

THE
GOSPEL
PROJECT
FOR PRESCHOOL

All Things New

Preschool Worship Guide

VOLUME 12



THE GOSPEL PROJECT[®] FOR PRESCHOOL

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Write the dates for each session here! —

*The Gospel Project for Preschool:
Worship Guide*

All Things New

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We believe that the Bible has God for its author; salvation for its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter and that all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. To review LifeWay's doctrinal guidelines, please visit www.lifeway.com/doctrinalguideline.

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Unit 36: Come, Lord Jesus

Unit Description:

John, who was one of Jesus' disciples, shared more of God's plan to send Jesus again. When Jesus returns, He will undo everything that was ruined by sin, and He will make everything new and right forever.

Key Passage:

Revelation 11:15

Big Picture Question:

What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

Session 1:

John's Vision of Jesus

Revelation 1

Story Point: Jesus showed Himself to John.

Session 2:

Letters to the Seven Churches

Revelation 2–3

Story Point: Jesus sent messages to seven churches.

Session 3:

Before the Throne

Revelation 4–5

Story Point: Everyone and everything will worship Jesus.

Session 4:

Jesus Will Return

Revelation 19–22

Story Point: Jesus said that He is coming back soon.



John's Vision of Jesus

Jesus showed Himself to John.

Letters to the Seven Churches

Jesus sent messages to seven churches.



Before the Throne

Everyone and everything will worship Jesus.

Jesus Will Return

Jesus said that He is coming back soon.





Use Week of:

Unit 36 • Session 2

Letters to the Seven Churches

BIBLE PASSAGE:

Revelation 2–3

STORY POINT:

Jesus sent messages to seven churches.

KEY PASSAGE:

Revelation 11:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

TEACH THE STORY
(15–20 MINUTES)
PAGE 114



EXPERIENCE THE STORY
(25–30 MINUTES)
PAGE 116



REVIEW THE STORY
(10+ MINUTES)
PAGE 118



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LEADER Bible Study

The Book of Revelation opens with John's description of a vision. In the vision, Jesus gave John messages for seven local churches. Jesus told John to write these messages on a scroll and send them to the churches.

In most cases, Jesus commended the church for their good work, warned them about the areas in which they needed correction, and urged them to return to Him. Among other things, He warned the churches not to forget their love of the Lord. He encouraged them not to be afraid of being tested. He urged those who were surrounded by evil to not deny their faith. Each time, Jesus promised to reward those who remain faithful to Him.

The church is made up of people who have trusted in Jesus, who are committed to one another, and who meet together to worship Jesus and share the gospel. Jesus loves the church as His bride. (See Eph. 5:25-27; Rev. 19:7-9.) Jesus' message called the churches to turn away from their sin and remain faithful to Him. The Lord is slow to anger (Ex. 34-6-7) and patient, wanting everyone to repent (2 Pet. 3:9).

Jesus warned specific churches in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey), but the problems they faced can still be found in churches today. Help preschoolers understand some of the problems the early churches faced: They did not love like they should, they believed false teaching and did wrong things, and they were lukewarm—useless to the cause of Christ.

We can pray for our churches to be faithful, effective instruments in spreading the gospel. We should love the church because Jesus loves the church. Through the church, Jesus helps believers work together to do God's plan. Finally, Jesus warned believers to stay alert because He will come like a thief when no one is expecting Him. Believers—then and now—must always be ready!

The BIBLE Story

Letters to the Seven Churches

Revelation 2–3

John was on a small island when he saw a vision of Jesus. Jesus told John to write down a message for the churches in seven cities. John obeyed Jesus. This is what he wrote: “To the church in Ephesus: You do not love well like you did when you first believed.

Turn back and love like you used to.

“To the church in Smyrna: You are poor and hurting, but really you are rich! I know that people say mean things to you. You might be put in jail or be killed, but **do not be afraid.**

“To the church in Pergamum: Your neighbors do evil things, but **you are faithful.** You tell others about Me even when it is hard. But not everyone in the church is doing what is right. Turn away from your sin and turn to Me!

