

LOWER ELEM Flight Plan May 17th



Lesson	Before the Throne
Bible Passage	Revelation 4-6
Story Point	All people and creatures will worship Jesus.
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>



Fit for a King

INSTRUCTIONS: Read verses in the passage that you find fitting for a discussion.



Original text on page 25
Unit 20 • Session 3
Before the Throne

BIG PICTURE SUMMARY:

- In the vision, John saw a magnificent throne room and a throne surrounded by angels.
- The throne of the Father had a scroll that only Jesus was worthy of opening.
- All of God's creatures were made in the image of God and were created to worship Him.

KEY VERSES: Revelation 1:11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is the hope of the church?
- The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make things new.

KEY CONCEPTS/STORIES:

- Why is Jesus worthy of all praise and worship?

TEACHER'S NOTE:

- This is a vision of eternal glory. It is not a picture of the church as it is now. The church is not a building. The church is the people of God who are united in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

ESSENTIAL LIT
LIVING GOD

25

leader bible study

John was on the island of Patmos when he had a vision. Jesus appeared to John and showed him what will happen before the end of time. John wrote about what he saw in the Book of Revelation. John saw a vision of the future. John saw a throne in heaven and the Lord was on the throne.

John saw a scroll in the Lord's right hand. A mighty angel asked, "Who is worthy to open the scroll?" But no one in heaven was worthy. No one on earth was worthy. No one under the earth was worthy either.

John began to cry loudly because no one was worthy! Then John saw Jesus, the resurrected Lamb. The elders threw their crowns at His feet. They worshiped Him and sang a new song. John heard every creature, everywhere, worshipping the Lamb together.

Revelation 4:11 says, "Our Lord and God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because you have created all things, and by your will they exist and were created."

John's vision gives us a glimpse of our future and also reminds us of a present reality: The Lord is on His throne. After His death and resurrection, Jesus ascended to heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. (Heb. 10:12)

Jesus, the Lamb of God, is worthy of our praise. All the creatures in John's vision worshiped Jesus. As you teach kids, hold up Jesus as our treasure who is worthy of all honor. Worship Him together in song.

Jesus was killed on the cross so that we could have forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus deserves all praise, honor, and blessing. We look forward to the day we will join with all the saints in worshipping Jesus 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.



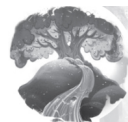
MAY 17th: Before the Throne *Revelation 4-6*

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

Prompt kids to share about a time they weren't able to do something and needed help from someone else. For example, opening a pickle jar, or carrying a heavy box. Were they quick to ask for help, or did they try hard to do it themselves?

Big Picture Question

During our time together, we have been thinking about our big picture question: ***What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.*** Believers will always have hope. We know that what God says in His Word is true and that He is coming soon.

Key Passage

Lead the boys and girls to read together Revelation 11:15. Only Jesus is worthy to reign forever and ever. He conquered sin and death on the cross, so that we can have forgiveness and eternal life with Him. One day soon, He will come again to conquer the kingdoms of this world. That means that one day, every president, every king, every ruler—every person—will worship Jesus. He is the King of kings who deserves all praise, honor, and blessing.

Timeline/Introduce Bible Story:

A few weeks ago, we learned that **Jesus appeared to John in a vision**. Jesus told John to write down all that he saw in the vision. Last week we learned that Jesus had a message for seven churches. **Jesus told the churches not to give up**. Jesus encouraged the churches to turn away from sin and remain faithful to Him. In today's Bible story, we will learn how Jesus is the only One who is worthy of all praise, honor, and blessing.

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 4-5** Read from the Bible or use your storytelling skills to help you tell the story.

John wrote down what he saw in his vision, and those writings became what we call the Book of Revelation. The Book of Revelation is filled with symbols that mean something more than what they literally show. A great example is when John saw the Lamb who had been killed standing near the throne. We understand that this passage is talking about Jesus, not an actual baby sheep.

When John saw that no one was worthy to open the scroll, he cried. God's plan wouldn't continue until the scroll was open. John knew that God's plan is perfect, and wanted to see it go on.

When John saw Jesus, it was clear that He was the only one worthy to open the scroll. Jesus is perfect and lovely. He is holy and powerful. He is worthy of every bit of praise and worship every creature will ever offer and more. Some people now refuse to give Jesus the worship He deserves, but someday **all people and creatures will worship Jesus** just as He deserves.

John's vision helps us have hope for the future. The Lord is already on His throne. Jesus is at the right hand of God. One day, Jesus will return to make all things new. Every person and creature from everywhere will worship Jesus together. Only Jesus is worthy of all praise, honor, and blessing. We can worship Him now and will worship Him forever.



John cried when he saw that no one was worthy to open the scroll. Then John saw the resurrected Lamb—God's Son, Jesus. Jesus was killed on the cross so that we could have forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus is worthy. He deserves all praise, honor, and blessing.

Age Appropriate Story

STORY POINT: ALL PEOPLE AND CREATURES WILL WORSHIP JESUS.

John was on the island of Patmos when he had a vision. Jesus appeared to John and showed him what will happen before the end of time. John wrote about what he saw in the Book of Revelation.

John saw a throne in heaven and someone sitting on it. He saw 24 thrones around it, and 24 elders sat on the thrones. John saw four living creatures around the throne. All day and night they said: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God, the Almighty, who was, who is, and who is coming.”

John saw the creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to the One on the throne. The elders fell down and worshiped. They said to God: “You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power, because You have created all things.”

Then John saw a scroll in the right hand of the One seated on the throne. A mighty angel asked, “Who is worthy to open the scroll?” No one in heaven was worthy. One of the elders said, “Look! The Lion of Judah may open the scroll. He is worthy!”

