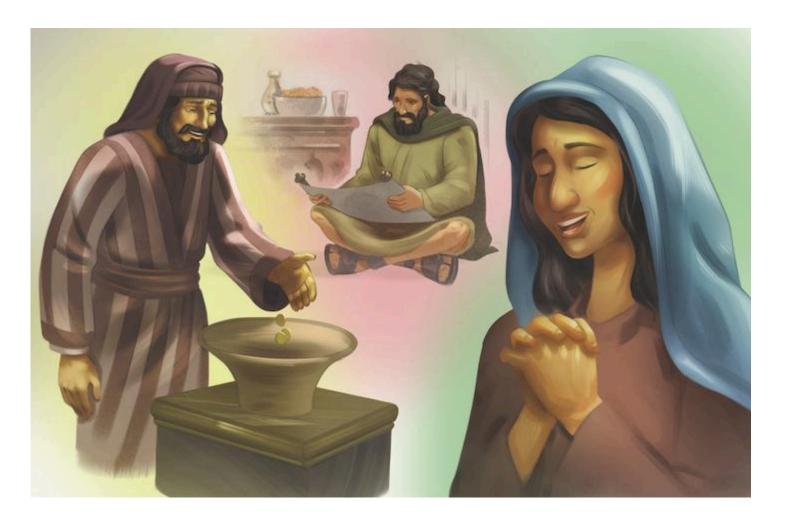
PreK Lesson

Jesus Taught about Behavior





Read all or parts of **Matthew 6:1-18** from your Bible or <u>watch the Bible story video</u>. If you have preschoolers, <u>you can watch this one for your kids</u> or both!



A custom is a practice or behavior that is unique to a particular group. Different countries and cultures around the world have different customs. For instance, in some countries, the custom of burping after a meal can actually be a compliment to the chef! (Though we don't recommend trying this at home.)

Jesus taught that every believer is part of a better, truer Kingdom: God's kingdom. As citizens of God's kingdom, He has called us to live in a different way. The behaviors we practice should reflect of our residency in His kingdom—and that often means they are very different from the world around us.

How do we live out these behaviors? Second Peter 1:3 tells us that God has "given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." Jesus showed us what it looks like to fully obey God, and God has given every believer His Spirit as a helper to make them more and more like Jesus. The more we know Jesus and what He has done for us, the more we want to imitate His ways and the more we depend on the Spirit to transform us. Our prayer should be that God would change our words, thoughts, and actions to look more like Jesus so that the world can see Him more clearly.

Jesus taught people what it means to follow Him. He taught how people should interact with God and others. Believers live to honor God—not to earn God's favor but because they already have it.

Pray: God, help us to grow in our love for Jesus so that our words, thoughts, and actions would become more and more like Him. Help us to remember that we don't obey to earn your love, but we want to obey because you have freely loved us through Jesus! Amen.



The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the splendor and the majesty, for everything in the heavens and on earth belongs to you. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all.

1 Chronicles 29:11



This song is a helpful way to worship, and to learn and memorize the Key Passage.



Mornings

Think about all the things you know about Jesus—who He is, what He has done, how He is at work in you. Ask God to increase your love for Jesus so that it overflows into your behavior today. How does loving Jesus help us to obey Jesus?

Evenings

Ask God to help you forgive others. Ask Him to help you get over the hurt and be able to love that person as He loves him. How is forgiving others a behavior that models Jesus to the world?



For Fun

Visit an ethnic restaurant in your city to observe their foods and customs. If the owners or employees represent the culture of the restaurant, ask them to share more about their culture and customs that might be unique. Ask to pray for them and for their family and be sure to thank them for sharing their culture with your family.

To Serve

Take time each day this week to pray for missionaries who are serving in other countries. Ask God to bless their work and for the good news of Jesus to spread in the culture where the missionaries serve. Remind kids that God's kingdom is not limited to one culture or one race. Heaven will be filled with believers from every nation, tribe, and tongue—united in their love and worship of Jesus Christ!

K & 1st Lesson

People Rejected Jesus



Read all or parts of Luke 4:16-30 from your Bible or watch the Bible story video.



The small town of Tupelo, Mississippi, is famously known as the birthplace of Elvis Presley. Once Elvis became famous, the town pull out all the stops to celebrate their connection to the king of rock 'n' roll. The city has created a museum, signs marking special locations, and even offer tours of Elvis' childhood home.

Cities all over the United States try to highlight and celebrate their famous current or former residents. Isn't it surprising that the Bible tells us Jesus was rejected in His hometown? He taught with authority and performed miracles to heal the sick, yet the people did not believe in Him.

Even when Jesus read the words the prophet Isaiah had written about Him and the freedom found in Him through faith, the people were angry and forced Jesus to leave. Jesus was not the Messiah the people expected, so many of them rejected Him. It might seem harsh, but this was all part of God's plan to save people from their sin. Jesus continued to show people that He is God's Son and invited them to trust in Him. Many did believe and found new life by trusting in Jesus!

Jesus read Isaiah's words and announced that He is the promised Messiah. The people of Nazareth rejected Jesus because of their unbelief. God invites us to trust in His Son, Jesus. Jesus came into the world to rescue sinners.

