



THE BIBLE

Jesus is always with me.

BIG IDEA

The Road to Emmaus: Luke 24:13-35; (Psalm 139: 7-10)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

Champions meet in the Youth Room for worship.

ACTIVITY | Mystery Cube

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put a bunch of random items you have lying around into a shoebox (To enhance the "Level Up!" theme, you could use these Super Mario themed <u>boxes</u>). Ask one kid volunteer to come up and look into the box for five seconds. Then, remove one item from the box, and see if they can figure out what's missing. Repeat this as many times as you want with different kid volunteers. In the last round, show the box to the whole group, then pretend to take out something (but don't), and have the kids try to guess what's "missing."
- How were you able to figure out what was missing?
- Why was the last round so hard? It's hard to find something that's not missing at all!

QUESTION | What's Everywhere?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids these questions and let them answer out loud.
- **Can anyone name something that is everywhere?** (Allow for variety of answers: e.g., glitter, water, dust, air, bugs, germs, etc.)
- Even things we think are everywhere are not actually everywhere! Even oxygen there's no oxygen in outer space! Only God is everywhere and is with us right now!



THE BIG IDEA | Jesus is always with me.

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print each word out on a piece of card stock paper. Ask five kids to come up front and give each one a word (in the wrong order.) Then, have the audience (or choose just one kid) to put them in the correct order. When it's in the correct order, everyone can shout out the Big Idea together: "Jesus is always with me!"

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

VIDEO | Level Up, Episode 4

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's <u>teaching video</u>.

BIBLE STORY | Luke 24:13-34

- INSTRUCTIONS: Read Luke 24:13-34.
- So, Jesus' two friends were talking about what had happened in the past week, just like we have been learning this month. Jesus, who was no doubt the coolest person ever, had taught them so much about God, and showed that Jesus was, in fact, the son of God! But they were sad because they thought Jesus was gone for good.
- But then, Jesus walks right up to the two friends and talks with them as they walk. Jesus is with them along the entire walk and they didn't even recognize Jesus! It was only when they stopped for the evening and ate together did they realize it had been Jesus the entire time!
- This is also true today. Even though we can't see Jesus, Jesus is always with us. Jesus talks to us through our church teachers. Jesus shows love to us whenever we get a hug or when we do something kind for someone else. When we are sad, like Jesus' friends were on the road to Emmaus, Jesus is right there next to us and gives us comfort. No matter what the situation is, **Jesus is always with me (and you)!**

OBJECT LESSON | Deluxe Coins

- INSTRUCTIONS: Show students a coin
- In some video games, we collect coins. They can make you go faster, and sometimes, they can even unlock new items. However, you don't usually see the coins you collect building up in the character's pocket as they go. Usually, you trust they are there, and know what button to press when you need them.
- Just like this, we can trust Jesus is with us, and we can count on Jesus even when we can't see him.

QUESTION | Things That Exist, Even Though You Can't See Them

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask kids to contemplate and respond to this question: What are some things you haven't seen or can't see, but you know exist? (e.g., another country, other planets in space, animals who live deep in the ocean, etc.)
- The list is endless. **Even though you can't see these things, how do you know they exist?** You can read about them, or listen to others who have seen them.

LEVEL UP | WEEK 4 ELEMENTARY LESSON

• The same is true of Jesus! Jesus never leaves us. You can talk to Jesus anytime, anywhere. Jesus is always with you.

SCRIPTURE | Psalm 139:7-10

- INSTRUCTIONS: Read Psalm 139:7-10.
- Where can we go where Jesus can't find us? That's right nowhere! This Bible verse tells us that no matter where we go, Jesus is always with us.
- What does verse 10 mean? Did you know the phrase, "right hand" appears more than a hundred times in the Bible? Because most people are right-handed, the right hand usually is stronger and more skilled. So, the verse tells us God's strength and power are with us always, and that we are important to God!

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

ACTIVITY | Recognize

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into two groups and place them on opposite sides of a large sheet or blanket (Ask another leader or older kid volunteer to help hold the sheet up). Each team selects one person to stand directly in front of the blanket. Count to three, then drop the sheet. The first person to yell out the other person's name wins! Repeat this as many times as you want.
- Even though you could see the other person right in front of you, it took a moment to call out their name, right? Let's not hesitate even a millisecond to call on Jesus because Jesus is always there!

PRAYER

- Jesus, thank You so much for reminding us each and every day that You are always with us and will never leave us.
 - SPECIAL NEEDS HACK: If your students with disabilities need a more simplified version, help them make up their own prayers with words they can say. Guide them with opening phrases like, "Jesus, thank you for. . . " and/or "Help me with. . . " and encourage students to use their communication device (Augmentative and Alternative Communication, or AAC) to say the prayer.

MEMORY VERSE | Hebrews 12:2

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** This activity can be done with a whiteboard or even a large piece of paper. Ask a volunteer to write the first word of the memory verse on the board. Then, they can pass the chalk to another person, and so on, until the group finishes the entire verse!

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

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LEVEL UP | WEEK 4 ELEMENTARY LESSON

- In today's Bible story, who came up to the two men as they were walking? Did they recognize this person?
- What did they talk about as they walked to Emmaus?
- When did they realize they were with Jesus?
- Read Luke 24:31. How do you think they felt when they suddenly realized they were with Jesus the whole time?
- Describe a time when you felt lonely even though there were other people around you.
- How do you feel knowing Jesus is always with you?
- Why do you think Jesus is always with us?

ACTIVITY | Draw it Out

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place a large poster board with about eight to ten kids around it. If your group is larger, you can tape several boards up on the walls or have kids get in groups and give one poster board to each group and several colored pencils or markers.
- Draw or write about times when you really need to know Jesus is with you. Maybe it's at a particular place, or when you're feeling a certain emotion. As you draw/write these things, remind yourself Jesus is indeed there with you at those times!

MEMORY VERSE | Hebrews 12:2