

Jaxson Harlan Ministry

Three-Part Sunday School Series: Getting to Know Jesus our Savior
For children ages 5–9

Ready-to-use teacher guide (free to share)

These three short lessons introduce Jesus as our Savior in simple, concrete, age-appropriate ways. Each session is designed to last 20–30 minutes and can stand alone or be taught as a series. Language stays warm and clear. Stories, object lessons, and questions help children understand that Jesus loves them, came for them, and saves them.

Suggested Materials (keep a simple kit ready)

- Simple nativity set pieces or a small baby doll wrapped in cloth (for Jesus as a baby)
- A plain wooden cross or a large paper cross
- A small empty box or cardboard “tomb” with a stone that can be rolled away
- Heart-shaped stickers or paper hearts
- Pictures or simple drawings of Jesus helping people (healing, feeding, blessing children)
- A flashlight or small light
- Children’s Bible or storybook Bible
- Optional: white cloth or tissue for the empty tomb, a small crown or star
- Basic craft supplies (paper, crayons, glue sticks) for take-home activities

These everyday items help children see and touch the story of Jesus without needing expensive props.

Part 1: Jesus Came to Earth as God’s Special Son

Goal

Children understand that Jesus is God’s Son who came to earth as a baby because God loves us.

Bible Focus

Luke 2:1–20 (Jesus’ birth) told simply, or *John 3:16* in child-friendly words. Keep the reading very short or tell the story yourself.

Lesson 1 Suggested Scripture Narrative

A long time ago, God sent His own Son to earth. His name was Jesus. Mary and Joseph traveled to a town called Bethlehem. When they arrived, there was no room for them in the inn, so baby Jesus was born in a simple place where animals stayed. Mary wrapped Him in cloth and laid Him in a manger.

That same night, shepherds were watching their sheep in the fields. Suddenly an angel appeared and said, “Don’t be afraid! I have good news. Today a Savior has been born—He is Christ the Lord.” Then many more angels filled the sky, praising God. The shepherds hurried to see the baby. They found Jesus just as the angel had said.

God sent Jesus as a tiny baby because He loves us. Jesus came to be close to us and to be our Savior.

Opening (3–4 minutes)

- Welcome the children by name.
- **Simple prayer:** *“Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus. Help us learn about Him today. Amen.”*
- **Icebreaker:** *“Have you ever been so excited to meet someone special that you could hardly wait? Who was it?”* Let a few share. Then say: *“A long time ago, the whole world was waiting for the most special Person ever—Jesus.”*

Object Lesson / Illustration

1. Show the baby doll or nativity piece. *“Jesus did not come as a big, powerful king at first. He came as a tiny baby, born in a simple place.”*
2. Hold up a star or simple light. *“A bright star shone in the sky to show that God’s Son had arrived.”*
3. Give each child a heart sticker. *“God sent Jesus because He loves us this much.”*

Teaching Points (keep short)

- Jesus is God’s one and only Son.
- He left heaven and came to earth as a real baby so He could be close to us.
- God planned this because He loves every person—including every child in this room.

Interactive Questions

- “Why do you think God sent Jesus as a baby instead of a grown-up king?”
- “How does it feel to know Jesus came because God loves you?”
- “What is one thing you like about the Christmas story of Jesus being born?”

Simple Application

Children draw a picture of baby Jesus or a heart with the words *“Jesus came for me.”* They can take it home and tell their family.

Closing

Pray: *“Thank You, God, for sending Jesus. Thank You that He came for us. Amen.”* Optional familiar Christmas or Jesus song.

Part 2: Jesus Lived, Loved, and Gave His Life for Us

Goal

Children learn that Jesus showed God’s love in how He lived and that He died on the cross to take away our sins because He loves us so much.

Bible Focus

Simple stories of Jesus helping people (e.g., blessing children, healing, feeding) plus a gentle telling of the cross (*John 3:16* or *Mark 10:45* in child words). Avoid graphic details.

Opening (3–4 minutes)

- Welcome and short prayer.
- Icebreaker: *“What is the kindest thing someone has ever done for you?”* Let a few children share. Then say: *“Jesus did the kindest thing of all for every one of us.”*

Object Lesson / Illustration

1. Show pictures of Jesus helping people. *“Jesus spent His life loving people—helping the sick, feeding the hungry, and welcoming children.”*
2. Hold up the simple cross. *“Jesus loved us so much that He was willing to die on a cross. He took the punishment for the wrong things we do so we can be forgiven and close to God.”*
3. Place a heart sticker on the cross or give hearts to the children. *“This is how much Jesus loves you.”*

Lesson 2 Suggested Scripture Narrative

When Jesus grew up, He walked from town to town showing people how much God loves them. He healed people who were sick. He fed hungry crowds with just a few loaves and fish. He welcomed children and blessed them. Everywhere He went, Jesus was kind and good.

