

UPPER ELEM Flight Plan May 3rd



Lesson	John's Vision of Jesus
Bible Passage	Revelation 1
Story Point	Jesus appeared to John in a vision.
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." Revelation 11:15
Big Picture Q & A	<p>What is the hope of the church?</p> <p>The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make things new.</p>



Clear Vision
Look at the words and identify what all the blue 'r's represent to the man who didn't have a vision.

First and Last Use the words to fill in the blanks. (r = first letter of word; l = last letter of word)

The _____ and the _____
the _____

First Letter	Last Letter
1: funny	2: taxi
3: revolution	4: address
5: trail	6: helpful
7: adapt	8: improv
9: nectarine	10: giving
11: opal	12: achieve

leader bible study

The apostle John wrote the Book of Revelation from the island of Patmos. Patmos was a small Greek island where the Roman emperor often exiled prisoners. John was likely sent to Patmos as a prisoner, arrested for preaching the gospel.

With this session, introduce kids to the Book of Revelation—the last book of the Bible. Other Bible books tell us about things that happened in the past, but Revelation tells about things that will happen in the future. A glimpse of the future kingdom of God gives believers hope and encourages them to remain faithful to Christ.

In Revelation 1, Jesus appeared to John in a vision to tell about the end of time. John was on the island of Patmos when he heard a voice telling him to write what he saw. John turned and, in a vision, saw Jesus: He was wearing a long robe with a gold sash wrapped around His chest. His head and hair were as white as snow, and His eyes were like a fiery flame. Because the Book of Revelation is highly symbolic, avoid dwelling on the physical description of Jesus. Jesus' appearance to John reveals what Jesus is like: worthy of all honor, powerful, and victorious.

John saw Jesus walking among seven lampstands, symbols for seven churches. Explain to the boys and girls you teach that lampstands are used to bring light into dark places. That is the purpose of the church—to bring the light of the gospel into a dark world.

When John saw Jesus, he fell at Jesus' feet. Jesus reached down and put His hand on John. He said, "Don't be afraid" (Rev. 1:17). Jesus explained that He is the First and the Last, the Living One. While Jesus was on earth, He defeated sin and death by dying on the cross and coming back to life. Now Jesus is lifted up in glory and honor. We can look forward to a future with Him forever.

Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

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 *Revelation 1*

Story point: Jesus appeared to John in a vision.



MAY 10th: Letters to the Seven Churches

Revelation 2-3

Story Point: Jesus told churches to not give up.



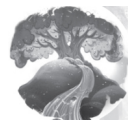
MAY 17th: Before the Throne *Revelation 4-6*

Story Point: All people and creatures will worship Jesus.



MAY 24th: Jesus will Return *Revelation 19-22*

Story Point: Jesus will return, destroy evil, and make all things new.



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!

Sunday Morning Flight Plan



Take Off

- Open in Prayer
- Hook
- BPO and A & Key Passage
- Timeline & Introduce Story

10 Min

Journey

- Attendance & Bible Sticker
- Bible Story
- God's Attributes

15 Min

Flight Lab

- Experience of the Bible Story
(Make connections through an activity & motion)

15 Min

Pilot's Log

- Pray
- Calm activity during pick-up
- Give activity sheets to parents as they pick up students

5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45



10 min Take Off

Celebrate being here! Introduce the morning.

Open in Prayer

Hook

As kids arrive ask them if they have ever read a book or watched a movie, already knowing how the story ended. Did you like knowing how it all turned out ahead of time?

Big Picture Question

Every time we meet together, we like to think about a big picture question to help us understand how each story we study fits into God's bigger story. Over the next several weeks, we will be thinking about this question: ***What is the hope of the church?*** What is our hope? What keeps us going when life gets hard? ***The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.***

Key Passage

Lead the boys and girls to read together Revelation 11:15. Our key passage reminds us that we, as believers, already know the end of the story. We know that one day, Jesus will come back and make all things right again. The first time Jesus came, He conquered sin and death on the cross. When He returns, He will defeat Satan and take over the kingdom of this world. He will rule and reign forever. A believer's hope and joy is knowing that we will one day share in Jesus' victory.

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

All along, God knew every part of our story. He knew that people would sin and need a Rescuer. He planned for His Son, Jesus, to be that Rescuer, saving us from the penalty of our sins and offering us the gift of eternal life through faith in Him. God also has planned how this part of the story will end. This good news gave hope to the early believers as they faced persecution and continues to give hope to believers today. Everything God says will happen because everything God says is true. As we study the Book of Revelation, we will see that Jesus is worthy of all honor and praise.

Transition to Bible Story: (OPTIONAL) Show the Bible Story Video.



