

# **“Jesus Is...” - LESSON 1**

## **“Jesus Is...WONDERFUL”**

### **Main Focus:**

Jesus is so wonderful – beyond anything we can imagine!



### **Power Verse:**

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.” – Psalm 86:10



### **Watt’s Up:**

“Jesus Is Wonderful – Yes He Is!”

## **LEADER’S INFO**

We overuse the word “Wonderful” quite often. We use it to refer to food, - “That meal was wonderful!” We use it to refer to entertainment - “What a wonderful concert that was last night.” Wonderful has lost its “WONDER.”

Jesus truly IS wonderful! When we think about His grace, His love, His power, and His character - we are filled with wonder. Our minds can barely comprehend just how WONDERFUL He really is.

In this lesson, the children will learn about the prophecy that Isaiah made about Jesus. They will learn that Jesus truly is the most WONDERFUL person who ever lived on Earth.

If we open our hearts and minds, Jesus will fill us with wonder this Christmas Season!



### **“The Spark” Intro Video**

The Christmas Spelling Bee



### **“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video**

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”



### **Character Skit**

“Clyde The Elf”



### **Offering Time**



### **Game On!**

“Candy Cane Relay”



### **Bible Story**

“Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus”



### **Power Verse Video**

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.” – Psalm 86:10



### **Call To Action**

“Jesus Is...WONDERFUL”



### **Brain Drain**

Review Game



### **Small Group Experience**

**Main Focus:**

Jesus is so wonderful – beyond anything we can imagine!



**Power Verse:**

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.” – Psalm 86:10



**Watt’s Up:**

“Jesus Is Wonderful – Yes He Is!”

**Lesson 1 Materials Needed:**

**“The Spark” Intro Video**

- “The Spark” Intro Video

**“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video**

- “Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video
- “Watt’s Up?” Trigger Video

**Character Skit**

- “Clyde The Elf” Theme Graphic/Music
- Elf costume
- Walkie-talkie
- Candy cane

**Offering Time**

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

**Game On!**

- “Game On!” Bumper Video
- “Candy Cane Relay” Graphic
- A dozen candy canes
- A table

**Bible Story**

- “Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus” Graphics
- Bible

**Power Verse Video**

- “Power Verse” Video

**Call To Action**

- “Jesus Is...WONDERFUL!” Graphics
- A large red heart
- A “change bag” illusion
- A black silk handkerchief

**Brain Drain**

- “Brain Drain” Bumper Video
- “Brain Drain” Lesson 1 Graphics

**Small Group Experience**

- Jesus Is Wonderful Program
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
- WON-DERFUL Print Piece
- Tape
- Blindfold
- Something to keep score like scrap paper

**“The Spark” Intro Video**

The Christmas Spelling Bee

**“Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video**

Skittles teaches “Watt’s Up?”

**Character Skit**

“Clyde The Elf”

**Offering Time**

**Game On!**

“Candy Cane Relay”

**Bible Story**

“Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus”

**Power Verse Video**

“For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God.” – Psalm 86:10

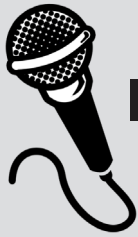
**Call To Action**

“Jesus Is...WONDERFUL”

**Brain Drain**

Review Game

**Small Group Experience**



## **Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video**

**Leader:** Hey kids! Today, we are starting a brand new series. It’s a series about Christmas! Now, I know we are still quite a few weeks away from Christmas, but we are kicking off the celebration today as we learn about a very important prophecy that was made about Jesus by the prophet Isaiah.

Does anybody know what a prophecy is? *(allow several kids to answer)* A prophecy is a statement given by a prophet that is a message from God. Usually it talks about something that is going to happen in the future. Have you ever wanted to be able to know the future? How cool would that be?

Well, this prophecy was about the day Jesus would be born. It contains lots of words used to describe Jesus. Speaking of words, I want you to watch this video of a group of kids who are in a spelling bee. They are asked to spell some words that have to do with Christmas AND the prophecy that Isaiah gave about Jesus. Check it out!

**(play “The Spark” Intro Video)**

**Leader:** What an interesting group of people. She really had a hard time spelling the word wonderful, didn’t she? Can you spell the word WONDERFUL? *(lead the kids in spelling it out)* W-O-N-D-E-R-F-U-L! You guys are super smart!

In your lesson, today, you are going to learn all about the prophecy that Isaiah gave about Jesus. Plus, you are going to learn just how wonderful Jesus really is!

But, right now, it’s time to check in with Skittles and find out “Watt’s Up?”

**(play “Watt’s Up?” Teaching Video)**



## **CHARACTER SKIT**

**Character: “Clyde The Elf”** *(a scatter-brained young man who works at the local mall as an elf at Santa’s Photo Booth. He’s dressed in the usual elf attire—pointed ears, lots of green and red, etc. He’s very excitable.)*

**CLYDE:** *(strolls out onto the stage holding a walkie-talkie and sucking on a candy cane. He speaks into the walkie-talkie...)* Yeah, don’t worry I’m just going on break. Just keep all those kids in line, ok?

