

IGNITE

5TH & 6TH GRADE MINISTRIES

First Church Springdale



Bible Lesson Booklet

January

**Opening**

We can know God through Jesus.

Read & Reason

Look up and read in your Bible John 1:1-18

For years and years, the people of Israel were waiting for someone to come save them. They knew that one day God, who can create life with words, would come to Earth and save them from their troubles. They did not want to miss it!

Have you ever had to wait for a really long time for something you wanted?

Sometimes, it's not easy to recognize God. Even with all of the clues God gave Israel, the people didn't recognize Jesus when Jesus came.

Have you ever looked for something all over and couldn't find it, only for it to be right in front of you the whole time?

John the Baptist was a very popular man at that time. Many thought John the Baptist was the Savior they were waiting for because he was baptizing people from all over the place! But John the Baptist made it clear that he was not God. With so much excitement, he shared that God was coming soon! And all he was doing was preparing the way as a messenger!

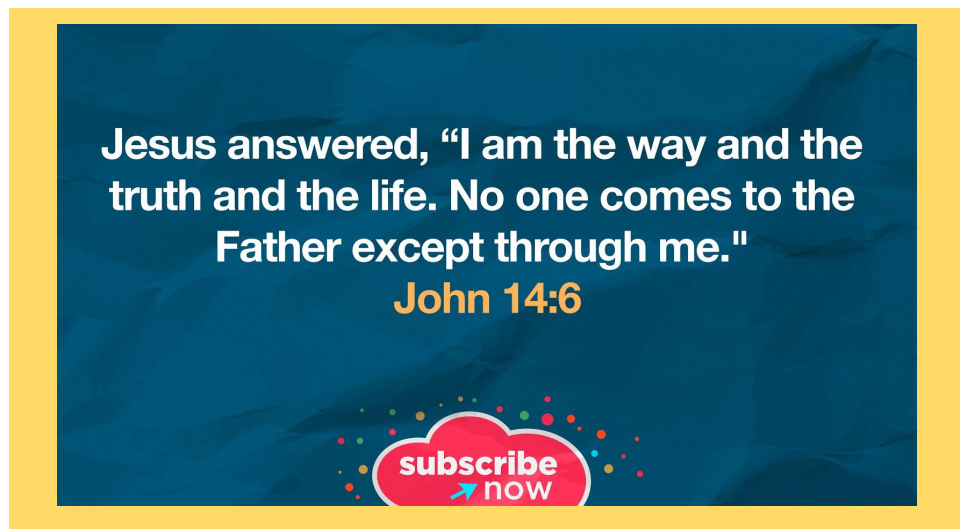
Now, imagine what you would do if your favorite icon (like a celebrity or an influencer) came to meet you personally.

When John the Baptist met Jesus, "the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth," he told all the Israelites that Jesus was the one true God!

Memory Verse

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



Reflect & Write

- In John 1:14, who is the "Word" that became flesh?

- Who was John the Baptist and what was his role?

- What does it mean to you that Jesus is both God and human?
- What is the only way to know God?

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, we praise You because You have always been with us, from the beginning of creation to now. And how awesome is it that You want to be close to us! Thank You for giving us a way to get to know You through Jesus. Amen.*

**Opening**

We know forgiveness because of Jesus.

Read & Reason

Look up and read in your Bible Mark 1:4-11.

John the Baptist was a very popular prophet who was baptizing people with water and teaching about forgiveness. But the people kept coming back to him over and over again because they continued to make poor choices and hurt each other.

Have you ever tried your best to do something, but for some reason, you just could not make a good choice? Have you ever hurt someone even though you didn't mean to?

John the Baptist knew that humans could not live a perfect life. There had to be a true Savior who could baptize us humans with the Holy Spirit, and who will forgive us of all our sins. And that person is Jesus!

How would you act if you met Jesus?

