

## Sunday Teacher's Lesson for children

# Life of Christ

## Who is the greatest? Luke 9:46-48

Younger Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

Older Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

Welcome Time

Have you ever had an argument with someone who thought they were the best? You may both snap back and forth that you are "the best!" Let's see what Jesus does when some of His friends do this.

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.*

As Jesus and His friends were walking to a town, several of them started arguing about which of them would be the greatest in Heaven.

Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked about it. The men bowed their heads and were very quiet. They were ashamed because they were arguing over who would be the greatest.

Jesus asked a little child to come to Him. He told His friends that whoever is kind to a little child is kind to Jesus. And whoever is kind to Jesus is kind to God.

Jesus wanted His friends to see that little children are important. Some might have thought that little children are not very needed or important. Jesus helped them see that children, however small, are important even though they are little.

In the same way, Jesus wanted to teach them an important lesson. He explained that if a person wants to be first, they must be last. He told them to help and serve others instead of taking care of yourself first.

Jesus was telling His friends that they must be willing to help and serve others first. He said this is the way to REALLY be great!

It is very easy to forget this important lesson. It is so easy to want to be best and first. Jesus' friends forgot His lesson too. Soon after their talk, two of His friends came up to Him and asked if they could sit by Jesus in Heaven. What were they asking...if they could be great and important!!

Jesus reminded them of their talk several days before. He told them that they would have to help and serve others in order to be great in God's eyes. Jesus is saying that we

Lesson Goals

Share how we can be "great" in God's eyes (help and serve others)  
Tell what the word "humble" means

should treat others as more important than ourselves. That's what makes us important and great in God's eyes!

Another word to use is the word "humble." It describes a person who does not brag or show off. This person helps others even if no one ever knows or sees them.

Jesus is the best example of what it means to be humble and serve others. He left His home with God to come to earth. He gave up all the wonderful things in Heaven to live here with us. When Jesus lived here, He did not live in a fancy house. No! Jesus lived just like us. And lots of times He didn't even have a place to sleep or money to buy things!

Jesus showed us what it REALLY means to be a servant. He lived it! He was always helping others and caring for their needs. The best thing that He did to show how He was a servant was to do something wonderful for the whole world. Jesus died for all of us. Jesus died on a cross for all our sins (wrongs). He was willing to suffer and die a cruel death so that we can go to Heaven if we believe and trust in Him. Jesus did this for us! He did this because we are important and He loves us. Do you want to know more? Talk to us about how you can have Jesus with you forever.

**Learning Activities** Try activities that will help the kids understand what it means to serve others and be "last."

**Memory Verse Activities** Use wax to write the verse on a piece of construction paper. Now, go back and reveal the verse by coloring the pages with a crayon. Share how important it is to speak the truth.

**Prayer Time** Create a picture that says, "We pray for each other." Let the kids write at the bottom who they are praying for this week.

**Snack Time/CleanUp** Let everyone line up for snacks. Now, serve the last person first!! Talk about the lesson again and what it means to help others and put others ahead of ourselves.

Planning for July 18th  
The Kind Man (Good Samaritan)  
Luke 10:25-37

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Who is the Best?

Teachers: This lesson may be hard for preschoolers to understand. Help them see that Jesus wants us to help others and share our things.

As Jesus and His friends walked down a road, Jesus asked His friends what they were arguing about on the road. The men got very, very quiet. They were sad because they were arguing over who would be the greatest and best in God's eyes.

Jesus sat down and taught them what is most important to God. He explained that if a person wants to be first, they must be last. That means they must be helpers to everyone. Jesus told them that they must help others first. He said this is how to REALLY be great in God's eyes.

Many times, we want to keep things for ourselves and not share or be nice. God wants us to be kind to others and share our things. He wants us to do good things for others.

This week, let's be helpers and share with others too!

Let's sing this song to help us remember to be helpers. It is to the tune of "Row, Row, Row your boat."

Help, help, help your friend,  
Help your friend today.  
Helping, helping, helping, helping,  
Helping is the way!

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Hands-On Activities  
For  
Who is the Greatest?

Often in the news we hear about someone who is called the “Greatest” at a sport or activity. Remind the kids that sooner or later, someone else will come along and do something even greater. The Olympics will be here soon. Often someone will set a “world record” and become the “greatest” at something. The thing to remember is that they are only the “greatest” until someone ELSE comes and beats their record. With God, we are great when we help others. There is no competition. We will never lose if we put others first and help them. God will always smile down on us and be proud of us. (The movie “Charlotte’s Web” has the word “humble” in it. The kids can watch and learn how it is defined and used.)

Talk about what it means to be humble. This is a hard word to understand and it is not heard that often. Help the kids understand by using examples and sharing experiences.

Let the kids make their own stickers. Bring computer labels and decorate with markers. Say things that are encouraging. Ask each person to give some of their stickers to someone else!

Play a fun relay game. After the game is over, announce the winner—the last team that finished. When the other team complains, explain the lesson again and share what it means to help others first before helping yourselves.

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