

# Day 1: Small Group Time

If small groups aren't feasible in your setting, incorporate some or all of these questions into large group time or print off the discussion sheets and give them to the team leaders who can lead a discussion during snack time or whenever each day. There's a good possibility there will be days you won't have time for this during lesson time, so having team leaders cover it later is a good option.

Divide into small groups of 4–6, with a time keeper (team leader) in each group. (Adjust depending on how many leaders and kids you have.) Discuss some or all of the following questions from the discussion sheet. Help them look up the Bible passage and read it together. Or, have it bookmarked and read it to them.

- 1. What's something you learned today about the Son of God?**
- 2. The Bible is divided into two parts called the Old Testament and the New Testament.** Show them. **A lot of people think the Son of God began when he came to earth as a baby, which we celebrate at Christmas. This is talked about in the New Testament.** Point to it. **But we saw today that he really never started and was there right at the beginning of the events recorded in the Old Testament. Let's look up Genesis 1:1–2 to remind ourselves of that!** Explain how you look up the book, then the chapter, then the verse. Either do together with one Bible or pass out Bibles and have them find and read Genesis 1:1–2 with partners.
- 3. The Son of God has always been and always will be. He's never going away. The Bible tells us he will never, ever, ever leave his children. How does that make you feel?** Take answers. Explain that they can become a child of God when they turn from their sins (tell God they are sorry for disobeying his commands) and believe that Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, died on the cross, paid the penalty for their sins, and came back to life. Jesus did all this because he cares so much for them and wants them to be his forever children.
- 4. Jesus is amazing! Let's praise him together! What do you think is awesome about Jesus? It can be something he made, like "I think it's cool he thought up zebras," or it can be something about him, like "He's kind."**

## Day 2: Small Group Time

Divide into small groups of 4–6, with a leader in each group. Adjust depending on how many leaders and kids you have. Have inflated balloons ready for question 2, two per group. Discuss some or all of the following questions.

1. **What's something cool you learned today about Jesus?**
2. Have the group get in a circle and see if they can keep the balloons up without letting them drop. Try for one minute and see how long they can do so. Put the balloons away. Ask the following questions and take responses. **Was it hard to keep the balloons up? Did they sometimes fall down? Do people ever let you down? Have you ever broken a promise you made to someone? Have you ever experienced a broken promise? Does God ever break a promise? Isn't it comforting to know we can always count on God and his Word?**
3. **Let's look up Hebrews 13:8 and share what it means. (Hint: Even though Jesus may take on different forms, such as *the* Angel of the Lord, a baby in a manger, and a person with a resurrected body, he is still the same Jesus. His nature and attributes never change. He is still loving, compassionate, good, kind, perfect, etc.)**
4. **Our animal pal today is Lottie the Lamb.** Show the Day 2 Animal Pal poster. **In the beginning, God created a good world. He gave Adam a command to follow, but Adam disobeyed that command. God said the punishment for disobeying (sin) is death. God killed at least one animal to provide coverings (clothes) for Adam and Eve after they disobeyed. After that time, people killed animals to show they knew something needed to die for their sins in their place. In later Old Testament times, God required his people, the Hebrews, to sacrifice lambs to remind them of how sinful they were. But when the Son of God came to earth as a person (which we'll talk about tomorrow), he was called the Lamb of God. Can you think why that may be?** Take responses. The blood of lambs could never take away the sin of the people. We needed someone who was human, like we are, but perfect, to sacrifice himself on our behalf. We needed someone to die in our place. When Jesus came, he sacrificed his life for our sins. He was perfect, never disobeying God, but he died on the cross and rose from the dead, paying the penalty for sin on our behalf. Now God doesn't require us to sacrifice lambs anymore because Jesus paid that price once and for all. Lottie the Lamb can remind us of Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

## Day 4: Small Group Time

Divide into small groups of 4–6, with a leader in each group. Adjust as necessary depending on how many leaders and kids you have. Discuss some or all of the following questions.

- 1. Let's try to imagine ourselves back in time as followers of Jesus, traveling around with him. After you've spent years with him, try to imagine standing and watching him die on the cross. What thoughts and emotions might you have?**
- 2. Now try to imagine seeing Jesus days later walking along the road, in the upper room, or by the shore. What thoughts and emotions might you have?**
- 3. The disciples were never the same after seeing Jesus risen from the dead. How should his resurrection make a difference to us?** Discuss how the facts of Jesus' resurrection show us that we must accept what else he taught about eternal life and how we are to live. What did Jesus teach that we need to obey? For those who are his children, we can ask the Holy Spirit to help us read and study his Word and obey it.
- 4. What's something cool you learned that Jesus is currently doing?**

## **Day 5: Small Group Time**

Divide into small groups of 4–6, with a leader in each group. Adjust as necessary depending on how many leaders and kids you have. Discuss some or all of the following questions.

- 1. What's something you learned about the new heaven and new earth? If you had to describe heaven in just a word or two, what would you say?**
- 2. Let's read 1 Peter 4:7–11 and Psalm 90:12. How should we live during our time on earth?**
- 3. If you were describing Jesus to someone, what words would you use to describe him?**
- 4. What is your favorite animal pal and why?**
- 5. If you had to pick one thing you want to do as a result of what you learned this week, what would it be?**