

MD KIDS Preschool CURRICULUM

Week 23: The Son of Man (from Luke 21:5-36)

To the Teacher:

This week we'll go all the way back in the Old Testament to Daniel 7 to help explain something Jesus was saying in Luke 21. Remember, the Bible is all one cohesive story... and it points to King Jesus!

Big Idea and Missio Basic: Jesus is the Rescuing King, better than all others!

Starter Ideas: You may choose to set up all or some of these activity centers for the children to play with or do as they arrive. Help children with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

1. Playdough: Allow the kids to play with playdough and tools.
2. Free Play: Allow the kids to play with the classroom toys. (dolls, basketball, cars, tea party set, dress up, etc)
3. Coloring Page: Set out the coloring page and crayons and allow the kiddos to color. You can also set out some cotton balls and glue and let the kiddos stretch the cotton balls and glue them to their coloring page.

Circle Time: When all the kids have arrived and have had time to participate in at least one center, walk around the room and have each child follow you around the circle until you have a line with everyone in it. Lead them to the circle for prayer time. (Like playing follow the leader.)

Welcome Song: (To the tune of "Are You Sleeping?")

Welcome, [Name]

Welcome, [Name]

Hear God's Word

Hear God's Word

We can trust in Jesus.

We can trust in Jesus.

Welcome, friends.

Welcome, friends.

Repeat until every kid and adult has been welcomed.

Jesus taught us to share peace. We share peace in a special way by repeating Jesus' special words. Jesus used these words of peace when

the disciples were scared. Jesus said, “Peace be with you.” We share the peace of Jesus. During worship we can say, “Peace be with you.”

Make sure kids are sitting in a circle on the floor. Kneel down in front of each person/kid and share God’s peace by shaking their hand and saying, “Peace be with you.” Remember to honor those kids who do not want to be touched!

Let’s all say Jesus’ words of peace. “Peace be with you.” Repeat a few times before moving on to prayer.

Prayer Time:

Praying for Others: Ask the kids if they have anything that they would like to have prayed for. Share requests and then have someone pray for them. Remind the kids to pray for friends throughout the week.

Praying Together: (*touch your nose for ‘smell’, your ears for ‘hear’, etc.*)

*God, help us use our **ears** to **hear** you, our **eyes** to **see** you, and our **brains** to **understand** your word. Thank you Jesus that you live in a body like ours.*

God, we mess things up when we try to do it without You. Thank You for not leaving us alone; You’ve sent Jesus to rule as King! Spirit, help us live like Jesus until he returns. Amen!

Discussion to introduce the Story:

Have you ever had a dream you wished would come true? Or one you hoped would not come true?

Story: from Luke 21:5-38 & Daniel 7

[READ]

A long time ago, before Jesus came down to earth, God used to speak to His people through what were called ‘prophets’. Prophets were men and women who God would tell something to so they can tell the rest of the people.

Once there was this man named Daniel, and God showed him things through dreams. Daniel had this scary dream one time about beasts ruling over and devouring everything. A messenger of God told Daniel what the dream meant; the beasts represented human kingdoms and rulers who destroyed God’s good world by trying to make themselves powerful, rather than God.

You see, humans were always meant to rule *with* God, but when humans try to rule *instead* of God, they become less than human and cause all kinds of problems for God’s creation. Fortunately, Daniel’s dream didn’t end there. After seeing the beasts, he also saw ‘one like a son of man’, which just means, a human. This human was different than other humans... better. He was given power, glory, and made King over the kingdom of all creation. The other

kingdoms destroyed things, but this kingdom could never be destroyed and would rule forever. It would be a good kingdom that would heal and bring life!

This dream God gave Daniel was written down and told to God's people for many generations. It gave them hope that one day this 'son of man' would come and establish God's good kingdom on earth.

Hundreds of years later, Jesus was born and started telling people about God's kingdom. One time, when he was grown and it was almost time for him to be killed, he started telling people near the temple about things from Daniel's dream that were going to come true!

He told them about how man's kingdoms were causing wars and rebellions, and nations fighting against nations. He told them that the whole earth was groaning in wait for the true kingdom, causing things like earthquakes, plagues, and famines. He told his followers that people would treat them horribly for following Jesus, but not to give up hope. Endure and one day they will see signs from heaven; the skies will open up and the Son of Man would come down from the clouds with power and glory!

Jesus is the Son of Man from Daniel's dream! He is the one who will rescue us from other kingdoms and bring us into God's true Kingdom. He is the true human who will partner with and rule alongside God the way it was meant to be... and all who follow him will get to rule with him! So, Jesus said to be on guard, to watch for him, and to pray that we would be faithful to him as our true King until he returns.

[Things to know]

What does 'son of man' mean?

Why do you think Jesus liked to call himself Son of Man?

Why do you think God showed Daniel that dream hundreds of years before Jesus came?

Snack Time: Let's take a big stretch! Pause for kids to stretch and get the wiggles out. Clean the table for snack time. Help the kids wash hands together before delving into today's snack. Sing songs while you wash hands. You can give them each a wipe or a squirt of hand sanitizer. Have the children have a seat at the table. Today's snack is veggie straws. Make sure none of the kids have an allergy to them. Begin passing out the napkins, goldfish or veggie straws, and cups of water.

BLESS Activity: **For kids to do during the week**

Listen: God spoke to people through prophets in the Old Testament, but when Jesus came he gave the gift of his Spirit so now all who follow him can hear from God! Listen this week for what God might be saying to you.

Optional Playground Time: If you have extra time please feel free to take the kids to the playground. Please be mindful that preschool class playground time does not start until 12PM.

Closing Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for your word, The Bible.

Thank you for sending Jesus in a real body so we can get to know you.

Help us to trust that your word is true.

Thank you God, Jesus and Holy Spirit.