

Unit 27: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus

Unit Description: The darkest day the world has ever seen became the brightest day one glorious Sunday morning. After Jesus was unjustly convicted of a crime, He was crucified and His body was placed in a tomb. But on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, defeating sin and death and rising again as the conquering King.

Big Picture Question: How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.



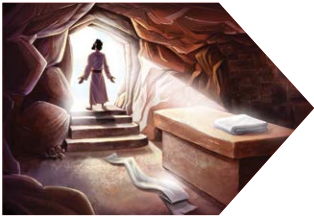
SESSION 1: Jesus Was Put on Trial

Matthew 26–27; Mark 14–15; Luke 22–23; John 18



SESSION 2: Jesus Was Crucified

Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23–24; John 19–20



SESSION 3: Jesus Was Raised

Matthew 27–28; Mark 15–16; Luke 23–24; John 19–20

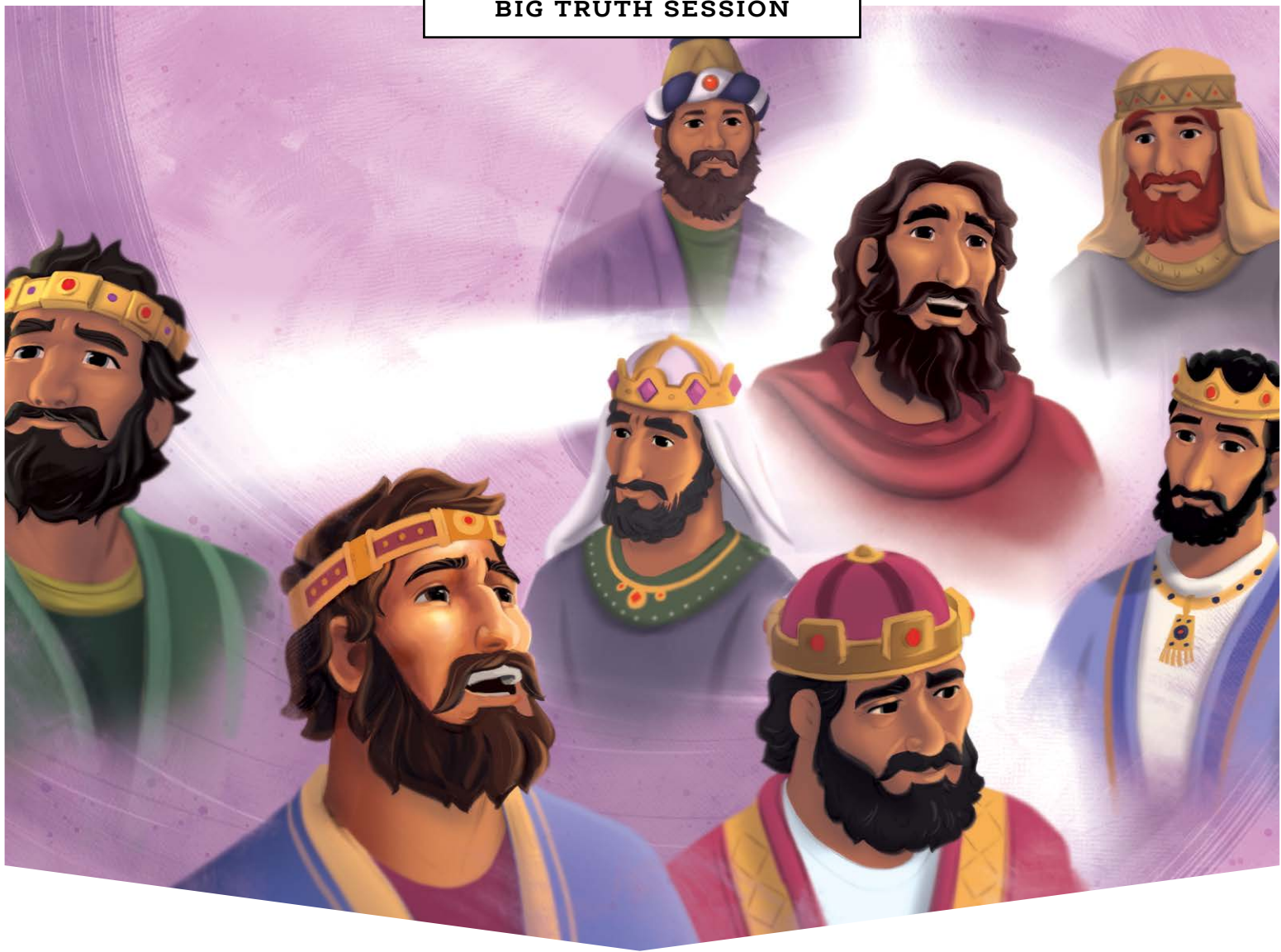


SESSION 4: Jesus Is Our Perfect King

Colossians 1

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”

Revelation 5:13 NIV



UNIT 27 | SESSION 4

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT KING

COLOSSIANS 1

KEY PASSAGE:

Revelation 5:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as King of kings.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Paul encouraged believers by reminding them that Jesus is great. Jesus is God's Son, and He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. Jesus conquered sin and death and reigns as King over all.



PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



PREPARE

PREPARE YOUR HEART TO TEACH; PLAN THE SESSION



WELCOME

GREET KIDS AND OPEN THE SESSION



LEARN

TEACH KIDS THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL



LOVE

LEAD KIDS TO LOVE THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL



LIVE

LEAD KIDS TO LIVE OUT THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

LEADER Bible Study

One of the most magnificent titles given to Christ is that of the complete and perfect King. Paul reflected on both the might and majesty of the risen Jesus as he detailed the immensity of the hope we find in His name. Though we are prone to falter and fail, Christ in His completeness remains the full, sovereign fixture of our faith.

On what basis do we crown Jesus King? How do we see His kingship demonstrated to us and through us as His followers? It is through His sufficiency and might as righteous King that we find our strength and hope. It was not through earthly wisdom or power that Paul endured persecution and hardship; only because of his trust in Jesus did he find the strength to persevere and encourage the Colossians whom he loved.

