

Unit 11 at a Glance

Jesus' Beginnings

Unit Overview

In this unit, the students begin a new and exciting journey into the New Testament. Beginning with the amazing events surrounding Jesus' birth and boyhood, the students discover God's plan to send Jesus. Jesus' baptism and temptation are the next stops in this awesome look at Jesus' relationship with God. The students will learn that Jesus was not only victorious over the devil's temptations, but he was also devoted to his Father's mission. The calling of Jesus' first disciples brings this unit to a close—but your child's adventures with Jesus have just begun!

Unit Goals

- The students will learn that God had a plan to send Jesus.
- The students will see that Jesus always depended on God.
- The students will believe that God has a plan for their lives.

Unit Contents

Lesson 1 The Early Years

Scripture Memory Verse

Matthew 1:23

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—with means, "God with us."

The students begin their New Testament journey with the miraculous birth of Jesus. With angels to protect them, Joseph leads his family to safety in Egypt and then back to Nazareth. As they watch God's perfect plan unfold, the students will consider the plans that God has in store for each of them.

Lesson 2 Baptism and Temptation

Scripture Memory Verse

Matthew 3:17

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

John the Baptist preaches the word and prepares the way of the Lord. His preaching reveals hearts and provides the people with signs of their times. At Jesus' baptism, God proclaims his favor with his Son as Jesus begins his time of temptation in the desert. The students will see Jesus' total dependence upon God as they think of ways that they can depend on God.

Lesson 3 The First Disciples

Scripture Memory Verse

Matthew 4:19

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Jesus quickly begins his mission of fishing for men. As he calls Peter and Andrew, James and John, and others, it's clear that Jesus was a man who loved to please his father and fulfill his purpose. As the disciples leave their nets to follow Jesus, the students will consider their own costs of following Jesus.



3rd and 4th Grades



3rd and 4th Grades

Dear Parent,

In this unit, the students begin a new and exciting journey into the New Testament. Beginning with the amazing events surrounding Jesus' birth and boyhood, the students discover God's plan to send Jesus. Jesus' baptism and temptation are the next stops in this awesome look at Jesus' relationship with God. The students will learn that Jesus was not only victorious over the devil's temptations, but he was also devoted to his Father's mission. The calling of Jesus' first disciples brings this unit to a close—but your child's adventures with Jesus have just begun!

On the reverse side of this page, you will find an outline and a description of the lessons that comprise this unit. Included with each lesson is a Scripture Memory Verse for you to review with your child at home.

Your active involvement outside the classroom is essential and will truly make the Kingdom Kids Curriculum a great success for your child. Here are some suggested ways you can reinforce these lessons at home:

- Talk to your child about the birth and boyhood of Jesus. Help him to understand that it is not just a story for Christmas. Together with your child, make a list of all the miracles surrounding Jesus' birth—from the angelic announcement to God's divine protection from danger. Help your child to see that God's plan unfolded perfectly.
- Have a family devotional about overcoming temptation. Have each family member share one temptation and then share verses and ideas to help each other overcome those temptations. Have a time to pray for each other. Use meal and travel time throughout the week to encourage and follow up with each other's progress.

NOTE: Use wisdom and discretion when sharing about your temptations. Get advice if you do not know whether your child should hear about a specific area of temptation in your life.

- Certainly it would not be best for you to share about sexual temptations or anything that would put another family member or your marriage in a disparaging light.
- Play a game of "Go Fish" with a new twist! Have the cards stand for disciples. Each time a person tells another to take a card, have him say, "Go make disciples!" With each pair, a player says, "I made a disciple." At the end of the game, each person can count their pairs and say how many disciples they made. Everyone wins! Talk about real ways that your family can be like Jesus and bring friends to church to learn about Jesus. Pray with your children for the people you are reaching out to.

We look forward to being partners with you to help your child grow to know and love God more.

Thank you,

Your child's teachers