

HOOK

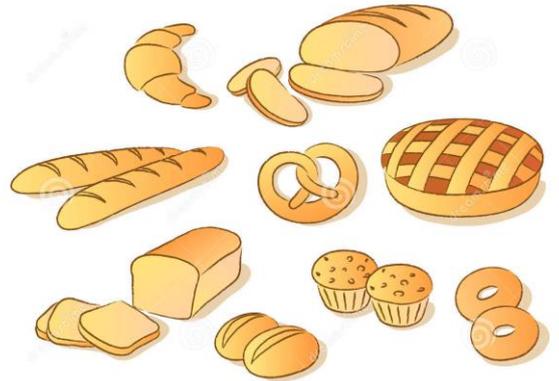
BREAD!

(<http://www.familytrust.org.uk/downloads/2011term3/week5teaching.pdf>)

Show some pictures of bread — roll, toast, sandwich, loaf, baguette, pita — and demonstrate accompanying actions. [you can pick/choose the types of bread depends on age of kids; teachers/assistants have to be well versed with the actions and mirror it for the kids to follow]

For example:

- Roll: curl up in a ball
- Toast: jump up and down (like a toast popping up from the toaster)
- Loaf: get into groups of 5 or more
- Baguette: stand up stretching from tips of fingers to toes
- Sandwich: get into groups of 3
- Pita: lie flat on the floor



After running through the actions, flash the pictures randomly or call out the bread and get kids to do the correct actions. Those who don't get it right have to sit down. Go faster and faster until you have a winner (or 2). Make it fun and exciting.

LESSON (John 6)

Jesus told people about God's love. He did so many miracles. He healed the sick. He also fed the hungry people. Once, He fed 5,000 men with just 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish!

Everybody ate very full. They were very excited about Jesus. So the next day, they looked for Him so they could see more miracles (and probably get more bread to eat).

Jesus told them there was something more important than just thinking about food (and toys and things that we buy with money).

Yes, we need to eat to live. But we should not spend our whole life working hard for food and things that will be used up. We should work for food that lasts forever.

What kind of bread doesn't spoil or mold or go bad? What bread will last forever?

The bread of life! Jesus said, "I AM the BREAD of LIFE".

Jesus is the bread of God that came down from heaven to give life to the world! (John 6:33)

WHEN WE HAVE JESUS, WE HAVE TRUE LIFE

Back in Bible times, bread was the most important part of the meal. So when Jesus said He was the Bread of Life, He meant that He was the most important thing a person needs to live.

John 6:35 *Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."*

When we are hungry for food, we can eat bread. But there's a deeper hunger in all of us — a hunger for meaning, for peace, for love. This hunger for real LIFE — the life God gives — cannot be filled with things (hold up some items, toys, money etc.) The Bible says that only Jesus can satisfy that type of hunger. We need Jesus to receive the true, wonderful, true LIFE that God has for us.

JESUS' BODY WAS BROKEN FOR US

John 6:51 *"This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."*

Jesus became the Bread of Life for us by the sacrifice of His body on the cross. Every time we take Communion, we remember Jesus' finished work on the cross — His body broken for us so that we can have His life.



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I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

OUR WORK IS TO BELIEVE IN JESUS

How do we work for this bread of life? Jesus said, *"The work of God is that you believe in Me."* (John 6:40)

John 6:40 *"For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."*

Who is Jesus? Jesus is God's Son!

What did Jesus do for you and for me? He died for you and for me.

How did He die? He died on a cross.

Why did He die? He died so that we could be His friends.

Is He still dead? NO! He rose from the dead 3 days later so that we can have life!

Believe. That's all! Can you believe in Jesus? Will you believe in Jesus?

God, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus. Thank you for making a way for us to have life with you forever.

SUMMARY

Jesus is the Bread of Life — when we have Jesus, we have true life!

Jesus' body was broken for us

Our work is to believe in Jesus

MEMORY VERSE

John 6:35 *Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."*



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I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. You may want to take communion again together to acknowledge Jesus as the Bread of Life. Get to know the kids and pray for them individually.

SONG

Bread of Life

(tune of "B-I-N-G-O" chorus)

J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S, He died for you and me!

