



Teacher's Guide

Introduction:

The Jesus is Real curriculum is a four-week, teacher-driven, media-rich curriculum for grades 2-6. It is ideal to use during Easter or for Preteens that are hungry for reasons for their faith! The content is geared toward sixth graders, however it is presented in ways that are appropriate even for second graders.

Unlike most video-based curriculums, these lessons are not “plug and play”. Instead, the Teacher is the focal point. They set up and interact with the children between each media segment, helping them to fully engage. The creative teaching provided on the video supports what the Teacher is communicating.

Fully Customizable Lessons:

We understand that each church is unique and that you are the person that understands your children the best. For that reason, we include a DVD-ROM that contains all the curriculum and video files. You are free to modify any of the Word® or Publisher® documents. You are also able to import the individual video files and slides into presentation software like MediaShout® which allows you to change the entire order of the lesson.

However, you may not use customized lessons for resale in any form, digital or hardcopy.

Deceptively Easy To Use:

We know that your time is extremely valuable because, like you, we prepare and teach lessons every weekend. At first, the curriculum documents may look intimidating. Trust us, you will find the lessons extremely easy to prepare for and teach. Over the years, we have found that it takes a Teacher about 45 minutes to be completely ready to teach and a Small Group Leader only needs about 15 minutes.

All the supplies needed are clearly printed on the top of the Large Group and Small Group Lessons. These supplies will either be easy and inexpensive to obtain or provided for you to simply print out. If you are happy with the order of the service, you simply need to pop the DVD into your DVD Player and press “Start Lesson”.

What's Provided:

- 4 Jesus is Real interactive Large Group programs on Media DVDs
- 4 Jesus is Real lessons for Large Group and Small Group in PDF format on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Activities and visuals for Large Group and Small Group lessons in PDF format on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Take-home sheets to connect with parents each week in PDF format on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Customizable Word® and Publisher® documents for adapting lessons to meet your specific ministry needs on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Teaching Videos and Slides for importing into presentation software like MediaShout® on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- Worship Videos along with Worship Hand-motion Videos and Documents on Curriculum DVD-ROM
- 8 Gospel Hands Flip Tracts that will be used during Week 3 to communicate the plan of salvation to children

What You Need:

- A DVD projector and projection screen or a large television and DVD player
- A teaching area with floor space big enough to accommodate all your kids and adult leaders in grades K-5
- Basic supplies listed at the beginning of each Large Group and Small Group lessons
- A Large Group Teacher and one adult Small Group Leader for every age-appropriate Small Group
- *Optional:* A volunteer to operate the DVD (if desired, the Large Group Teacher can operate with remote)
- *Optional:* An administrator to coordinate set-up, gathering supplies, and copying materials; however set up for this curriculum is simple enough for the Large Group Teacher to coordinate if desired

Decorating the Room:

No specific stage set is required for this series. However, you may choose to decorate your room as a News Room including a News Desk, On-Air sign, Video Camera, and Directors Chair.

Large Group/Small Group Format:

The Small Group Lesson is broken up into three components: Small Group Connection, Small Group Discussion, and Small Group Activity. These components are then embedded into the Large Group Lesson at strategic locations.

- The **Small Group Connection** is placed in the beginning to relationally connect with each child and to get them thinking about what they will be learning
- The **Small Group Discussion** is placed right after the children view the Bible Story on the video. They have an opportunity to open their Bibles and discuss the story in their small group
- The **Small Group Activity** is placed at the end of the lesson and is intended to be an extended time for children to experience a hands-on activity that helps them apply the lesson

How To Use the DVD:

Simply pop the DVD into your DVD Player and press "Start Lesson".

The video and multimedia is created to serve YOU. Take as much time as needed when you teach the children; the DVD will automatically wait for you! It won't jump ahead before you're prepared and you don't even need to worry about pressing the "Pause" button.

When you're ready to move to the next segment, be sure the forward arrow on the bottom of the screen is highlighted (this will always be the default) and press the "Enter/OK" button on your DVD remote.

