
“Jesus is Coming!”

Children’s Sermon on Mark 13:24-37 about the Second Coming of Jesus

Main Objective: This Gospel passage opens up the church season of Advent. It might seem slightly strange to have a warning of the last days appear as we prepare to celebrate the first days of the life of Jesus. However, Advent is about the hope of the second coming just as much as the joy of His first nativity. This message uses current events as a basis for reminding students how important it is to be prepared for anything, and to rest in Christ.

Law/Gospel Theme: God keeps His promises, and we know that one day in the future, Jesus will come again to Earth. We don’t know when this will happen, and the descriptions of the final days that we read here might seem scary. For a Christian, though, the end of the Earth should not be threatening, but hopeful and exciting. We know we are saved, and can eagerly await the Second Coming, while rejoicing in God’s current presence as well.

Optional Materials: Calendar (wall or desk style), representations of things missed, alarm clock.

Bible Passage: Mark 13:24-37

- You can watch a teaching demonstration of this [children’s sermon](#) on our [YouTube](#)
- Don’t miss the [Bible craft ideas](#) for this same passage
- We post new [sermons for kids](#) every week with video demonstrations to help you prepare or to send to your church families
- Compare [“The Waiting Place” from Sermons4Kids](#)
- Compare [Mark 13:24-37 children’s sermon from rfour.org](#)



Mark 13:24-37 Children's Sermon:

Jesus is Coming

Greet children, asking about things they might have observed over the past few months. Hello, children of God!

I don't know about you, but I have had some challenges in the year 2020. I've also had my share of plans that got changed or completely rearranged. For example, I wanted to show you this calendar I have. Actually, this is my planner for events that are coming up. As you can see, I had a lot going on back in January and February (*hold up a planner or calendar and flip or point as you describe*), and things went along pretty much as planned. But then March rolled around....and there were a lot of things that suddenly got changed. This event was cancelled, that one was postponed indefinitely, this one here went virtual... it seemed like I had to be ready for rules and schedules to switch in a second. It's pretty hard to plan for the unexpected, isn't it? I missed out on a lot of things I had been planning to do (*Option: hold up items representing missed opportunities through the year*).

Well, after awhile, things slowly started to get better, and we could meet in person again, and do more things. Then a few weeks ago, it started changing all over again! I had all sorts of holiday things planned on the calendar, and then more new rules came out, and now I don't know what's coming or how to prepare for it all or what to do or....It's quite frustrating, to be honest. Not only that, but there are so many troubling things going on in the world today. I can hardly keep up with all of the fighting and natural disasters and saddening reports. Have you noticed any of that? Maybe your schools have had a lot of ups and downs, or you've seen some of the things on the news about recent events. It's tough, isn't it?

Well, this actually sounds a lot like our Gospel reading today. Jesus was talking about the end of all things. He spoke of some rather frightening signs and warnings, things like the sun, moon, and stars failing, and times of trouble. But in the midst of that doom and gloom, there is a beautiful and hopeful promise. For one thing, Jesus promised that He would return, and when that happens, he'll take us to Heaven! That's a joyful thought. He also said that even if Heaven and Earth pass away, His words never will. All things will change (Sometimes very quickly, as we've learned this year!). All things pass away. But the Word of God will last forever. We can count on it! We can rejoice in the hope that God's word endures, and that He keeps His promises. We can rejoice and eagerly anticipate the return of Jesus.



And when will that happen? Well, we don't know. That's another promise we have here...nobody knows. Some people say it's coming very soon, and that might be nice! But we really don't know. Because of that, we need to be ready all the time. We've had a lot of rapid readjustments lately, and there will likely be more. We've had to be ready for anything. And that's how it is with the return of Christ. The Gospel says to "stay awake!" Pay attention, don't drift away from faith, because He could come at any moment. Being ready means that we keep loving and serving God, and we eagerly expect that His words will prove true. In this season of change and confusion, we cling to that.

This week we begin our celebration of Advent. Do you know what Advent means? It means "coming." We remember happily how Jesus came as a baby, and what He did for us. But we also look forward to His return, to His eventual Second Coming. So no matter what happens, even as school goes back and forth, even as stores open and close or plans alter or we have to expect the unexpected, we can put our hope in expecting Jesus, now and forever. Be prepared! He's coming!

Children's Prayer Moment:

(Have kids repeat each line)

Dear God,

Thank you for the hope of Christ's return

Thank you that your Word will never pass away

Help us to trust in you

Even when things are hard and uncertain

Thank you for your love

We love you, God!

In Jesus name, Amen!



Bible Verses/story to Reference:

Mark 13:24-37

“But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. 26 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27 And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. 35 Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— 36 lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

-Mark 13:24-37





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2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

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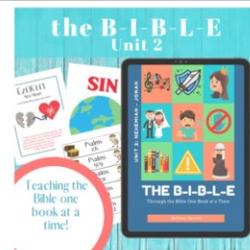
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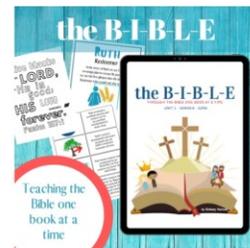
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