

The background of the top half of the page is a complex stained glass pattern. It consists of numerous irregular, multi-colored shapes (polygons) outlined in black. The colors used include various shades of blue, teal, maroon, purple, and grey. The overall effect is reminiscent of a window with colorful glass panes.

# Tell me the Story

WHO TOLD YOU? WHO WILL YOU TELL?

A FAMILY DEVOTION BOOK



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# Introduction

Studying the lives of people from the past is exhilarating for some and mind-numbing for others. Regardless of one's personal preference for or against history, some stories must be told. Of all the stories about those from the past that could be told, none are more significant, pivotal, or impactful than the stories of Jesus.

Numerous arguments could be made to support this assertion, but only one is necessary for this — time. There is only one Man who has split all of time in two. Our dating system is divided between tracking time by either BC (before Christ) or AD (anno domini — in the year of our Lord). Christ-follower or not, that fact should encourage anyone to study the stories of Jesus.

For those of us who are Christ-followers, we should want to study the stories of Christ because we want to get to know Him; yes, but also so that we can become more like Him. Paul says that as we look at the glory of Jesus, we are being, "...transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another..." (2 Cor 3:18).

For the next seven weeks, we are going to be looking at the stories of Jesus, and our hope and prayer is that each of us grow in our knowledge, affection, and obedience to Christ!

## How to Use This Book

Each week contains the story of Christ we will be studying as a church. Questions will be provided each day to answer. The questions provided Monday-Friday will be the same questions (except for the kids' questions). This will provide all of us with a good understanding of each story. Saturday's will contain an object lesson for families to do with their kids. If you are doing this by yourself, feel free to do the object lesson as well! If you don't want to do that, enjoy the day off or use Saturday to catch up on day you missed.

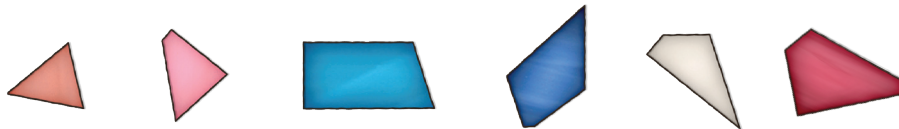
# Week 1: Jesus' Temptation

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus' Temptation as recorded in Matthew 4:1-11**

Spend time each day meditating on this story by **reading the story daily**, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read the story and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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# Matthew 4:1-11

[1] Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. [2] And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. [3] And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." [4] But he answered, "It is written, " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' " [5] Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple [6] and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" [7] Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" [8] Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. [9] And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." [10] Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" [11] Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus' Temptation?

Answer this question by reading Matthew 4:1-11 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who was tempted\* in our story today?
2. Who has more power – Jesus or the devil? How do you know?
3. Why did Jesus not bow down to the devil?

*\*Tempt: trying to get someone to do something wrong.*

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus' Temptation?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow Matthew 4:1-11.

## What stories come before this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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## What stories come after this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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**Context** - How does Jesus' Temptation relate to the stories that come before and after?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us know more about the story of Jesus being tempted?



# Wednesday

**How does Matthew's account of Jesus' Temptation relate to Mark (Mk 1:12-13) and Luke's (Lk 4:1-13) account?**

Read all three accounts and answer the following questions:

1. What is **similar** between the accounts?
2. What is **different** between the accounts?
3. What **emphasis** is made by each gospel writer based on how they told the story?

Matthew:

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Mark:

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Luke:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one thing the devil offered to Jesus?
2. What is one thing that was the same in each of the stories?
3. Was there anything that one story said in a different way?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus' Temptation teach us about Jesus'**

Character?  
Person?  
Emotions?  
Intellect?  
Actions?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. How do we know that Jesus is more powerful than the devil?

# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

Is there a sin to be avoided?

Is there a promise to claim?

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Did you know that Jesus was tempted just like you and me, but he did not sin? Why should we praise Jesus for this?
2. What is one thing that you are tempted to do? (disobey your parents, take a toy from a sibling or friend, etc.)
3. How can you ask Jesus to help you with this?

# Saturday: Object Lesson

Today's object lesson will be about how temptation works. Use the QR code to watch the video with your kids. Even better, follow the instructions below and do it with your children!



