



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Gave Himself for Me
Winter Year 1, Lesson 45

Jesus Prays in the Garden

Take Home Point: *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...*Jesus gave his all.*

*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: Matthew 26:36-46

We will help children know:

- The Bible Event of Jesus praying in the garden.
- Jesus needed strength from his Father so he could go through with God's plan and give his all for us.




We will help the children feel:

- A sense that what Jesus had to do to save us was very hard for him.
- Greater love for Jesus and the sacrifice he made for them.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Decorate a Jesus in the Garden picture.
- Snack: Praying Hands.
- Game: Pray Your Way to the Cross Relay.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...*Jesus gave his all.*
- Sing and Pray.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3 5	Puppet Presentation Bible Event	<i>Puppet Presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Judy puppet simple drawing of hypodermic needle Bible <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible two or three candles in holders lighter
Small Group Application 	7 8 9 10	Activity 1: Craft Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Game Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> copy Appendix A, 1 per child markers or colored pencils stamp pad Option: flower or plant stickers <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bread, one slice per child jam or jelly plastic knives or craft sticks napkins, cups, water or juice <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one oven mitt for each team (option: adult-size mitten) masking tape or painters tape
Large Group Wrap-up 	12 12	Singing (Optional) Lesson Review with Puppet Skit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> your choice of music Albie puppet Example of craft Example of snack

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: Judy puppet; simple drawing of a hypodermic shot; Presenter holds a Bible

Presenter: Good morning boys and girls. Look at this picture. Do you know what it is?

Children shout out answers: A shot or needle.

Presenter: That's right. A needle is making Judy very afraid. She has to go to the doctor today and get a shot. She is afraid it will hurt and does not want to go. Let's call Judy.

Children: Judy...Judy. (She does not come out.)

Presenter: Judy, please come out here.

Judy: NO!

Presenter: Judy, we really want to talk to you. Please come out.

Judy: No. I heard you say you have a needle. I am NOT coming out there!

Presenter: Judy, it is just a picture of a needle. I won't hurt you.

Judy: Promise you won't hurt me?

Presenter: Yes Judy, I promise. Now please come out.

Judy: (Judy peeks her head out a little bit.) Are you sure it is safe?

Presenter: Yes Judy, it is safe out here.

Judy: Okay, I'll come out.

Presenter: Well, Judy, it is good to see you. It took you a long time to come out.

Judy: I know. I am just soooooo scared! My mommy is making me go to the doctor to get a shot today. I want to hide so I don't have to go.

Presenter: Judy, Jesus understands your feelings.

Judy: He does?

Presenter: In today's Bible event, Jesus knows that he is going to die on the cross the next day. It will be very painful and he does not want to do it.

Judy: What did he do?

Presenter: He prayed to his Father, God, and asked to not have to do it.

Judy: Really?

Presenter: Yes. But then Jesus told his Father that he would be obedient and do what God wants him to do.

Judy: What did God do?

Presenter: He gave Jesus the strength to go to the cross.

Judy: Wow.

Presenter: Judy, your mother wants you to get a shot to keep you safe from worse problems. The shot will hurt for just a minute and then you can go home.

Judy: I guess I could be brave like Jesus.

Presenter: Jesus was very brave. He went to the cross not to keep himself safe, but to give his all for us. It hurt Jesus for a long time on the cross, but it took away our sins. Isn't it wonderful how much Jesus loves us?

Judy: Yes it is.

Presenter: Would you like to learn more about that Bible event?

Judy: Yes.

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

Judy: OK

Presenter: *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME... now you say, "Jesus gave his all."

Judy: Jesus gave his all.

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

Judy: Sure.

Presenter: Okay everybody, *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...

Judy: (and everyone): Jesus gave his all.

Presenter: Wonderful. Say “goodbye” Judy.

Judy: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Simple Storytelling

Supplies: two or three candles in a container; lighter; Bible

Presenter holds the Bible

Jesus Prays in the Garden

Last week we talked about Jesus and his disciples having a special remember meal together. It was a happy time and the disciples did not know Jesus was going to die on the cross the next day.

Today in the Bible we will read about Jesus’ last night before he went to the cross. He spent much of the night praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. Let's put on our imagination hats and pretend we are there.

After Jesus and the disciples had their special meal together, they walked to the garden (walk in place for a second or two) singing songs of praise to God. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus knew he needed to pray about what would happen.

Soon they arrived at the garden. Jesus took his three closest friends, Peter, James, and John, with him a little farther into the garden. Light several candles and dim the lights if possible, to create a special mood. It was dark and quiet.

Jesus told his three closest friends to wait right there and pray. He needed their prayers. Jesus was going to go even farther into the garden because he needed to talk to his heavenly Father. He wanted to be alone but he still wanted others to pray for him.

He walked (walk in place a second or two) until he got to a quiet place. He knelt down and looked to heaven. Jesus asked, “Father, if there is any way you can keep me from dying on the cross for all the sins of the world, would you please do it? If there is some other way you could forgive the sins of people without me having to take the punishment of everyone’s sin, please do so. If I have to die on the cross, it would take all that I have.”

Then Jesus said something very important. “Father, whatever you want me to do I will do. It’s what you want, not what I want.”

After Jesus prayed this prayer, he got up and walked back to his three closest friends, Peter, James, and John, to see if they were still praying for him.

When you pray for people, it can be a really big help for them. Guess what Jesus’ friends were doing? They were sleeping.

