



# READY OR NOT...

Life & Ministry of Jesus • U10#4 1st-3rd Gr. • May 26, 2024

## Concept

Jesus will return with great power and glory.

## Goal

Students will learn that Jesus is going to come back to earth one day to rule as king!

## Passage

Matthew 24:29-31; Revelation 19:11-16; Acts 1:11

Key Verse: "They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory." Matthew 24:30b

## Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p><b>Introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>DVD – The Lion King</i></li> <li>• <i>TV/DVD player or video projector</i></li> </ul> <p><i>On YouTube- "The Lion King (1994) - Ending Scene":</i>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-YiWSWz7kQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-YiWSWz7kQ</a></p>	<p><b>Activity Station:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Jesus is Coming Back" crossword, 1/student</li> <li>• White cardstock paper with a rectangular box , 1/student</li> <li>• White crayons, several/class</li> <li>• Watercolor markers</li> <li>• Pencils, 1/student</li> </ul>

### \*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

# Background Information/Teacher Helps

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"The grandest fact in history is that Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory, has been in this world. And the most important fact of the present is that He is now in Heaven making intercession for us. (Hebrews 7:25) And the greatest prophesied event of the future is, that He is coming again. (Romans 8:34)

"...While He was here upon earth He said: "It is expedient for you that I go away." (John 16:7) He said, "I go to prepare a place for you." But "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also." John 14:2-3. He gave us this promise as our hope and comfort while He is away.

He said: "In this world you shall have tribulations: (John 16:33), "you shall weep and lament, and ...be sorrowful...but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice." Verses 20, 22.

'Nothing can be more comforting to the Church, the bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:25-32), then this precious promise which our absent Lord has left us, that He will come and receive us unto Himself, and that we shall be with Him, to behold His glory (John 17:24)"[1]

"Various descriptions of the return of Christ indicate its glorious character, a sharp contrast to the lowly and humble circumstances of his first coming. The latter was the first stage of Christ's humiliation; the former will be the final stage of his exaltation."[2] Acts 1:11 says, "Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will come in just the same way as you have watched him go."

The Bible refers to 2 separate returns of Christ—the rapture, followed later by the Second Advent or Second Coming.

[1] Blackstone, William E., *Jesus is Coming, The Faith of the Fathers*, 1908, Fleming H. Revell Co., pp. 33, 34.

[2] Erickson, Millard, *Christian Theology*, Baker Book House, 1985, p. 1190.

## Set Up

### Incorporation Lg. Group

### Introduction Lg. Group

### Transition

### Lesson Lg. Group

**Teachers, please note:** For the Introduction, Kindergarten—3rd grade will watch the video clip together.

#### Activity Stations:

- **Object Lesson – Appear**
  - **Goal:** Even though we can't see Jesus now, when He returns those who do not believe Him will see Him appear.
  - **Instructions:** Give each student a piece of white paper and a white crayon. Write "Jesus is coming back" or another phrase or desired design on the paper with the white crayon. Color over the writing with one or various colors of markers. The phrase or design will appear through the marker.
- **Crossword Puzzle – Jesus Is Coming Back**
  - **Instructions:** Give each student a crossword puzzle and a pencil. Have them look up Matthew 24:30-31 in the Bible.

#### Video – The Lion King

How many of you saw the movie, The Lion King? Let's watch the end of that movie right now. As you watch, notice the details. How many animals are there? Why are they celebrating?

(Watch video clip: disc 1, scene 23 – Simba ascends.)

So, why are they celebrating? Simba finally came back to take his position as king and rule all the animals, didn't he? The animals were all very excited because their kind, loving king was back to rule.

Let's go back to our classroom to see what The Lion King has to do with our lesson today.

The movie *The Lion King* was just pretend. But, someday a real king will come back to rule the people of this earth. I am talking about the day that Christ comes back to Earth. All those who know Jesus will celebrate because Jesus will have come back to rule as the King of the earth. In the movie the animals were really excited. But we will be more excited than we imagine because Jesus is kind and loving and He will rule perfectly.

Two weeks ago we learned about the Ascension, when Jesus ascended or went up to heaven. After Jesus rose from the dead, He stuck around on Earth for 40 more days to prove to people that He was alive; then He ascended up into heaven. He rose right up into the air until He was hidden from sight by the clouds. It was an exciting event. Do you remember that a couple of angels appeared right after that and said, "Why are you staring up at the sky?! Jesus will come back in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11).