**Leader:** Well, hello there!

**CLYDE:** Oh hey, how’s it going? *(does a HUGE double take, gasping)* Grown-up!! Listen, you shouldn’t be back here! If you have any kids they’re just going to have to wait in line like the rest. *(gets close to the leader, nervous)* You didn’t bring any kids with you, did you?

**Leader:** Uhhh...*(motions towards the kids)*

**CLYDE:** *(slowly turns to look at kids, voice goes high pitched)* Ohhhhhh boy...

**Leader:** Are you ok?

**CLYDE:** *(slowly nods, then yells into his walkie-talkie FREAKING OUT)* CODE GREEN! I REPEAT, WE HAVE A CODE GREEN!! THE CHESTNUTS ARE ROASTING! I REPEAT, THE CHESTNUTS ARE ROASTING!! THIS IS NOT A DRILL!!

**Leader:** WHOAH! Calm down! You’re acting like a crazy person!

**CLYDE:** That’s “crazy-ELF” to you, BUCKO! The name’s Clyde, Clyde the Christmas Elf! If you have THIS many kids waiting in line to meet Santa then I gotta let Big Red know!

**Leader:** *(snickers)* You’re not REALLY a Christmas elf *(pause, turns serious)* are you?

**CLYDE:** *(calm)* Well...no, not TECHNICALLY, I work down at the mall. *(freaking out)* I DON’T HAVE TIME FOR THESE REINDEER GAMES! I got a lot of kids waiting to get their picture taken! Y’know, they plop down on his lap, say “I WANNA UNICORN!” the camera goes FLASH and they go blind for a few seconds? It’s total INSANITY! This whole Christmas season just drives me nutcrackers!

**Leader:** Oh Clyde, I’m sorry to hear that. Y’know, Christmas can be stressful if we focus on the wrong things. But Christmas is supposed to be wonderful!

**CLYDE:** Is there something wrong with your brain? Have you been eating fake snow? WONDERFUL?? What’s wonderful about it?

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**CLYDE:** Okay, I'll be right back. I gotta head to the grocery store and pick up some new carrot noses for the snowmen. Those reindeer get REALLY hungry, so we go through a lot. I'll see you later, boys and girls! Ho, Ho, Ho, and away I go! *(exits as theme music plays)*



## **GAME ON!**

### **“Candy Cane Relay”**

#### **Items Needed For Game:**

a dozen candy canes; a table



#### **Preparation:**

Choose three boys and three girls to compete in this game. Place six of the candy canes spread out on a table on the opposite side of the room from the “starting line.” The “hook” part of the candy cane should be hanging slightly off the edge of the table.



#### **How To Play:**

When you say, “Go!”, the children place the end of the candy cane in their mouth, then run one at a time to the opposite end of the room. Using only the candy cane, they try to “hook” the other candy cane that is laying on the table, then run back to the starting line - **WITHOUT DROPPING** the candy cane. If they drop it, they must return it to the table and “hook” it again. When they get back to the starting line, they must “tag” the next person in line who will run down and get their candy cane. This continues until **ALL** three participants have completed the task.

The first team to have all three participants get all three candy canes and return to the starting line wins!



## **Bible Story**

### **“Isaiah Prophecies About Jesus”**

#### **Materials Needed:**

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

#### **Preparation:**

Familiarize yourself with the passage in Isaiah 9; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

#### **The Story:**

Today’s Bible Story tells of a very important time in the history of God’s chosen people, the nation of Israel. The nation had split into two different kingdoms - Israel and Judah. That meant that the two countries did not really get along that well.

(*show pic*) One day, King Ahaz of Judah began to wonder whether he should become partners with the country of Assyria. Assyria was a horrible country that did not follow the one true God. In fact, they worshipped idols and sacrificed people to their false gods. The prophet Isaiah warned King Ahaz NOT to join forces with any country that was an enemy of God. He told King Ahaz to trust God and depend on Him only.

But, King Ahaz did not listen. He was not a very spiritual person, so he didn’t see the harm in joining forces with Assyria. Isaiah warned King Ahaz that his partners, the Assyrians, would eventually turn on him and become his enemy. But, King Ahaz thought he was smarter than God’s plan.

(*show pic*) King Ahaz joined forces with Assyria, and it wasn’t long before King Ahaz began acting just like the Assyrians. Rather than worshipping God, King Ahaz began worshipping idols and even sacrificed his own child to a false god. It was horrible. He destroyed the temple of God. To top it all off, Isaiah was right. The country of Assyria ended up turning on King Ahaz and they treated the people of Judah horribly.

(*show pic*) But, God was not finished with Judah. God had made a promise to them and the nation of Israel long ago that He would protect and save them. So, God gave Isaiah a prophecy which he wrote down. It was a prophecy that predicted something that would happen several hundred years later. It said, (*show pic*) “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Wow! Isaiah prophesied about a baby boy that would be born to save the nations of Judah and Israel. Who do you think the baby boy could be that Isaiah was prophecying about? (*show pic*) That’s right! It’s Jesus! Jesus is a WONDERFUL Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Today, you are going to learn just how WONDERFUL Jesus really is! He is more WONDERFUL than you could ever imagine!







