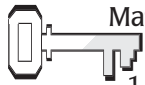


# Jesus Is Coming Again!



## References

Matthew 24:27, 30, 31, 42;  
John 14:1-3;  
1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17;  
Revelation 1:7; *The Great Controversy*, pp. 640-645



## Memory Verse

[Jesus said], "I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am" (John 14:3, NIV).

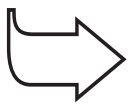


## Objectives

The children will:  
**Know** that Jesus will return to earth to get His friends.

**Feel** happy that Jesus has promised to come for His friends.

**Respond** by thanking Jesus for His friendship and love.



## The Message

Jesus is coming soon.

## Monthly Theme

God is our best Friend.

## The Bible Lesson at a Glance

After Jesus grows up and becomes a man, He lives His life giving to others by teaching, healing, forgiving, and loving. After His death and resurrection, He returns to heaven. One day soon He will come back to earth in the clouds with power and great glory. Everyone will see Him as the King of the Universe.

## This is a lesson about grace.

God's grace means that our Creator longs for the companionship and friendship of His created beings. Jesus wants to be with His friends and make them whole, so He is coming soon to take them home to heaven.

## Teacher Enrichment

"Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror. Not now a 'Man of Sorrows,' to drink the bitter cup of shame and woe, He comes, victor in heaven and earth, to judge the living and the dead. . . . With anthems of celestial melody the holy angels, a vast, unnumbered throng, attend Him on His way. The firmament seems filled with radiant forms—ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.' No human pen can portray the scene; no mortal mind is adequate to conceive its splendor. . . . As the living cloud comes still nearer, every eye beholds the Prince of life. . . . His countenance outshines the dazzling brightness of the noonday sun. 'And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, *King of kings, and Lord of lords.*' Revelation 19:16" (*The Great Controversy*, pp. 640, 641).

Are you waiting excitedly for your Friend to come for you? Does Jesus' soon coming seem real and personal to you? Will it seem real in the way you teach it to the children?

## Room Decorations

See Lesson 9.

## Program Overview

Lesson Section	Minutes	Activities	Materials Needed
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled	none
<b>1</b> Readiness Options	up to 10	A. <i>Surprise!</i> B. <i>On Our Way</i>  C. <i>Time to Pack</i>	paper bag, small gifts paper, colored pencils or pens  suitcase or bag, assorted items for a trip
<b>Any Time</b> Prayer and Praise*	up to 10	Fellowship Songbook Mission Offering  Prayer	none <i>Sing for Joy</i> <i>Children's Mission</i> offering container with picture of Jesus' Second Coming or clouds none
<b>2</b> Bible Lesson	up to 20	Experiencing the Story Memory Verse Bible Study	none none Bibles
<b>3</b> Applying the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Ready for Jesus</i>	none
<b>4</b> Sharing the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Announcing Jesus' Second Coming</i>	Jesus' Second Coming Announcement pattern (see p. 155), paper, colored pencils or pens, scissors

**\*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.**

# TEACHING THE LESSON

## Welcome

Welcome students at the door. Ask how their week has been—what they are pleased/troubled about. Have them begin the Readiness Activity of your choice.

1

## Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate for your situation.

### You Need:

- paper bag
- small gifts

### A. Surprise!

Ask: **Do you like it when friends surprise you? I thought you might. Well, I have a surprise for you in this bag. I can't give it to you right now because it's not the right time yet; but I will very soon. In the meantime, let's talk about today's Bible story. It is about Jesus coming to earth for a second time. Remember, the first time was when He was a baby and grew up to be a man who died for us. The second time will be when He comes as our King in the clouds with thousands and thousands of angels. Won't that be a wonderful sight to see? Okay, now it's time for me to surprise you with a gift.**

Give each child a gift from your bag. An option would be to arrange with an adult to wait outside the door with the bag of gifts while you talk about them coming in to Sabbath School sometime, but that you don't know exactly when. Then have that person come in suddenly and surprise the children.

### Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Did you know when I was going to give you the surprise? No, you didn't. That's the way it will be when Jesus comes again. No one knows exactly when He will come. He's going to surprise us! We do know that Jesus promised to come back again, and that He's coming soon. Today's message is:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

**Say that with me.**

### You Need:

- paper
- colored pencils or pens

### B. On Our Way

Ask the children to draw a picture of their favorite way to travel (airplane, car, bicycle, walking, etc.).

### Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Who would like to show the class what you drew? What way of traveling have most of you drawn? Our Bible story today is about Jesus coming to earth again. How will Jesus travel? Are you excited about His coming? I am! Today's message is:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

**Say that with me.**

### C. Time to Pack

Place in the suitcase items you would pack for a trip—socks, jacket, shirt, toothbrush, comb, book, etc. Also include things that you wouldn't ordinarily take on a trip, such as a can of dog food, a fork, a hammer, a bottle of glue, etc. Say: **I'm going on a trip, and I've packed my suitcase. I need some helpers to come and take one item out of my suitcase and show it to everyone.** Ask for volunteers to take one item out of the suitcase at a time and ask the other children if it is something you would need on your trip.

#### You Need:

- suitcase or bag
- assorted items for a trip

### Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **Did I need everything I had packed for my trip? Why not? What is the biggest and most important trip you're ever going to make? Yes, our trip to heaven. Our Bible story is about Jesus coming again. He will come soon to take His friends to live in heaven. Do we need to pack for that trip? No! How do we get ready?** (By giving our hearts to Jesus; living every day like it's the day He's coming; accepting Jesus' gift of eternal life; etc.) **Do you want to be ready when Jesus comes? Today's message is:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

**Say that with me.**

## Prayer and Praise

Any Time



### Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). Review the memory verse and acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special warm greeting to all visitors.



### Suggested Songs

- "Jesus Is Coming Again" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 92)
- "Soon and Very Soon" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 89)
- "When He Cometh" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 93)
- "Do, Lord" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 91)



### Mission

Share a story from *Children's Mission*. Say: **Who in our story became a friend of Jesus?**



### Offering

Say: **We can give our money to Jesus today so that others will become Jesus' friend and be ready to go to heaven with Him.**



### Prayer

Ask the children to name people they want to become friends of Jesus so they will be ready to go to heaven with Him. Pray for each person by name.

#### You Need:

- offering container with picture of Jesus' Second Coming or clouds

## Bible Lesson

### Experiencing the Story

Form three groups and have each repeat what you tell them to say at the appropriate time near the end of the story. Have the children close their eyes and imagine as you read or tell the story.

#### Read or tell the story.

During the past few weeks we've been learning about what happened when Jesus came to earth the first time as a baby. Today we will learn more about Him. When Jesus grew up, He helped many people. He died to save us, and came back to life and went to heaven. Before He went back to heaven, Jesus promised to come a second time to take all the good people to live with Him. Close your eyes now and think about Jesus coming again. What do you think it will be like?

No one knows when Jesus will come. It's a secret. But we know He *will* come. When He does come, the first thing we will see is a little black cloud, just about the size of your hand, way up in the sky in the east. It will get closer and closer and everyone will see it! We will know it's Jesus!

When it gets very close, the cloud will become white and bright, then brighter. The Bible says the sky will be lit up like lightning. The bottom of the cloud will be so bright it will look like fire. A rainbow will shine above the cloud. Jesus will be sitting on a throne, a king's special chair, in the middle of the cloud. A glorious crown will sit on His head. His face will be as bright as the sun is at noontime on a very sunny day. Trumpets will blast loudly to announce His coming.

Thousands of singing angels will sur-

round Jesus. The Bible says there will be "ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands." That means there will be so many that no one can count them. That's a lot of angels!

Jesus will call out to all of His friends who have died and are buried: "Wake up!" People will come out of their graves and give a loud shout of victory! Our grandmas and grandpas who were so sick when they died, and people who couldn't walk straight or were blind, will all be changed. Everyone will come back to life young and healthy and perfect—the way God wanted us to be all the time. Little children and babies that died will be carried to their mother's arms. All these friends of Jesus will be lifted up to meet Him in the cloud in the sky.

