

# ARE YOU A "KINDA SORTA" CHRISTIAN?

## LESSON #1

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

### LESSON OVERVIEW

**Big Idea:** A real Christian knows Jesus like he's a best friend.

**Key Question:** How can we get to know Jesus?

**Memory Verse:** *Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.* **1 John 2:6**

**Overview:** We're starting a new series today about what it really means to be a Christian. A Christian is just another name for a follower of Jesus. Let's start with a question. Is it easy to come up with a list of things you love to do? How about a list of things you hate to do. Pretty easy, right? But, it would probably take a little longer to come up with a list of things you only kind of like to do. The reason- you don't feel as strongly about the stuff you only kind of like, so you won't put as much effort toward those things. Did you know that's how many people view their relationship with God? They kind of know him, but not really. So, God isn't really a big priority in their lives because they only kinda sorta care about him. God doesn't want us to relate to him this way. God wants to be our best friend. He wants to be on our list of things we love. Ask yourself the question, "Am I a kinda sorta Christian or do I know Jesus like a best friend?" Here are a few things you can do to be sure you're not a "kinda sorta" Christian. Do things like: read your Bible everyday, pray, go to church, be kind and forgiving to your friends and obey your parents. See, if we really know Jesus like a best friend, then we will spend time with him and we will act like him. Don't be a "kinda sorta" Christian. Make Jesus a priority in your life and get to know him like a best friend!

### CLASSROOM AGENDA

- 5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.
- 5 min **WARM UP:** Make a list of things you love to do and a list of things you hate to do. Then, make a list of things you kind of like doing.
- 5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)
- 20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.
- 5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.
- 5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [Isaiah 29:13](#). What do you think it means that people honor God only with their words? Why does it matter what's in your heart?
- 10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 5 min **CLOSE:**
  - What will you do this week to spend more time with God?
  - Share prayer requests and pray as a class.

### TEACHER TIPS

Don't forget that you set the tone for your kids. Smile. Have fun. Pursue God together.

Allow each kid to share. The point: We can usually come up with the stuff we love and hate pretty easily. But, identifying things we only sort of like might be harder because we aren't as passionate about those things. We need to make sure we don't treat our relationship with God in a kinda sorta way.

**Answer:** We need to spend time with him doing things like:

1. Reading the Bible
2. Praying everyday
3. Going to church

The more time we spend with Jesus, the more we will understand who he is and how we should act.

**Bonus Questions:** Who do you like to spend time with in your life? What can you do to spend more time with Jesus?

**4-5th:** Why is it important to spend time with Jesus? How does knowing Jesus affect our lives?

You've probably heard the saying, "actions speak louder than words". It's easy to **say** we love God or that we are a Christian but it is a much different thing to actually act like we love God. A true follower will obey what the Bible says and will live everyday to honor God. The **heart** matters because it determines what we care about. If in your heart you don't care about God, then that will come out in the way you think and act. But, if in your heart you love God, then you will think and act like him.

Allow each kid to share. Remind them to read their Bibles, pray and go to church.

# ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities 2nd-5th

## Option #1

### How Well Do You Know the Bible?

- Put the pre cut verses (**page 5**) face down on a table
- Have one kid come up and choose a square and read the verse to the class (teacher can help read the verse if kids are struggling)
- Then have the kid guess which Testament that verse is found. Have them drop the verse in the correct bag. Make sure to say to the class, "This verse comes from the OT or NT".
- **The goal of the game is to get them more acquainted with the Bible.**

### Supplies needed

- 2 paper bags with Old Testament written on one and New Testament on the other
- verse template (pg 5), pre cut, one set per class

### Bonus Activity:

Play **Fast Facts**

Read the question and see who's the quickest to answer correctly

1. Who died on the cross to save us? (Jesus)
2. What should we read everyday? (Bible)
3. How do we talk to God? (pray)

## Option #2

### Jesus Has My Heart Craft

- Give each kid a heart puzzle template (**page 6**)
- Give each kid a piece of construction paper
- Have kids cut out the puzzle pieces
- Then have kids put the pieces together to form a heart and have them glue the pieces to the construction paper
- Remind the kids as they work that if Jesus is their best friend then they will spend time doing the things listed on their puzzle pieces

### Supplies needed

- heart template (pg 6), 1 per kid
- construction paper, 1 piece per kid
- scissors
- glue

### Bonus Activity:

Play **Bible Hangman**

**Words or phrases:** Jesus is my best friend, read the Bible, prayer

# ARE YOU A "KINDA SORTA" CHRISTIAN?

LESSON #1

KID AND PARENT GUIDE

[Online @ pursueGOD.org/kids](http://Online@pursueGOD.org/kids)

## 1 Discover Truth

Watch this week's lesson video as a family (see link above) and fill in the blanks.

1. A "kinda, sorta" Christian is a kid who kinda \_\_\_\_\_ who Jesus is, but not really.
2. A real Christian knows Jesus like he's a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. If you're best friends with Jesus, you'll start \_\_\_\_\_ like him.

## 2 Talk about it

Answer these questions together as a family.

1. Make a list of things you love to do and a list of things you hate to do. Then, make a list of things you only sort of like doing.
2. How do people typically act who don't know or care about God?
3. What makes a person a best friend to you?
4. What can you do to spend more time with Jesus?
5. How does Jesus want us to act?
6. Read [Isaiah 29:13](#). What do you think it means that people honor God only with their words? Why does it matter what's in your heart?

