

Human

Luke 2:41-52

God Story

Kid Jesus at the Temple |
Luke 2:41-52

Big Idea

Jesus lived a human life.

Key Verse

"We have come to believe
and to know that you are
the Holy One of God."
John 6:69 (NIV)

Leader Tips

As your group returns
from the holidays,
welcome them and take
some time to review your
expectations for the kids.

Life Story

1. Conversation Starter

2 MINUTES

Lead into today's story about Jesus by discussing the kids' experiences with getting lost. Introduce the Big Idea.

2. Intro Activity

5 MINUTES

Encourage everyone to use their imaginations as they picture 12-year-old Jesus in a variety of familiar scenarios.

God Story

3. Weekly Video

12 MINUTES

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching together.

My Story

4. Small Group Activity

12 MINUTES *

Review the God Story by rolling a die to choose which detail to describe. Chat about why it's important to read the Bible. Look up and read Luke 2:52 together. Wrap up in prayer.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

8 MINUTES

Make a set of craft sticks with the words of John 6:69 on them to highlight the Key Verse.

Our Story

6. Dismissal

Connect with parents and give them the take-home materials.

*Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities

Life Story

1. Conversation Starter

Supplies

- None

Leader Tip:

Use this time to welcome the kids, build community, and set the tone for your group.

Instructions:

- Gather everyone together.
- Ask:
 - Have you ever gotten lost? What happened?
 - Were you actually lost or did it just look as if you were to the people (e.g., parents, friends, leaders) you were with?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Introduce the Big Idea: Jesus lived a human life.
- Explain that when he was 12 years old, Jesus got separated from his parents for days! They thought he was lost. The kids will hear more about it in today's God Story.

2. Intro Activity

Supplies

- None

Leader Tips:

Engage all the kids! Do your best to keep just a few of them from dominating the activity.

Consider adding actions the kids must do when they want to answer (e.g., jump up and clap hands over their head). Change up the actions to keep everyone interested.

Instructions:

- Guide the group to sit on the floor with plenty of space around each person.
 - Explain that you're going to read a series of questions. Once you read the entire question, the kids may jump up to answer it. If someone answers two questions, they must then wait until everyone else has a turn. Let them know that there may not be a "right" answer. They can be imaginative!
 - Ask:
 - When Jesus was 12, what do you think he ate for breakfast?
 - When Jesus was 12, what do you think he did for fun?
 - When Jesus was 12, which chores do you think he did?
 - When Jesus was 12, do you think he had any pets?
 - When Jesus was 12, what do you think he called his mom?
 - When Jesus was 12, what do you think he slept on?
 - When Jesus was 12, do you think he liked to go swimming?
 - When Jesus was 12, how do you think he treated his neighbours?
 - To wrap up, let the kids know that 12-year old Jesus goes on a trip with his parents in today's story from the Bible.
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God Story

3. Weekly Video

Supplies

- Video file

Instructions:

- a. Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Kid Jesus at the Temple | Luke 2:41-52)
 - Key Verse segment
 - Life Story (Caiden and Abby experience some things Jesus would've done when he was young).
- b. Discuss:
 - What was the Life Story about in today's video?
 - What was the God Story about?
 - How do you think these two stories and today's Big Idea (Jesus lived a human life) connect?

4. Small Group Activity

Supplies

- Thinking die
- Bibles

Leader Tip:

Have your own Bible handy for this activity!

Instructions:

- a. Gather your small group to sit together.
- b. Guide the kids to take turns rolling the die, then reviewing the basics of today's story:
 - Who (Jesus, Mary, and Joseph)
 - What (Jesus was missing)
 - Where (the temple in Jerusalem)
 - Why (Jesus wanted to talk to the teachers, ask questions, and discuss God)
 - When (2000 years ago)
 - If anyone lands on the blank square, ask them what they learned from this story
- c. Discuss:
 - Do you read the Bible at home? Why or why not?
 - What does your Bible look or feel like?
- d. Show the kids your own Bible.
- e. Explain that reading the Bible helps us learn about Jesus' life and being his follower.
- f. Ensure that everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- g. Help the kids look up Luke 2:52. Show them how to find Luke by using the table of contents. Find the chapter (big number), then the verse (little number).
- h. Read aloud the verse from the NIRV and prompt the kids to fill in the blanks: "Jesus became [wiser] and [stronger]. He also became more and [more] pleasing to [God] and to [people]."
- i. Explain that – just like Jesus – we can become wiser and stronger by getting to know God, loving him, and loving others. Although Jesus was fully God, he lived a human life, just like us!
- j. Ask the kids to describe a way they could get to know Jesus more this week.
- k. Pray for your group members by name and ask that they would do that thing this week.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

Supplies

- Key Verse Sign
- Wall-safe tape
- Large craft sticks
- Markers
- Stickers

Before the Activity:

Place the Key Verse sign where everyone can see it.

Create a sample set to model how to write the words on each craft stick (see instructions below).

Instructions:

- a. Gather the kids back together in a large group.
- b. Give them each nine craft sticks
- c. Place the markers and stickers where everyone can reach them easily.
- d. Show the sample set of sticks to the kids.
- e. Direct them to write the Key Verse on their sticks as follows: We have / come to / believe / and know / that you / are the / Holy One / of God / John 6:69.
- f. Invite the kids to use markers and stickers to decorate their sticks if they wish.
- g. As they work on their sticks, discuss:
 - How do you feel about Jesus being fully human?
 - How do you think it changes our own lives?
- h. Demonstrate how to shuffle the sample set of sticks, then put them in the correct order.
- i. Encourage the kids to try shuffling and ordering their sticks. They can use the Key Verse sign as a guide if needed.
- j. If time permits, prompt the kids to challenge a friend to race as they put the verse in order.

Our Story

6. Dismissal

Supplies

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse Colouring pages

Leader Tip:

Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

Instructions:

- a. Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
 - b. Give everyone a weekly take-home card as well as the monthly Key Verse card and colouring page.
 - c. Offer a Key Verse card and colouring page to anyone who has not gotten them this month.
 - d. Remind the kids to take their crafts.
 - e. Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.
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