## Instructions:

1. Fill the balloon with water. Fill only slightly larger than the opening of your vase. If you make it too big this will not work.
2. It helps if the rim of the vase or the balloon is wet.
3. Light a small piece of paper on fire in the vase, and then set the balloon on top of the vase opening.
4. Once the balloon is in. Use a straw to allow air in the vase on the bottom side of the balloon allowing the balloon to slide out no problem.



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Do we just "fall" into sin?
2. How does God make a way to escape sin?
3. When we are stuck in sin, what should we do?

# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

-  1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
-  2. What is one thing you can do this week when you are tempted to sin?
-  3. What is one thing you can praise Jesus for this week?

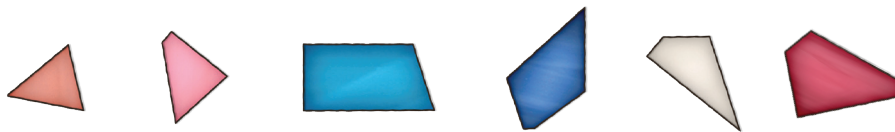
# Week 2: Jesus and the Demoniac

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus and the Demoniac as recorded in Mark 5:1-20.**

Spend time each day meditating on this story by **reading the story daily**, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read the story and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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## Mark 5:1-20

[1] They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. [2] And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. [3] He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, [4] for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. [5] Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones. [6] And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. [7] And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." [8] For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" [9] And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." [10] And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. [11] Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, [12] and they begged him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." [13] So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

## **Mark 5:1-20 cont.**

[14] The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. [15] And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. [16] And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. [17] And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. [18] As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. [19] And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." [20] And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.



# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus and the Demoniac?

Answer this question by reading Mark 5:1-20 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who was healed in our story today?
2. Who has more power – Jesus or the demons living in the man? How do you know?
3. Why did the demon-possessed man bow down to Jesus?

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus and the Demoniac?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow Mark 5:1-20.

## What stories come before this passage?

1st story & summary

2nd story & summary

3rd story & summary

## What stories come after this passage?

1st story & summary

2nd story & summary

3rd story & summary

**Context** - How does Jesus and the Demoniac relate to the stories that come before and after?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us know more about the story of Jesus healing the demon-possessed man?

# Wednesday

## How does Mark's account of Jesus and the Demoniac relate to Matthew (Matt 8:28-34) and Luke's (Lk 8:26-39) account?

Read all three accounts and answer the following questions:

1. What is **similar** between the accounts?
2. What is **different** between the accounts?
3. What **emphasis** is made by each gospel writer based on how they told the story?

Matthew:

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Mark:

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Luke:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one thing that happened after the demons were cast out?
2. How do you think it felt to be free of the demons?
3. Was there anything that one story said in a different way?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus and the Demoniac teach us about Jesus’**

Character?  
Person?  
Emotions?  
Intellect?  
Actions?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. How do we know that Jesus is more powerful than the devil?

# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

- Is there a sin to be avoided?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there an example to follow?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we praise Jesus for casting out a legion\* of demons?
2. How did Jesus show mercy in this story? How does he show mercy to you?
3. How can you ask Jesus to help you when you need help with something?

*\*Legion: multitudes or a group of demons*

# Saturday: Object Lesson

Teaching our kids about demons is a daunting task, especially if they are younger! However, Jesus is bigger, stronger, and more powerful than anything in the spiritual realm. It is imperative that we teach our kids this even if they are young!

Today, use pictures, drawings, or videos of scary things (snakes, spiders, sharks, "monsters," tornados, fires, etc.) and ask your kids what could cause those scary things to run away? The obvious answer is Jesus! Reference the story studied this week and relate it to scary things in your kids life currently.

## Draw Something Scary:



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Is God bigger and better than anything we are afraid of?
2. Why do we not have to worry about things we are afraid of?
3. How can we let Jesus take over our lives?

# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

-  1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
-  2. What is one thing you can do this week when you see something scary?
-  3. What can you praise Jesus for this week?

