



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Gave His Life for Me
Spring Year 2, Lesson 57

Jesus Prepares a Place in Heaven

Take Home Point: *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME
...Heaven will be our home, too.

*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: 1-3, Isaiah 11: 6-9, Revelation 22: 3-5

We will help children know:

- There is a special place in heaven prepared for them.
- Heaven is a peaceful, wonderful place we will go when our life here is over.
- In heaven, we will get to see Jesus face to face.




We will help the children feel:

- Confident Jesus will come back someday to take us to heaven.
- Thankful we don't have to earn our way to heaven, but we just need to trust Jesus.
- Awed by how wonderful heaven will be.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Many Rooms.
- Snack: Picture of Heaven.
- Game: Build a Heavenly Home Relay.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.
- 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 holding a leash Bible <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> four chairs
Small Group Application 	7 8 9 10	Activity 1: Craft-Many Rooms Activity 2: Snack-Picture of Heaven Activity 3: Game-Build a Heavenly Home Relay Prayer Time	<i>Activity 1: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix A, 1 per child crayons or markers <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> napkins, cups, water or juice half graham cracker per child blue frosting whipped topping plastic knives and spoons <i>Activity 3: Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> masking tape building blocks
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 holding a leash; Presenter holds a Bible

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

Judy: Agggh! Hi everyone.

Presenter: Judy, what's wrong? You sound upset and is that a leash you are holding?

Judy: I am upset. Yes this is a leash I'm holding. What is wrong is more complicated.

Presenter: I'm a good listener. Tell me what happened.

Judy: Right before we left home for church, my dog chased our cat up a tree. Dad had to get a ladder to get the cat down.

Presenter: That sounds kind of exciting.

Judy: It was very frustrating. The dog and cat never get along. They don't like each other. I wish they wouldn't fight all the time.

Presenter: Some animals and people just don't get along with each other.

Judy: I wish there was a perfect place. A special place where everyone was nice to each other all the time, animals and people.

Presenter: Judy, there is such a place.

Judy: Really? Where is it?

Presenter: It is a place we will be talking about today. A place where dogs and cats and people never fight.

Judy: Where is it?

Presenter: It is heaven!

Judy: Can I go there now?

Presenter: Heaven is a special home for us that is perfect. Everyone gets along. If we trust Jesus, we will get to go there someday.

Judy: You said everyone gets along. That's were I want to go.

Presenter: Jesus is busy now building a room for every one of us.

Judy: I hope my room is pink!

Presenter: I don't know about that. I do know that it is perfect in heaven. Would you like to learn more about this Bible event?

Judy: Yes I would.

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

Judy: OK

Presenter: *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...now you say, "Heaven will be our home, too."

Judy: Heaven will be our home, too.

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

Judy: Sure.

Presenter: Okay everybody, *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...

Judy: (and everyone): Heaven will be our home, too.

Presenter: One more time. *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...

Judy: (and everyone): Heaven will be our home, too.

Presenter: Wonderful. Say "goodbye" Judy.

Judy: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Audience Participation

Supplies: 4 chairs; Bible

Presenter holds the Bible

Have three chairs off and to the side of the stage for volunteers to sit in when called for. Have other chairs on stage for each child to sit on when called.

Presenter begins:

Last week we learned that Jesus is the way for us to be in God's family. When you're in God's family, you are in his family now and forever. That means that when your life here is over, you get to be in heaven and live with him forever. Heaven is a very happy place. To talk about it, I'm going to ask for three volunteers to come up and answer some questions.

Choose three volunteers and direct them to the chairs on the side of the stage to wait their turn. Invite the first volunteer up. Have him sit in the chair on stage.

Let's all listen carefully to this Bible verse. This is from the book of John. It says, "*Jesus looked at his disciples and he could tell some of them were worried. He said, 'Don't worry. Trust in God and trust in me.' Then he said, 'My father has prepared a house in heaven. There are many rooms there. I'm going there to prepare a place for you. Then someday, I will come back to take you there so you can be with me also.'*"

Address the first volunteer with questions.

In heaven, God the Father has a very big house. What did Jesus go to prepare for you? (*A room.*)

Tell me, in your house, what is your favorite room? (*Allow child to answer and tell why.*)

That sounds wonderful. You see, in heaven, we'll all have special places that we enjoy just like that. We will feel like we belong, and have fun and play. We will have a spot that Jesus is getting ready that is just for us! You will have all that you need and will be happy. It will be wonderful.

Thank the first volunteer and have him return to the rest of the group. Invite the second volunteer up onto stage to sit down and answer the following questions.

Have you ever seen a dog chase a cat? Have you ever been to the zoo? Could you name some of the animals at the zoo? Do the animals at the zoo run around all together? (Allow child to answer and explain why animals are in cages.)