If you ever need to return to a previous segment, simply highlight the back arrow on the bottom of the screen and press the "Enter/OK" button to go back.



Scope and Sequence:

| Week | Bible Truth | Bible Story | Bible Verse |
|------|--|--|---|
| 1 | Who did Jesus think He was anyway? <i>Jesus said He was God in human skin!</i> | John 10:22-42 (Jesus claims to be Son of God) John 11:1-44 (Jesus raises Lazarus from dead) | Colossians 1:15 (NLT) "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation." |
| 2 | What's up with all the prophecies? <i>All the ancient predictions about the Messiah came true in Jesus' life!</i> | John 12:12-19 (Jesus triumphant entry) John 12:20-50 (Jesus predicts his death) Isaiah 53:1-12 (Prophecy of Messiah's death) | Luke 24:44 (NLT) "I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." |
| 3 | Did Jesus really come back from the dead? <i>Jesus came back to life to prove He is God!</i> | John 20:1-18 (Jesus rose from the dead) John 20:19-29 (Jesus appears to Thomas) | John 20:31 (NLT) "These are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in Him you will have life by the power of His name." |
| 4 | What did Jesus really accomplish? <i>Jesus changed the lives of billions of people!</i> | Acts 1:3-11 (Jesus ascends into heaven) Acts 2:1-41 (Pentecost & birth of church) | 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) "Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" |

Lesson Segments and Flow:

This curriculum has been designed with grade school children in mind. We understand that each child is unique and they have their own learning style. For that reason we have programmed the lesson to include many learning styles (visual, auditory, and tactile/kinesthetic). Each week we teach one Bible Truth, however we teach it in multiple ways. Even the order of the lesson is intentional so that children will not be sitting for long periods of time. Over the years, we found that even the youngest children enjoy, and are engaged, for the full 60 minutes. Below are the individual segments and their purpose:

1. Countdown Video

Used to call attention to the children and play music while they all gather into the teaching area. We recommend that children sit next to their Small Group Leader.

2. Welcome & Opening Prayer

Warmly welcome children to your children's ministry. This is also a great time to make any specific announcements or acknowledge birthdays. It is also recommended that you open in prayer asking for God's blessing on your time together.

3. Small Group Connection

We want to make sure that we connect with every child God brought our way. This is the time for children to turn to their Small Group Leader who will ask them a few simple get-to-know-you-better questions. The countdown video will signal when it's time for them to refocus on you, the upfront teacher.

4. Worship Song #1 – Your Word

We like to get kids up on their feet and moving to upbeat worship songs. Not only do we get a chance to sing praises to God, but we also give kids a chance to work off any pent-up energy! Hand-motion documents and videos for all songs are located on the Curriculum DVD-ROM.

This song, from Rick Altizer (popular creator of Worship Jamz), is part of his latest project called The Logoz (www.TheLogoz.com). His animated scripture memory rock band based this song on Psalm 119:103-105 (God's Word Translation). Your children will be memorizing great Bible Verses while they sing great songs!

5. Opening Icebreaker

We like to have a visual element that will help the children understand the lesson. This short illustration is really just to get the kids minds engaged with the day's topic.

6. Bible Truth – Question/Answer

This is the main teaching point for today's lesson. Everything revolves around communicating this Biblical truth. This truth is stated in a question/answer format. The question presents what a skeptical world might ask and the answer is the Biblical truth.

7. B.A.D. News Video – Part 1

This is the first part of the teaching video. The setting is the Breaking Action Daily News team featuring news anchors Walter Riley and Cindy Sunshine. Their producer Bentley is very uptight about the fact that they are dead-last in the ratings and suggests that Walter investigate Jesus hoping to prove that Jesus is a Fake. Walter interacts with a number of characters during his investigations, including a helpful boy named Ramon and a mysterious janitor named Gabe. Each week Walter discovers more facts that prove that Jesus is not a fake, but real! This first part of the video ends after Ramon shares what he learned from the flannel-graph Bible story he heard at Sunday School.

