

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

These additional games and activities can be used throughout the Who Is Jesus? series. If you want to integrate more movement and interaction in your lesson, check out these options. We've included tips to make the games and activities inclusive for all kids and have designated which games are intended for each lesson in the series.

GAME 1: HIDDEN OBJECT RELAY

SUPPLIES: medium-size canisters or containers (4 per team), masking tape (prep only), permanent marker (prep only), filler substance (see list), hidden objects (4 per team, see list), chairs or small tables (4 per team)

This game works great with the Jesus at the Temple lesson!

Allergy Caution

This activity includes possible food allergens!

Leader Tip: If space is limited, this relay can also take place at one long table with kids lined up in a row.

In this game, kids will form relay teams and try to be the first team to find all the hidden objects!

Ahead of time, prepare four medium-size canisters or containers per team of 4–8 kids by numbering each container 1–4 with masking tape and a permanent marker. Fill each container with a filler substance (see list of ideas), and then hide a different object in each container (see list of ideas). (Every team’s container 1 should contain the same hidden object, container 2 the same object, and so on.) Once all containers are numbered, filled, and have an object hidden in them, set each container on the seat of a chair or a small table. (Each team will have its own station consisting of four chairs or tables with one container on each chair/table.)

Modify this game for a small ministry group by having all the kids work together on one team. They can race against a running clock or simply find the objects as quickly as possible!

Filler Substance Ideas: rice, cotton balls, unpopped popcorn kernels, paper shreds, confetti, play foam

Hidden Object Ideas: coin, paperclip, bouncy ball, small stone, sticker (with backing attached), costume jewelry ring

Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

Some kids aren’t comfortable feeling around for objects they can’t see. That’s OK! Invite them to be their team’s official encourager and coach, cheering for their teammates and advising them on the best methods for finding the hidden objects.

At the start of the game, help kids form groups of 4–8, and assign each group to a station with four filled containers. Ask kids to stand at their station but not to touch any of their containers yet.

We’ve had some objects that have gone missing around here, and I need your help! At each of your stations are four full containers. Within each container is an object that has gone missing. Your job is to dig around and find that object! Here’s the catch: This game is a relay, so your team must find the object in container 1

before you start looking in container 2. Then you must find the object in container 2 before you start looking in container 3, and so on until you've found the objects in all four containers. Encourage teams to spread out so that one or two people are at each container. Once everyone is set, continue: **On my "Go," the person or people at your team's first container will search for the hidden object. Once they've found it, they will hold it up high, and the person or people at container 2 can begin. The first team to find the objects in all four containers wins!**

Leader Tip: For Younger Kids. Simplify the game by hiding the same object in all four containers and telling kids ahead of time what object they're looking for. Hiding larger objects also makes the game easier!

Great job finding those objects! Today in God's big story, Mary and Joseph didn't know where to find Jesus. He was in His Father's house—the temple. Jesus has a special relationship with God and knew He needed to be near God His Father doing what the Father wanted Him to do!

GAME 2: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

SUPPLIES: paper (3 sheets), permanent marker (prep only), tape (prep only)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Father Son Slides

This game works great with the Jesus' Baptism lesson!

Leader Tip: For Older Kids. Make the game high interest for older kids by adding questions about famous father/son duos in animated movies or books. For example, "Who is Mufasa's son?"

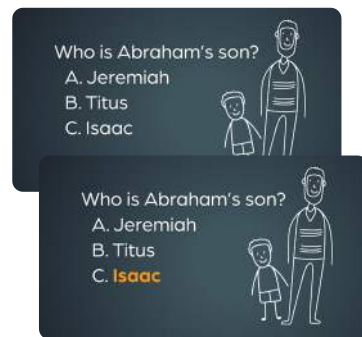
Ahead of time, use a permanent marker to write a large uppercase A in the center of a blank sheet of paper, a large B on another sheet, and a large C on the third sheet. Tape each sheet to a different wall.

Leader Tip: For small groups or groups limited by space, make one copy of each letter per kid or team. Kids can hold up the letter of the answer they choose for each question. This option also works great when kids in your group have limited mobility!

In this game, kids will try to guess biblical father/son pairs and move to the side of the room that indicates their answers. Gather kids to introduce the game. **Today we're going to play a game to see how well we know which fathers from the Bible belong with which sons. I'll show the name of a famous father on a slide and give you three possible choices for who his son is. After I read the choices, you will decide which one you think is correct and go to the letter sign that matches that answer.** Display the first Father Son Slide.

