



Date: _____
Series: Meet the God/Man, Jesus
Winter Year 2, Lesson 38

Jesus—The Son of God

Take Home Point: *Jesus is God's Son... whose mission was to give his life for us.

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Mark 9:2-10. Jesus' Transfiguration.

Key Verse: Mark 9:7b, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

We will help kids know:

- The Bible event of Jesus' transfiguration.
- Jesus did not want to merely shine in heavenly glory, but he wanted to go to the cross to pay for our sins.




We will help kids feel:

- Thrilled to imagine how wonderful it is to have Jesus as a close friend.
- Challenged to spend some time on their own in prayer or Bible reading.

We will help kids do:

- Identify what might be a good place and time for them to spend in prayer or thinking about Jesus.
- Complete a plan that will help them have a personal devotion time.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3-4	Kids talk about a special place they like to spend time alone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • small piece of paper for each child • pencils
Large Group 	4 8-10 11-13 14-15	Overview Meet the God/Man" Game Show —This week the game show contestants will attempt to spell the words "Son of God." Interactive Storytelling: "Jesus' Transfiguration" —Kids help act out Mark 9:2-10. Puppet Presentation: "Gordy's Special Place" — Gordy would like to have Jesus stay with him in heavenly glory. He learns, however, that Jesus had to fulfill his mission on the cross.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordy • game show set • sport coat • large placards with letters (These could be pieces of construction paper with letters boldly printed on them.) • game board for letters to be attached to (This could be foam core or poster board.) • bell, horn, or buzzer (2-4) • white robe • flood light • vertical stand from which the robe can be hung • cross • headdresses for Peter, James, and John • two white robes or sheets and two headdresses for Elijah and Moses characters • printed lines for the 3 disciples (<i>see lesson</i>)
Small Group Application 	4-7	Kids learn four different ways to spend time with God and make a bookmark to remind them <i>*Jesus is God's Son. His mission was to give his life for us.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of "God's Son Bookmark" (p. 16) • scissors • markers or crayons • pens or pencils

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Today's lesson introduces Jesus as the Son of God. Typically, the warm-up time is very clear in presenting the theme for the day. Today and throughout the series, however, the warm-up must be much more subtle in stating the day's theme. The reason for this is that the large group presentation will be in a game show format. Contestants will be trying to guess the theme of the day. Therefore, today we do not want to blatantly mention beforehand that Jesus is the Son of God. Even if this is not clearly spoken, the kids will be involved in a warm-up activity related to the topic.

Pass out a small piece of paper to every child. Say:

I want you to think about a special place you go to be alone or where you like doing something by yourself. Write it down but don't let anyone see what you've written.

After all have written down their answers and kept them a secret, continue with the following:

Let's play a game and see if we can guess some of the special places that each one of us likes to go to be alone or be by ourselves. To guess, we can only ask questions that can be answered with either "yes" or "no." But here is the trick. We only have one minute to guess for each person.

Ask for a volunteer to go first and suggest these questions to give kids ideas as to what kind of questions to ask.

1. Is your special place outside your house?
2. Is it in a place with lots of light?
3. Do you have a favorite chair or couch there?

After the game is completed, continue with the following:

We all need special places where we can go to be alone. Did you know we also need a special place where we can go to spend time with our friend Jesus? We spend time with him when we read the Bible, think about him, and pray. We also need to take time to listen to what God tells us in his Word.

We're going to learn about that today when we see how Jesus went to a special place to spend time with his Heavenly Father in prayer. He often went to the mountain to pray. But today we will find that something very special happened when he went to the mountain with his three closest friends.

Large Group: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Overview

“Meet the God/Man” Game Show – This week the game show contestants will attempt to spell the words “Son of God.”

Interactive Storytelling: “Jesus’ Transfiguration” – Kids help act out Mark 9:2-10.

Puppet Presentation: “Gordy’s Special Place” – Gordy, like the disciples, would like to have Jesus stay with him in heavenly glory. He learns, however, that Jesus had to fulfill his mission on the cross. Because of that, we can spend quiet times with Jesus now.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Have kids refer to Mark 9:2-10 in their Bibles.