He is Bread of Life, He is Bread of Life, He is Bread of Life, He died for you and me!



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I AM THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD

HOOK

LIGHT UP

Get ready a torchlight, a RM10 note, plaster (band aid), flowers, sweets/chocolates. Switch off the lights. Have a teacher/helper/child act out the following:

One person walks, trips and falls. Groans aloud.

Four concerned people come to help, first one offers money; second, plaster another flowers and fourth one, sweets/chocolates. The person refuses all of them. (For the older children, you can ask them to tell the fallen person why they gave the item). Person refuses all the items.

Finally someone comes with a torchlight and the person gratefully accepts. He/she continues his/her journey confidently.

What do you do if the lights go off in your house during the night? Yes, you would take out your torchlight, light your candles. What a person in darkness needs most is light — not money, food, etc.

LESSON

Last week, we talked about Jesus as the ...? *Bread of Life*.

Jesus told the people, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* (John 8:12)

And in John 9:5, *"While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*

Why did Jesus say he was the light? What did he mean?

JESUS IS THE LIGHT

Living life without Jesus is like being in the dark.

In the dark, we are worried that when we walk, we may trip over something because we can't see what is ahead. When we don't know God, we worry of what will happen to us in the future (eg what will we be when we grow up, what happens to us when we die).

We cannot see that God loves us so much, has plans to give us a hope and a future (Jeremiah 29:11) and even prepared a home for us in heaven (John 14:2).

This is because Satan has blinded the minds of people who don't believe in him, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God (2 Corinthians 4:4).

But when we accept Jesus as our Saviour, our eyes are open. We can see clearly!

We'll know that we have a God who loves us so much that he gave up Jesus to die for us on the cross and lives in our hearts. We have eternal life. We don't have to be afraid of what will happen to us in the future because we know that God will take good care of us. Jesus shines a way for us through the darkness of our situation/problems/challenges.

JESUS IS ALWAYS WITH US SO WE ALWAYS WALK IN THE LIGHT

How many of you think that sometimes we walk in light, and there are other times we walk in the dark? That is not correct.

Walking in the light does not mean we never sin. Yes, sometimes we make mistakes and sin. But we still walk in the light because we have Jesus, who is the light. He is always with us, will never leave us or forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5) That is why Jesus said in John 8:12 that whoever follows him will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. We will always walk in the light.



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I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

WE ARE THE LIGHT

Jesus is the light.

And when we have this light in our lives, we also become the light of the world.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:14, *"You are the light of the world"*.

To illustrate this point: Prepare a clear glass bottle and a candle/torch. Hold up the candle/torch and say, "This is the light". Put the candle/torch into the bottle and show how the light shines through the glass. In the same way, we become the bottle/carrier of Jesus' light into the dark world.

Because we have Jesus, we can love people the way Jesus loves. When people experience that love, they will see Jesus! It is like using the light from one candle to light the other candles.

SUMMARY

Jesus is the Light.

Jesus is always with us so we always walk in the Light.

We are the Light.

MEMORY VERSE

John 8:12 *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*



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I AM THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. Share if there's any area of our lives where we want to see Jesus' light displayed more (e.g. tough situations, bad habits, problems). Or share ways where we can spread Jesus' light and love to other people. Get to know the kids and pray for them individually.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Get one big candle and several small candles for the whole class. Light the big candle — this illustrates Jesus.

Then get the kids to light their candles either from the big candles or the other small candles. The light from the original candle passes to other candles (us) when we receive Jesus as our Saviour. Today we have that same light and can use it to brighten up someone else's day.

SONG

This little light of mine

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki5CA4oXL7w>

Light of the World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBKzCpkXJR4>

HOOK

MAZE

Using masking tape/string/ chairs, set up an obstacle course for a kid volunteer. Blindfold the kid and tell the class to give (wrong) directions to help him get through the course.

When your volunteer begins to make his way through the maze, he will undoubtedly get off course or bump into chairs. When it is obvious that he will not be successful, stop the class and ask him what the problem is. He will say that he can't understand the directions to get through.

