

Oh, Baby!



My Friend Jesus (6 Lessons)

After a long delay between lessons the “My Friend Jesus” series for Babies and Toddlers is now complete. Hopefully, it will help parents and teachers share the story of Jesus with little ones.

In this series infants and toddlers are introduced to Jesus and relate to him through various common experiences of childhood (celebration, helping, community, worship and growth). Role-play and sensory activities are used to express a growing relationship and friendship with him.

The first breath Jesus took on this earth was as a fragile newborn infant. The One who would save the world had to have his nappies/diapers changed. He learned to feed himself, crawl and walk. He experienced the human senses of taste, touch, hearing, sight and smell.

Infants and Toddlers can know that Jesus is special, experience affinity with Jesus through role-play and sensory activities. They can learn practices that express friendship, affection, obedience, respect and worship.

Lessons in this Series:

1. Cherished Baby

Expressing love through protection and tender care.

2. Time to Celebrate

The joy of giving, receiving and celebrating.

3. Helper at Home

Being part of a family by sharing responsibilities at home.

4. Worship and Praise

Being part of a community of worshippers.

5. Growing and Learning

The satisfaction of maturing and moving forward.

6. My Friend, Jesus

Comfort, love and affection in a relationship with Jesus.

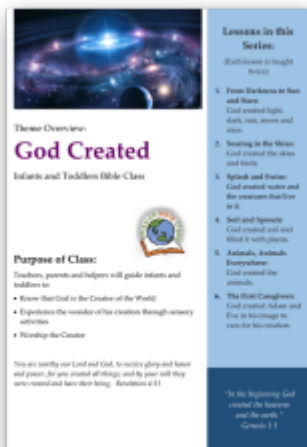


My Friend Jesus
(6 Lessons)

[Download the complete set here.](#)

[Go to the "My Friend Jesus page on this website.](#)

Additional Infant and Toddler Lessons



God Created
(6 Lessons)



God is With Me
(6 Lessons)

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'Tis the Season to Teach Infants and Toddlers



The first breath Jesus took on this earth was as a fragile newborn infant. The One who would save the world had to have his nappies/diapers changed. He learned to feed himself, crawl and walk. He experienced the human senses of taste, touch, hearing, sight and smell.

“My Friend Jesus” is a series of lessons created especially for children under the age of three. In this series infants and toddlers are introduced to Jesus and relate to him through various common experiences of childhood (celebration, helping, community, worship and growth). Role-play and sensory activities are used to express a growing relationship and friendship with him.

Purpose of Class:

In these lessons teachers, parents and helpers will guide infants and toddlers to:

- Know that Jesus is special.
- Experience affinity with Jesus in a variety of situations through role-play and sensory activities.
- Learn practices that express friendship, affection, obedience, respect and worship.

And Jesus said, “No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you”. John 15:15, CEV

[“My Friend Jesus” Download Page](#)

Downloads include:

My Friend Jesus_Theme Overview

Lesson 1: Cherished Baby (Click here to view or print lesson)

Expressing love through protection and tender care.

Lesson 2: Time to Celebrate

The joy of giving, receiving and celebrating.

Lesson 3: Helper at Home

Being part of a family by sharing responsibilities at home.

Lesson 4: Worship and Praise

Being part of a community of worshipers.

Lesson 5. Growing and Learning

The satisfaction of maturing and moving forward.

Lesson 6. My Friend, Jesus

Comfort, love and affection of a relationship with Jesus.

Infant and Toddler Teaching Instructions

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I Have Skeletons in My Closet



I have to be honest, Halloween is not exactly my favourite holiday. But one thing I really like about it is what happens afterwards. After the big rush (and sometimes even before) there are all sorts of skeletons on sale!

Why is this a good thing, you might ask? Why would I need to stock up on skeletons and stow them away in my closet?

It's simple...I'm a Bible teacher!

Ezekiel and the Valley of Dry Bones

Bones and skeletons are great visual aids and conversation starters for the story of [Ezekiel and the Valley of Dry Bones](#) from [Ezekiel 37:1-14](#).

I love to tell this story of hope. This vision has the vital elements needed for a dramatic story. The kids love the “creepy” image of dry bones lying all over a valley. They can relate to how Ezekiel must have felt when the bones began rattling and coming together.

