

Lesson 1. Who Is Jesus?

STUDIO MYSTERY

This is where they make movies about Jesus in other languages.

Wow! I've never been in a place like this before.

What is the *JESUS* film all about?

Even people who can't read can understand the movie!

Draw your favorite movie character!

What do you think is the most-watched movie of all time?



So many people have seen this movie!

The *JESUS* movie is watched all over the world!

These kids from India are hearing about Jesus for the first time!

But Jesus is still a mystery to many people.

JESUS' ABILITIES WERE AMAZING-- AND MYSTERIOUS!

Look up these Bible verses to solve the mystery:
"How could one person do all these things?"

Draw lines to the correct verses.

HUMAN

was tempted to sin

became thirsty

came to earth as a baby

cried when He was sad

Matthew 1:21

Matthew 28:20

Luke 2:6-7

Luke 4:1-2

John 11:35

John 19:28

Colossians 1:16

Hebrews 1:6

SUPER-HUMAN

saves sinful people

worshiped by angels

always present with us

created the world

Mystery Solved! Jesus is BOTH human and God!



OLD TESTAMENT MYSTERY

In Old Testament times, the promises about Jesus seemed like mysteries.
Write in the Bible reference that solves each one.

Old Testament Mystery

New Testament Solution

- Psalm 41:9 A friend would betray Him.
Psalm 109:4 He would pray for His enemies.
Isaiah 7:14 His mother would be a virgin.
Isaiah 29:18 He would heal people.
Isaiah 40:3 A messenger would precede Him.
Isaiah 50:6 People would spit on Him and beat Him.
Micah 5:2 He would be born in Bethlehem.

Verse Bank:

Matthew 1:23

Luke 7:22

Matthew 2:1

John 1:23

Matthew 26:67

Luke 22:47-48

Luke 22:47-48





A mystery is something that is kept secret or that remains unexplained or unknown. Jesus was a mystery to the people of His day because He is both human and divine. We now know the answer to the mystery—Jesus is the most important person who has ever lived!

Read John 14:6.

Use your own words to explain what this verse means.



MOVIE FACTS

Many people around the world still haven't heard about Jesus. To them, Jesus is still a mystery.

THE
JESUS
FILM PROJECT

The Story of **Jesus**
for Children

A Family Film



Who is Jesus?

John 14:6

Lesson 1—Studio Mystery

Lesson 1. Who Is Jesus?

STUDIO MYSTERY

Big Idea *Jesus Christ is the most important Person of all time!*

Lesson Summary

My Big-Screen Adventure examines the life of Jesus Christ. Your children will discover many of the incredible things Jesus did and the amazing things He said. In each lesson, they will study passages from the Book of Luke and watch clips from *The Story of Jesus for Children*.

This introductory lesson focuses on the mystery of Jesus' identity. Most people agree that Jesus' life made a greater impact on the world than anyone else's. Some people honor Jesus as a great man, yet others reject Jesus and use His name with contempt or indifference. We want our children to discover the mystery of Jesus. Jesus is fully God and fully Man, capable of mighty miracles on our behalf and of understanding and sympathizing with our human weaknesses.

Big-Screen Adventure Projects

Global Passports—Children can create their own "passports" that will remind them of each place they "travel" to during this adventure. In nearly every lesson, they will visit a different country where they can add a new page to their passports. They will color a national flag and learn facts or prayer points about each country. See pages 90-93.



New Translation Fund—Many children around the world have responded to *The Story of Jesus for Children*, but the movie still needs to be translated so other children can hear the Gospel message in their own languages. Your class can help underwrite the cost for a new translation. Visit DiscipleLand.com/downloads to find out more.



Adventure Party—Spend your adventure planning a party for parents and friends at the end of your time together. See pages 79-80 to find out more.

Teacher Devotional

Pray that Jesus will no longer be a mysterious figure to the children. Ask God to give each child the desire to know more about Him and have a deeper relationship with Him. Pray that your children will experience real excitement in learning about their awesome Savior.



DISCIPLE TARGETS In this lesson, your children will...

KNOWLEDGE (truths)

- K** • Jesus is 100% God and 100% human
- N** • Jesus is the greatest Person ever
- O** • The *JESUS* film is the most-watched movie of all time
- W**

CHARACTER (emotions)

- F** • Convinced that Jesus is both God and man
- E** • Amazed that Jesus could do so many different things
- E** • Eager to learn more about Jesus throughout this adventure
- L**

CONDUCT (actions)

- D** • Read Bible verses that emphasize Jesus' human and divine activities
- O** • Discover how Jesus fulfilled Old Testament Bible prophecies
- Memorize John 14:6

Make Disciples

Teacher—Decide where to place these elements into this lesson.

