



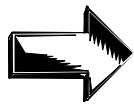
Life of Christ

The Promise of Jesus

Isaiah 53:1-12 and Micah 5:2

Younger Memory Verse: You have done marvelous things, things planned long ago. Isaiah 25:1

Older Memory Verse: You have done marvelous things, things planned long ago. Isaiah 25:1



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Advent

Make an advent wreath (see suggestions in packet). Have it ready for your opening time. (Teachers: this is something we will do each week, leading up to Christmas).

Explain that God gave us a promise—and He kept His promise. The first Advent candle is the Promise candle. It tells us that God kept His promise. Sing “O Little Town of Bethlehem” and tell the children that they will learn just exactly what the promise was today!

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Can you believe that it's almost Christmas! There are so many things that we do at this time of year. Do you know why we celebrate Christmas? (listen for answers—be sensitive, some children may not realize that Jesus is the reason) We celebrate Christmas because it's Jesus' birthday! We remember that Jesus was born.

Years and years before Jesus was born, God promised His people that He would send them someone to rescue them. God also told them that He may not be just like they had pictured. Let's see just what God said. It's in Isaiah 53....

God is telling the people that His son will come—but he will have pain and some people will hate him. Verse 4 tells us that Jesus felt our pain. He died for OUR wrongs. God is saying that Jesus is going to die. But the best part is still to come. This passage says that Jesus will die for us. Jesus will take our place. THEN, verse 11 says that He will see life. Jesus will come back to life!

In Micah 5:2, God tells His people that Jesus would be born and where. God's

Lesson Goals:

Tell what God's promise was
Explain what Jesus did for us
Invite Jesus into our hearts



promise does come true. Jesus is born in a small town called Bethlehem just like Micah 5:2 says! And He used a feed box for his crib. He was loved by many people. There also were people who hated him. Jesus lived a perfect life. He knew that was the only way to help us.

Then, just as God said, the hateful people killed Jesus—they put him on a cross. Jesus was in so much pain—just like God said. Then Jesus died. They buried him in a cave tomb.

The best news is that Jesus came back to life! Three days later He was alive! Jesus died for all our sins. He is now alive to show us that death is not the end and that God does keep ALL His promises. There is hope. There is a future. We must believe God's promise and trust Jesus. We must tell God we are sorry for the wrong things we do. Then we pray and ask Jesus to come into our hearts. Jesus comes into our lives and changes them. It's like we are brand new. We don't want to do bad things anymore; we want to help others. We want to pray and read our Bibles to know God better. We want to tell others about Jesus and come to church. We want to live for God and obey Him.

Wow! What a difference God can make. We can trust Him. He keeps His promises. Have you trusted God? Would you like to ask Jesus into your heart? Talk to me about it.

Learning Activities

Make some fun activities/crafts for Christmas. Ask them to hang them up during the holidays.

Memory Verse Activities

Write the verse on a board or on pieces of construction paper. One by one take away a word to see if they can fill in the blank(s). Gradually they will learn the verse in a fun way!

Prayer Time

Pray that this season will focus on Jesus. Plan something special for Sunday December 19th and/or Christmas eve with your kids (Santa is coming in a helicopter!)

Snack Time/CleanUp

Try to wait until the end to let the kids snack on sugary treats—it will help you maintain control much easier.

Planning for December 5th
An Angel visits Mary
Luke 1:26-38
Advent: The Mary Candle



Preschool Lesson for God promises us Jesus

Can you believe that it's almost Christmas! There are so many things that we do at this time of year. Do you know why we celebrate Christmas? (listen for answers—be sensitive, some children may not realize that Jesus is the reason) We celebrate Christmas because it's Jesus' birthday! We remember that Jesus was born.

(Hold up a piece of paper with the letter "P" on it.) Does anyone know what letter this is? It is the letter P. Today we are talking about a word that starts with this letter. The word is PROMISE. Do you know what a promise is? A promise is when someone tells you they will do something or give something to you. Sometimes people do not keep their promises. Today we are reading about God's promise. God ALWAYS keeps His promises. Let's see what God promised us.

Years and years before Jesus was born, God promised His people that He would send them someone to help them. Let's see just what God said in the Bible. (Look up Isaiah 53.)

God is telling the people that His Son will come. We know that God kept His promise. Jesus was born! We can read about it in Luke 2. (Turn to the chapter so they can see where it is in the Bible.) We can always trust God because He always does what He promises.

Again in Micah 5:2, God gives another promise. God tells His people that Jesus would be born and even tells the people what town. God's promise does come true. Jesus is born in a small town called Bethlehem just like Micah 5:2 says! It took a long time for the promise to come true, but it did! We can know that God will always do what He says!

God gave us another promise, too. He told us that if we believe in Jesus, we will go to Heaven and be with Him one day. God will keep His promise, if you believe in Jesus.

Sing several Christmas songs. (Try to teach them some new ones that talk about Jesus being born.)



Hands-on Activities for God promises us Jesus

Take time to celebrate Advent with the kids, before or after the lesson. It gives them a sense of expectation for each week, leading up to Christmas. It also helps them see that God really did keep His promise.

Wrap a box with gift paper. (Put some little snacks or surprises in it.) Share that Christmastime is filled with unspoken promises. We almost expect to receive a gift on Christmas day. Ask the kids what the best part of getting a present is? They should say “opening it!” That’s the best part of a promise too—when you get what was promised!

Make some promise cookies. The recipe is included in the packet. (The kids have to wait until the next day [or next week] to see if you kept your promise that the batter turns into cookies to eat!)

God kept His promise to us. How can we keep a promise this week. Make “I Promise” cards to remind us to keep a promise this week.