

Week 4

NOW I KNOW JESUS



USING THESE NOTES

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Week 4 of this 'Now I know Jesus' devotional series. Over the last 3 weeks, you and your child will have been learning all about Jesus, His life, His work, that He was fully human and fully God. This week, we are focussing on the teaching that He gave to people. Jesus often taught using parables, stories with a hidden message in them. People were amazed at what He had to say; they had never heard teaching like this before.

If you are picking these notes up for the first time, please go back and start at Week 1. You can download Week 1 [HERE](#). Or you can access these through the [Kingsgate.church/kids](https://www.kingsgate.church/kids) website, go to the 'Now I Know Jesus' series, follow along with the Sunday teaching. At the bottom of each week is a link to the devotional.

My Dear Child,

We have had a busy time learning all about Jesus. We hope you are enjoying getting to know Jesus by spending sometime with Him every day and reading stories about Him. This week, we will be hearing about some of the teaching that Jesus gave to the people around Him. Jesus taught using parables, which are stories with a hidden meaning. We will be thinking about some of those hidden meanings and what Jesus really meant. He often told stories that would have been quite funny to the people who were listening. In His teaching, Jesus, shows the people a new way to live, a life with Him at the centre.

As you start this new week, why not invite Jesus to be part of your week. You could use the prayer below to help you.

Dear Jesus.

Thank You that You want to be part of my week. Thank You that You are with me wherever I go. As I read more about You in the Bible, I ask that You will help me to understand what I am reading. Help me to get to know You better and to understand how powerful You really are.

I want to hear what You have to say to me, Jesus. When we meet together, help me to hear what You have to say to me.

Amen.



NOW I KNOW JESUS

DAY 22: JESUS LOVES CHILDREN

Did you know that Jesus really loves children and likes to spend time with them? Well, He does! It was a busy day, and there were lots of people who wanted to talk with Jesus. It must have been very tiring for Him and very noisy all around Him. Despite all this, He stops and notices the children. Let's read the story and find out what happened.

Let's read the story:

Find this story in Matthew 19:13:15 in your Bible and read the story with your grownup



Remember the story:

- Who brought the children to meet Jesus?
- Who didn't want Jesus to see the children?
- What did they want Jesus to do?
- What did Jesus do and say?



Questions to talk about:

Imagine it is a hot day and you are with your grownups. They have heard about an amazing man called Jesus and they want to meet Him. The crowds are massive and there are lots of sick people, who are trying to get to Jesus because they want to be healed. There are some men who are around Jesus and they are trying to stop people getting too close to Him and to keep Him safe. There are so many people, and everyone feels crushed together. Suddenly, in the midst of all this, Jesus turns and looks at you. He tells the men around Him to let you come through and He picks you up and holds you in His arms.

1. How do you think you would have felt in that moment when Jesus turned to look at you?
2. How do you think the other people around you would have felt when Jesus picked **you** up?
3. Why did you think Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to children?

Tell Jesus: Jesus has always got time for you. He is always ready to listen to you. You are extra special to Him and He makes time just for you. Right now, you have Jesus' attention. What would you like to say to Him?



Dear Jesus,

Now I know that children are really special to You, Jesus. I may be young and still growing, but You really want to know ME. Thank You, that You love me, You know me, and You really care about me.

Amen

NOW I KNOW JESUS

DAY 23: JESUS TELLS STORIES

Jesus loved to tell stories to people. In this story, Jesus tells the people about a son, who was lost and then found. Everyone would have been interested to hear what happened at the end of the story. What happened at the end would have been a big surprise to them, but Jesus wanted them to learn something special about Him from the story. I wonder what it was?

Let's read the story:

Find this story in Luke 15:11-32. This quite a long story, so let your grownup read it to you and enjoy listening.



Remember the story:

- How many sons are in the story?
- What does the younger son ask for?
- What does the son spend the money on?
- What happens to the son when all his money has gone?
- How does his father greet him when he arrives home?
- Who is not happy that the son is home?



Questions to talk about:

This story is called a parable - a story with a hidden meaning. The people listening would have been very shocked to hear the younger son ask for his share of the money. Traditionally, he would have only been given his share after his father died. The surprise twist at the end would have had them all talking. Had this happened in their village, the son would not have been welcomed back. To them, the forgiveness of the father was astonishing.

1. Talk with your grownup about what you think Jesus was really trying to teach the people about. Think about:
 - a. Who do you think the younger son in the story represents?
 - b. Who is the eldest brother - what sort of people might he represent?
2. The Father in the story represents our Heavenly Father. Why do you think the people were surprised that the Father welcomed His son back so warmly?