Now, start over again, but this time you take the hands of the child and walk him through the course. He will still be blindfolded and the class will still be shouting out the wrong directions, but this time he will be successful because of your direction.

DRAWING PATTERN

Prepare a set of random patterns. Blindfold a kid and tell the class to give directions to help him draw out a certain pattern.



When it is obvious that he will not be successful, stop the class and ask him what the problem is. He will say that he can't understand the directions.

Now, start over again, but this time you take the hands of the child to draw the pattern. He will still be blindfolded and the class will still be shouting out all sorts of directions, but this time he will be successful because of your direction.

Truth: When we are on our own, we cannot find our way because of all the wrong directions from the world. We need someone to show us the way. Who is this someone? Jesus

LESSON

One night, Jesus and his disciples were eating together. It was the night Jesus was going to be betrayed.

Jesus was preparing His disciples about what was going to happen next. He knew it would be a troubling time, so He wanted to reassure them. He also told them that He will be going back to God, the Father, to prepare a special place for all of them and He is coming back for them.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.” (John 14:1-4)

One of His disciples, Thomas, asked, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

That’s a good question. How would the disciples know where Jesus was going? How were they supposed to find their way to God? Do you think they had a map? Or a GPS?

No, they didn’t have all of that. But they had the one thing they needed. Jesus.

THE WAY, TRUTH AND LIFE

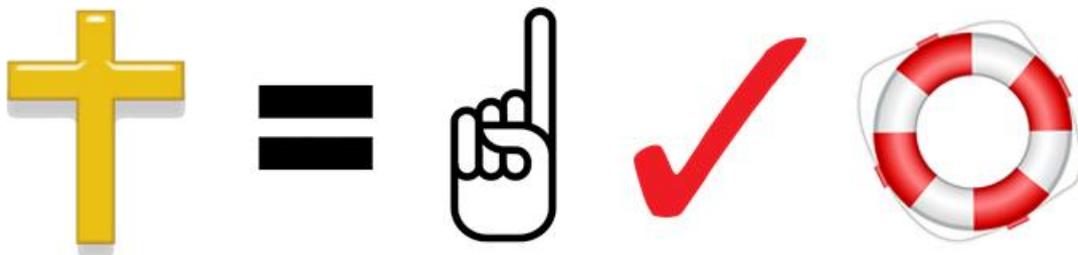
Jesus said, “I AM the **way** and the **truth** and the **life**. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Just like in the game we played earlier. Man was separated from God, and man has always tried to find his way back to God. But the world shouts all sorts of wrong directions. And in our own strength, we cannot find the way.

But when Jesus is in us, He becomes our (only) **WAY** to the Father;

He is our **TRUTH** (so we don’t have to listen to the lies the world tells us);

and He gives us **LIFE** forever with Him.





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I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH & THE LIFE

Jesus had to die on the cross to open the **WAY** for us to the Father.

Jesus is the **ONLY** way. We can't reach God by our own good behaviour or works, or by any other religions and beliefs. Only Jesus.

Jesus' death made us holy/righteous/clean because He is the **TRUTH** — the perfect man who was punished for the sins of the world.

After Jesus rose again and returned to heaven, His Holy Spirit came to live in us forever. This Holy Spirit is His **LIFE** living in us.

HOW CAN JESUS MAKE THESE CLAIMS?

How can Jesus claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life? How can Jesus claim to be the **ONLY** way to God? Because He is GOD.

*“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. Don't you believe that **I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me?** The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that **I am in the Father and the Father is in me;** or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.”*

And when we receive Jesus into our hearts, the Holy Spirit lives in us. Jesus said, *“I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.”* (John 14:20) God — the Father, Son and Holy Spirit — lives in us today! He is our life!

CONCLUSION

Jesus = the Way, the Truth, the Life

Jesus is ALL we need. We just need to believe and receive Him.

Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING!

MEMORY VERSE

John 14:6 *Jesus said, “I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*



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I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH
& THE LIFE

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. Share if there's any area of our lives where we need to know the way, truth and life. Get to know the kids and pray for them individually.

