



# I Wonder...

## LESSON 6: INTERMEDIATE SMALL GROUP

### What's so special about Jesus and why did He come to Earth?

#### MAIN IDEA

Jesus looked very ordinary/regular, but he came from heaven and is the son of the King and is totally God and totally human at the same time. He came because he valued us and wanted to save us from our sins.

#### BIBLE PASSAGES

- Philippians 2:5-8
- Mark 10:35-41
- John 3:16
- Luke 15:1-10
- 1 John 1:9, suggested Bible verse (Optional)

#### BIBLE VERSE

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

1 John 1:9, NLT



Prepare your heart to teach.  
Plan for the lesson.



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for. (15 minutes)



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus. (20 – 25 minutes)



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel. (5 – 10 minutes)

## Prepare



Prepare your heart to teach.  
Plan for the lesson.

### QUESTIONS

- How can you be praying for the students this week?
- Are there any specific students or requests you can pray for?
- Are there any adaptations that you can make to the lesson this week to better serve the kids in your small group or make your small group more effective?

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Bible
- Poster board—In advance, draw a line down the middle and label one column “ROYAL” and the other column “REGULAR”
- Marker
- Tape (to hang up the poster board)
- Printouts 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D printed and cut out individually
- (Optional) Scissors
- (Optional) Glue to attach pictures to poster board
- Bible Verse Cards, 1 per child

## Connect



Connect with the kids, and help them feel heard and cared for.  
(15 minutes)

## Small Group Session 1

### ICEBREAKER

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while children eat their snack:

- Option 1: Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week).
- Option 2: Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).

### PRAY TOGETHER

Collect prayer requests from the students. The leader or a student can pray for the entire group, or a leader can pair up students and invite them to pray for one another.

#### ACTIVITY:

Ask students to find the most valuable thing that they have on them or in their backpack. Give them 1–2 minutes to look before bringing them back to the small group.

Ask,

- **What is your valuable item?**
- **Why is this important to you?**
- **What is the most valuable thing you own?** (this could be anything at home, not just at school)
- **How do you take care of your most valuable items?**
- **What would you do if you lost that item?**

Say, **The Bible talks about God valuing us. He created us, and we are incredibly valuable to him. We will get to hear more about how God values us in large-group.**

Close in prayer before heading to large-group.

# Heart



Facilitate activity and study to help kids know and love Jesus.  
(20 – 25 minutes)

## Small Group Session 2

### INTRODUCTION

Ask, **Why did Jesus come to Earth?**

**We are talking about Jesus—who he is and why he came to earth. Jesus left the beauty of heaven where he was worshiped because he is God’s Son. This means that Jesus is God and the Bible says that he is the King of kings.**

**Think for a moment about how royalty would be treated.**

#### ACTIVITY: ROYAL VS. REGULAR

Using the pictures included in the lesson and the poster board you prepared with two columns (Royal & Regular), work with the kids to sort the items into the columns. You may also consider allowing students to cut the pictures up and tape or glue them to the poster board, separating them into the Royal & Regular columns.

Ask:

- **Would a king live in a castle or a house?**
- **Would a king wear a crown or a baseball cap?**
- **Would a king eat a banquet or a sandwich?**

Go through all of the pictures and compare the pairs (castle/house, crown/baseball cap, banquet/sandwich, limo/small economy car, king’s robe/jeans, fancy jewelry/regular gold ring, butler/regular person cleaning, chalice/to go cup).

**Say, Jesus was fully God (a royal son of the King) and lived in heaven with all God’s blessings. In obedience to God, his Father, he came down to live on earth with us as a human being.**

### UNDERSTANDING JESUS’ HUMILITY

Read Philippians 2:5–8 with the students and explain:

**Jesus remained God even when he came to earth, but he took on the nature of a servant (human nature). He chose to give up the comfort of living in heaven and came to earth because he wanted to obey God the Father, and he valued us enough to sacrifice everything for us.**

This is a great opportunity to share the whole Gospel with students. Sharing with them the love Jesus has for us that he would give up the comfort of heaven but more than that, he gave his very life to save ours from the punishment of death and eternity separated from God.

HELPFUL HINT

## ILLUSTRATION

Explain to the students that it would be like if we could maintain our human nature but turn into an ant.

Say, **Jesus coming to earth is like you turning into an ant. Imagine if you could turn yourself into an ant. You would still be you. You could feel and think like a human, but you would look and experience things just like an ant. You would still retain your human thoughts and ideas and nature, but you would look like just another ant.**

Ask, **Why do you think that Jesus came appearing just like an ordinary person?** (He did not want to scare us away. He wanted us to be attracted to his love, not his appearance. He came to serve, to die for us. He set an example for us to follow.)

Read 1 John 4:10 together with the students.

Explain what it means that Jesus was a sacrifice for us, and discuss how this demonstrates his tremendous love for us.

Say, **Jesus came to the earth because he loves us and didn't want to leave us all tangled up in the mess of sin that we talked about last week.**

## Hands



Lead kids to live out the mission of the Gospel.  
(5 – 10 minutes)

## Small Group Session 2

### WRAP IT UP

Say, **When we understand who Jesus is and what he did for us, our response should be to give him thanks.**

Spend some time teaching the children how to express thanks to God.

You might have each child think of something for which they are thankful and then pray one sentence: "I thank you God for/that . . ."

### RESPONSE & REFLECTION

Ask the students for any additional prayer requests and pray with them.

(Optional) If time permits, review the Bible verse with the students.