The basis of Paul's hope was the sufficiency of Christ. He wrote that Jesus had been present since the beginning and lived on the earth as our Immanuel, "God with us." Because He has existed for all time and everything exists for Him and through Him, He reigns supremely and sovereignly over all things. As His followers, we are the body of Christ, and He is the head. There is no greater ruler than He, our perfect King.

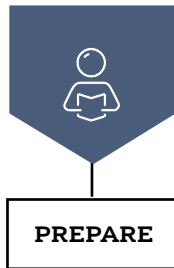
By placing our trust in Him as Lord and King over our lives, we are made holy and

blameless before Him. Through His Spirit at work in us, we are renewed to reflect the character that He alone embodies. In and of Himself alone, He is holy and complete, lacking nothing in perfection. It is by grace through faith that we enter into the kingdom of the Son whom the Father loves, and are able to live for His glory on earth.

Share with kids that the truth we are all seeking—whether we are young or old, lifelong followers of Christ or new to the faith—is found in Him alone. Just as the church in Colossae had to heed God's truth apart from the false gospels of the world, so, too, must we seek to find our answers from the Scriptures. May we continue to be filled with His knowledge and strength, being transformed more into the image of the perfect King who made a way for us.

DOCTRINE TO KNOW

Christ as King: The promise of a coming King finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ and looks forward to its perfection when Jesus returns for His bride, the church.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



WELCOME

Activity Page

- “Find the Crowns” activity page

Session Starter (Option 1)

- shallow bowls, 1 per group
- cup of whole milk, 1 per group
- small cups of dish soap, 1 per group
- cotton swabs, 1 per group
- four bottles of food color, 1 set per group

Session Starter (Option 2)

- plastic cups, 25–30 per group
- plastic trays, 1 per group



LEARN

Introduce the Session

- countdown video

Big Picture Question

- Big Picture Question Poster

Review the Timeline

- Giant Timeline

Tell the Bible Story

- “Jesus Is Our Perfect King” video
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- letter (optional)