When John the Baptist met and baptized Jesus, the sky opened up and God spoke and said, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

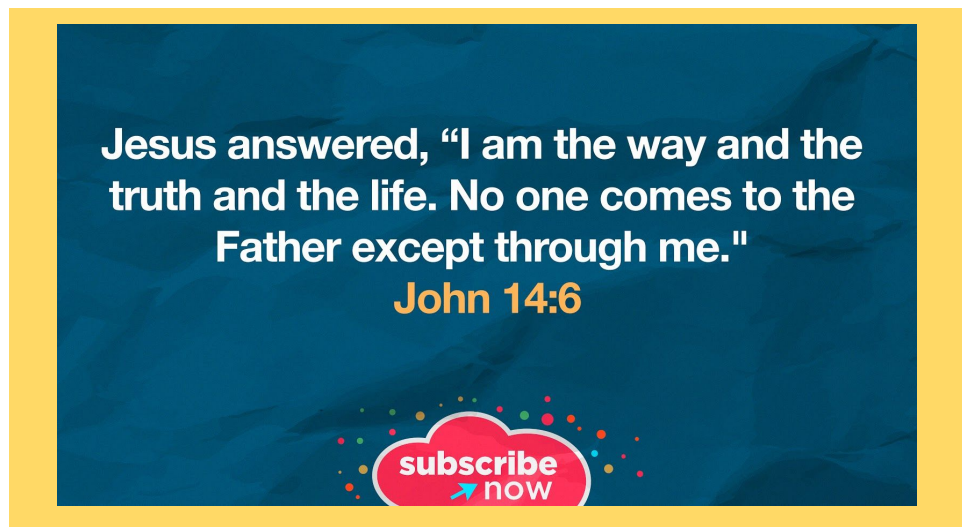
If the sky opened up and God was speaking about you, what do you think God would say?

At that moment, everyone knew that Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus was the true Savior of the world, who came to forgive all of our sins!

Memory Verse

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



Reflect & Write

- What happened when Jesus got baptized?
- What did God say about Jesus?

- Read Mark 1:8. John says that he baptizes with water, but how will Jesus baptize people?

- Describe a time when you needed to forgive someone. What about a time when you needed forgiveness?

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, thank You so much for sending Jesus to forgive our sins and showing us what true forgiveness is. Remind us to turn to you right away whenever we need Your forgiveness, and help us to offer that forgiveness to others as well. Amen.*

**Opening**

Jesus knows us.

Read & Reason

Look up and read in your Bible John 1:43-51.

While Jesus was about to leave town, Phillip, a follower of Jesus, was so excited about Jesus that he told one of his friends, Nathanael, all about Jesus.

Phillip told Nathanael that Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for. And even though Nathanael was nervous, he decided to go meet Jesus for himself.

Do you think Phillip was a good friend for inviting Nathanael?

Before Nathanael even said a word, Jesus greeted him like an old friend and mentioned things about Nathanael that only Nathanael would know. Jesus said he saw Nathanael under a tree before Phillip went to talk to him.

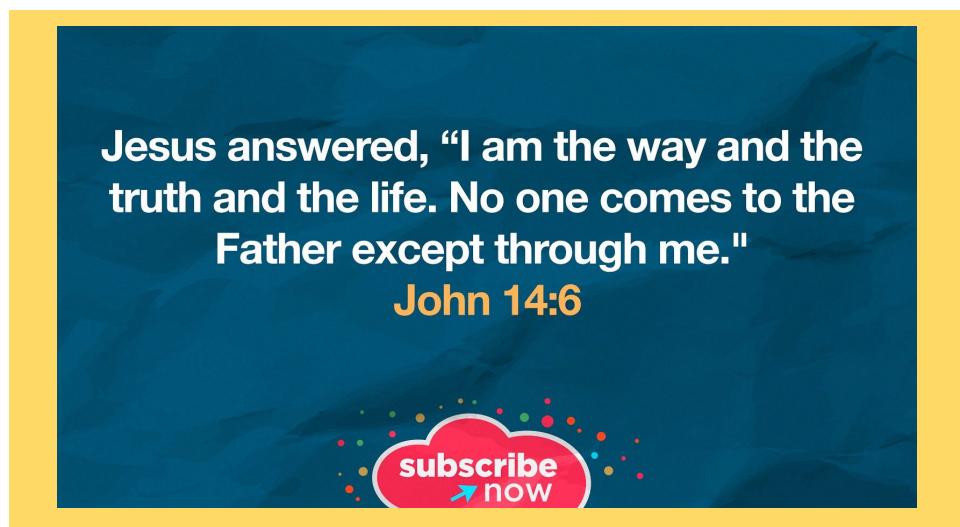
How do you think Jesus knew this?