Let's give it a try! Our first father from the Bible is Abraham. Who is his son? Is it choice A: Jeremiah? Choice B: Titus? Or choice C: Isaac?

Point to the A, B, and C signs on the walls, and give kids time to go to the sign that corresponds with their answers. (Add more physical activity to the game by telling kids how to move to the answer sign, such as by hopping, walking



backward, or moving in slow motion.) Once all the kids have chosen an answer and moved to the corresponding sign, advance to the next slide to reveal the correct answer. Gather kids back in the center of the room before advancing to the next slide and continuing the game. There are five questions total, with the answers indicated in bold below. (Note that for the last question, all three answers are correct!)

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|-------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Abraham: | A. Jeremiah | B. Titus | C. Isaac |
| 2. Zebedee: | A. Mark | B. John | C. Jonah |
| 3. Jesse: | A. King Saul | B. King Herod | C. King David |
| 4. Adam: | A. Abel | B. Boaz | C. James |
| 5. Jacob: | A. Joseph | B. Benjamin | C. Judah |

Leader Tip: Some of these questions are difficult, even for kids who know the Bible well. Assure kids that it's OK to guess! This game isn't about getting all the right answers!

It was fun guessing who the father/son pairs were! When it comes to Jesus, though, we don't need to guess. In today's part of God's big story, God makes it very clear that Jesus is His Son!

GAME 3: TWO TRUTHS

SUPPLIES: paper, scissors (prep only), pencils (1 per kid), whiteboard, dry-erase marker, basket or container

This game works great with the Jesus' Temptation lesson!

In this game, kids will write two truths about themselves and then read one of their truths and one truth that belongs to someone else. Everyone else will guess which one is the truth.

Ahead of time, cut blank sheets of paper into slips (about five long slips per sheet). You will need two slips per kid. Write two simple true statements about yourself on the whiteboard. The statements can be similar to the following: "Pizza is my favorite food" and "I have three older brothers."

Gather kids and give each one two blank slips of paper and a pencil. Show kids the two true statements you wrote about yourself on the board, and invite them to write two true statements about themselves—one on each slip of paper. (You might need to help some kids brainstorm their statements!) Once all kids have their two slips completed, pass around a basket or container, and have kids place one of their slips into the basket and hold onto the other. Shuffle the slips in the basket.

Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

Modify this game for younger kids and those with reading and writing challenges in one of these ways: 1. Pair each younger kid with an older kid or leader who can help them think of two true statements, write them down, and read them aloud. 2. Structure the activity like a game show with several leaders on the stage playing the game and the kids in the audience deciding which statements are true for which leaders.

Leader Tip: If your group is large, have kids play the game in smaller groups of 8–10.

Invite kids to form a circle. Pass the basket around and instruct each kid to pull out one slip. If they pick their own, they should put it back in the basket and pick a different slip. Then go around the circle, inviting each kid to read aloud the two slips in her hand—one will be her statement and one someone else's. Everyone else will guess which statement is hers and which is not. Then she will reveal which statement is true for her. Continue around the circle until every kid has read their slips and revealed which is true. (Be available to help kids read slips.) Finally, give kids a chance to take turns reporting what other true statement in the basket belonged to them.

You all are very interesting people, but sometimes it was hard to know which statements were true about you and which were not! In today's part of God's big story, Satan tried to tempt Jesus by lying and twisting the truth. While it was sometimes hard to identify the truth in our game, Jesus knew the truth about God and His Word and resisted the devil's temptations.

GAME 4: WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

SUPPLIES: medium-size boxes (2 per group), table, hidden objects (see list), sheet or blanket (1 per group), blindfold (1 per group), small table (optional)

This game works great with the Jesus Turns Water into Wine lesson!

Leader Tip: This game can be played within individual small groups or one large group depending on your group size. Allowing each kid a turn will help them stay engaged!

Allergy Caution

This activity includes possible food allergens!

In this game, kids will reach into a box while blindfolded and try to identify an object solely by touch.

Ahead of time, prepare two boxes for each group playing the game. Set the first box on a table—it can remain empty for now. In the second box, place the objects you plan on having kids touch (see the list of object ideas). If needed, place the objects in separate bowls, and place the bowls into the second box. Then cover the second box with a blanket or sheet. Set the second box near the table.

