



UNBELIEVABLE

JESUS' RESURRECTION APPEARANCES

IPHC CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM

GREAT COMMISSION AND ASCENSION

BIBLE PASSAGE

Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:9 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus does the unbelievable.

FOCUS VERSE

“Stop doubting and believe.” John 20:27 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Jesus is Lifted Up Page | Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Do you know any good jokes?
- Who do you want to be like when you grow up?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Remind your children that Jesus doesn't prefer the worship of those who are great singers, dancers, or musicians. “The Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). God wants our love. As long as we worship for Him, He will be pleased.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather everyone for prayer.



SET BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS EARLY IN EACH CLASS PERIOD FOR A MORE SUCCESSFUL TEACHING DAY! HAVING THREE BASIC RULES WILL ENCOURAGE ORDER, BUT KEEP THINGS FROM FEELING TOO MUCH LIKE SCHOOL. FOR EXAMPLE YOU COULD FOCUS ON RESPECT: 1) RESPECT EACH OTHER. 2) RESPECT EACH OTHER'S THINGS. 3) RESPECT OUR LEARNING TIME. CHECK OUT APPLESANDBANANASEDUCATION.COM FOR MORE IDEAS.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Jesus, help us become more and more like You every day. Grow us into the people You want us to be. Thank You for everything you've done. In Jesus' name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

Use the puzzle pieces to help the children remember the previous weeks.

BACKGROUND: Say, "Does anyone think they can tell the class what we've learned about this month? **Jesus does the unbelievable!** Remember, we are in a unit called 'Unbelievable.' Unbelievable means that something is so incredible and so surprising that it's hard, almost impossible, to believe! Show me you're ready to listen to our story by sitting with your legs crossed, mouths off, and eyes on me. Now, who would like to put our last Unbelievable puzzle piece on the wall?"

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's play a game to prepare for our story!"

ENGAGE – 10 MINUTES

Say, "Today's game is called *Follow the Leader*. It is kind of like *Simon Says* without words. This game is going to get our minds thinking about the events in our story. Let's play!"

GAME GOAL: To precisely follow all of the actions given by the student leader.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Choose one person to be the leader. Every other person will be a follower.
- The Leader must stand in front of the class and do an action.
Example- Raise your hand, jump three times, clap once, spin in a circle, touch the floor, etc.
- Remind the followers to watch the leader closely.
- Once the leader has done their action, the followers will try to copy what the leader modeled accurately.
- Give each child about three to five rotations to lead and then switch to a different leader.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job playing *Follow the Leader*! Who do you think is the BEST leader we should follow? Right! It's Jesus! Let's follow what Jesus says and does in our story today."

LEARN – 15 MINUTES

Say, "The story we will be reading today is about Jesus' last day on Earth. Until this point, Jesus had been making surprise appearances to His disciples. We've talked about some of those events over the past few weeks (review puzzle pieces). But today, He isn't only going to show up, but He is going to give some instructions for the followers to do after He leaves."

- Ask, "What are some instructions you've followed? (Parents? Cooking/Baking? Building?)"

"Great! Let's read to see what instructions Jesus says for us to follow." Read Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1:9 (ICB).

16 The 11 followers went to Galilee. They went to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. 17 On the mountain they saw Jesus and worshiped him. But some of them did not believe that it was really Jesus. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All power in heaven and on earth is given to me. 19 So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach them to obey everything that I have told you. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of the world."

Acts 1:9 After he said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up. A cloud hid him from their sight.

Say, "What an unbelievable story! **Jesus does the unbelievable.**"

- Ask, "Who can tell me something unbelievable from this story?"

"Great! There are some really important lessons in this story. Let's see if we can find them. There are three. Jesus tells us these three things about how Christians should live (reread verses 19 and 20). We should..."

1. Tell others about Jesus' love, so they can know Jesus like we do.
2. Be baptized.
 - Take a moment and briefly explain what baptism is. You could say something like, "Jesus said that when a person becomes a Christian, he or she should be baptized to show everyone they have decided to obey God. If you want to be baptized, you should talk with your parents."
3. Teach everyone to obey what Jesus taught.



REMINDE THE CHILDREN THAT JESUS WANTS ALL OF US TO OBEY HIS INSTRUCTIONS – EVEN KIDS!

TRANSITION: Say, "Wow! This is the last time Jesus' followers saw Him. Now, Jesus is up in heaven with God, but we have the Holy Spirit with us every day. (We're going to talk more about the Holy Spirit next week!) **Jesus does the unbelievable.** Let's talk about our story more!"

DISCUSS – 10 MINUTES

Discuss the story: Say, "Alright, who thinks they can answer some questions about our story?"

1. **Who does the unbelievable?**
Response: Jesus.
2. **Where did Jesus meet His followers?**
Response: On the mountain.
3. **Did everyone believe in Jesus right away?**
Response: No! Some people didn't think Jesus was really there.
4. **What important lessons did Jesus give us about how we should live?**

Response: He said we should: 1) Tell others about His love. 2) Be baptized. 3) Obey all the things He taught while He was on Earth.

5. What do we learn about God in this story?

Response: God is all-knowing, God will never leave us, God does the unbelievable, God wants us to spread the good news of Jesus, God deserves our worship, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, “**Jesus does the unbelievable.** Let’s do an activity together.”

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Jesus is Lifted Up Page | Crayons |

Say, “Great job with all of those questions. **Jesus really does the unbelievable!** Now we are going to color our Jesus is Lifted Up coloring page. Let’s get started!”



