THE WAY OF JESUS

MEMORY VERSE: **“Jesus answered, “I am the way. I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through me.” John 14: 6**
WEEKLY BIG IDEA: **Who is Jesus?**
(Answer) JESUS CONNECTION: **Jesus is the Son of God who came to save us.**
BIBLE STORY SCRIPTURE: **Gospel Presentation | Genesis 1:27, 31; Luke 2:6-7; Matthew 28:2, 6**

SERIES OVERVIEW

Welcome to KXP! We are kicking off a new series called **The Way of Jesus**. This month we will learn about some very important things! These are things that we know to be true through our faith in God and His Word. Let’s start with our memory verse - ***John 14:6 “Jesus answered, “I am the way. I am the truth and the life. The only way to the Father is through me.”*** Jesus taught us who He is and how to grow closer to God every day. Jesus is our example to follow, and His ways are true.

LESSON INTRODUCTION

Our Big Idea today is a question. **Who is Jesus?** Does anyone want to tell us who you think Jesus is? *(Pause for responses from the kids)* Jesus is many things. Let’s search the Bible to answer the question: Who is Jesus? Ready? Let’s go!

GOSPEL PRESENTATION

During the presentation of Scripture, use a physical Bible, when possible, to model exploring God’s Word together.

A part of God's story, actually the biggest part of God's story, is about how He sent us a rescuer. Way back in the beginning, God created a perfect world, and He made it exactly the way He wanted. It was full of good things like oceans and mountains, giraffes and jellyfish. There was no sickness or sadness or death. God made people, Adam and Eve, to live in His perfect world with Him forever. People were God's favorite creation. In fact, He said everything He made was good. But after He created people, He said it was very good.

Genesis 1:27 “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Genesis 1:31 “God saw all that He had made, and it was very good.”

Then something awful happened. Adam and Eve disobeyed God. After they ate from the tree God told them specifically not to eat from, sin came into the world. Because of their bad choice, all humans were separated from God. Now, even though people disobey God, He loves us more than anything. God had a rescue plan! One day He would send His Son to rescue His people and all who would believe from the sin that was in the world. That is the only way we can be close to God again.

God’s people were so excited about this rescue, but they had to wait hundreds and hundreds of years. They thought the rescuer would be a mighty king or maybe a powerful warrior. Can you imagine their surprise when the

Rescuer, their Savior, was born as a little baby? Do you know who this special baby was? Yeah, you are exactly right! It was Jesus!

Luke 2:6-7 "While they (Mary and Joseph) were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger…"

It wasn't what they had expected but it was exactly what God had planned. Jesus was completely human and completely God. Jesus ate, slept, and hung out with friends just like you and me. But He could also do incredible things that only God can do.

When Jesus was all grown up, He would show the world that He was the Son of God. When Jesus was an adult, He started traveling and doing miracles. A miracle is something amazing that can only happen with God's help, and Jesus did lots of miracles. He went to a wedding party and turned water into wine. He fed 5,000 hungry people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. He calmed the raging storm by telling it to stop. Jesus walked on water. He healed people everywhere! He made blind people see and paralyzed people walk. He touched sick people and made their diseases disappear. He even brought a dead man back to life. Jesus told people that He could do all of this because He was the Son of God.

Jesus didn't just heal people on the outside. He healed them on the inside too. Jesus opened their eyes and changed their hearts. He is still healing people's hearts today. At the same time Jesus was teaching and healing, there were some people that didn't like what He was doing. They didn't believe that Jesus was the True Messiah that had come to rescue the Jewish people. Even after all the miracles Jesus did, the people still didn't believe Him. They wanted Jesus to be arrested and killed and that's exactly what happened. Jesus was arrested and had to suffer and die on a cross even though He had done nothing wrong. When Jesus died on the cross, God's people were heartbroken. The Rescuer they had been waiting for was dead and buried. They wondered how they would ever be close to God again. But that was not the end of the story, something incredible happened!

Matthew 28:2 "There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it."

Matthew 28:6 "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay."

God raised Jesus from the dead. Jesus was alive! He is alive! This was God's plan all along. Jesus chose to take the punishment for our sins. He died on the cross so we don't have to, and now anyone can become a part of God's family if they choose to believe that Jesus rescued us. We get to be close to Jesus and have a relationship with Him because He loves us.

LESSON CONCLUSION

Jesus loves us when other people don't. He loves us when we feel left out and hurt. He loves us even when we mess up. The love of Jesus isn't just your ordinary everyday kind of love. It's the strongest, most powerful, never-ending, never-changing, always and forever kind of love. No matter what we do or where we go, He will always be with us**.**

JESUS CONNECTION

I think we shed some light on our Big Idea Question, don't you?
Who is Jesus?
Jesus is the Son of God who came to save us.

SMALL GROUP: REVIEW & DISCUSSION

This is a time to check kids' understanding of the Bible story and its Truths. These guided questions can spark minds to continue seeking understanding of God and His Son, Jesus.

Recall:

- What did God say after He created people? *("It is very good.")*
- Jesus was both human and God at the same time. What human things did Jesus do?
- What very special things could Jesus do because He was God's Son?

Discussion & Application:

- Who do you say Jesus is?
- What is one thing you learned from today's lesson?
- How will you use what you learned this week?

PRAYER

Dear God, we thank You so much for loving us and sending Your Son, Jesus, to rescue us and save us from the sin that separates us from You. Jesus is our Savior, Rescuer, and Friend! Please help us to follow His ways and stay close to You forever. In the wonderful name of Jesus, we pray – Amen.

LIVE IT OUT CHALLENGE

This challenge will prompt kids to make the KXP lesson personal. It can encourage them to live out what The Bible teaches us.

Challenge: Picture of the Gospel

- Talk with the kids about the visual image of the Gospel on their printed sheet using the leader's example.
- Help kids label and fill in the blanks on their individual sheets.
- Encourage everyone to take their Gospel picture home and talk about it with their family members.