

DISCOVERING GOD'S TREASURE: WHO I AM IN CHRIST


Lesson 17

Small Group Lesson Plan |

Intermediate (Grades 3-6)



LESSON 17: Life From Above

<p>Bible Story</p> <p>Jesus Ascends Into Heaven</p> <p><i>Acts 1:6-11</i></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Bible• A snack and a nametag for each student• A device to play music• One chair per child• Index cards• Painters tape• Small Group Prayer Request Sheet• Treasure chest handout, one per child
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p>“For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.”</p> <p><i>Ephesians 2:6, NLT</i></p>	
<p> Identity Who God Says I Am</p> <p>We can be seated in heavenly places with Jesus.</p>	

Small Group Session 1 15 Minutes

Opening Icebreaker

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while students eat their snack:

- Ask students to describe their week using only one word.
- Let students take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" emoji chart (from the CKC Games Bag).
- As students are eating their snack, ask, **"What makes you feel important or significant?"**

Pray Together

[Collect prayer requests from the students.](#)

The small group leader or a child who volunteers may pray for the entire group.

Small Group Game: Musical Chairs

Materials: A device for playing music

Arrange chairs in a circle. You will need the same number of chairs as students. Instruct students to walk around the chairs while music plays. When the music stops, all but one student should be able to find a seat. The last student standing is out. Remove another chair, and play the music once again. Continue until one student remains. You can also play multiple rounds as time allows.

Small Group Session 2 35 Minutes

Identity Exploration

Set aside one chair. About fifteen to twenty paces, and mark a starting line with a strip of painters tape. Explain that whoever sits on the chair will get to determine how many steps everyone can take. Sit on the chair first and call out how many steps the children can take. The person to get to the chair first wins and will also take a seat as well. (You will need to pull up another chair for each additional person who makes it to the finish line.) Continue until all the children are sitting in chairs at the finish line.

In this game, this seat was a position of authority (because the person sitting on it could determine how far everyone else could go), victory (because the person sitting on the chair had already one the game) and power. It does not perfectly model the throne of Christ, but he does sit on a throne where he holds authority, victory and power and invites us to be with him and to share in his victory.

What do you think it means to be seated with Jesus in heavenly places?

Take student responses.



Meditation | Consistently focusing on and speaking God's truth to ourselves.

What do you think is on Jesus's mind up in heaven as he is sitting on the throne?

Take student responses.

Ask the students to help you write out a bunch of words and phrases on separate index cards. Some of the words should represent "the things of heaven" such as Jesus, the Bible, the cross, serving others, prayer, loving others, etc. and some of the words should represent "the things of earth" a favorite sports team or tv show, a famous actor, a favorite game, friends, fun activities, etc.

Gather all the words/phrases into a pile and tell your kids that they need to identify each word or phrase as a "thing of heaven" or a "thing of earth."

When the children have finished, read from Colossians 3:1-4:

“Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.” (NLT)

How will you draw closer to Jesus and to become more like him as you focus on the things concerning his kingdom and not just the earth’s things?

Take student responses and discuss together.

Bible Verse Game

Review the Bible verse with a [Bible verse game](#).

“For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.”

Ephesians 2:6, NLT

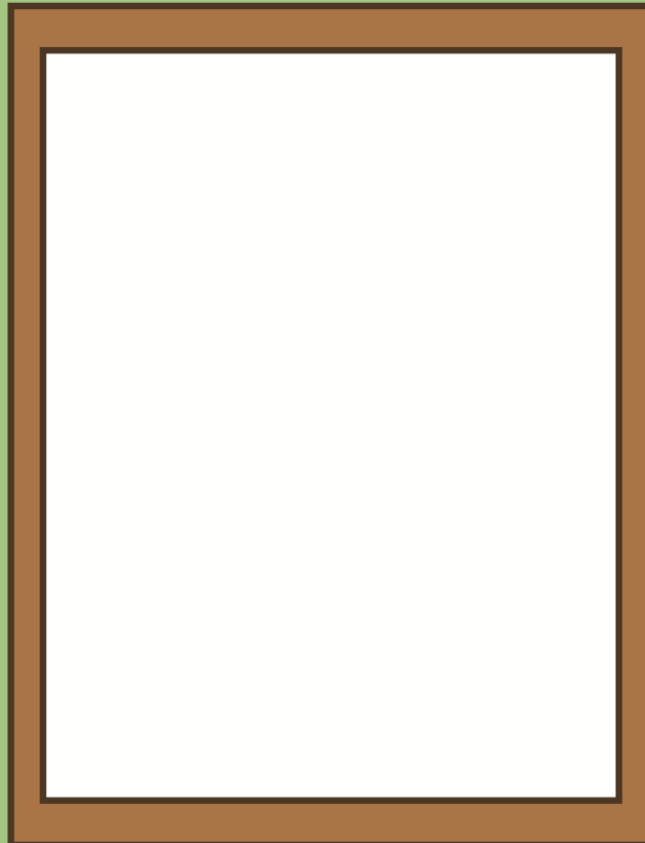
Treasure Chest Handout

Give each student a treasure chest handout and some colored markers or crayons. Invite the students to write something they discovered about Jesus and something they discovered about themselves inside their treasure chest. Students should also circle the tool that they used in small group to help them discover those truths. As the students are completing the handout, ask students to think about how they can use that tool during the week.

Name:

Story:

**What's in your
treasure chest?**



TOOLBAR



Thanksgiving



Confession



Worship



Prayer



Meditation



Identity



Service



Bible