“To the church in Thyatira: I know **you are loving and faithful.** You serve others. **But some of you believe the lies you hear,** and I will punish you. **Keep believing the truth.**

“To the church in Sardis: You used to love Me and be faithful to Me. **You stopped serving Me and loving Me.** Be ready for Me to come again. **Stop sinning and remember the good news about Jesus.**



“To the church in Philadelphia: You have little strength, but **you listen to Me and obey My word. I am coming soon. Be ready and keep believing.**

“To the church in Laodicea: You are not hot or cold, so you are not good for anything. **You don’t even know that you need me and what I can give you. Turn to me and I will give you what you need and take care of you.**

“I am here! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear My voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you will eat with Me.” Jesus reminded people that He wanted to forgive their sins and love them. **John wrote, “Anyone who has ears should listen to the Spirit’s message to the churches.”**

Christ Connection: Jesus loves the church. He warned seven churches and told them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God’s plan.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Stuff envelopes:** As you tell the story to children, pretend to write out the message for each church on a blank sheet of paper. Fold each message, stuff it in an envelope, and address the envelope with the name of the recipient church.
- **Map it out:** Display the New Testament Mediterranean Map (005802970). Point to the appropriate city on the map as you tell Jesus’ message to the church in that city.

TEACH the Story



SESSION TITLE: Letters to the Seven Churches

BIBLE PASSAGE: Revelation 2–3

STORY POINT: Jesus sent messages to seven churches.

KEY PASSAGE: Revelation 11:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

Welcome and worship with song

- “Jesus Reigns Forever” song
- “All Hail the Power” song

Greet preschoolers with a smile. As preschoolers arrive, sing an action song such as “Jesus Reigns Forever” to engage and welcome them. Begin worship by leading preschoolers in the theme song “All Hail the Power.”

Watch or tell the Bible story

- Bible
- “Letters to the Seven Churches” video (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Story Point Poster
- Giant Timeline

Invite preschoolers to sit quietly for thirty seconds and listen. Then, encourage them to share what they heard. Be prepared to offer suggestions such as the sound of air conditioning or birds outside your classroom area.

SAY • In today’s Bible story, **Jesus sent messages to seven churches.** Jesus told the churches, “Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says.” Let’s keep using our ears to hear what the Holy Spirit is telling us through Jesus’ words today.

Open your Bible to Revelation 2. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

Practice the key passage and a Bible skill

Place the key passage marker at Revelation 11:15. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage as you write it on a sheet of paper. Cut the paper

- paper
- marker
- scissors (adult use)
- Bible
- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “The Kingdom of the World (Revelation 11:15)” song

into seven pieces. Help boys and girls to put the verse back together like a puzzle.

SAY • Because Jesus is our King, we must listen to Him and obey Him. **Jesus sent messages to seven churches** to warn them to turn away from sin and follow Jesus as King.

Sing the key passage song “The Kingdom of the World” together.

Learn the big picture question and answer

SAY • Our big picture question asks, *What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus’ return when He will make all things new.* Christians everywhere prepare for the day when Jesus will come back by turning from our sin and following Jesus.

• Big Picture Question Poster

Respond through song and prayer

SAY • Jesus loves the church, so **Jesus sent messages to seven churches** to warn them and tell them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God’s plan.

• Story Point Poster
• “All Hail the Power” song
• “Just As I Am” song
• “You Are God” song
• offering basket

Sing “All Hail the Power” and “Just As I Am” as preschoolers move with the music. Prepare for prayer by singing “You Are God.” Collect an offering.

SAY • God, help our ears to listen to Jesus’ words today. Help us turn from our sin and follow Jesus until the day He returns to make all things new. Amen.

Transition to experience the story

• countdown video (optional)

EXPERIENCE the Story



SESSION TITLE: Letters to the Seven Churches

BIBLE PASSAGE: Revelation 2–3

STORY POINT: Jesus sent messages to seven churches.

KEY PASSAGE: Revelation 11:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

LOW PREP

Memorize the big picture question

Help children review the big picture question with hand motions. ***What is the hope of the church?*** [hold open hands up and out to each side] ***The church looks forward*** [point to eyes] ***to Jesus' return*** [march in place] ***when He*** [point up to heaven] ***will make all things new.*** [put one fist on top of the other and make a twisting motion; ASL for make]

SAY • Jesus is the hope of the church. One day, Jesus will come back. ***What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.*** Come, Lord Jesus!

