



UNIT 25 | SESSION 5

# JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PROPHET

## DEUTERONOMY 18

### CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus came into the world to tell people God's words and invite them into God's family forever.

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION

How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? **Jesus tells us God's message.**

### MEMORY VERSE

We can listen to Jesus. **Deuteronomy 18:15**



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In today's passage from Deuteronomy, Moses spoke to the Israelites about the prophet God promised to raise up from among them. Unlike the imperfect Moses, his successor would prove to be even greater and better than himself. This coming prophet would be the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises of old. Only Jesus could be the One whose perfect word would faithfully and flawlessly come to pass.

Prophets served as mouthpieces between God and His people. Through sharing the Word of the Lord, they made God's truth known among His people. What separated Jesus from Moses and the rest of the prophets, though, was that He alone could save and redeem God's people from sin. God used the prophets of the Old Testament to continually point His people to the coming Messiah, who alone is the only Way to the Father.

How did Jesus fit the criteria for this final prophet? How could they be sure? Moses spoke of a prophet worth heeding and obeying, one whose words would truly come from the Father. Unlike the false gods and teachers who echoed off meaningless deception, Christ's resurrection proved Him to be the perfect, promised Prophet from God.

Moses instructed the Israelites to wait expectantly for the prophet who spoke God's truth in all its fullness. He instructed them to watch for a divine message to be fulfilled as it could only come from God Himself. When it came to fruition, they would know it was His truth.

In His own perfect timing, God sent Jesus to the world to save us from sin. The ultimate fulfillment of Moses' instructions came after Christ's death and resurrection; He not only declared victory over sin and death but enacted His triumph on our behalf.

As you lead your preschoolers this week, help them understand that all Jesus spoke has and will continue to come to pass, just as Moses prophesied. Teach them that Jesus did more than simply speak God's truth; He lived out and fulfilled its requirements so that by faith, we could be brought back into relationship with God.

## Terms to Know

**Christ as Prophet:** Jesus alone is the ultimate teacher and has the words of eternal life (John 6:68). He is also God's ultimate revelation of Himself, the very Word of God (John 1:1).



## OPENING & ACTIVITIES

### WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with other children.

### ACTIVITY — OPTION 1

#### Telephone Game

- Instruct children to sit in a large circle so there's plenty of space between them. Whisper a silly phrase into one child's ear, then instruct them to whisper it to the child sitting to their right.
- Continue until the phrase has made it around the circle. Tell the last child to stand up and repeat the phrase out loud. Continue playing but start with a different child each time.

Say: "That was a fun game! How many times did we get the message perfectly right as it traveled around the circle? Our messages were silly, so it wasn't important if we messed them up. Today we are learning how God passed down His true message to us through prophets."

### ACTIVITY — OPTION 2

#### Play with People Figures

- Invite children to play out the Bible story with several people figures and other props such as blocks for the people figures to stand on. Demonstrate how to line the people up so they can listen to the prophet.
- Encourage children to designate one of the figures as the prophet and suggest they share God's words with the people. Children may want to have several prophets and then end with Jesus as the perfect Prophet.

Say: "In the Old Testament, people wanted to know how they could know if a prophet's words were from God. A prophet is someone who talks to God and shares His words with the people. Moses said, 'If a prophet speaks and the message does not come true, that person is not a real prophet.' God's words always come true. God sent many prophets to speak to His people. At just the right time, God sent the perfect Prophet, His own Son, Jesus."



