

NAMES OF CHRIST



LESSON PACK

Names to do with Nature



Worship: [He is the Light](#)

LESSON: DO WE REALLY LIVE IN DARKNESS?!

This week, students will understand Jesus being named a **light, vine, rock**, and many other **things that have to do with nature**. This lesson will focus on the times Jesus was called “the light,” and what that truly means for us believers living in world of darkness. Your use of a smartphone light and an overhead light will help your students see what the light does for us now, and what heaven will be like.

MATERIALS

- A dark room — see note under Preparation
- Names to do with Light, Scripture Cards (follow this lesson)
- Scissors
- Two smartphones with a flashlight on the back

PREPARATION

1. Print out one copy of the Names to do with Light Scripture Cards.
2. Make sure the light is working on both smartphones. You’ll use one to deliver the lesson and one to shine on the students.
3. Make sure your overhead light works and you know where the switch is — even in the dark!
4. Make the room as dark as possible. This lesson can also be done in a dark corridor or windowless room if you don’t have pull-down shades in the classroom! It can also be really fun to do it under a blanket that’s been draped over the learning table-like a tent!
5. Keep the flashlights on from the start so you can see your lesson plans. Your assistant will shine hers on the lesson cards.

LESSON

We tend to see our world as a bright and sunny place! Except during a thunderstorm or after the sun goes down and we have to turn on indoor lights.

But heaven is a real place. And Revelation 21:23 says that there will be no need for a sun, because the glory of God will be so bright that there won't even be a shadow inside a closet!

That is hard for us to imagine. It is easier to try to imagine this truth: Compared to our eternal home with Jesus, this world is a very dark place. Like this room is right now.

When Jesus came, one of the names he'd been given by the prophets of old and by his disciples and by himself was LIGHT.

Have your assistant turn on the other light and shine it on the first card. Ask a student to read it.

"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined." **That's what Isaiah, the Old Testament prophet predicted in Isaiah 9:2.**

Shine the second flashlight around at the student's faces. **What is it like to have the light shine on you?** *It's a little bit blinding compared to the darkness. It lights up a lot of things. You can see the people beside you and around you a little more clearly.*

Let's see how the light helps us understand Jesus better. Have your assistant pass out the Names to do with Light cards and shine the light directly on it to give a student a chance to read.

Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. –John 12:35"

That's what Jesus told his disciples. Jesus knew he would be going on up to heaven, and he meant they should learn all they can while he was with them, to speak to their faces, use their ears.

I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. –John 12:46

Video: [Living in the Light #1 - God is Light](#)

We all know Jesus was not really a flashlight. Or a light bulb. Have you ever been confused about something and then heard the expression, “Well, I could shed some light on that for you?” What does it mean? *It means you can make something clear that is confusing.*

We live in confusing times. People say, “Well, what’s true for you is not necessarily true for me.” What does that mean? What IS the truth? What is God like – in total truth? What does death mean? Where do we go, and what should we believe? Who can shed some light on this?

Have a student read the final card:

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” --John 14:6

There are three more names for Jesus. He isn’t saying he *can show us* the way, or he *can tell us* the truth, or that *he can give life*. He is saying he IS the way, the truth, and the life. How do we get to God? *Believing in Jesus. By following the light.*

Jesus said in Matthew 7:7, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” This is our assurance that the light of God is *always* available to us. God will show us the way in *all* situations-if we just feel for his light in our hearts.

Have your assistant slowly move the light along one wall and back again.

We live in the darkness right now. Jesus is the light. If we pay careful attention and look where the light points, we will not wander off into darkness.

Jesus came as a light. And he left us with the light of his Word. But someday we will get to heaven. And there we will get to see the full light of God.

Turn on the overhead. **In the light of heaven, we will truly understand how darkened our world was. And we will get to live in the light of God and never see darkness again.**

Let's Pray and thank God for being a light for us to help us do what is right.

What do you want to say to God. He is right here with us; even if you cannot see him.

LESSON 3 ADD-ON

NAMES OF CHRIST

NAMES TO DO WITH LIGHT SCRIPTURE CARDS

Cut out the cards and use them in the lesson where indicated.

#1

NAMES OF CHRIST

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”

Isaiah 9:2

#2

NAMES OF CHRIST

Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going.”