Jesus is coming back some day just as He left.

The first time Jesus came was very quiet; His life was that of a poor, suffering servant who came to save us from our sins. His Second Coming will be dramatic and undeniable. When He returns, the whole world will know that He is who He said He is. He will come back to reign as king on the earth. He will truly be the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords!

Can you imagine? All the angels will be with Him blowing trumpets. This will be the biggest, most important celebration ever. Does anyone remember how He will come back? Remember when we learned about the ascension, Jesus left the earth rising up in the air through the clouds. What did the angels tell the disciples? "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Our key verse is, "They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:30). The Bible teaches that everyone all around the whole earth will see this incredible event. No one on earth will be able to doubt that He is Lord. Wow! Jesus will stay and rule on earth for one thousand years before He takes all the Christians to live in heaven with Him forever.

Our key verse today is, "They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:30). It will be quite an amazing event and the earth will be a very peaceful place during the next one thousand years. The world will be full of people who know and love God. Won't that be a wonderful place?

### **Good News**

Who can tell me why Jesus came to the earth the first time? He came to die on the cross for the sins of all mankind, including you and me. He came so that anyone who believes that He is the Savior and asks Him to forgive his or her sins will live in heaven with Him forever. If you haven't asked Him to forgive you, don't wait—ask Him now. If you have asked Him to forgive you, tell others so they can be friends with Him now, live with Him in heaven and enjoy the celebration of His second coming.

There is one more thing I want you to think about. Should knowing that Jesus is really coming back make any difference in the way we live our lives now?

Let's watch a skit that will help us think about one difference it should make in our lives.

## Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group

### DRAMA - "Ready or Not" skit performed by teachers

**Instructions:** Two teachers act this out. Get fun costumes from storage room, ham it up and exaggerate to make the point.

**Sam:** (knocks on imaginary door of Pat)

**Pat:** Coming! (letting Sam in)

**Sam:** Gee whiz! What happened here? It looks like a bomb hit your house.

**Pat:** Oh. That. My parents are out of town.

**Sam:** Man! You even have dirty dishes in the bathroom! When was the last time you washed the dog? It stinks in here!

**Pat:** Like I said, man. My parents are out of town.

**Sam:** Well, when are they coming home?

**Pat:** Gee, I don't know. I haven't thought about that.

**Sam:** They won't be gone forever. Don't you think you ought to clean up a little? You act like they're never coming back

**Pat:** Let me see. I know they are coming back sometime soon, but I'm not exactly sure when.

**Sam:** Don't you think you ought to be ready? Come on. I'll help you clean up this mess. The End

The Bible says Jesus is coming back. Remember the Great Commission? Jesus said that Christians are to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them... and teaching them to obey everything" (Matthew 28:19-20). Jesus says our purpose right now is to tell people about Him and to help them become His followers. If we tell the people we know and they tell the people they know, that is how the good news about Jesus spreads. Someday Christ will return and then it will be too late to ask Him for forgiveness. Remember that Jesus will come back. We can tell others so that they can be friends with Him now, live with Him in heaven and enjoy the celebration of His second coming.

Let's get into small groups to talk about this and to pray.

Our key verse is, "They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:30). When Jesus comes back to live on the earth the second time it will be for a very different reason. He will come back to rule as king on the earth. He will finally be the ruling king just like many thought He was going to be the first time He came to earth. One day Jesus and His heavenly armies will appear in the sky. The Bible teaches that everyone all around the whole earth will see this incredible event. No one on earth will be able to doubt that He is Lord.

## Transition

## Learning Activity# 2 Sm. Groups

## Learning Activity# 2 Continued

## Optional Activities

### Discussion

- What do you think? Wasn't it sort of dumb for Pat to live as though his parents were never coming back when he knew they would? Jesus is coming back, too.
- The Bible says that Christians need to live as though we know that Christ is coming back. What does that mean?
- If we didn't think that Jesus was ever coming back and that God had forgotten about earth, then we might as well live any way we want. You might as well buy every toy you possibly can and spend all your money and time trying to make yourself happy, because this is it! What do you think? (Allow students to comment.)

**Mission Prayer:** Talk about and pray for Oasis Giving campaign.

Let's pray and thank God that Jesus will come back.

**Game Ideas** – Red Rover, Sleep Tag, Simon Says, Freeze Tag, etc.