

Large Group



I Wonder...

LESSON 6: LARGE-GROUP

What's so special about Jesus and why did He come to Earth?

MAIN IDEA

Jesus looked very ordinary/regular, but he came from heaven and is the son of the King and is totally God and totally human at the same time. He came because he valued us and wanted to save us from our sins.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Philippians 2:5-8
- Mark 10:35-41
- John 3:16
- Luke 15:1-10
- 1 John 1:9, suggested Bible verse (Optional)

BIBLE VERSE

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

1 John 1:9, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10 – 15 minutes)



Play large-group games.
(25 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week? Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are any changes and additions needed for the Large-Group Lesson?
- Is there anything specific you need to communicate to the small-group leaders?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- Gem or jewel (fake or real)

Large Group



Introduce the story of the Gospel.
(10 – 15 minutes)

REVIEW

Quickly review last week's lesson and Bible verse:

- The Bible is very old but still very helpful for us. It provides spiritual nutrients (like vitamins provide nutrients for our bodies).
- Review 1 John 1:9, which was last week's Bible verse.

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT JESUS?

Ask the students:

- **Who are some people that are very famous?**
- **Which of these people would you really want to meet?**
- **What kind of houses do you think these people live in?**
- **What kind of cars do they drive?**
- **What kind of clothes do they wear?**

Remind the students that we have already talked a little bit about Jesus. **Today's question is about Jesus—who is he and why did he come to earth?**

Jesus is God and has lived in glory (magnificence, beauty, and shining light) **from forever and ever in the past. He laid aside all that glory to come to earth as a human being. He was 100% God and 100% human at the same time.**

OBJECT LESSON: SEEKING WHAT IS LOST

Show the students the gem or jewel you brought with you. If it is fake, ask them to pretend it is real. Talk about how valuable this jewel is to you.

Ask the students these questions:

- **If this were your gem, how would you care for it?**
- **Where would you keep it?**
- **Would you sell it?**
- **How would you feel if it were lost or stolen?**
- **What if you got it back after it was lost or stolen?**

Read and explain the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin in Luke 15:1-10.

Say, **Jesus told these two parables, which are stories meant to explain a spiritual lesson. In both stories there was something lost.**

- **What did the shepherd do when the one sheep was lost?**
- **What did the shepherd do after he found the sheep?**
- **What did the woman who lost a coin do when she found it?**
- **What does Jesus say happens when one lost sinner repents** (turns away from their sin and turns to God)?
- **What do you think these two stories have to do with the gem?**
- **What do you think these stories and the gem might have to do with understanding why Jesus came to earth?**

Jesus made us and therefore owns us and loves us. We wandered away from him and we are lost and apart from Jesus. He came to look for us and make a way for us to come back to him. When we do that, he rejoices and celebrates!

Say, **Jesus loves and values us. We are like the lost sheep or the lost coin. When we turn away from our sins and back to God, he rejoices with all the angels in heaven!**

WRAP IT UP

Say, **In small groups the students will be talking a lot more about why Jesus came to earth, but remember that Jesus is totally God and was sent to the earth by his Father.**

You may wish to play some Bible verse games to help the students remember the verse, if time allows.

Pray with the students and dismiss them to small groups.

Games



Play large-group games.
(25 minutes)

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Pool noodles cut in half, 1 half-section per child
- Beach ball
- 2 goals

LARGE-GROUP GAME: BLOB TAG

Materials: None

How to play: A designated area is decided upon to play. Have each child get into pairs and spread out over the playing area. Choose one pair to be “it”. The pair that is “it” tries to run and tag other players. The two must remain holding hands while chasing others.

If someone gets tagged, they must join the blob of people. The game ends when everyone is tagged.

LARGE-GROUP GAME: FIELD NOODLE HOCKEY

Materials: Pool noodles (enough for each student to have half a noodle), beach ball, two goals

How to play: Divide the students into two teams, and give everyone a pool noodle cut in half. Put the beach ball in the middle of the field, and have the students use the noodles as “hockey sticks” and the beach ball as the “puck”. There are no goalies, so students should work together to hit the ball toward the other goal using the noodles. Kicking the ball is not allowed. Instruct students that if they use the pool noodle to hit each other, they will be given a penalty and that player or players will need to sit out for two minutes. The object of the game is to score more goals than the opposing team.

