

# Life of Christ

## Jesus Talks About Going Away

John 16:1-33

### Younger Verse

You can have peace because of me. John 16:33 (NirV)

### Older Verse

"I have told you these things, so that you can have peace because of me. In this world you will have trouble. But cheer up! I have won the battle over the world." John 16:33 (NirV)

### Bible Story

The following is a summary of the Bible story to help supplement your preparation. In your personal study time, use this summary as a guide, and make notes to help you remember your plans for the lesson. Please do NOT read to the children.

Do you remember last week when we talked about the new command that Jesus had for His followers? The new rule was this: "If you know what Jesus says, obey Him. Your obedience shows that you love Him. Love each other." Does anyone remember how many times Jesus repeated this new rule to His followers while they were walking and talking? He repeated it five times! This new command is not the only thing Jesus repeated on that last night of His life as He and His friends walked through the city.

Jesus, from the moment He and His disciples ate supper together until this moment, kept trying to prepare His followers for His death and some of what would happen after that. He wanted them to know a little of what was going to happen. But Jesus didn't want His disciples to be sad, worried and upset about His death. He wanted to leave them with peace. He was going to send them a Helper, a Comforter, someone just like Himself. The Comforter and Helper wouldn't come in a body the way He had. This Comforter and Helper would be a spirit, the Holy Spirit, sent from God.

As Jesus began to tell His followers this again, He warned them about something first. He wanted them to know something, before it happened, so that they would be prepared and stay close to Him. Jesus warned them that after He died, people would be happy about His death and would want to stop them, His followers. Jesus explained that people would do this, thinking they were helping God out, but were really doing it because they didn't know God at all. Jesus could see them becoming worried and upset. He knew that fear had taken over their hearts. Jesus said something amazing to them. He told them, "It really is better for you that I go away, because when I do, the Holy Spirit will

### Lesson Goals

To remember the promise of the Holy Spirit.

To realize that everything Jesus says is important, but that He repeats things to make sure we remember.

come. He cannot come until I go back to the Father. I'm going there and I will send the Holy Spirit to you." Jesus then explained a little more about the Holy Spirit. What do you remember from His last explanation? That the Holy Spirit would comfort, help, strengthen teach, counsel, and remind them of important things. Jesus added to that by explaining that the Holy Spirit would also help us understand truth. What do we already know about truth? What was our memory verse from John 14:6? "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.'" Jesus is true. When we need to know right from wrong or the truth from a lie, Jesus can always be trusted. He will never tell a lie. He can never tell a lie; He is the truth. He is also the way to God, which helps explain what else the Holy Spirit would do.

Jesus shared that the Holy Spirit would also make people aware that they need a Savior. Jesus explained that because of sin, we need help. We will have troubles and problems as long as we live in this world. But He wants us to have peace. He doesn't want us to be worried or upset; He wants us trust in Him. Jesus can give us peace through the Holy Spirit even when we have troubles and problems. Jesus even said that He had won the battle over or overcome the world. Jesus, by His death on the cross for you and for me, has taken away the devil's power to tempt us to choose to do bad things. We don't have to do bad things anymore! Jesus can help us find another way. We don't ever have to be worried again. When we accept the peace that only Jesus can give us, when we accept Jesus as our Savior from the sinful stuff in our lives, He will change us to be more like Him.

Do you realize that you need help, that you need a Savior? Let Him be the one in control today. You may be trying to make it all work yourself, but He has already won the battle over the world; let Him help you with your life.

**Memory Verse Activity**

Print the memory verse on poster board. Review the verse a time or two. Allow your students the opportunity to come up with motions that go with each part of the verse. Practice the verse several times with the new motions. Then, give your students the opportunity to say the memory verse on their own.

**Prayer Time**

Pray, thanking Jesus for thinking about us enough to send a Helper. Thank Him for sending the Holy Spirit to help us know that we need Him.

**Preparing for Next Week**

Lesson 38  
Jesus Prays  
John 17:1-26

# Preschool Lesson

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## Jesus is Going Away

**Sing:** “**Down In My Heart**” especially the verse “I have the peace that passes understanding . . .”

**Teach:** Who knows what it feels like to be upset inside? Is it a happy feeling? Is it a feeling you understand and can explain to others? No, it usually is not.

This is exactly how Jesus’ friends, His followers, were feeling as Jesus started talking to them again about going away. The disciples, Jesus’ followers, did not want Jesus to go away. They knew they would be sad without Him. They also knew that life would be very difficult without Him. They began to worry and be fearful the more He talked about leaving! Their hearts were taken over with fear.

Have you ever been that afraid, so afraid that you couldn’t think straight? Let’s see what Jesus told His friends about this. We can learn something from what Jesus told them.

Jesus reminded them that He would send them a Helper. But He reminded them of something else. Jesus reminded them that He could not send the Helper until He went back to be with God. Jesus even told them that it would be better for them if He went back to God! They didn’t see how it could be better to be without Jesus to have the Helper that He would send. But we can know that when Jesus tells us something, it is the truth. Jesus cannot lie to us; He would never lie to us.

We can have the Helper, too, when we choose to follow Jesus. The Helper can remind us of things that Jesus has said and of Bible verses we have memorized. The Helper can give us peace (a calmness inside), even when it looks like we should worry. The Helper can even teach us when we read the Bible!

**Pray:** Thank you, God, for the Helper. Thank you for helping us know you better.

# Activities

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- Provide coloring pages and word puzzles that will enhance what you have taught today.
- Make a “Peace Acrostic.” Write out the word P-E-A-C-E vertically on a piece of paper. Write a poem, single words or even illustrate the word P-E-A-C-E to explain what peace really is.
- Make new rhymes to go with the old Nursery Rhyme “1, 2 Buckle my shoe . . .” For example: 1, 2 Jesus loves you; 3, 4 . . .
- Sing “I’ve Got Peace Like a River,” “Down in My Heart” with the “peace that passes understanding” verse, and “Do Lord” with “I took Jesus as My Savior” verse.