## **Call To Action**

### **“Jesus Is WONDERFUL”**

#### **Materials Needed:**

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; a large red heart; a “Change Bag” illusion (*a small bag with a hidden compartment; you can get one of these at your local magic store or online at [www.davidandteesha.com](http://www.davidandteesha.com)*); a BLACK silk handkerchief (*any lightweight black silk will do*)

#### **Preparation:**

Prep the “Change Bag”; Begin with the slide titled “Jesus Is...WONDERFUL”

**The Message:** (*title slide*)



Today, we are learning about how Jesus is Wonderful. You know, the word “wonderful” is one that we use a little too much nowadays. We’ve kind of changed the meaning of that word. We say things like..

“Ice cream is wonderful.”

“The weather is wonderful.”

“It’s wonderful to see you, today!”

Sometimes, people even use “wonderful” in a sarcastic way. Your Mom says, “We’re going to have your Aunt Bessie over for dinner tonight.” You reply, “wonderful” - meaning “Great. That’s exactly how I wanted to spend my Friday night - having my cheeks pinched and being told I’m growing like a weed.”

But, the way the Bible uses the word “wonderful” to describe Jesus is not like that at all. When Isaiah prophesied about Jesus and used the word “Wonderful”, He meant the

- Extraordinary
- Exceeds all expectations
- Marvelous
- Miraculous
- Beyond anything we have ever seen

That’s who Jesus is. He is Wonderful. He is extraordinary, marvelous, and amazing. He is Wonderful.

**He Does Wonderful Miracles** (*slide*)



Jesus does wonderful miracles! He heals the sick, makes blind eyes see again, heals paralyzed people so they can walk again, and even brings the dead back to life. He doesn’t do these things to prove how great He is. He does it in order to help people. He does it because He has a wonderful love for people. In fact...

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## **Call To Action** (Continued)

### **He Loves You With A Wonderful Love** (slide)



(hold up the big red heart as you speak) Jesus loves you so very much. How do you know? Remember the old song that went like this - (sing) “Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong. They are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.” Jesus loves you with a Wonderful love. His love is more wonderful than ANY love you could ever experience.

In fact, that WONDERFUL love He has for you led Him to leave Heaven and come to Earth as a baby in a manger. Jesus grew up and demonstrated that WONDERFUL love to the whole world by dying on the cross to pay the price for the sins of the world. Because of Jesus’ WONDERFUL love, we can be saved.

### **He Is A Wonderful Savior** (slide)



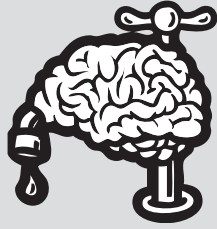
Jesus came to Earth to save people from their sin. (hold up the black silk and the change bag) If this silk represents sin and this bag represented your life, the silk definitely would belong in the bag - because we all have sinned. And, it only takes being guilty of ONE sin to deserve death in Hell forever. That’s what the Bible says.

*I John 1:9 says, “But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.”* That means that, (hold up the black silk and place it in the change bag) even though we had sin in our life, if we confess that sin to God and believe in the price that Jesus paid on the cross, (as you speak, gently slide the “trigger” of the change bag over so that the black silk is now hidden in the secret compartment) then you and I can be forgiven (when you say “forgiven” reach into the change bag and pull it inside out, revealing that the black silk is completely “vanished”). The sin that was in our life is now gone! Jesus paid the price, so we can be forgiven!

When Isaiah called Jesus “Wonderful”, he was so right. Jesus is a Wonderful God who does Wonderful miracles, loves you with a Wonderful love, and saved us in such a Wonderful way. He truly is WONDERFUL!

### **ALTAR RESPONSE:** (play soft music)

Pray with the children a prayer of worship and thanksgiving to Jesus for His wonderful miracles, wonderful love, and for being such a wonderful savior. If there are any children who have not received forgiveness for their sin, pray with them to make Jesus their personal Lord and Savior.



## **BRAIN DRAIN**

### **Materials Needed:**

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; “Brain Drain” Bumper Video

### **Preparation:**

Play the “Brain Drain” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “Brain Drain”; there is a slide for each question

**1. Watt’s Up today?**

**Answer:** “Jesus Is Wonderful - Yes He Is!”

**2. What is the name of the King of Judah in our Bible Story today?**

**Answer:** Ahaz

**3. Which country did he partner with even though he was warned against it?**

**Answer:** Assyria

**4. Who was the prophet who prophecied about Jesus’ birth?**

**Answer:** Isaiah

**5. What word did Isaiah use to describe Jesus that we learned about today?**

**Answer:** Wonderful

**6. According to our lesson today, Jesus “Does Wonderful \_\_\_\_\_.”**

**Answer:** Miracles

**7. According to our lesson today, Jesus “Loves With A Wonderful \_\_\_\_\_.”**

**Answer:** Love

**8. According to our lesson today, Jesus “Is A Wonderful \_\_\_\_\_.”**

**Answer:** Savior

**9. True Or False: Jesus can forgive ANY sin.**

**Answer:** True

**10. Where was our Power Verse found?**

**Answer:** Psalm 86:10