Pray: Jesus, we want to believe the words of Isaiah that say You came as good news to the poor, freedom for the captives, and sight for the blind. You are the Son of God who came to rescue sinners. Help us to believe and accept the invitation to trust in You. Amen.



The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



Now without faith it is impossible to please God, since the one who draws near to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

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This song is a helpful way to worship, and to learn and memorize the Key Passage.



Mornings

The Bible tells us about a man who said to Jesus, "I believe, help my unbelief." Ask Jesus to help you with your unbelief. Ask Him to give you faith in the areas where you might be doubting His love or His power. He is faithful to grow our faith and help us in our unbelief.

Evenings

Pray for opportunities to share the gospel with classmates, neighbors, family, and friends. Think about the relationships you have with those who haven't trusted in Jesus. How can you take the next step in sharing Jesus with that person? How can you be more intentional about sharing the good news of the gospel in your conversations?



For Fun

Make a plaque or sign for your home to show the "famous" kids who live in the house. The sign could be made from wood or painted on a rock and placed among the landscaping of your home. Talk about how your home is a special place where kids can feel safe and loved. When we trust in Jesus, He invites us to find love and peace in a relationship with Him.

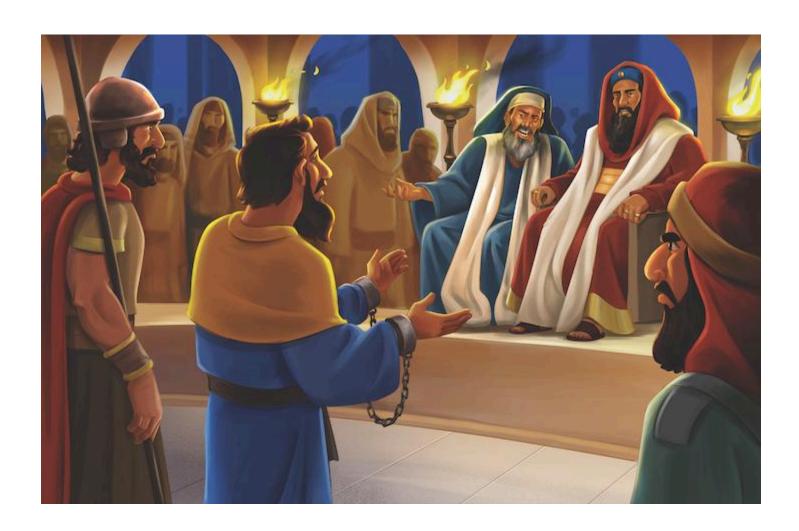
To Serve

Partner with another family to host a neighborhood cookout. Provide sidewalk chalk, yard games, food, and drinks for the neighbors on your street. Use the time to meet people and help them feel welcomed and loved in your community. As a family, pray for relationships that lead to opportunities to share the gospel.

2nd-5th Lesson

Paul Was on Trial





Read all or parts of Acts 22:30–23:35 from your Bible or watch the Bible story video.



Have you ever tried to put together a 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle? The puzzle pieces are so small, and they all look alike. The key to finishing the puzzle is to look at the picture on the puzzle box. This picture gives you clues of how all the pieces fit together and what the puzzle will look like when completed.

Life can be like a jigsaw puzzle. There are a lot of events—good and bad—that happen in our lives, and it can be hard to figure out how God is working all these things together. The stories of Paul's life help us to see that God always has a plan. Paul trusted in God's plan, and he continued to be obedient to the work God had called him to do.

Just as Paul said in his letter to the Christians in Rome, God is working all things together for His purpose. We can trust that God is faithful and that He always has a plan. We can work hard to tell others about Jesus and trust that God will use our effort to accomplish His plans!

Paul trusted God and believed that God, who showed His love for the world by sending His Son to die on the cross and rise again, would use the danger Paul faced to get Paul to Rome. We too can risk everything to share the gospel with courage because we know that God loves us and will care for us.

Pray: God, help us to trust in You and Your plans. You have plans that are greater than anything we can imagine! Give us the courage to tell others about Jesus because we know that You are with us! Amen.



The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.



LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you. I will praise your name, for you have accomplished wonders, plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.

Isaiah 25:1



This song is a helpful way to worship, and to learn and memorize the Key Passage.



Mornings

Praise God that everything which happens today is part of His plans. How does this truth help you to face whatever the day might bring?

Evenings

Ask God to give you His peace and to help you understand His plan when life is hard. How can we be reminded that God loves us and takes care of us? How can we use the promises God makes to help us in hard times?



For Fun

Work as a family to put together a jigsaw puzzle. Be sure to use the box top for help! As you work on the puzzle this week, talk about how Paul's life and other stories in Scripture remind us of God's faithfulness to work all things according to His plan. Discuss ways your family can remind one another that God is with you and will care for you as you share Jesus with others.

To Serve

Offer to plant flowers or do light yard work for an elderly neighbor. Take time to talk with the neighbor and ask to hear stories from her life. Ask the neighbor to share how they've seen God at work in her life. If the neighbor has never trusted in Jesus, take the opportunity to share the gospel with her. After working, remind kids that we show love to others because God showed His love to us by sending Jesus.