

WEEK 1 FAMILY LESSON



Preschool Need to Know: *Jesus Is the Best Ever*

Elementary Need to Know: *God's Promise Is the Best Ever*

Bible Story: *Palm Sunday, Last Supper, Crucifixion, & Resurrection*

Circle Up 1

1. Gather your kids, and tell them how excited you are to have church with them at home today.
2. Grab a piece of paper and something to draw with. Tell your family that together you are going to draw a picture of the best day you can imagine! Pass the paper around your family and have each person add something to the picture that would make it the best day ever.
3. Then say:
 - *There are a lot of fun things we could think of to make the Best Day Ever! While those are all great, there is one way we can be guaranteed to have the Best Day Ever. God has made sure of that by making us a special promise!*
 - *Long ago, God promised to make a way for us to be forgiven for all the wrong things we do. This promise came true when Jesus came to Earth, died on a cross, and rose from the dead. At Easter, we celebrate God's promise to save us from our sins, which is the best promise ever! So let me hear you say this after me:* (Pause to let your kids repeat after you)

Elementary (ES):

God's Promise (hand over heart)
Is the Best Ever (two thumbs up)

Preschool (PS):

Jesus Is (both hands point up)
The Best Ever (arms above head, wiggle fingers)

Read the Bible 2

Watch today's Preschool and/or Elementary video on the web page where you found this lesson or on the KidSpring App or YouTube channel. Afterwards, ask your family:

1. ES ONLY: *What did God promise His people, the Israelites?* (That He would save them from the mean Egyptians, that He would send someone/the perfect lamb to save them from their sins forever)
2. ES ONLY: *Did God keep His promise?* (Yes) *Yes! God always keeps His promises!*
3. *Why is Jesus the best ever?* (He came to fix our friendship with God)

Let's Practice 3

1. Gather the following items to create a game to help your kids remember God's good promises!
 - **Two bowls** (See the example to the left for how to set up the bowls for tossing)
 - **One object to toss** (This could be a ball, pair of clean socks, marshmallow, etc.)
2. Have each member of your family toss the object into a bowl. Ask a question based on the bowl the object lands in. To make it a competition, give 5 points if they land in the closer bowl and 10 points if they land in the bowl that's farther away. See who can get the most points!
 - Bowl 1:
 - *If you need God's help, should you text Him or pray?* (Pray) *God promises to hear us when we pray. Prayer is talking to God just like we're talking now.*
 - *If you get in trouble, does God stop loving you?* (No) *No way! The Bible tells us that God promises to never stop loving us!*
 - *Who is more important – Jesus or the Easter Bunny?* (Jesus) *The Easter Bunny is awesome, but no one is better than Jesus!*
 - Bowl 2:
 - *What is it that keeps us from being friends with God – sin or jelly beans?* (Sin) *Our sin separates us from God, but the Bible tells us that God promised to fix our friendship with Him. God kept that promise when He sent Jesus!*
 - *What is the best promise ever – an Easter basket full of candy or Jesus?* (Jesus) *An Easter basket full of candy sounds yummy, but Jesus is the best ever!*
 - *What can we read to learn more about God's promises?* (The Bible) *You got it! The Bible is full of God's good promises to us!*
3. Have your child repeat the Need to Know after you with motions:

Elementary (ES):

God's Promise (hand over heart)
Is the Best Ever (two thumbs up)

Preschool (PS):

Jesus Is (both hands point up)
The Best Ever (arms above head, wiggle fingers)

Family member
will stand here
to toss



Memorize It

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1. Practice remembering what God says by saying: *There's a verse in the Bible that we can learn to help us remember God's promise to fix our friendship with Him. Jesus lived, then He died on a cross to take the punishment for our sin, but He didn't stay dead! These are the words the angel said to Jesus' friends when they went to where he was buried:*
 - "He is not here!"* (shake head "no")
 - He has risen,* (two thumbs up)
 - Just as He said He would!"* (cup hands around mouth)
 - Matthew 28:6* (make book with your hands)
 2. Pass a ball (or plastic Easter egg), having the person holding the ball/egg say the next word in the verse when it comes to them. You can play several times, switching directions or seeing if you can pass the ball/egg faster each time.
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Let's Pray

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Ask your family what they want to thank God for and what they want to ask Him to do. Listen to any concerns your child expresses without interruption. Then pray the following over your family:

- *Father God, we thank You for (all the things your family mentioned). Thank you for promising to forgive us for all the wrong things we do and for sending Jesus to take our punishment.*
 - *Father, we ask You for (all the things your family mentioned).*
 - *We know that You are a promise maker and a promise keeper, and we trust You!*
 - *In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*
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Stay Together

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1. Return to the web page where you found this lesson to download and print the activity sheets for your child to complete.
2. Here are a few more games you can play together as a family:
 - Play some music and play "Hot Potato" using the ball/egg you passed earlier. Whoever is holding the ball/egg when the music stops can say a motion/action for the rest of the family to do.
 - Play a version of "Doggy, Doggy, Where's Your Bone?" with the ball/egg you passed earlier.
 - Have all the family members close their eyes.
 - While everyone's eyes are closed, give the ball/egg to one family member, and have him/her hide it (under leg, behind back, in hands, etc.).
 - Tell everyone to open their eyes.
 - Give every family member two chances to guess who is hiding the ball/egg.
 - If no one guesses, reveal who has it, and then play again.
3. Create more discussion with your older children by asking:
 - *Has someone ever made a promise to you but failed to keep their promise? How did you feel?*
 - *What is a promise of God you need to know and hold onto right now in your life?*
 - *What are some ways that we can remember or remind ourselves of God's promises?*