

Life of Christ

Believe!

John 20:30-31

Younger Verse

These are written down so that you may believe. John 20:31 (NirV)

Older Verse

These are written down so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. If you believe this, you will have life because you belong to him. John 20:31 (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.

Over the last year, we have learned many wonderful things from the book of John. We are not finished yet, but we will stop this week on a couple of verses found at the end of John chapter twenty. The verses tell us that “Jesus did many other miraculous signs in front of his disciples. They are not written down in this book. But these are written down so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. If you believe this, you will have life because you belong to him.” Do you know what is amazing about these verses? John actually tells us why he wrote the whole book of John! But before we get to that, let’s look at what these verses say, part by exciting part!

John chapter twenty, verse thirty tells us that Jesus performed more miraculous signs and miracles than are written down for us in the book of John. We have learned about some wonderful and amazing things, but John tells us that there were even more! Jesus did many amazing things while He was here on earth, even more than we have read about so far. John also tells us that Jesus did these amazing signs in front of His disciples, or followers. John was one of Jesus’ disciples. John saw all of Jesus’ miracles first-hand. He was an eyewitness to the amazing things Jesus did. But John did not write down all of these things.

What he did was share some of Jesus’ miraculous signs with us. Let’s review those signs. Does anyone remember Jesus’ first sign? It happened at a wedding. The wedding was in Cana, Galilee. He changed the water to wine! That was Jesus’ very first sign. It was not the only one, though. What else have we learned about? Do you remember the royal official who had a sick son? His son was dying and this important man went to see Jesus. What did Jesus do? He told the man to go home; his son was well. The official later learned that his son became well at the exact moment that Jesus sent him home! Jesus later met a man who could not walk, who had been lying by a pool for thirty-eight years! What happened to this man? Jesus told him to get up and walk. Instead of making excuses, the man took Jesus at His word and believed. He got up and walked, after thirty-eight long years. We also learned

Lesson Goals

Teach that Jesus did many things.
Understand that John did not give us a complete list of all of Jesus’ miracles.
Stress that John wrote so that we might believe. . .

about another miraculous thing that Jesus did. A very large crowd of people followed Jesus. They were hungry but there were no restaurants. One of Jesus' followers, Andrew, found a young boy who had been very wise. This young boy had brought his lunch with him, five loaves of bread and two small fish. But what good would that do with so many people? In Jesus' hands, it did a lot! Who remembers what happened? Jesus multiplied the bread and the fishes! Everyone ate until they were full and there were even leftovers! After this, Jesus even walked on water! Later, Jesus and His disciples met a man who had been blind all of his life. What did they do for this man? Jesus spit onto the ground, made a little mud, put it on the man's eyes and told him to go wash. The man obeyed and returned with his sight! Jesus even did something amazing for a special friend of His. His friend, Lazarus, had gotten very sick. Jesus even waited a few days before going to see him. When Jesus arrived, Lazarus was dead. Lazarus' sisters knew that if Jesus had gotten there earlier, Lazarus would not have died. They knew that Jesus had the power to heal people. What they did not know was that Jesus was even more powerful than that. How did Jesus show what He could do? He brought Lazarus back from the dead! But even that was just a picture of what God would do for Jesus. God sent Jesus to die for you and for me. He gave Himself to be nailed to a cross. He died there and was buried. But three days later, Jesus came back to life!

So, these are the miraculous signs that were written down by John. But *why* did He choose these? John tells us that these things have been written down so that you may believe. By reading about and learning all of these amazing things, *what* should we believe? We should believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Do you remember John 3:16? God loved us so much that He did what? He gave His One and Only Son. And if we believe? Whoever believes in Him will have eternal life! At the end of chapter twenty, John explains it this way, "If you believe this, you will have life because you belong to him."

We have studied many things. And maybe after this lesson, you realize that you have learned quite a lot. But the book of John was not written just so you will know more stories. John was written so that you can believe. After reviewing these miraculous, wonderful things, will you believe that no one but Jesus, the Son of God, could have done these things? Do you believe that He is God's Son, sent to be The Way for you to get to God? If you do, you belong to Him! Will you choose Him today?

