



CORRESPONDING LEVEL WEB #s

Defenders: 040801



Detectives: 030801



Developers: 020801



JESUS CHRIST



MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible; Teacher Preparation Guide (optional supplements: K4T songbook and PowerPoint files of lyrics; a map)



SUGGESTED ORIGINAL KIDS 4 TRUTH SONG

“All I Find in You”

SUGGESTED HYMNS

“All Hail the Pow’r of Jesus’ Name,” “Fairest Lord Jesus!”

OTHER SONG SUGGESTIONS

Older kids: “He Is Lord,” “Let’s Talk About Jesus,” “Isn’t He Wonderful?”

Younger kids: “He Is Lord,” “He Is King”



THE BASICS

PRIMARY TRUTH

Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

John 14:6

WHAT THIS DOCTRINE REVEALS ABOUT GOD

Jesus Christ is God Himself, and His coming to Earth was God’s plan for revealing Himself to mankind. If we come to God through Jesus, we come the only possible Way to salvation. If we know Jesus, we know the Truth. If our lives belong to Jesus, He gives us eternal Life. Jesus is the only Way, Truth, and Life. He is the one true God, and nobody else could be all we need.

KNOWLEDGE OBJECTIVES – By God’s grace...

- The child will understand that Jesus is the most significant Person Who ever has been or ever will be.
- The child will understand that Jesus Christ is the Living Word, which means He is God’s message to mankind. (Jesus reveals to us Who God is more than anything or anyone else, because He is God!)
- The child will learn more what Jesus meant when He said “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”
- The child will begin to understand that no one comes to God except by Jesus.

ATTITUDE OBJECTIVES – By God’s grace...

- The child will be awed at Christ’s significance – not only to him/her and immediate family members, but to the whole world – past, present, and future.
- The child will evaluate his/her personal relationship with God by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, God the Son.
- The child will come to appreciate and love Jesus more and more.



PRAYER



TEACHING PHASE – INTRO

(about 10-20 minutes)

OPENER* / ILLUSTRATION

The most *significant* (important, meaningful) Person Who ever has been or ever will be is Jesus Christ.

[Teacher, you may have to explain that you are using “important” to explain the meaning of “significant.” “Important” does not always mean popular or well-known, but it always means significant. Jesus was not always popular or well-known. He still isn’t always popular or well-known. But He IS both important and significant.]

[You may want to talk about some other important persons here. Ask the children to name off some famous or important people. Then, compare these people to Jesus. For example, “One reason that Jesus is more significant than the President of the United States is that Jesus rules over *everything*, not just one country.”]

When Jesus said that He is the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE, He was teaching us about His awesome significance. When you think about it, we owe everything to Jesus Christ. Everything and everyone has depended upon Him and will continue to depend upon Him, from Creation to forever, for all eternity. Jesus is the most significant Figure in all of history. In fact, history is really **HIS STORY**.

*NOTE: In the intro, we want to recap the primary truth and set the stage to use the primary truth to point the learners back to God.



INSTRUCTION & REINFORCEMENT

(about 10-20 minutes)

ILLUSTRATION

When you look at a map to figure out how to get from point A to point B, you are planning your *route*, or the “path” or “way” you plan to travel. Often, there are several different routes you could take in order to get you to your destination. A map shows you some of those different routes, and you can choose your own way. But there is only one Way to God. **If we want a route to reach God, He must map it out.** There is only **one Way** to Him – Jesus.



TRUTH TO TALK UP (#1) – Jesus is the Way.

Jesus Christ IS the Way. Without Him, we would be lost with nowhere to go and no escape from of our lost state. We would have no direction for our lives, and we definitely would not be allowed any access to God. We could not come to God on our own; we couldn’t even come close. Jesus Himself is a Bridge for us to be able to come to God. No one can come to the Father except through Jesus, because He is the only Way.



TRUTH TO TALK UP (#2) – Jesus is the Truth.

Jesus does not just *teach about* the truth, He *is* the Truth. God is the Author of all Truth, and, because He IS God, Jesus is the most significant, most clear, most complete communication of God’s Truth.

Jesus IS the Truth. Without Him, we would have the general knowledge that Creation gives about God, but we would not have the specific details of Who God is and what He expects of us. God does not lie, and we can trust whatever He says as absolutely reliable and authoritative. This means that all truth is God’s truth, and what He says is the highest and changeless perfect truth. We can take God’s Word as true, and Jesus Christ is the perfect embodiment of God’s Word. He IS Truth.



