

March 10
9:00am & 11:00am
Three and Four Year Olds
JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PRIEST
HEBREWS 7

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Jesus is the perfect Priest who gave His life for sinners. He is the true and final sacrifice for sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect Priest? Jesus gave His life as the perfect sacrifice for sin.

KEY PASSAGE: For we ... have a high priest ... who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15

Key Passage Phrase: Jesus never sinned.

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Explain you will name two things. The children must choose which is better. Before each pair, say, "Which is better _____?" (Examples: going to the doctor or going to church?, eating something you do not like or eating something you like?, hearing something that makes you sad or hearing "Jesus loves you"?, learning about an earthly priest or hearing about Jesus, our perfect Priest) Emphasize that Jesus is our perfect Priest, so we can choose Him every time.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY *Our big picture question is, **How is Jesus the perfect Priest?** The answer is, **Jesus gave His life as the perfect sacrifice for sin.** Jesus is better than anything or anyone. Unlike other priests who lived before Jesus, He never sinned. The other priests died; Jesus lives forever. Priests before Jesus offered sacrifices for sin, but these did not save people. Only Jesus could rescue the world from sin. Jesus is the perfect and final sacrifice.*

4. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at Hebrews 4:15. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the passage aloud. Create a tapping, patting, or clapping rhythm as you say the verse. Invite preschoolers to repeat it with you. Create two or three different patterns to repeat the verse.

SAY *Before Jesus rescued people from sin through His death on the cross, priests helped people worship God by making sacrifices for them. Jesus came as the final, perfect sacrifice. While on earth, Jesus was tempted to sin, but He never did anything wrong. He lived a perfect life. Therefore, His death on the cross made the way for us to be forgiven for our sins. Jesus is the perfect Priest. He gave His life for us so we can one day live forever with God.*

5. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Review today's Bible story by asking the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
2. Who did the writer of Hebrews say Jesus was greater than? (*Melchizedek*)
3. What was the job of a priest? (*Priests helped people worship God by offering sacrifices for their sins.*)

4. Who is the perfect Priest? (*Jesus*)
5. How is Jesus the perfect Priest? Jesus gave His life as the perfect sacrifice for sin.

SAY *Jesus is God's Son. He came to earth and lived a perfect life. This means He did not do anything wrong, even though He was tempted to sin. Jesus is greater than anyone or anything. He is the perfect Priest who gave His life for sinners. He is the true and final sacrifice for sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.*

6. PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

SAY *God, thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us from sin. We know Jesus lived a perfect life. He is greater than anyone or anything. We praise You that when we trust in Jesus, we are forgiven of our sins and will one day live with You forever. Amen.*

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE AS FEW AS ONE ACTIVITY OR USE ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES)

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Lead preschoolers to copy your actions. Give each child an opportunity to lead the group in an actions for the others to imitate. (Suggested actions: pat head, stomp feet, touch nose, waddle like penguins, quack like ducks, clap hands)

SAY *You did a great job following the actions of a leader. In our Bible story, we learned that long ago, God's people were led by priests. Priests helped the people worship God. Later, an early church leader wrote that Melchizedek was the first person in the Bible to be called a priest. He wrote Melchizedek was a better priest than any others who came after him—until Jesus. Other priests lived for a while and then died. Jesus is our priest who lives forever. Jesus is the perfect Priest who gave His life for us. Everyone who trusts in Him has forgiveness and life with God forever.*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, emphasize the The Christ Connection.

SAY *Jesus is the perfect priest who gave His life for us. Everyone who trusts in Him has forgiveness and life with God forever.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Hebrews 7. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PRIEST

STORYTELLING TIPS

Dress up as Melchizedek: Invite an adult to pretend to be Melchizedek by dressing up in Bible times clothing. Encourage the adult to introduce and briefly tell his story (Hebrews 7:1-10).

Respond to key words: Lead preschoolers to respond when they hear the name “Jesus” by saying, “Our perfect Priest.”