Jesus took three of his disciples, his three closest friends, with him up the mountain. What were their names? (Mark 9:2. Peter, James, and John.)

What happened to Jesus that showed his heavenly glory? (Mark 9:2-3. His clothes became dazzling white.)

Who appeared and began talking with Jesus? *(Mark 9:4. Elijah and Moses.)*

What did Peter suggest to Jesus that they should do? *(Mark 9:5. Put up three shelters.)*

When a cloud appeared, a voice came from heaven. What did this voice say? *(Mark 9:7. "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!")*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?
Jesus chose not to remain on the mountain shining in his heavenly glory. Instead, he had a more important mission to do. What was his mission? *(To go to the cross.)*

Some of the older children might understand verse 9 that explains that Jesus did not want his disciples to tell everyone what they had seen until he had risen from the dead. This was because he did not want to only be known for his heavenly glory, he wanted to be known for the most important thing...the giving of his life for us.

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?
Jesus would often go away by himself to pray to his Father. Where was his special place to be alone and spend time with his Father? *(Up on the mountain, in the Garden of Gethsemane, etc.)*

The Bible says Jesus often went up mountains to be alone and talk to his Father, but I'm sure he could use any place. If you were to choose a special place to spend time alone and talk to your Heavenly Father, like Jesus did, what place would you choose? *Refer back to the special places identified during the warm-up session.*

Did you know that it is very important for every person who wants to be a close friend with God to spend time with him in a special place? Just like it was important to Jesus, so it should be important to us. We also need to talk to God and then listen to him. He talks to us when we read the Bible. Today we are going to talk about how we can plan to have a special friendship time with God and meet him in our own special place.

Our key verse from *Mark 9:7* says, *"This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"* Isn't it special that we can listen to God's Son in the Bible and know he wants to spend time with each of us?

Application Activity:

Pass out handout sheets. (See appendix.)

First, let's make a Bible bookmark in reverse. What I mean is this. Sometimes we have made bookmarks in the shape of a cross. Today, we will make a bookmark that is the cutout outline of a cross.

If you take your page and fold it down the middle, you can cut along the dotted lines and cut out a cross. This is like a cross window. This whole page is your bookmark. When you look through the cross as you read the Bible, it reminds you that **Jesus is God's Son...whose mission was to give his life for us.* You can use this as a bookmark when we read the Bible in our special place.

There are four things that we can do to have a special time with God. Each one of you can fill in the blanks. In the upper left corner it says, "Plan a special time." This means that if we are going to choose to spend 10 minutes of special time with God, we need to plan when that will happen. Will it happen before you go to school? Will it happen after you get home from school? Maybe your best time is right before you go to bed at night. Maybe you will plan for three nights this week, or maybe all seven nights. Decide when your special time with Jesus will be and write it in that blank.

In the upper right hand corner it says "Plan a special place." Think about a special place where you cannot be bothered by any other distractions. You can talk to God there and also read the Bible. Might this be in your bedroom, or another favorite place in your house? Maybe it could even be outside. What will be your plan? Think about it and write where your special place is.

In the lower left corner it says "Read a special verse or verses." Since we are studying the Gospel of Mark in Kingdom Quest, let's turn to the beginning of Mark and see how we can make a plan to read a little bit of the Bible each time we have a special meeting with God.

Discuss with the children how they can read starting in chapter one through the book of Mark, and how much they would be willing to read at one sitting. The bookmark will help them keep their place from day to day.

In the bottom right corner it says "To say a special prayer." Let's talk about some of the different things that we can pray for and maybe how we can even keep a prayer list in a special prayer notebook or another sheet of paper. Discuss with the kids.

When we read the Word of God we can remember what God the Father said to the disciples on the mountain that day with Jesus, Elijah, and Moses. He said, *“This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”* (Mark 9:7)

We can listen to Jesus when we read his Word from the Bible. Then we can show him our love by obeying him.