Questions from Kids

- “Unit 27, Session 4” questions from kids video

Missions Moment

- “Luther Rice Silhouette” printable

Key Passage Activity

- Key Passage Poster
- “To the Lamb Forever and Ever (Revelation 5:13)” song
- worship song of your choice (optional)



LOVE

Review & Bible skills

- Small Group Timeline and Map Set
- world map



LIVE

Activity Choice (Option 1)

- note cards, 1 per kid
- stamped envelopes, 1 per kid

Activity Choice (Option 2)

- Big Picture Question Poster

Journal and Prayer

- Journal Page
- “Our Perfect King” activity page



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “Have you ever written a letter to someone? Who did you write your letter to? What did you write about in your letter?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Find the Crowns” on the activity page.

SAY “Jesus did not have an earthly crown or castle. He didn’t look like what most people would think a King should look like. But, Jesus is the one, true King who reigns over all.”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: ALL WE NEED



Form kids into groups of three or four. Provide each group with a shallow bowl, a cup of whole milk, a small cup of dish soap, a cotton swab, and four bottles of food color. Direct kids to listen to the directions and follow them step by step.

Lead kids to pour the milk into the shallow bowl. Then direct kids to place one drop of each food color on the outer edge of the milk. Lead kids to take the cotton swab and dip it in the dish soap. Next, tell kids to place the cotton swab in the center of the milk and leave it there. Prompt kids to observe how the milk is repelled by the dish soap causing the food color to move. Repeat by dipping the cotton swab in the dish soap and then back into the milk. Clean up by disposing of milk and food color in the sink.

SAY “Did you have everything you needed to complete the experiment? [Allow responses.] Today, we will learn that Paul warned about a false gospel that taught Jesus was not enough. Paul said that we have a complete gospel and Jesus is all we need.”

OPTION 2: HOLD IT ALL TOGETHER

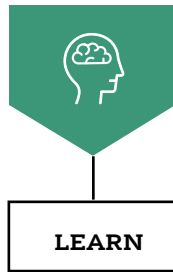


Form kids into groups of three or four and provide each group with a plastic tray and a set of 25–30 plastic cups. Lead groups to stack their cups into a structure as high as they can on the tray. Then challenge groups to lift up the tray and carry their stack of cups 10 steps. After several attempts, allow groups to try again with fewer cups. Continue until groups are successful at carrying the stack of cups 10 steps.

SAY “It was challenging to work together to hold the stacks of cups together and walk 10 steps without them falling. Imagine if it was dependent on us to hold the earth and everything in it together! Thankfully, we are not in control of holding all things together. Today, we will learn how the apostle Paul wrote a letter to a church to remind them that Jesus is King and that He does hold everything together.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

INTRODUCE the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

SAY “ Hi, kids! I’m [your name], and I’m so excited you are here this morning! Who brought their Bible to church today? Hold your Bibles up and show me! [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] The Bible tells us what is true and helps us know Jesus. We can know who Jesus is and what He did for us when we read our Bibles.

Today, we will read from the book of Colossians. Colossians is a letter written by the apostle Paul to believers who lived in the city of Colossae. Through this letter, we can be reminded that Jesus is King over all. ”

2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

SAY “ Over the past several weeks we have learned our big picture question: **How is Jesus our perfect King?** Can you say the answer? [Allow responses.] **Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.**

Today, our story reminds us that Jesus reigns as King who defeated sin and death. Jesus is our King who lives forever and rules over the universe. Nothing can escape His rule or His power. One day, Jesus will come again to judge the earth and raise all who believe in Him to live with Him in His kingdom forever. ”

3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY “ Let’s look back to the Old Testament. In the book of 1 Samuel, we learned that God’s people wanted a king. They wanted to be like the other nations around them who all had kings. God gave the people Saul. But Saul was a terrible king. Then God anointed David as king. Even though David was a good king, he was not perfect and sinned. Many other kings came after David to rule over the people, but none were perfect. They all sinned, and they all eventually died.

