



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Is the King
Winter Year 1, Lesson 39

The King Is a King

Take Home Point: *Jesus is the King and has power to help you. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Matthew 7:28-8:17, Jesus had the power and authority to heal.

Key Verse: John 17:2: "After all, you've (God has) given him (Jesus) authority over all humanity so that he can give eternal life to all those you (God) gave to him."

We will help kids know:

- Jesus is the King and has the power to help you.
- God the Father had given Jesus the authority to heal us and save us.
- We are subjects of King Jesus through faith.
- We have Jesus' authority to help others.

We will help kids feel:

- Delighted to be subjects of the King, Jesus.
- Confident that Jesus has the power to help them in whatever they need.

We will help kids do:

- Say with confidence, "I believe that Jesus is the King."
- Use their authority as his subjects to share the kingdom with others.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3-4	Kids have thumb wars to determine who is king of the group. That child is then given the authority to make up commands for the group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one paper crown for each group (to be worn)
Large Group 	4 8-9 9 10	Overview Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Meets the King” Video: <i>The Visual Bible: Matthew</i> Puppet Presentation Conclusion: “Gordy Meets the King”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crown • cape or coat with a string of candy taped inside. Long stands of suckers or some other kind of candy could be used. • piece of candy for each child • scepter • video, <i>The Visual Bible: Matthew</i> (Visual International and Visual Entertainment, Inc., 1997) cued to Mathew 7:28-8:17
Small Group Application 	5-7	Jesus has the power to do whatever it takes in your life. Kids observe a trick to help them remember that because of the cross, the devil has no more power over them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yardstick for each group • two pieces of newspaper with an outline of a cross drawn on it for each group • red, purple, and black marker for each group

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.

In this activity we will investigate power and authority. Power is the might or influence one has over another. Authority is the power that has been given to another so they can use it. Jesus was truly God here on earth, yet he received the power and authority for his ministry from his Father.

Hold up a crown and ask:

What do you know about kings or queens? What is their job? What do the subjects of their kingdom have to do?

Place the crown on your head and say:

I am the king of this group. I have the power to make the rules. But today I am going to give the crown up to someone who has a different kind of power. It's the power of thumb wrestling.

We are going to have thumb wars to determine who I will make king or queen of the thumb wrestle. He or she will then have the authority to make up the rules for the group.

Facing another player and extending your right hand toward them play thumb wars or thumb wrestling. Curl the four fingers of your hand and hook them with the person's four fingers facing you. Then while moving the thumb back and forth in rhythm from left to right say, "**1,2,3,4. I declare a thumb war.**" Each child then battles to see whose thumb can end up on top of the opponent's thumb.

Explain the directions for the game. As you finish each round, let the winners go on to compete against other winners until you have one winner left.

It is now my privilege to give the crown to the winner. I now give (child's name) authority to act as king of this group.

Have the child put on the crown and wear it into large group.

When we say someone has authority, it means that someone else has *given* him a special right or power. I have given (child's name) the right to be king since he won the thumb war. This person now has authority to act as king. What new edicts or commands would you like to make for this group?

See whether the new king will exercise his authority in a good way or a bad way. You have the right to take back the authority you have given him if something too ridiculous

is mentioned. Discuss with the group what rules the others would like to set up if they were king of the group, or better yet, king of the world. Finally point out:

When Jesus was on earth he had great power since he was God. But God the Father gave Jesus the right to use that authority to be King over a special kingdom.

Jesus came to this earth to be king. He could have been King of the world but he cared more about a different kingdom than any he could have in this world. It is a spiritual kingdom that has to do with our hearts and minds. In the kingdom of God, Jesus rules over our hearts and lives. We follow him because we are his subjects. Because we are his subjects he takes care of us.

Are you a subject of Jesus? Do you want to follow him and serve him? What are some benefits of having Jesus as your King? Today we will learn that **Jesus is the King and has power to help you.*

Tell the “King of the Thumb Wars” that his authority ends now so he doesn’t think he is in charge for the morning.

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

Puppet Presentation: “Gordy Meets the King”

Mr. King tries to convince Gordy that he is a king that can give his subjects whatever they need. Gordy isn’t easily convinced but learns that Jesus is the real King who has the power and authority from God the Father to provide for our needs.

Video: *The Visual Bible: Matthew 7:28-8:17*

Puppet Presentation Conclusion: “Gordy Meets the King”

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.

Your group will need a yardstick and a large, unfolded sheet of newspaper (double layered with an extra sheet of newspaper to make thicker). Draw a large outline of a cross in purple (the color of royalty) and write "King of Kings" inside the cross.



Along the outside border of the cross write words or phrases the children use to tell you about what they know of Jesus the King. Write these words in **red**. Prompt the children with questions like:

What are qualities or characteristics Jesus has as a King? *(He has power. He is a ruler.)*
Give me words that describe Jesus as a king? What kinds of things can he do?

Observation Questions: What happened?

Have kids refer to Matthew 7:28-8:17 in their Bibles.

What are ways that Jesus healed the people? *(Sometimes with touch, sometimes with no touch, he spoke.)*

Write the children's words or ideas in **red** in the **top left hand corner** of the newspaper.

Who did Jesus heal? *(Everyone who was a subject of the king from the social outcast like the leper, to the Roman officer who was the enemy of the Jews, to Peter's mother-in-law, one of his dear friends. Because we are all subjects of the king, Jesus makes no distinction in his care for us.)*

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

Why did Jesus heal the people? (*Because of his great love for his people.*)

Write some more words in **red** in the **top left hand corner** to describe why and whom Jesus healed.

What is Jesus more powerful than?
(*Sickness, lying, fighting, etc.*)

Write some of these words in **red** (the color of love) in the **top right hand corner** of the paper.



