

Human

Luke 2:41-52

God Story

Kid Jesus at the Temple
Luke 2:41-52

Big Idea

Jesus lived a human life.

Key Verse

"We have come to believe
and to know that you are
the Holy One of God."
John 6:69

Leader Tip

Pray for the students in
your group before they
arrive.

My Story

1. Conversation Starter

7 MINUTES

Introduce today's Big Idea. Talk about what the students were like as younger kids and what they think Jesus might have been like. Tie in the God Story by chatting about trips they've taken with their families.

2. Intro Activity

5 MINUTES

Play a game in which the students must find a hidden bean and link it to Jesus' parents searching for him.

God Story | Life Story

3. Weekly Video

12 MINUTES

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

My Story

4. Application Activity

12 MINUTES*

Read and discuss Luke 2:46 and 2:52. Highlight that Jesus lived a human life.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

10 MINUTES

Guide the students to consider what they might ask the teachers at the temple. Encourage them to search for answers in the week ahead!

Our Story

6. Dismissal

2 MINUTES

* Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.

My Story

1. Conversation Starter

Supplies

- None

Leader Tip

Choose the questions below that will work best for your group.

Instructions

- As the students arrive, greet them and gather everyone together.
- Check in quickly to see how their week went.
- Remind the group that last week we kicked off a new series about the life of Jesus. So far, we've talked about how he is God's greatest promise!
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Jesus lived a human life.**
- Ask:
 - What were you like when you were a little younger? Were you full of energy? Were you shy? Did you ask a lot of questions?
 - What do you think Jesus was like as a kid? Would he ask a lot of questions? Do you think his mom, Mary, ever had to ask him to do anything twice?
 - What do you think it would have been like growing up and having Jesus as your friend?
 - Has your family ever gone on a big trip? Maybe you flew somewhere on a vacation or went on a road trip? Where did you go?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- Ask: How many of you are 12 years old?
- Let the students know that Jesus is 12 when he goes on a trip with his family in today's God Story.

2. Intro Activity

Supplies

- Disposable cups
- Dried beans

Instructions

- Guide the students to form groups of two or three people. Make sure no one feels left out.
- Give each group three cups and one bean.
- Instruct one person from each group to place their group's cups upside down on a flat surface and hide the bean under one of them.
- Direct that person to shuffle around the cups quickly.
- Prompt the other group member(s) to guess where the bean is hidden.
- As they search for the hidden bean, explain that today's story is about a time when Jesus' parents searched for him in Jerusalem.
- If time permits, repeat so that all the students get a chance to hide the bean.

God Story | Life Story

3. Weekly Video

Instructions

Supplies

- Video file

- a. Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Kid Jesus at the Temple | Luke 2:41-52)
 - Life Story (Caiden and Abby experience some things Jesus would've done when he was young.)
- b. Invite the students to give a quick recap of what happened in the God and Life Stories.
- c. Ask:
 - What stood out to you in these stories?
 - How do they connect together and also to the Big Idea (**Jesus lived a human life**)?

My Story

4. Application Activity

Instructions

Supplies

- Bibles

- a. Ask the students to imagine how Mary and Joseph felt when they realized they had lost Jesus. Not only did they lose their son—a terrifying experience for anyone—but they lost God's son!
- b. Ensure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- c. Guide the students to look up and read Luke 2:46.
- d. Discuss:
 - What did Jesus' parents find him doing?
 - What kinds of questions do you think Jesus asked the teachers?
 - What questions do you have about God and/or Jesus?
 - What are you learning about God and/or Jesus?
- e. Look up and read Luke 2:52.
- f. Highlight that Jesus lived a human life just like you and me. He "grew in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and all the people" (NLT). We're invited to learn from Jesus and become his disciple, which is a follower or student of a leader or teacher. Just as Jesus listened to and asked questions of the teachers at the temple, we can learn about God and what it means to follow him as we look at the way Jesus lived his life—even as he was growing up.

5. Wrap-Up Activity

Supplies

- Index cards with Luke 2:41-52 printed on them
- Pens

Instructions

- a. Give each student a card and a pen.
- b. Ask: If you had a chance to sit and listen to the teachers at the temple and ask questions like Jesus did, what would you want to find out about?
- c. Direct everyone to write their questions on their cards.
- d. Encourage them to take home their cards and look for answers this week. They could look in their Bibles or talk with people they know follow Jesus and ask them questions.
- e. Explain that it's okay to have questions that you don't get answers to right away. Following Jesus isn't about having things all figured out!

Our Story

6. Dismissal

Supplies

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

Instructions

- a. Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
 - b. Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
 - c. Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.
 - d. Ensure the adult teaching is over before dismissing the students.
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