Object Ideas: cooked spaghetti noodles, slime, play dough, toothbrush, plant, sponge, garlic bulb, flowers, tea bag, juice pouch

Invite your first volunteer to join you at the table. **Here is our first brave volunteer!** (Address volunteer.) **We are going to see how good you are at identifying an object simply by touching it. We will gently tie a blindfold on you, and then you will reach into this box and feel the object inside and see if you can guess what it is.**

After putting the blindfold on the first kid, create engagement with all kids by lifting one object out of the second box and showing it to the audience before placing it into the empty box on the table. (Just remind the audience not to announce what it is!) Allow the

volunteer to reach into the box, feel around, and guess what the object is. Once she guesses correctly, remove the blindfold, and invite a second volunteer to the table. Once the second volunteer is blindfolded, place a new object in the box. Continue with different objects and volunteers, allowing as many different kids as possible to play the game.

Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

Some kids don't like to be blindfolded. That's OK! Allow them to squeeze their eyes shut instead. Kids with sensory processing challenges may not want to touch the items in the box. That's also OK! Invite them to help you put new objects in the box.

I bet it was a little scary to stick your hand inside a box without knowing what you were going to touch! I'm sure there were some objects in there that our volunteers didn't expect! In God's big story today, the servants at the wedding and Jesus' disciples were also surprised by Jesus' first recorded miracle; no one expected to see wine come out of the jar!

GAME 5: WONDER TRUTH SHOWDOWN

SUPPLIES: butcher or kraft paper (1 large sheet) or bulletin board, scissors (prep only), masking tape (prep only), small whiteboards (1 per team), dry-erase markers (1 per team)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Point Value Sheet, Categories Sheet, Game Questions Sheet

Works well as a review of the Who Is Jesus? lessons!

Leader Tip: For Younger Kids. Provide younger kids with two answers to choose from for each question.

Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

Consider giving all kids partners so that kids with physical, intellectual, or developmental limitations can participate in the game as well!

In this game, kids will form teams and answer review questions, earning points for each correct answer they give!

Ahead of time, prepare a game board either using a large sheet of butcher or kraft paper or a bulletin board. Print the Point Value Sheet, Categories Sheet, and Game Questions Sheet. Cut out the categories, points values, and questions from each. Post the four categories across the top of the large paper or bulletin board with tape. Then post the four questions that align with each lesson Wonder Truth under the corresponding category. Finally, tape the point values over the questions. (There should be a 100, 200, 300, and 400 in ascending order under each category.)

The questions and answers are as follows:

Category: Jesus Shows Us What God Is Like

- Where did Mary and Joseph dedicate baby Jesus to God?
The Temple/Jerusalem
- During what feast did the Jewish people remember how God protected His people and delivered them from Egypt?
The Passover Feast
- How many days did Jesus' parents search for Him? **Three days**
- Why did Jesus stay in the temple? **To be in His Father's house**



Category: Jesus Is God's Son

- What is the name of the man who helped people get ready for Jesus?
John the Baptist
- What did people confess to John? **Their sins (the wrong things they had done)**
- John baptized people with water. Who would baptize people with the Holy Spirit?
Jesus
- What did the voice from heaven say when Jesus was baptized? **"This is my Son, and I love him. I am very pleased with him"** (Matthew 3:17).

Category: Jesus Was Tempted and Never Sinned

- Before Jesus was tempted, where did the Holy Spirit lead Jesus? **The desert**
- How long did Jesus go without eating or drinking in the desert? **40 days and nights**
- Who tried to tempt Jesus three times? **Satan**
- Jesus was tempted in the desert, but what did He not do? **Sin**

Category: Jesus Reveals that He Is Amazing

- What were Jesus and His disciples invited to attend in the town of Cana?
A wedding
- What was the bad news that happened at the party? **The wine had run out**
- What did Jesus tell the servants to put in the jars? **Water**
- What miracle did Jesus perform that revealed that He is amazing? **He turned the water into wine**

Help kids form two or more teams, depending on the size of your group. Give each team a whiteboard and dry-erase marker.

For this game, you will send one person from your team to pick a category and point value. Once the person picks the point value, he can read the question underneath it and answer it on his own or ask his team for help. If he gets the answer right (on his own or with his team's help), then that question and point value is removed from the board, and your team gets the number of points assigned to the question. Keep track of your points on your whiteboard! If your team does not get the correct answer, then that question and point value go back on the board for another team to try.

Play the game, helping kids read questions as needed. Once all the questions have been answered, help teams tally up their points to determine the winner.

You all did a great job reviewing the different Bible passages and Wonder Truths from this series! So who is Jesus? We learned that Jesus is God's Son and that He shows us what God is like. Jesus revealed through a miracle that He is amazing. And we learned that Jesus understands what it feels like to be tempted, yet He never sinned.