God's Plan: 4 Us 2 KNOW Him!

What is God like?

Bible Story

The Personification Revelation John 1:1–2,14; 5:1–9; 6:16–21; 11:57; 14:1–7

Bible Verse

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father also." John 14:6–7 When you read about Jesus in the Bible, you know more about God.

Session Goals

- 1. PARTICIPATE in telling the story of Jesus' life.
- 2. IDENTIFY ways to learn more about God.
- 3. THANK God for His Word, the Bible, and that we can know Him by reading about Jesus.
- 4. CHOOSE to become a member of God's family, as the Holy Spirit leads.

Spark Principle—Motion

Objects at rest stay at rest until a force puts them in motion. People were stuck in sin until Jesus came and put God's plan in motion.



Bible

God sent His Son, Jesus, to Earth so that we can know God better. Jesus said if we know Him, we will know God. We can know Jesus by

reading about His life in God's Word, the Bible. When you see a Bible, you can remember that God wants us to know Him.

Heart Prep by Henrietta Mears

What is God like? The question has been asked through the ages. Many answers have been given. Some are false. All were incomplete until the Lord Jesus Christ came and explained, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9).

The account of Christ's life in the Bible is limited. This is one of the proofs of the Word. Had someone invented a history of the life of Christ, how exaggerated would have been the tales, like the ancients told of their gods. Jesus spoke as no other person spokethis we know; but He also did what no other person did. Crowds kept coming after Him, seeking a sign to prove who He was. What signs did He furnish? He said, "Blind people receive sight. Disabled people walk. Those who have skin diseases are healed. Deaf people hear. Those who are dead are raised to life. And the good news is preached to those who are poor" (Matthew 11:5). He never catered to the demands of idle curiosity, nor was any work ever done selfishly. He only desired to show that He was sufficient for the needs of the body and the spirit.

He did want all people to know that He is the Christ. He not only called Himself the Son of God, but He also allowed Peter to make it a public confession. Every other thing in Jesus' character that we know to be true would have compelled Him to quickly deny such a statement if it had been untrue.

Some say that Jesus is the greatest of all teachers; yes, the best man who ever lived. But this is not enough, for this man was to be our Savior; and if He is not God, then He cannot redeem a lost world.

Bible Story Recap

Jesus was with God in the beginning, when everything was created. He was there when sin came between people and God. After hundreds of years passed, the Word—Jesus, the Son of God—became flesh. That means He became a human being with skin and bones and hands and feet and hair and eyes!

Jesus grew up and chose 12 friends to be His disciples. The disciples traveled with Jesus and got to know Him as their Teacher and their Friend. They watched what He did and listened carefully to everything He said.

During their time with Jesus, the disciples saw Him do amazing things. He healed the sick and the lame. He calmed the winds and water during a violent storm at sea. But most of all, He taught people about God and how much God loves everyone.

But not everyone loved Jesus. The religious leaders made plans to trap Jesus and arrest Him, even though Jesus had done NOTHING wrong!

Jesus told His friends that He was going away but that they knew the way to get there. Thomas said, "Lord, we don't know where you are going. So how can we know the way?" (John 14:5).

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father also" (John 14:6–7). Reading about Jesus' life in the Bible is one way we can know about Jesus. And when we know what Jesus is like, we know what God is like.

Daily Recap

At the end of each session, take time to reflect on what happened. Use these questions as a guide:

- What worked well today? What truth did you discover from God's Word?
- Did the kids take away their need to know Jesus by reading God's Word?
- Be prepared to briefly tell about the time when you became a member of God's family.

Homemade Hovercraft

Preparation

For each pair of children, make a copy of Homemade Hovercraft Instructions. Cut instructions apart.

For each child, superglue the water bottle top to the disc directly over the hole in the middle (photos a & b). Make sure you don't clog the hole with glue.

After the glue dries, place discs on tables where children will be working, along with permanent markers, stickers, balloons and instruction sheets you prepared.

Procedure

Supervise and help children as they complete the instructions to make their Homemade Hovercrafts.

Materials

- Homemade Hovercraft Instructions (p. 73)
- scissors or paper cutter
- superglue or glue gun
- variety of permanent markers
- stickers (SonSpark Labs Stickers available from Gospel Light)

For Each Child

- push-up top from a water bottle or bottle of dishwashing liquid
- discarded or damaged CD or DVD disc
- balloon

Conversation

Do you think your hovercraft would work well on carpet? How about on grass? When you go home, you can experiment and see how well it moves on different surfaces.

Today's Spark Principle says that objects at rest stay at rest until a force puts them in motion. People were stuck in sin until Jesus came and put God's plan in motion.

What is today's Daily Plan? Pause for children to respond, "4 Us 2 KNOW Him!" God gave us His Word, the Bible, so that we can read about Jesus' life and learn about who Jesus is. The Bible says,

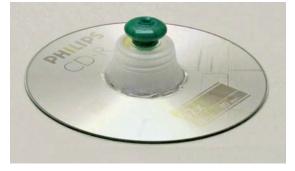
"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father also.'" (John 14:6–7). God wants us to know Him. That's why He sent His Son, Jesus. By reading about Jesus in the Bible, we will learn what God is like.

Pray, Dear God, thank You for giving us Your Word, the Bible, and that we can know You by reading about Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen.



b.

а.



Lab Journal

Grades 1 and 2: Children complete "Crack the Code" activity on page 13 of their *Lab Journals.*

Grades 3 and 4: Children complete "What Is It Like and How Do You Know?" activity on page 12 of their *Lab Journals*.

Grades 5 and 6: Children complete "The Bigger Picture" activity on page 12 of their *Lab Journals*.

If you have trouble finding pop-up tops, you can also use flip-open bottle tops. Cut off the lid before gluing to disc (see photo below). Children keep neck of balloon pinched as they place the balloon over lid.

Note

Theme Center Guide Session 3

Homemade Hovercraft Instructions

What to Do

- 1. Decorate your disc with permanent markers and stickers (photo a).
- 2. After disc is decorated, make sure the pop-up top is in the closed position.
- 3. Blow up balloon and place it over the pop-up top so that the balloon's opening is tightly wrapped around the bottom of the pop-up top (photo b).
- 4. Place the hovercraft on a table or floor without carpet. Let go of the balloon and pull the pop-up top to the open position.
- 5. Watch what happens.

What's Happening?

The air from the balloon is released through the popup top and flows beneath the disc. The shape, weight and smoothness of the disc help create a cushion of air between the disc and the floor, and the force of the air movement causes the disc to move across the floor.





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