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# “Jesus is the Way”

## Home Sunday School Lesson on John 14:1-14

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Jesus is the Way: “In Home” Sunday School  
Suggestions for Jesus as the Way, Truth, and Life

“How do I do it?” Children are quite inquisitive about the world around them, and are also eager to learn how to do things for themselves. They want to know the way to do things and to explore methods of how things operate. They want to know how to achieve what they want. In the Gospel story we focus on here, the disciples asked Jesus how to get to the Father. They asked Him to show the way, and Jesus gave a simple answer: HE was the way. God is an amazing, enormous, unfathomable being...but He became a human, so that we could draw closer to Him. The way to life is through Christ. For kids, this comes back to the tried and true Sunday school principle: the answer is always Jesus!

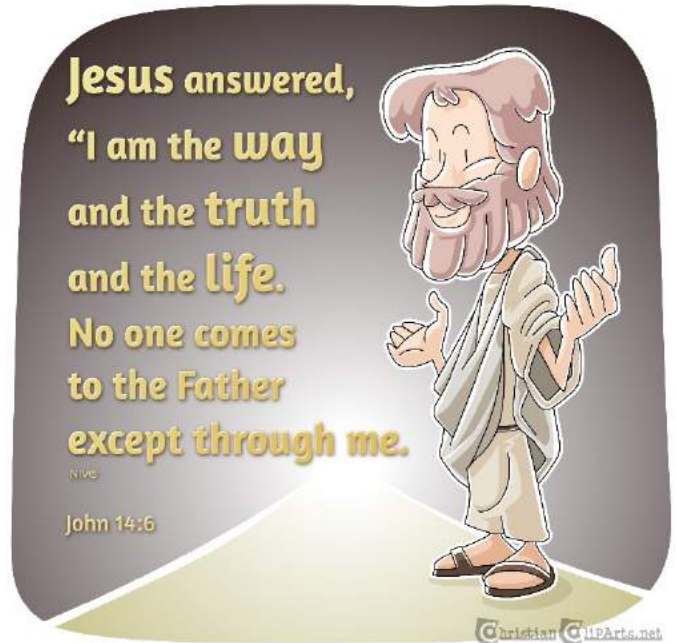
**Lesson focus:** We have sinned, disobeyed, and become separated from God. We don’t always understand God, and on our own power we cannot be saved or come to the Father. But Jesus lived, died, and came back to life so that we could have a way to be with Him. Jesus is one with the Father, and He is our guide, “map,” and “key” to eternal life. We can believe and trust in what He says, because He loves us and gave Himself for us. He’s preparing a place for us to be in Heaven someday!

**Bible Passage:** John 14:1-14

**Target Audience:** Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grade (or whoever you might have at home!)

**Materials Needed:** Construction paper, markers, stickers, paper plates, brad fasteners, scissors, pipe cleaners, hole punch, map, compass, keys, Bible (all optional, depending which activities you choose to use).

**More Teaching Ideas:** See all our teaching activities based on [Jesus is the Way](#), don’t miss the video demonstration of the [Jesus is the Way](#) craft and children’s sermon.



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# Game Idea and Lesson Introduction

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**Lesson Opening:** The “way” and the life...what does this mean? Jesus tells us that He points the way to life. There are other things that might “point” us in the right direction, too, and this lesson will explore some of those concepts. To get started, select from one of the following openers, or make up one of your own!

- Make a road map! This could be a simple map of your town, showing given locations, or it could be a treasure hunt of sorts. You might even make an old-fashioned pirate map!
- Look at a real compass and identify how it points North. Discuss how Jesus shows us the way to life.
- Make a “treasure hunt” in the house or backyard. Provide instructions for kids to follow to find a special treat.
- Hide something in a room of the house and play “hotter/colder” to find it.
- Which key? Make your own mini “escape room” using a combination of locks, keys, or puzzles.

After a couple of fun activities, explain that the disciples often asked Jesus questions about who He was and what He came to do. The Gospel lesson we are visiting here involves some of those questions, and things that Jesus said about Himself.