The Bible says in John 17:2, “*After all, you’ve (God has) given him (Jesus) authority over all humanity so that he can give eternal life to all those you (God) gave to him.*”

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Why are you valuable or important to the King? (*Because we are his faithful subjects. He paid for us with a price. God loved us so much he sent his only Son to die for sins in our place.*) Let’s write our names in the **bottom left hand corner** of the paper.

Jesus has the power to do whatever it takes in your life. Do you believe that? What are some of the things that you need Jesus to do for you? (*Discuss.*) Let’s write these things in the **bottom right hand corner**.

The devil has power too. Who has more power, the devil or Jesus?

And because we live under the grace of the cross, we have power and authority. Jesus says to us in Luke 10:19, “*I have given you the authority to trample snakes and scorpions and to destroy the enemy’s power. Nothing will hurt you.*”

I have a special trick to show you to help you remember that because of the cross, the devil has no more power over you. We have the victory through our King. Let’s write, “devil” on this yardstick in black.

Lay the yardstick on the table with about 12 inches sticking over the end.

If I hit the end of this yardstick, it would flip up and could actually hurt me just like



the devil would want to hurt me. But if I take the newspaper and lay it on top of the yardstick, I have covered it with the power of the King and the cross.



Open the newspaper and cover the yardstick, leaving the 12 inches that are hanging off the table uncovered. (The more area the newspaper covers, the better the trick will work.)

Now hit the stick as close to the table as possible. Instead of the yardstick flipping up, it will snap in half. The scientific reason behind this has to do with air pressure coming down on the paper.



Just like this newspaper protected me from the yardstick popping up and hitting me in the face, so Jesus protects me from anything Satan could do to me. From what we have learned about Jesus today, why do you know this is true?

****Jesus has power to help you. Jesus has power over the devil and gives you authority over him, too.***

Closing Prayer:

Pray that all would remember the power of Jesus in difficult times. Pray for specific times of difficulty that children have spoken about today.

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“Gordy Meets the King”

Puppet Presentation

Gordy: One, two, three, four. I declare a thumb war! Hey, Mr. King, that was fun! And guess what. My shepherd said I could be king of my group since I won.

Mr. King: Well, that’s fine Gordy. But I’m king of this room.

Gordy: But you didn’t win any thumb war.

Mr. King: It doesn’t matter. Pastor Theimer said I could be king of this room.

Gordy: Yeah, but that doesn’t make you king.

(Mr. King puts on crown, cape (or coat), and scepter. Note that the cape is lined with strings of candy suckers, which must be concealed when Mr. King puts it on.)

Mr. King: Yep, I am king of this room.

Gordy: No way.

Mr. King: Way! I’ll tell you what. Kids, how many of you think I am king of this room? If you do, stand up.

Gordy: Well, I’m sitting down. I’m sorry but you just don’t look like a king. Does he, kids?

Mr. King: Let me see if I can do some things to show you that I am king. I have much power. *(Tapping the coat with the scepter.)* I command this coat to be made of candy.

Gordy: Yeah, right. And I command my baseball cap to be made of Oreos. It won’t work, Mr. King.

Mr. King: But I have the authority here to be king. That gives me special power. So everyone who believes that I am king and can make this coat turn to candy, please stand up.

Gordy: We’re sitting down, Mr. King. It looks like all the kids are sitting down. *(Gordy can make observations about any kids still standing.)*

Mr. King: *(Opening his coat to reveal the strings of candy.)* Well, what do you know? I was right, and you didn’t believe me.

Gordy: No fair, Mr. King! You didn’t change the coat into candy! You had it hidden all along.

Mr. King: You're right, Gordy. But you didn't believe me. Here's the point...

Gordy: The point is do we get any of that candy in your coat?

Mr. King: You'll get some if you can remember the lesson point.

Gordy: What's that?

Mr. King: I had the power as king of this room. Pastor Theimer gave the power to me. That means I have authority here.

Gordy: Yeah. So?

Mr. King: Jesus came as King. He was already God in heaven before he was born. When he lived here, he was King of an invisible kingdom. It was the kingdom of God. And he can become King of our lives. God had given him the right to be King. God the Father gave Jesus authority to be the King and he is able to give us just what we need.

Gordy: Like you have the authority as king here to give us the candy that we need?

Mr. King: I'm not sure you need it but, yes, I have the authority to give it to you.

Gordy: What did Jesus the King give us?

Mr. King: He gave us salvation. That means he took away the punishment for our sins. The Bible says in John 17:2 that God has given Jesus authority over all humanity so he can give eternal life to all whom God gave to him.

Gordy: That might even be better than candy.

Mr. King: And to show that he had authority to give us just what we needed and to show that he was King of God's kingdom, Jesus healed the sick and did many miracles.

Gordy: Like what?

Mr. King: Let me show you. Watch this video. It's the exact words out of the Bible, and it shows what Jesus did.

Show the video: *The Visual Bible: Matthew 7:28-8:17.*

“Gordy Meets the King”

Puppet Presentation Conclusion

Mr. King: Gordy, now do you see how Jesus had authority and power to act as King? He had the authority to heal. He also had authority to forgive sins and save us. But you didn't see that part on the video. So the point of the lesson for today is **Jesus is the King and has power to help you.*

Gordy: I think I get it. And are you still king of this room?

Mr. King: Yeah, in my own little pretend way.

Gordy: Then can I have one of those pretend suckers because now I believe you?

Mr. King: You bet. And I'll take these out of my coat and make sure the shepherds have some for their kids. Will you say a closing prayer before we leave?

Gordy: Sure, Mr. King. Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus and giving him the authority to be our King. Jesus, thank you for your saving power that you used for us. Holy Spirit, give us just what we need. We pray this all in Jesus' name. Amen.

As the children leave, they are given a piece of candy.