Jesus said, “Please wake up. Watch and pray so that you don’t get tempted again to fall asleep. I need you to pray for me.”

Then Jesus walked back to his special prayer place. He knelt down and looked up to heaven again. He said, “God, are you sure you want me to give my all for everyone, even if it will be so painful? Whatever you want, I will do.” Jesus prayed so hard that he was sweating and crying.

Jesus went back to his friends again to see if they were praying. What do you think they were doing? They were sleeping again. “Please wake up,” Jesus said. “Please pray for me.”

Then Jesus went back to his prayer place again. One last time he said, “Father, is there another way for us to take away the people’s sin, other than dying on the cross and giving my all? Please show me any other way.”

Jesus had his answer. There was no other way. Jesus knew what he must do. He had to give his all for every person in the world.

Then God sent an angel to comfort Jesus. He wasn’t troubled anymore. He wasn’t worried. He wasn’t sad. He knew he was doing just what God wanted him to do. Jesus trusted God would help him through it.

Jesus went back a third time to his friends to see if they were helping him by staying awake and praying. What do you think they were doing? They were sleeping again! Jesus woke them and said, “Get

up. It's time to leave the garden because the time has come. I see the one coming who will betray me."

Then there was a big noise. Soldiers started coming and...oops! I can't tell you what happened until next week.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. ***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...Jesus gave his all.**

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus gave himself for me.
Jesus gave his all.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

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

JE-sus GAVE him SELF for ME.
SELF for ME. SELF for ME.
JE-sus GAVE him SELF for ME.
GAVE his A-ll.

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 in the Garden

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A, one for each child, stamp pad; markers or colored pencils; Optional: flower or plant stickers

Today we are going to make a craft of Jesus hidden in the garden. In the Bible event Jesus went far into the garden so he would be hidden from everyone else. After you decorate your picture, we will fold the top half of the paper down so that only the words, "Jesus Prays in the Garden" are visible. You may use the stamp pad to make a thumbprint and use the markers to make them look like flowers or plants. Decorate your garden with plants and trees and whatever else you want.

Review the Bible Event.

Why did Jesus pray in the garden? *(He wanted a quiet place to pray. He knew he would suffer and die and he needed his Father's help to do it.)*

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...Jesus gave his all.

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus gave himself for me.
Jesus gave his all.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. *(To the tune of London Bridge)*
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Activity 2: Snack: Praying Hands

Supplies: One slice of bread per child; jam or jelly; plastic knives or craft sticks for spreading; napkins, cups, water or juice.

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

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus gave himself for me.
Jesus gave his all.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of Jesus' praying hands. I will give each one of you a piece of bread. Next I will put some jam on it and you can spread it with your knife (or craft stick). After you have spread your jam, lay the bread in one hand (jam side up!) and gently fold the bread

in half. Look at your hands. They are in the praying position! Now you may eat your snack.

Review the Bible event.

Why didn't Jesus say no to dying on the cross? (*He wanted to do his Father's will and he wanted to save us all from sin.*)

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...Jesus gave his all.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)

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

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Activity 3: Game: Pray Your Way to the Cross Relay

Supplies: one oven mitt for each team; (option: adult-sized mitten); masking tape or blue painters tape

Before class, make a cross (one for each team) about 18" high on the floor with tape, opposite the starting line. Make starting lines across the room, opposite the crosses. Place an oven mitt (or adult-size mitten) on each line.

Just as Jesus prayed his way to the real cross, today we are going to "pray" our way to a cross. Remember to stay on your knees as you play.

Divide children into two or more teams. Teams will play this relay game against each other. To play the game:

1. Line each team up behind the tape.
2. When you say, "Go," the child at the front of each team must get down on his knees and put both hands in the mitt, prayer style. Children must stay behind the line until the mitt is on their hands.
3. Then the children (on knees) race to the cross and touch their forehead to the cross.
4. The children then race back to their line, still on their knees, and give the mitt to the next child, who repeats the activity.
5. The team to finish the race first wins.

Review the Bible event.

How did God give strength to Jesus? (He sent an angel to comfort him.)

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...Jesus gave his all.

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

**Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus gave himself for me.
Jesus gave his all.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *London Bridge*)

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

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Prayer Time:

What is the hardest thing you have ever had to do? (*Answers will vary, but may include getting a shot, being away from parents, cleaning up a big mess, sleeping in a dark room, etc.*) **When you have to do something difficult or painful, remember that Jesus prayed to God for help. Jesus did the hardest thing of all for us. He died on the cross. Now we can be in heaven with him.**

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

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...Jesus gave his all.

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

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Thank you, thank you, thank you.
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Song:

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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 is Jesus hiding in the garden. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Kids say:

...Jesus gave his all.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Albie says:

Once I had a pet bumblebee!



Presenter: Albie, look at the snack we ate. It reminds us of praying hands. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Kids say:

...Jesus gave his all.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Albie says:

Have you ever eaten a Christmas tree?

Presenter: Albie, today we played a game called Pray Your Way to the Cross Relay. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Kids say:

...Jesus gave his all.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Albie says:

Would you kiss the ouchie on my knee?

Presenter says:

"Albie, listen one last time.

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Kids response:

...Jesus gave his all.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...**

Albie's response:

(Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)
***JESUS GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME...Jesus gave his all.**

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.

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Jesus gave himself for me.
Jesus gave his all.
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In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

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SELF for ME. SELF for ME.
JE-sus GAVE him SELF for ME.
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Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and Jesus gave his all for you.



Jesus Prays in the Garden