But God had a plan all along. God was going to send the perfect King. He made a promise to David in 2 Samuel 7 that a King would come from David’s family to be the forever King. Finally, God sent Jesus. He performed miracles, taught people God’s Word, and never sinned. Jesus is the King who gave His life to save us. He rose again and conquered death. Jesus is the King who lives forever and holds everything together. Only Jesus could be our perfect King. Let’s read our story to learn how He reigns forever as the King of kings. ”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Colossians 1. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Jesus Is Our Perfect King.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT KING

“When Paul was a prisoner in Rome, people brought him news about how believers in churches all over the world were doing. Paul had visited many of these churches, and he wrote letters to encourage the Christians in each church.

Paul wrote a letter to the church in Colossae (koh LAHS sih). The Colossian believers knew the gospel, but false teachers had been telling them lies. This confused them. Some were saying there was a secret gospel only they knew about. Paul wrote to remind them of the truth about Jesus. This is what Paul wrote:

“Jesus shows us what God is like.

The Son of God existed before God created anything.

He created everything—everything in heaven and on earth,
everything you see and don’t see;
everything exists for Him.

Jesus holds everything together.

The church—all the believers in the world—are the body, and He is the head.

God was happy to send His Son to earth to rescue people from sin
through His blood on the cross.”

Paul reminded the believers that their sin had separated them from God. They were His enemies. But now, they had salvation and forgiveness through faith in Jesus.

Paul had told them the complete gospel. Anyone who came and said there was a secret gospel was lying.

“Be encouraged and love one another,” Paul wrote. “I want you to know Jesus. All wisdom and knowledge is found in Him.”

Christ Connection: Paul encouraged believers by reminding them that Jesus is great. Jesus is God’s Son, and He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. Jesus conquered sin and death and reigns as King over all. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Read from a letter: Tell the story as though you are Paul writing the letter to the church in Colossae.

Invite a kid to read: Invite a kid to read Colossians 1:15-20 when you get to that part of the story.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ Paul was a faithful servant of the Lord who traveled as a missionary, led people to Jesus, and encouraged believers. Paul suffered persecution and was arrested many times because he shared the gospel. Even when he was in prison, Paul desired to encourage believers and write letters to many churches including the church in Colossae.

How did Paul describe the gospel? Look at Colossians 1:5. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud Colossians 1:5.]** The gospel is truth. Just like the Colossians, we face the task of determining what is true and what are lies. We can know the truth through God’s Word. The truth of God’s Word leads us to Jesus.

What are some truths Paul wrote about Jesus? **[Allow responses.]** Paul wrote that Jesus shows us what God is like, that He is eternal, that He is the Creator of all things, and that all things were made to bring Him glory. Paul also wrote that Jesus keeps everything held together—the earth, the sun, even our bodies. Jesus is King over it all and everything obeys Him.

What does God the Father do for those who trust Jesus for salvation? Look at Colossians 1:13-14. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud Colossians 1:13-14.]** Those who trust in Jesus for salvation are rescued from darkness and the eternal punishment our sin deserves. God accepts us into His kingdom where we have forgiveness of our sins and eternal life. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ Paul encouraged believers by reminding them that Jesus is great. Jesus is God’s Son, and He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. Jesus conquered sin and death and reigns as King over all. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 27, Session 4” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why does the Bible say we were God’s enemies?
2. How can you make Jesus the King of your life? Have you made Jesus the King of your life? Why or why not?

5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Print a copy of the “Luther Rice Silhouette” printable and display it as you talk about the work of Luther Rice.