**Ask:** Who do you think Jesus is? What does He mean to you? (This may be a deep question for younger children, but it’s a good concept to contemplate at any age!)



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# Bible Lesson (John 14:1-14)

## Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

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As always, how you choose to experience the story will vary according to the ages and abilities of your children (and how many are participating). For younger children, you may wish to use a children's or storybook version of the Bible, and explain details as you go. Older kids can take turns helping to read the story. You can discuss what the passages mean and, for older students, perhaps reference other related verses.

*"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going."* - John 14:1-4

**Ask:** Where do you think this "house" might be? What is Jesus talking about?

Explain that Jesus is talking about preparing a place in Heaven. This wasn't just for those disciples, but for all of us!

*Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."* -John 14:5-7

Here comes Thomas with questions again. This thought might have been on the minds of the other listeners, too...he wants to know the way to this "house." How can we come into a relationship with God? What's the answer Jesus provides? HE is the answer! He is the way. Most houses have doors that must be passed through in order to enter. Jesus is saying He is the doorway. He is the map, the route, the way to get to eternal life.

*Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe*



*me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. -John 14:8-11*

It's almost like Jesus is saying here, "haven't you been listening to what I'm trying to tell you?" He has established that He is one with God, and yet the disciples still don't quite understand. In fact, they still have trouble grasping this concept, even after the death and Resurrection! But this certainly should take care of any doubt we might have about the Trinity. Jesus is the Son of God, but He declares here that He is one WITH God, also. He is God made man...anyone who knows Jesus knows God, and Christ is the way to God.

**\*Ask:** Is this confusing? (It's okay if it is!) Are there other things you have learned about Jesus or God that are difficult to understand? How can we approach those questions?

*"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask me<sup>[e]</sup> anything in my name, I will do it. -John 14:12-14*

What does this mean? Jesus is giving us a great promise. If we believe in Him, and who He says He is, He will grant us great things. However, this does not mean we will suddenly work miracles or fly or be able to ignore other details in life...Jesus has already given us something amazing through His death and Resurrection. He has already given us life! These verses remind us that our own works do not save us. Jesus saves us. He is one with the Father (God) and is preparing an eternal home for us. He wants us to pray and to stay close to Him.

We pray for things "In Jesus' Name" because He told us to do so! He loves us and wants a relationship with us. And we know that He will listen when we call. We don't need a map, a compass, or a key to get into Heaven. Jesus is the way, and He gives us life, now and forever!

**Crafts:** "Keys" on a ring, map, maze, Compass Plate (see next page)



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# “The Keys to Life”

Children’s Sermon Object on Jesus is the Way from  
John 14:1-14

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## Children’s Message: The Key to Life

Jesus is the Way

**Main Objective:** What does it mean that Jesus is “the way”? This message demonstrates to children the importance of Jesus being the most important thing in our lives. The object lesson utilizes a key to describe Christ’s power, emphasizing the key’s ability to let us into places, just as Jesus lets us into fellowship with God and eternal life.

**Law/Gospel Theme:** Because of sin, we are separated from God. The law says that we must do certain things in order to receive blessing. Here, we see that Jesus is THE way to life. Because of His death and resurrection, the gates of Heaven are “unlocked” and we can gain access to the Lord. We cannot do it on our own, but Jesus makes the way for us, when we only believe.

**Optional Materials / Object Lesson Props:** Keys, with locks to unlock I available.

**Bible Passage:** John 14:1-14

**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. Use your judgment and ideas to best serve students. Note extra variations for using this message at home.

## More Teaching Helps on Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

- See all our [lessons and ministry ideas about Jesus is the Way](#).
- See our [video playlist on Jesus is the Way](#).
- See our [Sunday School Lesson “I am the way, the truth, the life”](#)
- Compare our [children’s sermon on this passage](#)



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# Children's Sermon on Jesus is the Way (John 14:1-14) Keys to Life Object Lesson

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*Greet children, and depending on setting, with keys in hand. If you are doing this one at home, take the keys around to doors or have a lock box that can be opened.*

Hello, children of God! What do I have here? (*Hold up keys*) That's right; these are keys! What do keys do? Well, they unlock things, right? So, if I put this key into my house door, it will let me inside the house. If I use this key, I can unlock the mailbox. (*Again, if you're doing this at home, it might be fun to experiment and let kids see which key goes with what.*)

I have to use the right key that is made for a certain lock. Otherwise, no matter how much I try and twist, it won't quite go in.

