

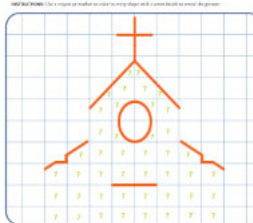
PREK Flight Plan May 10th



Lesson	Letters to the Seven Churches
Bible Passage	Revelation 2-3
Story Point	Jesus sent messages to the seven churches
Key Passage	The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ and He will reign forever and ever. Rev 11:15
Big Picture Q & A	What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.



Seven Churches



leader bible study

The Book of Revelation opens with John's description of a vision. In the vision, Jesus gave John messages for seven local churches. Jesus told John to write these messages on a scroll and send them to the churches.

In most cases, Jesus commended the church for their good work, warned them about the areas in which they needed correction, and urged them to return to Him. Among other things, He warned the churches not to forget their love of the Lord. He encouraged them not to be afraid of being tested. He urged those who were surrounded by evil not to deny their faith. Each time, Jesus promised to reward those who remain faithful to Him.

The church is made up of people who have trusted in Jesus, who are committed to one another, and who meet together to worship Jesus and share the gospel. Jesus loves the church as His bride. (See Eph. 5:25-27; Rev. 19:7-9.) Jesus' message called the churches to turn away from their sin and remain faithful to Him. The Lord is slow to anger (Ex. 34:6-7) and patient, wanting everyone to repent (2 Pet. 3:9).

Jesus warned specific churches in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey), but the problems they faced can still be found in churches today. Help preschoolers understand some of the problems the early churches faced: They did not love like they should, they believed false teaching and did wrong things, and they were lukewarm—useless to the cause of Christ.

We can pray for our churches to be faithful, effective instruments in spreading the gospel. We should love the church because Jesus loves the church. Through the church, Jesus helps believers work together to do God's plan. Finally, Jesus warned believers to stay alert because He will come like a thief when no one is expecting Him. Believers—then and now—must always be ready!



Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

May Focus: Jesus Will Return



May 3rd: John's Vision of Jesus *Rev 1*

Story point: Jesus showed Himself to John



May 10th: Letters to the Seven Churches *Rev 2-3*

Story Point: Jesus sent messages to the seven churches



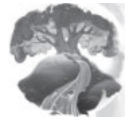
May 17th: Before the Throne *Rev 4-6*

Story Point: Everyone and everything will worship Jesus



May 24th: Jesus will Return *Rev 19-22*

Story Point: Jesus said that He is coming back soon



May 31st: End of Year Celebration!

Co-Pilot—Included Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus— that includes both flyers and Co -Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co -pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- **Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?**
- **How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?**
- **What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?**
- **In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?**

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Morning Routine



Stay with this order.

Adjust pictures on schedule according to your plan.

Review schedule with the children at the start of the morning.



Take Off
Prayer
VBS song
Verse/BPO



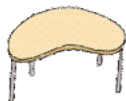
5 Min



Journey
Bible Story
Worship & Wiggles
Discussion



10 Min



Flight Lab
Bible Story Activity

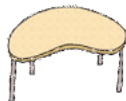
15 Min



Free Play
Inside or on
playground

10 Min

At congregation last song—clean up/move inside



Pilot's Log
Prayer
Take Home Page
Settle and Review



5 Min



5 min Take Off

Celebrate & being here! Introduce the morning

Gather

As the children enter, have them gather at the TV to begin with worship/singing.

Have your co-pilot check attendance.

Song

Do a song or 2 of your choice as time allows to help children prepare for the lesson,

Key passage

Transition from singing into the Verse Song. Lead the kids with the hand motions in the video!

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ and He will reign forever and ever

Rev 11:15

Big picture question

What is the hope of the church?

The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

Repeat the question 2-3 times for learning!

Transition to the Bible Story

Clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy, use a finger play, etc... Set expectations for the children: "my turn to talk, your turn to listen, eyes on me, hands in your lap"

Choosing the same transition every week works super well with child

Bible Connection Ideas

Bible FingerPlay:

1, 2 (hold up fingers) The Bible is true (hands like book), God loves me (cross arms, point to me) and God loves you (cross arms, point to class)

Bible Foundation Motions:

- The Bible is **True** (*thumbs up*)
- The Bible is How God **Speaks to Us** (*cup hands around mouth as if you were shouting*)
- The Bible is **Different** from other stories (*cross your arms and point in opposite directions*)
- The Bible points to **Jesus** (*ASL sign for Jesus*)

Fingerplay Ideas

Open Shut them:

Hold hands in front as you open and shut them while saying:

Open shut them, open shut them, give a little clap

Open shut them, open shut them, lay them in your lap.

