

# Jesus Dwelling Among Us

## PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Jesus came from heaven to live on earth.

**Scripture:** John 1:14

**Memory Verse:** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. - John 1:14

## The Children's Sermon

Today we hear about Jesus coming to "dwell among us." John 1 tells us "The Word (which is Jesus) became flesh and made his dwelling among us." You know what's really cool about this? When Jesus came to dwell among us, he lived just like the people of his time did. He lived in the same type of housing, he went to school, he ate the same food they did, he had a job. He lived just like the people he was with. If he were to come today, he might move into the house next to yours, drive a car like your family has, cut the grass. He lived and acted just like you and I do.

Do you know what's really cool about this? Jesus really could have had whatever he wanted. He could have come and lived in a really big house, eaten all the best food, and had the best toys—But he didn't. He chose to live just like you and I, but he didn't, so that we would be able to get to know him.

Now, let's think more about Jesus dwelling among us. Imagine Jesus playing soccer with you at recess, or sitting next to you in class. He would have done his homework, helped his friends, and listened to his teachers. Jesus made himself a part of our everyday life so we could understand that he knows what it feels like to be us. He knows when we are happy, sad, or scared because he has felt all those things too.

When Jesus dwelled among us, he showed us how to love and care for others. He helped people who were sick, he was kind to everyone, and he taught us to share. Imagine if Jesus was your neighbor. Maybe he would help you learn how to read, share his snacks with you, or help you when you fell and scraped your knee. Jesus dwelling among us means he showed us how to be good friends and neighbors.

Jesus also spent a lot of time talking to people about God. He told them that God loves us so much and wants to be close to us. Jesus dwelling among us was God's way of showing us this love up close. It's like when your mom or dad gives you a big hug when you're feeling sad. God sent Jesus to give us a big, warm hug and to teach us about God's love.

But Jesus dwelling among us wasn't always easy for him. He had to deal with people who didn't understand him or were mean to him. Yet, he always responded with love. This teaches us that even when things are tough, we can choose to be kind and loving.

Jesus also liked to tell stories, called parables, to help people understand important lessons. These stories were about everyday things like seeds, sheep, and coins, but they had a special meaning about life and God's love. Jesus dwelling among us was about sharing these stories so we could learn and grow.

And guess what? Even though Jesus isn't walking around with us today like back then, he is still dwelling among us in a different way. When we pray, read the Bible, or help others, Jesus is right there with us. It's like he's holding our hand, guiding us through life.

Jesus dwelling among us is a big, wonderful mystery that shows us how much God loves us. It's like the best surprise ever - finding out that God's own Son came to live just like us, to be with us, and to show us the way to love each other and God.

So, next time you're playing with your friends, helping at home, or talking to God, remember Jesus dwelling among us. Think about how he lived, what he taught, and how he loved. And know that he's right there with you, cheering you on, loving you, and helping you every step of the way.

And that's the amazing story of Jesus dwelling among us. It's a story of love, friendship, and God's big hug to all of us. Let's carry that love in our hearts and share it with everyone we meet, just like Jesus did.

## Bible Memory Verse

**The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. - John 1:14**

You Will Need:

- Colored construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Cotton balls
- Scissors (for teacher use only)
- Stickers of stars and animals

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large star shapes beforehand.
- Prepare a sample craft to show to the children what they will be making.

Do This:

1. Give each child a star-shaped piece of construction paper and a glue stick.
2. Encourage the children to spread glue on their star and then stick cotton balls onto it to represent how Jesus is the light of the world coming down to us.
3. Let them decorate the edges of their star with stickers of stars and animals to show that Jesus came to earth for everyone and everything.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Blue construction paper (heaven)
- Brown construction paper (earth)
- White paper (to make a star)
- Glue sticks
- Cotton balls (clouds)
- Scissors (for teacher use only)
- Crayons or markers

Get Ready:

- Cut the blue paper into large rectangles for the background (heaven).
- Cut the brown paper into smaller rectangles for the foreground (earth).
- Cut out star shapes from the white paper.
- Set up a table with all the materials spread out for easy access.