SONG

One Way, Jesus

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXE8FR_6o5w

This little light of mine

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ki5CA4oXL7w>

Light of the World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBKzCpkXJR4>



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I AM THE TRUE VINE

HOOK

VINE TAG

Choose someone to be 'it'. When you say 'Go', the person who is in must try to tag someone. When they succeed, they must link arms/hold hands with the person they tagged. Now both of them can tag people with their free hands. Each time someone gets tagged, they link arms/hold hands and carry on until everyone is in one big chain.

Isn't it nice to all be connected with each other?

PLUGGED IN

Prop: Small lamp

We've learned some of the "I Am"s of Jesus.

<Ask kids to name a few — Bread of Life, Way/Truth/Life, Light of the World>

Yes that's right, Jesus is the light of the World. Because Jesus is in us, we have His light shining through us too.

<Hold up the lamp.> Let's all sing "This Little Light of Mine." While we sing it, I'm going to hold this light up and let it shine all around.

<Start to sing the song, but stop when you notice that the light isn't shining>

I wonder what is wrong, my light isn't shining.

<Someone will probably notice that it isn't plugged in>

Oh, here's the problem, my light isn't plugged in.

Now that we are plugged in, let's try it again. <Sing>

Oh, that was much better. The lamp was shining brightly, wasn't it? It's pretty hard for a light to shine when it isn't connected to the power source, isn't it? Well, actually, it isn't just hard — it's impossible

LESSON (John 15:1-8)

JESUS IS OUR TRUE VINE

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus told his disciples a story to teach them the importance of staying connected to him. Of course Jesus didn't use a lamp to tell his story, because electricity hadn't even been invented yet. Instead, Jesus used an example that his disciples would understand. He used the example of a vine.

You know what a vine is, don't you? It is a plant with a lot of branches growing out from it. The branches have fruit on them. If it is a grapevine, the branches should have grapes on them.

(Visual aid ideas: grapes, branches, plants)

Let's read together:

John 15:1-8 *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

The branches need to stay connected to the vine to live and bear fruit.

CONNECTION GIVES LIFE

God is the Gardener in the garden of life. Jesus is the Vine who grows good branches. Those who believe in Jesus are those branches. If you have asked Jesus to be your Saviour, you are like a branch on a vine in God's garden.

Branches need water and food to grow. How do the branches get these things? (through the roots) The vine sends food and water from the roots to the branches. Then the branches send food and water to the flowers that will produce grapes.

(Idea: Pass around a bowl of raisins/grapes and let each child take some)

Have you ever seen a branch that has been broken off of a tree or a vine? What happens to it? That's right, it withers up and dies. Can it ever have any fruit on it again? No, it isn't any good for anything -- except fire wood.



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I AM THE TRUE VINE

Jesus said, *"I am the vine and you are the branches. If you remain in me, you will have much fruit, but apart from me, you can do nothing."*

With Jesus = Fruit. Without Jesus = Nothing.

That's right. Like the light that's not plugged into the electrical source.

WHAT FRUIT DO WE BEAR?

The fruit you get depends on the tree you're connected to

A rambutan tree will bear rambutan fruits. A durian tree will bear ...? A papaya tree will bear ...? These trees bear these fruits because that's who they are. What their DNA is.

Jesus promises us abundant life — one overflowing with His love, grace, strength and power. When we depend on Him and trust in Him, our life is fruitful; our work is fruitful; our relationships are fruitful; our ministry is fruitful.

When the Holy Spirit lives in us, it bears the fruit of the Spirit — fruits like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and self-control (Gal 5). When we bear these fruits, we will be kind and generous and loving to others.

All these are not things that we can do on our own. It's not something we have to force out of ourselves. It comes naturally because of who we are in Christ — the temple/house of the Holy Spirit.

The key thing is to stay plugged in, stay connected, and let the Spirit's life flow through us — the foods and water we need to grow strong, healthy and fruitful.

When we depend on our strength, we will feel tired and frustrated and be unfruitful.

Instead, let's look to Jesus. Trust Him. Rest in His finished work. He has done the work for us. We just need to plug in and let the Holy Spirit flow through us.

If you cannot love someone, say, "Holy Spirit, please love that person through me."

Whatever work you are doing, say, "Holy Spirit, please help me."