We can remember how much Jesus loves us, because **Jesus is God’s Son...whose mission was to give his life for us.*

Closing Prayer:

Close with prayer, inviting each child to talk to God about helping them find a special time and place to spend with him. Be sure to give thanks for God sending his Son Jesus who gave his life for us, and because of that gift, we can be filled with Jesus’ power in our lives.

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Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

“Meet the God/Man” Game Show

The large group format for the “Meet the God/Man” series is a game show. The large group presenter is the game show host and Gordy is an assistant who ad-libs comments during the game show. Immediately after the game show, Gordy helps introduce the topic discussed that day. He does this with a brief scripted dialog, in which he presents a typical view of a third grade boy.

The more creative the set is for this game show, the more fun it can be for adults and children alike. In advance, gather adults to help with special props or decor. The large group presenter needs to have a bright or colorful sport coat or something to serve as a game show host costume. This will help the kids know when he is functioning as a game show host and when he is presenting the Bible event.

Throughout the series, large placards with letters will be necessary to make the mystery word and provide visual effect for the game. Today’s mystery word is “Son of God.” The God/man, Jesus, is the “Son of God.” Eight placards with the letters spelling “Son of God” need to be available. Number the letters like below. As contestants answer questions, these letters are attached or turned over on the board or the wall. Be creative in your own facility as to how these letters can be posted. Foam core or poster board might be excellent backing.

The game format operates as follows:

The official beginning comes with the kids singing the “God/Man” theme song or a song of your choice that enhances the theme. It will be used throughout the series. To receive your copy of the music, go to http://www.awaken.nu/music_godman.php You can download the mp3 file (sample) for free or purchase a CD (includes trax and demo) for \$5.00, plus shipping and handling. Sheet music is \$3.00 plus shipping and handling.

Gordy then introduces the game show host. The game show host welcomes all of the contestants to the game “Who Is the God/Man?” (A game show sign would be helpful.) They would then randomly select contestants from the ping-pong ball container. Two boys and two girls should be selected to represent the team of each gender. Give the children the option of picking someone near them to substitute for them if they do not want to come up and be part of the show. This will compensate for kids who are shy.

The game show is conducted before the Bible event is read. Kids are guessing the answers, but then are better prepared to hear the main points of the Bible reading that is read after the game show.

The game show host will read a question and the contestants will beep in with a bell, a horn, or a buzzer. Whoever beeps first gets to answer the question. If they beep in before the question is completely asked, the host will not tell them the rest of the

question. If they answer the question correctly, they get a chance to look at one of the letters to be placed on the board. They will have five seconds to guess what the word is that describes who our God/Man is. If they fail to answer the question correctly after beeping in, the other team can answer the question following an additional clue. If that team correctly answers, then they will have five seconds to guess the descriptor for the God/Man. If neither team correctly answers the question, the letter is still revealed for the clue though no one is allowed to guess the word.

Typically, the kids will guess the word before all of the letters are given. Whichever team does this, wins the game. It might be interesting to keep a weekly tally of who is doing the best job. Nonetheless, it is still fun and helpful to complete the clues even after the word has been guessed. The remaining clues are given to Gordy so the questions can quickly be covered.

Clue Sheet
“Meet the God/Man” Game
Mark 9:2-10

S-O-N O-F G-O-D
8 1 7 2 4 5 3 6

For letters numbered one, two, and three, can you answer the following? In last week’s lesson the disciples first saw Jesus walking on the water. What did they mistake him for?

- A. *A ghost*
- B. *An angel.*
- C. *An astronaut.*

(Correct answer is A. a ghost.)

You win the letter O! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number four, can you tell me the following? When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water they felt:

- A. *relief.*
- B. *fear.*
- C. *hungry for a peanut butter sandwich.*

(Answer: B. fear)

You win the letter S! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number five, can you tell me the following? Last week Jesus told the disciples to stop being afraid. What else did he say that helped them not to be afraid?

