# TEACHER DOES

- Show PICTURE 1 The Church Is God's Family!
- Make a happy face.
- Show **PICTURE 2** Peter teaching
- Show **PICTURE 3** People eating together

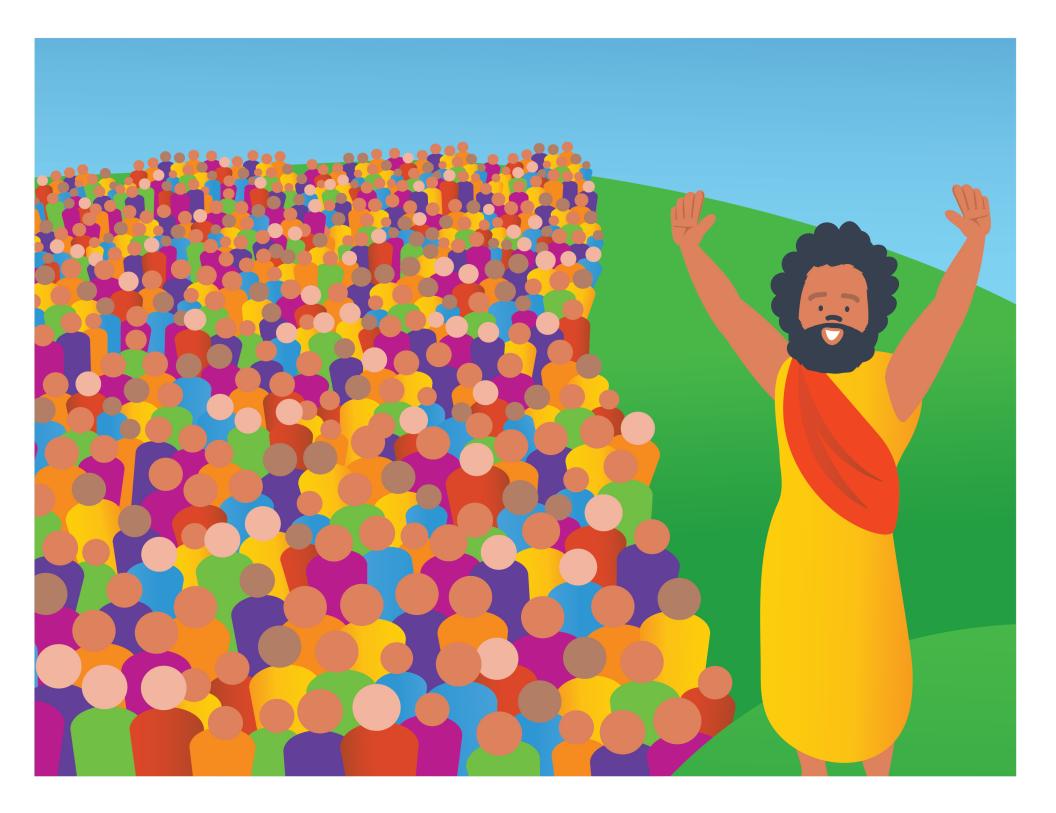








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# **Revelation 21**

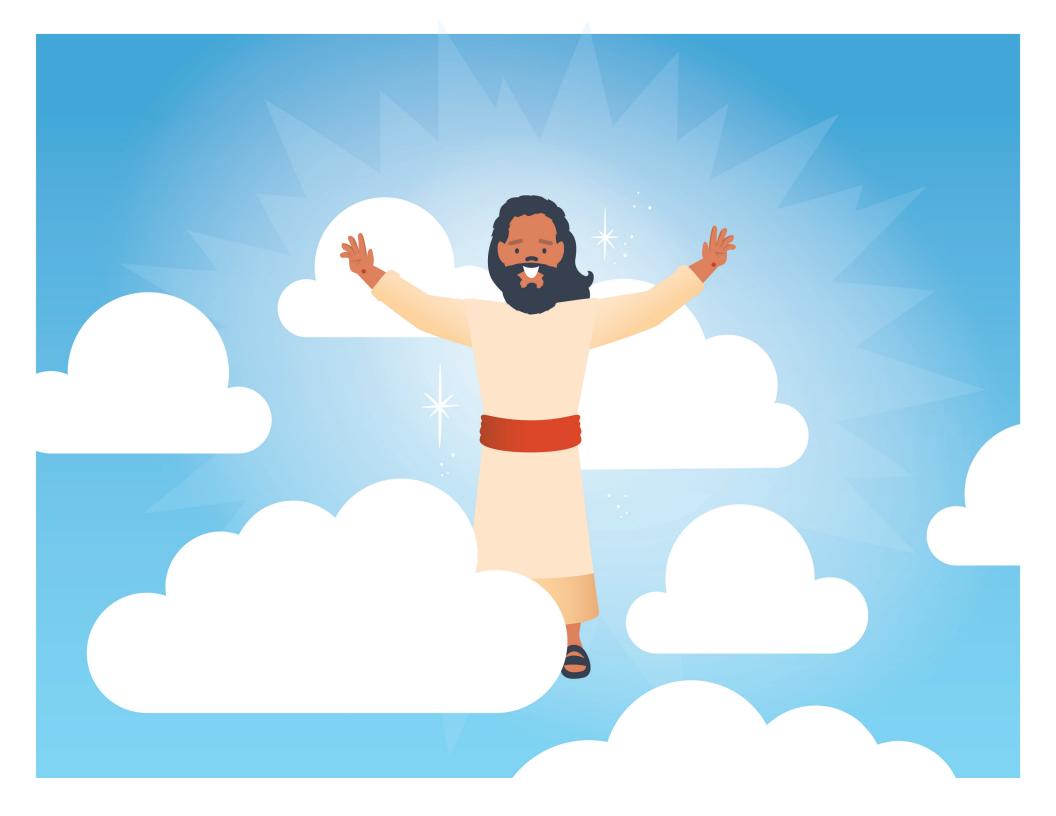
# Jesus Will Come Again

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

TEACHER SAYS		TEACHER DOES	
Today we are going to learn that God is Good!	•	Show <b>PICTURE 1 God Is Good!</b>	Г
In the beginning, God Made Everything! Everything God made was good. God was with Adam and Eve in the beautiful garden He made.			Ľ
God gave Adam and Eve one good rule that would keep them safe and let them be with Him, but Adam and Eve did not listen to God's rule. They disobeyed, and God's perfect world was broken by sin.	•	Hold up one finger.	2
God punished Adam and Eve. He sent them out of the beautiful garden. Before God sent them out, He made a promise that He would send Jesus to save God's people from their sin.			
After many, many years, Jesus was born! Jesus lived a perfect life and died on the cross to save God's people from their sin. After three days, Jesus was raised from the dead!	•	Hold up three fingers.	
Before Jesus went back to heaven, He promised His friends that He would come back for them one day. Now, God's people wait for Jesus to come back.			
When Jesus comes back, He will make everything new! No one will be sick or sad, and everyone who trusts Jesus will live with Him forever.		Show <b>PICTURE 2</b> Jesus returning in the clouds	
God is Good!		Show PICTURE 1 God Is Good!	