LARGE-GROUP GAME: FIND THE LEADER

Materials: None

How to play: One person stands in the center of a circle with their eyes covered. The leader designates someone in the circle to be the leader without the person in the center seeing who it is. The person in the center uncovers their eyes while the whole circle begins to clap their hands. The leader can change what the group is doing at any time (hopping on one foot, swinging arms, running in place, waving one hand, pulling on one ear, etc.) Everyone follows the leader’s action. The objection is for the person in the center to discover who the leader is. If the leader is guessed, that person gets in the center, and the game is played again with another designated leader. Depending on the size of the group, consider giving the person in the center two or three guesses.



I Wonder...

LESSON 6: PRIMARY SMALL GROUP

What's so special about Jesus and why did He come to Earth?

MAIN IDEA

Jesus looked very ordinary/regular, but he came from heaven and is the son of the King and is totally God and totally human at the same time. He came because he valued us and wanted to save us from our sins.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Philippians 2:5-8
- Mark 10:35-41
- John 3:16
- Luke 15:1-10
- 1 John 1:9, suggested Bible verse (Optional)

BIBLE VERSE

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

1 John 1:9, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for. (15 minutes)



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus. (20 – 25 minutes)



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel. (5 – 10 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week?
- Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any adaptations you can make to the lesson this week to better serve the kids in your small group or make your small group more effective?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- Poster board—In advance, draw a line down the middle and label one column “ROYAL” and the other column “REGULAR”
- Marker
- Tape (to hang up the poster board)
- Printouts 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D printed and cut out individually
- (Optional) Scissors
- (Optional) Glue to attach pictures to poster board
- Bible Verse Cards, 1 per child

Connect



Connect with the kids,
and show them that
they are heard and cared for.
(15 minutes)

Small Group

ICEBREAKER

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

- Option 1: Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Option 2: Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).

PRAY TOGETHER

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

ACTIVITY

Ask students to find the most valuable thing that they have on them or in their backpack. Give them 1-2 minutes to look before bringing them back to the small group.

Ask:

- **What is your valuable item?**
- **Why is this important to you?**
- **What is the most valuable thing you own?** (this could be anything at home, not just at school)
- **How do you take care of your most valuable items?**
- **What would you do if you lost that item?**

Say, **The Bible talks about God valuing us. He created us and we are incredibly valuable to him. We will get to hear more about how God values us in large-group.**

Close in prayer before heading to the large-group.

Heart



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus.
(20 – 25 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

INTRODUCTION

Ask, **Why did Jesus come to Earth?**

We are talking about Jesus—who he is and why he came to earth. Jesus left the beauty of heaven where he was worshiped because he is God’s Son. This means that Jesus is God and the Bible says that he is the King of kings.

Think for a moment about how royalty would be treated.

ACTIVITY: ROYAL VS. REGULAR

Using the pictures included in the lesson and the poster board you prepared with two columns (Royal & Regular), work with the kids to sort the items into the columns. You may also consider allowing students to cut the pictures up and tape or glue them to the poster board, separating them into the Royal & Regular columns.

Ask:

- **Would a king live in a castle or a house?**
- **Would a king wear a crown or a baseball cap?**
- **Would a king eat a banquet or a sandwich?**

Go through all of the pictures and compare the pairs (castle/house, crown/baseball cap, banquet/sandwich, limo/small economy car, king’s robe/jeans, fancy jewelry/regular gold ring, butler/regular person cleaning, chalice/to go cup).

Say, Jesus was fully God (a royal son of the King) and lived in heaven with all God’s blessings. In obedience to God, his Father, he came down to live on earth with us as a human being.

UNDERSTANDING JESUS’ HUMILITY

Read Philippians 2:5–8 with the students and explain:

Jesus remained God even when he came to earth, but he took on the nature of a servant (human nature). He chose to give up the comfort of living in heaven and came to earth because he wanted to obey God the Father, and he valued us enough to sacrifice everything for us.

This is a great opportunity to share the whole Gospel with students. Sharing with them the love Jesus has for us that he would give up the comfort of heaven but more than that, he gave his very life to save ours from the punishment of death and eternity separated from God.

HELPFUL HINT

ILLUSTRATION

Explain to the students what it would be like if we could maintain our human nature but turn into an ant.

