



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Series:** We Are in God's Family  
Spring Year 2, Lesson 56

# Jesus is the Way Into God's Family

**Take Home Point:** \*JESUS IS THE WAY  
*...I belong to God's family.*

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

**Bible Event:** John 14:5-7

**We will help children know:**

- Jesus said he is the way to heaven.
- When kids do what Jesus says, they are following his path.
- When they trust Jesus, they are part of God's family.




**We will help the children feel:**

- Confident in their ability to trust Jesus and follow his path.
- Excited to be on a journey with Jesus.
- Thankful that they are part of God's family.

**We will help the children do:**

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Jesus' Path.
- Snack: Follow the Path.
- Game: Stay on the Path.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: Jesus is the way...*I belong to God's family.*
- Sing and Pray.

# THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<b>Large Group Opening</b> 	3  5	Puppet Presentation  Bible Event	<i>Puppet Presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bubba puppet</li> <li>• Bible</li> </ul> <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dollhouse or castle covered in foil</li> <li>• newsprint or butcher paper</li> <li>• tape, marker, scissors</li> <li>• stool</li> <li>• yarn or string</li> <li>• apparatus to suspend paper wall</li> </ul>
<b>Small Group Application</b> 	7 8 9 10	Activity 1: Craft-Jesus' Path.  Activity 2: Snack-Follow the Path  Activity 3: Game-Stay on the Path  Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix A copied on cardstock, one per child</li> <li>• glue sticks</li> <li>• fine grained sand</li> <li>• crayons or markers</li> <li>• tray with sides</li> </ul> <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• napkins, cups, water or juice</li> <li>• paper plates</li> <li>• squirt cheese</li> <li>• crackers</li> </ul> <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• masking tape</li> <li>• chairs, blankets, hula hoops or items to create an obstacle course</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group Wrap-up</b> 	12  12	Singing (Optional)  Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• your choice of music</li> <li>• Albie puppet</li> <li>• Example of craft</li> <li>• Example of snack</li> </ul>

## **Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)**

**Purpose:** *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

## **Large Group Opening (15 minutes)**



**Purpose:** *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

## **Puppet Presentation**

*Supplies: Bubba puppet Presenter holds a Bible*

**Presenter:** Boys and girls, let's call Bubba. (Children call "Bubba".)

Bubba: Hi everyone.

**Presenter:** Hi Bubba. What's new with you?

Bubba: Something happened to me yesterday that really upset me.

**Presenter:** What happened?

Bubba: I went to the park to play. I'm a big boy. I know the path to take all by myself.

**Presenter:** That's good.

Bubba: I was playing and I saw a dog. I wanted to pet it, but it started to run away.

**Presenter:** Did you chase it?

Bubba: Yes I did. That's when it happened.

**Presenter:** What?

Bubba: I got lost. I couldn't see the path to my house. I didn't know how to get home. I was really scared.

**Presenter:** How did you get home?

Bubba: My dad was watching me. He saw me run after the dog and followed me.

**Presenter:** It sounds like it was very scary to be lost and not know where the right path was.

Bubba: Yes it was.

**Presenter:** It's a good thing your daddy was watching out for you.

Bubba: I know. He said families look out for each other.

**Presenter:** That's right. Your story sounds like what the kids are going to learn about today.

Bubba: Did someone chase a dog and get lost?

**Presenter:** No. We are going to learn that Jesus has a special path for each of us to follow so we can get to heaven.

Bubba: I hope my path goes through a park!

**Presenter:** Everyone's path is different. There is someone who helps lead us back to the right path if we get lost.

Bubba: Who is it?

**Presenter:** You will find out later. Would you like to learn more about this Bible event?

Bubba: Yes I would.

**Presenter:** First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part.

Bubba: OK

**Presenter:** \*JESUS IS THE WAY...now you say, "I belong to God's family."

Bubba: I belong to God's family.

**Presenter:** Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Bubba: Sure.

**Presenter:** OK everybody, \*JESUS IS THE WAY...

Bubba: (and everyone): I belong to God's family.

**Presenter:** One more time. \*JESUS IS THE WAY...

Bubba: (and everyone): I belong to God's family.

**Presenter:** Wonderful. Say "goodbye" Bubba.

Bubba: Bye everyone!