GOD IS GOOD

GOD IS GOOD





# **Revelation 21**

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TEACHER SAYS	Т	EACHER DOES	
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After many, many years, Jesus was born! Jesus lived a perfect life and died on the cross to save God's people from their sin. After three days, Jesus was raised from the dead!	•	Hold up three fingers.	
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# GODIS GOOD













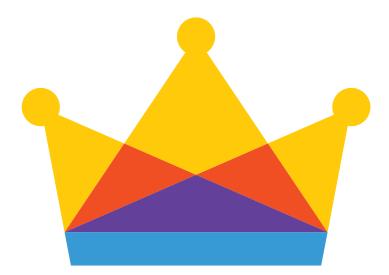






# GODIS GOOD





# **GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING**





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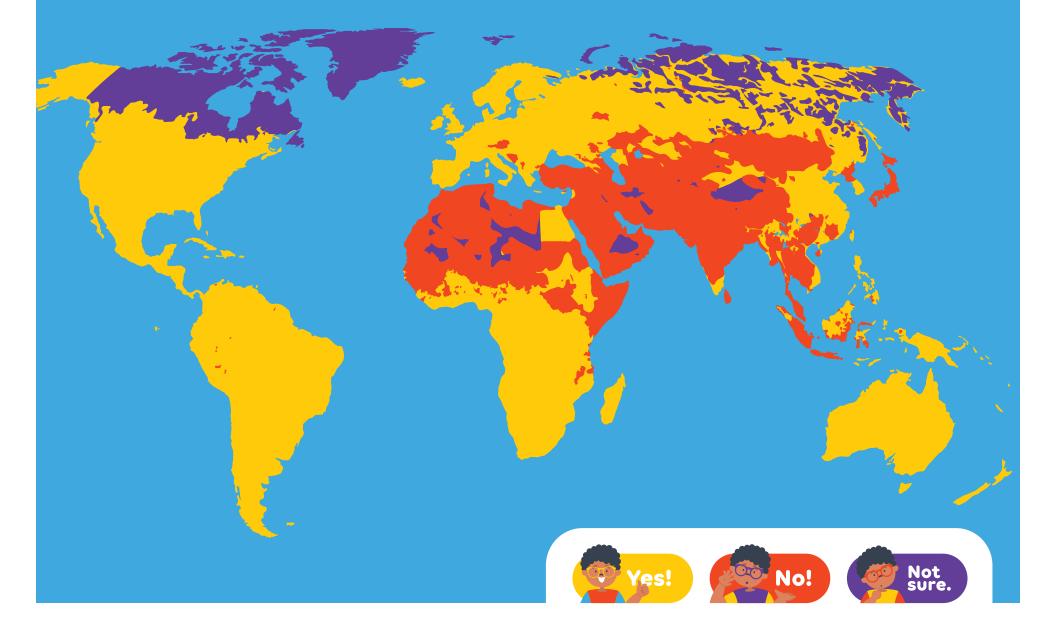




# **Gospel Fingerplay**

Jesus came down	Hold both hands up high above your head.
	Lower hands while wiggling fingers.
to be born as a little baby.	Hold arms like you are cradling a baby.
He lived a perfect life.	Give two thumbs-up.
He died on the cross for our sins.	Cross one arm over the other to make a cross.
He was buried in a tomb.	Put one hand on top of the other to make a tomb.
On the third day,	Hold up three fingers.
He rose from the dead.	Make three fingers rise into the air.
And that's the gospel truth!	Pound fist on open hand as you say each word.

# Have you heard about Jesus?



# **GLOSSARY** TERMS FOR TEACHING

**ANGEL** – a mighty messenger and warrior from God

**BAPTISM** – to dip someone under some water and bring them back up like Jesus died and was raised to back to life—to show everyone that God has given them a new, healthy heart like Jesus

**BIBLE** – God's true Word. It is from God and about God.

**A CHURCH** – a group of people who love and trust Jesus

**THE CHURCH** – everyone who loves and trusts Jesus

**COMMUNION** – when people who love and trust Jesus eat and drink together to remember His death on the cross, how Jesus' body was broken like bread and His blood was poured out like wine for sin

**CRUCIFY** – to die on a cross

**DESERT** – a really hot, dry place with almost no food or water

**DISCIPLE** – a friend and follower of Jesus

**GOD** – God the Father is God. Jesus, the Son, is God. The Holy Spirit is God. There is only one God who is three different persons. **God Made Everything. God Is in Charge of Everything. God Is Good!** 