15 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Bible Story

Open your Bible to **Revelation 1** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

John had been a faithful servant of Jesus long before he wrote the Book of Revelation. He was one of Jesus' closest friends and disciples during Jesus' ministry on earth and continued to share the gospel after Jesus returned to heaven. John's life of following Jesus was not easy. He faced persecution but faithfully continued to obey the Lord and share the gospel. John was sent to the island of Patmos as a punishment for sharing about Jesus. This is where Jesus appeared to John in a vision and told him to write down all that he saw.

The Book of Revelation contains a lot of symbolism. Symbolism is when objects—such as the lampstands we heard about in this story—represent something. The lampstands in the story represent the seven churches that were supposed to shine as a bright light in the darkness of sin.

Why do you think our story said that John fell at Jesus' feet? Look at verse 17. [Allow kids to read the verse and respond.] John was so overwhelmed at seeing Jesus in His glory that he couldn't even stand. Jesus wanted John to write down everything he had seen and send it as a letter to the seven churches.



John already knew Jesus was the Son of God, but when he saw Jesus in all His glory, he could not help but fall down at His feet. Jesus showed Himself to John and explained that He is the First and the Last, the Living One. While Jesus was on earth, He defeated sin and death by dying on the cross and coming back to life. Now Jesus is lifted up in glory and honor forever and ever.

Age Appropriate Story

STORY POINT: JESUS APPEARED TO JOHN
IN A VISION.

Like many believers, the apostle John faced suffering and persecution for telling people about Jesus. The Roman emperor punished John by sending him to an island called Patmos.

While John was on the island, he had a vision. The voice said, “Write on a scroll what you see. Then send the message to the seven churches in Asia: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.”

John turned around to see whose voice he heard. He saw seven golden lamp stands, and he saw Jesus—the Son of Man.

When John saw Jesus, he fell at Jesus’ feet. Jesus put His hand on John and commanded him, “Do not be afraid! I am the First and the Last, and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever.”

Jesus explained that the seven lamp stands were the seven churches. He told John to write about everything he had seen.

Christ Connection: *Jesus showed Himself to John and explained that He is the First and the Last, the Living One. While Jesus was on earth, He defeated sin and death by dying on the cross and coming back to life. Now Jesus is lifted up in glory and honor forever and ever.*



Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help them find Revelation 1:1-3. The Holy Spirit inspired people to write all of the Bible. Revelation was written by John, one of Jesus' disciples. In the Book of Revelation, John served as a reporter, telling the reader what He saw and heard. The word *revelation* means "something secret or surprising that is made known." Revelation was written so believers can know what will happen at the end of this age. There will be things that we don't fully understand yet, but one important thing we can know through this book is that Jesus is the First and the Last, the Living One. Lead the group to discuss:

- 1. Where is Jesus now?** *Help kids recall that after His death and resurrection, Jesus ascended to heaven and is seated next to God the Father.*
(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 10:12.)
- 2. What does it mean that Jesus is the First and the Last?** *Prompt kids to discuss that God the Son is eternal—He has always existed, and He will live forever. He was present at the creation of the world, and one day He will return and set up His kingdom that will last forever.* (read John 1:3.)
- 3. How does the promise of Jesus' return help believers facing suffering and persecution?** *Explain that believers all over the world face suffering and persecution for being followers of Jesus. Believers should pray for one another to remain focused on the hope of our eternal home with Jesus. Suffering and persecution will not last forever; we will live with Jesus forever.* (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Heb. 11:1.)

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:

-Holy

-Powerful

Travel Guide:

Use the travel guide for maps, charts, etc... as useful with helping the children learn and understand today's story.



15 min Flight Lab

Instill Wonder as you experience the Bible
CHOOSE ONE ACTIVITY

Looking for Light

Just before the session, hide seven activated glow sticks around the room. Dim the lights and challenge the kids to find all the glow sticks.

If your group is large, hide additional sets of glow sticks and form teams to each find seven glow sticks.

- What a fun game! Do you think it would have been easier to find the glow sticks if the lights were on in the room? No! It would be harder to see them. Did you know that believers are supposed to shine brightly in darkness?

Today we heard about the time Jesus appeared to John in a vision to tell him about the end of time. In that vision, John saw seven lampstands, which had a special meaning. What did Jesus have to say about the lampstands and about Himself?

First and Last

Form two or more teams. Choose one player from each team to compete. Instruct each competitor to stand at the front of the room. Give each of them a stack of eight red cups. Put one blue cup on the top of each stack.

Explain that when you say go, players will move the cup from the bottom of the stack to the top. Then they will move the next cup to the top and so forth until the blue cup moves to the bottom position and then back to the top. The first player to finish wins. As time allows, play additional rounds with new competitors.

- Great job! You were so quick to move the blue cups from first to last. In today's Bible story, we discovered who calls Himself "the First and the Last," the beginning and the end.