We don't know if Jesus actually saw Nathanael, and we're not even sure if Jesus is even talking about the same day. But we do know Nathanael is very surprised to hear this from Jesus. There was no internet back then, so Jesus couldn't have looked up facts about Nathanael, used satellite images, or anything like that. Nathanael knew the only way Jesus knew so much about him was that he had to be the Son of God, and the Savior everyone had been waiting for and talking about.

Memory Verse

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



Reflect & Write

- Why was Nathanael amazed by Jesus?

- Read Psalm 139:2. What does this verse say about how much Jesus knows us?

- How does it make you feel knowing Jesus knows you so well?
- Can you trust God more now knowing that God knows so much about you?

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, I am so glad I can turn to you when it seems no one else would understand. Thank you always having known me and being such a good friend to me. Please show me how I can be a good friend to others. Amen.*

**Opening**

Jesus wants us to follow him.

Read & Reason

Look up and read in your Bible Mark 1:14-20; Luke 5:1-11. The phrase, "Follow me" seems like an easy request. Yet in today's Bible story, Simon Peter did not know his life would change forever with that one phrase.

Simon Peter and his brother, Andrew, were fishermen, and fishing was a good job because it gave them money and food. But that day, Simon Peter wasn't catching any fish.

Jesus got onto Simon Peter's boat and told Simon Peter to head out to deeper water and put their nets in the water there.

Has this ever happened to you? Like, when something isn't working and someone tells you to try something you already tried?

That's happened to me a lot. I have to be honest. . . I get annoyed when that happens! Simon Peter told Jesus he already tried that, but he would try again. And when he did, a miracle happened!

They caught so many fish that they had to ask for help from a nearby boat. The nets got so heavy that they began to break, and both boats started to sink!

Peter knew this was impossible! Only someone who controls the seas can make something like this happen!

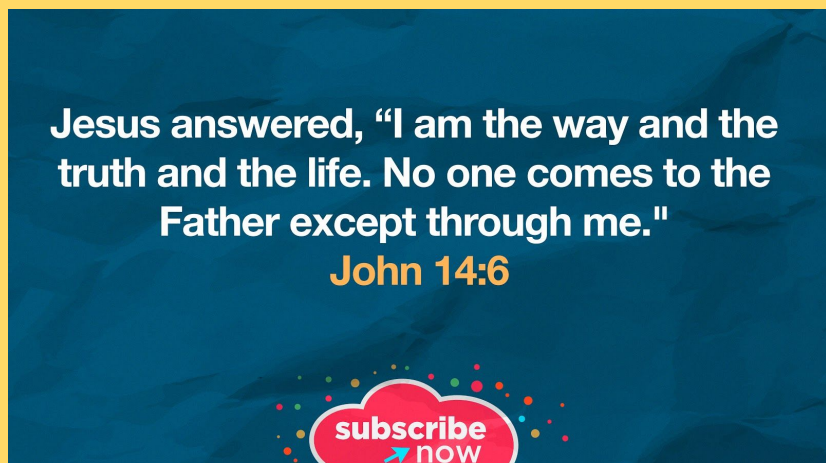
What would you do if you saw a miracle happen in front of your eyes? Do you think you would drop everything and do as the person performing the miracle says?