Then Jesus did the most loving thing of all. He chose to die on a cross. He took the punishment for the wrong things we do so we can be forgiven. No one made Him do it. He did it because He loves us so much. Jesus is the Savior who gave His life for us.

Teaching Points

- Jesus lived a perfect life full of love and kindness.
- He died on the cross to save us from the wrong things we do (sin).
- He did this freely because He loves us. No one forced Him.

Interactive Questions

- “What are some kind things Jesus did while He was on earth?”
- “Why did Jesus choose to die on the cross?”
- “How does it make you feel to know Jesus loves you that much?”

Simple Application

Children place a heart sticker on a paper cross or draw a cross with a heart. Encourage them to remember: “Jesus loves me and gave His life for me.”

Closing

Thank Jesus for His great love. Short prayer of gratitude. Optional song about Jesus’ love.

Part 3: Jesus Rose Again and Is Our Living Savior

Goal

Children understand that Jesus did not stay dead—He rose from the dead and is alive forever. Because He lives, He is our Savior who forgives us and stays with us.

Bible Focus

The empty tomb (*Matthew 28:1–10* or *Mark 16:1–8*) told simply, plus the good news that Jesus is alive and saves us (*John 3:16* or *Romans 10:9* in child words).

Opening (3–4 minutes)

- Welcome and prayer.
- Icebreaker: “*Have you ever thought something was lost or over, and then you found out it was okay after all?*” Let a few share. Then say: “*The best surprise in the whole world is that Jesus did not stay dead.*”

Object Lesson / Illustration

1. Show the empty box/tomb with the “stone” rolled away and the white cloth. “*On the third day after Jesus died, His friends went to the tomb. The stone was rolled away and Jesus was not there—He was alive!*”
2. Turn on the flashlight. “*Jesus is the Light who conquered death. He is alive forever.*”
3. Give each child a heart sticker again. “Because Jesus is alive, He can be our Savior right now. He forgives us and stays with us.”

Lesson 3 Suggested Scripture Narrative

After Jesus died, His friends were very sad. Early on the third day, some women went to the tomb where He had been laid. When they arrived, they saw that the big stone had been rolled away. The tomb was empty! An angel said, “Do not be afraid. Jesus is not here. He has risen, just as He said! ”The women ran to tell the others. Jesus was alive! He appeared to His friends and showed them He was really Himself. Because Jesus rose from the dead, He is our living Savior. He can forgive us and stay with us forever. We can trust Him and say, “Jesus, You are my Savior.”

Teaching Points

- Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. Death could not keep Him.
- Because He is alive, He can save us and be with us always.
- When we trust Jesus, He becomes our Savior—He forgives our sins and makes us part of God’s family.

Interactive Questions

- “How do you think Jesus’ friends felt when they found the empty tomb?”
- “What does it mean that Jesus is alive today?”
- “Would you like Jesus to be your Savior? What can you say to Him?”

Simple Application

Children can pray a simple prayer of trust if they wish (no pressure): “Jesus, thank You for loving me and dying for me. Thank You for rising again. Please be my Savior. Amen.” They can also take home a picture of the empty tomb or a heart that says “Jesus is alive!”

Closing

Celebrate that Jesus is alive! Pray: “Thank You, Jesus, that You are our living Savior. We love You. Amen.” End with a joyful song about Jesus being alive or His love.

Extra Teacher Tips for Ages 5–9

- Keep each teaching segment under 5–7 minutes. Move quickly to questions and hands-on moments.
- Repeat the key idea often: “Jesus came for us / Jesus loves us / Jesus is alive and is our Savior.”
- Be gentle with the cross. Focus on Jesus’ love and choice rather than pain or violence.
- Never pressure children to pray a salvation prayer. Invite them warmly and let the Holy Spirit work.
- Celebrate every answer and use the children’s names.
- If a child asks a hard question (“Why did Jesus have to die?”), answer simply: “Because we all do wrong things, and Jesus loved us enough to take our place so we can be forgiven and close to God.”

These three lessons give children a clear, hopeful picture of Jesus as their Savior—the One who came, loved, died, rose, and lives forever for them. Teachers can adapt length, add familiar songs, or expand crafts as needed. The materials list uses items most classrooms already have or can gather easily.



Jesus Saves!



For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.

– John 3:16