When you are feeling sad or discouraged, say, "Jesus, thank you for being my strength and my joy."

As we learn to look to Jesus and rest in Him, we allow Him to do the work of bearing fruit in our lives!

MEMORY VERSE

John 15:5 *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."*



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I AM THE TRUE VINE

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. What is one area that we want to see fruit in? Share and pray for each other.

SONG

Abiding in the Vine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6AWYLBdL-0>

Resource: http://www.sermons4kids.com/true_vine.htm



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I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

HOOK

MUMMY GAME

Divide kids into 2-3 groups. Choose one kid from each group. Get parents/kids to help wrap up the kid with toilet paper (like Lazarus). Most creative one wins. Then get kids to remove the “grave clothes”.

WINK, WINK, RESURRECTION

Similar to wink murder. Kids sit in a circle. Choose someone to be the “resurrector” and a detective to guess. The resurrector has to discreetly wink at one of the other kids. But this time if someone is winked at, they must jump up and shout “I’m alive”, instead of dying. The detective is allowed three guesses to work out who the resurrector is before everyone is “alive”.

LESSON (John 11:1-45)

STORY

Tell the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. Get the older kids to read the Bible passage out loud. You may want to get some kids to role play.

What did the messengers tell Jesus?

His friend Lazarus was very sick.

Did Jesus rush immediately to his side?

No. He stayed 2 more days.

Why? Why didn't He stop Lazarus from dying? (get kids to think)

Because there was a bigger plan — Jesus wanted to demonstrate some greater miracle of God to prove that He had victory not only over sickness, but over death

When Jesus reached Bethany, what was the first thing Martha and Mary (Lazarus' sister) said to Him?

"Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

How long had Lazarus been dead?

4 days. Ewww ... stinko!

What did Jesus ask the people to do at the grave?

Move away the stone.

How did Jesus pray? Did He beg God, "Please, please do something!!!!"?

No. Jesus said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

Note: Jesus called God "Father".

What happened when Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out!"

Lazarus came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Isn't Jesus wonderful? Even when no one around believed that He could do it, when people doubted and complained, He still did a great miracle and raised Lazarus — who had been dead 4 days — from the dead! He resurrected Lazarus!

JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

What did Jesus say to Martha? <get kids to read>

"I AM the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

What is resurrection? Resurrection means being brought back to life.

Jesus said those who believed in Him will live, even though they die. Then He says if they believe in Him, they will never die! What do you think Jesus meant by that?

Jesus didn't just mean that when we die, we will go to heaven. He didn't mean we will never die physically — all of us will die one day; even Lazarus died physically later.

Jesus wanted to tell Martha something very important and wonderful. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, He wanted to prove something even more awesome and miraculous — that He can give life to those who are spiritually dead!

JESUS CAME TO GIVE US THE "JESUS LIFE"

God told Adam that if he ate from the Tree of Knowledge of Good & Evil, he will surely die. When Adam disobeyed God, he died spiritually. And because of that, we ALL were dead spiritually. We were all like Lazarus ... dead!

Jesus came to die on the cross, taking all the punishments for our sin. Three days later, He rose again. By His death and resurrection, Jesus defeated sin AND death!

More importantly, Jesus' death and resurrection brought us back to life from spiritual death. Jesus put His life into us — the Jesus Life. This is an everlasting life that will never die.

When we believe in Jesus, we have His Jesus Life in us today! And even when we sin, even when we sometimes do things our way, even when our physical body dies, we will always have this Jesus Life in us forever!

Do you want to believe in Jesus today?

MEMORY VERSE

John 11:25-26 *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"*



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I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. Do you believe that believing in Jesus and trusting Him will allow you to have everlasting life? What difference does it make in your life? Share and pray for each other.

SONG

I'm the Resurrection & the Life

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sok25KPuEI8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aMn3avhn6E>



LESSON OBJECTIVES

CHILDREN WILL LEARN ...

Jesus is my Good Shepherd who lays down His life for me

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

John 10:1-18; Psalm 23

CLASS PLAN

TIME: 45 mins	
10 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome / Cheer • Attendance • Run through boundaries with kids • Commit class and kids to God in prayer
15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible story/Lesson
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memory Verse
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Reinforcement: Bring it Home
10 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huddle Time



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I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

HOOK

WHO AM I?

