


DISCOVERING GOD'S TREASURE: WHO I AM IN CHRIST

Lesson 21

Small Group Lesson Plan | Intermediate (Grades 3-6)



LESSON 21: Living Unto Eternity

<p>Bible Story</p> <p>Waiting for The Return of Jesus</p> <p><i>Matthew 25:1-13, 31-46</i></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Bible• A snack and a nametag for each student• Small Group Prayer Request Sheet• Treasure chest handout, one per child• Ten pom poms• Two plastic spoons
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p>“And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame.”</p> <p><i>1 John 2:28, NLT</i></p>	
<p> Identity Who God Says I Am</p> <p>I can be ready for Jesus’s return and for life forever with him.</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 share the best and worst thing that happened to them this week.
- 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 is something you are looking forward to doing this year? Next year? In five years?"**

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: Pom Pom Patience Relay

Materials: Pom poms (at least one per student) and two plastic spoons

Divide your group into two teams for a Pom Pom Patience Relay (or have them do it as one team and compete against the clock). Designate a start line and give the first player from each team a spoon. Place the pom poms at the other end of the finish line in a basket, bowl, or spread out on the table or floor (If you have two teams, make sure the number of pom poms you give each team is equal). The player must pick up one pom pom and race back to the start line without dropping it. If the player drops it, they must take it back and start over. The first team to transfer all the pom poms back to their starting line wins. Note: Talk about how the key to this game is not just seeing who is the fastest, but who could be patient and careful not to drop their pom poms.

Small Group Session 2 35 Minutes

Identity Exploration

Have you ever had to wait for something? What are some things we have to wait for?

Take student responses.

There are a lot of things that we find ourselves waiting for. We might have to wait our turn with a toy or on a playground. When we go to a restaurant, we probably have to wait just to sit at a table, and then we wait again for someone to take our order and cook our food. If you go to an amusement park, you have to wait in long lines. If you go to the doctor or dentist's office, you have to sit in a waiting room. You might have to wait when you're taking a long car ride somewhere.

When you're waiting for something, what do you do while you wait?

Take student responses.

God's people are waiting people. What or who are we waiting for?

Take student responses.

We're waiting for Jesus to return to the earth! How do we wait well? Let's take a look at today's Bible verse:

"And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame."

1 John 2:28, NLT

We are told to remain in fellowship with Christ. We wait with joy, and hope, and with thanksgiving. We recognize that Jesus is present with us now, and we seek to glorify Him with our lives, through service and worship. We pray, attend church, and read God's Word to know His heart!



Service | Expressing God's truth in our words and actions in our relationships with others so that they would see, know and trust in Jesus.

We can be people of hope! This means that when we connect with other people, we can act toward them in a way that they might not have experienced or seen anywhere else.

- We can give people hope by accepting them.
- We can give people hope by comforting them.
- We can give people hope by forgiving them.
- We can give people hope by showing them respect.
- We can give people hope by encouraging them.
- We can give people hope by supporting them and serving them.

Are there any other ways to bring hope to others that you can think of?

Take student responses. Challenge students to pick one thing from the list above to commit to doing in the next week.

Bible Verse Game

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

“And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame.”

1 John 2:28, New Living Translation

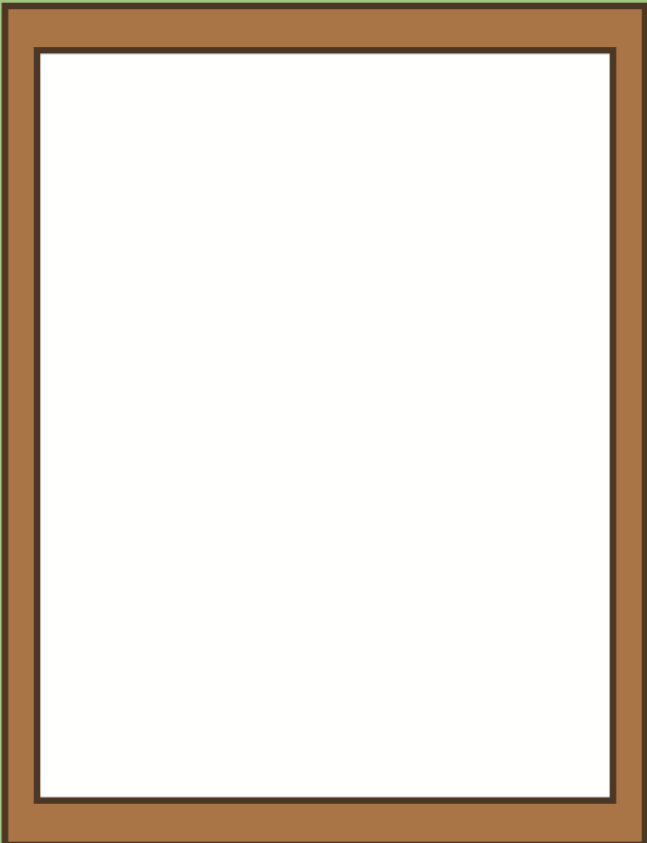
Treasure Chest Handout

Give each student a treasure chest handout and some colored markers or crayons. Invite the students to write about 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