Jesus with Mary and Martha

Lesson Aim: To learn how to spend time with Jesus.

**THE WORSHIP**

Who God is: The King Who Serves

**THE WORD**

Bible Story: Luke 10:38-42

What He has done: Jesus encouraged Martha to spend time with Him.

**THE WAY**

Whisper Verse: “Be still.”

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

“How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ?” Ephesians 3:18

“His love endures forever.” Psalm 100:5

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### Unit 2: The King Who Serves

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**TEACHER’S ENCOURAGEMENT**

This week, read Matthew 6:25-34. Please join us in praying, “Thank You, Lord, for giving us Your perspective on priorities. Help us teach the children to fix their eyes upon You and not on their worries. Amen.”

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**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.
Welcome each child as they arrive. Hello _____. I’m glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today’s treasure. Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a Bible. Let this stamp (or sticker) of the Bible help you remember to be still and spend time with Jesus. You can listen to Jesus’ words in the Bible when you are being still. Today’s Whisper Verse is “Be still.” Teach Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.*

**SIGN LANGUAGE:** “Be still.”
(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let’s say it with one hand motion:

“(Be) still.” Create the letter “Y” hand shape by extending the thumb and pinky of the right hand while the pointer, middle and index finger remain curled into the palm in a fist shape. The “Y” hand shape is held sideways facing across the body and then twists down and forward.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. Let’s sing the “Clean Up Song” as we put toys away before Praise Time. Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

“Clean Up Song”:

Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

*Today’s Whisper Verse: “Be still,” Psalm 46:10a. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today’s Bible story.
Jesus as the King who serves

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “It’s Praise Time!” as children move to that designated area.

It’s Praise Time – our time to sing praise to the King who serves. That means He gives us what we need. In today’s story, Jesus shows Martha she needs to be still and spend time with Him. Martha’s sister, Mary, made a wonderful choice to “be still” and spend time listening to Jesus. We can be like Mary, too. We can “be still” and listen to Him. That’s today’s Whisper Verse: “Be still.” Review Whisper Verse together: “Be still.” Include sign language. Sing: “Be Still And Know.”

Sometimes, being still can help us listen to God as He speaks to us in different ways. Sing: “I Will Listen To The Lord.”

We can spend time with Jesus by praying, praising Him and by giving our offering of money to help serve others. Let’s spend time with Him in those ways now. Pray for the offering. Sing: “Oh, How I Love Jesus” while collecting the offering.

Let’s visit with our friends Delbert and Lello to see if they spend time with Jesus as Mary did. Perform The Adventures of Delbert and Lello puppet script or read the storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 2, Lesson 10.

Jesus wanted Mary and Martha to spend time with Him because He loved them. Jesus loves us, too. His love is the widest. (All spread arms.) His love is the longest. (All reach arms forward.) His love is the highest. (All reach high.) His love is the deepest. (All squat down low.) Let’s do those motions as we sing about His wide, long, high, deep love. Sing: “How Wide”.

It is wonderful to spend time with Jesus because we know how good He is and how much He loves us.
Jesus talks with Martha

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let’s say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher; Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be, Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear, Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me. Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned Jesus talked to the woman at the well. Today, we will hear Jesus wanted Martha to “be still,” like her sister Mary, and spend time with Him. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Luke 10:39.

WATCH THE WORD: LUKE 10:38-42

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, hold a resting mat or cushion. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or a related picture.

- When Jesus came to Martha’s town,
- She invited Him into her house.
- At His feet, her sister, Mary, sat down;
- She listened, quiet as a mouse.

- But Martha soon became upset,
- So she went to Jesus and said,
  “I’m doing all the work myself!
- Jesus, tell my sister to help!”

- “Martha, Martha,” Jesus said,
- “You’re worried, I can see.
- But only one thing do you need,
- And that’s to be with Me!”

Who did Mary sit still and listen to? (Jesus.) Let’s find our answer in the Bible. Read Luke 10:39 from the teacher’s Bible.