A. *"Calm down! It's me."*

B. *"This wind isn't so bad. Your boat won't tip over."*

C. *"Eat this peanut butter sandwich, maybe it will help."*

(Answer: A. *"Calm down! It's me."*)

You win the letter G! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number six, can you tell me the following? In today's lesson, Jesus took some of the people with him to his special place on a mountain. Were these people:

A. *Pharisees.*

B. *Disciples.*

C. *People who have peanut butter sandwiches in their lunch boxes.*

(Answer: B. *Disciples.*)

You win the letter D! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number seven, can you tell me the following? In today's Bible event Jesus glowed in heavenly glory. Standing next to him are two famous people. They are:

A. *Moses and Elijah.*

B. *Adam and Eve.*

C. *Spiderman and Batman.*

(Answer: A. *Moses and Elijah.*)

You win the letter N! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number eight, can you tell me the following? In today's lesson God will say from heaven, "This is my Son." What else does he say?

A. *"Listen to him."*

B. *"Isn't he cool?"*

C. *"Does anyone have a peanut butter sandwich?"*

(Answer: A. *"Listen to him."*)

You win the letter S! And the God/Man is...the Son of God!

Jesus' Transfiguration

Interactive Storytelling

Mark 9:2-10

Preparation: This interactive storytelling will require three children volunteers from the audience to be disciples—Peter, James, and John. Each will have a line that they can read. Have this line printed on a small slip of paper so they can read their part.

Peter: "Rabbi, it's good that we are here."

James: "Let's put up three tents."

John: "One for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

Enhance their look and their character by providing each with a simple period headpiece they can quickly slip on.

Two other children should be drafted from the audience to take the roles of Moses and Elijah. They, too, need a special effect in costuming. We suggest they be robed in white by using a white sheet or robe and a white headpiece. Once again, the costumes need to be quickly placed on them.

A big part of the storytelling event and application is in the lighting up of a white robe to signify Jesus. The robe should have a very bright light shining from within, so that it glows when the house lights are dimmed. The second aspect of this lit robe needs to be that when the robe is opened, a cross is immediately visible. The robe might be hung on some type of vertical stand or draped over a freestanding cross in which a bright floodlight can be placed at the bottom and shine upwards. Hopefully, this would light the interior of the robe and glow brightly.

The narrator reads the Bible event while also orchestrating the special characters and effects. It might be helpful to place this script inside your Bible to further illustrate the importance that this event comes straight from the Bible.

Narrator: **First I need some volunteers from the audience and some helpers to get their costumes on. Let's begin with three of Jesus' closest disciples. They are Peter, James, and John.**

Peter, James, and John, each of you will be given a line to read loudly and clearly for all to hear. I will tell you when it's your turn to read.

Volunteers, would you come forward, put on your headpiece, and stand over there?

Next, I need two other volunteers to be Moses and Elijah, two Old Testament characters. Moses represents the portion of the Bible known as the law. Elijah will represent the portion of the Bible known as the prophets. Notice that they will be dressed

in white because in this Bible event they appeared with Jesus in their heavenly glory.

Let's begin. Many of you know that Jesus often went by himself up a mountain to pray and spend time talking to his Heavenly Father. It must have been a close and personal time between Jesus and his Heavenly Father. One day he took three of his closest friends with him up a mountain and there he showed them his heavenly glory.

I'll read now from Mark, chapter nine: *"Jesus took only Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. Jesus' appearance changed in front of them. His clothes became dazzling white..."*

Turn on the bright light under the Jesus robe.

His clothes were *"whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah and Moses appeared to them and were talking with Jesus."*

Have Moses and Elijah move next to this symbol for Jesus.

"Then Peter said to Jesus..."

Have Peter, James, and John read their lines loudly.

Peter: *"Rabbi, it's good that we are here."*

James: *"Let's put up three tents."*

John: *"One for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."*

Though Peter had just said this, he really didn't know what else to say. *"He and the others were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them and a voice came out from the cloud and said, 'This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!'"*

I think at this time Peter, James, and John were so awed and afraid having seen Jesus' heavenly glory and hearing the voice of God the Father, they must have fallen down and could scarcely gaze at such a wonderful sight. Then the Bible says this, *"Suddenly, as they looked around, they saw no one with them but Jesus."*

Have Moses and Elijah step off the stage. Then, turn off the lights on the Jesus robe.

