

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

We know Heaven is real because Jesus came back to life and returned to Heaven.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will state that Jesus is alive and living in Heaven.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Corinthians 15:12-20, We will be raised from the dead as Christ was raised.

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1 (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

How can we know that we'll really come back to life after we die? It's because Jesus already did it! The best thing about Heaven is that we'll get to live there with Jesus, along with all of the people we care about who love God.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the way to Heaven.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## MEMORY VERSE

*"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1 (NIV)*

*"You have been raised up with Christ. So think about things that are in Heaven. That is where Christ is. He is sitting at God's right hand." Colossians 3:1 (NirV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Choose three kids from the audience. Have each one "sing" the memory verse in a different musical style - country, hip-hop, oldies, opera, etc.

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Read the memory verse aloud for each kid. Each time you do, leave out one word. See if the kids can tell you what word you left out.

## SKIT

### HEAVEN IS REAL

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A desk, chairs

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 2F

#### CHARACTERS:

Leslie - A real estate agent

Megan - A woman who wants to go to Heaven

*Leslie is sitting at her desk. Megan enters.*

LESLIE: Hello! Welcome back to Heaven Bound Realty. What can I do for you?

MEGAN: I'm sorry to bug you again, but I have a question about Heaven.

LESLIE: Certainly. What would you like to know?

MEGAN: Is it real?

LESLIE: Heaven?

MEGAN: Yes, Heaven, is it real?

LESLIE: Of course it is real. Why?

MEGAN: I'm sorry to even ask, but I'm just having some trouble believing. I know you told me Heaven is a real place, but have you ever been there?

LESLIE: No.

MEGAN: Have you ever seen any pictures of it?

LESLIE: No.

# SKIT

MEGAN: You see? How can I trust Heaven is real? I know Disney World is real because I went there. I know New York City is real because I went there. I know Canada is real because my sister Grace went there and brought me back a T-shirt. She even caught a puck at a hockey game in Montreal! But how do I know Heaven is really there? How do I know that when I die... I'll go there?

LESLIE: You're right, Megan. I can't show you photos of Heaven, or give you a map to find it, but I do know one person who has been there.

MEGAN: Who?

LESLIE: It's Jesus. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave. Jesus overcame death, and now, he's up in Heaven, preparing a place for us.

MEGAN: He is?

LESLIE: Do you believe in Jesus, Megan?

MEGAN: Yes.

LESLIE: Even though you've never seen him?

MEGAN: Of course I do. I know he lives in my heart, and I know he's watching over me.

LESLIE: Jesus said he was preparing a place for us. He's already shown us that there is life beyond death. If you can trust him with your life here on Earth, you can trust him to give you a beautiful life after Earth.

MEGAN: I definitely trust Jesus! Thank you for your help!

*Megan leaves the office.*

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A glass of water

A straw

Your body needs just a few main things to keep on living. I have one of those things right here in a glass. Water. Our bodies are made up of 50-60% water, and we need plenty of it to keep on living.

Even more important than water is air, which I was unable to bottle up and bring with me. Unlike water, you can't see air, but every day, without even thinking about it, we get up and we trust that the air will be there for us when we breathe in. You can't see air, and without complicated scientific instruments, you can't measure air, but you can see the effect of the air. We can feel the wind blowing in our faces on a blustery day. We can feel the breeze hit us when we open the front door at home. We can also see the effect of air if we take this straw and blow into this cup of water.

*Have one of the kids blow into the straw and blow bubbles.*

Did we see air? No, but we saw the effect of the air as it passed from his/her lungs, through the straw, and up through the water.

Just like the air, we can't see Jesus with our eyes, but we can see his impact in our lives and others every day. We know that Jesus is real because we've seen him at work in our lives, and because we believe in Jesus, we can believe in a place called Heaven.

Heaven is real. It's where Jesus waits for us, preparing a place for every one of us. We can trust that when we die, we will go there to live with Jesus forever.

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### MILK BUBBLES

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Two glasses of milk  
Two straws

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two players for this game. Have them stand behind a table with the two glasses of milk, and hand each one a straw. On your signal, the two will begin blowing bubbles into the milk in an attempt to get the milk to bubble over. The first kid to get milk to bubble over and down the side of their glass is the winner.

#### VARIATION:

If you're worried about milk stains or the smell of spoiled milk, use water. It won't bubble up as much, but the kids should still be able to make it bubble over.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

Even though we can't see air, we know it's there. Jesus is there, even if we can't see him, and because of Jesus, we can believe in Heaven.



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

We know Heaven is real because Jesus came back to life and returned to Heaven.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will state that Jesus is alive and living in Heaven.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Corinthians 15:12-20, We will be raised from the dead as Christ was raised.

### **INTRO:**

Has anyone here this morning ever been to Disney World?

*Pick one kid who has been to Disney. Ask them where it is located. Ask them what Disney World looks like. Ask them what they did there. Ask them if they would go again.*

Does anyone here doubt that these two people are telling the truth? If you've been to Disney World, do you believe this person has as well? Does anyone doubt their story? Is there anyone here who doesn't believe Disney World really exists?