Will any of these keys get me into Heaven?? Will one of them show me how to be close to God? No, these keys won't do that...but what will? There is something, or rather someONE who is the way to God's kingdom. Who is that?? Of course... it's Jesus!

In our Gospel today, Jesus described Himself as being the way, the truth, and the life. He said that He was going to go to Heaven and prepare a place for us. His disciples asked Him to show the way, and asked what God the Father was like. Jesus told them that HE was the way, and that He was one with God. Those who knew Jesus knew God.

You see, way back in the very beginning, Adam and Eve disobeyed God. When they sinned, it locked the door between us and fellowship with God, and brought pain and hardship into earthly life.

Well, fortunately, God is a pretty good locksmith! He had a plan to bring us back into a relationship with Him, and that plan was fulfilled in Jesus. He is the key to life. He is the way we can be saved, draw near to God, and one day go to Heaven!

It isn't something we do ourselves. Just like we can't wiggle and force a key into a lock, we can't earn or force our own way into Heaven. We have to come through Jesus. When we put our faith in Christ and trust that His death and resurrection save us, we can rest assured that we are in God's family.



We can talk to God, share our thoughts, and tell Him our hopes and needs in the name of Jesus. We know that we will be in that Heavenly household one day, and in the meantime, we know that Jesus is present and will never leave us. He is the key!

### Children's Prayer Moment

(Have kids repeat each line)

Dear God,  
You are the way, truth, and life  
You are the key to all things  
Please help us to know how to follow you  
Thank you for unlocking the door to life  
Thank you for your love  
We love you, God!  
In Jesus name, Amen!

### Bible Verses/story to Reference: John 14:1-14

*"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."*

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*<sup>12</sup>"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. -John 14:1-14 ESV*



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# “Jesus is the Way” Craft Ideas

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## *Jesus is the Key to the Kingdom! Craft Ideas for Jesus, the Way and the Life*

Jesus is the only way to enter into God’s Kingdom. Jesus is the key that unlocks all of the other things in our lives. He described Himself as the way, the truth, and the life, and said that He was one with the Father. No other religions or teachers will save us. These are important things to remember, but how can we form them into some memorable crafts? As usual, there are plenty of options! Here are a few ideas, focusing on Jesus as the way to life and the “key” to salvation.

### **Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider... (Main Text: John 14:1-14)**

*Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. –John 14:1*

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. –John 14:6*

*Jesus points the way to eternal life!*

*Jesus is the key to Heaven!*

*The way of life is through Jesus...He unlocks the DOOR!*

### **More teaching ideas on Jesus is the Way**

- See all our [lessons and ministry ideas about Jesus is the Way](#).
- See our [video playlist on Jesus is the Way](#).
- See our [Sunday School Lesson “I am the way, the truth, the life”](#)
- Compare our [children’s sermon on this passage](#)





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# Craft one: “Jesus Points the Way”

## Compass

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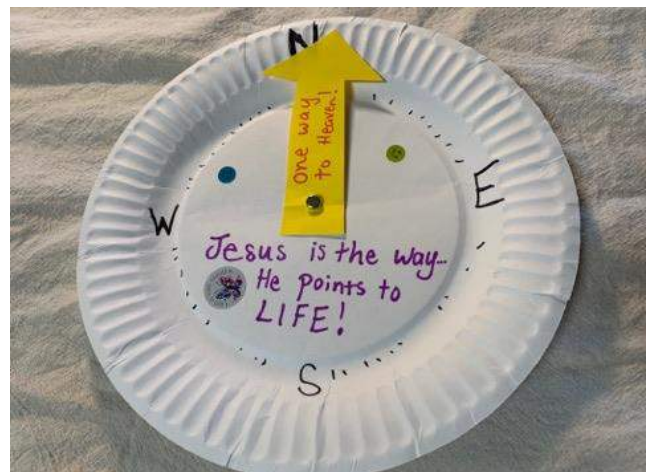
### You will need:

- Paper plate or card stock
- Markers, stickers, or other decorating materials
- Stickers (Optional)
- Brad fasteners
- Construction paper or card stock
- Scissors



### Procedure:

1. Decorate the plate (or paper, cut into a circle) to resemble a compass. Be as creative as you like with markers and stickers, and add a verse or caption to remind yourself of the significance of the compass.
2. Cut out a small arrow shape from construction paper.
3. Carefully poke a hole in the plate, after lining up where the fastener might need to go.
4. Place the brad through the paper arrow and the plate, creating a compass that “points the way” to Christ.



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# Craft Two: “Jesus is the Key” Ring

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## You will need:

- Construction Paper or card stock
- Stickers or decorative supplies
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Hole Punch
- Pipe cleaners or string



## Procedure:

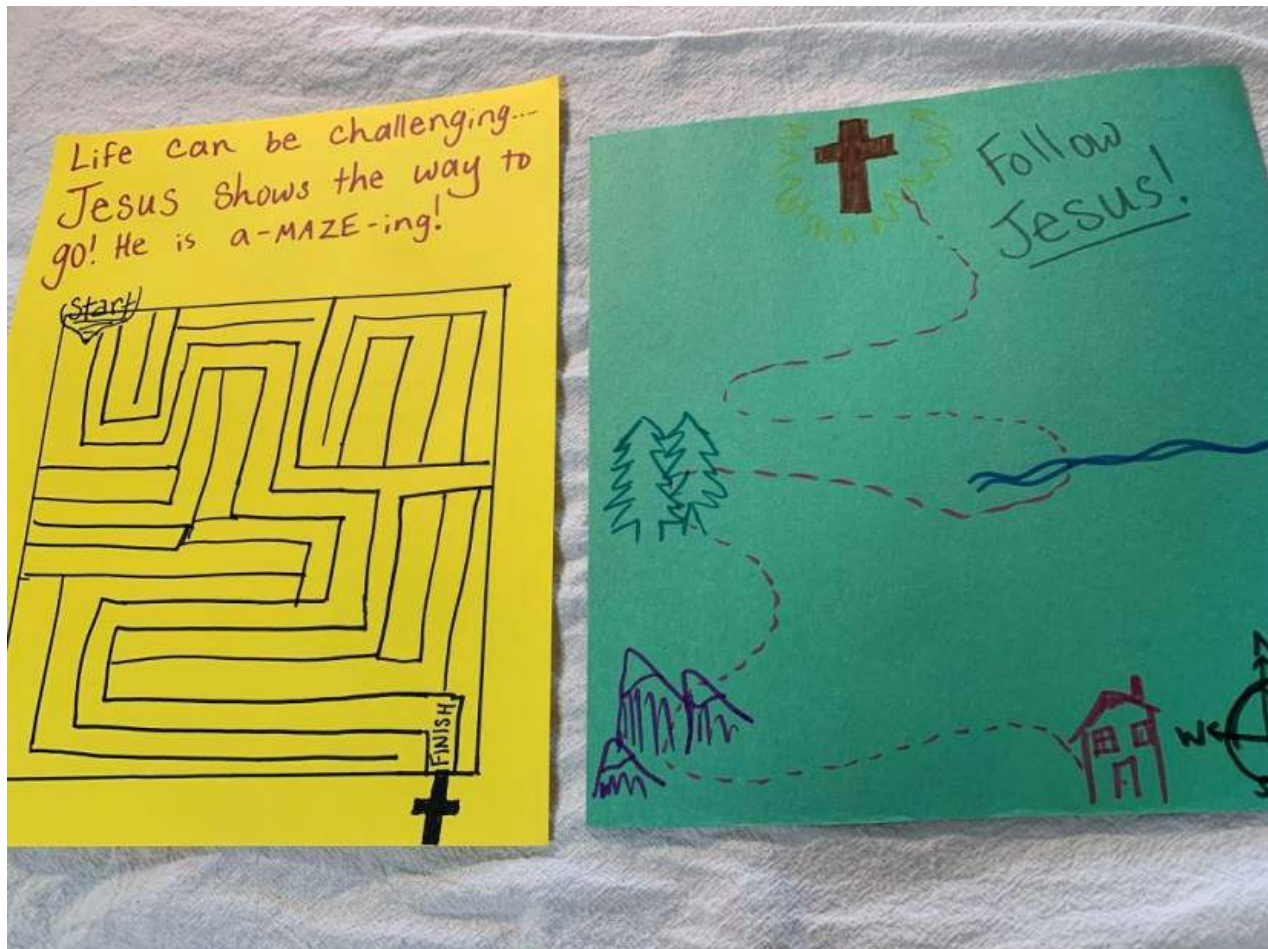
1. Draw an outline onto the construction paper or cardstock, if desired, preparing the paper in the shape of keys.
2. Decorate the paper with verse captions, stickers, words, and images.
3. Carefully cut the outline to make your “keys” from the paper.
4. Punch a hole in the top of each key, and place onto a pipe cleaner or string to keep the keys together.