Tendons and flesh formed on them and finally God breathed his spirit into them. If Ezekiel was hopeless because his people were in captivity he could finally understand how God had the power to bring a nation back to life.

Teaching Items in Post-Holiday Sales Bins

As a teacher I am always on the lookout for items that will help me share God's Word in ways children can best relate to. No one has to spend a lot of money or buy new things to teach children about God. But if you live in a place where after-holiday sales provide extremely cheap items then this may be a great opportunity. What are the holidays where you live?

After Christmas

- Creche and manger scenes (angels, wise men, animals, Joseph, Mary, Jesus, the manger itself), pictures of Jesus as a baby, stars and spices like the wise men brought. The obvious uses are for stories such as [The Birth of Jesus](#) and [Wise Men and a Star](#).
- Gaudy plastic strings of gold and silver garland can make great “treasure” when you later tell the [Parable of a Treasure & a Pearl](#).
- Greenery, artificial trees, candles and even twinkling lights bought in after-Christmas clearance sales really come in handy for costumes and acting out Bible stories later on.
- You're going to enjoy pulling twinkling lights out of storage when you tell the story of [Jesus Teaches about Salt and Light](#).

After Valentines Day

- Heart decorations of all kinds. These could be used when talking about the heart.
- Stories that come to mind are [Let My People Go!](#) , [John the Baptist](#) and [The Parable of a Sower and the Seeds](#)

After Easter

- This is the obvious time to find things like books and figurines to help you later tell the story of the [Burial and the Resurrection of Jesus](#).
- Since I teach infants and toddlers I sometimes use the little wind-up bunnies when I teach about [Day 6-God Created Animals & People](#).
- And I like to have a few plastic eggs on hand throughout the year so I can put verses or pictures inside and let the children hunt for them. They are also great for telling the story of death, burial and resurrection of Jesus with [Resurrection Eggs](#).

After Halloween

- Skeletons for teaching about [Ezekiel & the Valley of Dry Bones](#)
- Candy and lollies if you use those as game prizes.

After Thanksgiving

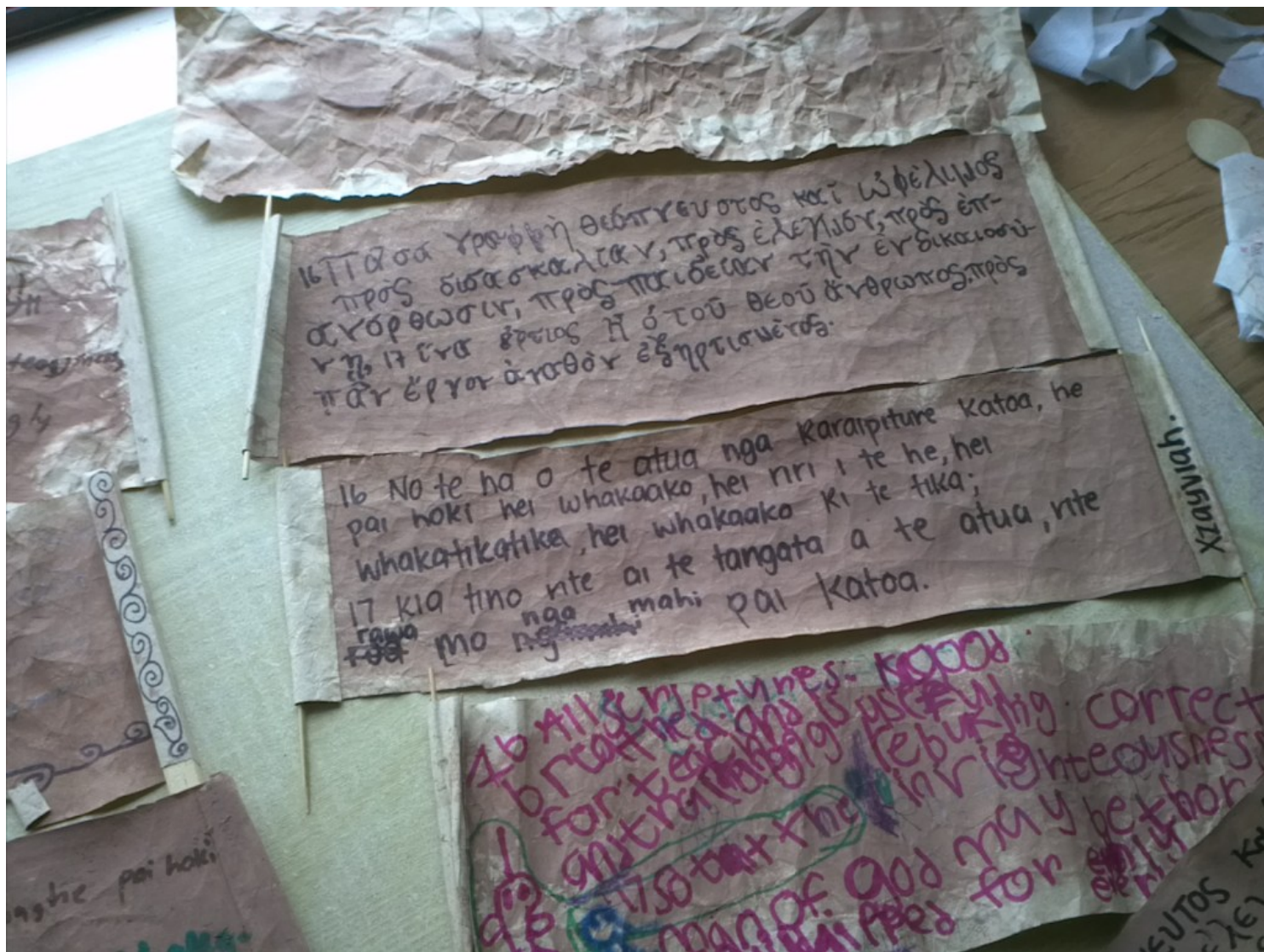
- We can give thanks throughout the year so I've sometimes used items on sale after this holiday to teach stories such as [Jesus Heals Ten Lepers](#).
- And all of plastic fruit comes in handy for teaching about [The Fruit of the Spirit](#).

