

# 6



## THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD

### The Son

YEAR 2 – KINGDOM LIFE

UNIT 2: KNOWING GOD

## 1 | Teacher's Notes

**Scripture** Isaiah 7:14; John 1:1–3, 14, 18; John 8:12; Colossians 1:15–23; Hebrews 1:3; Rev 19:11-16

**Objectives** To explain that

- Today's lesson is about knowing God.
- Jesus is God the Son, the 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the Trinity who came to earth and was born as human baby. He came to save us from sin and death, to live a sinless human life so he could be the perfect sacrifice for sin. He came to reveal God to us.
- Jesus is the physical image of the invisible God, and all God's fullness dwells in him. He is fully man and fully God.
- The name Immanuel means "God with us." Jesus is the Lamb of God, the perfect sacrifice for sin, our Saviour, the Light of the World. He is the Forever King and Lord of All, who will one day return to reign on the earth.

**Memory Verse** "He is the image of the invisible God." (Colossians 1:15a – ESV)

**ACNA Catechism Connections** Today's lesson of The Image of the Invisible God is connected to the following Catechism questions:

Q8 Who is Jesus Christ? Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the Savior of the world. Fully divine, he took on our human nature, died on the Cross for our sins, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and now rules as Lord and King over all creation.

Q48 Who is Jesus Christ? Jesus Christ is the eternal Word and Son of God, the second Person of the Holy Trinity. He took on human nature to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world, the only Mediator between God and fallen humanity.

Q37 What does Holy Scripture tell us about the character of God? God is both loving and holy. God mercifully redeems fallen creation, while righteously opposing all sin and evil. The Lord Jesus Christ is the fullest revelation of God's holy love.

Q51 Why is Jesus called the Father's "only Son"? Jesus alone is God the Son, coequal and coeternal with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. He alone is the image of the invisible Father, the one who makes the Father known. He is now and forever will be incarnate as a human, bearing his God-given human Name. The Father created and now rules all things in heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Q53 What does it mean that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit? Jesus was conceived not through a human father but by the Holy Spirit coming upon the Virgin Mary in power.

Q54 What happened at Jesus' conception in Mary's womb? The eternal Son, whom God named Jesus, assumed a fully human nature from his mother, the Virgin Mary, at the moment of conception in her womb.

Q55 Why is it important to say that Jesus was born? It is important to affirm that he is one of us: truly human, born to a human mother, and raised in a human family.

Q57 What is the relationship between Jesus' divine and human natures? At the moment of Jesus' conception, the divine nature of the one eternal Person of the Son was united to our human nature. Therefore, Jesus Christ is fully and truly both divine and human, but without sin. His two natures are united without division, separation, mixture, or change.

Q65 What does Jesus' death mean for you? Jesus bore my sins and died the death that I deserve, so that I could be saved from sin and eternal condemnation and reconciled to God.

**Suggested  
Materials,  
Props, and  
Costumes****Big story props:**

- Large Bible
- Kingdom Life storyboard (see photo)

**Lesson Props:** (see Props Document for instructions on how to make these)

- Peg doll figure of Jesus, with removable crown
- Storyboard symbols: "Immanuel – God with us", "Fully Man – Fully God", "Saviour", "Light of the World" and "Forever King and Lord of All"
- Flannelgraph or poster with larger versions of the above symbols – each symbol covered with a removable card that is numbered from 1 – 5.
- Cue cards are encouraged if a child reads the part

**Posters:** Lesson posters from Year 1:

Lesson #1 – Creation

Lesson #12 – God's Promised One is Born (Manger poster)

Lesson #23 – Jesus is Crucified

**Memory Verse:** "He is the image of the invisible God." (Colossians 1:15a – ESV)

(Found on the last page of this lesson plan) Print out and place in large Bible.

