



Life of Christ

Jesus at 12 years old

Luke 2:41-52

Younger Verse

All Scripture is given from God and is useful for teaching . 2 Timothy 3:16

Older Verse

All Scripture is given from God and is useful for teaching and for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching how to live right. 2 Timothy 3:16

Lesson Goals

Tell who wrote the Bible
Explain where the Bible came from
Know why the Bible is so important

Welcome Time

Hold up your Bible and let the class look at it. Ask them if they have a Bible (you may want to note those who don't). Explain that in the next 3 weeks we will be talking about the Bible and how we can use it to help us.

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.*

People were living on the earth for hundreds of years before any part of the Bible was written. God spoke to people through prophets and preachers. These people shared God's message to others through stories because writing had not been invented yet.

Later in 1200 B.C., the alphabet was invented. However, not many people knew how to read or write so they continued to tell and retell stories of what God had done.

Some people began to go to school and learn how to read and write. When they put God's words into print they were called "scribes" or secretaries. Paper was not invented at that time, so they wrote on plant leaves or animal skins. They rolled the leaves up into scrolls when not in use.

You can imagine that these leaves wore out quickly. So, the scribes had to carefully make new copies by hand because they did not have typewriters or computers back then.

When the writers wrote down what God said, they were guided by God. God gave them the message to write on the scroll. That's why the Bible is called God's Word.

Are you ready to learn something shocking—the Bible was not originally written in English! That's right. What are some other languages you can name? (wait for answers—but keep on track with the lesson) The Old Testament is written in a language called Hebrew. There are also a few books written in another language called Aramaic because the people were forced to live in another place.

Then, the Greeks conquered the land and the people learned to speak Greek. The New Testament is written in the Greek language. In fact, that is what Jesus spoke.

Soon, someone invented our modern day book. That was great because people didn't have to carry lots of scrolls around anymore. Because it took so long to write down



every word of the Bible, the Bibles were expensive. In fact, some people chained them up so no one would steal them!

Finally someone invented the printing press. It is kind of like a copy machine. It could make lots of copies and lots of Bibles!

The Bible has 66 books in it. There are different kinds of books, like a library has different kinds of books on its shelves. There are books about law, history, poetry, prophets, Jesus, letters to churches, and future events. The “Old” Testament are books that were written before Jesus came. The “New” Testament are books that were written after Jesus came.

How did 66 books get into the Bible? A group of special people came together a long, long time ago. They looked through all the writing to see which ones were from God and which ones were not. Finally they decided that these 66 books were from God. That’s how we have the Bible today.

Many years later, a cool thing happened. A boy was playing in some caves in the country where Jesus lived (Israel). He threw a rock into a cave and heard it hit something. He went into the cave and discovered a jar. He thought it was treasure! Instead it was scrolls. When he took them into town, guess what they discovered? They were old, old Bible scrolls!

Do you know what that did? It helped people see that the Bible they had today was just like the one people had around Jesus’ time. God made sure that we had the whole Bible. Nothing was left out!

We’ve learned lots of stuff about the Bible. I hope it makes you want to go home and read it. There are so many good stories in it to read. The best stories are about Jesus.

One time when Jesus was at church, He talked to the teachers about God. They talked and talked. His parents finally left to go home, but Jesus did not know it! They traveled in a big group with many relatives. Believe it or not, Mary and Joseph did not know He was not with them. When they discovered it, they hurried back and found Jesus talking with the teachers. The teachers were amazed at everything Jesus knew and the questions He asked.

The Bible also tells us how Jesus gave His life for us and died on a cross. If we keep reading, we can see that He is now alive! Jesus came back to life, and if we believe, we can be with Him in Heaven one day. If you want to know more, ask!

Learning Activities

Help the kids learn the books of the Bible by playing a game or other activities.

Memory Verse Activities

Write “All Scripture is given by God” on paper with white crayon or paraffin (wax). Let the kids discover the messages by painting with water colors or coloring with crayons.

Prayer Time

Thank God for giving us the Bible. Let the children pray for requests too.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Enjoy fun snacks and have fun Bible searches to find things in the Bible.

Planning for June 9th
How do I find things in the Bible?
The greatest commandment
Mark 12:28-34

Preschool Lesson
For
Jesus at 12 years old

The Bible tells us many great stories about Jesus. Let's learn about one when He was a boy.

Every year, Mary, Joseph and Jesus traveled to Jerusalem for a celebration. They went with a big group of friends and family. The party was so much fun. They had lots of good food and told God how much they loved Him.

When the party was over, Mary and Joseph and the group traveled back to their home. (March with your feet) After a while, Mary and Joseph realized that Jesus was not anywhere to be found. They asked all their friends and family, but no one had seen Jesus. (Put your hand by your brow like you are searching for Jesus.)

Mary and Joseph rushed back to Jerusalem. They looked everywhere for Jesus. (Put your hand across your brow as if you were looking for Jesus; then call Jesus' name like you were looking for Him)

Finally, they found him. Do you know where Jesus was? He was in the temple church, talking to the leaders. They had been there talking together the whole time! The leaders were amazed at what Jesus knew.

When Mary found him she said, "Son, why did you do this to us? Your father and I were very worried about you!"

Jesus asked, "Why did you have to look for me? You should have known that I would be where my Father's work is." But they did not understand what He meant.

Jesus went with them to their home in Nazareth and He obeyed them. He listened and did what His parents asked Him to do. Jesus continued to grow up. People liked him and he pleased God too.

The Bible helps us learn many great things. Let's sing some songs about the Bible. (See attached sheet.)

Hands-On Activities
For
Jesus at 12 years old

Have “Bible Drills” where students have to look up things in the Bible. It is fun and helps the kids begin to learn where things are in the Bible.

Teachers, bring a picture of yourself when you were in the 6th grade or as a baby. The kids will get a kick out of seeing you as a child. Now, ask them to draw a picture of what they think Jesus must have looked like at 12 years old.

Have each child trace their hand. Bring measuring tape or stick and measure each person’s height. Write it on the hand they have traced.

Bring a little sponge in a capsule. Add water and see how it expands. Talk about how Jesus grew and learned more and more about God. Talk about how we can learn more about Jesus and the Bible.

Make scrolls using straws (or Popsicle sticks) and paper sacks (or paper). Write the memory verse on it. Another idea is to make some scrolls with questions on them from the lesson. Let the children pick a scroll and answer the question.

You may want to make some peanut butter scrolls today. Remind them that the Bible was first written on scrolls. Flatten bread and spread it with peanut butter. Then roll it up like a scroll! Enjoy!