Prepare a short quiz. Choose 3-4 animals or cartoon character or famous personalities and describe them with some clues. You can put clues on ppt slides or, for younger children, hide some soft toys in a bag and pull it out when they guess the answer.

E.g. I have white wool. I like to eat grass. <Sheep>

I am a rodent. I have big black ears. I am quite famous on TV. <Mickey Mouse>

SAY MY NAME

Have the kids line up outside the class. Dress up as shepherds if you can.

Call them one-by-one by name before letting them enter the class.

(Use this chance to take attendance)

LINK TO LESSON

Once they are seated, say: "Do you know that the Shepherd will open the gate to the sheep pen for his sheep? He will call them by name, and they will listen to His voice. Today, we are all sheep, and we learn about how our Good Shepherd takes good care of all of us."

LESSON (John 10:11-18)

When Jesus came to earth, He gave us a picture of who the Father was. When we see Jesus, we see God.

Jesus also gave us several clues so that we can know more about Him and know who He is.

One of the clues He used to describe Himself was: "I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD"

Read out John 10:1-18. (for older kids)

I AM the Good Shepherd

Jesus was making a declaration. It was "I AM". Not "I may be" or "I could be" or "I should be". Not "I was" or "I will be". He's telling the people who He really is. Now. Today. Every day.

I am THE Good Shepherd

Jesus is not like any other good shepherds out there. He's the ONLY Good Shepherd. Just like He's not like any other god, but THE ONLY God.

I am the GOOD Shepherd

Jesus is good. Even when things go wrong or bad things happen, we can always trust that our God is good and has good plans for us.

I am the Good SHEPHERD

What does a shepherd do?

A shepherd's job is a very lowly one but also very important.

In Psalm 23, we learn of how the shepherd provides all the sheep's needs — water, green pastures, oil, rest, safety etc

In John 10, Jesus tells us that He:

a. Lays down His life for the sheep

- The hired hand will run for his life and forget about the sheep if he sees a wolf coming
- The Good Shepherd cares for the sheep and is willing to die for His sheep
- Jesus repeats this several times to emphasise that He is the Saviour who will die for all of us — His sheep.

b. Knows his sheep and calls them by name

- Jesus knows us. He cares for us. He leads us.
- We know His voice. We can follow Him.
- He knows us intimately just as the relationship between God and Jesus ... SO CLOSE!
- And no one can take us away from Him. *"No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."* (John 10:28)

c. Came to give us life

- The thieves and robbers climb into the sheep pen without going through the door; they come to steal, kill and destroy.
- But the Good Shepherd comes to give us all abundant life! (John 10:10)
- The Good Shepherd comes to give us all eternal life! (John 10:28)

JESUS IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

He lays down His life for us. He knows us intimately. He came to give us eternal and abundant life!



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I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

MEMORY VERSE

John 10:11 *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*

SONG

Psalm 23

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xDMagJENz4&sns=fb>

Baa Baa Song

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGPOX3vQtU8>

BRING IT HOME

How is Jesus your Good Shepherd?

What difference does it make in your life?

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. Share the points raised in "Bring it Home" and pray for each other.



LESSON OBJECTIVES

CHILDREN WILL LEARN ...

Jesus is the only entrance to salvation

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

John 10:1-10

CLASS PLAN

TIME: 45 mins	
10 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome / Cheer• Attendance• Run through boundaries with kids• Commit class and kids to God in prayer
15 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bible story/Lesson
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Memory Verse
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review/Reinforcement: Bring it Home
10 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Huddle Time

I AM.