[Teacher, you may want to use the following verses as Bible Drills:]

In **John 1:14**, the Bible refers to Jesus Christ as “the Word.” This “Word,” Who is also God Himself (John 1:1), became flesh (He became a human being). **John 1:14** is teaching that God became a man.

In **John 1:18**, the Bible tells us what Jesus, the perfect God-Man, has done: He has “declared” the Father. This means that Jesus Christ has made known to us Who God the Father is. The reason the Bible refers to Jesus Christ as “the WORD” is this: Jesus is God’s “Message” to mankind. And God’s message to us is Himself, which is the greatest, most reliable, most significant **TRUTH** ever.



BIBLE DRILL (#1) – How does the following verse back up **John 1:18**?

John 14:9



BIBLE DRILL (#2) – Look up this verse to discover what knowing God’s Truth can do for someone:

John 8:32



HISTORICAL ANECDOTE / DISCUSSION

In the early church, the word “Truth” became used as a title for God. Why is this appropriate?



TRUTH TO TALK UP (#3) – **Jesus is the Life.**

Jesus IS the Life. Without Him, we would have no physical life, and no promise of eternal life. It is because He won the victory over sin and death that we can have any hope of being saved from eternal death ourselves. God breathed physical life into Adam thousands of years ago at Creation, and only God could breathe spiritual life into spiritually dead souls. We can trust a God with that kind of power to raise us up to life again after death. Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection proved that He is the Giver of life.



BIBLE DRILL (#3) – Look up these verses that teach aspects of how Jesus Christ is the LIFE.

- **Colossians 1:16** – Jesus is the **SOURCE** of physical life.
- **Colossians 1:17** – Jesus is the **SUSTAINER** of all life.
- **John 11:25-26** – Jesus is the **PROVIDER** of eternal life.

Jesus Christ is the Source of both physical and eternal life. If you do not have Jesus, then you do not have anything. But if, through faith, you have Jesus Christ, then you have *everything!*



(Here would be a great place to insert what you learned from your Teacher Truth Study.)



GETTING BACK TO GOD*

{Recap **WHAT THIS DOCTRINE REVEALS ABOUT GOD:** Jesus Christ is God Himself, and His coming to Earth was God’s plan for revealing Himself to mankind. If we come to God through Jesus, we come the only possible Way to salvation. If we know Jesus, we know the Truth. If our lives belong to Jesus, He gives us eternal Life. Jesus is the only Way, Truth, and Life. He is the one true God, and nobody else could be all we need.}

God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to show us personally what God is like. In His earthly life, Jesus revealed to us Who God is more fully than Creation or the Bible ever could have. Why is that? Because He Himself is God! The written Word reveals God to us in human language, and Jesus Christ revealed God to us in human flesh. This is why Jesus is called the “Living Word.” Jesus reveals to us Who God is more than anything or anyone else – **He is all these things (the Way, the Truth, the Life) because HE IS GOD!**

*NOTE: Teachers, please remember that this section should include the fruit of your Teacher Truth Study and one or two personal illustrations or anecdotes from the “Personalize It!” activity in the Teacher Preparation Phase.



APPLICATION & ASSESSMENT

“INTERNALIZE IT!” from Teacher Preparation Phase
(about 5-10 minutes)

You might begin this section with:

“Boys and girls, as I’ve been preparing for this TruthTime Lesson, here’s what God has been showing me....”

You might continue by saying:

“Because of what God is teaching me, here’s what is going to be different in my life during this next week....”

You might conclude with something like this:

“Finally, here’s what God has taught me about Himself through these truths....”



DISCUSSION TIME QUESTIONS

- What makes Jesus the most significant Person in all of history?
- Why is Jesus *able to be* the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life?



APPENDICES OR “IF TIME”

(optional)



ACTIVITY

Invite the children to draw a picture that symbolizes Jesus Christ as the only WAY to God. You might show them one a couple of examples, or explain to them your idea of what you would do.

For example, show them the BRIDGE tract. Or else you may want to draw your own example. You could represent “heaven” in the sky (clouds, sun, city). Down below you might draw a dark world. Then, connecting the two, draw the cross.

Be prepared to clarify and guide them. They might want to add other “ways” that don’t quite make it (good works, baptism, *etc.*). Use these as opportunities to explain how superior Jesus Christ is to any of those other ways, and how no one can come to the Father except by Him.