

PRESCHOOL GUIDE 2

JESUS IS FULLY GOD ADVENT - JESUS IS

BIG TRUTH: JESUS IS FULLY GOD

John 8:19, 8:58; 17:1-5; Philippians 2:5-6; Colossians 1:15-16; Hebrews 1:8

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 1:2

"He was in the beginning with God."

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus has always existed as God.
- Jesus created everything and keeps creation alive.
- Jesus alone is the source of new life and spiritual sight.

BIBLE STORY: MATTHEW 1:18-24

When Mary conceived Jesus by the Holy Spirit, she was betrothed, or engaged to Joseph. Joseph planned to quietly divorce her, but the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph proclaiming that Mary was pregnant with the Messiah. The Messiah was to be called Immanuel, which means God with us.

FOUNDATION: ADVENT

Advent is a special celebration and contemplation of the coming of Jesus Christ that Christians participate in during the Christmas season. Advent literally means "arrival" or "coming". During Advent season God's people remember and rejoice in Jesus' first coming to save his people from their sins, while at the same time long with anticipation and expectation for His return. Advent centers on Jesus, the saving Son. He alone is the Word, fully God, fully man, and our only hope.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- Jesus is the living fulfillment of God's Word.
- Jesus is fully God and fully man.
- Jesus is our only hope.



Every child should feel:

- Thankful that Jesus came to save us from our sins.
- Wonder and awe at the reality of the incarnation.
- Burdened for those who do not know the good news



Every child should be able to:

- Memorize John 1:1-4, 9-14 (pick verses based on stage of development that they are in)
- Give to or serve someone sacrificially who doesn't know Jesus as a means to share the good news about Jesus with them.



Every child should want:

- Know more about Jesus.
- To give to others because God gave his Son for us.

FAMILY DEVOTION: JESUS IS GOD

When the angel of the Lord declared the birth of the Messiah, he called Him, Immanuel, which means God with us. This means that Jesus is fully God. He has all the attributes of God because He is God.



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ADVENT - JESUS IS JESUS IS FULLY GOD

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 1:2

"He was in the beginning with God."

Jesus is God and has always been.

"He was in the beginning with God."

- Jesus' deity is significant because without it, He is not the perfect sacrifice for mankind.
- The Apostle John addresses Jesus' deity in the opening verses of his account of the life of Jesus.
- He says that Jesus is the Word of God and the Word was present with God at creation.
- It's important that Jesus' deity is established because without it, His life on earth is not perfect and His death on the cross does not fulfill man's sin debt.

Jesus has always been fully God.

- Jesus is fully God and has always been so.
- He is one of the three persons of the triune God and John begins to establish this truth in his gospel account.
- When Jesus became a man, He did not lose His deity.
- He remained fully God even when He took on flesh and became a human.

Jesus is eternal.

"and the Word was God."

- Jesus is eternal---meaning He has no beginning and no end.
- Though when He was born as a man He began His human life on earth, His deity has no beginning and no end.
- He overcame His own death to rise again to life.
- Jesus was present with God the Father always.
- He was present and active in Creation and is active now sustaining creation.

ADVENT - JESUS IS JESUS IS FULLY GOD

BIBLE STORY: MATTHEW 1:18-24

Immanuel, God With Us

Supporting Scripture: John 1:2; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Acts 17:28; 1 Corinthians 8:6; John 1:4-5; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Colossians 1:13

Teacher Introduction:

