THE UNIQUENESS OF JESUS

UNIT OVERVIEW

As children, many of us chose heroes from the world around us to idolize and imitate. Some of our heroes were actors, some were sports figures, some were political figures and some were our parents, close family members or friends. As disciples, our hero is undeniable. Jesus left his place in heaven to live with us on earth, teach us about God, take on our sins, and be crucified and die for us. His character and qualities allowed Jesus to accomplish such an incredible and difficult mission. His humanness allowed him to identify with us, and us to identify with him. In this unit, the students will come to understand the character and qualities of Jesus that make him our hero. In coming to understand his sacrifice, his power and his conviction, the students will develop a deeper awareness and gratitude for the Lord and Savior of the world.

UNIT GOALS

1. The students will use John 1:14 to show that Jesus is God.
2. The students will understand Jesus' part in creation, and the gratitude we owe him for this.
3. The students will understand that Jesus' words must be the standard in our lives, and that his words will judge us in the end.
4. The students will understand that because he was human, Jesus understands our struggles and can help us be victorious over them.

UNIT CONTENTS

LESSON 1 HE IS GOD

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE — JOHN 1:14

Most of us have an understanding of the power and majesty of God. Yet we tend to forget that Jesus was God in the flesh, and that he possessed the same power and majesty as his Father. Because of this, he deserves our utmost obedience and respect. In this lesson, the students will develop a deeper respect for Jesus, not only as the Son of God, but as God himself. This respect will, in turn, lead the students to a greater desire to learn and obey all the teachings of Jesus.

LESSON 2 HE IS CREATOR

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE — COLOSSIANS 1:16A

Many of our students know Jesus from their reading about his life on earth. Few of them, however, consider that Jesus was as much a part of the Creation as God. By coming to understand Jesus' role in the creation of the world, the students will gain a much deeper appreciation and gratitude to Jesus for all that he gave before he came to earth.

LESSON 3 HE IS JUDGE

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE — JOHN 12:48

Because of Jesus' incomparable life and death, his words and commands must carry a great weight in our lives. We must understand that his words will judge our lives in the end, and if we have not lived by these words, we will not have eternal life. Jesus sets the standard for our lives throughout the gospels, and there can be no denying what is expected. In this lesson, the students will understand that Jesus' words must be the standard in our lives. If we make life choices based on these teachings, he will judge us worthy to share eternity with him.

LESSON 4 HE IS HUMAN

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE — HEBREWS 4:15

We all want someone in our lives with whom we can identify. We seek out those who are like us, and who we think can understand our feelings and our needs. By sending Jesus to earth in human form, God gave someone who knows and understands each of us. Jesus felt all the things that we feel, including the temptations of sin. Yet, he never gave in to those temptations, but rather, he overcame because of his incredible relationship with God. In this lesson, the students will learn that Jesus does identify with our joys and sorrows, our temptations and our victories. Because of this, we are able to place our trust in him, and allow him to help us overcome in all our areas of weakness.

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GENERATION Next

Preteens

Dear Parent,

On the reverse side of this page you will find an outline and description of the lessons which comprise this unit. The weekly Scripture Memory Verse is listed with each lesson synopsis.

As part of the class experience, the students are given a Weekly Challenge. Below is a list of the challenges given with the lessons:

LESSON 1 HE IS GOD

Weekly Challenge: Choose one way to show respect for Jesus this week.

LESSON 2 HE IS CREATOR

Weekly Challenge: Write down each day one powerful thing Jesus created that affected your day and one thing (from your day) that Jesus created that you would miss had he not created it.

LESSON 3 HE IS JUDGE

Weekly Challenge:

- What specific passage of the Bible will you commit to respect and obey this week?
- How will you respect and obey this scripture?
- With whom will you share what you have learned?

LESSON 4 HE IS HUMAN

Weekly Challenge: Call someone in the group during the week to pray about a struggle you are having that day.

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 for you to reinforce these lessons at home:

- Share with your child why you love and respect Jesus.
- Review the memory verse before bedtime, at dinner or while riding in the car.
- While eating dinner, talk about something that your child really enjoyed about Bible class this week.
- Ask your child to share with you how he or she is doing with the weekly challenge. Give encouragement or direction as needed.
- Have a family devotional using the memory verse (or parallel verses) this week.
- Allow your child to share with younger siblings what he or she is learning in class.
- Don't forget to encourage your child as he or she uses the Preteen Quiet Time Book that gives daily support for the lesson of the week.

> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.
>
> Deuteronomy 6:5-7

We look forward to being partners with you as we help *Generation Next* to be zealous and effective as they move forward the kingdom of our God.

Thank you,

Your child's teachers

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