John 12:35

#3

NAMES OF CHRIST

I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

John 12:46

#4

NAMES OF CHRIST

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6

PRINTABLE CRAFT

NAMES OF CHRIST

I AM THE VINE (Video)

This craft will give you a chance to talk about some names for Jesus that have to do with nature — vines, branches, roots! Your students will understand the roots, vine, and leaves tie us and our Old Testament heroes together with Jesus!

MATERIALS

- Printable Craft Vine, (two pages) one copy for each student
- Coloring Utensils
- Stick glue
- Scissors
- Black Marker
- Large Sheets of Construction paper (18 by 12 inches), one sheet for each student.

PREPARATION

Print out one copy of the printable craft for each student.

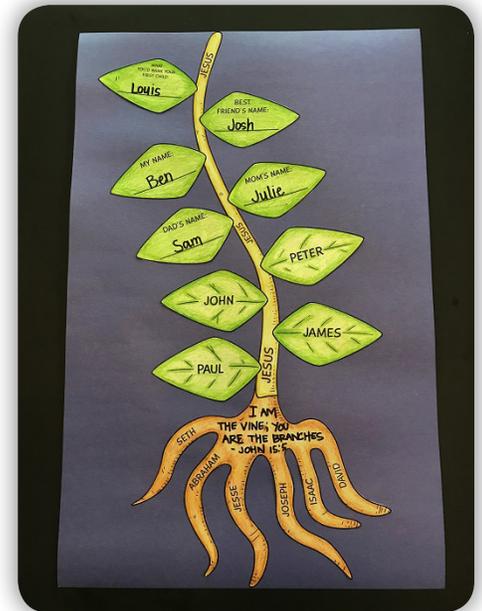
INTRODUCTION

Names for Jesus often have to do with nature. He’s been called the bright morning star, a light, a vine, the branch, and as we saw two weeks ago, he’s been called a rock and a stone!

Jesus said in John 15:5, “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

On most vines, each branch is small and green and ends in a leaf — sometimes with a leaf and a bloom or cluster of fruit. What happens if that small branch gets separated from the vine? *It dies.*

But as long as that branch stays on the vine, what happens? *It keeps growing and creating blooms or clusters of fruit.*



What happens if we decide we don't believe in Jesus anymore? *We're like a branch that has come away from the vine.*

The vine we are going to color has special names in it. Look at the roots? Who can say those names? Let them try. **Where do you recognize these names from?** *Old Testament.*

These are ancestors of Jesus that we know from Old Testament stories! Seth was Adam's third son, and Jesus descended from him. All the rest are in Old Testament prophecy, promising that Jesus would come from them.

That makes them the *roots* of Jesus. What does the vine say on it? *Jesus.*

Jesus said *he* was the vine in John 15:5. He came from the roots, and who are the leaves? *The Christians who came after him. First, there were the Apostles. We see four of their names here. They are among the earliest followers of Jesus.*

Then whose names are we supposed to write in? *We are the later followers of Jesus. But we are just as much a part of him. We go on the same vine. And once you've filled in the names...*

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE A GIANT LEAF FOR YOURSELF! Jesus is the vine and YOU are one of the leaves or branches!

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Color images as desired, keeping in mind that lighter colors work better so names still show through.
2. Cut out all the pieces.
3. On construction paper, use stick glue to secure the pieces, attaching the vine to the roots. Lay all the leaves out first before you start gluing to make sure the leaves are even. Attach the John, James, Paul, and Peter leaves toward the bottom of the Jesus vine. Attach the later-Christian leaves to the top of the Jesus vine.
4. Write names on corresponding leaves
5. Write at the bottom I AM THE VINE; YOU ARE THE BRANCHES. JOHN 15:5.



