

## DISCOVERING JESUS FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Adapted from <https://www.kidssundayschool.com>

### LESSON 1: WE CAN BELIEVE IN JESUS

#### Supplies needed:

- A Bible for each parent and child (the International Children's Bible version is very kid-friendly)
- Copy of "Miracle Scramble" puzzle for each person
- One copy of "Do You Believe?" pdf
- Pencils or markers
- For charades:
  - Write several of Jesus' miracles on slips of paper (a list is attached)
  - A container to hold the slips of paper
- For Object lesson:
  - Have a picture of a plane available (Google images) or print out the attached photo.

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### OPENING ACTIVITY

##### PREPARATION:

Give each child a pencil or marker and a copy of the Miracle Scramble puzzle.

##### WHAT TO DO:

Have the students look up the verses shown and unscramble the words under the lines to complete each miracle

##### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Which of these miracles was your favorite? Why? (Allow for discussion)
2. Who is able to perform miracles? (God)
3. How many miracles are mentioned in Matthew 11:4-6. What are they? (Five. The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised.)

#### MEMORY WORK

**"Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12 NIV**

##### PREPARATION:

Write the bible verse on a piece of paper and hold it up for everyone to see. Arrange each family member in a row or circle.

#### WHAT TO DO:

The first person will say the first word aloud, then the second person will say the second aloud, etc ... continue until the entire verse is read aloud, including the reference. Repeat this procedure several times beginning slowly and increasing speed. Perhaps even time yourselves and try to beat your speed.

PRAISE MUSIC - use these or choose your own

[Miracles of Jesus song for kids](#)

[Jesus Song - animated](#)

[Jesus Loves Me Remix dance](#)

The following link is from RightNow Media, which you have a free subscription for through our church. If you have been unable to sign in, please contact Mary Kamas @ 979-777-1038, so you and your family will have access to the wonderful children's programs and youth/adult Bible teaching.

[Praise music of Bible verses for children](#)

#### SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION

(You can assign the scriptures to different children to read aloud or read them aloud yourself. However, if you choose to read them, help your children to find the verses, so they will become comfortable with their Bibles.)

#### INTRODUCTION:

When Jesus walked this earth, He performed many miracles and wonders. But still, many people didn't believe Him. The Jewish people were looking for a savior, a Christ to lead them as a king to a victorious life, but they were not convinced it was Jesus they were looking for. Our story today takes place when Jesus was walking in the temple area, and some unbelieving Jews came to get some answers.

**John 10:22-42** (Before reading this passage, go over the following definitions with the class)

- Feast of Dedication: An eight-day festival during December of each year to celebrate the restoration of the temple. (Also called the Feast of Lights.)
- Solomon's Colonnade: A magnificent porch built by Solomon on the East side of the temple area.
- Blasphemy: To speak lies about God or to misuse His name. Punishment for blasphemy during this time was death by stoning.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How did Jesus show He was the Christ? (By miracles done in His Father's name.)
2. Why didn't the Jews gathered around Jesus believe He was the Christ? (They were not His sheep.)
3. What do those who belong to Jesus do? (Listen to His voice and follow Him.)

4. Why did the Jews want to stone Jesus? (Because Jesus was claiming to be God.)
5. Who knew the truth about Jesus, although he never performed any miracles? (John the Baptist.)

### CHARADES ACTIVITY

#### PREPARATION:

Write Jesus' miracles on slips of paper and place them in a container.

#### WHAT TO DO:

Alternate with each family member drawing out a slip and acting out that miracle without using any words.

### TRUE BELIEF OBJECT TALK

#### WHAT TO DO:

Show your children a picture of an airplane.

#### WHAT TO SAY:

Everyone knows what this is. When we see an airplane, we normally think about flying. How can an object, made of heavy metal float in the sky like a tiny bird? If I toss a big hunk of metal into the air, would it fly, of course not? However, an airplane like this weighs thousands of pounds, and carries hundreds of people. For someone who has never seen an airplane before, he or she might think it was a miracle. Why do we believe airplanes can fly? (Allow for answers) We believe airplanes can fly because we have seen them overhead in the sky many times. Perhaps we have even flown on one.

What about Jesus, how can we believe Jesus is the Son of God, even though we have not seen Him in person? (Allow for answers.) Jesus once said to Thomas, the apostle, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29) It is by faith that we believe Jesus is the Son of God.

Here are some things we hear or see every day that makes our faith strong.

- Other people's testimony about Jesus
- Changed Lives
- God's Word (The Bible)
- Answered Prayer

Because we believe a real airplane can fly, we would have no problem getting on one and flying off into the sky. Since we can believe Jesus is the Son of God, we should also have no problem allowing Him to be the Lord of our life and putting our trust in Him.

### DO YOU BELIEVE? ACTIVITY

#### WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Using the handout, read the questions next to the moon together and ask your children to give reasons why they believe. Do the same for the presents and the heart. If you like, you can have your children jot down their reasons.

Once your children understand that they believe in things that they cannot see, read the paragraph at the bottom of the handout to them (repeated below).

"We believe many things even though we cannot see them. We believe there are rocks on the moon even though we have never been to the moon. We believe there are nice things inside wrapped presents, even though we cannot tell for sure until we open the box. We believe we have a heart, and it is the right size although we have never actually seen our heart.

Although we cannot see God, we believe He is real and that He loves us. In fact, He loves us so much He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16) Believing is the first step to real salvation. Do you believe?"

#### APPLICATION:

##### WHAT TO SAY:

How can we believe in Jesus? One way is by the miracles He performed. Another is by the way He taught those who followed Him. The Bible says, "The crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law." (Matthew 7:28-29) Another is by the way He lived. Jesus served others and lived an unselfish life, to the point that He died on the cross for us. What other proof would anyone need? So we can believe Jesus is who He says He is. We can believe He is the Son of God. We can believe He is the Christ. But it takes more than simply believing to be saved. The Bible says, "You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that – and shudder." (James 2:19) Unlike the demons, when we believe Jesus is the Lord, we then must take the next step and allow Him to be our personal Lord and savior, by obeying, worshiping, and acknowledging Him.

#### CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for being the Lord of all, and especially for being our Lord. Please help remove any disbelief that we may have about who You are or how much You love us. Let Your Word speak to us, to help us to grow in the Spirit, and become more like You. Amen.