

“What’s His Name?” - LESSON 1

“Wonderful”

Main Focus:

Jesus is so wonderful – beyond anything we can imagine!



Power Verse:

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.”

– Psalm 86:10



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Jesus Is Wonderful – Yes He Is!”

LEADER’S INFO

We overuse the word “Wonderful” quite often. We use it to refer to food, - “That meal was wonderful!” We use it to refer to entertainment - “What a wonderful concert that was last night.” Wonderful has lost its “WONDER.”

Jesus truly IS wonderful! When we think about His grace, His love, His power, and His character - we are filled with wonder. Our minds can barely comprehend just how WONDERFUL He really is.

In this lesson, the children will learn about the prophecy that Isaiah made about Jesus. They will learn that Jesus truly is the most WONDERFUL person who ever lived on Earth.

If we open our hearts and minds, Jesus will fill us with wonder this Christmas Season!



“The Spark” Intro Video

“What’s In A Name?”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Alexis teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Joy The Wrapper”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Snowball Fight”



Bible Story

“Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus”



Power Verse Video

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.”

– Psalm 86:10



Call To Action

“Wonderful”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

Jesus is so wonderful – beyond anything we can imagine!



Power Verse:

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.”
– Psalm 86:10



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Jesus Is Wonderful – Yes He Is!”

Lesson 1 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 1 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Lesson 1 - Whatchagaddaknow Teaching” Video
- “Lesson 1 - Whatchagaddaknow Trigger” Video

Character Skit

- “Joy The Wrapper” Theme Graphic/Music
- Joy Costume
- Wrapping Paper And Accessories

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Snowball Fight” Graphic
- 100 Wadded Up Pieces Of Paper
- Masking Tape

Bible Story

- “Lesson 1 - Bible Story” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 1 - Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Lesson 1 - Call To Action” Graphics
- A Large Red Heart
- A Chagne Bag Illusion
- A Black Silk Handkerchief

Rewind!

- “Rewind!” Bumper Video
- “Lesson 1 - Rewind!” Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible Story Print Piece
- Crayons, Pencils, Or Markers
- Wonderful Print Piece
- A Way To Keep Time

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“What’s In A Name?”

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Offering Time

Game Time!

“Snowball Fight”

Bible Story

“Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus”

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Call To Action

“Wonderful”

Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey kids! Today, we are starting a brand new series. It’s a series about Christmas! Now, I know we are still quite a few weeks away from Christmas, but we are kicking off the celebration today as we learn about a very important prophecy that was made about Jesus by the prophet Isaiah.

Does anybody know what a prophecy is? *(allow several kids to answer)* A prophecy is a statement given by a prophet that is a message from God. Usually it talks about something that is going to happen in the future. Have you ever wanted to be able to know the future? How cool would that be?

Well, this prophecy was about the day Jesus would be born. It contains lots of names used to describe Jesus. That’s why we are calling this series, “What’s His Name?” We are going to learn about the many names used to describe Jesus. But first, I want you to watch this video. Check it out!

(play “The Spark” Intro Video)

Leader: It’s true! Jesus definitely is WONDERFUL! Can you spell the word WONDERFUL? *(lead the kids in spelling it out)* W-O-N-D-E-R-F-U-L! You guys are super smart! Well, that is one of the names used to describe Jesus in Isaiah’s prophecy.

In your lesson, today, you are going to learn all about that prophecy. Plus, you are going to learn just how wonderful Jesus really is!

But, before we do that, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow - Teaching” Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Joy the Wrapper” *(Joy is an extreme Christmas wrapper - she really gets into her package wrapping! She’s a perfectionist and is here to get the job done. She dresses in festive Christmas attire, including a “toolbelt” full of Christmas wrapping supplies.)*

Joy: *(Enters energetically)* Merry almost Christmas, everyone! It’s your favorite festive friend, Joy! Joy the Wrapper!

Leader: You’re a wrapper?

Joy: Oh, yes! I have been wrapping for most of my life!

Leader: Well, ok! Let’s hear something. I’ll give you a beat. *(Starts to beat-box)*

Joy: *(Cutting off the leader)* Hold on, hold on! I get this all the time. Allow me to clarify. I am a wrapper with a W! You know, a person who wraps things – not songs!

Leader: Oh! You wrap presents! Haha, my bad! Well, that’s good to know because I am terrible at wrapping gifts! That’s why I buy gift bags.

Joy: Oh, I will teach you how to wrap! No more gift bags for you.