We believe in places like Disney World, don't we? We believe they are real even though we've never been. We believe because we've seen photos. We believe because we've heard stories from friends and classmates. We've never been there, but we believe.

That brings us back to our topic, Heaven. Has anyone here ever been to Heaven? Does anyone know anyone who went to Heaven and came back? Has anyone even seen photos?

Heaven is a real place. The Bible tells us so, but how can we know so? We've never been there. No one alive that we know has been there. So how can we trust when we die, God is going to take us to this place called Heaven?

If you are a Christian, you know someone who has been there. He's there now, preparing a place for you and me to live when we die. Jesus is not only a resident, but the king of all Heaven, and according to Paul, we can believe Heaven is real because we believe in Jesus.

### **READ 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20**

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## **MAIN POINT:**

Paul was writing to a group of believers who had their doubts about life after death. They weren't sure there was a place called Heaven. Paul assured them that the dead will rise again. We can believe this because we know Jesus rose from the grave. Because Jesus lives, we know we can live again, and we can go to the place Jesus is preparing for us.

Jesus is preparing a place called Heaven. It's a place lit up by the glory of God at all times. There's no sin there, and because there's no sin, there's no more sickness or dying. It is Creation, the way God intended before Adam and Eve sinned.

Heaven is the destination for all who believe in Jesus. If we believe in Jesus, we can believe with all our hearts that one day, we will see him in Heaven.

## **DRIVE IT HOME:**

Many people refuse to believe in Heaven based on the fact that they can't see it. You can't point to Heaven on a map, and you can't find it in the stars. So how can we trust that Heaven is out there some place?

Those who don't believe because they can't see Heaven are only fooling themselves when they say they can't believe in things unseen. Who here has ever seen oxygen, the air that we breathe? Who has ever seen the microorganisms that can get into our bodies that make us sick? You can tell yourself the flu bug doesn't exist all you want; when you get sick, you'll feel the effect of the bug. You will know it is real!

People who believe in Jesus and follow him daily have no trouble believing Jesus is alive and well. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, he gives us his Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit, we receive guidance for our lives. Like the wind in our hair and the flu bug in our stomach, we see the impact of the Holy Spirit every day in our lives and in others.

The Bible tells us Jesus is alive. He has conquered death, and he is seated at the right hand of God in Heaven. Because we believe in Jesus, we can believe in Heaven. We can trust it is a real place, and we can trust that when we die, we will go there to be with Jesus forever.

You can't find Heaven on a map or see it with your eyes, but you can believe in Heaven, just the same as we believe in Jesus. Jesus rose from the grave and returned to Heaven to prepare a place for us. We can believe in Heaven because we can believe in Jesus.



# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the way to Heaven.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

Is there a cool place on Earth you want to visit one day?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Colossians 3:1

Read the memory verse aloud for each kid. Each time you do, leave out one word. See if the kids can tell you what word you left out.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pass a roll of toilet paper around the group, and have every kid tear off a section of squares and then break the toilet paper down into the individual squares. Go around the group, and share some place you have visited. Then, for each square you have in your hand, tell the group something about that place you visited.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

Where does Jesus take all those who believe in him when they die?

What things do we believe in that we cannot see?

How do we know that those things are real?

How can we know that Jesus is real?

How can we know that Heaven is real?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the faith to believe in Heaven.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

Is there a cool place on Earth you want to visit one day?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Colossians 3:1

Read the memory verse aloud for each kid. Each time you do, leave out one word. See if the kids can tell you what word you left out.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pass a roll of toilet paper around the group, and have every kid tear off a section of squares and then break the toilet paper down into the individual squares. Go around the group, and share some place you have visited. Then, for each square you have in your hand, tell the group something about that place you visited.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

What things do we believe in that we cannot see?

What happened to Jesus after he died?

Where did Jesus go after he died?

Whom does Jesus want to take to Heaven?

How can we know that Heaven is real?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the faith to believe in Heaven.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### FILL IN THE BLANK

If the dead are not raised, then \_\_\_\_\_ has not been raised either.  
CHRIST

Christ has indeed been raised from the \_\_\_\_\_.  
DEAD

We can believe in Jesus and in Heaven, even though we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
SEE

Jesus is preparing a place for \_\_\_\_\_ who believes in him.  
EVERYONE

When we die, Jesus will take us to \_\_\_\_\_ if we believe in him.  
HEAVEN

# MAKE IT STICK

## 5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: THE BEST THING ABOUT HEAVEN



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

How can we know that we'll really come back to life after we die? It's because Jesus already did it! The best thing about heaven is that we'll get to live there with Jesus, along with all of the people we care about who love God. 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, We will be raised from the dead as Christ was raised.



