
“Signs of the Messiah

Children’s Sermon Object Lesson on Matthew 11:2-11



John the Baptist and Knowing Who Jesus Is

Main Objective: Children are driven by images, signs, and visual reminders. This lesson capitalizes on that theme by discussing how Jesus was revealed using signs and wonders. However, the essential element to remember is that Jesus proved who He was by His life, death, and resurrection. Miracles and wonders are great, but what we know this side of the Incarnation is even better!

Law/Gospel Theme: Before the Advent of Christ, people were awaiting a Messiah and watching for signs and prophecies. We know that Jesus is the image of God, and that He fulfilled God’s promises with His death and resurrection.

Object Lesson Props & Supplies: Pictures of various signs (Stop signs, restroom signs, exit signs, cross walk, fast food, etc.); cross or image of a cross.

Bible Passage: Matthew 11:2-11

Lectionary Reference: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT. Year A. [December 15, 2019](#)

Bonus Teaching Ideas:

- Compare last week’s [children’s message on John the Baptist \(Matthew 3\)](#)
- Browse all our [Bible Object Lessons for Kids](#)
- Download carton illustrations & [coloring page of John the Baptist](#)
- Watch the teaching example of this [children’s sermon on John the Baptist](#)
- Get the background on [Matthew 11](#) and [John the Baptist](#) on Wikipedia

As with most children’s messages, the details of how you choose to communicate this are adaptable and should cater to timing as well as to your audience and student needs.



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Children's Message (Matthew 11:2-11)

John the Baptist and the Signs of the Messiah – Object Lesson for Children

Greet the children and have on hand several signs or pictures of signs.

Hello, children of God!

Today I want to talk about signs, and how you know something. I have brought a few signs with me, and I want to know if you can identify what they might point to. Let's see how you do... *(Hold up several signs, such as a sign for a restroom, stop sign, exit sign, restaurant sign, caution, etc. As you hold up each one, have students identify what the signs mean and what they would guide or warn you to do).*

So these signs help us to identify and understand things that are around us. We recognize things we see in our environment a lot. Well, in Biblical times, people looked for signs, too. In fact, they read Scriptural prophecies and looked for things that would help them know what was going on in their world and what was coming. But you know, even after Jesus came, they still did not always recognize Him. And some wanted to understand who He was.

One of the people who was asking about signs was John. Remember John? We talked about him a little bit ago. As it turned out, John got stuck in prison for some of those crazy things he preached about. John had been hearing about the works of Jesus, though, and he sent some friends to ask Jesus if He was the chosen one they had waited for. Jesus responded by describing the amazing wonders He had done.

There were miracles performed, sick and hurt people made well, and even dead people come back to life. It's almost like Jesus is saying, "what more could you ask for?" He clearly wanted to express who He was. At the same time, though, Jesus was supportive of John and his ministry, telling people that John the Baptist had done great things and prepared the way for Jesus.



So this was how Jesus showed Himself, in a way, or how people recognized who He was. But is that the only way we know who Jesus is?

We can certainly identify that He fulfilled some remarkable prophecies and promises of God. But we know who He is with even greater assurance.

Who was Jesus? He was the son of God...and He WAS God!

He came to Earth to suffer and die for our sins, and what happened after that? He came back to life! We know what happened to Jesus, and we can be fully certain of who He was as divine. How many people do you know who can come back from the dead?! We have the best sign possible (*hold up cross*):

What Jesus did proved who He was! What a comforting and amazing reality. Shall we thank God for that with a prayer??

Children's Prayer Moment

(Have kids repeat each line)

Dear God,

Thank you for coming to Earth for us

Help us to live in a way that brings glory to You

Remind us to recognize You and bring others to You

We love you, God!

Thank you for Jesus

In His name, Amen!



Matthew 11:2-11 (NIV)

Messengers from John the Baptist

2 When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples 3 to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

4 Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: 5 The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy[a] are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. 6 Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

7 As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? 8 If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. 9 Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is the one about whom it is written:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. - [Matthew 11:2-11](#)

Website Reference:

[John the Baptist – Matthew 11 Children’s Sermon Object Lesson](#)



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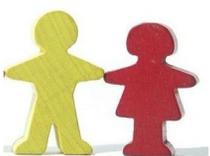
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