



JUNE 14, 2026

JESUS REJECTED IN NAZARETH

LUKE 4

CHRIST CONNECTION

All people sin and need a Savior, but not everyone will believe in Jesus. Only those who believe the good news about Jesus and repent will be rescued from sin and death.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to glorify God.

MEMORY VERSE

Daniel 4:3

PREPARE



Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

At the beginning of this week's Bible passage, the people's eyes were fixed on Jesus, hanging onto His every word. At the end of the story, however, they were so angry at Jesus they planned on throwing Him off a cliff to shut Him up. What happened to trigger such an abrupt change in the people's attitude toward Jesus?

For Jesus' neighbors in Nazareth, it was a mix of pride and disbelief. The Jews had no problem when Jesus followed their customs by reading a scroll in their synagogue on the Sabbath. But when Jesus began to show how the Old Testament pointed to Him, the people began to murmur and doubt. How could the man they had seen grow up on their streets be the expected Messiah?

What's more, Jesus began sharing scriptural examples of times when God's people rejected His blessings and when grace and mercy were applied to Gentiles (non-Jews). This was the tipping point for those listening to Jesus, as they were appalled at the idea that God's blessings were not theirs by default due to their ancestry.

This story offers two lessons to today's listeners. First, we are not in God's family because we go to church, live in a certain area, or have family members who love Jesus. Help kids see that each person must respond to the gospel individually with faith and repentance. It is only by grace through faith that we are saved.

Secondly, Jesus is a polarizing presence in a lost world. In today's story we quickly see a fascination with Jesus turn into hatred of Him. This echoes Jesus' words elsewhere in Scripture that "anyone who is not with me is against me, and anyone who does not gather with me scatters" (Matthew 12:30). Help kids see that there is no neutral ground when it comes to considering Jesus. Every person must decide to either reject Him or worship Him as Lord.

Consider sharing with kids the turning point in your life when you saw Jesus for who He really is and responded in faith and repentance. Help kids see that Jesus really is the loving Messiah who came to redeem, forgive, and restore our relationship with God.

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to large group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or review the memory verse below!

MEMORY VERSE

How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.

Daniel 4:3, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's memory verse folder to review the verse with the kids.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on June 28!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in large group.

JESUS REJECTED IN NAZARETH

While Jesus was traveling through Galilee, He came to the city of Nazareth, where He had grown up. He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, as He did every week. He stood up to read and was given a scroll that contained the writings of the prophet Isaiah. Here is what He read:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because He has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me
to proclaim release to those in prison
and to give sight to the blind
to set free those in oppression,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then Jesus rolled up the scroll and sat down. Everyone in the synagogue was looking at Jesus as He said, “Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled.” Jesus was claiming that Isaiah was talking about Him!

Everyone was amazed by the way Jesus was talking. But they also said, “Isn’t He Joseph’s son?” The people had known Jesus since He was a boy, and they wondered how Isaiah’s words could be about Him.

Then Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown. But I say to you, there were many widows living during the time Elijah was serving God as a prophet. At that time, there was no rain for three years and six months, and many people were starving and in need of food. Yet Elijah was only sent to save one woman who was not from Israel.”

Jesus also said, “And in the time of the prophet Elisha, many people suffered from leprosy. But only one man was cleansed: Naaman the Syrian.”

This made the people in the synagogue very angry. They chased Jesus out of town and planned on throwing Him over a cliff! But Jesus passed through the crowd and went on His way.

CHRIST CONNECTION: All people sin and need a Savior, but not everyone will believe in Jesus. Only those who believe the good news about Jesus and repent will be rescued from sin and death.

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after large group.

ACTIVITY: WHO? INVENTED WHAT?

On the TV in your room, pull up the folder labeled “Who? Invented What?”

As a group or in teams, have kids try to figure out which person invented which common, everyday item we have today. Kids won’t know most, if any, of the people, so they may have to take a lot of random guesses. That’s okay! (*It’s actually kind of the point.*)

If kids get frustrated, encourage them and remind them that most adults don’t even know who these people are!

CONNECT THE DOTS



When we use these items, we don’t really think about who made them, do we? Because they’re things that we see and use all the time, it’s hard for us to see the impact that item made on humans. The same was true for the people in Nazareth. They had seen Jesus every day as a boy and watched him grow up like every other boy. They couldn’t see that Jesus was special because all they could see was the boy who grew up with them.

BIBLE SKILLS: BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Spend some time reviewing the books of the Bible and completing the book puzzle. You can also choose one of the activities in the provided memory verse folder, create your own, or play one of the extra time games.

Be sure to remind kids that Bible Bucks day is June 28!

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. How does the attempt to kill Jesus point to His future death?
2. How has Jesus fulfilled the prophecy He read from Isaiah?
3. Do people still reject Jesus today? Why?
4. Why is it important for believers to share their story of salvation with others?
5. How can believers live their lives in such a way that people see Jesus' light in them?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the "extra time" folder on the TV.

If there's a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!