Happy Teaching!

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Say it With a Scroll



Scrolls can be adapted to almost any lesson using a message or the Scripture you are studying and children love making them.

One teacher used them in this way: The children in our Bible classes recently learned about how our modern-day Bibles came about. First they talked about original languages of Hebrew and Greek. Then they talked about how the Bible has been translated into many languages so that everyone has the opportunity to learn about God.

They created “ancient” scrolls and copied scripture onto them.

Here’s how to make the scrolls:

Supplies:

1. Paper cut into a long rectangular strip. Tan or brown paper looks great but it is not necessary.
2. Brown paint and a wiping cloth or brown crayon with paper removed.
3. Two sticks of some kind (purchased dowel sticks, sticks you find on the ground outside, pencils...)
4. Tape or glue to attach the sticks to the paper.
5. Pen or crayon to write with.

Instructions:

1. You or the children write a scripture or message on the scroll (alternatively, prepare scroll first and then write).
2. Crunch or wad the paper up into a ball. Then smooth it out and wad it up again. Do this a number of times until the paper is soft and looks old and worn.
3. If using a crayon then turn it on its side and gently rub over the paper. The colour will be uneven and will make the “wrinkles” of the paper stand out better.

4. If using the paint then use a small amount on a cloth. Rub the cloth over the paper so the wrinkles will stand out and the paper look old.
5. Use the glue or tape to attach the sticks at each end.
6. To close the scroll just roll up the ends. Tie it off with twine or ribbon if you wish.

Stories Suggestions for Scrolls:

1. [Jeremiah and the Scroll](#)
2. [The Story of Timothy](#) (All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16, NIV)
3. [Paul in Ephesus](#)
4. [Philip Teaches the Ethiopian](#)
5. Or use for the memory or important verse in any lesson. Here are some examples:
 1. [The Birth of Jesus](#) "For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6-7, NIV
 1. [Wise Men and a Star](#) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16, NIV
 2. [Wise King Solomon](#) "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Psalm 111:10a, NIV
 3. [Meaning of the Lord's Supper](#) "Do this in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:24b, NIV
 4. [The Noble Bereans](#) "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15, NIV
 5. [Great Commission and Ascension of Christ](#) "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20), NIV

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