"On their way down the mountain, Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone what they had seen. They were to wait until Jesus

had come back to life. They kept in mind what he had said but they argued among themselves what he meant by 'Come back to life.'"

Have the disciples now step off the stage.

It must have been a marvelous sight! Peter wanted all of them to remain there on the mountain in this glory.

But if Jesus had stayed there, he would not have accomplished his most important mission. His most important mission was to go to the cross and die for our sins. If he didn't do that, we could never be saved or spend forever with him in heaven.

Open the robe and show the cross.

Not only did Jesus shine up on the mountain as the Son of God, but he also accomplished the mission of going to the cross and dying for our sins and coming back to life again. Because of that, we are able to share in his heavenly glory with him, as we trust him as our savior.

Remember **Jesus is God's Son...his mission was to give his life for us.*

Go to puppet presentation.

Gordy's Special Place

Puppet Presentation

Gordy appears immediately after the Bible Presentation when Mr. King invites him.

Mr. King: **Gordy, come out and tell us what you think about Jesus' transfiguration.**

Gordy: Jesus transfiguration, what's that?

Mr. King: **Oh, I didn't explain that term. Jesus' transfiguration means that his appearance changed so the disciples could see his heavenly glory.**

Gordy: Oh yeah, that was cool! Jesus must have shined so bright I bet it hurt the disciples eyeballs.

Mr. King: **Yes, maybe so. It really must have been impressive to see.**

Gordy: But I don't understand why Jesus doesn't show us himself like that, today. I mean that would be cool to go off with him and have him shine like that so we could see his...ahh...What do you call it? Heavenly glory?

Mr. King: **Well, Gordy, someday we will be able to be with him in heaven and see how wonderful he looks and how he shines in his heavenly glory. But we can still spend time with him today.**

Gordy: How's that? You said that Jesus didn't stay up on the mountain shining. His mission was to give his life for us on the cross.

Mr. King: **That's right, Gordy. Jesus went to the cross and died for our sins, but he rose again and is alive with us even when we can't see him.**

Gordy: Yeah, but I still wish I could spend time with him.

Mr. King: **Gordy, you still can. As a matter of fact, he wants to meet with you every day in a special place and he wants to talk to you.**

Gordy: How does he talk to me? And where is he supposed to meet me?

Mr. King: **Gordy, Jesus wants you to find a special place to meet with him where it's just you and him. It could be your bedroom or a quiet place in your house. He wants you to take time to read the Bible and pray to him. He'll talk back to you in the Bible and you'll get to know him closer and closer.**

Gordy: You mean like a friend?

Mr. King: Yes. Even though he is the Son of God, his mission was to give his life for you. That's how much he loves you. So he wants to spend time with you every day if you will just make the time. He wants you to talk to him in prayer and he'll talk back to you as you read the Bible. That's what friends do. They spend time with each other and talk to each other.

Gordy: But I don't know how to do that.

Mr. King: Gordy, maybe all of us will learn about that today when we go back to our small group. Remember, **Jesus is God's Son...whose mission was to give his life for us.* And now he wants to spend time with us every day. We can learn to do that.

Gordy: Wow! I never thought that he'd want to do that with me, because I'm just a kid.

Mr. King: Jesus loves spending time with us kids. Gordy, why don't you close us in prayer and you can go to your small group to talk about it.

Gordy: Okay. Dear God, thank you for sending your Son Jesus whose mission was to give his life for us. I think it's going to be really cool that someday we will be able to see him in heaven and see how bright he shines...And also how much he loves us. Help us every day to spend time with him and get to know him as our friend and our Savior. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Plan a special time.	Plan a special place.
Read a special verse or verses.	Say a special prayer.
1. Fold Here	
2. Cut along dotted line.	
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