The angels have a special job to do. They will go all over the world gathering together living people who are Jesus' friends. Their bodies will be made perfect in a split second—as fast as you can blink your eye! Blink your eye now and see how fast that is. Now close your eyes again. These people too will be lifted up into the cloud where Jesus is waiting.

On each side of the large cloud are angel wings and underneath it are wheels. The wheels and wings will move and the big cloud will roll upward. The wheels and wings will cry out, "Holy" as they move [*Group One: Say "Holy"*]. The thousands of angels will shout, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty" [*Group Two: Say "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty"*]. And then we will shout back, "Alleluia!" [*Group Three: Shout "Alleluia!"*] as we all move toward heaven. Let's repeat that part again!

Open your eyes now. Could you imagine what Jesus' coming will be like? Could you see a little bit of how wonderful it is going to be? And it's really going

to happen! We humans can't really imagine what it will be like, but one thing is certain: It will be the happiest day ever for Jesus and for those who love Him! Our Best Friend is so anxious to come for us and take us home to live with Him!

### Debriefing

Allow responses as you ask: **What is the first thing we will see in the sky when Jesus comes? What will the sky look like? What will we hear? What will Jesus look like? How many angels will be with Him? How will Jesus' friends be changed? Who will see Jesus when He comes? How will the people who love Jesus feel when they see Him? Let's say our message:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

### Memory Verse

Say: **Today's memory verse is: [Jesus said], "I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am" (John 14:3, NIV).**

Use the following motions to teach the verse.

[Jesus said],  
"I will come back  
and take you  
to be with me  
that you also  
may be where I am."  
John 14:3.

Point upward.  
Point to others.  
Point upward.  
Point to others.  
Point upward.  
Palms together,  
then open.

### Bible Study

**You Need:**  
• Bibles

Say: **We know that Jesus came to earth as a baby a long time ago. Today, we have learned that**

**He will come again. Let's look at some texts to compare Jesus' first coming with His second coming.**

Help the children find and read the texts to answer the following questions.

- 1. How many people saw Jesus' first coming?** (Luke 2:6, 7, 15-18; Joseph and Mary, the shepherds and the people they told)  
**How many people will see His second coming?** (Revelation 1:7; everyone)
- 2. How did the angels proclaim Jesus' first coming?** (Luke 2:9-14; singing)  
**How will the angels proclaim Jesus' second coming?** (Matthew 24:31; trumpets)
- 3. What did Jesus come to earth as the first time?** (Luke 2:12; a baby)  
**What will Jesus come to earth as the second time?** (Revelation 19:16; King of kings and Lord of lords)
- 4. What was Jesus wrapped in the first time He came?** (Luke 2:7; strips of cloth)  
**What will Jesus wear the second time He comes?** (Revelation 14:14; a crown of gold)
- 5. Who knew when Jesus was going to come the first time?** (Matthew 1:20-23; Luke 1:30-33; Joseph and Mary)  
**Who knows when Jesus is coming the second time?** (Matthew 24:42; no one)

### Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask: **How was Jesus' first coming different from His future second coming?** (His first was humble, calm, not well-known; His second will be glorious, loud, and known to all.) **Where would you like to be when Jesus comes again? Do you want to go home to heaven with Jesus when He comes again? Who do you want to go with you? What can we do to be ready for His coming? Let's remember today's message:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

**Say that with me.**



## Applying the Lesson

### Ready for Jesus

Say: **When someone has promised to come to your house to pick you up and take you somewhere special—like to the zoo or on a picnic—do you watch for them out your window? Do you ask your mother, “When will they get here?” Are you excited and ready to go the minute they arrive?**

**Our trip to heaven is a wonderful promise from Jesus. We don’t deserve it, and we can’t do anything to earn it. But we can be ready. We can do things to help us be ready.**

**I’m going to read about some things that could or could not help you get ready for Jesus’ coming. Tell me what you think by giving me a thumbs-up sign if it will help you to get ready for Jesus, or a thumbs-down sign if it will not help you.**

1. Take part in family worship by praying or reading the Bible story or choosing a song to sing, etc.
2. Be angry at your mother because she won’t let you stay overnight at a friend’s house.