That's right. In this world, sometimes animals don't get along. In fact, sometimes people don't even get along and can fight each other. But this is what it says in the Bible, in the book of Isaiah, about heaven: *"The wolf will live with the lamb, and leopard will lie down with the goat, the cow and the lion will walk together and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear and their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. And the baby will play by the snake. They will neither harm nor destroy each other on all my holy mountain."*

In heaven, there will be no fighting or hurting or crying. People and animals will get along. There will be many different kinds of animals and creatures – more than are even in the zoo! And there will be special heavenly creatures. It will be amazing to see God's creations.

Thank the second volunteer and have him return to the rest of the group. Invite the third volunteer onto stage.

Have you ever been in the dark and been scared? Pretend that you're in the dark right now. What would you be afraid of? What do you do when you get afraid in the dark like that? (Allow child to answer and offer suggestions if necessary, like hiding under blanket or yelling for mom.)

Did you know that in heaven, there will be no darkness? That's right! It will never be dark. And there won't even have to be a sun to give us light either! Right in the middle of heaven will be God himself and there's light shining from him that will light up everyone. Also Jesus will be there shining. It says in the Bible in the book of Revelation: *"No longer will there be any curse. We will see God face to face and serve him. There will be no more night. We will not need lamps or the light of the sun, because the Lord God will give them light."* Heaven will be a bright happy place and we will get to be with Jesus!

Thank the third volunteer and have him rejoin the group.

The presenter summarizes briefly:

Heaven will be a magnificent place! There will be a special place prepared just for us with everything we need. There will be no fighting. People will get along and there will be amazing heavenly creatures. It will be bright and light and we will see God face-to-face and live with Jesus forever.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus lives in heaven.
Heaven will be our home, too.
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.

HEA-ven IS our HOME.
HEA-ven IS our HOME.
JE-SUS will PRE-pare our ROOM.
HEA-ven IS our HOME.

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 “Many Rooms”

Supplies: Copies of Appendix A, markers or crayons

Boys and girls, today we are going to draw and color all the people you would like to see in God's house in heaven. They can be people you know now or people who are already in heaven.

Encourage children to discuss who they're drawing and why they're drawing them.

Remind them that trusting Jesus is what we need to do to get to heaven and ask them to think of ways we can trust Jesus in our lives.

Review the Bible Event.

What did Jesus go to heaven to prepare for us? (A special room/place.)

Let's practice the take home point. *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.

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

Dear God,
We love you.
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Activity 2: Snack “Picture of Heaven”

Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; half graham cracker per child; blue frosting; whipped topping; plastic knives and spoons

*****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.
Jesus lives in heaven.
Heaven will be our home, too.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to decorate our snack to look like heaven. We do not know exactly what heaven will look like but we do know some things about heaven.

Give each child a large square graham cracker.
Frost it with blue frosting for the sky.
Let the children dab the graham cracker with Cool Whip to create clouds.
Eat!

Review the Bible event.

What will heaven be like for animals and people? *(No fighting. We’ll all get along.)*

Let’s practice the take home point. ***HEAVEN IS JESUS’ HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.**

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.

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JE-SUS will PRE-pare our ROOM.
HEA-ven IS our HOME.

Activity 3: Game “Build a Heavenly Home Relay”

Supplies: masking tape; building blocks

Before class, put a masking tape line on the floor; ten feet away put a masking tape X; repeat.

Boys and girls, today we are going compete against each other to build a room.

1. Two groups have a contest to “Build a Heavenly Home.” Each team lines up behind a masking tape starting line.
2. Approximately ten feet away, each team will race to the X.
3. Give each team member a building block of some kind (*wood block or cardboard*). Team members will take turns running to the designated area and adding their block to the previous teammate’s block, building a house.
4. The object is to see which team can build the bigger house the fastest without having it fall down.
5. When a team finishes, have them yell the take-home point: ***HEAVEN IS JESUS’ HOME....Heaven will be our home too.**

Review the Bible event.

Will heaven be dark? (*No, God’s face will shine bright.*)

Let’s practice the take home point. *HEAVEN IS JESUS’ HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.

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

Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus lives in heaven.
Heaven will be our home, too.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen.

Song:

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Prayer Time:

How do we get to heaven? (*Trust Jesus and know that he will come back someday to take us there.*)

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

Let's practice the take home point. *HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.

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

**Dear God,
We love you.
Jesus lives in heaven.
Heaven will be our home, too.
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.

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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 shows Many Rooms. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.**

Presenter: (says to kids):
Kids say:

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**
...Heaven will be our home, too.

Presenter: (says to Albie):
Albie says:

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**
My room in heaven will be full of mirrors so I can always see my beautiful face!



Presenter: **Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like a Picture of Heaven. Now listen carefully to the take home point.**

Presenter: (says to kids):
Kids say:

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**
...Heaven will be our home, too.

Presenter: (says to Albie):
Albie says:

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**
In heaven I will eat nothing but crispy bugs!