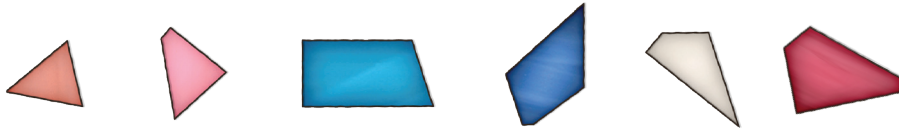
# Week 3: Jesus and the Healed Women

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus and the Healed Women as recorded in Mark 5:21-43.**

Spend time each day meditating on this story by **reading the story daily**, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read the story and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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## Mark 5:21-43

[21] And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. [22] Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet [23] and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." [24] And he went with him. And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. [25] And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, [26] and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. [27] She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. [28] For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." [29] And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. [30] And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" [31] And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?' " [32] And he looked around to see who had done it. [33] But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. [34] And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith

## **Mark 5:21-43 cont.**

has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.” [35] While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler’s house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” [36] But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” [37] And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. [38] They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. [39] And when he had entered, he said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.” [40] And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. [41] Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” [42] And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. [43] And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus and the Healed Women?

Answer this question by reading Mark 5:21-43 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who was healed in our story today?
2. Who has more power – Jesus or death and disease? How do you know?
3. When the woman touched Jesus, how did He know?

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus and the Healed Women?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow Mark 5:21-43.

## What stories come before this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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## What stories come after this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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**Context** - How does Jesus and the Healed Women relate to the stories that come before and after?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us know more about the story of Jesus healing the bleeding woman and Jairus' daughter?

# Wednesday

## How does Mark's account of Jesus and the Healed Women relate to Matthew (Matt 9:18-26) and Luke's (Lk 8:41-56) account?

Read all three accounts and answer the following questions:

1. What is **similar** between the accounts?
2. What is **different** between the accounts?
3. What **emphasis** is made by each gospel writer based on how they told the story?

Matthew:

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Mark:

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Luke:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why did the woman want to touch the clothing of Jesus?
2. What is one thing that was the same in all the stories?
3. Was there anything that one story said in a different way?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus and the Healed Women teach us about Jesus’**

Character?  
Person?  
Emotions?  
Intellect?  
Actions?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. How do we know that Jesus is more powerful than the devil?

# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

- Is there a sin to be avoided?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there an example to follow?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we praise Jesus for healing the woman and the little girl?
2. How did Jesus show compassion in this story? How does He show compassion to you?
3. How can you ask Jesus to show you compassion when you need Him?

# Saturday: Object Lesson

**Instructions:** Act out a variation of the story we studied this week.

1. Pick one child to be “dead.”
2. Pick one child to be “Jesus.”
3. Have the other kids be those in the crowd.
4. Tell the child pretending to be dead to lay on the floor completely still.
5. Have the kids in the crowd pretend to be crying hysterically.
6. Tell the child pretending to be Jesus to go touch the child laying on the floor.
7. Have the child that was laying on the floor jump up with joy and instruct those in the crowd to scream with excitement.
8. Repeat this as many times as needed picking different children to be different characters until each kid gets to be who they wanted.



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who has the power to give life to people?
2. What does this story show us about the love Jesus has for all people?
3. How does Jesus continue to give life to people today?



# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

- ▲ 1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
- ▼ 2. What is one thing you can do this week when you have a need you want Jesus to meet?
- 3. What is one thing you can praise Jesus for this week?

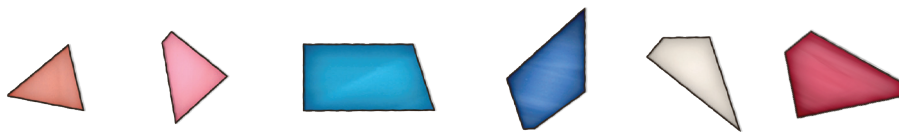
# Week 4: Jesus and the Food

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus and the Food as recorded in Mark 6:30-44.**

Spend time each day meditating on this story by **reading the story daily**, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read the story and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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## Mark 6:30-44

[30] The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. [31] And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. [32] And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. [33] Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. [34] When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. [35] And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. [36] Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." [37] But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" [38] And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." [39] Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. [40] So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. [41] And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. [42] And they all ate and were satisfied. [43] And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. [44] And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus and the Food?

Answer this question by reading Mark 6:30-44 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who was given food in our story today?
2. How did Jesus feel about the people in this story?
3. How did Jesus provide for the people in this story?

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus and the Food?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow Mark 6:30-44.

## What stories come before this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
- 
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## What stories come after this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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**Context** - How does Jesus and the Food relate to the stories that come before and after?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us know more about the story of Jesus feeding the people?

# Wednesday

**How does Mark's account of Jesus and the Food relate to Matthew (Matt 14:13-21), Luke (Lk 9:10-17), and John's (Jn 6:1-13) account?**

Read all four accounts and answer the following questions:

1. What is **similar** between the accounts?
2. What is **different** between the accounts?
3. What **emphasis** is made by each gospel writer based on how they told the story?