## **Bible Event:** Illustrating a Concept

*Supplies: dollhouse or castle covered in foil; stool; 15 feet of yarn; scissors; butcher paper wall four feet high and six to eight feet long (or length of the stage). Draw bricks or stones on the paper to give it the appearance of a wall. Suspend the wall across the stage; for example: connected to dividers or chairs, suspended from rope or string, hung from a broomstick, etc.*

- Place foil covered dollhouse on a stool behind the wall, high enough that the children can easily see it above the wall.
- Have scissors ready to cut a cross-shaped hole in the paper, starting at the bottom of the wall.

Presenter holds the Bible and begins:

**One time, Jesus called his friends to him and explained that after he died on the cross, he would go to heaven and live there. He would also be with us, in our hearts, even though we wouldn't be able to see him. Someday, when we're in heaven, we will get to see Jesus face-to-face. His disciples wanted to make sure that they would get to see him in heaven. So they asked Jesus a question. They said, "Jesus, what is the way that we can get to heaven?" Jesus talked about a path to get there. Let's talk about a path and heaven today.**



Point to the "heavenly home" on the stool.

**Let's use our imaginations and imagine that this special house is heaven. It's a perfect place, everyone is happy and people get to see God face-to-face. It's the most wonderful sight you'll ever get to see. Jesus lives here, too. Everyone is amazed at how much Jesus gave us when he gave his life for us. This is where we want to end up. Let's see if our path will get us there. I need a helper to come up here and walk on the path.**

Take a volunteer and start the yarn at the edge of where the children are seated and lead it up onto stage and up to the wall. Allow the child to follow it up to the wall.

**Now, if we're trying to get to heaven, we've got to get past this wall. What could this wall be all about? It's blocking our path. Thank volunteer and have him sit down. This is the wall of sin. Who can tell me what sin is? Take answers. Sin is when we do things that God doesn't want us to do. Everybody has done that. Everyone has sinned. Because of that, there is a wall between God and us. While we still have our sins, we can't go live with him in heaven. Our path gets blocked.**

**Let's look at our path again. Can we go under this wall? No. Can we go over it? No. Can we go around it? No. How can we get past this wall and follow the path to our heavenly home?**

**Jesus is the answer. Jesus said, "I am the way."**

Starting at the bottom edge, cut a cross-shaped hole or "tunnel" through the "wall of sin" large enough for children to squeeze through. Then continue the yarn "path" through the cross hole and up to "heaven" on the stool.

**Jesus cut a hole in the wall of sin by taking all of our sins and putting them on himself. He took the punishment for all of the wrong things we have ever done when he died on the cross. Jesus says to us "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me." Now we get to walk on this path. It's our way of trusting Jesus as our Savior who forgave our sins. Now we can be together with God forever. How many of you would like to walk on Jesus' path today?**

Have children follow the path, single-file, through the cross in the wall of sin and up to the heaven stool, then return to their seats.

**We should want to follow Jesus' ways everyday. We should remember that he gave his life for us so that our sins would be forgiven. That way, we can be with God someday face to face in heaven.**

**Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. \*JESUS IS THE WAY.../ belong to God's family.**

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
We belong to your family  
Through Jesus' path.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

### **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)**

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE-sus IS the WAY.  
JE-sus IS the WAY.  
IN-TO god's FAM-i-LY.  
JE-sus IS the WAY.**

# Small Group Application (30 minutes)



**Purpose:** Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

## Activity 1: Craft “Jesus' Path”

*Supplies: Copies of Appendix A on cardstock; glue sticks; fine grain sand; markers or crayons; tray with sides*

**Boys and girls, today we are going to make a craft showing a path we should take to get to God's family. We need to remember to thank Jesus for breaking through the wall of sin for us.**

**First, cover the path and cross with a thin layer of glue.  
Now sprinkle the sand over the glue. Shake off excess into the tray.  
Color the rest of the page.**

Review the Bible Event.

**Do you have a “wall of sin” in your life?** *(Yes, we all do. We all sin.)*

**Let's practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS THE WAY...I belong to God's family.**

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
We belong to your family  
Through Jesus' path.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

## **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)  
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE-sus IS the WAY.  
JE-sus IS the WAY.  
IN-TO god's FAM-i-LY.  
JE-sus IS the WAY.**

## Activity 2: Snack “Follow the Path”

Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; canned squirt cheese; crackers; paper plates

**\*\*\*CAUTION:** *Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.*

Before we eat our snack, let’s fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,  
We love you.  
We belong to your family  
Through Jesus' path.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make a path with squirt cheese. You will have to figure out how to get your crackers across the path.