Our Adventure...



Dee, Cy, and Paul arrive in Orlando, Florida, at the international headquarters of Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ). The

JESUS Film Project offers a studio tour that highlights the impact of the *JESUS* film.

While taking the *JESUS* Film Studio tour, the kids experience the film dubbing process and how The *JESUS* Film Project's films and new media reach the world. They also realize the power the movie has for people who hear Jesus speak to them in their own languages. Dee, Cy, and Paul decide to get involved. Accompanied by Pastor Shepherd, Paul's dad, they make plans to show the movie to children around the world.

Script: Use this brief puppet/skit script to introduce the lesson or *Explore Scripture* time. Find downloadable versions of these scripts at DiscipleLand.com/downloads. *Note:* words in italics are for direction and are not to be read aloud.

SUPPLIES



General Supplies

Bibles, Disciple Guides (pages 1-4)
Pencils, markers, crayons
Paper, scissors, tape, glue

Memorize God's Word

None

Spark Interest

- MYSTERIOUS THINGS: none
- TWO IN ONE: bottle of water, ice cubes
- WHAT DO YOU GET?: glass, water, cooking oil, vitamin C powder or tablet, baking soda, salt

Explore Scripture

Five steps to translation download

Inspire Action

- MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE: no additional supplies
- PASS THE BIBLE: worship music
- S-P-E-C-I-A-L ACROSTIC: none

Extend Learning

- PASSPORT: personal passport template

Paul: Hi everyone! We are so excited that you are about to go on an amazing adventure with us! My name is Paul.

Dee: Hi, I'm Dee! And this is our dog, Chip!

Chip: Woof!

Cy: Hey there, I'm Cy!

Paul: We love to go on adventures. Do you like to go on adventures, too? [*Wait for response.*]

Dee: Well, you are right on time because we just arrived in Orlando, Florida! Does anyone know what is in Orlando, Florida? [*Wait for response.*] Well, today we are visiting the headquarters of Campus Crusade for Christ International!

Paul: I heard they made a movie called *The Story of Jesus for Children*. Hey Dee, Cy, and Chip, what do you think about taking off to show this movie around the world so that more people can learn about Jesus?

Dee and Cy: That sounds like a great idea!

Paul: Would you like to join us on this adventure? [*Wait for response.*]

Cy: Great! Then put on your hiking boots [*Pretends to put on hiking boots.*] and put on your hat. And last but not least, pack your backpack for our trip.

Dee: And one last thing before you go, make sure you find your passport because we are about to go on the greatest adventure ever!

Dee, Cy, Paul: [*Wave goodbye.*] See you next time!

Memorize God's Word

Topic: Who is Jesus?

Reference: *John 14:6*

Memory Activity—Help the children understand what the verse means. Form two teams. Let the first team say the verse as loud as it can. The second team says the verse a little softer. Then the first team says the verse a little softer than team two. Continue going back and forth until the verse is no longer audible. End by reciting the verse together with normal volume.

Bible Background: In *John 14:6*, **Jesus Christ makes several extremely bold proclamations about Himself. Jesus claims to be the only way to truth, to life, and to God. The original language (Greek) is specific—Jesus said “the way” not “a way.” He wanted no one to mistake His identity. Jesus is God’s only Son, and Jesus is the only way to God.**

Bonus Resources

Access free downloads for this lesson (Memory Verse cards, activity templates, etc.) at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Spark Interest

Teacher—Choose one or more activities that will involve students and grab their attention.

Age 6-12—Mysterious Things (10 minutes)

This brainstorming activity helps kids think about solving mysteries.

Say, **A mystery awakens our curiosity because there's excitement in the unknown.** Read each riddle and let the children try to solve the mystery. **These are mysteries that we can fully understand because they have answers.**

- What fruit has seeds on its outside? (Strawberries.)
- Can a man living in one country be buried in another country? (No, he's still living.)
- If there are three apples and you take away two, how many apples do you have? (Two—YOU took them.)
- A woman gave birth to two sons on the same hour of the same day in the same year, but they aren't twins. How can that be? (They're from a set of triplets or quadruplets.)