SAY “ Luther Rice was committed to helping missions until the day he died. On September 25, 1836, Luther Rice died in South Carolina. As Luther Rice was dying, he gave instructions for his



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

horse, his horse-drawn vehicle, and personal items to be given to a college. He wanted these items to be used to continue to support missions and the education of people training to be pastors and missionaries even after his death. ”

Tell kids that after Luther Rice died a monument was placed over his grave that says, “Perhaps no American has done more for the great Missionary Enterprise.” Tell kids that Luther Rice supported Baptist mission work for 23 years. Close in prayer, thanking God for all the ways Luther Rice helped support missions, Christian education, and places for people to be trained as pastors and missionaries. Pray for more people to serve as missionaries in their own nations and throughout the world. ”

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Revelation 5:13 together.

SAY “ Jesus is our Perfect King and in Him we have all we need. We can trust that when we place our faith in Him, we will live in His kingdom forever. ”

Assign each kid a word from the key passage. When you say, “Go,” challenge kids to say the key passage in the correct order by standing up and saying their assigned word at the correct time. If you have a large group, create two or more smaller groups so each kid can be assigned a word. If you have a small group, assign kids more than one word or fill in the remaining words yourself. Repeat as time allows.

Lead kids to sing “To the Lamb Forever and Ever (Revelation 5:13).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

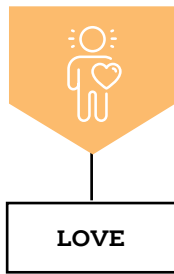
7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

SAY “ Thank You, Lord, for the truth of Your Word. Thank You for providing salvation through Jesus. Thank You that we can trust You because You hold all things together. In Jesus’ name, amen. ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God by Applying the Story

1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the New Testament Mediterranean Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Colossians 1. Explain that Paul wrote Colossians to the church in Colossae while he was imprisoned in Rome. Point to Rome (B1) and Colossae (E7) on the New Testament Mediterranean Map.

Consider comparing the New Testament Mediterranean Map to a modern-day map to help kids understand where these stories took place. (Tip: Locate the areas in and around modern-day Rome and Turkey.) Choose a volunteer to read aloud Colossians 1:15-18.

SAY “ Paul points out what is true about Jesus throughout his letter. Jesus is fully God. He created all things and everything was created for Him. He is in control of everything. He is the head of the church. He was raised from the dead and now lives forever and reigns over all. Through Jesus, we can experience the true peace that comes from forgiveness of sins. To know Jesus and be known by Jesus is why we were created. I hope you will be encouraged by Paul to read God’s Word to know Jesus more and more. ”

2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY “ How can knowing that Jesus is King over all encourage believers? ”

Discuss how knowing Jesus is in control over everything and nothing surprises Him gives us peace. Tell kids that throughout life we will experience challenging times, but we can have peace knowing that God is in control and His good purpose will always prevail. Remind kids that Jesus has made the way for us to have eternal hope through His death and resurrection.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 Cor. 8:5-6.)

SAY “ How can we know what is the true gospel or a false gospel? ”

Remind kids that we can know what is false by knowing the truth of God’s Word. Discuss how it is important to study God’s Word both together as a group and individually. Explain that it is also important to compare what people teach to the Word of God to see if it is true. Encourage kids to make the study of God’s Word a daily habit in their lives.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Acts 17:11.)

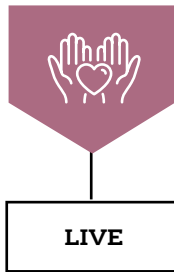
SAY “ How can we make Jesus King of our lives? ”

Tell kids that we have a choice to whether or not we will bow to King Jesus and accept Him as our Savior. Help kids understand that when we confess our sins, ask Jesus for forgiveness, and trust in Him, we are saved and given the gift of eternal life. Encourage kids to remember that when Jesus becomes King of our lives, we desire to obey Him because He has shown His love toward us.

(Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rev. 1:5.)

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

LIVE the Mission

1 **ACTIVITY CHOICE** (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: LETTERS TO ENCOURAGE



Before the session, gather a list of missionaries and their addresses who have been sent through your church or another organization such as the IMB. Provide kids with note cards or blank pieces of paper, pencils, and markers. Tell kids that they will write a letter to encourage the missionaries as they tell others about Jesus.

