

leader bible study

As Jesus traveled and taught, people were trying to figure Him out. Who was this man? Was He a prophet? Was He crazy? Where did He come from? Some people thought He was John the Baptist who had been raised from the dead; others thought He was Elijah or another ancient prophet. Peter recognized Jesus as God's Messiah. (See Luke 9:19-20.)

One of the ways Jesus revealed His identity was through His miracles. Jesus performed miracles to glorify God, to show He is the Son of God, and to care for people. For three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James, and John—Jesus' identity became even more clear when they witnessed His transfiguration, or change in appearance. The disciples accompanied Jesus to a mountain to pray. The location was likely Mount Hermon, which sits about 40 miles north of the Sea of Galilee.

Jesus' appearance changed as He prayed: His face changed and His clothes became dazzling white. Moses and Elijah appeared with Him, and they talked about Jesus' upcoming departure (His death and resurrection). Peter, James, and John had been sleeping, but they awoke to the incredible sight.

When you teach, review who Moses and Elijah were. In the Old Testament, God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Later, Elijah was a prophet to Israel. As Moses and Elijah were leaving, a cloud covered the whole group and a voice—God the Father's—said, "This is my Son, the Chosen One; listen to him!"

At the transfiguration, Peter, James, and John beheld Jesus' glory. We look forward to the day when Jesus will return in full glory to make all things new. While we wait, God calls us to share the gospel with others so they can share in the joy of knowing Jesus, the Son of God, and seeing His glory when He returns.



Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

February Focus: Jesus the Miracle Worker



Feb 1st: Jesus Calmed a Storm

Matt 8, Mark 4-5, Luke 8

Story point: Jesus calmed a storm



Feb 8th: Jesus Fed a Crowd

Matt 14, Mark 6, Luke 9, John 6

Story Point: Jesus fed a crowd



Feb 15th: Jesus Walked on Water

Matt 14, Mark 6, John 6

Story Point: Jesus walked on water



Feb 22nd: Jesus Showed His Glory

Matt 17, Mark 9, Luke 9

Story Point: Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John



Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co -Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co -pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- **Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?**
- **How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?**
- **What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?**
- **In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?**

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

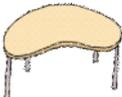
Morning Routine



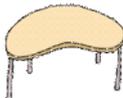
Stay with this order.

Adjust pictures on schedule according to your plan.

Review schedule with the children at the start of the morning.

	Take Off VBS song Verse/BPO	5 Min
	Journey Prayer Bible Story God Attributes	 10 Min
	Flight Lab Bible Story Activity	15 Min
	Free Play Inside or on playground	10 Min

At congregation last song—clean up/move inside

	Pilot's Log Prayer Take Home Page Settle and Review	 5 Min
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5 min Take Off

Celebrate & being here! Introduce the morning

Gather

As the children enter, have them gather at the TV to begin with worship/singing.

Have your co-pilot check attendance.

Song

Do a song or 2 of your choice as time allows to help children prepare for the lesson,

Key passage

Transition from singing into the Verse Song. Lead the kids with the hand motions in the video!

Lord my God, you have done many things—your wondrous works and your plans for us; none can compare with you.

Psalm 40:5

Big picture question

Why did Jesus perform miracles?

Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.

Repeat the question 2-3 times for learning!

Transition to the Bible Story

Clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy, use a finger play, etc... Set expectations for the children: "my turn to talk, your turn to listen, eyes on me, hands in your lap"

Choosing the same transition every week works super well with child and kindergarten ages.

Bible Connection Ideas

Bible FingerPlay:

1, 2 (hold up fingers) The Bible is true (hands like book), God loves me (cross arms, point to me) and God loves you (cross arms, point to class)

Bible Foundation Motions:

- The Bible is **True** (*thumbs up*)
- The Bible is How God **Speaks to Us** (*cup hands around mouth as if you were shouting*)
- The Bible is **Different** from other stories (*cross your arms and point in opposite directions*)
- The Bible points to **Jesus** (*ASL sign for Jesus*)

Fingerplay Ideas

Open Shut them:

Hold hands in front as you open and shut them while saying:

Open shut them, open shut them, give a little clap

Open shut them, open shut them, lay them in your lap.