Leader: That sounds awesome, Joy! But that will have to wait until later. Today, we’re going to talk about one of the best gifts ever!

Joy: Oooo! Like the anti-tearing wrapping paper my mom got me last year? That made wrapping my presents this year SO much easier!

Leader: No, we’re talking about something so much better: Jesus! Did you know one of the names in the Bible used to describe Him is “wonderful”?

Joy: Just like my wrapping skills! I am wonderful at what I do! In fact, I have been called the Master Wrapper.

Leader: Yes, you are! It would take me an hour just to do what you can do in a few minutes. But Jesus is even more wonderful than your wrapping skills!

Joy: What?! How can that be?

Leader: Jesus does wonderful things like miracles!

Joy: *(Excitedly)* Oh, miracles! They’re like magic, but way better because they’re true!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Leader: Exactly! And He loves with a wonderful love! He loves us so much that He died on the cross for us!

Joy: Wow! No one has ever loved me that much!

Leader: Me either, but Jesus sure does! And He is a wonderful Savior! He saved us from our sins so that one day we could go to Heaven and be with Him!

Joy: That’s a wonderful thing to look forward to! I can’t wait to be in such a wonderful place, looking at such a wonderful Savior, hearing such wonderful people singing wonderful praises to Him!

Leader: *(Chuckling)* That’s right! And none of it would be possible if Jesus hadn’t come to earth as a little baby. That’s what Christmas is all about – Jesus’ birth! Did you know that before He was even born, the prophet, Isaiah, told about Jesus and how He would be the new King?

Joy: *(Confused)* Huh? Before Jesus was even born, He was a king?

Leader: *(Nodding)* Yep! And Isaiah wrote about some of the names Jesus would be called: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Those are the names we are going to be learning about in this series!

Joy: *(Enthusiastically)* Well, it’s time to wrap this up so we can learn about how wonderful Jesus is! Merry almost Christmas, everyone. Keep on wrapping!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Snowball Fight”

Items Needed For Game:

100 wadded up pieces of paper; masking tape

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Preparation:

Choose three boys and three girls to compete in this game. Use the masking tape to tape off a center line, dividing the playing area in half. Place 50 wads of paper on one side of the dividing line and 50 wads of paper on the other side of the dividing line.

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How To Play:

When you say, “Go,” the contestants have sixty seconds to pick up as many of the “snowballs” as they can and throw them over to the other team’s side. This will be wild and crazy. When the time is up, tell the players they must “freeze.” Then, count how many “snowballs” are on each team’s side. The team with the fewest number of snowballs on their side at the end of the game is the winner!



Bible Story

“Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the passage in Isaiah 9; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story tells of a very important time in the history of God’s chosen people, the nation of Israel. The nation had split into two different kingdoms - Israel and Judah. That meant that the two countries did not really get along that well.



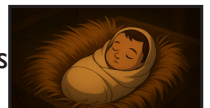
(*show pic*) One day, King Ahaz of Judah began to wonder whether he should become partners with the country of Assyria. Assyria was a horrible country that did not follow the one true God. In fact, they worshipped idols and sacrificed people to their false gods. The prophet Isaiah warned King Ahaz NOT to join forces with any country that was an enemy of God. He told King Ahaz to trust God and depend on Him only.



But, King Ahaz did not listen. He was not a very spiritual person, so he didn’t see the harm in joining forces with Assyria. Isaiah warned King Ahaz that his partners, the Assyrians, would eventually turn on him and become his enemy. But, King Ahaz thought he was smarter than God’s plan.



(*show pic*) King Ahaz joined forces with Assyria, and it wasn’t long before King Ahaz began acting just like the Assyrians. Rather than worshipping God, King Ahaz began worshipping idols and even sacrificed his own child to a false god. It was horrible. He destroyed the temple of God. To top it all off, Isaiah was right. The country of Assyria ended up turning on King Ahaz and they treated the people of Judah horribly.



(*show pic*) But, God was not finished with Judah. God had made a promise to them and the nation of Israel long ago that He would protect and save them. So, God gave Isaiah a prophecy which he wrote down. It was a prophecy that predicted something that would happen several hundred years later. It said, (*show pic*) “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Wow! Isaiah prophesied about a baby boy that would be born to save the nations of Judah and Israel. Who do you think the baby boy could be that Isaiah was prophecying about? (*show pic*) That’s right! It’s Jesus! Jesus is a WONDERFUL Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Today, you are going to learn just how WONDERFUL Jesus really is! He is more WONDERFUL than you could ever imagine!