**Memory Verse
Activity**

Design your own flags. Provide each student with construction paper. Instruct each student to design and make their own flag. Encourage them to be creative. The only requirement is that they must include the memory verse and it must be displayed in a prominent place. After each student has completed their flag, review each flag, reading the memory verse each time.

Preparing for Next Week

Lesson 48
Breakfast by the Sea
John 21:1-14

Preschool Lesson

Believe!

Sing: “God is So Good”

Teach: We have learned so many things from the book of John. A couple of verses near the end of the book tell us that “Jesus did many other miraculous signs in front of his disciples. They are not written down in this book. But these are written down so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. If you believe this, you will have life because you belong to him.”

John tells us that Jesus performed more miraculous signs and miracles than are written down for us in the book of John. John did share some of Jesus’ miraculous signs with us, though. Jesus’ first sign happened at a wedding. He changed the water to wine! There was an important man who had a sick son. His son was dying and this man went to see Jesus. Jesus told the man to go home. He would find his son was all better. The official later learned that his son became well at the exact moment that Jesus sent him home! Jesus later met a man who could not walk, who had been lying by a pool for thirty-eight years! Jesus told him to get up and walk. Instead of making excuses, the man believed Jesus and obeyed Him. He got up and walked, after thirty-eight long years. We also learned about another miraculous thing that Jesus did. A very large crowd of people followed Jesus. They were hungry but there were no restaurants. One of Jesus’ followers, Andrew, found a young boy who had been very wise. This young boy had brought his lunch with him, five loaves of bread and two small fish. Jesus multiplied the bread and the fishes! Everyone ate until they were full and there were even leftovers! After this, Jesus even walked on water! Later, Jesus and His disciples met a man who had been blind all of his life. Jesus spit onto the ground, made a little mud, put it on the man’s eyes and told him to go wash. The man obeyed and came back with his sight! Jesus did something amazing for a special friend of His. His friend, Lazarus, had gotten very sick. When Jesus got there, Lazarus was dead. Lazarus’ sisters knew that if Jesus had gotten there earlier, Lazarus would not have died. They knew that Jesus had the power to heal people. What they did not know was that Jesus was even more powerful than that. Jesus brought Lazarus back from the dead! Who else came back from the dead? Who was resurrected three days after being nailed to a cross? JESUS!

But, why did John write these miraculous signs. John wrote these things so that you may believe. By reading about and learning all of these amazing things, what should we believe? We should believe that Jesus is God’s Son, sent to show us how to get to God. Do you remember John 3:16? God loved us so much that He gave His One and Only Son and whoever believes in Him will have life forever with God! At the end of chapter twenty, John explains it this way, “If you believe this, you will have life because you belong to him.”

Pray: Thank you, God, for sending Jesus. Help me believe!

Activities

- Provide coloring pages and word puzzles that will enhance what you have taught today.
- Did you know that the word *believe* is used 55 times in the book of John and is used in all but five of its twenty one chapters? Use this information to reinforce the response one should have after reading and studying the book of John. It was written so that we might believe! Do not push, but if any of your students are struggling, encourage them with Jesus' words to Thomas in John 20:29, "Stop doubting and believe!"
- Play a "Who Am I" game. Use examples from the lesson and give clues that will prompt your students to identify the character from John who benefited from Jesus' miraculous signs.
- Play a "Memory Game." Make two cards each from each of the miraculous signs that Jesus performed. Shuffle the cards and place them face down on the playing surface. A player may reveal two cards at a time. If they are a match, they continue playing. If the two cards are not a match, the cards are returned to their places and play moves to the next player.
- Make mini books. Using index card, make a mini book, illustrating Jesus' miraculous signs. Write John 20:30-31 on the last page.
- Sing "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus," "I Am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N," "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian," "Everybody Ought to Know," "Come and Go With Me," "I'm Gonna Sing."