Make listening ears

- paper plates, 1 per child
- blunt-tipped scissors
- washable markers
- chenille stems, 1 per child
- clear tape

Help each child cut a paper plate into two equal halves. Guide preschoolers to decorate the resulting “ears.” Write *Listening to Jesus!* on the back of one ear. Help each child tape the ears to either end of a chenille stem. Lead children to form the stem into a headband to wear the listening ears.

SAY • **Jesus sent messages to seven churches.** He warned the church to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus told them, “Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says.” These ears we made can help us remember to use our ears to listen to God’s words in the Bible.

Build seven church buildings

Set out an assortment of blocks. Lead children to work together to build seven church buildings. Help them assign one of the church names from the story to each building.

SAY • Jesus loves the church. **Jesus sent messages to seven churches.** He told them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God's plan.

- blocks

Tip: Write the church names on individual index cards for preschoolers to label their buildings.

Deliver the mail

Write the name of each church from the Bible story spaced out on a large sheet of paper. Underline the first two letters of each church's name. Print and cut out the "Messages for the Churches" cards. Place adhesive magnets on the back of each message and next to each name on the chart. Consider placing a toy mailbox filled with the messages near the chart. Prompt children to match the church names and place each letter in the appropriate spot.

SAY • **Jesus sent messages to seven churches** to warn them. He told them to turn from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God's plan.

- "Messages for the Churches" printable
- large sheet of paper
- scissors (adult use)
- marker
- adhesive magnets
- toy mailbox (optional)

Make a card for someone you love

Fold a sheet of construction paper in half for each child. Encourage children to decorate their cards with markers and stickers. Help each child write his name on the card.

SAY • We made cards for people we love. Jesus loves the church, so **He sent messages to seven churches.** He told them to love and follow Him.

- construction paper
- washable markers
- stickers

Transition to review the story

- countdown video (optional)

REVIEW the Story



SESSION TITLE: Letters to the Seven Churches

BIBLE PASSAGE: Revelation 2–3

STORY POINT: Jesus sent messages to seven churches.

KEY PASSAGE: Revelation 11:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

Review

Point to the giant timeline as you review today's Bible story.

Ask the following review questions:

- Bible
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Giant Timeline
- Story Point Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster
- Key Passage Poster
- "All Hail the Power" song (optional)
- "The Kingdom of the World (Revelation 11:15)" song (optional)

1. What did Jesus tell John to do? (*Jesus told John to write down a message for the churches in seven cities.*)
2. Can you say one of the city names? (*Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea*)
3. Who should listen to Jesus' message? (*Anyone who has ears.*)
4. ***What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.***

SAY • Jesus loves the church, so **Jesus sent messages to seven churches.** He encouraged one church because they loved Him even when it was hard. He told another church to stop listening to lies and believe the truth. Jesus warned other churches. He commanded them to turn away from their sin and follow Him.

Sing the theme song "All Hail the Power" or key passage song "The Kingdom of the World."

Pray

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have.

SAY • God, thank You for loving Your church and speaking to Your church through your Word. Help us listen to You with our ears, turn away from sin, and follow Jesus until He comes back. Amen.



Missions moment

Display the Singerman family photo and read the “More About the Singermans” story aloud to preschoolers.

SAY • The Singermans trusted God even when they had to leave Uganda and travel back to the United States. Things were different for them, but they knew God would take care of them. They continued sharing the good news about Jesus with others.

Close in prayer for the Singerman family.

“Singerman Family”
printable

Play the telephone game

Guide preschoolers to sit in a circle. Whisper the story point into the ear of the preschooler sitting to your left. Prompt preschoolers to pass the message in whispers around the circle from person to person by repeating what they hear. Each child should only repeat the message once. When the message reaches the last child, she should share it out loud to see how the message has changed. Repeat the other Bible story related phrases.

SAY • **Jesus sent messages to seven churches.** Jesus loves the church. He warned seven churches and told them to turn away from their sin and follow Him. Jesus works through the church to help believers work together to do God’s plan.