Presenter: **Albie, today we played a game called Build a Heavenly Home Relay. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.**

Presenter: (says to kids):
Kids say:

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**
...Heaven will be our home, too.

Presenter: (says to Albie):
Albie says:

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**
In heaven I won't be afraid of snakes!

Presenter says:

“Albie, listen one last time.

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**

Kids response:

...Heaven will be our home, too.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...**

Albie's response:

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

***HEAVEN IS JESUS' HOME...Heaven will be our home, too.**

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.

Jesus lives in heaven.

Heaven will be our home, too.

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.

HEA-ven IS our HOME.

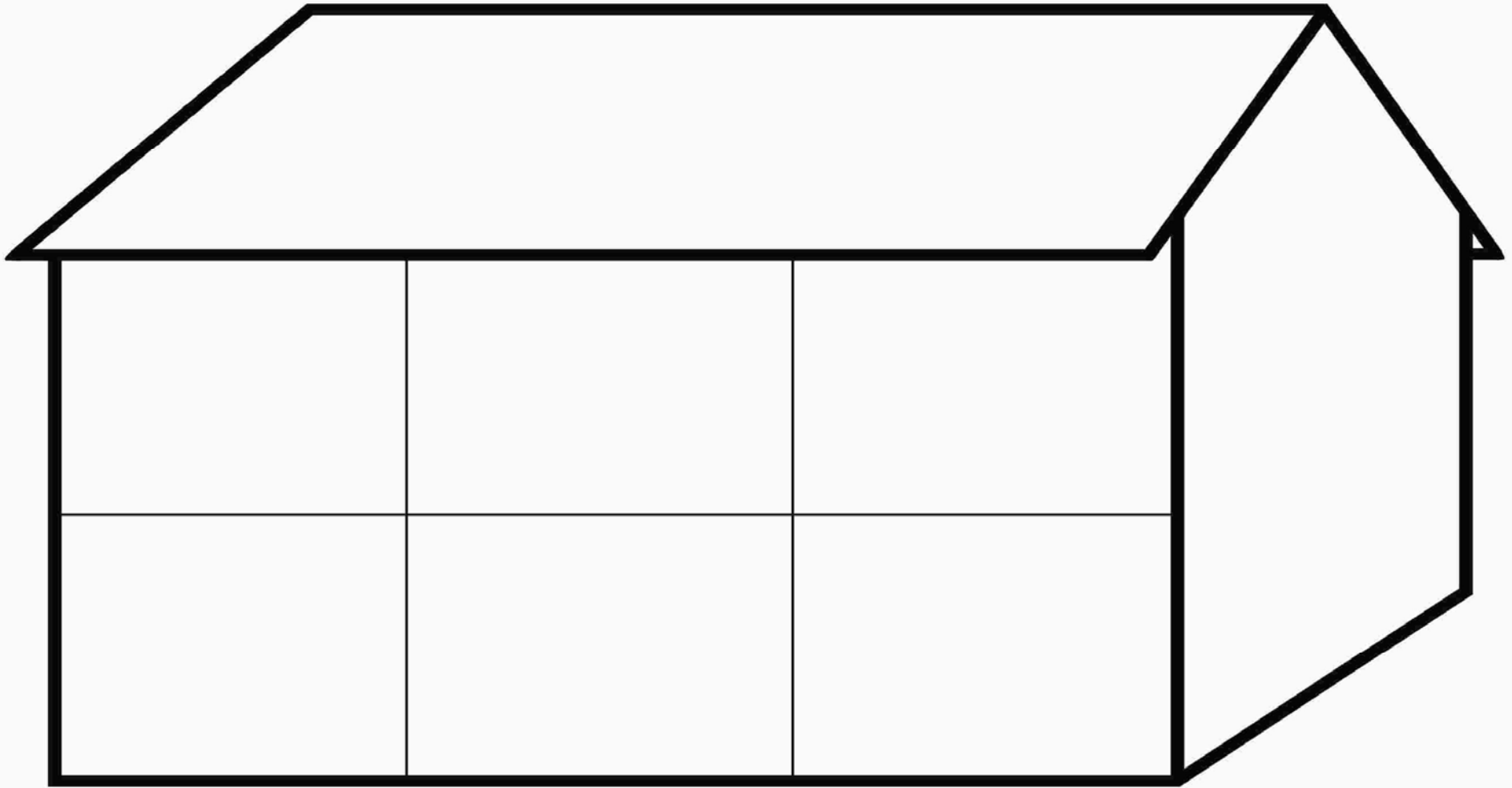
HEA-ven IS our HOME.

JE-SUS will PRE-pare our ROOM.

HEA-ven IS our HOME.

Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and he wants you to live in heaven with him.

**"My Father's house has many rooms...
I'm going to prepare a place for you." (John 14:2)**



Draw a picture of you and others you would like to see in heaven.

HEAVEN WILL BE OUR HOME TOO!