



# BECAUSE HE LIVES

## Jesus was Questioned

### March 7- Kindergarten- 2nd Grade

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Matthew 22; Mark 12; Luke 20

**KEY PASSAGE:** Philippians 2:8

**BOTTOM LINE:** I can always trust Jesus' answers when I have questions.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** When the religious leaders questioned Jesus, He answered with wisdom and power. Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. He is the Word of God, who came to show us exactly what God is like. Jesus has authority in heaven and on earth.

#### Context

The religious leaders despised Jesus. He was a threat to their power, and they didn't believe He was the Messiah. The Jews decided to confront Jesus with questions. Perhaps He would misspeak, and they could trap Him with His words. The Pharisees' disciples asked Him, "Teacher, is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

As far as these men were concerned, Jesus could not give a satisfactory answer to this question. If Jesus said God's law required them to pay taxes to Caesar, they could get the Jewish people- who hated paying taxes to the Romans- to turn away from Jesus. If Jesus said God's law did not require them to pay taxes to Caesar, they could convince the Romans to arrest Jesus. But Jesus answered wisely: "Give... to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matt 22:21) The men were speechless, and they left.

Then an expert in the law asked Jesus which command in God's law is most important. The Pharisees knew the law well and felt prepared to argue. Jesus quoted from Deuteronomy 6:5: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." Then He emphasized a second command: "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18). These commands summarize the rest of the law, and the Pharisees could not object.

Jesus turned the tables and asked the Pharisees about the Messiah: "Whose son is he?" The Pharisees recognized the Messiah as the son of David. Jesus referred to Psalm 110, in which David calls the Messiah "Lord". Why would he do that? The Pharisees had no answer. As fully man, Jesus is the son of David. But as fully God, He is greater than David; He is Lord. No one dared to question Jesus again.

When the religious leaders questioned Jesus, He answered with wisdom and power. Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. He has authority in heaven on earth.

#### TAKEAWAYS

- The religious leaders of Jesus' time were threatened by Him and they tried to trap Him with some tricky questions.
- No matter what question Jesus was asked, He answered it correctly because He is God.
- Jesus came not only to teach truth but also to show us who God is and how we should live.
- **Bottom Line:** I can always trust Jesus' answers when I have questions.

**Small Group Prayer:** “Father God, thank you for each of the kids in our circle today. God as we learn about you guide our conversations and help each kid to see you in a better way today. Thank you for Jesus and the promise to rescue us. We love you and want to worship you with our whole lives. In Jesus name, Amen.”

### **Social Activity: Ring Toss or Right Left Easter Game**

**What You Need:** Ring Toss and rings and Right Left Easter Game, giant Easter Egg with small prizes

**What You Do:**

Using the bunny feet as the line marker, ask kids to line up behind the feet to toss a ring onto the pole. When the kids have made 3 rings in a row, they can have a prize.

**OR**

Using the Right Left Easter Game Printable, ask kids to sit in a circle. You are going to give them a large Easter Egg filled with small prizes. As you read the printable, they are going to gently pass the Egg (so it doesn't open) either Right or Left as you say that word. The person holding the Egg at the end can share the prizes or keep for themselves.

**What You Say:** As kids are coming in, set up the game and ask kids to join you as you play the game. Games are a great way for kids to engage with each other and you as you get to know each other. Use this time to ask them questions about their week and any other important follow up questions to things you have talked about in the past.

### **Play a Worship Song or 2 from your Worship DVD/Roku**

### **Play the Large Group teaching DVD/Roku**

### **Application Activity: Tricky questions**

**What You Need** index cards, pens or pencils

**What You Do:**

- Help kids write questions they have about God, Jesus, the Bible, or the gospel. Tell kids to put their first and last name on their card.
- If you are able to answer the question, feel free to do so.
- Share some questions you have had about Jesus the last few years and how you found the answer (the Bible, talking to a Pastor or small group leader, listening to another teacher, prayer, friend)
- Otherwise collect the questions and put them in your box. We will collect them this week and write the answer to mail to each kid.
- Use the discussion questions to help kids think about how Jesus was able to answer questions.
- Use this quick reference guide as a way to answer a few questions:
  - Fear- Psalm 56:3
  - Anxiety- John 14:27
  - Sadness- Psalm 23:4
  - Nervousness- Joshua 1:9
  - Anger- Proverbs 14:17
  - Choices- Proverbs 4:25-26
  - Doubt- Psalm 91:14
  - Forgiveness- Hebrews 10:17-18
  - Holy Spirit- Acts 5:32
  - Honesty- Matthew 5:37
  - Parents- Ephesians 6:1-3
  - Quarreling- Romans 12:18
  - Sin - James 1:14-15

**What You Say** “Jesus spoke with wisdom and authority, so that religious leaders could not trick Him with hard questions that they may know the answers to. Thankfully, God has given us ways to learn the answers to the most important questions. God provides us with His Word, and the Holy Spirit helps believers understand God's Word. We don't have all the answers to every question we can think of, but God has given us all the answers we need to have faith in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. When we do, God forgives our sin and gives us new life with Him forever.”

### **Key Passage Activity:**

As you read the key passage together, encourage kids to help put the puzzle together as you say each of the highlighted words while reading...

**8** And being **found** in appearance as a **man**, he **humbled** himself by becoming obedient to **death**—even death on a **cross**! **PHILIPPIANS 2:8**

*Why are these words important? These words show us the focus of this passage in the Bible.*

*Found = Fully man , man=human , humbled= lowered in rank or esteem, complete humility , death=extreme death- death+torture , cross= a criminal's punishment but without fault*

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- **Why did the religious leaders come to ask Jesus difficult questions?** (to trap Him in His words, catch Him saying something wrong; Mark 12:13)
- **What are the greatest and second greatest commandments?** (to love God with all we have and to love others as ourselves; Mark 12:29-31)
- **How was Jesus able to answer those tricky questions so well?** Guide kids to think about Jesus' identity. Remind them that, though Jesus is fully human, He is also fully God. Jesus has the wisdom and authority of God and was able to see through the religious leaders' schemes.
- **How can we answer with wisdom if people challenge our knowledge of God or the Bible?** Help kids see that the source of wisdom is God Himself. Remind them that God gives wisdom generously to all who ask Him for it in faith. (See James 1:5) Explain that we gain wisdom by studying God's Word (the Bible), praying, gathering with other believers, and following the Holy Spirit's guidance.
- **When is it difficult to trust Jesus' wisdom and authority?** Guide kids to speak honestly about their lives. Acknowledge the difficulty of trusting Jesus in hard or sad times. Help them see that we can trust Him even when we do not understand His plan or why difficult things are happening.