Say, **Jesus coming to earth is like you turning into an ant. Imagine if you could turn yourself into an ant. You would still be you. You could feel and think like a human, but you would look and experience things just like an ant. You would still retain your human thoughts and ideas and nature, but you would look like just another ant.**

Ask, **Why do you think that Jesus came appearing just like an ordinary person?** (He did not want to scare us away. He wanted us to be attracted to his love, not his appearance. He came to serve, to die for us. He set an example for us to follow.)

Read 1 John 4:10 together with the students.

Explain what it means that Jesus was a sacrifice for us, and discuss how this demonstrates his tremendous love for us.

Say, **Jesus came to the earth because he loves us and didn't want to leave us all tangled up in the mess of sin that we talked about last week.**

Hands



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel.
(5 – 10 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

WRAP IT UP

Say, **When we understand who Jesus is and what he did for us, our response should be to give him thanks.**

Spend some time teaching the children how to express thanks to God.

You might have each child think of something for which they are thankful and then pray one sentence: "I thank you God for/that . . ."

RESPONSE & REFLECTION

Ask the students for any additional prayer requests and pray with them.

(Optional) If time permits, review the Bible verse with the students.



I Wonder...

LESSON 6: INTERMEDIATE SMALL GROUP

What's so special about Jesus and why did He come to Earth?

MAIN IDEA

Jesus looked very ordinary/regular, but he came from heaven and is the son of the King and is totally God and totally human at the same time. He came because he valued us and wanted to save us from our sins.

BIBLE PASSAGES

- Philippians 2:5-8
- Mark 10:35-41
- John 3:16
- Luke 15:1-10
- 1 John 1:9, suggested Bible verse (Optional)

BIBLE VERSE

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

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Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for. (15 minutes)



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus. (20 – 25 minutes)



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel. (5 – 10 minutes)

Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.
Plan for the lesson.

QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week?
- Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any adaptations that you can make to the lesson this week to better serve the kids in your small group or make your small group more effective?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- Poster board—In advance, draw a line down the middle and label one column “ROYAL” and the other column “REGULAR”
- Marker
- Tape (to hang up the poster board)
- Printouts 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D printed and cut out individually
- (Optional) Scissors
- (Optional) Glue to attach pictures to poster board
- Bible Verse Cards, 1 per child

Connect



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for.
(15 minutes)

Small Group Session 1

ICEBREAKER

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

- Option 1: Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Option 2: Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).

PRAY TOGETHER

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

ACTIVITY:

Ask students to find the most valuable thing that they have on them or in their backpack. Give them 1–2 minutes to look before bringing them back to the small group.

Ask,

- **What is your valuable item?**
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Say, **The Bible talks about God valuing us. He created us, and we are incredibly valuable to him. We will get to hear more about how God values us in large-group.**

Close in prayer before heading to large-group.

Heart



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus.
(20 – 25 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

INTRODUCTION

Ask, **Why did Jesus come to Earth?**

We are talking about Jesus—who he is and why he came to earth. Jesus left the beauty of heaven where he was worshiped because he is God’s Son. This means that Jesus is God and the Bible says that he is the King of kings.

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ACTIVITY: ROYAL VS. REGULAR

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Say, Jesus was fully God (a royal son of the King) and lived in heaven with all God’s blessings. In obedience to God, his Father, he came down to live on earth with us as a human being.

UNDERSTANDING JESUS’ HUMILITY

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HELPFUL HINT

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Hands



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel.
(5 – 10 minutes)

Small Group Session 2

WRAP IT UP

Say, **When we understand who Jesus is and what he did for us, our response should be to give him thanks.**

Spend some time teaching the children how to express thanks to God.

You might have each child think of something for which they are thankful and then pray one sentence: "I thank you God for/that . . ."

RESPONSE & REFLECTION

Ask the students for any additional prayer requests and pray with them.

(Optional) If time permits, review the Bible verse with the students.

Bible Verse Cards

BIBLE VERSE

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1 John 1:9, NLT

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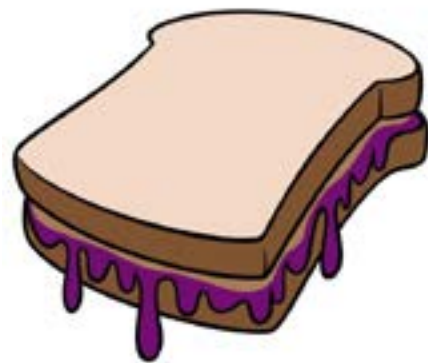
Printout 1A



Printout 1B



Printout 1C



Printout 1D