That is exactly what Simon Peter did. He knew this was someone very special he had to follow. So, when Jesus said, "Come, follow me. I will make you fishers of people," Peter and Andrew dropped everything and followed Jesus.

Memory Verse

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



Reflect & Write

- When Simon Peter finally realized who Jesus was, what did Jesus ask of him?

- Read Mark 1:17. What did it mean when Jesus asked these men to follow Jesus and "fish for people?"

- What is different about your life because you follow Jesus?
- What is Jesus asking you to "let go of" in your life?

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, thank You so much for asking us to follow You. Help us follow You with more of our time and energy, even if it means we need to give up something we like to do. We know that it will be worth it if it means following You and getting to know You better. Amen.*

**Opening**

The message of Jesus is powerful.

Read & Reason

Look up and read in your Bible Mark 1:21-28.

Today's Bible story tells us that Jesus was not like the other teachers and prophets. Jesus' message was powerful and people were amazed when they heard it and started to follow Jesus. If Jesus was on Earth these days, people would say Jesus was trending!

Then, a man came and caused a ruckus. He shouted, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One of God!"

Have you ever been watching a good show and then a sibling, pet, or another person made loud noises or got in your way and distracted you?

Sometimes, people disrupt you but don't really mean to. As for the man who interrupted Jesus, there was something different about him. Jesus knew the man was suffering with something so much on the inside that it was making him lose control on the outside. Believe it or not, a mean, evil spirit was inside of him.

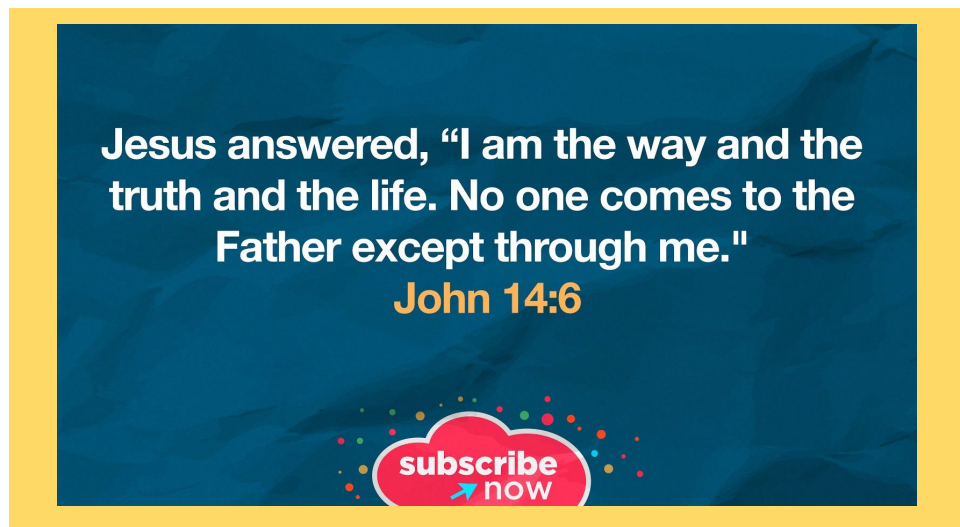
So, Jesus shouted to the spirit, "Be quiet! Come out of him!" Then it did! It came out of the man and disappeared. As you can imagine, people were amazed and in shock! They just could not believe Jesus had the power to do that!

After that, the news of Jesus' power spread even quicker!

Memory Verse

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 14:6



Reflect & Write

- Who did the suffering man say that Jesus is?

- Read Mark 1:27-28. Why is it important that the message of Jesus spreads?

- What are ways we can help share the powerful message of Jesus?
- Are there ways to share the message of Jesus without talking?

Closing Prayer

- *Dear God, Thank You for giving us a powerful message. We are glad that it has reached us thousands of years later, miles and miles from where it started. Help me to be a part of carrying your message to others so that more people will hear and be changed by Your message of love and hope. Amen.*

