



GOD PROTECTED JESUS

Young Preschool • #NT4 • December 22, 2024

Concept

God takes care of His children.

Goal

Children will learn that God gave Jesus parents to protect Him so He could grow up and do God's work. God has given children caregivers to protect them. They will be encouraged to thank God that He has given them families to take care of them so they can grow up to do God's work.

Passage

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Key Verse: "God will protect you from evil." Psalm 121:7

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Beginner's Bible, Karyn Henley</i> <p>Intro/Learning Activity #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laminated magnet-backed pictures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Herod ◦ Joseph ◦ Mary & Jesus on a donkey ◦ Angel 	<p>Learning Activity #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red cardstock heart w/verse, 1/child • Printed clipart pictures of family members printed on Avery #5293 laser labels, several/child • Markers, crayons

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the shaded 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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"Jesus came to earth and became fully man. God Himself entered the human race as a baby who was born in Bethlehem. He did not make just a momentary appearance, but actually became flesh as we are, subjecting Himself to time and space, experiencing human conditions, living as a man who experienced the normal physical and intellectual development of human beings. Luke 2:40 tells us that He "continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom . . ." He laid aside His glory, voluntarily restraining His power, accepting all of the physical and spiritual conditions of life on earth--physical and emotional pain, spiritual temptation, hardship, isolation, hostility, ill-treatment, misunderstanding and finally, death...

"Jesus' divine identity as God, His character, wisdom, purity, and motives remained perfectly intact, but He voluntarily relinquished the independent use of His divine attributes and His extra-dimensional capacities. He accepted all the needs, weaknesses, desires, sufferings and trials of human life apart from sin (or sinning)."[1]

As with each of us, Jesus was subject to all the dangers and evil inherent in a fallen world. God had work for Jesus to do and protected Jesus from evil so He could grow up and do God's work. Through the agency of human parents, Mary and Joseph, God protected His Son through childhood. In the same way, He gave each of us parents to protect us so that we can grow up and do His work.

[1] "Christology," Xenos Christian Fellowship Christian Principles, 1994-95: Unit #1, Week #10.

Set Up

The day of class – Cut out hearts. Read the lesson and pray for the Spirit to give you His burden to teach the children.

Incorporation Lg. Group

Activity Station:

- **Hand Activity – "This is the Father" [1]**
 - **Instructions:** Sit down with a few children and teach them this activity about a family.

This is the father short and stout, (thumb)

This is the mother with children about, (index finger)

This is the brother tall you see, (middle finger)

This is the sister with a toy on her knee, (ring finger)

This is the baby sure to grow, (pinky)

And here is the family all in a row. (all five fingers)

Count your fingers 1,2,3,4,5

[1] Jackie Silberg, Games to Play with Two Year Olds, © 1993 Jackie Silberg, Gryphon House, Inc., p. 32.

Introduction Lg. Group

Rhyme – Clippety Clop

- **Instructions:** Use the laminated figures to illustrate this rhyme as you say it with the children. Have the children pretend to ride on a donkey, bouncing up and down.

Clippety Clop

Clippety Clop

This family is on the run

Clippety Clop

Clippety Clop

God takes care of His children

You all have someone to help keep you safe—a mom or dad, grandma, grandpa or maybe a babysitter. Grown-ups take care of you, they give you food and make sure your car seats are fastened. (Or suggest other ways caregivers keep children safe.) Today we're going to talk about how God took care of Jesus when He was a little boy.

"Running Away"

Instructions: Read the story from The Beginner's Bible, pages 294-298, and follow with the following gospel and prayer.

God took care of Jesus by giving Him a mommy and daddy who wanted to follow God. God told His mommy and daddy how to keep Jesus safe. When Jesus grew up His special work was to teach people that God loves everyone and wants us to be His children. When we make bad choices to disobey our parents or hurt our friends that is called sin. Jesus never made one bad choice. But He died on the cross to take the punishment we deserve for our bad choices so we can be God's children.

Lesson

Lg. Group

**Lesson
Lg. Group
Continued**

Transition

**Learning
Activity#1
Lg. Group**

**Learning
Activity#2
Sm. Group**

We become His children when we tell Him we want to be His child and ask for forgiveness through what Jesus did.

Let's pray and thank God that He protected Jesus. Let's thank Jesus that He was willing to die on the cross so we can be God's children. He wants you and me and everyone to be His children. Let's thank God that God takes care of His children.

Let's make a craft to remind us that God gave Jesus a mommy and daddy to keep Him safe so He could grow up to do God's work. And He gave us families to keep us safe so we can grow up to do God's work.

Craft – Heart

- **Instructions:** Children will choose stickers to represent people in their family. Color the stickers and stick them to the back of the heart.

God Protected Jesus

Instructions: Read the story again to a small group of children and have them place the laminated pictures on the white board to illustrate it.

The Bible tells us that God takes care of His children. God has special work for His children to do. God took care of Jesus. He kept Jesus safe.

Let's quietly say our rhyme again together:

Clippety Clop

Clippety Clop

This family is on the run

Clippety Clop

Clippety Clop

God takes care of His children