



December 1, 2024
I am Never Alone
Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: The Prophets Told About Jesus- Isaiah 7:14, 9:6-7,11 Micah 5:2.

Bottom Line: Jesus is the Greatest Hope

Leader Context: This December, we get to celebrate the gift of Jesus and Christmas with the Simple Truth, "I Am Never Alone." Kids can see the identity of this promise reflected in the identity of Jesus. This Christmas season, kids will learn that Jesus made a way for us to be with God forever.* Today, we are teaching kids about some of the names and characteristics spoken about Jesus. (Read Isaiah 9:6.) God promised to send a Savior who would bring comfort, power, peace, and eternal life. Kids will learn they can have hope that God is always with them because He promised—and God always keeps His promises!

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, Plastic wrap (1 per group), Paper clips (several), Empty tissue box (1 per group; optional), Music and music player (1 per group; optional), Beanbags (1 per child), Chairs (1 per child; optional)

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

That was amazing! God gave a message to His people so they could have hope, though that hope was far off in the future. *Hope* is trusting that something good will happen. Have you ever had to wait for something fun or amazing to happen? Waiting can be hard, but we are still excited for what's to come. Even though it would be a long time, the people could remember God's promise about Jesus. We have hope, too, when we remember that God sent Jesus. Say, "Jesus is the greatest hope!" (*Jesus is the greatest hope!*) God cares about us, and He promised to always be with us. That's what *Immanuel* means, "God with us." The truth is that, when God is with us, we are never alone!

Videos



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Gospel Connection

Gospel Connection:

(Circle three) Christmas celebrates that Jesus came to earth to give us hope that we can have a relationship with God.

(Circle two) Why do we need hope? When we look around, we see a lot of sad and broken things—like people who need a place to live, people who are sick, or even people who fight with one another. We all experience sad and hurtful things because we live in a broken world, and because we are broken people. Brokenness is a result of sin, and the Bible says all people sin. That means we do what we think is best instead of following what God says is best. No matter how hard we try to be good or fix our brokenness, we can't do it on our own. We need Someone to save us.

(Circle three) That's why God sent Jesus. He is our greatest hope! Jesus came to earth and took the punishment for our sins. Jesus didn't have to do this, but He did. Why? Because He loves us, and He didn't want us to have to live without Him in our sin. He came to be with us, so we never have to be alone. When we turn from doing things our own way and ask Jesus to forgive us of our sins, we can have a relationship with God now and have hope that looks forward to living with God forever.

(Circle one) Jesus came to be with us, and to make a way for us to have a relationship with God. Jesus went back to heaven, but one day He is going to come back and make everything new again. He is going to take away all the brokenness, and we are going to get to be with God forever! While we wait for Jesus to come back, we can remember that Jesus is our greatest hope! He always does what He says He will do. God loves us and wants a relationship with us. With God, we can know we are never alone. That's why the prophets called Jesus *Immanuel*, which means "God with us." When I say, "Immanuel," say, "God with us!" "Immanuel!" (*God with us!*) God with us means we're never alone!

At Christmas, it isn't always easy to wait. We can be excited, nervous or anxious instead. But we can remember that Jesus is our greatest hope and that God is with us. God sent Jesus, Immanuel, to be with us and make a way for us to have a relationship with God forever. And that is the best news ever. Everyone, say, "Jesus is the greatest hope!" (*Jesus is the greatest hope!*)

If you have any questions about what it means Jesus or you want to make that decision to put your trust in Him, talk with me or your Campus Leader.

Jesus Is... Christmas Ornament (20 minutes)

What You Need: Jesus Template for Tracing (1 per kid), Shrink paper (1- 4"x5.75" piece per kid) sharpie markers, colored pencils, bag and bag tag printed on 2 inch square stickers (1 per kid), ornament hanger. Shrink Paper instruction page (1 per kid), Sample Page (1 per group)

What You Do:

Set out the supplies. Show the Sample page for kids to see what complete looks like. Today we are going to make an ornament to help us remember who Jesus is and why this helps us remember We are Never Alone. First you will copy to image on the shrink paper with a sharpie marker (*little ones can skip this step*). Next, cut out the circle on your shrink paper. (*little ones can skip this step*) Using the colored pencils color in your picture. Write- Immanuel Is 7:14 on the bottom of the page. Write- Hope, Gift, Son of God, and Light of the World around Baby Jesus. Using a hole punch, punch a hole in the top of your circle staying away from the edge of your paper. Now you are going to take it home to finish. The Circle will shrink 50% and you will string the ornament hanger through the hole. Be very careful and make sure you finish this with the help of a grown up.

Say: "Jesus is our greatest hope because with Him, we know we are never alone! Your craft helps us remember that we are never alone. Point to yourself, and say, "I am never alone!" (*I am never alone!*) Point to your neighbor, and say, "You are never alone!" (*You are never alone!*)

Discussion Questions:

- Who are some of your favorite people to be around? What's fun about being with them? (*Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.*)
- Event tickets remind us that it's exciting when you get to look forward to something and have hope! When's a time you have hoped for something, and it's come true? (*Give each child time to talk about their own experiences. Ask questions that help them share with each other, and help them be kind and compassionate.*)
- The Bible tells us that we are not alone and that Jesus is our greatest hope. *Immanuel* means "God with us." Let's open our Bibles to **Isaiah 9:6** and read about it together. (*Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the verse aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the verse aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the verse so everyone can follow along together.*) Which name for Jesus stands out to you? Why? (*Allow kids to share their answers, and share your own answer.*)
- God sent Jesus to be our greatest hope. Jesus came to earth and took the punishment for our sins. Jesus didn't *have* to take the punishment for our sins. He did it because He loves us, and He didn't want us to have to live without Him in our sin. God loves us and wants a relationship with us. If you want to learn more about what it means to have a relationship with God, I'd love to tell you! How can having hope in Jesus help when you or a friend is feeling alone? (*Allow kids a chance to respond and interact with the question.*)
- The Bible tells us that we are not alone because of God! God's people had been hoping for Jesus for a long time. Now, we can know this hope ourselves! What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (*Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.*) Let's pray and talk to God. (*Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.*)

God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our greatest hope. We are so thankful that we are never alone because of Jesus. This Christmas, help us share this hope with others. Amen.

The prophet Isaiah shared many names for Jesus. Wonderful Counselor means that Jesus loves to help us. Mighty God means that He is strong and powerful. Eternal Father means He loves and leads us forever. Prince of Peace means He gives us peace like no one else. And Immanuel shows us how Jesus is our greatest hope. Immanuel means "God with us." Immanuel means we are not alone!

Going Home

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.