1. Give each child a paper plate.
2. With help, allow each child to use squirt cheese to draw a curvy “path” across the plate.
3. With help, have each child also draw a small cross out of squirt cheese somewhere on the plate.
4. Using crackers, children may scoop through the cross and path and eat!



The cross and the path remind us of what Jesus has done for us: cutting the hole in the “wall of sin” by dying on the cross, so that we can go to heaven.

Review the Bible event.

**What did Jesus do to the “wall of sin”?** *(Cut a hole right through it by giving his life on the cross.)*

**Let’s practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS THE WAY...I belong to God's family.**



## **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE-sus IS the WAY.  
JE-sus IS the WAY.  
IN-TO god's FAM-i-LY.  
JE-sus IS the WAY.**

## **Activity 3: Game “A Stay on the Path”**

*Supplies: masking tape; items for obstacle course (chairs to crawl over; hula hoop to hop through; blanket to crawl under, etc.)*

Before class, create an outline of a cross on the floor with masking tape. The cross should be six feet across, ten feet tall, and three feet wide on all arms. Create an obstacle course along the outline of the cross. (Place chairs along the masking tape for children to crawl over, a blanket for children to crawl under, hula hoops to hop through, etc.)

**Boys and girls, today we are going to try to stay on the path of the cross while running into obstacles. The trick is you must complete the obstacle course while always keeping your hand or foot on the cross.**

Once all children have completed the course once (or more, if time allows), remove the obstacles so they can see the cross outline unobstructed.

**We may have obstacles in our life, like sin, that make it hard to stay on Jesus' path. If we remember the cross, we remember the power of Jesus' love. He will forgive us of our mistakes and help us stay on the path as we go.**

Review the Bible event.

**What do you say to Jesus when you want him to be in your life?**  
*(Just tell him you realize you've done wrong, that you know he made a way to heaven and that you believe in him. He will be there to guide you every day. That's like having him help you follow along a path to heaven.)*

**Let's practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS THE WAY...I belong to God's family.**

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
We belong to your family  
Through Jesus' path.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

## **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE-sus IS the WAY.**  
**JE-sus IS the WAY.**  
**IN-TO god's FAM-i-LY.**  
**JE-sus IS the WAY.**

## **Prayer Time**

**How many ways are there to get to heaven? Lots? A few? Or just one?** (*Only one way – Jesus is the way.*)

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

**Let's practice the take home point. \*JESUS IS THE WAY...I belong to God's family.**

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,  
We love you.  
We belong to your family  
Through Jesus' path.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name.  
Amen.**

## **Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE-sus IS the WAY.**  
**JE-sus IS the WAY.**  
**IN-TO god's FAM-i-LY.**  
**JE-sus IS the WAY.**

**Safety and Security:** Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

# Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



**Purpose:** *The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.*

**Singing:** (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

*Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.*

## Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

**Presenter:** **We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming.**

*(If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)*

**Presenter:** **Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It shows Jesus' Path. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.**



**Presenter:** (says to kids):

Kids say:

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*...I belong to God's family.*

**Presenter:** (says to Albie):

*Albie says:*

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*I got sand in my shorts once...I did NOT like it!*

**Presenter:**

**Albie, look at the snack we ate. It was called Follow the Path. Now listen carefully to the take home point.**

**Presenter:** (says to kids):

Kids say:

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*...I belong to God's family.*

**Presenter:** (says to Albie):

*Albie says:*

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*That cheese looks like a big fat juicy worm to me. Yum yum!*

**Presenter:**

**Albie, today we played a game called Stay on the Path. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.**

**Presenter:** (says to kids):

Kids say:

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*...I belong to God's family.*

**Presenter:** (says to Albie):

*Albie says:*

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*I belong to the National Society of Brilliant Birds!*

**Presenter says:** **Albie, listen one last time.**

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

Kids response:

...I belong to God's family.

