

The King and the Kingdom

The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 4:23-7:29; John 18:36-37

Character Trait: Trust

(Estimated Lesson Time: 90 minutes)

Objectives:

- Children will recall that God is worthy of our trust and will provide for our needs.
- Children will discuss that trusting God means obeying God.
- Children will recognize that they can talk to God in prayer.

Supplies:

- *The King and the Kingdom* loaded onto a tablet or phone in the *Bible App for Kids*
- Paper
- Coloring supplies and/or stickers
- A paper crown made in advance

Welcome Activity:

(5 minutes)

Create a simple paper crown and wear it when greeting the children.

Welcome the children and bring their attention to the crown on your head. Ask them if they know who wears crowns. Call on a few volunteers to share. *(Answers will vary and may include royalty, kings, and queens.)*

SAY: Jesus is the most high King. He is God's only Son, and those who choose to follow Him are part of His kingdom, too.

Review:

(5 minutes)

Guide the children in a brief review of the previous lesson by asking the following questions:

- **Who led Jesus into the desert?** *(God's Spirit)*
- **Who tempted Jesus?** *(Satan)*
- **How did Jesus respond to temptation?** *(He did not give in to temptation. Instead, Jesus used words from the Bible, Scripture, to defeat it.)*
- **How many times did Jesus sin?** *(None)*
- **What can we learn from Jesus' example?** *(We can also use God's Word to help us fight and win against temptation.)*

Today's Bible Story:

(10-15 minutes)

Show *The King and the Kingdom* from the *Bible App for Kids* or share the story aloud:

- Jesus traveled, teaching about the Kingdom of Heaven, and crowds followed Him.
- They didn't know yet that Jesus is the King, but He taught them how to live as people of His kingdom.

- "People do good," said Jesus, "because of the good in their hearts. People do evil when evil is in their hearts. God wants to make your heart like His heart."
- "Don't worry about things like food and clothes," said Jesus. "Put God first in your life. Obey Him. Trust Him. He will make sure that you have what you need."
- Jesus taught this prayer:
- "Father God, Your name is holy.
- Reign on earth like You reign in heaven.
- Meet our needs today.
- Help us obey You.
- All power is Yours, forever!"
- Then Jesus told a story.
- "One man built his house on a rock. A big storm came. Because the house was built on a rock, it did not fall down."
- "Another man built his house on soft and shifting sand. A big storm came. Because the house was built on sand, it fell down with a crash!"
- "The things I teach you are like the rock," said Jesus. "Put My words into action, and you will be like the man who built his house on a rock."



Discussion:
(15 minutes)

Encourage the children to think more about the story by asking the following questions:

- **Who is the King?** *(Jesus)*
- **What are some things Jesus taught?** *(God does not want us to worry. God will provide for our needs. Put God first. Trust and obey God.)*
- **In the story Jesus told, what happened to the house built on the sand?** *(It fell down with a crash.)*
- **What happened to the house built on the rock?** *(It did not fall down.)*

SAY: In the story, Jesus said that we can be like the man who built his house on the rock by putting Jesus' words into action. God wants to make our hearts like His. He makes this happen when we trust Jesus and ask Him to guide us. We can have His words in our own hearts, and then we will be able to make good choices. Jesus can change our hearts, put His words in them, and bring us into God's family when we put our trust in Him as our Savior. Then you are true royalty because you are loved and treasured by God!



God's Bigger Story:
(5 minutes)

SAY: Jesus taught people how to love God and each other. He taught us that we can trust God to take care of us. One way God cares for us is by providing a purpose for each of us. God uses people to fulfill His plans. You are part of God's bigger story, too!



Memory Verse:
(10 minutes)

Anyone who listens to my teaching *(cup hand around your ear)*
and follows it is wise *(point to your head)*,
like a person who builds a house *(bring fingertips together above your head)*
on solid rock *(pound one fist on the other palm)*.
Matthew 7:24 (NLT)

Activity:
(15 minutes)

Have the children stand an arm's length apart from one another.

SAY: In the story, Jesus told about the two men who built their houses on very different foundations: one on rock and the other on shifting sand. All of you imagine you are houses built on the shifting sand. Listen to the words I call out and see if you can choose the right action.

Call out "wind," "rain," and "storm!" Encourage them to react to each word. *(They can move from side-to-side, swirl around, and fall to the floor.)* Next, ask the children to imagine they are houses built on solid rock. Call out the same words as before and encourage the children to react. *(They should remain stable and safe.)*

Response Activity:
(10 minutes)

Provide each child with a piece of paper. Demonstrate how to cut it in half lengthwise in a zig-zag pattern. *(If necessary, this step can be completed in advance of the lesson.)* Next, show the children the crown you wore at the beginning of the lesson. Use this as an example for them to follow when creating and decorating their own crowns. Share that the children can take their crowns home to help remind them of how they are very important and treasured by God.

Character Trait: Trust
(10 minutes)

SAY: Jesus said that God does not want us to worry. God wants us to trust Him. He is good, and He loves us more than we can even imagine! One way we can trust God is by talking to Him. Talking to God is called prayer. You can talk to God anytime about anything.

Encourage the children to think more about trust by asking the following:

- **When is it a good time to talk to God in prayer?** *(Anytime)*
- **Why should we trust God?** *(He created, loves, and treasures each of us.)*
- **What are some specific ways we can show our trust in God?** *(We can pray to Him, obey Him, and follow Jesus.)*

Connect with Others:
(5 minutes)

SAY: Think about the people in your life that you can trust. Why do you trust them? True trust means listening to, believing, and obeying, even when it may not be easy to do. Now, think about a time when you were scared or worried, but someone you trusted helped you. Think of a specific way to thank them for being trustworthy and helping you.

Closing:
(2 minutes)

SAY: God knows us better than we even know ourselves because He created us. The wonderful news is that this relationship is not one-sided! We can get to know God better, too. He wants us to learn more about Him. We can do this by reading His Word, the Bible, and by using the Bible App for Kids. We can also talk to God and ask for His help whenever we want.

Prayer:
(2 minutes)

SAY:

Dear God,
Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our hope and help. When we are tempted to worry or when we feel afraid, help us to put our trust in You.
Amen.

Notes