Matthew:

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Mark:

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Luke:

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John:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. How many fishes and loaves were in the story (before Jesus blessed the food and after)?
2. What is one thing that was the same in each of the stories?
3. Was there anything that one story said in a different way?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus and the Food teach us about Jesus'**

Character?  
Person?  
Emotions?  
Intellect?  
Actions?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. How do we know that Jesus was fully man and fully God in this story?

# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

Is there a sin to be avoided?

Is there a promise to claim?

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we praise Jesus for feeding the people?
2. How did Jesus show caring for others in this story? How does He care for you?
3. How can you care for others this week?



# Saturday: Object Lesson

**Supplies Needed:** Paper and Scissors

## **Instructions:**

1. Summarize the story to your children.
2. Give each kid a pair of scissors and each child a piece of paper. Have the children hold up their papers.
3. Ask the kids how many corners does their piece of paper have. Let them count/answer.
4. Tell them their paper has 4 corners and then instruct them to cut off a corner.
5. Tell them to recount the number of corners on their paper. Let them count/answer.
6. Repeat this as many times as you want showing them how the corners multiply as you keep cutting away/passing out.
7. End by recapping the story of Jesus multiplying the food.



## **KIDS QUESTIONS:**

1. What surprised you about our activity?
2. Which things amazed and surprised you about what Jesus did?
3. What is something you give that God could use to help others?

Say: "Jesus took a boy's lunch and blessed 5,000 people with it. He can do the same thing with us! He can take what we have and bless others with it. We trust God to provide, and Jesus just might use what we already have to do it."

# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

- ▲ 1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
- ▼ 2. What is one thing you can do this week when you sit down to eat a meal?
- 3. What is one thing you can praise Jesus for this week?

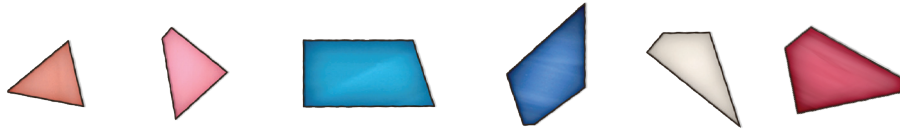
# Week 5: Jesus and the Religious Leaders

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus and the Religious Leaders as recorded in Matthew 15:1-20.**

Spend time each day meditating on this story by **reading the story daily**, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read the story and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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## Matthew 15:1-20

[1] Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, [2] “Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.” [3] He answered them, “And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? [4] For God commanded, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ [5] But you say, ‘If anyone tells his father or his mother, “What you would have gained from me is given to God,” [6] he need not honor his father.’ So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God. [7] You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: [8] “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; [9] in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” [10] And he called the people to him and said to them, “Hear and understand: [11] it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person.” [12] Then the disciples came and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?” [13] He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. [14] Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.” [15] But Peter said to him, “Explain the parable to us.” [16] And he said, “Are you also still without understanding? [17] Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? [18] But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. [19] For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. [20] These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.”

# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus and the Religious Leaders?

Answer this question by reading Matthew 15:1-20 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who was questioned in our story today?
2. Who has more power – Jesus or the Pharisees? How do you know?
3. Who is truly “blind” in this story?

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus and the Religious Leaders?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow Matthew 15:1-20.

## What stories come before this passage?

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2nd story & summary

3rd story & summary

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## What stories come after this passage?

1st story & summary

2nd story & summary

3rd story & summary

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**Context** - How does Jesus and the Religious Leaders relate to the stories that come before and after?

## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us know more about Jesus and the Religious Leaders?

# Wednesday

## How does Matthew's account of Jesus and the Religious Leaders relate to Mark's (Mk 7:1-23) account?

Read all both accounts and answer the following questions:

1. What is **similar** between the accounts?
2. What is **different** between the accounts?
3. What **emphasis** is made by each gospel writer based on how they told the story?

Matthew:

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Mark:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why did the Pharisees question Jesus?
2. What is one thing that was the same in each of the stories?
3. Was there anything that one story said in a different way?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus and the Religious Leaders teach us about Jesus’**

Character?  
Person?  
Emotions?  
Intellect?  
Actions?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. How do we know that Jesus was fully man and fully God in this story?



# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

- Is there a sin to be avoided?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there an example to follow?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we praise Jesus for healing the woman and the little girl?
2. How did Jesus show compassion in this story? How does He show compassion to you?
3. How can you ask Jesus to show you compassion when you need Him?

# Saturday: Object Lesson

**Supplies Needed:** Various objects that are real and their fake counter part (real apple/plastic apple, real basketball/picture of a basketball, etc.)

## Instructions:

1. Hold up one item at a time and ask your children whether the item is real or fake.
2. After they answer, ask them how they knew.
3. Repeat with each object.
4. After going through each object that you prepared, reiterate how Jesus knows whether our worship is real or fake. (Hint: He looks at our heart!)



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. How do we know if something is real or fake?
2. What does a clean heart look like to Jesus?
3. How can we live for Jesus and others instead of ourselves?

# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

- ▶ 1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
- ▶ 2. What is one thing you can do this week when your heart doesn't want to obey?
- ▶ 3. What is one thing you can praise Jesus for this week?

# Week 6: Jesus and the Backsliders

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus and the Backsliders as recorded in John 20:24-29 and John 21:15-19.**

Spend time each day meditating on these stories by **reading them daily**, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read these stories and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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## John 20:24-29

[24] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.

[25] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless

I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and

place my hand into his side, I will never believe." [26] Eight days later, his disciples were

inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came

and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27] Then he said to Thomas, "Put

your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not

disbelieve, but believe." [28] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29] Jesus said

to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen

and yet have believed."

## John 21:15-19

[15] When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." [16] He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." [17] He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. [18] Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." [19] (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus and the Backsliders?

Answer this question by reading John 20:24-29 and 21:15-19 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Who questioned Jesus in our story today?
2. Does Jesus have the power to forgive? How do you know?
3. What did Jesus ask Thomas and Peter to do?

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus and the Backsliders?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow John 20 and 21.

## What stories come before this passage?

1st story & summary

2nd story & summary

3rd story & summary

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## What stories come after this passage?

1st story & summary

2nd story & summary

3rd story & summary

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**Context** - How does Jesus and the Backsliders relate to the stories that come before and after?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us know more about the story of Jesus forgiving Peter and Thomas?



# Wednesday

John is the only gospel writer to include the stories of Jesus' interaction with backsliders. Matthew, Mark, and Luke record no such stories. Most scholars believe John's gospel was written last. Why do you think John felt it necessary to record these stories?

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why did John choose to include this special story?
2. How did Jesus respond to His disciples when they doubted Him?
3. How does Jesus treat us today when we have doubts?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus and the Backsliders teach us about Jesus’**

Character?  
Person?  
Emotions?  
Intellect?  
Actions?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. What does this story teach about who Jesus is?

# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

- Is there a sin to be avoided?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there an example to follow?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we praise Jesus for forgiving Thomas and Peter?
2. How did Jesus show forgiveness in this story? How does He show forgiveness for you?
3. How can you ask Jesus to forgive you when you make a mistake?

# Saturday: Object Lesson

Today's lesson will be all about threes (based on Peter's three-fold denial and Jesus' three-fold restoration of Peter).

## **Instructions:**

Play a game of Simon Says with your kids, but do it with a twist...a twist of threes! Every time Simon Says to do something, those playing have to do it three times. Play for at least 5 minutes.

After playing Simon Says, sit the kids down and ask them to tell you as many things as they can think of that has the number three in it (Goldilocks and the Three Bears, triangles, tricycles, stoplight, trinity, etc.).

After doing these two exercises, sit the kids down and re-tell them how many times Peter denied Jesus and how many times Jesus "re-commissioned" Peter. Help them see how forgiving Jesus is through this story.



## **KIDS QUESTIONS:**

1. What is one way that you mess up?
2. What does Jesus do for us when we mess up?
3. How can we ask Jesus for forgiveness?

# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

- ▶ 1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
- ▼ 2. What is one thing you can do this week when you make a mistake?
- 3. What is one thing you can praise Jesus for this week?

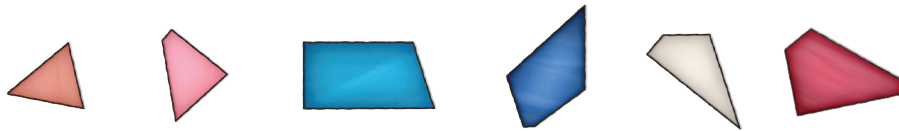
# Week 7: Jesus' Transfiguration

**This week we are telling the story of Jesus' Transfiguration as recorded in Matthew 17:1-13**

Spend time each day meditating on these stories by reading them daily, answering the provided questions, and participating in the weekly object lesson.

