

Jesus Cares: Jesus Prays in the Garden

Bible Verse

After Jesus said these things, He looked toward heaven and prayed. (John 17:1)

Teacher Enrichment

This is the fourth lesson in the *Who Do You Say I Am: Jesus' Life* series. This series follows the moments from Jesus' life which will be depicted on the stained glass windows in the new chapel. Each week will explore how those moments define different aspects of Jesus and our relationship with Him.

Hours before He was to be arrested, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples. Much of His time in the garden is spent praying. Jesus prayed for many things during this time, but in the end, He prayed for people. Jesus prayed that His disciples would be delivered from evil and made one with God. He also prayed for all the Christian followers to come in the future. He prayed for us. As Jesus faced His own arrest and death, His concern was with our well-being. Through this act of prayer, Jesus shows His great love and care for us.

In this lesson, children will learn that Jesus cares about them. They will understand that Jesus showed how much He cares for us when He prayed for our safety and happiness. Children will learn that prayer is a way to help others.

Before Class Begins

- ◆ Place the Sign In sheet and a pen where parents can see it upon arrival.
- ◆ Place the Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards and pens where students can see them upon arrival.
- ◆ Check that you have supplies for this lesson:
 - Arrival Activity, Jesus in the Garden activity sheet – 1 per child
 - Bible Scavenger Hunt worksheets
 - Bibles – 1 for every 2 children
 - Stained Glass Window template – 1 per child
 - Praying Hands cutout – 1 per child
 - Tissue Paper squares
- ◆ Place an arrival activity at each place on the table.

Welcome

SUPPLIES: Sign In sheet, Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards, Attendance chart, stickers, pens, Jesus in the Garden activity sheet, pencils, markers, paper plates, green paint

- ◆ Greet each child individually as they arrive. Introduce yourself by name.
- ◆ Help children find or add their name on the attendance chart. Provide each child with a sticker to place in today's column on the attendance chart.
- ◆ Encourage children to complete a Joy or Concern card if they have a particular joy or concern they would like to express. Collect completed Joy & Concern cards.
- ◆ Encourage children to complete a Time or Talent offering card if they gave their time to God or used their talents to serve God or others during the previous week. Children should keep their own completed Time and Talent cards.
- ◆ If children bring monetary offering, they should keep it with them.
- ◆ Direct children to complete a **Jesus in the Garden activity sheet**.
- ◆ Encourage conversation among the children and with you! Get to know the children in your classroom by asking about their week including school, activities and families. Introduce new children to each other and encourage friendships.

Children's Worship

SUPPLIES: Sign In sheet, Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards

- ◆ The Children's Worship Leader will direct your class to come to Ruth Hall at 9:20 or 11:05.
- ◆ Bring the Sign In sheet and completed Joy & Concern cards to Ruth Hall. Hand the Joy & Concern cards to the Children's Worship leader as you arrive.
- ◆ Have children bring their completed Time & Talent cards and any monetary offering.
- ◆ If additional children arrive while in Ruth Hall, have parents complete the Sign In sheet and remind parents that pickup is in Room 110.
- ◆ Encourage children to participate in Children's Worship and provide re-direction if necessary.
- ◆ Assist the Children's Worship leader as needed.
- ◆ At the conclusion of Children's Worship, have children line up and return to Room 110.

The Lesson

SUPPLIES: Bibles, Bible Scavenger Hunt worksheets, Stained glass window template, praying hands cutout, tissue paper, glue stick, scissors, white crayons/pencils or silver/gold sharpies

ASK: Today we learned Jesus cares about us. In today's scripture, how did Jesus show He cares for us? (*Prayed for us to be safe and happy*)

SAY: There are other ways in the Bible that Jesus shows He cares for us. We are going to have a Bible Scavenger Hunt to find ways Jesus showed He cares for His followers and for us today.

- ◆ Create pairs of children. If you have an odd number of children, create one team of three.
- ◆ Provide each team with a Bible Scavenger Hunt worksheet.
- ◆ Allow 10-15 minutes for teams to find as many answers as they can.

Teacher Tip

To avoid anyone feeling left out, it is best for you as the teacher to create pairs instead of letting children pair up on their own. This also provides an opportunity for children to get to know someone new.

- ◆ When time is up, provide the answers.

SAY: Jesus cares for us. When He prayed for us in the garden, it showed how much He cares for us. Today we will make a craft to help us remember that Jesus prayed for us.

- ◆ Show children the sample craft.
- ◆ Provide each child with a stained glass window template and a praying hands cutout.
- ◆ Make tissue paper available to the class.
- ◆ Direct children to glue tissue paper to the stained glass window.
- ◆ Once window has been filled, direct children to cut out and attach the praying hands onto the stained glass window.
- ◆ Children may write “Jesus Prayed for Us” on the praying hands using white crayon/pencil or a silver/gold sharpie.

Closing

- ◆ Lead the children in a closing prayer. You may say your own prayer, ask one of the children to say a prayer or use the one below.
God,
Thank you for sending your son, Jesus, to earth. We are so glad He cares for us and prayed for us. Thank you for listening to Jesus’ prayer.
Amen
- ◆ If time remains before parents arrive, encourage children to return to their Jesus in the Garden activity sheet if they did not complete it. Also encourage conversation between children and with you. This is another opportunity to build relationships with the children in your classroom.

Bible Scavenger Hunt

1. In John 17, Jesus prays for His followers.

How many times does He use the word “pray” or “praying?” _____

2. In Matthew 8:23-27, Jesus’ disciples are afraid. Jesus orders two things to be calm in order for His disciples to feel safe.

What are the two things? _____ and _____

3. In Matthew 14:13-21, Jesus was preaching to over 5,000 people. They were hungry and Jesus made sure they all had food to eat.

What did Jesus use to feed the people? (Be specific!!) _____

4. In John 2:1-11, Jesus is at a wedding where they have run out of wine. Jesus helps His friends by turning water into wine.

Where is the wedding being held? _____

How many jugs of water does Jesus turn into wine? _____

5. In Mark 10:13-16, Jesus’ disciples try to stop children from approaching Jesus. Jesus cares for the children and allows the children to come to him.

What does Jesus do when He blesses the children? _____

6. In Luke 17:11-19, Jesus cares for men who are sick with leprosy.

How many men with leprosy does Jesus heal? _____

How many come back to thank Jesus? _____

7. How many Psalms are there in the Bible? _____

8. How many books are in the Old Testament? _____

9. Which person is mentioned in James 2:22? _____

10. What is the last book of the Bible? _____

