



**Goal:  
Know Jesus  
personally!**

**Scripture  
Verses:  
1 John 1:5-  
2:6**

While a lot of kids know about Jesus, they don't really know him. And unfortunately, knowing about Jesus doesn't change kids' lives—or give them the promise of eternal life. Knowing Jesus does. Through this lesson, kids will have an opportunity to meet Jesus and have a visual reminder of God's revelations in their lives.

## *Choose Your Opening*

### **Option 1: Hairbrained Idea**

(For this activity, you'll need an envelope and a pencil for each person.)

Give kids envelopes and pencils. Have each person pluck three to five hairs from his or her head and place them in an envelope. Kids should write their birthdays (just day and month) on the right-hand corner of their envelopes for identification purposes. Collect the envelopes, and mix them up.

Redistribute the envelopes so each child has someone else's envelope. Ask kids to examine the hair in the envelopes and see if they can determine who the hair belongs to. Have kids write the name of the person they think the hair belongs to on the outside of each envelope. Pass the envelopes around so each person can make a guess for every envelope.

Then have kids retrieve their own envelopes and tell the others how many right answers were recorded.

**Ask:** \*How easy was it to identify the people whose hair was in the envelopes?

\* What was difficult about this activity?

\* How is this activity like getting to know Jesus?

**Say:** Just as it's difficult to know someone by a few hairs, we can't know Jesus if we see only a small part of him. One of the most important elements of our faith is the desire to know Jesus and to know him well. Today we'll explore how to know Jesus—and how to know we know him.

### **Option 2: Jesus Can**

(For this activity, provide an unmarked tin can, ten index cards, and a sheet of construction paper for each person. Have scissors, markers, and tape available.)

Give each child an unmarked tin can, ten index cards, and a sheet of construction paper. Ask kids to write one thing they know about Jesus on each card. They may think of characteristics or names such as "loving", "forgiving", or "Lord". Have kids place the cards in their tin cans and make labels for the cans that describe the person they've described on their cards. They can use the construction paper, markers, and tape. For example, kids might write "King of Kings", "The Miracle Man", or "A Real Friend".

Have the kids tell the group what they wrote on their cards. Remind kids not to judge each other's ideas but to listen and learn about each other's understanding of who Jesus is.

Have kids discuss the following questions:

\* What does this activity tell us about knowing Jesus?

\* What did you learn about Jesus from someone else's card?

**Then say:** As you can see, we know many things about Jesus. However, there's a difference between knowing about Jesus and knowing him personally. Today you're going to learn how you can know Jesus—and know that you know him.



## How Do We Know?

(For this activity, write the names "Nicki Minaj", "Post Malone", "Logan Paul", and "Jojo Siwa" on four separate paper plates. On a fifth plate write "Jesus, 1 John 1:5-2:6". Have a Bible available).

Scatter the five paper plates face-down around the room. Ask kids each to move to a paper plate and stand on or near it. Have kids at each paper plate pick up the plate and silently read the name on it.

Have kids at each plate describe to the rest of the group how their lives would be different if they personally knew the person listed on their plate (without saying the name on the plate). For example, someone near the "Logan Paul" plate might say, "I'd be famous if I knew this person" or "I'd probably have my own awesome YouTube channel".

Then have the kids at that plate take turns answering the following questions:

- \* How would your relationship with this person change your living conditions, free time, or group of friends?
- \* Would your parents approve of this relationship? Why or why not?
- \* Would you want to grow to be more like this person? Explain

Continue having the kids at each plate tell about their person in this manner, and ask the kids standing near the "Jesus" plate to go last (remember where you placed the plates). Then have kids guess whose name is written on each plate.

**Ask:** \* What's the difference between *knowing about* someone and *having a relationship* with that person?

Ask one of the kids near the "Jesus" plate to read aloud the passage listed on it.

(1 John 1:5—2:6) Then ask:

- \* According to this passage, how do we come to know Jesus?
- \* How do we know if we know him?
- \* How does knowing Jesus change our lives?

Say: By confessing our sins, we begin a relationship with Jesus and come to know him. And by obeying Jesus' commands, we know that we know him.



# REFLECTION

## Getting to Know Him

(For this activity, you'll need the Jesus plate from the "How Do We Know?" activity)

Place the Jesus plate face—up in the center of the room. Have kids form a circle around the plate, and ask volunteers to share how knowing Jesus has made a difference in their lives. If kids aren't sure what to say, you might want to share how knowing Jesus has affected your life.

**Say:** Some of you may know a lot *about* Jesus but not yet know him personally. Let's take a few moments to silently consider our relationships with Jesus.

Give kids the opportunity to publicly express their desire to know Jesus or to grow in their relationship with Christ by standing next to the Jesus Plate. Let the kids know that they can talk to you or Mr. John later on if they have questions about what it means to know Jesus.

## *Choose Your Closing*

### **Option 1: How We've Come to Know Jesus**

(For this activity, you'll need a ten-inch piece of cord or heavy yarn for each student.)

Ask kids to think about different ways they've come to know Jesus. Answers might include "learning at church", "seeing Jesus' love in others", "reading the Bible", or "being taught by the Holy Spirit".

Then give kids each a ten-inch piece of cord or heavy yarn, and **Say**: Tie a knot in this cord for each of three times in your life that you've come to know Jesus better. You might think of experiences when you were in crisis, times spent in prayer, or situations where a friend helped you see Jesus' love.

Form trios, and have kids tell what their knots symbolize. Close the Bible Study by encouraging kids to use their cords as bookmarks, and remind them to add a knot each time God helps them grow significantly in their relationships with Jesus.

### **Option 2: Know Way**

(For this activity, you'll need a piece of poster board and several markers.)

Have someone in the group who has good handwriting write the words "Know Way" on poster board. Then have kids each add to the sign by drawing a symbol or writing a word that describes what it's like to know Jesus.

Place the sign near the entrance to your house. Have kids take turns completing the following sentence: "We can make our house a place to know Jesus by..."

Close by having kids offer prayers asking God to help them grow closer to Christ and to share their knowledge of Christ with others.