Call To Action

“Wonderful”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; a large red heart; a “Change Bag” illusion (*a small bag with a hidden compartment; you can get one of these at your local magic store or online at www.davidandteesha.com*); a BLACK silk handkerchief (*any lightweight black silk will do*)

Preparation:

Prep the “Change Bag”; Begin with the slide titled “Lesson 1 - Call To Action - Title”

The Message: (*title slide*)



Today, we are learning about how Jesus is Wonderful. You know, the word “wonderful” is one that we use a little too much nowadays. We’ve kind of changed the meaning of that word. We say things like..

“Ice cream is wonderful.”

“The weather is wonderful.”

“It’s wonderful to see you, today!”

Sometimes, people even use “wonderful” in a sarcastic way. Your Mom says, “We’re going to have your Aunt Bessie over for dinner tonight.” You reply, “wonderful” - meaning “Great. That’s exactly how I wanted to spend my Friday night - having my cheeks pinched and being told I’m growing like a weed.”

But, the way the Bible uses the word “wonderful” to describe Jesus is not like that at all. When Isaiah prophesied about Jesus and used the word “Wonderful”, He meant

- Extraordinary
- Exceeds all expectations
- Marvelous
- Miraculous
- Beyond anything we have ever seen

That’s who Jesus is. He is Wonderful. He is extraordinary, marvelous, and amazing. He is Wonderful.

He Does Wonderful Miracles (*slide*)



Jesus does wonderful miracles! He heals the sick, makes blind eyes see again, heals paralyzed people so they can walk again, and even brings the dead back to life. He doesn’t do these things to prove how great He is. He does it in order to help people. He does it because He has a wonderful love for people. In fact...

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Call To Action (Continued)

He Loves You With A Wonderful Love (slide)



(hold up the big red heart as you speak) Jesus loves you so very much. How do you know? Remember the old song that went like this - (sing) “Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong. They are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.” Jesus loves you with a Wonderful love. His love is more wonderful than ANY love you could ever experience.

In fact, that WONDERFUL love He has for you led Him to leave Heaven and come to Earth as a baby in a manger. Jesus grew up and demonstrated that WONDERFUL love to the whole world by dying on the cross to pay the price for the sins of the world. Because of Jesus’ WONDERFUL love, we can be saved.

He Is A Wonderful Savior (slide)



Jesus came to Earth to save people from their sin. (hold up the black silk and the change bag) If this silk represents sin and this bag represented your life, the silk definitely would belong in the bag - because we all have sinned. And, it only takes being guilty of ONE sin to deserve death in Hell forever. That’s what the Bible says.

I John 1:9 says, “But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.” That means that, (hold up the black silk and place it in the change bag) even though we had sin in our life, if we confess that sin to God and believe in the price that Jesus paid on the cross, (as you speak, gently slide the “trigger” of the change bag over so that the black silk is now hidden in the secret compartment) then you and I can be forgiven (when you say “forgiven” reach into the change bag and pull it inside out, revealing that the black silk is completely “vanished”). The sin that was in our life is now gone! Jesus paid the price, so we can be forgiven!

When Isaiah called Jesus “Wonderful”, he was so right. Jesus is a Wonderful God who does Wonderful miracles, loves you with a Wonderful love, and saved us in such a Wonderful way. He truly is WONDERFUL!

ALTAR RESPONSE: (play soft music)

Pray with the children a prayer of worship and thanksgiving to Jesus for His wonderful miracles, wonderful love, and for being such a wonderful savior. If there are any children who have not received forgiveness for their sin, pray with them to make Jesus their personal Lord and Savior.



REWIND!

Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “Jesus Is Wonderful - Yes He Is!”

2. What was the name of the King of Judah in our Bible Story?

Answer: Ahaz

3. Which country did King Ahaz partner with even though he was warned against it?

Answer: Assyria

4. Who was the prophet who told of Jesus’ birth?

Answer: Isaiah

5. What word did we learn about today that Isaiah used to describe Jesus?

Answer: Wonderful

6. According to our lesson today, Jesus “Does Wonderful _____.”

Answer: Miracles

7. According to our lesson today, Jesus “Loves With A Wonderful _____.”

Answer: Love

8. According to our lesson today, Jesus “Is A Wonderful _____.”

Answer: Savior

9. True Or False: Jesus can forgive any sin.

Answer: True

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Psalm 86:10