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I AM THE GATE

HOOK

LINK TO LESSON

LESSON (John 10:1-10)

Read John 10:1-10 out loud. [Get older kids to read]

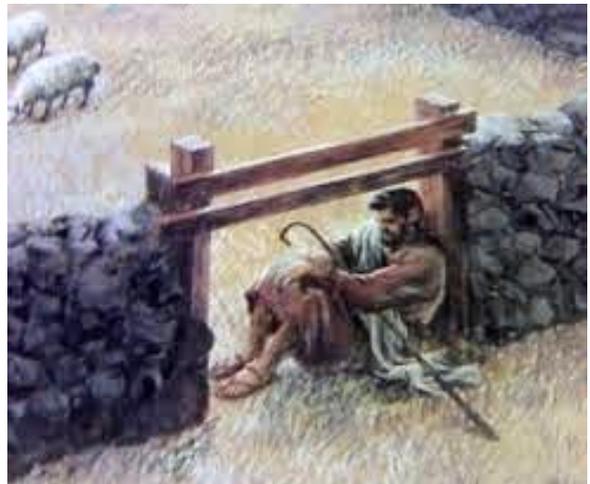
In this passage, Jesus calls himself the gate for the sheep. Here in PJ, we don't see a bunch of sheep all over the place. But in Jesus' day, sheep and shepherds could have been seen in practically every open field.

[optional] Let us close our eyes and imagine we are a little sheep at that time.

Imagine you are a sheep. You are a woolly little lamb in a big, big field. All your sheep friends are around you, and you are happily playing and eating and being happy in the green, green grass. You take a big, deep breath, and you can smell all the pretty white and yellow flowers in the field around you. You listen closely and you can hear a stream not far away where your shepherd leads you to drink. You lie down and feel the warm sun on your back, the soft ground beneath your feet, and feel a gentle breeze tickle your soft, sheep ears. You are one happy lamb.

Suddenly, you hear a voice that is like music to your ears. It is the best sound in the world, and it makes your heart go thump, thump, thump in your chest. It's your shepherd! He is calling you back to the sheepfold for the night. You leap up and happily follow your dear shepherd back to the pen. You like your pen. It's a small pen, just the right size for just your flock.

You look around at the rock walls and know that you are safe for the night. There is no gate to the sheepfold, no way to lock you safe inside, so after he says good night to each and every one of you, the shepherd puts down his staff and spreads out in the opening of the pen, where you came through for the night. He becomes the gate. He will sleep there all night and make sure no one will come and hurt his sheep. You look up and the sky. The orange sun is just starting to set, making the puffy clouds in the sky turn pink. You give a contented "baaaaa" before laying your head down to sleep. You are safe in your sheepfold, with your shepherd as the gate.



Does that story help you to understand what Jesus is saying in John 10:1-10? Would anybody like to explain it to me, in their own words: Why would Jesus call himself the gate for the sheep?

JESUS IS THE GATE THAT KEEPS US SAFE

Back in Jesus' time, shepherds would usually keep their sheep in sheep pens.

One type of pen is a big pen found in cities, where several shepherds could keep their flocks, all of their sheep, all together. This type of pen had a door, which was guarded at night by a gatekeeper. In the morning, the shepherds would come and call their flock out. The sheep would follow only their shepherd because they knew his voice. "But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." (vs5)

The second type of sheepfold that was common in Jesus' time was a smaller pen out in the countryside. The shepherd would keep his sheep out here in good weather. The walls of these pens were made of piles of rocks, and there was no gate, just an opening for the sheep to enter through. To keep his sheep inside, and to keep wild animals out, the shepherd would lay across the opening to sleep. No one can cross into or out of the pen without crossing over the shepherd — the gate.

The Bible often refers to people as sheep. Sheep rely on their shepherd for everything in life, from finding water, to staying safe and warm, to getting up when they fall down. They follow the shepherd wherever he leads.

Jesus is the gate for us. He keeps us safe and protects us from anything that could hurt us.

JESUS IS THE GATE THAT KEEPS BAD GUYS OUT

Jesus also mentions thieves and robbers that try to sneak in over the wall of the sheepfold! Obviously, they do not have good intentions. "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.*" (vs10)

These thieves and robbers may be voices from the world telling us lies and enticing us to do things against God's word. Or they may be religious voices that make it difficult for us to come to God.

But the true sheep of God, the people that really know Him, know better than to believe those lies. As God's children, we don't listen to the people who want to lead us away from the truth because we know the Shepherd's voice. We know what Jesus says, so we will not let ourselves be confused and taken in by lies.

