

“Be Prepared” Sunday School Lesson from Luke 21:25-36

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This free Bible lesson is based on Luke 21:25-36 when Jesus warns His followers to be prepared for His second coming. It is designed for children’s church or Sunday School. Please modify as best fits your ministry.

If your church follows the Revised Common Lectionary, this teaching plan would correspond to Year C – 1st Sunday of Advent, Gospel Reading – Luke 21:25-36.

Luke 21:25-36 Children’s Bible Lesson – Be Prepared

Supplies – backpack, flashlight, compass, map, sunscreen, water bottle, thick socks, granola bar

Have you ever gone hiking before? I love to go hiking. I just think there is nothing better than being outdoors and seeing everything God created.

Each time I go on a hike it’s a little bit different. Sometimes it’s hot, sometimes it’s cold. Sometimes it’s raining, and sometimes it’s dry as a desert. Sometimes it’s flat, and sometimes it’s up and down, over and over again. And I hike them all, no matter how easy or how tough.

One thing all those hikes has taught me is how to prepare. If I want to make it through a hiking trip, there are certain things I need to bring and do.

First of all, I have to build up my strength. I can’t just automatically go hike up the highest mountain my first trip out. No, I have to start smaller and slowly build up my strength. But I know, that with each hike I go on, I am making myself better for the next one.

Another thing I’ve gotten good at is packing. There are a lot of things you need to bring with you on a trip like that. I even brought my backpack to show you. These are things I always bring with me, no matter what trip I’m going on.

I have a flashlight, for when it gets dark. A map and compass, so I don’t get lost. I have food and water, to keep me strong. And sunscreen and warm socks to protect me.

If I forgot even one of those things, I would be in big trouble. That’s why I try to always be prepared.

You know, if you think about it, we should always be prepared for other things too. It’s not

just about hiking. You could be prepared for a test, or for a football game, or even a party.

But there is one thing that is more important than anything else. Meeting Jesus.

Just like when I go hiking, there are things we need no matter what. We might not need an actual flashlight, but we do need a light to follow. Thankfully, the Bible says that Jesus is the light of the world. So if we get stuck in a bad place, lost in the dark of sin, all we have to do is look for the light of Jesus.

Prayer is just like our compass and map. When we pray, we are staying pointed in the right direction, directed right to Jesus.

And when we read the Bible, that is nourishment to our souls, just like water and food is nourishment to our bodies. It helps to keep us strong as followers of Jesus, so when times get tough, we are ready.

And the Holy Spirit is our sunscreen and socks, keeping us protected. When we have the Holy Spirit living in us, we don't have to worry, because we are protected.

Jesus talks about being prepared a few times in the Bible. We never know when we will meet Jesus, but no matter when that is, if it's in two seconds from now, or 100 years from now, we need to be ready.

Just like you wouldn't want to go on a hike without all the proper equipment, we don't want to meet Jesus with our hearts all wrong. We want to be living the life He asked us to live. We want to obeying our parents, helping others, reading our Bibles, and asking for forgiveness when we mess up.

Activity A – Be Prepared – Bible Verse Challenge

Supplies – Bibles

Verse – Luke 21:34-36

Pass out Bibles to students. Bibles should be closed and sitting on the table face up in front of each child. When you say go, have the kids look up this week's Bible verse. As each child finds the verse, have them stick one finger on the verse and quietly raise their other hand. The first one to find the verse gets to read it to the rest of the class.

Help younger kids and new kids find the verse by following these steps.

Look in the Table of Contents for the book you are looking for. Make an effort to show them if it is found in the Old Testament or New Testament to help them in the future. Then open the Bible to the page number listed in the Table of Contents.

Show them the large numbers in the text, known as the chapters. Flip through pages until you find the large chapter number you are looking for.

Then scan through the text with them pointing out the smaller verse numbers until the correct number is found.