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Where are you planning to go on your next family trip? Have you ever been there? Ask your kids how they know the place you are headed is real, especially if they've never been there. Then ask them how they can believe Heaven is real.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- How do we know that Jesus is alive?
- How do we know that Heaven is real?
- How can we get to Heaven?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

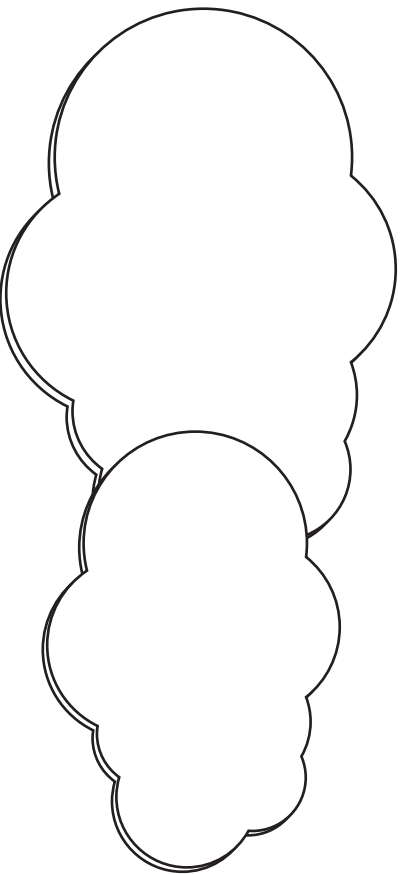
*"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1 (NIV)*



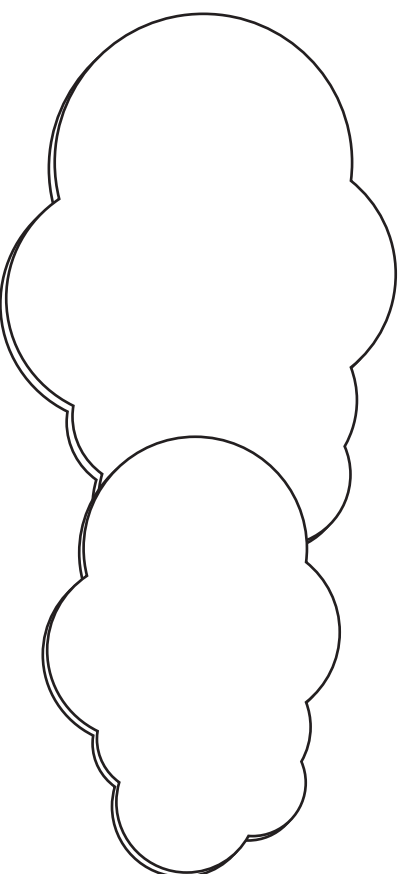
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

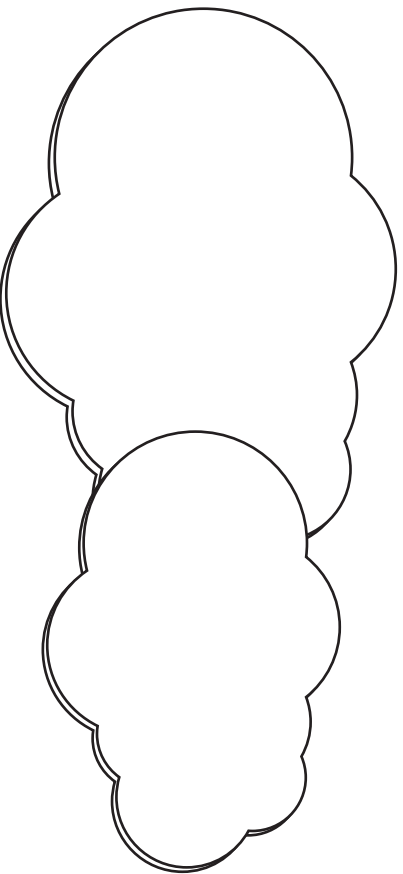
It takes faith to believe in Jesus, and it takes faith to believe in a place called Heaven. Ask God to give your children the faith to believe in things unseen.



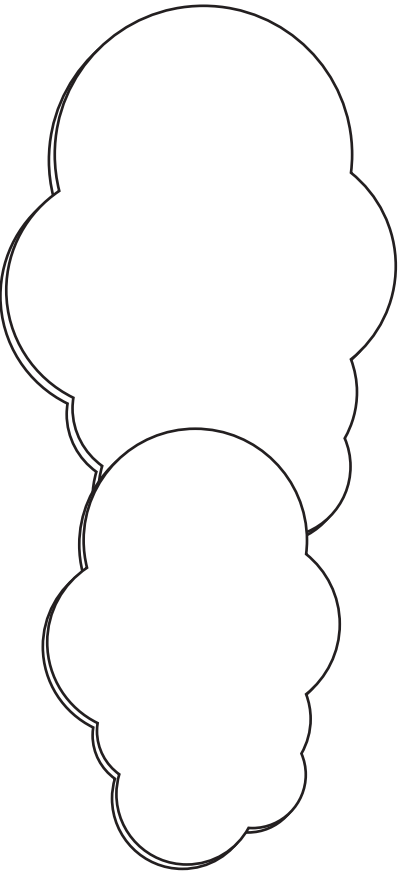
"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." – Colossians 3:1 (NIV)



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"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." – Colossians 3:1 (NIV)

## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids make a pair of binoculars to look for Heaven and for Jesus. Use empty toilet paper rolls or heavy coil stock to act as the sights for the binoculars and fasten them with tape or glue.