3. Pray every day and ask Jesus to forgive you for doing wrong.
4. Hit your little brother because he took your ball.
5. Sing praises to Jesus at home and at church.
6. Talk to your friends instead of listening during Sabbath School.
7. Help your friend find her missing book.
8. Thank Jesus for being your friend and for His promise to come again.

### Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:

**Can you think of any other ways that you can get ready to meet your friend Jesus? Who can help you to be ready?**

(family, pastor, teacher, Jesus, people who love Jesus)

**If you really want to be ready when Jesus comes, close your eyes and raise your hand. Let’s pray for Jesus’ help so we will be ready all day, every day. He is waiting anxiously to come for His friends to take them home to heaven. Remember:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

**Say that with me.**

Offer a brief prayer of dedication.

## 4

## Sharing the Lesson

### Announcing Jesus' Second Coming

In advance, make a copy of the Jesus' Second Coming Announcement pattern (see page 155 for each child).

Have the children color the small picture of clouds and light. Then they can cut around the outside of the large rectangular box, and then cut up along the dotted lines.

### Debriefing

Allow response time as you ask:

**What does the Bible verse at the top of the paper say? When someone is writing an announcement, five "W's" are usually included: What, When, Where, Who, and Why. Those five things will tell people all about the event. So tell me "What" our announcement is about. Read to me "When" it will happen. How about**

**"Where" this will take place? "Who" will see it happen? And "Why" will it happen?**

Say: **We want everyone to be ready for Jesus to come. Take this home and share this announcement with friends and family. After you've explained it to them, have them tear off one of the little strips of paper at the bottom that says, "Be ready for Jesus." This will remind them that:**



**JESUS IS COMING SOON.**

**Say that with me.**

### Closing

Invite the children to join hands and stand in a circle. Pray and thank Jesus for the promise of His soon return to this earth. Pray that this circle of His friends will not be broken; that He will take all of His friends to heaven. Ask Him to help all in the circle to be ready every day.

### You Need:

- Jesus Second Coming Announcement pattern (see p. 155)
- paper
- colored pencils or pens
- scissors



## Jesus Is Coming Again!

### References

Matthew 24:27, 30, 31, 42; John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Revelation 1:7; *The Great Controversy*, pp. 640-645

### Memory Verse

[Jesus said], "I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am" (John 14:3, NIV).

### The Message

Jesus is coming soon.

*When a friend has promised to come and take you somewhere special, do you watch for them? Do you ask your mom or dad, "When will they get here?" Are you excited and ready to go the minute they arrive? That's how we want to wait for our Friend Jesus to come! He promised to come for us! He promised to take us to heaven! And He always keeps His promises.*

Matthew and Dad sat together on the top step of the front porch. The sun had just slipped down out of sight, and the sky was full of incredible colors. "Look at that beautiful apricot color over there," Dad said, pointing.

Matthew grinned. "And I see lemon yellow, too," he said.

It was a game they played on nights when the sunsets were particularly beautiful. A game to specifically name the colors in the sky—not just call them "yellow" or "pink," but to give them exact names.

"And over there is the color of those peaches we have in the summer!" Matthew exclaimed. "The peaches with the really red part around the pits."

"You know what I was just thinking?" Dad asked. "I wonder if, when we get to heaven, we'll be able to see colors that we can't see now."

"That's weird!" Matthew said.

"It's possible though," Dad answered. "We know that there are sounds humans can't hear now. Some animals, like giraffes, make sounds that are too low for us to hear. And some animals make sounds that are too high-pitched for our ears to hear. Maybe there are colors that our eyes can't see yet."

Matthew was quiet for a minute. "When is Jesus coming?" he asked.