Activity B – Be Prepared – Nourishment for My Soul

Supplies – construction paper, markers, scissors, Bibles

Using one piece of construction paper and two pieces of white paper, fold them in half like a book, with the white paper folded to the inside. On the construction paper, have each child write “Holy Bible” on the front cover. Then, on each white piece of paper, have the children write Bible verses to help nourish their souls.

Give them each a Bible and the list below so they can pick out Bible verses to include.

- Joshua 1:9
- Psalm 107:1
- Psalm 118:24
- Psalm 136:1
- Psalm 150:6
- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Jeremiah 29:11
- Luke 6:31
- Luke 10:27
- John 3:16
- John 8:12
- Acts 16:31
- Romans 3:23
- Galatians 5:22-23
- Ephesians 4:32
- Ephesians 6:1
- Philippians 4:13
- 1 John 4:19
- 1 John 5:3

Closing Prayer – Be Prepared

Ask for a volunteer to pray for the class before leaving, and encourage them to ask God to help them prepare for the day they will meet Jesus.

New Sunday School Curriculum: Church budgets are tight, that's why our curriculum is half the price of printed materials. Download a free sample or visit the Sunday School Store to purchase more.

Waiting on Jesus!

Bible Craft Ideas from Luke 21:25-36

The season of Advent is a time of joyful anticipation and hope. How do we celebrate what Jesus has done, and what He has yet to do? These crafts encourage children to serve God and to wait, hope, and pray as we rejoice in His birth and await His Second coming. A “Look to the Clouds”

mobile hanger serves as a decoration and reminder to wait for Christ. A “Serving Acts Stocking” uses a traditional Christmas decoration to consider how we can wait in hope and service.



Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider... (Luke 21:25-36)

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

-Psalm 27:14

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. -Luke 21:33

WAIT for Jesus....He is worth it!

Advent is a season of waiting!

Watch and wait...Jesus is coming!

Hope...Pray...serve...love...

More Teaching Ideas:

- Watch a video demonstration of this [children's lesson](#) and related [Bible craft ideas](#)
- Compare our full [Luke 21:25-36 Sunday School Lesson](#)
- Browse all our [free Christmas Sunday School Lessons for kids](#)

Craft one: "Advent Anticipation Mobile"

You will need:

- Stickers or decorations
- Scissors
- Markers and/or crayons
- Construction paper or cardstock, or crown shape
- Glue or tape
- String, ribbon, or yarn
- Clothes hanger (wire or plastic)



Procedure:

1. Cut several shapes from paper or card stock. These could be in the shape of clouds or stars, or just simple rectangles or circles.
2. Decorate the papers with words indicating what to do while waiting for Jesus, or ways to celebrate the season of Advent.
3. Add stickers, jewels, or additional decorative elements. Add extra shapes if desired.
4. Attach each card stock caption to the clothes hanger with ribbon or string.
5. Hang the mobile and admire the decorative Advent notes!



Craft Two: "Wait for Jesus Stocking"

You will need:

- Markers/crayons
- Construction paper or card stock
- Decorations (stickers, etc.)
- Scissors
- Captions/verses
- Cotton (balls or stuffing)
- Stapler
- Pipe cleaner or string
- Tape or glue



Procedure:

1. Cut out two pieces of paper or card stock, in the shape of a stocking.
2. Decorate the stocking with verses and captions.
3. Add cotton, stickers, or additional decorations as desired.
4. Staple (or "sew" with yarn) the two pieces together to form a "stocking".
5. Write on strips of paper methods of serving Jesus and providing "gifts" to God.
6. Tuck the papers into the stocking. Attach a pipe cleaner or string to hang, if desired.

Waiting on Jesus!

Children's Sermon from Luke 21:25-36

During the season of Advent, we celebrate the coming of Christ. We think back to His birth in Bethlehem, but we also look forward to His Second Coming one day. This message encourages children to consider things that they might have to wait for. Great things are worth the wait, and sometimes

we can increase patience by doing other things to pass time. In the same way, Jesus is well worth the wait, and while we look forward to His coming, we live in His presence and serve Him in all we do.