**GOSPEL** – the good news that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** and the whole world from sin

**HEAVEN** – the place where God lives

**IDOL** – anything we love and trust more than God

ISRAELITES – God's special, chosen people

**MIRACLE** – something amazing and special that shows God's power

**PROMISED LAND** – the place God promised to give to the Israelites that was full of good things

**PROPHET** – someone who speaks for God

**SACRIFICE** – giving something special and valuable to God to show Him that He is better

**SAVES** – rescues

**SIN (SICK HEART)** – anything we do or think that is different from what God wants. Sin starts in our hearts and comes out in our actions. Everyone sins. Sin separates us from God, and we die.

**TAX COLLECTOR** – someone who collects money and gives it to the people in charge of a city as a job

**TEMPLE** – the place where God's people worshiped God together a long time ago

**TEMPTATION** – when our hearts or other people tell us that sinning is better than obeying God

**WORSHIP** – how we show that God is most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We use our voices, minds, and bodies to worship God.

# **GLOSSARY** DEFINITIONS FOR TEACHERS

### THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's true Word. It is from God and about God. God the Holy Spirit helped many different men at many different times write all the different books of the Bible, but it's all one, true story about God. **God Wants to Talk With Us** through the Bible.

### THE CHURCH

The Church is not a building. The Church is every person who loves and trusts Jesus. There are many people around the world that gather together in buildings to spend time learning about God, worshiping God, and remembering the good news that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** together.

### FORGIVENESS

God does not give His children the punishment they deserve for sin. Jesus took the punishment for sin by dying on the cross. God forgives sinners because God is love. God loves His children! We can never be good enough to make God forgive us. We have to love and trust Jesus to be forgiven.

### GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE

Throughout the Bible, we see an overarching timeline of God's work, sometimes referred to as the metanarrative. Over the course of this curriculum, you can refer back to this timeline to help children gain an understanding of how each narrative fits into God's Big Story. It is our hope that they grow in their understanding of not only when things happened, but also how we are still waiting with hope for the promise of Christ's return to come true.

## HATE

It is sin to hate people. God does not want us to sin or hate anyone, even if they aren't easy to love.

# LAWS

God's laws and rules are always good. Obeying them is always good for us! We can never obey God's laws perfectly. We all need a Savior to save us from our sin. Laws given to us by God are always good because **God Is Good**, but laws given to us by people are not always good because we are all sinners. We should never obey laws given to us by people more than laws given to us by God.

## PRAYER

We can talk to God through prayer anywhere, anytime, about anything. When we pray, we can tell God how great He is or thank God for everything He does and gives. We can ask God to do something or give something, and we can tell God the truth about our sin. God already knows everything about us, but **God Wants to Talk With Us** because He loves us and wants us to love Him!

# SALVATION (HEALTHY HEART)

God rescues and saves people from their sin. Sin separates us from God and we die, but God takes our sick, sinful hearts and gives us a new, healthy heart when we love and trust Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins, but Jesus didn't stay dead. Jesus came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trust Him can have a healthy heart and live with God forever. Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

### SICK HEART/HEALTHY HEART

Because Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God, everyone who is born after them (that's us!) is born with a heart that is sick with sin. Our hearts are sick because they love other things more than they love God, but Jesus was born with a perfectly healthy heart that loves God because Jesus is God's Son, not Adam's. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sins. Then, He came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trusts Jesus can have a new, healthy heart like His that loves God most! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners.** 

### ENSLAVED PEOPLE

Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Most of the time, enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. They do all the hard work but don't make any money. It is terrible to be enslaved. God never wants us to treat people the way those who are enslaved are treated.

### WORSHIP

Worship is telling and showing someone or something that they are most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We can worship God by singing songs, praying, telling others about Him, and reading God's Word. When we love and trust God our hearts want to worship Him.