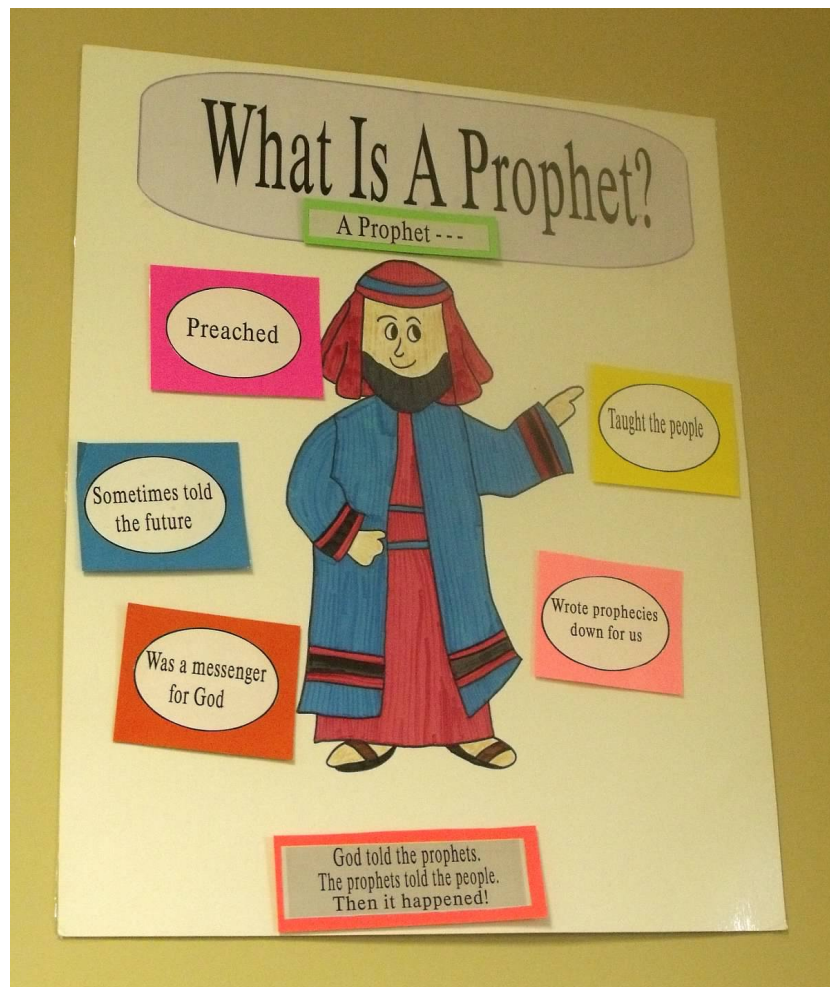
## OPENING & ACTIVITIES

### CRAFT

#### What is a Prophet?

- See the example below and in your bin and help children make the craft.

Say: "A prophet stands before God for the people and shares God's words with the people. In the Old Testament, God sent many prophets to speak to His people. And at just the right time, God sent the perfect Prophet, His own Son, Jesus."







## PREPARE

Open your bible to **Deuteronomy 18** and tell the following story.

## THE STORY

### JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PROPHET

In the Old Testament, Moses led God's people out of Egypt and toward the promised land. During their journey, Moses was a prophet to the people. First God spoke to Moses, and then Moses shared God's words with the people.

One day, Moses told the people, "God will raise up for you a prophet like me. You must listen to Him."

In the same way that Moses stood before God for all the Israelites, this prophet would stand before God for all people. He would share God's words with the people, too. God said, "Anyone who does not listen to My words that the prophet speaks will have to answer to Me."

God also told the people to look out. He said, "Someone might come and pretend to be a prophet. But anyone who speaks an untrue message and says it's from Me must be stopped."

This was a serious warning. How could the people really know if a prophet's words were from God? Moses said, "When a prophet speaks and the message does not come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken." God's words always come true.

God sent many prophets to speak to the Israelites after Moses died. The prophets brought the people good news or bad news, and they reminded the people of God's promises. Sometimes the people listened but other times they did not. At just the right time, God kept His promise to send an even greater prophet than Moses: God's own Son, Jesus.

### CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus is the perfect Prophet God promised to send. He is the last prophet. Jesus came into the world to tell people God's words and invite them into God's family forever.



## SNACK & CLOSING

### SNACK TIME

Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
3. What is a prophet?
4. How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? **Jesus tells us God's message.**

### CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible Story Coloring Page or Activity Page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to the children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have the children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

### BEFORE YOU GO...

Please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant
2. Spot sweep if needed
3. Return toys to closet, close door
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room
5. Return tan storage cubes to **Room 108**

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**