Then John saw someone near the throne. He was standing like a slaughtered lamb. He took the scroll, and the elders and living creatures fell down before Jesus, the Lamb. John heard thousands and thousands of angels around the throne. John heard every creature everywhere—in heaven, on earth, under the earth, and on the sea—worshiping the Lamb together.



Christ Connection: John cried when he saw that no one was worthy to open the scroll. Then John saw the resurrected Lamb—God’s Son, Jesus. Jesus was killed on the cross so that we could have forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus is worthy. He deserves all praise, honor, and blessing.

Discussion & Bible Skills

Distribute a Bible to each kid. Help them find Revelation 5. Remind the kids that Revelation is the final book of the New Testament, and thus the last book in the whole Bible. Ask them who wrote Revelation and which other books we know he wrote. (*the apostle John; the gospel of John and 1–3 John*) When all kids have their Bibles open to Revelation 5, read aloud each of the songs that were sung to Jesus. [See Rev. 5:9-10,12-13.] Lead the group to discuss:

- 1. What were the creatures and elders doing?** (*worshiping the One on the Throne, Rev. 4:9-11*)
- 2. Why did John cry?** (*No one was worthy to open the scroll, Rev. 5:3-4*)
- 3. Who was the only One worthy to open the scroll?** (*Jesus, the Lamb; Rev. 5:6-10*)
- 4. Why do you think John cried when no one could open the scroll?** *Help the kids understand that God’s plan would not continue until the scroll was opened. Guide them to understand that John knew God’s plan was perfect, and he wanted to see it continue. John’s sadness may have been similar to how we would feel if we learned that our favorite story didn’t have an ending. Explain that John’s reaction helps us see how we should long to see God’s plan happen and sin destroyed.*
- 5. Why did John describe Jesus as being like a “slaughtered lamb”?** *Remind the kids to think all the way back to Exodus, when God rescued the Israelites from Egypt. Discuss the ways Jesus’ role as our perfect sacrifice was a completion of the kinds of sacrifices God commanded His people to make in the Old Testament. Jesus was killed on the cross and raised to life so that we could have forgiveness and eternal life.*
- 6. What is so significant about every creature worshiping Jesus together?** *Explain to your group that the Bible teaches God the Son, with God the Father, created all things. Jesus deserves all praise, honor, and blessing. Because Jesus is God of all creation, He deserves praise from all of creation.*

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

Key Passage Activity

Write the key passage on the board or a large piece of paper together as a group. Recite the key passage together several times. Provide each kid with a piece of paper and pencil. Encourage them to write the key passage on one side of their paper. Invite the kids to turn their paper over and draw a picture of what they envision when they read the key passage.

Worship Jesus

Choose a worship song to play for the kids. Provide each kid with a paper and crayons. Invite the kids to listen to the song and draw what they feel or hear. Invite the kids to share their pictures with the class when the song is finished playing.

- Listening and singing worship songs gives us a chance to praise and worship Jesus. When we listen to and sing truths about Jesus, that praises Him and what He has done for us. In today's Bible story, we learned that one day all creatures will worship Jesus. How do you think all creatures will worship Jesus?

Meet the Requirement

Show a box with candy or other small prizes in it, but tell the kids that only one person is allowed to open the box. Invent a requirement that only one kid meets, and invite that kid to open the box and share the candy or prizes with the rest of the kids.

- Only one person met the requirement to open the box. How would you have felt if no one was allowed to open the box? In today's Bible story, we will learn about the One who is able to open a special scroll. This scroll had to be opened as a part of God's plan to destroy evil and restore the world. Who do you think is worthy to open the scroll?

Open the Scroll

Before the session, roll up the ends of a piece of paper to make a scroll. Instruct kids to form a circle. Stand in the circle and explain that you have a scroll that can only be opened with certain items.

Prompt kids to take turns asking, “Can I open the scroll with [*name of an item*]?” Choose a rule the item must follow. Do not reveal the rule to the kids. Simply answer “yes” or “no,” and challenge kids to figure out the rule. For example, the item must begin with the same letter as the kid’s name.

Carter might ask, “Can I open the scroll with a key?” (*no*) and Olivia might ask, “Can I open the scroll with an octopus?” (*yes*)

Play as time allows so kids have a chance to figure out the rule. Before ending, let kids explain the rule as they understand it.

- In the Bible story we heard today, John saw a scroll that no one could open—except for one Person. We’ll find out who could open the scroll.

Worship Jesus

Discuss worship and why we sing to Jesus. Remind the kids that we worship God because of who He is and what He has done. Singing is a way to express our love for Him. Choose some familiar worship songs to play and sing together. Provide instruments for the kids to use to worship Jesus. Discuss how different believers from all over the world worship Jesus with different languages and instruments. Discuss how one day all believers will worship Jesus together forever and ever. Remind kids that everything we do can be an act of worship when we do it with the desire to honor God.

- John saw that Jesus was the only One worthy to open the scroll. Jesus deserves all praise, honor, and blessing. One day, all creatures will join together to worship Jesus forever and ever.

Play a game: lion, ox, man, eagle

Guide children to stand facing you. Practice the following motions for each creature.

lion: make claws with hands and roar

ox: get down on all fours

man: stand up straight and tall

eagle: flap arms to sides

After practicing the motions a few times, randomly call out one of the four creatures and lead the children to do the prescribed movement. Vary the order and speed at which you call out the creatures. Play as time allows. Consider allowing children to take turns calling out creature names.

- In our Bible story today, we will hear about some creatures that worshiped Jesus. They looked like a lion, an ox, a man, and an eagle.



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!