**Pray** before you read these stories and answer the questions. Ask God to help you understand what this week's story reveals about Jesus. The Psalmist provides a good example of what this prayer can look like:

*Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law."*



**Spend a minute writing out your prayer for the week.**

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## Matthew 17:1-13

[1] And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. [2] And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. [3] And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. [4] And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." [5] He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." [6] When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. [7] But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." [8] And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. [9] And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead." [10] And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" [11] He answered, "Elijah does come, and he will restore all things. [12] But I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man will certainly suffer at their hands." [13] Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

# Monday

## What's the storyline of Jesus' Transfiguration?

Answer this question by reading Matthew 17:1-13 multiple times and answering the questions listed below:

**Setting** - Where does the story take place?

**Characters** - Who's all mentioned?

**Tension** - What is the problem/conflict/dilemma that the story is centered around?

**Climax** - What is the highest point of tension in the story? Which part of the story is the part that someone watching (or reading) for the first time would be holding their breath to know what will happen?

**Resolution** - How is the problem/conflict/dilemma solved?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What Old Testament characters were in our story today?
2. Is Jesus God? How do you know?
3. When could John, Peter, and James tell others this story?

## Notes:

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# Tuesday

## What is the context of Jesus' Transfiguration?

Answer this question by reading 2-3 stories that precede and follow Matthew 17:1-13.

## What stories come before this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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## What stories come after this passage?

- 1st story & summary
  - 2nd story & summary
  - 3rd story & summary
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**Context** - How does Jesus' Transfiguration relate to the stories that come before and after?



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Retell your favorite story you heard today.
2. What did you learn about Jesus in this story?
3. How does this story help us understand the transfiguration of Jesus better?

# Wednesday

**How does Matthew's account of Jesus' Transfiguration relate to Mark (Mk 9:2-8) and Luke's (Lk 9:28-36) account?**

Read all three accounts and answer the following questions:

1. What is **similar** between the accounts?
2. What is **different** between the accounts?
3. What **emphasis** is made by each gospel writer based on how they told the story?

Matthew:

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Mark:

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Luke:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. List all the people who are in this story.
2. What is one thing that was the same in each of the stories?
3. Was there anything that one story said in a different way?

# Thursday

**What does the story of Jesus' Transfiguration teach us about Jesus'**

Character?

Person?

Emotions?

Intellect?

Actions?

**Notes:**

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## **KIDS QUESTIONS:**

1. What is one emotion that Jesus might have felt in this story?
2. What is one thing you learned about Jesus in this story?
3. How do we know that Jesus was fully man and fully God in this story?

# Friday

## What can you apply from this story?

Is there a sin to be avoided?

Is there a promise to claim?

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there an attribute of Jesus worthy of praise?

## Notes:

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we praise Jesus for being who He says He is?
2. How has Jesus shown you that He is who He says He is?
3. How can you ask Jesus to help you when you are unsure of who He is?

# Saturday: Object Lesson

**Supplies Needed:** Paper, Tape, Markers, 1/8 teaspoon of baking soda, three caps of hydrogen peroxide, one glow stick (cut off the end), one 16-ounce bottle containing four ounces of Mountain Dew

## Instructions:

1. Have kids draw a small picture of Jesus, and cut out their drawing. Read Matthew 17:1.
2. Tape Jesus to the bottle. Read Matthew 17:2.
3. Add baking soda, peroxide, and glow stick liquid to the bottle.
4. Put lid back on bottle. Have kids shake up the bottle until it glows.
5. Enjoy looking at Jesus glowing!



## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What was it like to see Jesus glowing like He was during His Transfiguration?
2. Explain what you think is amazing about Jesus.
3. How does knowing Jesus is amazing impact your faith?

# Sunday

Take notes from today's sermon, and consider everything you've learned about Jesus based on this week's story.

**What's the sermon outline?**

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**What stood out to you the most?**

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**If you had to choose the main lesson you learned about Jesus this week, what would it be?**

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## KIDS QUESTIONS:

1. What is the biggest thing you learned about Jesus this week?
2. What do you think you'd do if you saw Jesus' face shining bright?
3. What is one thing you can praise Jesus for this week?