In the form of a baby, God our Creator became Jesus the Man. God wants us to know this wonderful truth, but it is one of the many mysteries in the universe that we will never fully understand.

Age 6-9—Two in One (10 minutes)

This object lesson shows children that Jesus was both God and man at the same time. **Supplies:** bottle of water, ice cubes

>DO AHEAD< Before class begins, bring in a clear bottle of water and a plastic bag with ice cubes.

Hold up the ice cubes. Ask the kids to talk about how they use ice cubes. Then hold up the bottle of water and talk about how they use water. Explain that this water is in two different forms—liquid and solid. When water freezes, it takes a solid form, but it is still water. Explain how Jesus is uniquely God and man at the same time.



Age 9-12—What Do You Get? (15 minutes)

This simple experiment illustrates that Jesus was both God and man and how those two natures were combined. **Supplies:** glass, water, cooking oil, vitamin C powder or tablet, baking soda, salt

First, fill a glass half full with water. Then pour some cooking oil into the water. Ask the kids, **Do they mix well?** (No. They remain separate from each other.) **Why does this experiment NOT show what happened when Jesus became a man?** (This is not like our Savior because we end up with two separate things that cannot be combined.)

Now pour water into a glass and add vitamin C powder or dissolve a vitamin C tablet. Add baking soda to the mixture. The water will fizz. Explain that the vitamin C and baking soda are combining and each is changed in this process (the fizz indicates a chemical reaction). Explain that this too is NOT a good illustration of what happened when God became man. God and man did not change into something else.



Next, take a glass of water and stir in some salt until the salt disappears. The two are now one, but the mixture still has evidence of both. Two substances are present. This DOES illustrate how Jesus was both God and man. **The salt (like Jesus' Deity) is hidden from our eyes, but our taste buds confirm it is still there. The presence of the salt cannot be completely concealed. So, too, the words and miracles of Jesus shine through His person to show us that He is God.**

Explore Scripture

Teacher—Guide children as they complete each exercise in their Disciple Guides.

Download answers for Disciple Guide exercises at DiscipleLand.com/downloads

Begin this lesson by reading the dialogue on the inside front cover. This adventure begins in the Orlando, Florida, international headquarters of Cru. The children are ready to begin the *JESUS* Film Studio tour.

Page 1

You may want to ask your students, **Did you ever wonder how a movie is translated into another language?** Discuss the five steps of translation (see page 4) with your children.

Page 2

Discuss the children's favorite movies. **There have been more than 6 billion viewings of the *JESUS* film and *The Story of Jesus for Children*. *JESUS* has been translated into more than 1,200 languages. *The Story of Jesus for Children* is now available in more than 150 languages.** See page 4 for additional information about these movies.

Divide the Bible references among groups of students, or assign one verse per child. Read or have the verses read by the students so that everyone understands the point of each passage. Emphasize that these verses and many others reveal that Jesus was both God and man.

Page 3

Discuss why Old Testament believers must have been puzzled by these mysterious promises. "How would all this be fulfilled?" Talk about why we are privileged to live after the New Testament was written so we can better understand these promises.

Bible Background: Help the children understand that the Bible is really one book in two parts. **Many Old Testament promises prepared God's people for Jesus' coming. The New Testament announced that those promises were realized through Jesus' coming. Jesus told His followers that He came to fulfill the Scriptures (Matthew 5:17). To "fulfill" means to complete what has been promised. Jesus completely fulfilled the promises the prophets had made.**

Page 4



HeartBeat: Talk about some things the children identify as "unique." Emphasize that each child is unique; no other person in the world—past, present, or future—is just like him or her. Ask, **What makes Jesus unique?**

Emphasize again that never before and never again will God become man.

Help your children realize the profound impact Jesus has on the world—and on their lives. Talk about what the world might be like if Jesus hadn't come to earth (selfishness, no Christmas, lawlessness, no eternal hope). In your discussion, you may want to include information from the article "Who is Jesus Christ?" on pages 84-85 of this Teacher Guide.

Inspire Action

Teacher—Choose one or more activities that will encourage learners to apply the Bible truth to their lives.

Age 6-12—Mysteries of the Bible (15 minutes)

This Bible search activity helps the kids apply their Bible knowledge. **Supplies:** Bibles

Ask your children to look up these verses to solve each mystery.