Creep them creep them, slowly to your chin

Open wide your little mouth (pause), but do not let them in!

Active Preparing to sit and listen:

I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I jump up from the ground.

I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I turn myself around.

I stomp my feet , I clap my hands, I sit myself right down

I stomp my feet (*while sitting*) , I clap my hands, I do not make a sound (*finger over lips, spoken in a whisper*).



10 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Introduce the Bible Story

Use our Bible Finger play each week to transition to the Story.

• God's Word tells us amazing true stories about Jesus. Today's story comes from all four Gospels. **Point to the Bible story picture on their timeline.** The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Tell the Bible Story

Using the pictures, tell the Bible Story or watch the video (*This lesson is on pages 209-210 in the It's All About Jesus Bible Storybook*). Tell the story using your own words keeping eye-contact with the children.

• **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John.** The way Jesus looked changed right in front of them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes glowed bright white. Then the disciples heard a voice from a cloud that said, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased." Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

Talk about the Bible Story

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions.

1. **Whom did Jesus take with Him up the mountain?** (*Peter, James, and John*)
2. **How did the way Jesus looked change?** (*His face was shining like the sun, and His clothes were bright white.*)
3. **When the disciples awoke, whom did they see talking with Jesus?** (*Moses and Elijah*)
4. **What did the voice from the cloud call Jesus?** (*"My beloved Son"*)
6. **Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to show He is the Son of God.**

God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

- Holy - Powerful

Have a student place the story picture on the 'timeline'

Age Appropriate Bible Story

Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you

Jesus Showed His Glory — Matt 17; Mark 9; John 9

One day, Jesus went up on a high mountain with Peter, James, and John. The disciples fell asleep, and Jesus prayed. All of a sudden, Jesus changed. His face was shining like the sun, and His clothes were bright white. The disciples woke up and saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus.

Peter said, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If You want, I will set up three tents here: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

Peter was still talking when a bright cloud covered them. A voice from the cloud said, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased. Listen to Him!” The disciples fell facedown. They were so scared!

Jesus came up and touched them. He said, “Get up. Do not be afraid.” When the disciples looked up, they did not see Moses or Elijah. They only saw Jesus.

As the friends were coming down the mountain, Jesus said, “Do not tell anyone what you saw until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

The disciples did not tell anyone, but they wondered what Jesus meant. They asked Him, “Why do the Jewish teachers say that Elijah must come before the Messiah comes?”

Jesus told them that Elijah had already come—that is, a prophet like Elijah had come. Jesus was talking about John the Baptist. The people did not think John was a prophet, and they hurt him. Jesus said that they would hurt Him too.

Christ Connection: *Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John. Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.*

Picture Card Lesson

Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you!

Jesus Showed His Glory — *Matt 17; Mark 9; John 9*

Card 1: Jesus went up on a high mountain with Peter, James, and John. The disciples fell asleep, and Jesus prayed. All of a sudden, Jesus changed.

Card 2: Jesus' face was shining, and His clothes were bright white. The disciples woke and saw Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah who lived long ago. From a bright cloud a voice said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased. Listen to Him!" The disciples fell facedown. They were so scared!

Card 3: Jesus said to them, "Get up. Do not be afraid." When the disciples looked up, they did not see Moses or Elijah. They only saw Jesus. As the friends were coming down the mountain, Jesus said not to tell anyone until the right time.

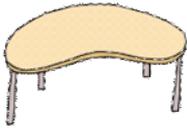
Card 4: The disciples asked Him, "Why do the Jewish teachers say that a special prophet must come before the Messiah comes?" Jesus told them that the special prophet had already come—Jesus was talking about John the Baptist. The people did not think John was a prophet, and they hurt him. Jesus said that the people would hurt Him too.

Card 5: Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John. Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

Christ Connection: *Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John. Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.*

Bible Storytelling Tips:

Shine a light: Dim the lights and tape the Bible story picture poster to a focal wall. As you tell the Bible story, shine a flashlight on the picture. Make your voice sound deeper when you read the voice from the cloud.



15 min Flight lab

Learning the story in an interactive way

*Choose from below or use your own idea-however the Lord leads.
Then go into free-play.*

Play “Wake up, Disciples”

Invite children to sit in chairs in a large circle. Leave space between the chairs. Explain that when you say, “Fall asleep, disciples,” children should close their eyes, and pretend to sleep. When you say, “Wake up, disciples,” children should open their eyes, jump up, and find a new seat. Say the phrases several times, alternating the phrases and varying the game speed.