Tell Jesus: Jesus was teaching us that our Father God loves us, even when we make really bad choices. He is ready to forgive us, if we are truly sorry. Is there anything you need to ask Father God to forgive you for today?



Dear Jesus,

Thank You that You love me even when I do or say really nasty things. I am really sorry... (now, tell Jesus about the things you are really sorry about and ask Him to forgive you). Thank You, Jesus, that I can be forgiven; thank You for forgiving me.

Amen

NOW I KNOW JESUS

DAY 24: THE TREASURE AND THE PEARL

Jesus was sitting by the lake, when a crowd of people gathered around Him. He told them several stories that day, all about what the Kingdom of Heaven was like. In this story, He tells them about a man who found some treasure in a field. The man sells everything, goes back, and buys the field so that the treasure now belongs to him. Jesus tells a similar story about a man who finds a beautiful pearl.

Let's read the story:

Read this story in Matthew 13:44-46



Remember the story:

- What did the man do when he first found the treasure?
- When the merchant finds the valuable pearl, what does he do?



Questions to talk about:

Jesus starts His story with the words "the Kingdom of Heaven is like...". Both these stories are teaching us about the value of the Kingdom of Heaven.

1. If you were telling this story, what would be the valuable thing in your story?
2. In both stories, the person sells all they have. Do you think the Kingdom of Heaven is worth selling everything you have? Is there anything you really would not want to give up?

Tell Jesus: Both these stories were very short and simple. Jesus is saying that the Kingdom of Heaven is so wonderful that it is worth giving up everything we have so that we can be part of that Kingdom. This is easy to say, but more difficult to do. Jesus is saying that we have to put Him first in all we do and that we need to be willing to give up everything for Him. He is telling us that knowing Him and being part of His Kingdom is the most precious thing we can have.

What do you really think? Stop for a moment and consider what this teaching is really asking. How willing are you, really, to give up everything for Jesus and what does that mean for you?

Use the prayer below and add to it to make it your own.



Dear Jesus,

I have heard Your teaching about the treasure and the pearl. I know that to follow You means I have to give You everything I am and everything I have. It is hard for me to understand what this could mean for me. Please help me and show me each day how to follow You and to give You my everything.

Amen

NOW I KNOW JESUS

DAY 25: THE WISE AND FOOLISH BUILDERS

Jesus tells a funny story about two men who try to build a house. One builds his on the sand and the other on a rock. Everyone listening would have laughed at the story - who would be silly enough to build their house on sand? But, of course, this story has another meaning. Let's find out what it is.

Let's read the story:

Find this story in Matthew 7: 24-29 or watch an online video version.



Remember the story:

- What happens to the house built on rock when the rain comes ?
- What happens to the house on the sand when the rain comes?
- What did the people think about Jesus' teaching?
- How was His teaching different?



Questions to talk about:

Talk with your grownup.

Both builders built a house, but only one lasted when trouble came. Many people heard what Jesus said, but not all of them did what He said.

1. Which is easier - to hear what Jesus teaches or to do what He teaches?
2. What do you find hard about doing what Jesus teaches?

There is a little song that helps us remember this story. Do you know it?

You could watch this [story](#)

Tell Jesus: He was really warning the people about how they lived their lives. The house on the sand may have looked good, but it did not last when the rains came. Sometimes, peoples lives look good, but when trouble comes, the cracks start to show. Jesus encourages us to build our lives on Him and His teaching - this is like the rock and it will stay firm, even when trouble comes. Use the prayer below to ask Jesus to help you build your life on His firm 'rock'.



Dear Jesus,

Thank You for Your wise teaching, which shows me how to build a good life. Please give me Your wisdom, so that I know what is good to build my life on. Help me to see things as You see them. Help me to know the difference between the good things and the bad things.

Amen

NOW I KNOW JESUS

DAY 26: JESUS HAS WORK FOR YOU

Jesus told us many stories to teach us what is important. After Jesus died and rose again, He returned to Heaven. Just before He went, He gave us all an amazing promise and left us an important job to do. We are going to read about this today.

Let's read the story:

Find this story in Matthew 28:16-20



Remember the story:

- Where were the disciples when this story happened?
- There were only 11 disciples - why do you think this was?
- What did Jesus tell the disciples to do?
- What promise did He make to them to help them do this very important job?



Questions to talk about:

Talk with your grownup.