Jesus likes us to spend time with Him. What should we do with our bodies when we are praying or listening quietly to a Bible story? (“Be still.”) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let’s say it together: “Be still.” Include sign language or hand motions.
Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

**CRAFT: BE STILL SIGN**

**Purpose:** For children to make a sign that helps them remember to be still and spend time with Jesus.

**Supplies:** Sturdy paper (cardboard or cardstock, if available), hole punch, heavy string or yarn, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** Cut out 5” or larger octagon. Punch a hole in the top of the sign. On the front of the sign, print: 
*Stop! “Be still.” Psalm 46:10a.* On the back of the sign, print: *I spend time with Jesus* and draw outlines of places where children can spend time with Jesus (bed, home, church, outside, etc.). Cut 36” lengths of yarn.

**Directions:**
1. Color the front of the sign red.
2. Color the back of the sign green. Color the places you can spend time with Jesus.
3. Thread the yarn through the hole.
4. Wear the sign like a necklace.

**Craft Discussion:**
- **Who remembers our Bible Memory Verse? Let’s say it together right now!** Lead the children in repeating the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse together.
- **Jesus loves it when you spend time thinking about Him and praying to Him.**
- **Where can you “be still” and spend time with Jesus?** Children point and announce the places they are coloring on their signs.
GAME: GO! BE STILL!
**Purpose:** Children will play a version of the game “Red Light, Green Light” to help them practice being still.
**Supplies:** “Be Still Sign” craft

Mary was still as she sat and listened to Jesus. Many of us listen best when we are still. Let’s play a game called “Go! Be Still!”

**Directions:**
1. Children should be wearing their “Be Still Sign” craft.
2. Have the children stand at one end of the play area.
3. Stand on the other end of the play area with one “Be Still Sign.” (Can be the craft sample.)
4. When you say, “Go!” and hold up the green side of the “Be Still Sign” the children are to run towards you. When you say “Be Still!” and hold up the red side of the “Be Still Sign,” the children are to hold up the red side of their “Be Still Sign” and freeze in place.
5. Continue playing until all the children have reached you.
6. You can change the game each time you play by substituting running for walking backwards, crawling, hopping, shuffling, etc.

GAME: I CAN BE STILL IN...
**Purpose:** Children will explore where they can be still and spend time with Jesus.
**Supplies:** “Be Still Sign” craft
**Optional:** Items that relate to each of the locations on the back of the “Be Still Sign.” For example: a pillow to represent a bed, a cross to represent a church, a leaf to represent the outdoors, etc.

**Prepare:** Designate certain parts of the room as the locations on the back of the “Be Still Sign.” If you have the optional items, put them in their proper location in the room.

Jesus loves when we spend time with Him. Let’s find out some of the places we can “be still” and spend time with Jesus.

**Directions:**
1. Have the children line up behind you wearing their “Be Still Signs.”
2. Lead them to the first location.
3. Tell the children to pretend they are in that location and point to it on the back of their signs.
4. Ask, “**How can you be still and spend time with Jesus here?**” For example: In my room, I can lie on my bed and think about God. In church, I can listen to God’s words in the Bible. Outside, I can look at all the things God has created.
5. Repeat steps 2-4 with each location.
THE WAY continued...

SNACK: Wiggling Treat

Purpose: To enjoy a gelatin snack and discuss spending time with Jesus while we are wiggling or still.

Snack Suggestion: Any flavored gelatin snack

Directions:
1. Serve snack and drink.
2. Let's sing the “Blessing Song.” Sing to the tune of “Frere Jacques” or other familiar tune.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.

- Who remembers our Whisper Verse? Choose a child to demonstrate motions to Whisper Verse: “Be still.”
- Look at your gelatin snack. Shake the bowl (or plate). Does it stay still? (No, it wiggles.)
- Mary sat very still. Who was Mary listening to? (Jesus.)
- Jesus loves it when you spend time with Him. One way to do that is to “be still.”
- If you are still, can you think about Jesus? (Yes.) If you are still, can you listen to someone reading Jesus’ words in the Bible? (Yes.) That is spending time with Jesus.
- Can you still spend time with Jesus when you are wiggling, running and playing? (Yes.) Yes! There is a right time to wiggle and a right time to be still. You can spend time with Jesus anytime. What is your favorite way to spend time with Jesus? (Children respond.)