8. Small Group Discussion

This is a chance for your children to open up their Bibles, read a portion of the story they just watched, and then discuss it with their Small Group Leader. For younger children, read the Bible story while they follow along in their Bibles. The countdown video will signal when it's time to refocus on you, the upfront teacher.

9. Worship Song #2 – God Loved the World this Way

Once again, we like to get kids up on their feet and moving to upbeat worship songs. This song from Rick Altizer and The Logoz band is based on John 3:16-17 (God's Word Translation).

10. B.A.D. News Video – Part 2

This is the conclusion to the teaching video. This section of video shows Walter interviewing different experts (Pastor, Professor, Physician, and Printer) and then presenting his report on the evening news.

11. Bible Verse

This is the Bible verse that clearly communicates what we are teaching today. It is a good idea to actually take out your Bible and read from it. If you have extra time (longer than 70 minute service) you can see which of your students can find the verse the fastest and give them a reward. Another option (to fill extra time) is to have children help you come up with hand-motions for the verse and then practice it a few times. You can then reward children who memorize it. I simply recommend reading it and then explaining it in your own words so that the children understand it.

12. Creative Teaching

This is a way to summarize the lesson in a creative and memorable way. We believe that children learn best from a loving and engaging teacher. The video and multimedia are there only to support you. The goal of this segment is for a light bulb to go off in each child's head. You want them to truly understand and remember the Bible Truth. This is also an excellent time to help them make the connection between this truth and their life. How can what they just learned change how they live their life?

13. OPTIONAL: Personal Application Story

If you have the time in your service, then you can follow-up your Creative Teaching with a personal application story. This is where you share a short story about how this Bible Truth was lived out (or not lived out) in your life. Please try to keep your stories short and age-appropriate. If you can't think of any examples, you could present a hypothetical case. This is completely optional, but also a powerful way to have your children connect with you as their teacher. Many times, this will be the main thing they remember and share with others.

14. Rapid Rewind Review

This is a time to reinforce the content of the lesson. There are 6 simple questions to ask. If you want you can provide a small candy prize for each correct answer. No need to bring children upfront, just have them raise their hand if they know the answer.

15. Closing Prayer

Conclude with a sincere prayer that repeats the Bible Truth and/or uses the Bible Verse.

16. Small Group Activity

This is a chance for your children to gather with their Small Group Leaders one last time and do a short activity that will help them apply today's Bible truth. We will not display a Countdown since this should take the rest of the service time.

17. Dismiss to Parents

Dismiss children to their parents!

Curriculum Icons:

This curriculum contains the following icons that point out key actions for you to take during the lesson.



Tells you when you need to push the "Enter/OK" button on the DVD remote to advance the presentation.



Tells you when there is text in the notes that you should say to the children.



Tells you when there are discussion questions that a Small Group Leader should ask the children.

Memorization and Cheat Sheet:

The best lessons are those that you make your own. The teaching notes contain every word to say, however it is not necessary to memorize each word. It is definitely not recommended that you read to the children from the teaching notes! We believe that if you invest 45 minutes reading through each lesson and making it your own, you will be able to teach the lesson with minimal referral to the lesson notes.

To help, we provide what we call a "Cheat Sheet" which contains the basic components and order of the lesson. Simply place this sheet on the floor where you can quickly glance at it to know what's coming next. You can also refer to your teaching notes during one of the two videos to remind you of what you'll be saying/doing next.

The key to keeping the children engaged is to actively engage them when you are teaching. Look at them in the eye, walk around the classroom, and speak in ways that are natural to you. If you look unprepared, that opens the door for lots of classroom discipline issues. Since this may be a new format for you, spend as much time as you need during preparation time to feel comfortable in front of the kids. Most important, pray before the lesson, and maybe silently during the lesson, that God would use you to communicate His truth powerfully and effectively.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to e-mail me at dhuffman@chapel.org.