

From Adam to Jesus

Bible Story: Matthew 1; Luke 3; John 1

Memory Verse: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. **John 1:1-2**

Big Picture Question: Is Jesus God or a human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human

Bottom Line: Nothing could stop God's plan to save the world.

Christ Connection: *Jesus came to earth as a human. Jesus had earthly parents, Mary and Joseph, but His true Father is God. Through Jesus, God kept His promises to Abraham and David. Jesus saves people from their sins and adopts them into God's family.*

Leader Notes:

CONTEXT

The prophecies concerning Jesus' birth are numerous, and many of them refer to Jesus' lineage. Old Testament prophecies tell of the promised Messiah being born from the seed of a woman (Gen. 3:15); from the seed of Abraham (Gen. 22:18), Isaac (Gen. 21:12), and Jacob (Num. 24:17); from the tribe of Judah (Micah 5:2); from the line of Jesse (Isa. 11:1); and from the house of David (Jer. 23:5). The prophecies said He would be born of a virgin (Isa. 7:14) and would be the Son of God (1 Chron. 17:13-14; Ps. 2:7). Jesus fulfilled all of these prophecies.

In Bible times, Jews took great care to accurately record family genealogies. The family a person belonged to was directly linked to property rights. Matthew 1:1-17 and Luke 3:23-38 both chronicle the genealogy of Jesus. The account in Matthew presents Jesus as the king of the Jews—the legal heir to the throne of David. The account in Luke was written to Greek Christians and focuses on Jesus' descent from Adam.

Jesus was born as a baby in Bethlehem. He had earthly parents—Mary and Joseph—but His true Father is God. Jesus is fully God and fully man.

As fully God, "the entire fullness of God's nature dwells bodily in Christ" (Col. 2:9). As fully man, Jesus has a human body, human mind, and human emotions. (See Luke 2:7,52; Matt. 26:38.) He is our sinless representative (2 Cor. 5:21), sympathetic high priest (Heb. 4:15), and substitute sacrifice (1 John 4:10).

Use this Bible story with the kids you teach to review Jesus' ancestors and their stories in the Old Testament. Help kids recognize that God had been working out His plan to send Jesus over hundreds of years—through Adam, Abraham, Isaac, Rahab, Ruth, David, and others. God sent His Son to earth to save people from their sins.

TEACHING FOCUS (Matthew 1; Luke 3; John 1)

As you tell kids about Jesus's family tree, teach them that before He came to earth as a human being, God the Son was with the Father. No one created Him; He has always existed. God created the first people, Adam and Eve, but they did not obey Him. All along, God planned to send His Son to earth to save people from sin. At just the right time, Jesus came to earth as a baby.

Jesus had earthly parents so that He could relate to us and so that we would witness His love in all that He did especially dying for us. Jesus' family was not a list of perfect people. All of Jesus' ancestors were sinners, just like we are and just like our ancestors were. Even so, God used them in His miraculous plan to bring forgiveness to sinners because nothing could stop God's plan to save the world.

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Today's Takeaways

- God never forgets His promise. He promised salvation to His people in the Old Testament, He delivered on that promise by sending Jesus for us.
- He always wants to save people.
- God used imperfect people to bring about His perfect plan because He is in charge.
- **Bottom Line:** Nothing could stop God's plan to save the world.
- God showed us His powerful love for us by sending Jesus because He wants us to believe in Him and to follow Him.

PRAYER AND TIME OF COMMITMENT

Give kids a chance to believe in Jesus for the first time. Remind them that God loves them so much that He sent Jesus to earth to pay for their sins. Lead them to pray as you pray. Pray that believers will submit their lives to the Holy Spirit, follow Jesus, and tell others about Him.

Worship and Story Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

Play the DVD of All Star Kids worship (choose 1 song for today)

What You Say: "Way to go! You are such amazing singers. Now let's sit down to learn from the Bible Story today."

What You Do: Introduce the Story

"Jesus is God's Son, and He has always been with God. God made the first people Adam and Eve, but they did not obey Him. God promised to send a Rescuer into their family who would not break God's rules. God chose to send His own Son as a human into the family of Adam's son Seth. God promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that the Rescuer would come from their family too. God even promised King David that the Rescuer would be part of the royal family, and He would be King forever. Jesus is the Son of David; the Son of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; the Son of Adam; and the Son of God. There is no one like Jesus!

PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO

Check diapers and serve snack.

Activities

Depending on the size of your group, you may lead each activity two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in the activities. That's okay.

1. Make thumbprint Art

What You Need: Thumbprint Printable (1 per kid), ink pad, wet wipes, crayons, stickers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a Thumbprint Printable.
- Help them press their thumb onto the ink pad and then onto their paper, once for each person in their family.
- Wipe hands immediately with wet wipes.
- Draw simple stick bodies for the thumbprints.
- Give toddlers stickers to decorate their family portrait.

What You Say " God promised to send Jesus to earth through the family Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jesus is God's Son, and Jesus is a man too. There is no one like Jesus! Jesus rescues us and makes us part of God's family!

2. Practice signing the Memory Verse

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster

What You Do:

1. Show the poster to the kids.
2. As you say the words point to them on the poster.
3. Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include, "**In the beginning** (draw world in air) **was the Word** (open book), **and the Word** (sign Jesus) **was with God**, **and the Word** (sign Jesus) **was God**. **He** (sign Jesus) **was with God**(sign God) **in the beginning**(draw world in air). **John 1:1-2**

What You Say "When the verse says Word, it means Jesus. The Word, Jesus was God. They are the same! People knew Jesus was not an ordinary baby. They knew He was the Savior who had come to save people from sin. Help me with the Big Picture Question: **Is Jesus God or a human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human. We worship Him because He is God.**

Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

- Pray: "Father, thank You for sending Your perfect son to live a perfect life and die the death we deserve. Help us to see Jesus, the Word made flesh, more clearly today. Help us love Him more and obey Him better. Amen."
- Tell parents one thing you did today and encourage them to check out the Family Resources online, app and in paper copy on the slat wall.



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1's and 2's