Circle of Prayer

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let’s fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let’s pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____ , ____ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.

When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

Completed Craft: Thank you for coming today! Take home your “Be Still Sign.” Tell your family Jesus wants you to be still and spend time with Him.

Ponder, Pray & Play: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. Show this card to your family. Talk about how Mary was still and listened to Jesus.

Color This Story: “Mary listens to Jesus.” Discuss Bible story and play Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse song “How Wide?” as children color.
If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: LUKE 10:38-42

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the Bible Story details.

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

➢ When Jesus came to Martha's town, (Walk in place.)
➢ She invited Him into her house. (Beckon someone toward you.)
➢ At His feet, her sister, Mary, sat down; (Point to feet.)
➢ She listened, quiet as a mouse. (Cup ears as if to listen.)

➢ But Martha soon became upset, (Make a frown face.)
➢ So she went to Jesus and said, (Walk in place.)
➢ “I’m doing all the work myself! (Fold arms and pout.)
➢ Jesus, tell my sister to help!” (Place fist on hips.)

➢ “Martha, Martha,” Jesus said, (Gently reach out hand.)
➢ “You’re worried, I can see. (Point to someone.)
➢ But only one thing do you need, (Raise index finger.)
➢ And that’s to be with Me!” (Fold hands in prayer.)

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ?” Ephesians 3:18
“His love endures forever.” Psalm 100:5

GAME: CIRCLE OF LOVE

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Can you show me how big Jesus’ love is? Encourage children to stretch their arms wide to show the size of Jesus’ love. Let’s review our Bible Memory Verse. Our verse tells us how big Jesus’ love is!

Directions:
1. Form a circle and hold hands.
2. Say the Bible Memory Verse together while doing the corresponding actions:
   “How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”
   Stretch circle outward.
   Hold each other’s hands high to sky.
   Hold each other’s hands low to ground.
   Let go of hands and hug arms over chest.
   Hold hands again and walk in a circle.
GOT TIME? continued…

GAME: HOW BIG IS JESUS’ LOVE?

Purpose: Children move a sheet to discover the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: One large sheet, cloth, or tarp

Jesus loves all children. That means He loves you! Let’s see how big Jesus’ love is.

Directions:
1. Spread the sheet on the floor in the center of the room.
2. Children stand in a square around the sheet.
3. Children pick up the sheet by the edges.
4. Pull on the sheet until it is tight. See how wide and long the sheet is? Jesus’ love for you is even wider and longer!
5. Take one giant step into the square. Hold the sheet as high as you can reach. See how high the sheet is? Jesus’ love for you is even higher!
6. Now let’s lower the sheet to the ground. See how low the sheet is? Jesus’ love for you is even deeper!
7. Move into the middle and squeeze together tight; as close as you can. Jesus will be close to you forever. He will love you forever!

STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from The Adventures of Delbert & Lello, or a story about spending time with Jesus.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

PONDER! Read Luke 10:38-42 with your family. Talk about how Mary was still and listened to Jesus. Martha was worried. Jesus knew spending time with Him was what Martha needed. Talk about favorite times and places where you like to be still and think about God, pray, or listen to Bible stories.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: “Lord, we want to be still and spend time with You. Help us think about You and read Your words in the Bible. Amen.”

PLAY! Show your family how to play “Go! Be Still!” Every time you say, “Go!” everyone is to run. Every time you say, “Be still!” everyone is to freeze in place. After you play, show the back of your “Be Still Sign” to your family. Talk about different places you can spend time with Jesus.

Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse:
“How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ?” Ephesians 3:18
“His love endures forever.” Psalm 100:5