



UNIT 25 | SESSION 5

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PROPHET

DEUTERONOMY 18

CHRIST CONNECTION

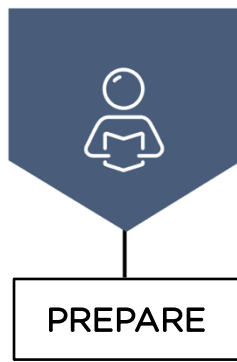
Jesus is the perfect and final Prophet God promised to send.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? Jesus perfectly reveals God the Father and fulfills what the prophets spoke.

MEMORY VERSE

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

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group.

ACTIVITY PAGES

Invite kids to work on their coloring or activity pages before heading to Large Group.

- K12 has the “Decode It” activity page.
- 345 has the “Words about the Word” activity page.

Connect the Dots: To help prepare kids for the Bible story in Large Group, you can say something like, “Who are people you listen to? Maybe your parents, teachers, or coaches. Why do you listen to them?”

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

- Our new memory verse for Sunday will be introduced next week. Ask the kids what other memory verses they are working on and encourage them to practice them.
- If they don’t have any verses they are working on or don’t know what scripture to memorize next, give them suggestions from the Encouraged Memory Verses page and have them begin learning one of them. Remember, each verse memorized is a Bible Buck!



AFTER LARGE GROUP

K12 ACTIVITY

Listen Closely

- Tell kids that you will call them up one at a time to draw something on the dry erase board. Explain they will only have one opportunity to make their drawing so they need to listen closely. Tell kids that by the end, they will have made a complete picture of an object.
- Invite kids one at a time to draw different pieces of a house. Provide specific instructions to create a house such as, “draw a large square in the center of the board,” “draw a small rectangle at the bottom center of the square,” “draw a large triangle on top of the large square,” and so on.
- Continue adding elements to the house until all kids have had a turn. Ask kids if they can identify what the object is.

Connect the Dots: To help kids connect the Bible story with the activity, you can say something like, “You had to listen closely to the instructions so you could all work together to draw a house. In our Bible story, we heard how Moses told the people that a greater Prophet was coming and that the people should listen closely to Him.”

345 ACTIVITY

Did Jesus Say That?

- Form kids into groups of three or four. Provide groups with a dry erase board.
- Tell kids you’re going to read several statements, and they’ll decide if it is something Jesus said or not. Direct kids to write either **Yes** or **No** on their board and hold it up for each statement. Consider using the following examples or create your own. If you run out, use the phrases on the next page!
 - “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” (John 14:6)
 - Follow your heart.
 - Seek the praise of others.
 - “The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men.” (Luke 9:44)
 - “After three days I will rise again.” (Matthew 27:63)
 - Be brave and rely on your own strength.

Connect the Dots: To help kids connect the Bible story with the activity, you can say something like, “Jesus spoke words of truth, and His words have been fulfilled or will be fulfilled. He predicted His death and resurrection, and both came true. Today, we’re learning how Jesus is the perfect and final Prophet.”



AFTER LARGE GROUP

345 ACTIVITY

Extra Phrases

- If you've gone through the phrases above, use these to continue the activity for older kids:
 - Look out for yourself only.
 - "Feed my sheep" (John 21:17)
 - "Do not be anxious about your life" (Matthew 6:25)
 - "Follow me" (Matthew 9:9)
 - Punish those that wrong you.
 - Money and things will make you happy.

Connect the Dots: To help kids connect the Bible story with the activity, you can say something like, "Jesus spoke words of truth, and His words have been fulfilled or will be fulfilled. He predicted His death and resurrection, and both came true. Today, we're learning how Jesus is the perfect and final Prophet."

CRAFT

Prophet Megaphone

- Pass out the megaphone template, tape, scissors, and decorating materials.
- Have the kids color and decorate their megaphones first. They can color it, put stickers on it, etc. Once they are done decorating it, have them cut out the template (assist younger kids with cutting).
- Roll the cutout up and fold the handles to come together. Tape the megaphone so it will stay in the rolled position, and you're done!

Connect the Dots: To help kids connect the Bible story with the craft, you can say something like, "Prophets spoke God's word to the people around them. Jesus was the perfect prophet because he is the word of God in human form. That's why it's important that we listen to his message!"



AFTER LARGE GROUP

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Distribute Bibles to each kid who needs one and have everyone open them to **Deuteronomy 18**. Then, read and review the Bible story below.

JESUS IS OUR PERFECT PROPHET

In the Old Testament, Moses led God's people—the nation of Israel—out of Egypt, through the wilderness, and toward the promised land. Throughout their journey, Moses was a prophet to the people. God spoke to Moses, and Moses shared God's message with the people. The people liked that Moses spoke to God for them.

One day, Moses told the Israelites, "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers—from the people of Israel. You must listen to Him."

In the same way that Moses represented the Israelites before God, this prophet would represent the people before God. Like Moses, He would also represent God before the people. God said, "I will put My words in His mouth, and He will tell the people everything I command Him. Anyone who does not listen to My words that the prophet speaks will have to answer to Me."

God also warned against false prophets. He said, "Someone might come and pretend to be a prophet. But anyone who speaks a false message in My name or who claims to speak for other gods must be stopped."

This was a serious warning. But how could the people really know if what a prophet spoke was really from the Lord? Moses said, "When a prophet speaks in the Lord's name and the message does not come true or is not fulfilled, 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 would warn or encourage the people and remind them of God's promises. Sometimes the people listened to the prophets, and other times they ignored or even hurt them. At just the right time, God kept His promise to send a prophet even greater than Moses.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus is the perfect and final Prophet God promised to send. Jesus is the Word who became a man. He came into the world not only to tell people God's message but to bring people to God through His death and resurrection.



AFTER LARGE GROUP

DISCUSS THE BIBLE STORY

After reading the Bible story, ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss.

- Who or what are some things that you should listen to? Who or what should you **not** listen to?
- If Jesus is a Prophet, does that mean He's not God? Why not?
- Why can you always trust Jesus?
- How does Jesus bring us to God?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

Play Bible Battleship! See the sheet in your binder for instructions on how to play.

Kinder class – your kids may still be too young to know the answers to the questions provided so adjust the game by asking questions from the lesson, about your classroom expectations, or other simple questions they would know the answers to.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Review the gospel and encourage kids to speak with you or another leader if they have questions. Then pray, thanking God for Jesus' power over sin and death. If time allows, let kids keep working on their coloring or activity pages.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!