WHILE THE CHILDREN ARE COLORING, REINFORCE THE STORY, ASK QUESTIONS, AND REVIEW TO INCREASE COMPREHENSION.

TRANSITION: Say, “**Jesus does the unbelievable!** I love the picture you each made. What a great reminder of our story.”

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, “This is the last day we get to practice this month’s verse! Let’s do it one more time together.”

*“**Stop doubting** (Extend your left hand, palm upward. Sharply bring the side of your right hand down to your left palm in a “chopping” motion) **and believe** (point to both of your temples).” **John 20:27 (NIV)** (hold your hands like a book)*



OUR ACTION FOR “STOP DOUBTING” IS THE SAME AS THE AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE MOTION FOR “STOP.” LOOK ONLINE FOR THE MOTION FOR “STOP” FOR A SIMPLE VISUAL.

CHALLENGE: Try practicing the memory verse in partners. They can work together to memorize the verse. Include yourself in the pairing. Some of the children will love working with you, while others could use the extra help and attention.

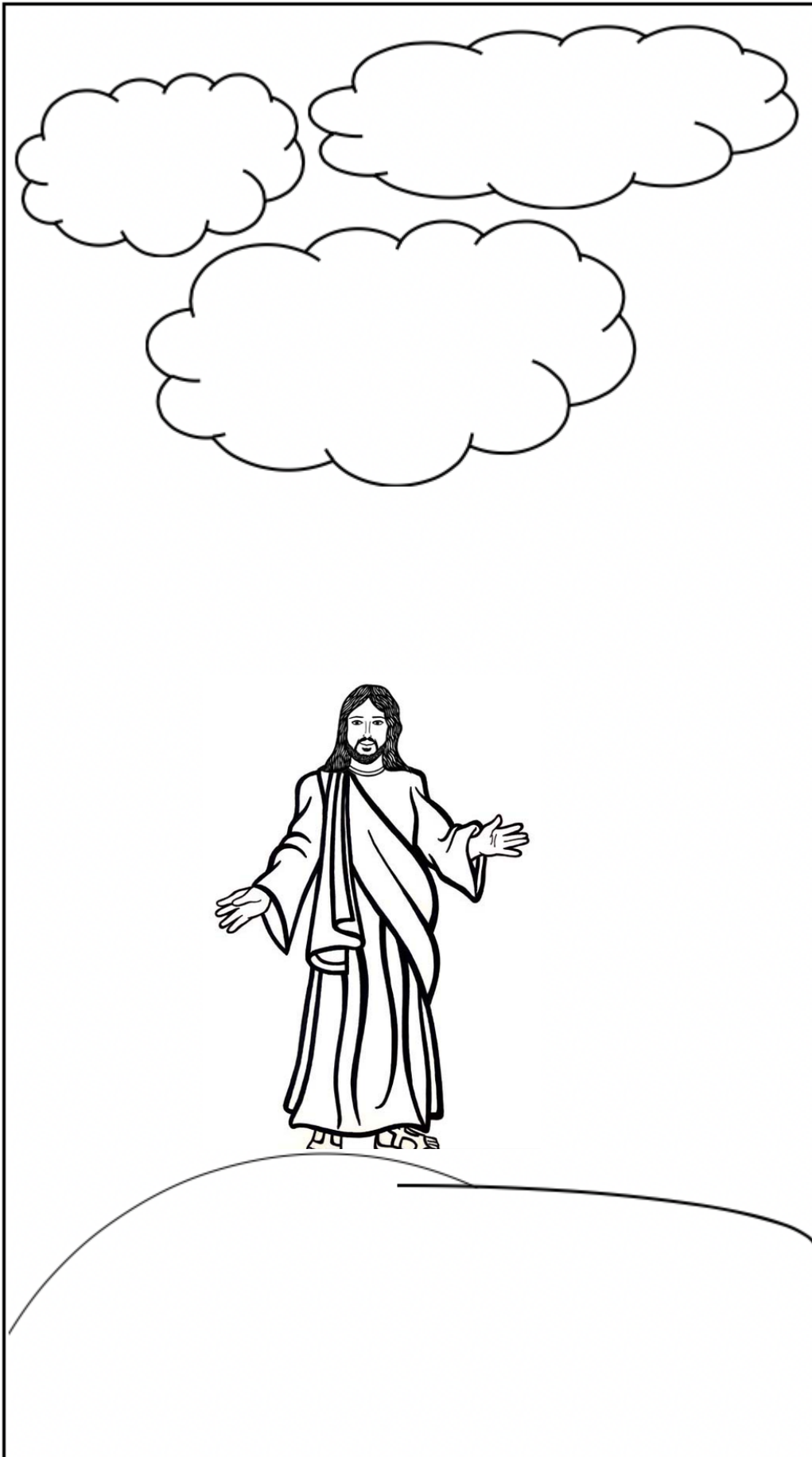
REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, “**Jesus does the unbelievable!** We learned so much about the times Jesus surprised His disciples by showing up unexpectedly. Don’t forget to tell your parents about everything you learned!” Ask for prayer requests.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“Jesus, thank You for appearing to your disciples and giving us a good example to follow. We are so thankful that You were lifted up to heaven so we can all have a relationship with You! We love You! In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

RELEASE —

If there is extra time before parents arrive, children can play the ENGAGE game again, review the story, or practice this month’s memory verse for the last time.





**GREAT
COMMISSION &
ASCENSION**

WEEK 4

UNBELIEVABLE