MOM'S NAME:

MY NAME:

DAD'S NAME:

BEST
FRIEND'S NAME:

WHAT
YOU'D NAME YOUR
FIRST CHILD:

"

SETH

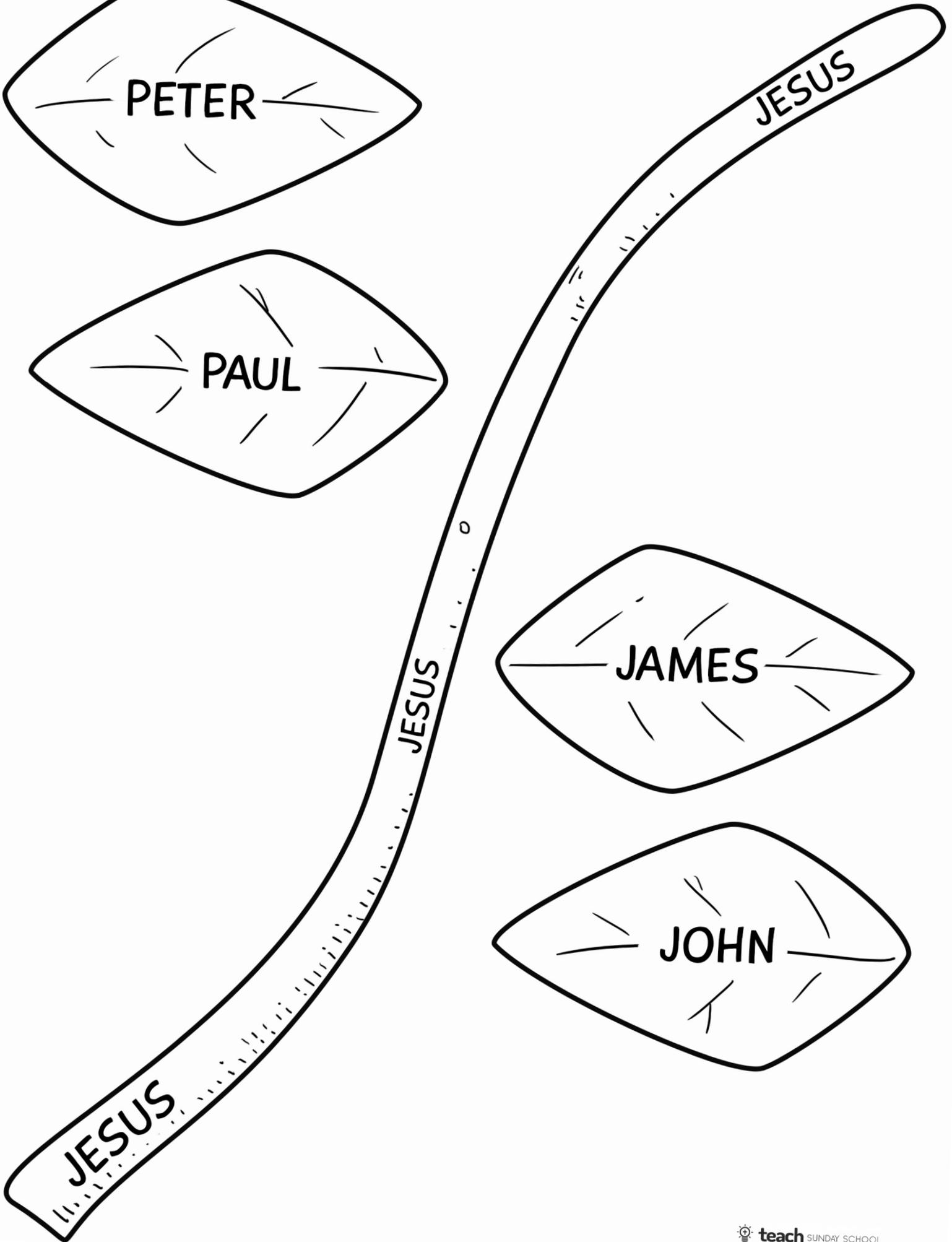
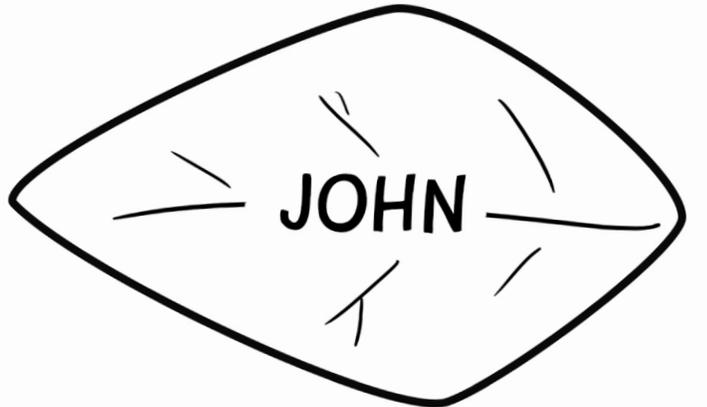
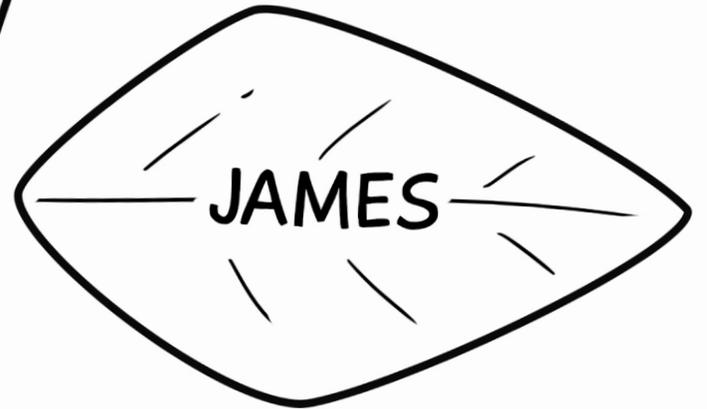
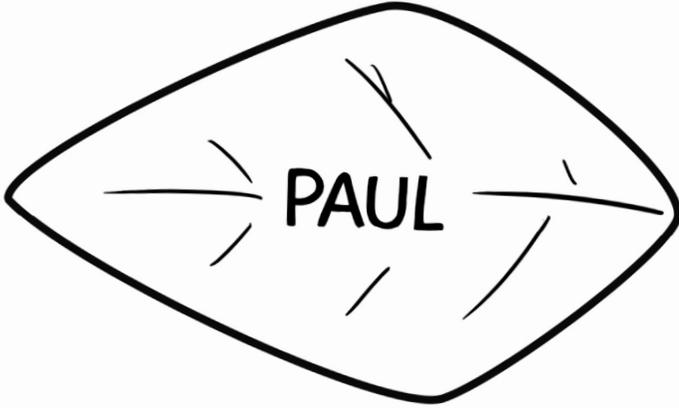
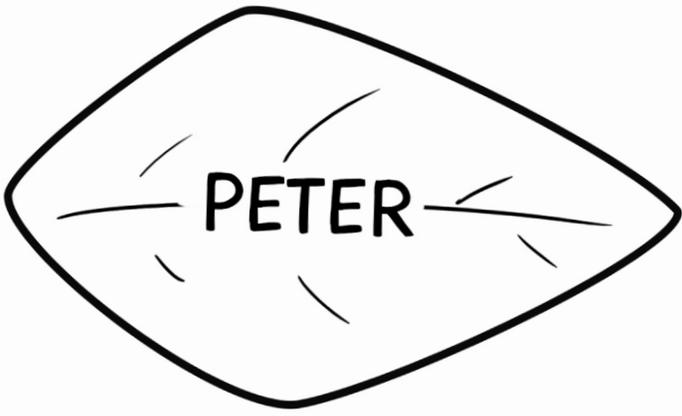
ABRAHAM

JESSE

JOSEPH

ISAAC

DAVID



Cinema Modeoff [Watch this video](#)
[The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock](#)

NAMES OF CHRIST

GAME STANDING ON THE ROCK TAG

Use the bedsheet from week #2 over again for this game! This game of tag will teach the kids the concept of being safe on the solid rock.

MATERIALS

- Blanket or Bedsheet

SCRIPTURE

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the **Rock** eternal. **Isaiah 26:4**

INTRODUCTION

Jesus is called several times in the scripture “the rock of our salvation.” Rocks are strong and big. On the beach when rogue waves crash on the shore, everything that’s in the sand gets washed back out to sea. Anything that is on the rock, which is high above the sand and surf, will be protected.

When we play this game of “standing on the rock,” which is a simple game of tag, let’s remember how rock-like Jesus is, and how we can trust him to be strong and protective when we’re in trouble and cry out for him.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Spread the blanket out on one end of the room. The blanket will represent *The Rock* on which we are safe.
2. Select one or two children to be *it*.
3. The children have to run from one side of the room to the other (where the rock is) without being tagged by those who are *it*.
4. Those who make it to the Rock are safe and those who get tagged are out.