How do we know what Jesus says? (Allow a few students to answer, and write their answers on the board.) Right, we read our Bibles, we pray, we listen to the Holy Spirit in us, we learn from sermons ... all the things that help us know Jesus better.

JESUS IS THE GATE TO GOOD LIFE

"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (vs 9-10)

I AM.

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I AM THE GATE

A good shepherd takes great care of his sheep, and makes sure they have everything they need. The “good pastures” and “rich and satisfying life” is the salvation and eternal life God has given to us!

“There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

Jesus is the only way to salvation.

Source: <https://ministry-to-children.com/the-seven-i-am-statements-of-jesus-lesson-4/>

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

MEMORY VERSE

(revise last week)

John 10:11 *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*

John 10:9 *"I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture."*

Let's say the verse again with some motions to help us remember it.

I am (Point to the sky)

The gate. (Pretend to open a gate)

Whoever enters (Put out hand and walk on the hand with fingers from other hand)

Through me (Point to sky)

will be saved (Hug self as if safe)

They will go in (Step forward)

And go out (Step back)

And find pasture. (Place one hand on top of other in a restful stance)

SONG

Psalm 23

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xDMagJENz4&sns=fb>

Baa Baa Song

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGPOX3vQtU8>

Jesus is I AM

<https://www.maynardsgroovytones.co.uk/jukebox/jesusiam>



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I AM THE GATE

BRING IT HOME

Take time to meditate on this week's Scripture and think about your own life. Have you allowed yourself to be lead away in any way by any thieves or robbers? Have you gone through the gate to salvation?

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. Share the points raised in "Bring it Home" and pray for each other.



LESSON OBJECTIVES

CHILDREN WILL LEARN ...

Jesus is the I AM

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

CLASS PLAN

TIME: 45 mins	
10 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome / Cheer• Attendance• Run through boundaries with kids• Commit class and kids to God in prayer
25 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review
10 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Huddle Time

LESSON (John 10:1-10)

Over the past few weeks, we have been learning the different names of Jesus and what they really mean. Can you remember them?

[You may choose to use visual aids; hand out Scripture verses for the kids to read; play charades etc for the kids to figure this out]

I AM the Bread of Life (John 6:35)

I AM the Light of the World (John 8:12)

I AM the Way, Truth and Life (John 14:6)

I AM the True Vine (John 15:1-8)

I AM the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:1-45)

I AM the Good Shepherd (John 10:11-18)

I AM the Gate (John 10:1-10)

WORK IT OUT (older kids)

Divide the kids into 7 teams. Give each team an "I AM". Let them read through the relevant passage (preferably more than just one verse, for better context).

Get the kids to draw/write out their thoughts about the Bible verse as creatively as possible. What do they think it means? Who does Jesus say that He is? Why? What does it mean for us?

Each team will present their thoughts to the class.

E.g. I AM the Bread of Life

Our bodies need food to live (like cereal, apples, pop tarts), but food won't get us to heaven. Our hearts need Jesus. When we accept Jesus into our hearts, we will be satisfied in life, and we will also live forever.



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JESUS, THE I AM

CONCLUSION

When Jesus says, "I AM", He is using God's name, because He is God.

God first used that name when He met Moses at the burning bush (Exodus 3:14). Moses asked, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'the God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."

That's a weird name. But God had a very good reason for this name. I AM means that God was and is and is to come. He has always existed, even before any ocean or star or person. He still exists now. And He will always exist and be there, forever and ever and ever.

In Hebrews 13:8, it says that God is the same, "yesterday and today and forever." That's what I AM means.

God says that, "I AM" is His name forever, "by which [he is] to be remembered from generation to generation. In the Old Testament, God called Himself, "I AM." In the New Testament, over a thousand years later, He still calls Himself, "I AM" through His Son Jesus.

And this "I AM" lives in our hearts forever and ever and ever. Isn't that wonderful?

Source: <https://ministry-to-children.com/names-of-jesus-lesson/>



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JESUS, THE I AM

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

SONG

Jesus is I AM

<https://www.maynardsgroovytunes.co.uk/jukebox/iesusiam>

HUDDLE TIME

Get into small groups. Pray for each other.