

Sunday morning
teaching plan

Date:
18/01/26

TITLE:	Jesus's Childhood
THEME:	The Life of Jesus
AIM:	To look into the early days of Jesus and understand where His commitment was from the beginning.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The 2 stories we are learning about is that Jesus fled with His family to Egypt and then when he was 12 He went to teach at the temple.

WARM UP

Where?

Get photos of around the area and print them out and then they have to guess where they are in Eastbourne.

MAIN TEACHING

Exiled

Can you remember your earliest memory? Jesus was 2 when the wise men came and when he exiled to Egypt. He ran away over night to a different country, with different language and culture etc. **Read Matthew 2:13-15.**

In small groups discuss what impact or difference this period of being a refugee would have made to Jesus.

Jesus knew what it was like to live away from his home country without the security of familiar surroundings and possessions and he had first-hand experience of being so afraid of being killed that the only option was running away in the middle of the night. Jesus went through the experience that 50 million people today have to go through; He knows what it's like to be homeless, to be in fear and to be a stranger.

Teaching Point: God is not remote with no understanding of the things we have to go through.

Left Behind

Have you been lost before? Share stories?

Read Luke 2:41-52

Mary and Joseph were typical parents not quite understanding their son and in many ways Jesus' behaviour looked just like a typical teenager's doing what he wanted to do without thinking of the consequences. But Jesus was not being selfish – somehow he had just become so engrossed in the Temple and the discussions about the Jewish scripture that He had got left behind. Jesus knew that spending time with Father God had to be his priority.

Better is one Day.

In pairs/small groups go through each verse and see if you can pick out different things about Jesus' character.

What was Jesus' number one priority?

In one of the Psalms the writer says how important the Temple is to him, because it's such a special place symbolising the presence of God.

Read Psalm 84:1-4 and 10.

What are your thoughts on this? Can they possibly imagine being in a similar position, where to spend time with God becomes their most important priority? What makes the difference for Jesus and the writer of the Psalm? Talk briefly about how close their relationship is with God, when you are in a close relationship or in love with someone you want to spend all your time with them – in many ways that's what being a Christian is all about.

Teaching Point: Jesus and the writer of the Psalm were in such a close relationship with God that they want to spend their time with Him – this is a challenge for the young people to look at their own relationship with Jesus.

One Day

Create a little advent calendar with a magnetic strip with the verse:

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere. Psalm 84:10

Jesus knew that time spent with God was his highest priority – even when he was 12.

this is a challenge to each of us as to how serious we want to be about our commitment to Jesus.

TAKEAWAY

EXTRA INFORMATION

Things needed:

Pictures of the local area.

Bibles

Glue, Pens and card A5.

Calendars and magnetic strips