God gave the first prophecy concerning the coming Savior in the Garden of Eden when He was cursing Adam and Eve.¹ Many, many more prophecies followed throughout the years between the fall of man and the birth of Jesus. In Matthew 1:18-24, Matthew gives us a look into the intimate lives of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Joseph, her betrothed, or fiancé. Mary and Joseph had been betrothed, or engaged, for some time. In Jewish culture, their betrothal was as binding as a marriage though they were not yet living together as husband and wife. When Joseph learned that Mary was pregnant, he had a decision to make—end the engagement publicly, shaming her publicly, or end it privately and save her from the public shame that her circumstance brought. Matthew tells us that Joseph was a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, so he decided to divorce her privately. Joseph's plan revealed he was an honorable man, but God's plan was greater. An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream revealing that the child Mary was carrying had been conceived from the Holy Spirit. The angel instructed Joseph to not divorce Mary, but instead to take her as his wife. Then the angel revealed the true identity of the child Mary would give birth to when he commanded Joseph to name the child Jesus and told Joseph that Jesus would save His people from their sins. Mary was carrying the promised Messiah. Matthew goes on to reveal that Jesus isn't just someone sent from God, but He is God when he quotes from Isaiah 7:14 and says that Jesus will be called "Immanuel", which means "God with us." Jesus is fully God and when He came to the earth born of Mary, it was God coming to the world to save the world.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the truth: Immanuel, God With Us. The three points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from Matthew 1:18-24 and teach the truth that Jesus is fully God. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the truth that Jesus is fully God.

Opening Illustration:

Bring in several empty pitchers and several bottles of water. Set the pitchers in front of the room on a table. Next, pour the bottles of water into one of the pitchers. Tell the children that the pitcher represents God. Next, pour water into a second pitcher and tell them that it represents Jesus. Ask the children to name some differences between the pitchers (there should be none). Tell them that Jesus is as much God as God the Father is God. Jesus is God and He is the Creator of all life.

1. Genesis 3:15: God promises in the curse He places upon Eve that there would be one of her seed who would crush Satan, or the serpent.

ADVENT - JESUS IS JESUS IS FULLY GOD

BIG IDEA: JESUS HAS ALWAYS EXISTED AS GOD.²

Jesus is fully God and equal with God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

- God is one God in three persons. This means that God has a triune nature. The three persons of God are the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- All three persons are fully God and equal with one another, yet they submit to one another according to the will of God.
- Jesus is one of the three persons of God.
- This means that He is not partially God, but fully God.
- Jesus is equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit.



Give each preschooler a piece of paper with the word “Immanuel” written on it in glue. Next, help the preschoolers glue dry beans over the letters of the word. Talk with them about how “Immanuel” means God with us and it shows us that God came to the earth to be with us.

Jesus has always had a divine nature and did not stop being God when He became a man.

- Matthew 1:23 tells us that Mary’s son, Jesus would be called “Immanuel”. Immanuel means “God with us.”
- This shows us that Jesus did not lose His deity when He became a human being.
- Instead, He gained a human nature as well as kept His divine nature.
- Hebrew 1:1-3 shows us that Jesus is the exact imprint of God’s nature, meaning that He is God.

Jesus is eternal.

- When we read that Jesus was born to Mary, it’s easy to think that His life began at that point, but Jesus is not like us.
- His birth was different in that He was supernaturally conceived, unlike us.
- When Jesus entered Mary’s womb, He did so through the power of the Holy Spirit. He did not begin to exist at that point.
- He has always existed as Jesus the Son of God, and He will always exist as Jesus the Son of God.

What does “Immanuel” tell us about Jesus? (It tells us that He is God and that God came to the earth.)

2. John 1:2: In the beginning, Jesus was with God because He is God. He has always existed and was not created.

ADVENT - JESUS IS
JESUS IS FULLY GOD**BIG IDEA: JESUS CREATED EVERYTHING AND KEEPS CREATION ALIVE.³****Jesus is the Creator.**

- In John 1:2-3, the Apostle John tells us that Jesus was with God the Father in the beginning and all things were made through Jesus.
- Jesus is the Creator of everything.
- Nothing was made apart from Him.
- In Genesis 1, the creation of the world is detailed. When we read that account, we can know that Jesus was the Creator. He was present at Creation and actively involved in it.

All things come through Jesus.

- Jesus gives life to all things. He is the beginning and end of all things.
- Everything was made through Him and even for Him.⁴
- Jesus is preeminent over all things and all things exist for Him.
- When we understand that Jesus is God, we can better understand Jesus as the Creator of all things.
- Nothing exists outside of Jesus.

Jesus sustains creation and holds all things together in His power.

- In Jesus, all things hold together as seen in Colossians 1:17.
- By Jesus' power, the world and all of creation continue to exist and function.⁵
- The sun continues to shine, the earth continues to live, and people continue to exist all by Jesus' power and according to His will.⁶

Who created all things and sustains all things? (Jesus is the Creator of all things and by His power everything continues to exist.)