**Presenter:** (says to Albie):

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...**

*Albie's response:*

(Warms up his singing voice with "Mee, mee, mee, mee..." and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)

**\*JESUS IS THE WAY...I belong to God's family.**

**Presenter says to Albie:** **Good job, Albie!**

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God,**

**We love you.**

**We belong to your family**

**Through Jesus' path.**

**Thank you, thank you, thank you.**

**In Jesus' name.**

**Amen.**

**Song:**

**Let's sing our song of the week.** (To the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**JE-sus IS the WAY.**

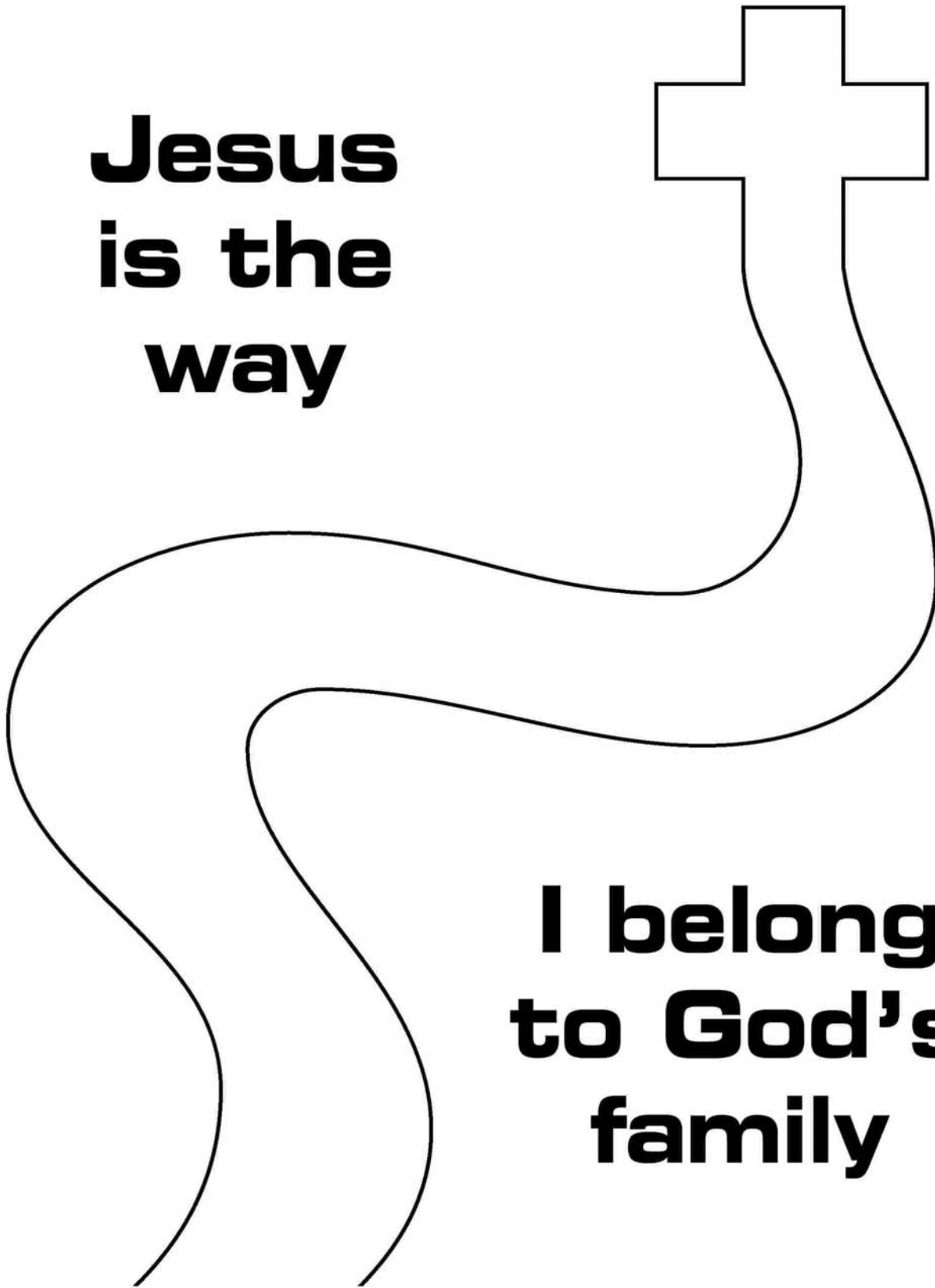
**JE-sus IS the WAY.**

**IN-TO god's FAM-i-LY.**

**JE-sus IS the WAY.**

**Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and you belong to his family.**

**Jesus  
is the  
way**



**I belong  
to God's  
family**