## Bonus Ideas... Need Some Extra items to keep busy?

Keep the fun going and follow the “Jesus is the way” theme! All you need is paper and writing materials, but feel free to get as creative as you like when you design things like:

- A map: help kids make a map, showing somewhere they know, directions to somewhere they’d like to go, or even something completely random! You can also turn it into an old-fashioned “pirate treasure map”, if you need a bonus activity.
- A maze: create a large box or circle, and draw a path through it to the other side. Arrange confusing and conflicting lines around it, and pass off to someone else to try and solve.
- Go outside and use chalk to draw a path showing “the way” through or to something...you might even trace your feet going down it!
- Make a “Holy Spirit comforter”—something soft and cozy (like felt) wrapped or sewn like a pouch. Be as artsy or simple as you like, and hang onto your item to remember that God is always with us!





These craft ideas were prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#), who 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.

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.

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## *Help you tell kids about Jesus!*

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Our website now has over 4,000 free resources for your children's ministry. Each month we're adding even more! Here are a few popular sections:

- Over 300 Coloring Pages [Bible Coloring Pages](#).
- Over 700 [Bible Lessons](#) and Complete [Sunday School Curriculum](#)
- We post new [Children's Sermons Object Lessons](#) every week.
- [Sunday School Games](#), [Bible Crafts](#), and [Worship Songs for Kids](#)
- Don't miss our new sister sites [Sunday School Works!](#) and [the Sunday School Store](#).