- In our Bible story today, Jesus went up on a high mountain with Peter, James, and John. The disciples fell asleep. When they awoke, they saw a most amazing sight!

Count clouds by three

Arrange cotton balls in a pile next to a muffin tin. Give a child a set of plastic tongs and show him how to hold the tongs to grasp and pick up a cotton ball. Invite him to pick up three cotton balls with the tongs one at a time and put them into one of the muffin tin cups. Encourage children to take turns with the tongs.

- Our cotton balls look kind of like clouds. In today’s Bible story, Jesus took three of His disciples up a high mountain. While they were there, the three disciples saw Jesus transform in an amazing way. Then they heard God the Father speaking to them about Jesus from a cloud.

Experiment with flashlights

Place flashlights and compact discs on a table. Encourage children to experiment with the flashlights. They may shine their flashlights against a compact disc to see a colorful rainbow. Demonstrate how to make

shadow puppets on the wall. Consider dimming the lights for children to shine their flashlights in the dark. Remind children not to shine the light in someone's eyes.

- When **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John**, the way He looked miraculously changed. He shone brighter than the most powerful flashlight in the world could shine! His face was shining like the sun, and His clothes were bright white. Jesus told Peter, James, and John that He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

Make shaving cream clouds

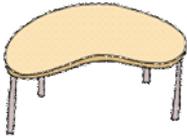
Place a small mound of shaving cream on a clean table in front of each seated child. Encourage children to use their hands and fingers to play with their "cloud" on the table and to draw pictures or letters in their cloud. Suggest older children write a *J* for *Jesus*, *G* for *God*, or the number *3*. Demonstrate how to draw a heart or a mountain in their cloud. Caution children not to touch their face or eyes with shaving cream on their hands.

- Was it fun playing with your pretend cloud? When **Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John** on the mountain, a bright cloud covered Jesus and His disciples. A voice from the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased." Jesus is unlike anyone else on earth. He is God's perfect Son. Jesus said He would die, rise from the dead, and go back to heaven. One day, Jesus will come again in His glory to make everything new.

Make a suncatcher

Tape a circle of clear contact plastic sticky side out on the table for each child. Provide colorful tissue paper for children to stick to the plastic. Seal with another piece of contact plastic and trim the excess. Write the story point on the suncatcher. Hole punch the top and thread ribbon through it. Tell the Bible story.

- Jesus showed His glory to Peter, James, and John. Jesus' face changed and His clothes were bright. **JESUS SHOWED HE IS GOD'S SON.**



5 Min Pilot's Log

Where we prepare to go home

After flight lab, allow the children to play. **When congregation begins last song, move to the tables.**

Pause and settle

- Signal the end of free play, (use the time-timer to count down)
- Sing the clean-up song and guide children to clean their areas. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer if needed.
- Have children sit around the table.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

- After prayer, hand out the activity/coloring page. Direct children accordingly to complete the page. Remind children of what they can take away from today's lesson.

If a child finishes the activity/coloring page while waiting for mom and dad or is not interested, only offer options that can be completed at the table (playdough, puzzle, select a book to examine, practice the verse, etc) **Keep children at the table to maintain a calm and quiet environment for easy transition to mom and dad.**

When parents pick up their children, as appropriate share something their child enjoyed doing or did well during the morning.

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents. Have your Co-Pilot encourage parents to use this to talk to their kids about what they learned in class today.

PREK/K Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain — in small groups, ask children for their prayer requests and have the Pilot or Co-Pilot write them on a few strips of paper. Connect strips into a chain and display our growing conversation with the Lord. Feel free to revisit old prayer requests as well.

Pointing to a Globe — Have a child or Co-Pilot spin the globe and place their finger on a country. Place a star sticker on the place(s) and pray over it as a group. We will provide a PreK/K age geography book to help guide discussion and prayer. Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus, light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window — Grab a dry-erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out of the window to pray over. Using the dry-erase marker, write or draw these things on the window then pray over them.

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

**You're
ready for
Sunday!**