"Could be any day," Dad answered. "The Bible says no one knows when, not even the angels. But when Jesus comes,

everybody will see Him," he added. "And everyone will hear Him too."

"I know." Matthew nodded. "You read to me that part in the Bible where it says Jesus will come down from heaven with a shout, and God will play His trumpet.\* That will probably be the loudest trumpet music ever! And if everybody will hear Jesus shouting, that's got to be the biggest shout ever!"

Dad laughed. "I think you're right," he said.

"And you read to me that all the graves will pop open, and all the people Jesus is taking to heaven will rise up and meet Him in the air. And I think they'll be shouting too! I think that will be the most exciting day ever!" Matthew exclaimed.

"Do you remember what we read about evil people being surprised by Jesus' coming?" Dad asked. "But His children won't be surprised. Jesus told us that when scary things happen, like earthquakes, or tidal waves, or wars, we are to remember those are signs that He will be back soon." \*\*

"He must be coming back very soon!" Matthew said. "Scary things are happening all the time!"

Dad put his arm around Matthew's shoulders. "So keep your eyes on the sky!" he answered. "And not just to admire the sunset. Jesus will come soon!"



\* See 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17.

\*\* See Matthew 24:6, 7.

## Daily Activities

### Sabbath

- With your family, take a walk outdoors, if possible. Find a quiet place facing east (the direction Jesus will come from) and read this week's Bible lesson together.
- Read John 14:1-3 together. Make up some hand motions to help you remember it.
- Sing "Do, Lord" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 91), then thank Jesus for His promise.

### Sunday

- During family worship, ask each person what will be the most exciting for them when Jesus comes again. What does it mean to them to know that their Friend Jesus is coming to take them home?
- Teach your memory verse to your family.
- Share the Jesus' Second Coming Announcement that you made in Sabbath School with your family and friends.

### Monday

- Read together Matthew 24:27, 30, 31, 42; John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17; and Revelation 1:7. Ask: What will you hear when Jesus comes? What will you see?
- Plan to surprise someone with something they like (draw a picture, do a chore for them, etc.). Talk about why Jesus' coming will surprise people.
- Say your memory verse with your family.

### Tuesday

- Draw a picture of your favorite way to travel. Show it to your family during worship. Talk about how you'll travel to heaven.
- For family worship, listen to some trumpet music. Who will play trumpets when Jesus comes again?
- Discover more about lightning—how powerful and bright it is. How will the sky look when Jesus comes?

### Wednesday

- For family worship, pretend to go on a trip. Help

gather things each one should pack. Then ask: What is the best trip you will ever take? (to heaven) Will we need to pack for that trip? What do we need to do? How can we be ready?

- Sing with your family "Jesus Is Coming Again" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 92).
- Say your memory verse together, then thank Jesus for His promise to come again. Ask Him to help you all to be ready.
- Go outside and look for clouds. What kind do you see? What kind will Jesus come in?

### Thursday

- For worship, compare Jesus' first coming to His second coming.
- How many people saw Jesus at His first coming? (Luke 2:6, 7, 15-18) How many will see His second coming? (Revelation 1:7)
- What did Jesus come to earth as the first time? (Luke 2:12) What will Jesus come as the second time? (Revelation 19:16)
- What did Baby Jesus wear? (Luke 2:7) What will Jesus wear when He comes again? (Revelation 14:14)
- Who knew when Jesus would come the first time? (Matthew 1:20-23; Luke 1:30-33) Who knows when Jesus will come the second time? (Matthew 24:42)
- Sing "Soon and Very Soon" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 89).

### Friday

- Sing "God Is So Good" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 13).
- Say your memory verse together.
- With your family, act out the Bible story. Turn off the lights. Then have someone turn them on for the brightness of Jesus' coming. Shine a flashlight onto the face of "Jesus" to make it brighter. Crash pot lids together for trumpet sounds.
- Sing "Soon and Very Soon" (*Sing for Joy*, No. 89). Then pray that all your family will be ready.