Creep them creep them, slowly to your chin

Open wide your little mouth (pause), but do not let them in!

Active Preparing to sit and listen:

I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I jump up from the ground.

I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I turn myself around.

I stomp my feet , I clap my hands, I sit myself right down

I stomp my feet (*while sitting*) , I clap my hands, I do not make a sound (*finger over lips, spoken in a whisper*).



10 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Introduce the Bible Story

Use our Bible Finger play each week to transition to the Story.

• The last book in the Bible is called the Book of Revelation. **Point to the Bible story picture on their timeline.** The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Tell the Bible Story

Using the pictures, tell the Bible Story or watch the video (*This lesson is **NOT** in It's All About Jesus Bible Storybook*). Tell the story using your own words keeping eye-contact with the children.

• Jesus appeared to John in a vision. Jesus told John to write down messages and send them to churches in different cities. **Jesus sent messages to seven churches** in seven cities. He warned the seven churches and told them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus loves the church. He works through the church to help believers work together to do God's plan.

Talk about the Bible Story

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions.

1. **Where was John when he saw a vision of Jesus?** (*on a small island*)
2. **How many churches did Jesus tell John to write a message to?** (*seven*)
3. **John told the churches to turn away from sin and to follow whom?** (*Jesus*)
4. **John wrote,** "Anyone who has ears should _____ to the Spirit's message to the churches." (*listen*)
5. **What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.**

What movement-based activity can I use?



God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

- With Us

Have a student place the story picture on the 'timeline'

Age Appropriate Bible Story

Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you

Letters to the Seven Churches— Revelation 2-3

John was on a small island when he saw a vision of Jesus. Jesus told John to write down a message for the churches in seven cities. John obeyed Jesus. This is what he wrote: “To the church in Ephesus: You do not love well like you did when you first believed. Turn back and love like you used to.

“To the church in Smyrna: You are poor and hurting, but really you are rich! I know that people say mean things to you. You might be put in jail or be killed, but do not be afraid.

“To the church in Pergamum: Your neighbors do evil things, but you are faithful. You tell others about Me even when it is hard. But not everyone in the church is doing what is right. Turn away from your sin and turn to Me!

“To the church in Thyatira: I know you are loving and faithful. You serve others. But some of you believe the lies you hear, and I will punish you. Keep believing the truth.

“To the church in Sardis: You used to love Me and be faithful to Me. You stopped serving Me and loving Me. Be ready for Me to come again. Stop sinning and remember the good news about Jesus.

“To the church in Philadelphia: You have little strength, but you listen to Me and obey My word. I am coming soon. Be ready and keep believing.

“To the church in Laodicea: You are not hot or cold, so you are not good for anything. You don’t even know that you need me and what I can give you. Turn to me and I will give you what you need and take care of you.

“I am here! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear My voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you will eat with Me.” Jesus reminded people that He wanted to forgive their sins and love them. John wrote, “Anyone who has ears should listen to the Spirit’s message to the churches.”

Christ Connection: *Jesus loves the church. He warned seven churches and told them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God’s plan.*

Picture Card Lesson

Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you!

Letters to the Seven Churches— *Revelation 2-3*

Card 1: John was on a small island when he saw a vision of Jesus. Jesus wanted John to give a message to the seven churches. John wrote down Jesus' words.

Card 2: Jesus told the churches what they were doing well, and what they were doing wrong. He wanted His churches to love and serve one another and keep telling people about Him.

Card 3: He told them to turn away from sin and turn to Jesus. He told them that they made be put in jail for talking about Jesus, but to not be afraid.

Card 4: Jesus said "I am here!" He reminded the people that He wanted to forgive their sins and love them.

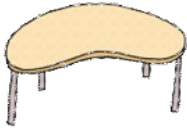
Card 5: John wrote, "Everyone should listen to the message to the churches."

Christ Connection: *Jesus loves the church. He warned seven churches and told them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God's plan.*

Bible Storytelling Tips:

Stuff envelopes: As you tell the story, pretend to write out the message for each church on a blank sheet of paper. Fold each message, stuff it in an envelope, and address the envelope with the name of the recipient church.

Map it out: Display the New Testament Mediterranean Map . Point to the appropriate city on the map as you tell Jesus' message to the church in that city.



