

7. Jesus Brings Good News (Luke 4:14-30)

So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives.
(Mark 6:12)



PLAN

Session Outline

1. Gather

Greeting
Jesus Brings Good News
Good News Scroll
Transition to Explore

2. Explore

Sacred Conversation
Hear and See the Bible Story
Interact with the Bible Story
Say the Bible Verse
Transition to Respond

3. Respond

The Books of the Bible
Look It Up
Loving God,
Loving Neighbor
Transition to Bless

4. Bless

Inviting
Praising
Blessing
At Home with God

Supplies

Basic Supplies: CD player | DVD player | Projector or screen | Television | Craft glue | Crayons | Markers | Offering basket | Paper | Pencils | Scissors | Tape

Gather: Bell | Carpet squares | Poster paper

Explore: Bell

Respond: Bell | Bibles | Candle | Carpet squares | Decorative supplies | Multipurpose lighter | Water bottles

Bless: Cup | Medicine dropper | Towel | Water

Before You Teach

Synagogues are places of worship for people of the Jewish faith. In Jesus' time, Jewish people gathered together in the synagogue for worship and for the teaching of the Scripture and the law. After Jesus' baptism and his experience being tempted in the wilderness, Jesus began to teach in the synagogue. The Bible tells us it was Jesus' custom to go to the synagogue on the Sabbath. Jesus' custom was not only to worship in the synagogue, but also to present his message there. Jesus' visit to the synagogue in Nazareth is significant for two reasons: because Nazareth was his hometown and because of the Scripture Jesus chose to read that day.

While he was in the synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus was handed the scroll of Isaiah to read. There were usually several readers in the synagogue. Each reader would read a part of Scripture, then preach on the text. The Bible tells us Jesus stood to read from the scroll, then sat down to teach—the customary practice at the time. Jesus chose to read a passage from Isaiah that essentially announced what his ministry was to be about: bringing good news to the poor, and proclaiming release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind. It could be said that Jesus was reading his mission statement.

The last part of the story is more difficult to understand. The synagogue crowd turned on Jesus. Luke 4:22 says they were amazed at the words that he spoke. In verse 29 they attempted to hurl him off a cliff! It has been speculated that the crowd became upset when Jesus insisted his message was for everyone, and those in Nazareth were not to receive special privilege. The people of Nazareth may have wanted Jesus to spend extra time in Nazareth and bestow extra blessings on them. They were upset when this was not Jesus' plan.

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GATHER

Greeting

Before class: Display your choice of attendance chart (Class Kit—pp. 16-17 or pp. 18 & 15).

- Play “Only You” (Annual Music CD).
 - Welcome and greet each child as he or she enters the room.
 - Indicate location of the offering basket.
 - Help children mark their attendance inside the building on the Community Attendance Chart (opt.).
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A—Jesus Brings Good News (Activity Sheet)

Before class: Obtain Activity Sheets (Session 7).

- Distribute “Good News”/“Books of the Bible” (pp. 15-16).
 - Encourage the children to follow the journaling prompt and complete the activities.
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OR

B—Good News Scroll (Collaborative Art)

Before class: Cut a large piece of poster paper.

- Direct the children to create a title for Good News Scroll. Write it on the paper or let a child do so.

SAY: In today’s Bible story, Jesus shared good news with a crowd of people. Jesus is always teaching us about the good news.

ASK: What good news do you want to share with others? What good news do you want to share about Jesus?

- Let the children write, draw, and decorate the scroll. Display the scroll in your Sunday-school space.

SAY: It is always great to share the good news of Jesus.

Transition to Explore

Before class: Obtain bell and carpet squares.

- Ring the bell to acknowledge that it is time to transition.
- Direct the children to choose carpet squares (or equivalent items), then sit in a circle on the floor.

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EXPLORE

Sacred Conversation

- Ask a few wondering questions.

ASK: I wonder:

- What made you laugh this week?
 - How did you help someone this week?
 - What are you grateful for?
 - Was there a difficult part of your week, and what made it better?
 - Where did you see God this week?
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Hear and See the Bible Story

Before class: Prepare television and DVD player.