Provide each kid with a missionary name. Lead kids to write encouraging words such as *I'm praying for you* or *Thank you for telling others about Jesus*. Consider providing kids with a few Bible verses to copy in their letter as well. Assist younger kids with spelling and writing simple phrases. Allow kids to draw pictures. Then collect their letters and place them in stamped envelopes addressed to the recipients.

SAY “ Like Paul, Luther Rice encouraged others to share the good news of Jesus. Your letters will be an encouragement to missionaries as they share the gospel. ”

OPTION 2: PROPHET, PRIEST, KING



Before the session, label three corners of the room Prophet, Priest, and King. Remind kids that we have been learning how Jesus is our perfect Prophet, Priest, and King. Review each big picture answer: **Jesus perfectly reveals God the Father and fulfills what the prophets spoke. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for sin, and He speaks to God the Father for us today. Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.**

Lead the kids to gather in the center of the room. Tell kids to choose the corner that best fits a description of Jesus you provide. Examples may include: “Jesus is the perfect sacrifice for sin” or “Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies” or “Jesus is always in control.” Play as time allows.

SAY “ Jesus is our perfect Prophet, Priest, and King who came to save us from sin. He fulfilled God’s promise to send a Savior, He became our perfect sacrifice, and He lives to reign forever as our King. ”

2 **JOURNAL AND PRAYER** (5 minutes)

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page. As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas.

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God’s glory and my good?
- Are there promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Review the gospel and encourage kids to speak with you or another teacher if they have questions. Then pray, thanking God for sending His Son, Jesus, to save us and reign as King over all. As time allows, lead kids to complete “Our Perfect King” on the activity page.



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 27 • Session 4

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT KING

Colossians 1

HOW IS JESUS THE PERFECT KING? JESUS PERFECTLY RULES OVER THE UNIVERSE AS THE KING OF KINGS.

When Paul was a prisoner in Rome, people brought him news about how believers in churches all over the world were doing. Paul wrote letters to encourage the Christians in each church.

Paul wrote a letter to the church in Colossae (koh LAHS sih). The Colossian believers knew the gospel, but false teachers had been telling them lies.

Paul wrote to remind them of the truth about Jesus. This is what Paul wrote:

“Jesus shows us what God is like.

The Son of God existed before God created anything.

He created everything—everything in heaven and on earth, everything you see and don't see; everything exists for Him.

Jesus holds everything together.

The church—all the believers in the world—are the body, and He is the head.

God was happy to send His Son to earth to rescue people from sin through His blood on the cross.”

Paul reminded the believers that their sin had separated them from God. But now, they had salvation and forgiveness through faith in Jesus.

“Be encouraged and love one another,” Paul wrote. “I want you to know Jesus. All wisdom and knowledge is found in Him.”

Christ Connection: Paul encouraged believers by reminding them that Jesus is great. Jesus is God's Son, and He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. Jesus conquered sin and death and reigns as King over all.

FOLD

Find the Crowns | Find and circle all seven crowns hidden in the picture.



Our Perfect King | Use the shape on the crowns to help you fill in the missing words.

Jesus is the _____ of the invisible God. The Son of God



_____ before God created anything. Everything in heaven and on



earth was _____ by Him. Everything was _____ for Him. Jesus



_____ all things together. He is the _____ of the church.



Jesus _____ people from sin through His _____ on the cross.



NAME:



theGOSPELPROJECT.



Jesus Is Our Perfect King

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Paul wrote a letter to the church in Colossae to remind them of the truth about Jesus.
- Paul wrote that Jesus shows us what God is like, that He is the Creator who has always existed. He wrote that Jesus holds all things together, is the head of the church, and that His blood on the cross saves people from sin.
- Paul reminded the believers that their sin had separated them from God. But now, they had salvation and forgiveness through faith in Jesus.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Paul encouraged believers by reminding them that Jesus is great. Jesus is God's Son, and He died on the cross to rescue people from sin. Jesus conquered sin and death and reigns as King over all.

KEY PASSAGE: Revelation 5:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How is Jesus the perfect King? Jesus perfectly rules over the universe as the King of kings.