Key Passage Activity

- Assign each kid one word or phrase of the key passage. Form groups if necessary so each part of the verse is assigned. Distribute paper and markers. Instruct kids to draw a simple picture or icon for their assigned word or phrase. Show the pictures and let kids explain them. Then tape the pictures in order to a focal wall. Lead kids to recite Revelation 11:15 from memory, using the pictures as a prompt.

Illustrate What you Hear

Provide each kid with a piece of paper and pencil. Read Revelation 1 to the class. Invite the kids to illustrate what they hear from the Scripture passage. Provide the kids with watercolor paints to paint their illustrations. When all the kids have finished their illustrations, allow each kid to share with the class.

- You listened to the Scripture and illustrated what you heard. John saw a vision and wrote what he saw. Jesus revealed Himself to John. Jesus told John that He was the First and the Last, the Living One. He is worthy of glory and honor. One day Jesus will return and we will live with Him forever.

What do you see?

Hold up a detailed photograph, painting, or drawing. Encourage the kids to try to remember everything they can about the picture. Allow them to pass the picture around and study it.

Once everyone has a chance to see the picture, place it out of view. Challenge the kids to write, describing in detail everything they can remember about the picture. Kids could also draw what they can remember.

- In today's story, Jesus appeared to John in a vision and John wrote down everything he heard and saw, in great detail. Were you able to do this with the picture? When John wrote the Book of Revelation, the Holy Spirit guided him as he wrote. There are no errors in the Word of God. Everything in the Bible is true!

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5 min Pilot's log

Where we prepare to depart.

Pray:

If time, share prayer requests and allow kids to record in the **prayer journal section of their *Travel Guide***.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.

This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

Waiting for parents/Activity Page:

Tie back into the lesson, remind them of the Big Picture Question/verse, etc...

Be sure to **re-set expectations on what their choices are while waiting for mom and dad:**

- Activity page
- Key Passage Activity (See next page for list of options)
- Coloring page
- Gospel Kit Activities
- Anything quiet at the tables you are ok with (*origami, free draw on blank paper, hangman game at white board, putting Book of the Bible cards in order, etc....*)

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents so they can go home with families.

Key Passage Review Extra Ideas:

Invite kids to sit around tables. Give each kid a pencil. Show the key passage poster and lead them to read it aloud.

Give a piece of paper to one kid at each table. Instruct him to write down the first word of the key passage and pass the paper to the person on his right. That person will write down the second word, pass the paper to her right, and so on. Kids will pass the paper around the table, writing one word at a time until they finish the key passage. When kids finish, invite groups one at a time to say the key passage together.

Display the key passage poster. Lead the kids to read it aloud. Then challenge them to read it in various ways: whispering, shouting, quickly, slowly, and so on.

Form two groups of kids. Call on the first group to say the key passage together. Then call on the second group to say it.

Prompt the first group to say the passage a few phrases at a time, pausing for the second group to echo. When kids finish saying the key passage, lead the second group to begin and the first group to echo.

Instruct kids to sit or stand in a circle. Choose one kid to begin by saying the first word of the key passage. Guide kids to say the key passage, one word at a time, moving around the circle.

Allow kids to look at the key passage poster if they need help remembering the words. Continue around the circle a few times. Consider shouting, "Switch!" and letting kids move to another place in the circle before playing again. *Or toss the ball to different kids rather than go in order.*

Before the session, write out the key passage on a chalkboard or dry erase board in eight separate phrases. Display the phrases where kids can see them. Give each kid a marker and eight craft sticks. Instruct kids to copy from the board, writing each phrase on a separate stick. Then instruct kids to mix up their sticks and then quickly rearrange the phrases in the correct order. Kids may work individually or in pairs. Provide rubber bands for kids to bundle their sticks and keep them as a method of practicing the key passage during the week.

Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain—In small groups, ask children/co-pilot to write prayer requests on a few paper strips. Connect paper strips into a chain and display our growing conversation to the Lord. Feel free to revisit older requests as well.

Painted Rocks—Have each child choose a painted rock to write on. Write a word of encouragement, a word about Jesus, a name, etc. The goal is to take it with them and place it somewhere near their typical living space—a neighbor’s house, a store, a playground, etc. Then pray over the place or the people who are there.

Pointing to a Map—Choose one or two kiddos to spin/close their eyes/find a certain color (you can be creative and have fun) and point to a country on the map. Place a pin in the place(s) and pray over it as a group. 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 of the window to pray over. Using the dry erase marker, write those things on the window (Pre-K & K may draw things) and then pray over those things. Feel free to leave them on the window, so whenever we look through, those things are brought to our mind to pray for again.

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.)

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.

You're
ready
for
Sunday!