Do this:

1. Give each child a piece of blue construction paper and explain that this represents heaven, where Jesus came from.

2. Help them glue the brown paper at the bottom of the blue paper to represent the earth, where Jesus came to live.
3. Let them use cotton balls to make clouds on the blue part to show heaven. They can pull apart the cotton balls to make them fluffy and glue them on.
4. Give each child a star to color with crayons or markers, then help them glue the star on the blue paper to represent the special star that shone when Jesus was born.
5. Encourage them to draw themselves on the brown paper (earth) with crayons or markers, showing that Jesus came to be with us.

## Snack Activity: Heavenly Cloud Parfaits

You'll Need:

- Vanilla yogurt
- Blueberries or blue food coloring
- Clear plastic cups

Get Ready: If using blueberries, mash a handful to create a natural blue color. Mix this or blue food coloring into half of the yogurt to create 'sky' and 'cloud' layers.

Do this:

1. Start by spooning a layer of blue yogurt into the bottom of your clear plastic cup to represent the sky. Explain how Jesus left the beautiful, perfect sky of heaven to come to earth.
2. Next, add a layer of white yogurt on top of the blue layer to represent the clouds in the sky. Discuss how Jesus came through the heavens to be with us on earth.
3. Continue layering until the cup is full, ending with a white layer on top. As you build, remind the children that Jesus came from heaven to earth because of His great love

for us. Enjoy eating the parfaits together while reflecting on Jesus' journey from heaven to live on earth.

## Game Activity: Heaven to Earth Hop

You'll Need:

- Large sheets of blue paper (representing heaven)
- Large sheets of green paper (representing earth)
- Tape

Get Ready: Tape the blue papers on one end of the play area to represent heaven and the green papers on the other end to represent earth. Ensure there's a clear path for the children to hop from one end to the other.

Do this:

1. Gather the children at the 'heaven' end of the play area and explain that Jesus came from heaven to live on earth, just like we're going to hop from the blue paper to the green paper.
2. Have the children line up at the edge of the blue paper. When you say 'Go,' they will hop from the 'heaven' side to the 'earth' side, landing on the green paper.
3. Once everyone has reached 'earth,' talk about how Jesus came to be with us because He loves us. Encourage them to hop back and forth, enjoying the movement and reinforcing the idea of Jesus' journey from heaven to earth.

## Craft Activity: Heaven's Gift to Earth

You'll Need:

- Blue and brown construction paper

- Cotton balls
- Glue
- Scissors (to be used by the teacher)
- Star stickers

Get Ready: Cut the blue construction paper into a large circle to represent heaven. Cut the brown construction paper into a simple manger shape.

Do this:

1. Give each child a blue circle and a brown manger. Explain that the blue circle represents heaven, where Jesus came from, and the brown manger represents the earth where Jesus was born.
2. Have the children spread glue on the top half of the blue circle and stick cotton balls on it to represent the clouds in heaven.
3. Then, let them glue the manger onto the bottom half of the blue circle. Encourage them to decorate around the manger with star stickers, emphasizing that Jesus is the bright star that came from heaven to live on earth.

## Prayer Activity: Heavenly Star Prayer

You'll Need:

- Yellow construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers

Get Ready: Cut out star shapes from the yellow construction paper, one for each child.

Do this:

1. Read John 1:14 to the children, simplifying it to 'Jesus came from heaven to earth to be with us.'
2. Give each child a yellow star and explain that the star represents Jesus, the light of the world, coming from heaven.
3. Ask the children to draw or write something they want to talk to Jesus about on their star. For those who can't write, they can draw a picture or you can help write their prayer request.
4. Gather the stars and place them in a circle on the floor. Have the children sit around the circle.
5. Lead the children in a simple prayer, thanking Jesus for coming from heaven to live on earth and for loving us. Include prayers for the requests on the stars.
6. Encourage the children to say 'Amen' at the end of the prayer, signifying their agreement.