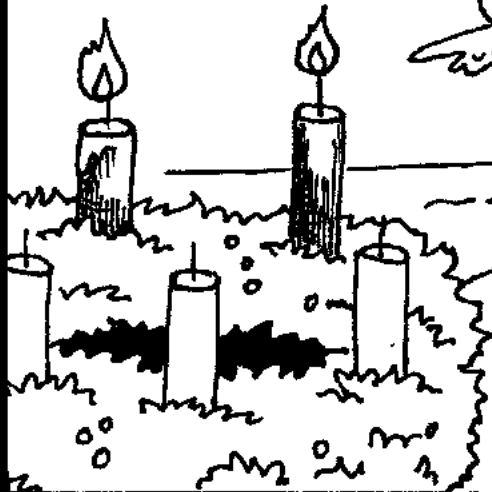
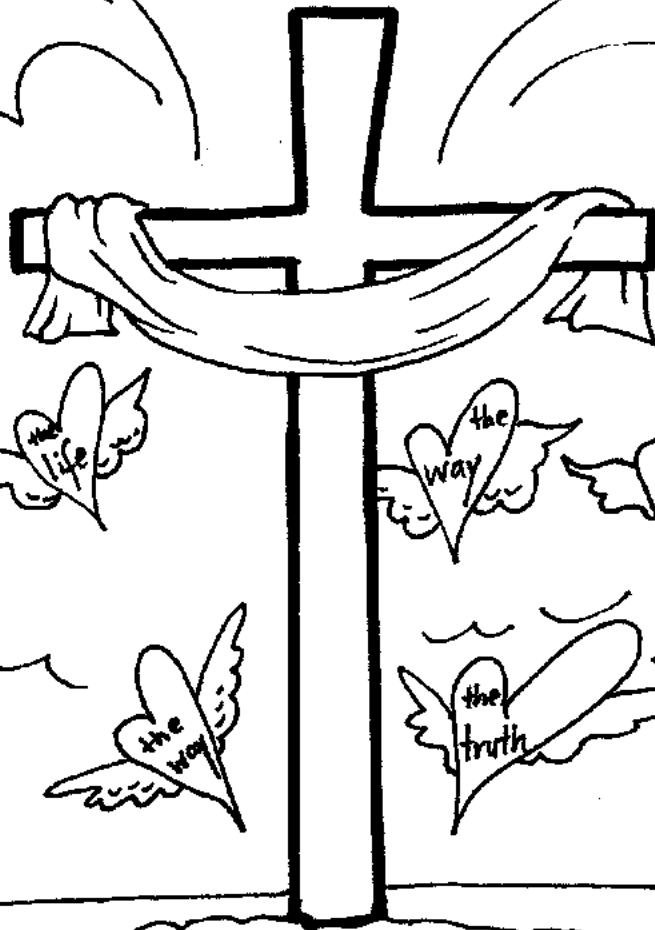
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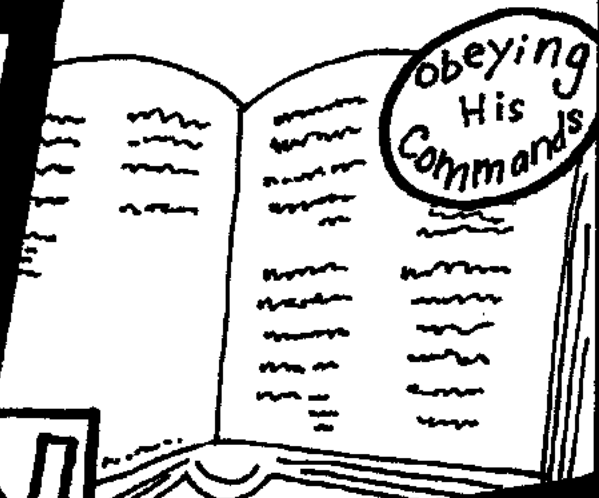
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Because of Jesus