- Read the Bible story together (*CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible—Luke 4:14-30*).
- Watch the Deep Blue Adventure DVD Session 7.

ASK: When have you shared good news?

Interact with the Bible Story

Before class: Obtain Bible Story Sheets (Session 7).

- Distribute the Bible Story Sheets and draw attention to Bible Story Retelling (p. 1).
 - Assign the two parts, then present “Jesus Brings Good News.”
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Say the Bible Verse

Before class: Display Poster: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—pp. 12 & 21). Review Unit 2 sign language (Leader Guide—p. 92).

- Recite the Bible verse, “So they went out and proclaimed that people should change their hearts and lives” (Mark 6:12).
 - Invite the children to say and sign the Bible verse with you.
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Transition to Respond

Before class: Obtain bell.

- Ring the bell, then invite the children to put away their carpet squares.

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RESPOND

A—The Books of the Bible (Logical)

Before class: Obtain Bibles. Photocopy “Books of the Bible” (Leader Guide—p. 48), one per child.

- Distribute the photocopies of “Books of the Bible.”
- Direct the children to use their Bibles to label the Books of the Bible.

TIP: Encourage the children to work together in teams.

OR

B—Look it Up (Logical)

Before class: Obtain Bibles.

SAY: In today’s Bible story, Jesus read from the Book of Isaiah. Let’s read it together.

- Distribute the Bibles. Direct the children to look up Isaiah 61:1-4. Recite together verse 1.

SAY: Jesus read the words of the prophet because he learned these words when he was growing up.

ASK: What Bible verses have you learned?

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

Before class: Obtain Map 6: Deep Blue Shores (Class Kit—p. 8) and Figures/Pieces: Deep Blue Shores Map 6 (Class Kit—p. 25). Display Mission Poster (Class Kit—p. 5). Obtain reusable water bottles and decorative supplies.

- Display the Deep Blue Shores Map 6 on the floor or table. While the children interact with the map and figures, talk about the mission.

SAY: Today we will learn more about our project: The Jubilee Project. The Jubilee Project helps people living in poverty who do not have clean water. We are going to decorate reusable water bottles.

- Distribute the water bottles. Encourage them to decorate their bottles.

SAY: Use your bottle to drink water this week. Drink all the water in your bottles and try not to waste any water. If you do not drink it all, use the extra to water a plant or to provide water for a pet’s water bowl. It is important not to waste clean water.

Transition to Bless

Before class: Obtain bell, candle, multipurpose lighter (or battery-operated candle), carpet squares.

- Ring the bell to signal transition.
- Direct the children to each choose a carpet square, then sit in a circle on the floor.

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BLESS

Inviting

Before class: Continue to display Poster: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—pp. 12 & 21) where it is easily accessible for children. Obtain Poster Pieces: Unit 2 Bible Verse (Class Kit—p. 29).

- Gather the children around the Bible-verse poster.
- Display the poster pieces.
- Invite a child to attach to the poster the poster piece “Jesus brings me good news.”

PRAY: Thank you, Jesus, for teaching me your ways. Amen.

Praising

Before class: Obtain CD player and Deep Blue Song Sheets.

- Distribute the song sheets for “Only You” (Annual Music CD).
 - Sing the song “Only You” (Annual Music CD).
 - Sign the Bible verse (Leader Guide—p. 92).
 - Collect the song sheets and store until the next session.
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Blessing

Before class: Obtain a cup of water, medicine dropper, and a towel. Fill the dropper with water.

- Direct the children to be seated in their chairs in a circle.
- Working inside the circle, place a drop a water on the back of each child’s hand.
- As the water runs off the child’s hand, say the blessing.

SAY: You are dearly loved.

At Home with God

ASK: What is one thing that you learned today? Can you share with your family what you learned?

- Send home with each child Bible Story Sheets—Session 7 leaflet.

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Books of the Bible