15 min Flight lab

Learning the story in an interactive way

*Choose from below or use your own idea-however the Lord leads.
Then go into free-play.*

Count items into groups of seven

Place a large bin of small classroom items, such as crayons, markers, large buttons, or manipulatives, in the center of the table. Guide children to count to seven together. Then direct children to take turns taking seven items from the bin and placing them on the table. Encourage children to work together to see how many groups of seven that they can make with all of the items from the bin. For younger children, draw seven large circles on a sheet of paper. Encourage children to put one item in each circle.

- Let's count together again: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7. We made a lot of groups of seven today. Jesus had 7 messages for 7 churches in 7 different cities.

Build craft stick church buildings

Invite children to use craft sticks to make church buildings. Children may design church buildings by laying the craft sticks flat on a table and arranging them in the shape of a building. Encourage children to be creative and to make their own craft stick churches look unique.

- You built a lot of different looking church buildings with your craft sticks. Each building that you created looked a little bit different from your friend's building. In our Bible story today, Jesus appeared told John seven different messages to send to seven different churches.

Complete tasks

Choose a child to be the leader. Guide everyone to stand up and face her. Direct the leader to give one child a simple task to do, such as a jumping jack, high five a friend, push in a chair, spin around, or touch his toes. After that child completes his task, he gets to be the leader and give another child a simple task. Play several rounds until every child has followed a direction and had a turn being the leader.

- You gave different directions to your friends. In our Bible story, Jesus had a special message for each of the seven churches. Each message was different, like the tasks you gave your friends were different. Jesus sent messages to seven churches.

Make an envelope church

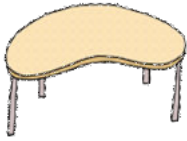
Distribute markers and give each child an envelope. Direct children to lift the flap to the envelope and leave it open so that it points upward like a steeple. Help children fold the envelope in half creating a fold line from top to bottom. Open the envelope back up then fold each side in, meeting in the middle at the fold line. This will create two church “doors.” Invite children to decorate the outside of the envelope to look like a church. Guide them to open the two church doors and draw people inside.

- We made church buildings with envelopes. Often when people send a message or a letter, they send it in an envelope through the mail. **Jesus sent messages to seven churches** in seven different cities.

Write messages in a salt tray

Pour table salt into a shallow tray with sides until the bottom is covered. Place an unsharpened pencil next to the salt tray. Invite a child to write a message in the salt using the eraser end of the pencil. Encourage her to draw numbers, letters, words, or pictures in the salt. When a child finishes writing, show her how to gently shake the tray to erase her drawing for the next person to have a turn. Watch to make sure children do not rub salt in their eyes. Guide children to wash their hands as they finish.

- You wrote your own messages and pictures in the salt with a pencil. Jesus appeared to John in a vision and told him to write down a message for the churches in seven cities.



5 Min Pilot's Log

Where we prepare to go home

After flight lab, allow the children to play. **When congregation begins last song, move to the tables.**

Pause and settle

- Signal the end of free play, (use the time-timer to count down)
- Sing the clean-up song and guide children to clean their areas. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer if needed.
- Have children sit around the table.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

- After prayer, hand out the activity/coloring page. Direct children accordingly to complete the page. Remind children of what they can take away from today's lesson.

If a child finishes the activity/coloring page while waiting for mom and dad or is not interested, only offer options that can be completed at the table (playdough, puzzle, select a book to examine, practice the verse, etc) **Keep children at the table to maintain a calm and quiet environment for easy transition to mom and dad.**

When parents pick up their children, as appropriate share something their child enjoyed doing or did well during the morning.

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents. Have your Co-Pilot encourage parents to use this to talk to their kids about what they learned in class today.

PREK/K Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain — in small groups, ask children for their prayer requests and have the Pilot or Co-Pilot write them on a few strips of paper. Connectstrips into a chain and display our growing conversation with the Lord. Feel free to revisit old prayer requests as well.

Pointing to a Globe — Have a child or Co-Pilot spin the globe and place their finger on a country. Place a star sticker on the place(s) and pray over it as a group. We will provide a PreK/K age geography book to help guide discussion and prayer. Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus, light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

Looking out the Window — Grab a dry-erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out o the window to pray over. Using the dry-erase marker, write or draw these things on the window then pray over them.

Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to “think outside the bag” and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

**You're
ready for
Sunday!**