Following Jesus was difficult for many of the first Jewish believers. Some of them began to wonder if following Jesus was worth it. It might be easier to stop worshipping Jesus.

In the past, God's people were led by priests. Priests helped the people worship God with sacrifices. Aaron the Levite and others from his family were priests.

The Holy Spirit helped a leader write words to encourage the early church. We can read these words in the book of Hebrews. The leader wrote that Jesus is better than anything or anyone. Jesus became a human like us so He could be a merciful and faithful high priest for us. Jesus was hurt and tempted to sin, so He can help us when we are hurt or tempted.

The writer of Hebrews reminded Jesus' followers about a priest named Melchizedek (mel KIZ uh dek). Melchizedek is the first person in the Bible to be called a priest. This is what the writer wrote:

"We know Melchizedek was greater than Aaron the priest because Abraham gave him a tenth of his treasure. Melchizedek the priest reminds us of Jesus—God's Son. Aaron and all the priests who came after him were men

who lived for a while and then died. Jesus is our priest who lives forever."

Aaron and the other priests in his family made sacrifices for sin, but those were not good enough to save people forever. The work of those priests pointed forward to a greater priest—Jesus. Jesus came to be the perfect sacrifice God promised. He is alive and will never die again. Now we have a perfect priest forever.

Christ Connection: Jesus is the perfect Priest who gave His life for sinners. He is the true and final sacrifice for sin. Everyone who trusts in Jesus has forgiveness and life with God forever.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

March 10
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PRIEST HEBREWS 7

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus obeyed His Father's plan no matter what.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? Jesus tells us God's message.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Jesus never sinned. Hebrews 4:15

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCTORY GROUP TIME ACTIVITY

COMPLETE THE OBSTACLE COURSE

Set up a simple obstacle course using classroom items. Obstacle options include crawling under tables, walking around chairs, crawling through play tunnels, or stepping through hoops. Encourage the toddlers as they attempt the course. Replay as time permits. Review the Bible story.

SAY *Was our obstacle course easy? No! In our Bible story, we learned that following Jesus was not easy for the people who trusted in Him. They needed encouragement. God gave them encouragement through a leader who told them about a special priest. Jesus is the perfect Priest who gave His life for us.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

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3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Create motions to go along with the key passage phrase. Motions include "Jesus" (*point up*), "never" (*cross your arms in front of your body and swing them out to your side*), and "sinned" (*make an X in front of your chest*). Introduce the motions and encourage toddlers to do the motions with you while you say the words. Once toddlers catch on, ask them to say the words with you, either fast, slow, loud, soft, or with silly voices to keep them engaged.

SAY *Sin brings death, but Jesus gives us life. Our key passage phrase says 'Jesus never sinned.' He came to be the perfect sacrifice for our sin. Jesus wants us to trust in Him and live with Him forever. Jesus is the perfect Priest who gave His life for us.*

ACTIVITIES

WRITE A SCROLL

Provide paper and crayons or markers for toddlers to draw and color their church. Explain how churches can be buildings, but they are also people. Write *God helps us* or *Jesus is alive* on each child's page. Roll the page and tie it with a string to make a scroll. Retell the story.

SAY *In our Bible story, who needed encouragement? The church! Do we need encouragement today? Yes! God helped a leader write words to encourage the church. Those same words are used to encourage us today too! Jesus is the perfect Priest who gave His life for us.*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the main points below:

Jesus is God the Son.

Jesus became a human to rescue us.
Jesus is the perfect Priest forever

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Open the Bible to Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22 and tell the following Bible story.

JESUS WAS ARRESTED

Following Jesus was not easy for many of the first people who trusted in Him. God helped a leader write words to encourage the early church. The leader wrote about a man named Melchizedek. Melchizedek was a priest, like Aaron and others in Aaron's family. But Melchizedek was very special. Melchizedek made people think of Jesus. Jesus is even more special than Melchizedek. Jesus is our perfect Priest; He is kind and helpful. Jesus came to be the perfect sacrifice for our sin. Jesus is alive and will never die again. Now we have a perfect Priest forever.

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.