## 2 | Lesson Outline:

<b>Welcome</b>	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
<b>Greeting &amp; Collect for Purity</b>	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity ( <i>see Resource Section</i> )
<b>Prayer of Confession</b>	Say the Prayer of Confession ( <i>see Resource Section</i> ) Extinguish the candles
<b>Music</b>	My God is so Big Our God is a Great Big God Jesus loves me this I know <b><i>Please check internet for lyrics and music.</i></b>
<b>Review of foundations</b>	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment. <b><i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i></b>
<b>Reading</b>	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
<b>Story Board Review</b>	Ask review questions relating to props from previous lessons on story board. <b><i>Story board review is found in Section 4</i></b>
<b>Props/Costumes</b>	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) <b>Big story props:</b> Large Bible, Kingdom Life storyboard
<b>Bible Story</b>	<b><i>Proceed with story and questions found in Section 4.</i></b>
<b>Related activities</b>	<b><i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i></b>
<b>Preparation for Communion &amp; leaving class</b>	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <b><i>See Resource Section.</i></b>

### 3 | Storyboard Progression



This is how the storyboard should look at the start of the lesson



Large teaching poster



This is how the Knowing God section should look at the end of the lesson. Leave all the symbols on the storyboard for next week, including the Jesus peg doll.

## 4 | Story and Questions

**SETUP:** *Have the Kingdom Life storyboard set up as outlined in the first photo. Ask for two volunteers who will read the parts of John and Isaiah. Have the flannelgraph (or poster) with the covered and numbered symbols hung up next to the teacher (see photo). Have the smaller symbols ready to place on the storyboard. This whole lesson is focused on the storyboard, so keep the children's attention by using props and pointing to symbols.*

**BIBLE:** *Hold up the Bible and say: 'Today's lesson is from the Bible, and it is about Knowing God.'*

**STORYBOARD REVIEW:** *(Point to storyboard as you say:)* We have learned that God is three persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), but one God. This is called the Trinity. The Trinity has always existed.

The Father is the 1<sup>st</sup> person of the Trinity. He is the **Creator** (source of all life), **Almighty** (all powerful, all knowing, everywhere present), **Eternal** (no beginning or end), **Holy** (there is no one else like God, he is more pure, beautiful, and good than anything in the universe, sin cannot come near him), and God is **Love**.

### **STORY:**

**TEACHER:** Last lesson we learned that God is Spirit. God is invisible to human eyes. We can know who God is because he has revealed himself to us, through the power and beauty of Creation *(point to Creation poster from Year 1)* and also through the Bible. *(Hold up the Bible.)* In the Bible we learn about who God is and about his mighty acts in history.

Today we are going to talk about how God has revealed himself most of all through his Son, Jesus.

One day something amazing happened! The 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the Trinity, God the Son, was born into the world as a baby, a human being, and was given the name Jesus! *(Point to the Manger poster from Year 1)*

Why did the Son of God allow himself to be born as a human baby? He did that so he could save us from sin and death, so that we could live with him forever! Jesus came to live a sinless human life, and therefore he could be the perfect sacrifice for sin.

When the Father sent his Son to earth to become the man, Jesus, (*place Jesus peg doll on storyboard as shown*) God was revealed to us in a new way. Jesus became the physical image of the invisible God. We could see God and touch him.

Let's hear what the apostle John says about this in the Bible:

**JOHN:** "No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God ...has made God known to us."

**TEACHER:** This verse means that God revealed **himself** in Jesus. All the things that are true about God, are also true about Jesus.

Let's say these words together (*point to symbols*): Jesus is **Creator, Almighty, Eternal, Holy, and Love.**

There are also many other things that the Bible tells us about Jesus. I have 5 things about Jesus hidden behind these cards. Let's reveal them one by one.

Who would like to reveal what is behind the first number? (*Have child remove the first card with #1 written on it to reveal the symbol.*)

**TEACHER:** IMMANUEL, which means "God with us." This is a name for Jesus that we often sing about at Christmas. It is from the book of Isaiah:

**ISAIAH:** "The virgin (Mary) will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel."

**TEACHER:** Immanuel, "God with us". (*Place down "Immanuel – God with us" symbol on storyboard as shown.*) **God himself** came down from Heaven and became one of us – what an incredible miracle!

**TEACHER:** Who would like to reveal the second card with the number 2 on it? (*Have a child remove the second card with # 2 written on it to reveal the symbol*)

**TEACHER:** Jesus is FULLY MAN and FULLY GOD. He got his human nature from his mother Mary, and his divine nature through the Holy Spirit.