1. Jesus said that He had been given all authority. What do you think this means?
2. Jesus told the disciples to go and tell everyone about Him. Do you think He wants you to do this too?
3. Jesus promises to always be with the disciples. Will this make the job He has asked them to do any easier?

Tell Jesus: I wonder how you feel about being given this very important job? Tell Jesus what you think about telling other people about Him. Do you find this easy to do? Is this something you want to do? Think carefully and be honest with Jesus.



Dear Jesus,

Today, I have read about the job that You want me to do. I don't know everything that is going to happen in my life, but I do know that I want to follow You. Jesus, help me to do the job of telling people about You. Please give me chances to tell my friends about You and what You have done for them.

Amen

NOW I KNOW JESUS

DAY 27: JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

When the disciples saw Jesus return to Heaven, they must have felt sad that He had gone. But that was not the end. Jesus had promised them that He would always be with them. Today, we are going to find out how He intended to fulfil that promise. For the first time, we are going to read from the book of Acts. This tells us all about the lives of the disciples after Jesus went back to Heaven.

Let's read the story:

Find this story in Acts: 2:1-12



Remember the story:

- Where were the disciples in this story?
- What was the sound that they heard?
- What did they see?
- What could the disciples suddenly do?
- Who had arrived to be with the disciples?



Questions to talk about:

Talk with your grownup.

1. What do you think about what happened to the disciples?
2. Later, in verse 38, Peter says that those who turn to Jesus to forgive them will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Have you turned to Jesus to forgive you? Have you received His gift of the Holy Spirit? Would you like to?

Tell Jesus: Jesus knew that none of us could live our lives for Him without Him. This is why He sent the Holy Spirit, to give us the power and strength to live for Him and do the job He left for us to do. If you are a believer, you already have the Holy Spirit living inside you, but Jesus also wants you have the gift of being filled with the Holy Spirit - you just have to ask. Use the prayer to tell Jesus and ask for His gift.



Dear Jesus,

Thank You that You sent Your Holy Spirit, so that I can have the power to live my life for You. Now I believe in You, thank You for the gift of your Holy Spirit. I want to know the gift of being filled by the Holy Spirit. Please fill me from the top of my head to the bottom of my feet, Holy Spirit. Fill me with Your power, Your love, Your strength, and Your wisdom. I may be little, Jesus, but I know You want big things for me. Please will You come now and fill me?

Amen

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DAY 28: A DAY OFF

If you are working through these notes every day and you started on a Monday, then today is Sunday. This is our Sabbath day and we give it to Jesus to worship Him.

Today, you may well be going to Church. For Christians, Sunday is an important day for worshipping Jesus and the Bible tells us about the importance of having a Sabbath - which is a day of rest, given to Him.

So, today, there are no notes to follow.

If you can't get to Church today, remember you can follow all the Kids' work by following Kingsgate.church/kids and selecting the materials for your age range.

Enjoy resting and worshipping Jesus today!

NOW I KNOW JESUS

SAYING 'YES' TO JESUS

Jesus asks each one of us if we want to follow Him. He is waiting to hear our answer. Are you ready to say 'Yes' to Jesus?

Before you say 'Yes', Jesus wants you to understand some things.

- **Bad News:** Do you know that everyone has done wrong things, and that includes you? God calls these wrong things sin, and He says that all sin has to be paid for. The payment for sin is death.
- **Good News:** God knew that we could not pay for our sin, so He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for us. This is why Jesus had to die on the cross.
- **Even Better News:** Jesus did not just die, but came back to life again, showing that He is more powerful than death. He paid the price so that you don't have to.
- Jesus says that if we say 'Yes' to Him and follow Him, He will save us from death.

Jesus said to His friends 'follow Me,' and they left everything they had and followed Him. Jesus is calling you to follow Him today, but are you prepared to give Him everything in return?

Saying 'Yes' to Jesus Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for calling me to follow You. I know that I have done and said many things wrong and I'm sorry about this. Thank You that I can be forgiven because You died for me. I want to follow You and live life Your way. Thank You that You sent Your Holy Spirit to help me do this. I accept His help today.

Amen

NOW I KNOW JESUS

If you prayed the prayer above to say 'Yes' to Jesus, you are now one of His followers. He wants to get to know you and for you to get to know Him. This is an exciting journey to go on and Jesus has given you others to walk with you on this journey. This is the Church! Jesus gave us each other, in the Church, to love and help one another. Keep coming to Church to get to know others who follow Jesus.

You can also use the rest of these notes to get to know Jesus better.