## 3 Live it out

Memorize this week's Bible verse:

**"Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did"**

**1 John 2:6**

Bonus: Read these additional passages as a family this week

- Read [1 Peter 1:14](#). Who should we obey? Why should we obey God?
- Read [Colossians 3:16-17](#). What is the message Jesus wants us to share with our friends?
- Read [1 John 3:1](#). How do we get to know Jesus? How can you help others to know him, too?

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Answer Key: 1. knows 2. best friend 3. acting

Learn the 3 basic truths of the Christian faith in the [Foundations for Kids](#) series.



**PUZZLE #1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Books of the New Testament**

W	P	T	O	N	J	S	F	W	K	C	M	A	R	K	B	C	N	L	X	Q
N	E	Q	E	Q	F	C	B	T	L	A	O	A	H	Y	N	C	E	J	Q	S
V	T	I	I	L	T	X	N	G	L	L	B	E	K	O	C	H	D	Q	R	S
H	E	N	A	C	T	S	W	X	F	N	K	B	E	A	E	L	O	O	C	N
T	R	B	Q	Q	J	V	N	A	M	U	U	C	R	K	A	E	M	J	Q	A
Y	U	Z	D	I	N	S	J	O	L	M	X	I	L	S	A	A	S	R	N	I
Y	J	A	C	P	X	O	M	W	R	P	V	M	V	X	N	E	P	G	U	H
S	T	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I	A	N	S	S	M	T	B	S	M	T	
O	T	W	V	I	H	T	F	T	H	D	Z	K	D	A	A	H	S	C	M	N
R	J	U	D	E	E	P	I	P	A	A	F	M	J	A	I	E	Z	N	A	I
T	S	D	R	L	V	X	G	M	Q	L	J	A	T	J	I	S	Q	Y	T	R
M	U	X	Z	W	H	Z	Y	J	O	S	E	Q	F	R	R	S	A	D	T	O
V	T	O	S	D	E	D	V	Z	Z	T	K	V	L	L	M	A	J	R	H	C
C	I	W	P	W	B	F	O	Q	M	C	H	N	E	O	O	L	U	Y	E	C
M	T	N	N	E	R	A	Y	P	B	N	A	Y	O	R	I	O	J	X	W	R
T	Y	Y	O	F	E	S	N	A	I	S	E	H	P	E	J	N	H	R	K	R
R	X	J	U	I	W	G	P	H	I	L	E	M	O	N	D	I	T	W	I	N
Z	P	U	B	E	S	A	F	P	O	M	T	D	F	Q	L	A	O	G	K	A
K	E	H	S	E	C	M	I	I	K	U	T	O	X	Z	R	N	L	P	N	P
F	H	Y	C	S	N	A	I	S	S	O	L	O	C	U	P	S	C	V	Z	U
I	F	S	L	N	Q	Y	F	M	C	L	G	A	L	A	T	I	A	N	S	C

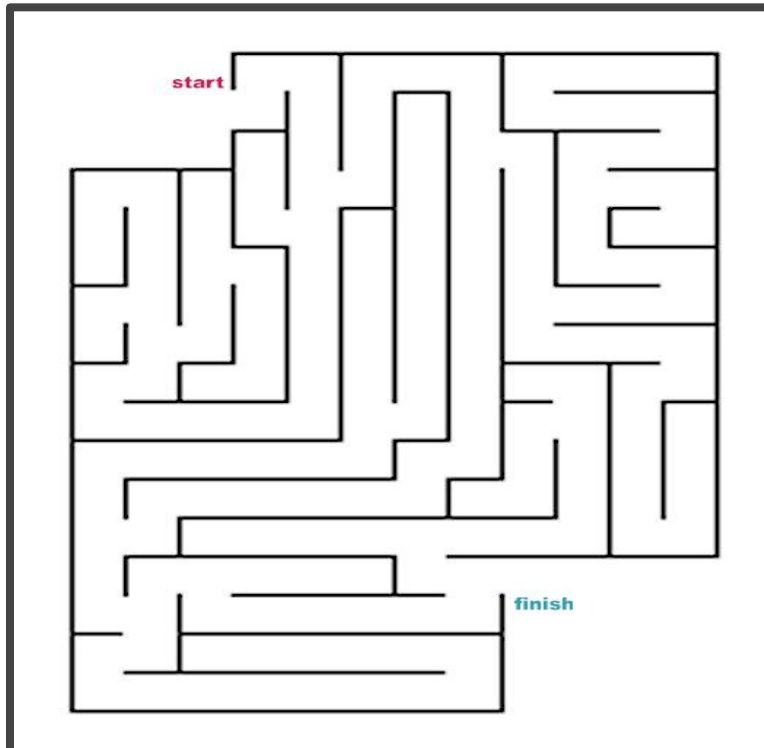
- |           |             |             |               |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Matthew   | Mark        | Luke        | John          |
| Acts      | Romans      | Corinthians | Galatians     |
| Ephesians | Philippians | Colossians  | Thessalonians |
| Timothy   | Titus       | Philemon    | Hebrews       |
| James     | Peter       | Jude        | Revelation    |

**BIG IDEA** →

**KEY QUESTION** →

**MEMORY VERSE** →

**PUZZLE #2**



All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

**Psalms 119:105**

Every word of God proves true. He is a shield to all who come to him for protection.

**Proverbs 30:5**

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

**Philippians 4:6**

Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

**Colossians 4:2**

Search for the LORD and for his strength; continually seek him.

**1 Chronicles 16:11**

"Be careful to obey all these commands I am giving you. Show love to the LORD your God by walking in his ways and holding tightly to him.

**Deuteronomy 10:12**

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-5**

But the Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him.

**Daniel 9:9**

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

**Galatians 5:22-23**