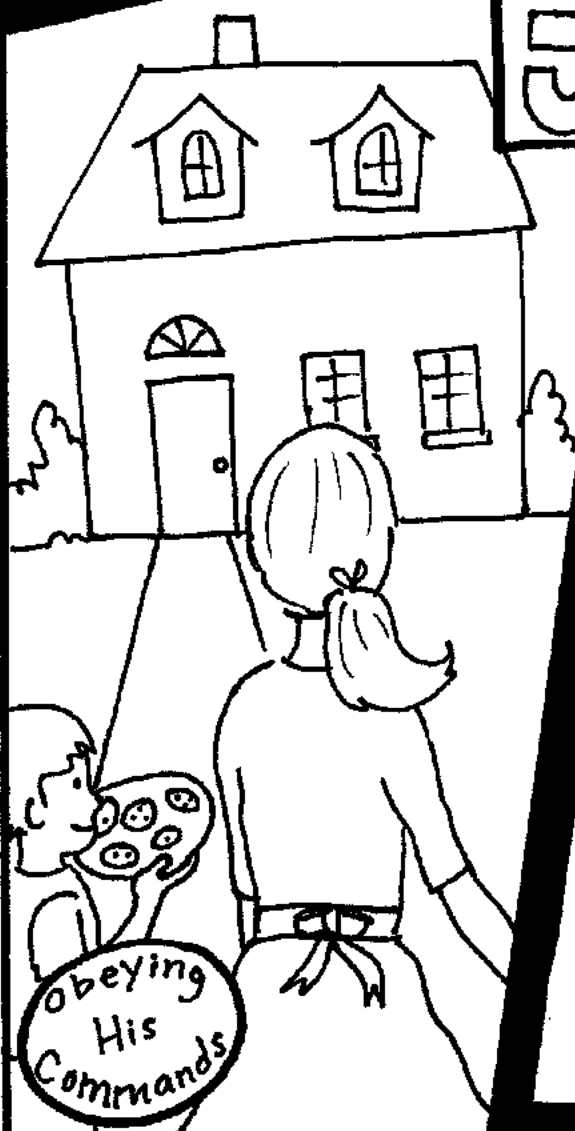
We have a way

John 14:6





# HOW . Do I. Follow JESUS



As  
MY  
KING?  




**Jesus answered,  
“I am the way  
and the truth  
and the life.  
No one comes  
to the Father  
except through me.**

NIV®

John 14:6



# Learn About Jesus, God's Son

## The Trinity

God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three persons who are all the same person – God. This is called the Trinity (Trinity means three).

When God decided to come and live on earth with people, he came in the form of Jesus, God's Son. Jesus is the most important person who ever lived on the earth. But Jesus is more than just a person. Jesus is **all God** so he knows and does everything that God does. Jesus is **all human** (people) so he can understand how we feel and act.

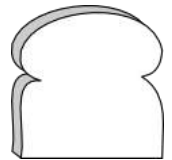
## Names for Jesus

The Bible uses many different names for Jesus.

Find the names for Jesus in the puzzle.



P R I N C E B R R N O P  
W L T R U T H O X I J D  
K I L T H G I L S S R C  
J F C V I V H T O O E B  
M E M M A N U E L E C R  
Y U S S A E N I V D N E  
A G Q U Y O N R E L I A  
W O R D S H E P H E R D  
Z F U C H R I S T A P T



Jesus is God's **SON**.

The name **JESUS** and the Old Testament name Joshua both mean **SAVIOR**.

**EMMANUEL** means God with Us.

**CHRIST** means the Chosen One or Messiah.

Jesus is our **LORD**; he is the master and we are the servants.

Jesus is the **PRINCE** of Peace.

Jesus is the **WORD**; he brings us God's message.

Jesus is the **BREAD** of life.

Jesus is the **LIGHT** of the world.

Jesus is the Good **SHEPHERD**, and we are his sheep.

Jesus is the **VINE**, and we are the branches.

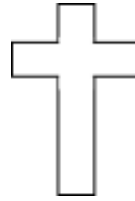
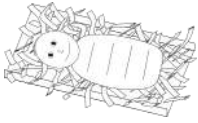
Jesus is the **WAY**, the **TRUTH**, and the **LIFE**.



# The Story of Jesus

Look up each verse and number the events in Jesus' life in the correct order.

- |          |              |       |   |
|----------|--------------|-------|---|
| <b>1</b> | Luke 2:7     | _____ | Jesus went back up to heaven.                                   |
| <b>2</b> | Luke 2:52    | _____ | Jesus grew and pleased God.                                     |
| <b>3</b> | Mark 1:9     | _____ | Jesus was crucified on the cross.                               |
| <b>4</b> | Matthew 4:23 | _____ | Jesus was baptized.   |
| <b>5</b> | John 19:18   | _____ | God raised Jesus from the dead.                                 |
| <b>6</b> | Luke 24:6    | _____ | Jesus came into the world as a baby.                            |
| <b>7</b> | Acts 1:9     | _____ | Jesus traveled around, teaching, preaching, and healing people. |



## Why Did Jesus Come into the World?

Reason 1:

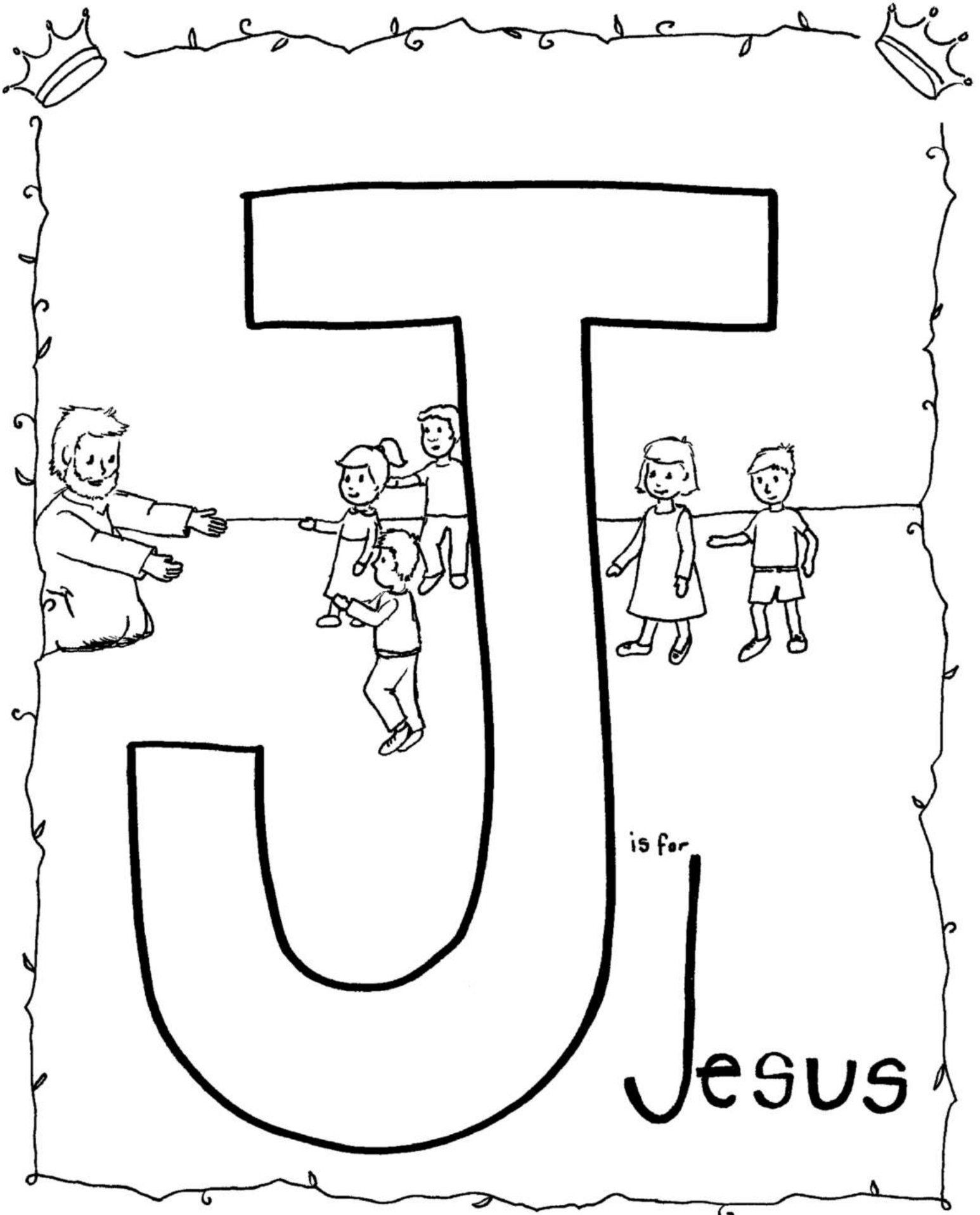
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_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Z	Y	L	F	G	T	L	W	

Reason 2:

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
G	L	W	R	V		U	L	I	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
F	H	L	M		G	S	V		
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
X	I	L	H	H					

In this code, A stands for Z, Z stands for A, etc.

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
<b>Z</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>



is for

J  
Jesus