

Large Group

Jesus Warned About Not Loving

Bible Passage: Matthew 23

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 18:15

Big Picture Question: How is Jesus the perfect Prophet?

Jesus perfectly reveals God the Father and fulfills what the prophets spoke.



Countdown Video (3 mins)

Worship Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader briefly introduces self, welcomes kids, leads 1st worship song, and prays for the time.

Welcome (1 mins)

Large Group Leader tell kids what to expect to happen (1 minute)

- watch the lesson video
- retell the story.
- read the story from scripture

Watch the Lesson Video (4 mins)

Retell the Story (11 mins)

Lead the kids in a fun retelling of the story

Here are some resources to help you formulate this time.

Review what we learned:

God promised His people that a Messiah would come. He gave His words to the prophets of the Old Testament to point people to their need of a Savior and to remind them that He would send the Messiah to save them from their sin. When the prophets spoke God's words, they gave warnings to the people of Israel and Judah. They told the people to turn away from sin and turn to God.

Over the next few weeks, we will continue learning about the warnings Jesus gave people, especially the religious leaders. Jesus' warnings were meant to keep people from sin and help them trust in Him. Let's read our Bible story to learn more about the warnings He gave the religious leaders and how we can learn from these warnings as well.

Today's Lesson

Jesus used the religious leaders' lack of loving others as a warning to His followers. He taught how the religious leaders did not follow God's law because they loved God. The religious leaders only did what made themselves look good to others. What did Jesus say will happen to people who exalt themselves or make themselves seem great? [Allow responses.] Jesus said God will humble them. Only God is great. Jesus gave us this warning so we can turn away from sin and pride and turn to Him. When we trust in Jesus, we can live to show others how great God is and how He alone deserves praise.

Jesus said that the religious leaders' made-up rules led people away from God. He warned them that they will face God's judgment. What did Jesus say the religious leaders looked like on the inside? [Allow responses.] He said they looked clean on the outside but dirty on the inside. They cared most about themselves. They did not have new hearts through faith in Jesus. Only by faith in Jesus are we given new hearts that are able to love God and others.

Christ Connection | Jesus said that the greatest commandments are to love God and love others. (Matt. 22:37-39) The religious leaders loved themselves most of all. When we trust in Jesus, He makes us right with God and changes our hearts so we can love and obey Him.

Read from the Bible (4 mins)

Matthew 23:1-12, 27-28, 33

Remind Kids of Four Questions (1 min)

- What did you like about today's story?
- What did you find confusing?
- What did you learn about people?
- What did you learn about God?

Memory Verse Song (4 mins)

Worship Leader connects the lesson to the memory verse, leads the memory verse song with hand motions, and closes in prayer.