Let's say it together: **Jesus is fully man. Jesus is fully God.** (*Place down "Fully man, Fully God" symbol on storyboard as shown.*)

**TEACHER:** Who would like to reveal what is behind the number 3 card? (*Have a child remove the third card with #3 written on it to reveal the symbol.*)

**TEACHER:** This picture of the cross reveals that Jesus is our SAVIOUR.

Have you noticed that the picture of God the Son on our Trinity symbol shows a lamb holding a cross? (*Point to the lamb image on the Trinity symbol*)

Jesus, the Son of God, is often called the Lamb of God. In the Old Testament, perfect, spotless lambs were sacrificed for the forgiveness of sin.

*(Point to cross on the crucifixion poster from Year 1)* These lamb sacrifices pointed forward to Jesus, who would be the perfect, sinless, final sacrifice for sin.

When Jesus sacrificed himself on the cross to save us from sin and death, he paid for our sins once and for all. Jesus is our Saviour. *(Place "Saviour" symbol on storyboard)*

**TEACHER:** Who would like to reveal what is behind our 4th number? *(Have child remove the fourth card with the #4 written on it to reveal the symbol.)*

**TEACHER:** LIGHT OF THE WORLD. In the Book of John, Jesus says:

**JOHN:** "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

**TEACHER:** Jesus is the Light of the World who leads us away from the darkness of sin and death and into the light of God's life. *(Place down "Light of the World")*

**TEACHER:** Who would like to reveal our last number (#5)? *(Have a child remove the card with the #5 written on it to reveal the symbol)*

**TEACHER:** FOREVER KING and LORD OF ALL.

In Revelation, the last book of the Bible, Jesus is also called the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords who sits on his throne beside his Father in Heaven *(place small crown on the head of Jesus peg doll).*

**TEACHER:** Jesus will one day return to reign on the earth as our Forever King and Lord of All. *(Place down "Forever King and Lord of All" as shown.)*

*(Point to Jesus and symbols as you say:)* How wonderful it is that Jesus came to reveal God to us:

- To be Immanuel - God with us,
- To be Fully Man and Fully God,
- To be our Saviour who saves us from sin and death,
- To be the Light of the World, and
- To be our Forever King and Lord of All who invites us to live with him forever in his Kingdom!

**Life Application Prayer:**

Thank you, Jesus, for coming down from Heaven to be with us. You are Immanuel, God with us. You are Fully God, and also Fully Man. Thank you that you came to be our Saviour. Thank you that you are the Light of the World who leads us away from the darkness of sin and death. You lead us into the light of God's life. You are our Forever King and Lord of All. Lord Jesus, we want to know you and we want to follow you.

**SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:**

- **What does this lesson tell us about Jesus?** (He is God the Son who became a human being – the physical image of the invisible God, he came to save us from sin and death so we could live with him forever, he is fully man and fully God, he is the Light of the World, he is the Forever King and Lord of All)
- **What does the name Immanuel mean?** (God with us)
- **Why did Jesus become a man?** (So that he could reveal God to us, so we could see God and touch him. He came to save us from sin and death, so that we could live with him forever. He came to live a sinless human life, so he could be the perfect sacrifice for sin.)
- **What does it mean that Jesus is our Saviour?** (It means that Jesus saves us from sin and death and brings us into his Kingdom of life and love.)
- **Is Jesus part God and part man?** (No, he is fully God and fully man)
- **Is Jesus the 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the Trinity?** (Yes, he is God the Son)
- **Why is Jesus called the Lamb of God?** (In the Old Testament lambs were sacrificed for the forgiveness of sin. The lambs had to be perfect. These lamb sacrifices pointed forward to Jesus. He was the perfect, sinless, final sacrifice for sin and is therefore called the Lamb of God.)
- **Will we ever see Jesus?** (Yes, Jesus will one day return to reign on the earth as our Forever King and Lord of All.)

## 5 | Response Activities

### **Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement**

- Have the children complete the activities in the Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement.

### **Optional activities**

- Different learning stations, such as: a book table, modelling clay, colouring papers

"He is the image  
of the invisible God."

(Colossians 1:15)