

Sunday between November 20 and 26 – year B

The Reign of Christ

Preparation

Read over these lessons: [Psalm 132](#) and [John 18:33-37](#). Pay attention to the words or phrases that jump at you. Read over the lesson so that you are familiar with what is intended to happen. Gather the materials that you will need for each section of the lesson. For deeper thinking or for ways to extend the lesson take a look at the following websites:

<http://www.textweek.com/yearb/christb.htm>

<http://kidsclubs4jesus.com/SAJ1-60/Lesson%2046.pdf>

http://www.sermons4kids.com/crown_him_king.htm

<http://sundayschoolsources.com/lessons/pilate.htm>

<http://www.sundayschoollessons.com/chrkingkles.htm>

<http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/b/King-b/F-King-b.html>

Gathering

Materials needed

- Small table or end of one table
- Candle
- Candle lighter
- Bible and bookmark
- Green cloth
- Newsprint and markers
- Small votive candles

Print up the prayer on the newsprint so that the readers can say the prayer with you. Gather around the small table or at the end of one table. With the children place the cloth on the table. Have them help you place the candle and the Bible on the cloth. Light the candle. Then have each child place a small votive candle by the large candle. As you light their candles say, *We are so happy that (name of child) is with us today.* Pray the following prayer together:

For a time to learn and grow, thank you God.

For friends to share and love, thank you Jesus.

For the time to pray and listen, thank you Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blow out the candles. Print “**Questions**” up on the newsprint. Ask the children to list some of the questions that they would like to ask Jesus if they could. Print them up on the newsprint as they name the questions. If there are any that have answers that you can give then do so and for the others suggest that we don’t have answers to every question. Explain that for the last several weeks they have been hearing a lot of questions given to Jesus and answered by Jesus. In the story they will hear today Jesus gets some of the toughest questions of his life.

Story Time

Materials needed

- Question mark poster made with previous lesson
- Jesus image at end of lesson
- Scissors, glue stick

Instructions

Copy the Jesus image from the end of the lesson and cut it out. Set it with the glue stick near the poster. Place the question mark poster where the children can see it through the lesson.

Jesus and his friends had arrived in Jerusalem. Immediately the leaders in Jerusalem decided to arrest Jesus. They were afraid of what Jesus was saying about God. They were afraid of what the people in the city were going to do. They were afraid of what the Roman leaders of the country were going to do.

They took Jesus to Pilate. Pilate was the Roman leader of Israel. Pilate was going to be the one who decided if Jesus was released or if he would be put to death.

Pilate called Jesus in front of him. He asked Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Before Jesus answered the question he remembered one of the psalms that his ancestor David wrote many years ago. This is what he remembered:

Rise up Mighty God and go to the resting place.
Let your people be clothed with justice.
Remember your blessed one for the sake of your servant David.

Jesus answered Pilate by saying, “Are you asking me this because you want to know or are you asking for the leaders in Jerusalem?”

Pilate started to get angry with this answer. He almost yelled at Jesus when he asked, “Am I Jew? Your own people handed you over to me. What have you done?”

Again Jesus remembered the psalm of David before he answered Pilate. This is what he remembered:

God says, “I have prepared a lamp for my blessed one.
The people against my blessed one will be put down.
The crown on my blessed one will shine with my grace.”

Jesus told Pilate, “My kingdom, God’s kingdom, is not from this world. If it were my friends would be working to get me out of here. My kingdom is not from here.”

Pilate asked Jesus again, “So you are a king?”

Jesus once more answered Pilate, “That is what you say. I was born for this, and for this I came into the world, to speak the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth will hear my voice.”

After this Jesus and Pilate had nothing else to say to each other.

You may want to let the children what happened after this – that Jesus was crucified and then God did the amazing thing of raising him from the dead on the third day – so that they know that this isn’t the end of the story.

Question Mark Poster

Direct the children’s attention to the question mark in the middle of the poster. Ask someone to remember why they put up a cross, the welcome sign, the jug & cup, the blessing, the kingdom, servant, mercy, Lazarus, widow’s mite and temple stone images from the previous weeks. With the children think about all the questions that were asked in today’s story –are you a King? – what have you done? Ask them what the answers to the questions were -not like a king in this world and come to show God’s truth to the world. Show them the Jesus image. Have one of the children glue it into the eleventh space. Explain that this is the last week that they will be adding something to the poster to help them remember each week’s story.

Response

Project Idea 1: Images Mobile

This response will be a means to reinforce the stories that they children have participated in the last couple of months and be a way for the children to share them with their families.

Materials needed

- all the images from the past season that have been used in the Question Mark Poster
- card stock
- hole punches
- yarn
- markers
- glue sticks
- hangers

Instructions

Copy all the images from the previous lessons and this one – making sure you have a set of images for each child. Cut out 8-cm (3-in) diameter circles from the card stock so that there will be one for each image copied. Cut 11 pieces of yarn in lengths from 15 to 30-cm long (6–12 in). Give each child a set of circles, images and yarn. Invite them to colour in their images, glue them onto the circles, punch a hole into the circle and then tie the yarn on. When they have completed this part give them a hanger and invite them to tie their images onto the hanger to make a mobile. As they are colouring the images ask the children to remember the stories that were illustrated with the images. Invite the children to find a place to hang their mobiles at home to remind them of the stories they have learned this fall together.

Project Idea 2: Praise Banner

A praise banner is a concrete way for the children to experience the wonder of God's grace in the life of Jesus and in their own lives.

Materials needed

- white paper
- drinking straws
- strong tape
- yarn
- tissue paper
- black markers
- white glue
- small bowl and water
- paint brushes

Instructions

Pour some white glue into a small bowl and water it down until it is fairly runny. Take the white paper and on the short side fold it over the straw and fix it with the strong tape. Cut the yarn into 30-cm (12-in) lengths and attach it to the back of the straw and on either end with the tape. Give each child a prepared banner. Invite them to print across the banner the following **“Shine with my grace”**. Then invite them to tear the tissue paper up into smallish pieces. Show them how to use the paint brush to paint small amounts of the glue across the paper around the words and then place the tissue paper pieces to look like a mosaic around the words. As the children are working talk with them about how Jesus is a different kind of leader than we see in the world, a leader that shines with God's grace. Invite the children when they are completed their banners to think about a special place at home to hang them up and remember to shine like Jesus in the world with God's grace.

Project Idea 3: Praise Flags

This will be a good response for the youngest group of children and allow them to have some fun and enjoy Jesus in their lives.

Materials needed

- paper towel tubes
- construction paper
- scissors
- glue
- markers
- tape
- stickers

Instructions

Cut the construction paper into large triangles – so that the long side can be attached to the paper tube and the pointy side of the triangle is facing right out from the tube. Attach the triangles to the tubes ahead of time for younger children and let older children do this themselves. Print on the flag with the markers **“Shine with my grace”**. Invite the children to decorate their flags with the markers and with the stickers. When they are finished have them march around with the flags and remind each other that Jesus wants us to shine with God's grace in the world.

Closing

Gather with the children around the worship table again. Relight the candles.
Say the prayer line by line and encourage the children to repeat it after you:

**Loving God surround us with your care,
Friend Jesus be with us each day,
Holy Spirit move us to show your love,
Amen.**

Jesus Image

