February 2 9:00am & 11:00am

Three and Four Year Olds

WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

(REVELATION 21-22)

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus said that He is coming back soon. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears! Jesus is making all things new.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Jesus will wipe away our tears. Revelation 21:4

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Tell an age-appropriate story about a time you cried such as falling down and skinning your knee as a child or a time when a friend hurt your feelings.

SAY Sometimes when we feel sad, we might cry. Have you ever cried? [Allow responses.] Did you know that when Jesus returns, He will wipe away every tear from our eyes? There will be no more sadness, crying, or pain! John saw it in the vision God gave him. Let's hear more.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time. How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Ask the following review questions:

- 1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
- 2. Who will return to live with us in the new heaven and the new earth? (Jesus.)
- 3. How will the new earth be different from this earth? (Preschoolers' answers will vary. Remind them that the new heaven and new earth will have no death, pain, or tears!)
- 4. Only people who have trusted in Jesus will be in the new heaven and the new earth. What does it mean to trust in Jesus? (Trusting in Jesus means that we believe we have sinned, or done wrong things, and that Jesus died in our place for our sin and rose again so we can be forgiven.)
- 5. What is the hope of the church? The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new.

SAY John had a vision of a new heaven and a new earth. In this new heaven and new earth, there were many beautiful things, and there is no sadness, pain, or death. The best thing about the new heaven and the new earth is that God's people get to live with Him, forever.

4. LEAR QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY Today is our last session with the big picture question, What is the hope of the church? Today's story is about the answer to this question! The church looks forward to Jesus' return when He will make all things new. All people who trust in Jesus and belong to the church cannot wait until Jesus returns, makes all things new, and lives with us forever!

5. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Jesus will wipe away our tears. Revelation 21:4

Place the key passage marker at Revelation 21:4. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Challenge the boys to recite the key passage from memory and then the girls.

SAY Our key passage is found in the book of Revelation. It reminds us that in the new heaven and the new earth there will be no more death, sadness, or pain! Jesus is making all things new and will undo every bad thing. All who trust in Jesus can look forward to the day that Jesus comes back!

6. PRAY

SAY Dear Jesus, we are so excited that You are coming back, and that this time You are coming to live with Your people forever! I ask that everyone with us today that does not yet believe that You died and rose again to save us from our sins would believe and trust in You. Amen.

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

SHARE YOUR FEELINGS

Read the following scenarios and tell preschoolers to make a happy or sad face to show how it would make them feel.

You won your soccer game.

Your friend accidentally broke your favorite toy.

You get to bring your pet to school for show and tell.

You can't find one of your shoes.

You fell outside and scraped your knee.

You get to go on a picnic with your family.

SAY God made our emotions, including sadness! There are many things that can happen to make us sad. We could be upset that we don't get what we want, or if someone hurts our feelings, or if we scrape our knee. In the new heaven and the new earth, there will be no sadness, and no crying, because all the bad things that cause us to cry will be gone, forever!

BUILD A CITY

Invite preschoolers to use building blocks to build a city with you. As you build, talk about what the city that John saw in his vision in the new heaven and the new earth will look like.

SAY This is quite a city we have built! But the city in the new heaven and the new earth will be even better. It will have jewels in the walls and streets of gold. But the best part about this new city is that Jesus will be with us. He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. I can't wait to be there with Jesus one day!

PLAY A LIGHT AND DARK GAME

Invite children to an open area of the room. Explain that when the lights are on, they can move and dance around. When the lights are dimmed, they must freeze. Play as long as there is interest. For safety, always keep a small light on in the room and remind preschoolers how to safely move and dance in the room.

SAY In our Bible story today, the holy city of Jerusalem was shining with God's glory! The city did not need the sun or the moon to light the city. The glory of God gave light to the city and there was no more darkness!

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

As children color, talk about the Christ Connection.

SAY When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing! Jesus is making all things new.

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

 * Storytelling Props are not included in the blue bin, but you may choose to bring them from home. *

Open your Bible to Revelation. Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

STORYTELLING TIPS

Teach from the center: Stand in the center of the room and arrange the preschoolers around you. Look up as you describe the city coming down from heaven.

Vary your voice: Use a loud voice for the voice from the throne and a different tone of voice for Jesus and for the people speaking at the end.

John had a vision of a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared. He also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

John heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Look! God will live with His people. They will be His people, and He will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain. These things are gone forever."

John saw an angel come and carry him to a high mountain. The angel showed him the holy city of Jerusalem. The city was shining with God's glory. The foundations of the city wall had every type of jewel, and the city street was made of pure gold, as clear as glass.

The city does not need a temple because God the Father and Jesus are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. The glory of God gives light to the city, and there is no darkness. The city is safe and clean; nothing unclean is in the city, and no one will do wrong things in the city.

Then the angel showed John the river of living water. It sparkled and flowed from God's throne. The tree of life was on both sides of the river.

God's servants will see His face, and they will worship Him. They will reign forever and ever.

Jesus said, "Listen, I am coming soon! I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Jesus is the One who says that all of these things will happen. He is coming soon.

"Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"

Christ Connection: Jesus said that He is coming back soon. When Jesus comes back, everyone who trusts in Him will be with Him forever. God will undo every bad thing—no more death, pain, or tears! Jesus is making all things new.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

February 2 9:00am & 11:00am

Two Year Olds

WE WILL BE PART OF THE NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

(REVELATION 21-22)

CHRIST CONNECTION: Jesus is making all things new.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why should we praise Jesus? We should praise Jesus for all He has done for us.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Jesus will wipe away our tears. Revelation 21:4

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Instruct the toddlers to sit in a circle on the floor. Shout out an emotion, and ask the toddlers to show you the face associated with the emotion. Emotion suggestions include happy, sad, silly, mad, angry, confused, and so forth. Repeat as interest allows.

SAY When Jesus comes back, there will be no more sadness or bad feelings. Jesus will take all of that away, and He will live with His people forever! John saw it in the vision God gave him. Let's hear more.

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

<u>How?</u> Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

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3. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Place the key passage phrase marker at Revelation 21:4. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Encourage preschoolers to repeat the key passage phrase several times with you alternating between a sad and happy voice.

SAY John saw a vision about what will happen when Jesus comes back. When Jesus returns, He will stop all bad things. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will be with Him and enjoy Him forever. He will wipe away our tears. We will be happy, not sad.

ACTIVITIES

CROSS THE RIVER

Use <u>painter's tape</u> to create a "river" on the floor of the classroom. Tape pieces of <u>construction paper</u> to the floor inside the river to act as lily pads. Instruct the toddlers to cross the river, using only the papers. Repeat as time permits. Talk about the Bible story.

SAY John saw a river of living what? Yes, water! A river of living water will be in the new heaven and earth. Jesus is our living water and He is coming soon to make all things new.

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the GOSPEL GEMS below:

- One day, God will make a new heaven and earth.
- God's people will live with Him forever.
- Jesus said, "I am coming soon!"

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Open the Bible to Revelation 21-22 and tell the following Bible story:

John saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth had disappeared. John heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Look! God will live with His people. There will be no more death, no more sadness, no more crying, and no more pain." John saw a city. God the Father and Jesus were there. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. Because God is in the city, there is no darkness. John saw a river of living water and the tree of life. He heard Jesus say, "I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.