**DO**

Bring in an inflatable globe or draw one on the board. If you have an inflatable globe, play music and toss it from preschooler to preschooler. Stop the music and ask the preschooler holding the globe to name something that Jesus created. If you don't have an inflatable globe, play the music and have the children walk in a circle. The child still standing when the music stops gets to name something Jesus created. Remind them that Jesus is the Creator of all things and sustains all things.

3. John 1:3: Jesus is the Creator and Sustainer of all creation.

4. Colossians 1:16: All things were made for Jesus.

5. Acts 17:28: All things exist and function because of God.

6. 1 Corinthians 8:6: All things exist through the power of Jesus.

ADVENT - JESUS IS JESUS IS FULLY GOD

BIG IDEA: JESUS ALONE IS THE SOURCE OF NEW LIFE AND SPIRITUAL SIGHT.⁷

Jesus is the only source of life.

- All life comes from Jesus. He gives physical life on earth to everything.
- Nothing exists outside of Jesus or apart from Him.
- No one else can create living things or speak life into being.
- Though man can invent and create from materials and things that already exist, man cannot create or give life.
- John 1:4 says that in Jesus was life. This means that Jesus is the only source of any life.
- In Matthew 1:18-24, we see this source of life coming to the earth. Jesus' birth was a great occasion because the giver of all life was coming to the earth.



On a large piece of paper draw the outline of one of the preschoolers. Next, let the preschoolers add different aspects of a person to the outline that resembles themselves. For example, have a preschooler color hair on the outline to match their own hair color and etc. Remind the children that Jesus took on flesh to be human like us. He became a man to be human, but He was still God, like the outline looks like the class, but is still paper.

Jesus shines light on the darkness of the world.

- The fallen world we live in is full of darkness. Darkness is the evil and sin that permeate the world and the hearts of every person.
- Jesus came to save man from his sin and He came as the light shining on the darkness in this world.
- Those who follow Jesus no longer walk in the darkness, nor are they controlled by the darkness.
- Instead, they walk in the light that Jesus' life, death, and resurrection shone on this dark world.

Jesus is the only way to have spiritual life.

- When the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph, he said that Jesus would save His people from their sin.
- The angel was declaring that true spiritual life is found only through Jesus.
- Because Jesus came to the earth, lived a perfect life, and then died in our place, our sin debt can be forgiven. We can have new life and eternal life through Him.
- We receive new life through a saving faith in Jesus and then we receive spiritual sight from the truth that Jesus' light shines upon.

How is Jesus the only source of true life? (He died in our place and through His death, our sins are forgiven.)

7. John 1:4-5: Jesus is the light and life of the world. Only through Him do people receive new life and spiritual sight to see and understand God's truth.

8. 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Colossians 1:13: Sin is darkness and those who follow Christ walk in the light.

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CHURCH



JESUS IS FULLY GOD

Bring in two empty containers and several bags of beads, buttons, or any other small items that can fill the containers. Label one container God and the other one Jesus. Fill the God container completely full of the beads or buttons. Next, allow the preschoolers to take turns filling the Jesus container. Ask the preschoolers how full your class should fill the Jesus container. Remind them that the Jesus container should be as full as God's because Jesus is fully God. Lead them in a discussion about how Jesus is fully God.



- Jesus isn't just halfway God or a little bit God.
- Jesus is fully God. He is God.



JESUS THE CREATOR

Give each child a blank piece of paper and markers or crayons. Ask the children to draw pictures of all the things they can think of that Jesus created. Help them think of the many things that Jesus created. Remind them that Jesus is the Creator of all things. He gives life.



- Jesus is fully God, which means that He is the Creator of all things.
- Everything was made through Jesus.
- He is the giver of all life and He keeps all things alive.

JESUS GIVES SIGHT

Bring in a bandana or blindfold. Allow the preschoolers to take turns wearing the blindfold and trying to walk across the classroom. When you remove the blindfold from a child's face say, "Jesus gives sight!" Tell the children that Jesus is the light of the world and His light shines on the darkness of this world.