Law/Gospel Theme: At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Christ, but sometimes forget the significance of why that's so important. Jesus was the fulfillment of God's promises to His people, the Messiah come to save. The people of God waited in long anticipation, and the birth of Jesus was only the beginning. We rejoice that He came to Earth, but know that He came to die. On the other side of the resurrection, we now await His coming again, knowing that God will be faithful to that promise, as well.

Optional Materials: Pictures of people waiting in line, or items representing waiting and how and when we wait for things.

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Bible Passage: Luke 21:25-36

Message Note: As with most 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.



Waiting on Jesus (Luke 21:25-36) Children's Sermon Lesson

Greet children, and discuss the concept of waiting:

Hello, children of God! Have you ever had to wait for something? What are some things we have to wait for? (*Allow some responses*). There are a lot of things that we find ourselves waiting for. (*As you describe, hold up pictures of things that people wait for, or picture examples of people waiting*). We might have to wait our turn with a toy or on a playground. When we go to a restaurant, we probably have to wait just to sit at a table, and then we wait again for someone to take our order and cook our food. If you're at a fair or amusement park, you have to wait in long lines. If you go to a doctor or dentist, you have to sit in a waiting room. You might have to wait when you're taking a long car ride.

Waiting can be hard! It's especially challenging when you're waiting for something you really want or need, like when you're hungry and need food. What are some things that you do while you wait? (*Take examples, such as playing a game or talking to someone*). It's safe to say that good things are worth the wait. People are willing to stand in long lines or spend two hours at a restaurant if they know that they are waiting for something wonderful.

We are in the season of Advent now, and Advent is a time for waiting. The word "Advent" means coming. Who's coming are we celebrating in these weeks? That's right, the coming of Jesus! Right now, we are *waiting* for Christmas, which can also seem tough. But we shouldn't just be anticipating presents or fun activities. This is a season when we celebrate Jesus. When He was born, it was the fulfillment of a promise that God had given long before. He promised a Messiah to rescue His people from sin. Prophets had spoken of the coming of Christ, and people waited for hundreds of years. They knew a savior was coming, even if they weren't sure exactly how or when it would be. They were willing to wait because they knew it would be worth it. At Christmas, we celebrate that God kept His promises. He sent Jesus as a savior, and His presence is still with us today!

So, we remember the joy of the coming of Jesus. However, we are also waiting, because He has promised to come again! Jesus will return some day, and all things will be made new. We don't know when this will be or exactly how it will happen, but we know we can trust God's promises. It might be tomorrow, it might be in 200 years. We know that His coming will be worth the wait! In the meantime, what can we do? How do we pass the time while we wait? We wait with joy, and hope, and with

thanksgiving. We recognize that Jesus is present with us now, and we seek to glorify Him with our lives, through service and worship. We pray, attend church, and read God's Word to know His heart. Waiting for something great takes time...Jesus is worthy of our patience and eager anticipation!

Let's pray and thank God for fulfilling His promises and sending Jesus...

Prayer:

(Have kids repeat each line)

Dear God,

Thank you for keeping your promises

Jesus is worth waiting for!

Help us to trust in you

And to await you with hope and joy

Thank you for your love

We love you, God!

In Jesus name, Amen!

Bible Verses/story to Reference:

"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, 26 people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

29 And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. 30 As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34 "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." -[Luke 21:25-36](#)



Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#) (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Every week she writes new [Sunday School lessons](#), [Bible crafts](#), and [children's sermons](#).

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

My name is Tony Kummer (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Children.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. It is my personal honor to share these resources with churches around the world.



[Reader donations](#) and your support at [The Sunday School Store](#) fund these free materials. Please keep us in mind when you are choosing your next children's ministry curriculum.

If you enjoy our material, be sure to [sign-up for my free email newsletter](#) called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy.

May God continue to bless your ministry!

Tony Kummer