- Who was the oldest person in the Bible? (Genesis 5:27—Methuselah lived to be 969.)
- Who used a stone for a pillow? (Genesis 28:10-11—Jacob)
- Who had 12 fingers and 12 toes? (2 Samuel 21:20—some giants, perhaps Goliath did, too)
- Who ate locusts for food? (Matthew 3:4—John the Baptist)
- Who had 88 children? (2 Chronicles 11:21—Rehoboam)
- Whose hair weighed more than five pounds after it was cut? (2 Samuel 14:26—Absalom)
- What verse is in the exact middle of the Bible? (Psalm 118:8)

Age 6-9—Pass the Bible (10-15 minutes)

This circle activity gives kids opportunities to tell why Jesus is special to them. **Supplies:** Bible, worship music

Invite the children to sit in a circle. Pass around a Bible while playing a worship song or while the kids recite the memory verse. When the song or verse has ended, ask the child holding the Bible to tell how Jesus is unique or special to him or her. Play several times.

Age 9-12—S-P-E-C-I-A-L Acrostic (10-15 minutes)

This word association activity encourages kids to think of different ways Jesus is different from all people.

Write the word “SPECIAL” vertically down the side of the board. Ask the children to think of words or ideas that begin with the letters in the word “special” that tell why Jesus is unique. Write their ideas on the board. Or, you may want to have each child make his or her own list.

Closing Prayer

Conclude your session with conversational prayer. Thank God for sending Jesus to do what no person could do. Ask the children to share any prayer requests. Model a prayer and give the kids an opportunity to pray for the requests of other students. Pray that the people presenting *The Story of Jesus for Children* will see God transform many children’s lives.

Extend Learning

Teacher—These varied activities supplement the lesson.

Snack Idea—Make “movie reels” with round cookies and fruit roll-ups. Let the kids take the fruit roll-up and wind it around the cookie to turn it into a movie reel.



Global Passports—During each future lesson, you will show clips from *The Story of Jesus for Children*. In addition, this Teacher Guide will highlight a true story about the impact that this movie has made in countries around the world. For this first session, let the children assemble their passport booklets. During each consecutive lesson, the kids will learn about the new country and color the national flag.

▶ **DO AHEAD** ◀ *How to Assemble a Passport:* Detach the four-page master from this Teacher Guide (pages 90-93). Copy these pages, printing the United States and Thailand pages back to back, and the Haiti and Ghana pages back to back. You can also find a template and instructions at DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Arrange the two sheets that were printed on both sides so that the top sheet facing you has “ASIA” in the lower right quarter of the page. The bottom sheet will have the word “Dictionary” in the lower right quarter of the page.

Fold the top edges of both sheets down and in half vertically so that the top edges now align with the bottom edges. “KENYA” and “GHANA” should now be facing you. Flatten the fold to make a sharp crease.

Now fold the left edges of both sheets to the right and in half horizontally so that the left edges lie on top and align with the right edges. Flatten the new fold to make a sharp crease. The passport cover should now face you.

Open the passport to the center and staple once or twice along the center fold to hold the pages together. Trim off the top edge, which is creased but not opened. Only trim off enough so the pages will open.

You now have a 16-page passport.

Movie Mania—This circle activity helps kids think about other movies they know and generates excitement about *The Story of Jesus for Children*. Invite your students to sit in a large circle. Ask one child to begin the game by calling out the name of a movie. Continue clockwise around the circle and have each child call out the name of a different movie title (no repeats allowed). If someone can't name a new movie, he or she scoots out of the circle. The game is over when no more movies can be named.

After the circle activity is over, ask the children to identify different kinds of movies: some are just for fun, others tell a true story, and still others change people's lives. Talk about how the *JESUS* film and *The Story of Jesus for Children* are transforming the lives of people around the world.

Pray for *The Story of Jesus for Children*:

- Pray for opportunities to show *The Story of Jesus for Children* throughout the world—especially during Christmas and Easter.
- Pray for the teams working with the 16 multi-language children's movies.
- Pray that many children will trust Jesus as their Savior and will grow in their relationships with Jesus.

Ideas for Homeschoolers:

- Pick five languages and research the people who live in the countries where those languages are spoken. Learn how to say a few words. See if you can find their word for “Jesus.”
- Have your child(ren) put the following categories in order of most important to least important: Parents; Teachers; Church; School; Friends; Jesus; Family; Fun. Discover Bible verses that support your ranking.

Special Edition DVD—*The Story of Jesus for Children*

Lessons 2-12 feature segments of this movie that parallel each lesson in **My Big-Screen Adventure**. Familiarize yourself with the enclosed DVD before your next class session.

