

Story Discussion/Application

Bringing Jesus to Their Level

We've all struggled with asking our kids, "What did you learn today?" The typical answers I get are, "I can't remember," or, "Jesus." Here is a way to help them remember what they learned while reinforcing what it can mean to them.

For preschoolers, it's a good idea to recap the story a bit as you help them think about what it can mean to them (kindergartners are starting to think a bit deeper but it won't hurt for you to do this with them as well.)

Here's a dialog you can use with your kids and some questions you can ask to get them thinking:

What You Need: A reward (sticker, snack, hug, or something else) for saying the memory verse.

Our Bible story, today, was about a very special place. Do you remember what the special place was? (*Pause.*) Yes! Heaven! And who is getting heaven ready for everyone who believes in Jesus? (*Pause.*) Right again! Jesus is preparing a special place for everyone who believes in Him. We can read the story right here in the Bible.

Men wrote down what they saw Jesus do and what they heard Him say so that we can believe in Jesus, too. **Who can believe in Jesus?** (*Pause.*)

Yes, you can believe in Jesus! And the Bible verse we have spent so much time learning says that the stories in the Bible are written so that we can believe in Jesus. It says . . .

"These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God," John 20:31.

We should know this verse SO well by now. We have practiced it a lot! Let's stand up and say it together with the motions one more time, then you can try to say it!

These are written *(open your hands like a book)* so that you *(point out)* may believe *(point to head)* that Jesus is the Christ, *(point up)* the Son of God.” *(Rock baby.)* John 20:31. *(Open your hands like a book.)*

You have totally got this! Now it's your turn to say the Bible verse.

Way to go, [child's name]! Here is your reward! *(This could be a sticker, hug, snack, or whatever you have available.)*

Now, it's time to talk with God.

I want us to make a list of our favorite places. It can be the playground, your bedroom, the beach, your grandparent's house, the grocery store, anywhere in the whole wide world. Tell me one of your favorite places *(Make a list of each family member's answer, including yours.)*

These are some really great places! I can see why they are your favorite. But guess what? Jesus is making heaven SO amazing that it will be even better than our favorite places. It's true! Before we pray, let me ask you a few questions.

(These questions may be more difficult for younger, preschool kids; they are designed to get kindergartners thinking.)

- Why do you think God gave us the Bible?
- Why did God send Jesus to us? (John 3:16)
- Why do you think Jesus is preparing a place for you?
- How can you love like Jesus?

Let's use our list to talk to God, now. Would you like to pray before I pray?

(Give your child an opportunity to pray if they want to.)

Prayer

Dear God, thank You for wonderful places like (read the list your family made). We love going to these places. Thank You that Jesus is making an even more amazing place where everyone who believes in Him can live with Him forever. You are so good to us, God. We love You. In Jesus' name, amen.