



Life of Christ

The 2 greatest commandments

Mark 12:28-34

Younger Verse

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105

Older Verse

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:105

Lesson Goals

Find a book or verse in the Bible
Share what the 2 most important commands are in the Bible

Welcome Time

*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.*

Bible Story

The Bible tells us about all kinds of things. It can help us when we are trying to make decisions about important things in our lives. It also tells us about Jesus and other people that loved God.

But, how do we find the stories? There are several ways to find things in the Bible. First, we can look up the Table of Contents in the front of the Bible. Let's look at it now. (Go to the Table of Contents) See how the whole Bible is listed from the first book to the last book. Who can tell me the first book in the Bible? Who can tell me the last book of the Bible? See how the Bible is separated into 2 parts—the Old testament and the New Testament. The Old part took place before Jesus lived. The New part talks about Jesus' life and what happened after He went to Heaven.

Another way to find something in the Bible is to memorize parts of it. Many people learn to memorize the Table of contents so that they can quickly find things. Let's close our Bibles and try to find Genesis. Remember, it's the first book of the Bible. Ready, set, search! Great! Now let's try to find Revelation. Ready, set, search! It's the last book of the Bible. During our activity time, let's try to memorize some of the order of the books of the Bible.

A person can also find things in the Bible by looking in a concordance (con-cord-ance). It is in the back of some Bibles. It lists words that are in verses of the Bible. For example, if I wanted to look for a verse about God's love, I could look up the word "God" or the word "love" in the concordance. Then, I could look through the list of verses and find the verse that I was looking for. Let's try it. What would you like to look for? (Look for it in the Bible.) Today's lesson has to do with the greatest commandments. Let's look in the concordance and see where it is in the Bible. (Mark 12: 28-34) (It is also in Matthew 22:34-40) Let's talk about it.

Teachers:
Today's lesson will need a concordance. There will be 2 pages copied for you if you do not have one in your Bible.

One day a man saw Jesus answering many questions and he probably wondered what Jesus thought.

The man asked Jesus, "Which commandment is most important of all?"

Jesus answered, "Love the Lord our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. The second is this: Love your neighbor as you love yourself."

These 2 commands come from our Bible. The first one is in Deuteronomy 6:5 and the second is Leviticus 19:18. Let's turn quickly and look them up ourselves. It is fun to find verses in the Bible!

What about you? Do you love God with EVERYTHING you have—your heart, soul, and strength? Do you care more about what God thinks or what others say about you? Do you try to think "What would Jesus do?" or do you try to show off and get attention from others?

What is Jesus trying to tell us here? (wait for answers) What can we learn from this lesson? How can we do it this week?

What about you? Do you know how you can go to Heaven? It's by believing in Jesus and trusting Him with everything you are. Would you like to do this? Talk to me during activity time or snack time.

Learning Activities

Use activities that will help the lesson "sink in." Talk about what it means to love God and love others.

Memory Verse Activities

Try singing the song that goes with the verse today.

Prayer Time

Ask each child to pray for their "neighbor." Explain that a neighbor does not have to be the person that lives next door. Thank God that He loves us.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Remember to pass out snacks! The kids will enjoy goodies after the lesson.

Planning for June 16th
Can the Bible be fun to read?
Jesus calms the storm/ walks on water
Matthew 8 and 14

Preschool Lesson
On
The greatest things to do

Teachers: Make a heart-shaped sack puppet to tell the story today.

Hi Kids! I want to share with you something that happened to Jesus one day.

Jesus was talking to people when one man asked Him a very, very important question. He asked Jesus what the most important rule in the Bible was.

Jesus told the man that the most important rule was to love God with their heart.

Then, Jesus told the man that there was another important rule to obey. Jesus told him that he must love other people just like he loves himself!

Jesus wants us to know that we should love God and love others. How can we show that we love God? (Let them think of answers)

How can we show that we care for others?

This week, let's try to show others that we love God and that we love them!

Take time to sing this fun song to the tune of "We wish you a Merry Christmas."

Let's all Lo—ve our God (3 times)
Just like Jesus said.

Let's all Lo—ve each other (3 times)
Just like Jesus said.

Let's all pray for each other (3 times)
Just like Jesus said.

Hands-On Activities
For
How to Find things in the Bible
The greatest commandments

Practice finding things in the Bible. You may want to have a Bible open to the Table of contents so that they can begin to learn where the books are located. This can be lots of fun!

Ask older kids why they think Jesus picked these two commands as the most important. Ask them if they would want someone to love them with only 1/2 a heart? Share that God wants us to love Him with every part of who we are. We cannot love Him only sometimes or when we're at church.

Do an object lesson to help the kids see how we must love God with all of ourselves. Bring an electronic device to class. Share that you will let someone use it—except you will take out the batteries (or another part of the device). Obviously the device will not work. Share how you must have the whole thing for it to work. Explain that in the same way, God wants all of us, not just part of us.

It's not Valentine's Day, but you can still have fun making valentines cards and giving them to friends. Write "Love God and others." on the cards.