



Date: _____

Series: Jesus is God's Son
Winter Year 2, Lesson 33

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

Bible Event: Luke 2:41-52

Take Home Point: *JESUS IS GOD'S SON—*I want to learn about Jesus.*

*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*).

Jesus Link: Learning about God's word, the Bible, helps us learn about Jesus.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Kids will learn that Jesus was born as a baby and grew into a boy and then a man. As we grow, too, we can learn a lot about Jesus. We can learn how Jesus grew up when we come to Kids Church. We can learn how special Jesus is – and how he grew to give his life for us on the cross. Kids will take home the point: ***JESUS IS GOD'S SON – *I want to learn about Jesus.***
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love as they actively learn God's word.

Kids Church Year 2 - Lesson 33 - 1



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: Echo Pantomime

An echo pantomime gives children the opportunity to act out the Bible event in unison as directed by the presenter. It works best when the presenter reads the script as the narrator and a helper or another adult repeats the lines and demonstrates the action. For example: the presenter says the line "Jacob was walking." The helper and the children in unison repeat the phrase and add the action that the helper demonstrates. (E.g. Walking in place.)

When Jesus was 12 years old,	(Count to 12 together.)
He traveled to Jerusalem with his parents.	(Walk in place.)
They had a feast there.	(Pretend to eat.)
After the feast, they left for home.	(Walk in place.)
But Jesus stayed behind.	(Stand still.)
His parents traveled for a whole day.	(Walk in place.)
Then they noticed Jesus wasn't with them.	(Look surprised—big eyes, open mouth.)

They looked and looked for him.	(Make visor over eyes with hand, turn head.)
They even traveled back to Jerusalem.	(Walk in place.)
And then they looked some more.	(Make visor over eyes with hand, turn head.)
And after three days, they found him.	(Hold up three fingers, count to three.)
Jesus was sitting in a temple,	(Sit cross-legged on the floor.)
Listening to teachers,	(Cup hand over ear.)
And asking questions.	(Raise hand.)
The teachers were amazed at how smart Jesus was.	(Point finger at head.)
His parents were very surprised to find him there.	(Look surprised – big eyes, open Mouth.)
They said, “Jesus, we have been looking for you!”	(Make visor over eyes with hand.)
Jesus said, “I was in my Father’s house”	(Look up at God.)
Then Jesus got up	(Stand up.)
And went back home with his parents.	(Walk in place.)
And Jesus was loved by people and by God.	(Hands over heart.)

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Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal. If this is an option at your church, be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Make a pair of eyes looking for Jesus. Place either two vanilla wafers or two large marshmallows side by side. Place a chocolate chip or raisin in the center of each to create a pair of eyeballs.

Drama Zone: Play “school.” Provide a chalkboard or dry erase board, books, chairs, and dress up clothes.

Puppet Zone: Let the children use puppets to discuss ways they can learn about Jesus and ways they can teach others about Jesus.

Felt Zone: Use felt board materials to show the story of Jesus at the temple from today’s Bible event. (For example, use Lesson #100, “The Boyhood of Jesus,” from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt.*)

Craft Zone: Create binoculars to “look for Jesus.” Staple two toilet paper rolls together (or rolled paper) to look like binoculars. Punch two holes and attach yarn so the binoculars can hang around the child’s neck. Have children decorate their binoculars with markers, stickers, etc. Attach a pre-made label: “Are you looking for Jesus?”

Play Zone: Provide one small person figurine (a small Lego person, for example) and three cups. Have a child place the figurine under one cup and then shuffle the cups. Have children guess where the person is. Option: Have a group of children close their eyes. Place a blanket over one child and have the children open their eyes and guess which child is covered.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books. Include any that feature the story of Jesus at the Temple.

Music Zone: Your choice of music.

Coloring Zone: “The Boy Jesus at the Temple” coloring page.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba comes onto stage sharing his story how he got lost at the mall this past week. He couldn't find his mom anywhere. He was in the toy section the whole time – isn't that where kids are supposed to be? He wasn't lost – it must have been his mom who was lost.

The large group presenter is glad that Bubba wasn't really lost and that his mom found him and that he's safe. That story reminds him about today's Bible event where Jesus' mom and dad couldn't find him for three whole days. Bubba is shocked. Jesus couldn't possibly have ever been lost!

The presenter explains that when Jesus was a boy, he did get lost from his parents. The presenter has the kids help tell Bubba the story by prompting them with fill-in-the-blank questions including:

Jesus was only _____ years old. (12)

His parents were on their way back from Jerusalem where they had had a big _____. (Feast.)

They looked for Jesus for _____ whole days. (Three.)

When they found him, he was in a _____. (Temple.)

He was listening to _____ and asking questions. (Teachers.)

The presenter concludes by explaining that just like Jesus was learning and teaching in the temple, we can learn about Jesus. We can go to Kids Church and learn. We can look at books about Jesus and sing songs about Jesus. Of all the things we can learn about Jesus, the most important thing is what Jesus did for us. He grew up and gave his life for us on the cross. He died on the cross to take our sins away and to give us the power to not want to sin any more. That is the most amazing thing we can learn about Jesus. Remember: ***JESUS IS GOD'S SON – I want to learn about Jesus.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish with bringing the your hands down and wiggling the fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with the hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

***Purpose:** Children go to an activity zone, such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.*

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box—the treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event

Action Zones:

Snack:

- vanilla wafers or large marshmallows, two per child
- chocolate chips or raisins, two per child

Drama:

- dress up clothes
- chalkboard or dry erase board with corresponding chalk, eraser and markers
- chairs
- books

Craft:

- toilet paper rolls or rolled paper
- stapler
- hole punch
- yarn
- markers, stickers, etc
- pre-made label: “Are you looking for Jesus?”

Play:

- three cups
- small person figurine
- option: blanket

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books

Music:

- your choice of music

Puppet:

- various puppets

Felt:

- materials to reenact story (For example, use Lesson #100, “The Boyhood of Jesus,” from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt.*)

Coloring page:

- “The Boy Jesus at the Temple”

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books