

Promised Messiah

(Various Prophecies)

Pre-Session Warm Up

Wishes, Hopes and Dreams....

What sorts of things do you look forward to in the future? Are there things that you are hoping for or wishing for? [Teacher, write the children's responses on the board. Suggestions: Snow, participating in winter sports, being out of school for the holidays, birthdays, Christmas...]

Think of things other than gifts you want to receive, such as what job you'd like to have one day. Or, think of something you'd like to learn how to do such as play a musical instrument or learn a sport.

How does it feel to have to wait for wishes, hopes, or dreams to come true? (*Exciting, frustrating, frightening, discouraging*)

Think about how God's people might have felt while waiting for the Savior to be born. How do you think they kept from being discouraged? (*Prayed for patience, studied God's Word, lived God's way.*)

Getting ready is an important part of waiting. What would be a good thing for you to do while you're waiting for your wishes, hopes and dreams to come true?

Opening Prayer

Father, as we anticipate Christ coming, I pray that we will not forget the reason that He came. You promised that you would send a Savior who would rescue us from the penalty of sin. And, You did! Now we look forward to Jesus coming back again and taking us to heaven to be with Him forever. Help us not to waste time as we wait for His return. Cause us to prepare our hearts by living in such a way that is pleasing to You, Father. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Memory Verse

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)

Alternate verses:

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." (John 11:25)

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)

Lesson

The Promised Messiah

In the beginning, God created a perfect world and He was very satisfied with everything.

Genesis 1:31

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.

When Adam and Eve sinned, our holy God was saddened. His perfect creation was ruined. Immediately after that first sin, God made a promise that he would send a Savior. He told Adam and Eve that they would someday have an offspring that would crush Satan. God was referring to Jesus.

God promised Abraham that in him and his descendants all the world would be blessed.

Genesis 12:1-3

Now the Lord had said to Abram, "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. I

will bless those who bless you and I will curse him who curses you. And in you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

From the time of this promise to Abram, people expected a Savior to come who would govern a kingdom of God on earth among the Children of Israel.

After 400 years of slavery in Egypt, God raised up Moses who is a type of Jesus. Moses led the people out from the bondage of Pharaoh into the Promised Land. Jesus sets us free from the bondage of sin and is the way to everlasting peace in heaven.

Many hundreds of years later, after Moses led the Children of Israel into the Promised Land, God passed the promise on to David.

2 Samuel 7:12-13

When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

Here God was telling David that the Savior would come from David's offspring.

Here are just a few of the Old Testament prophecies of the coming Messiah — God's promised Savior:

Major Old Testament Prophecies

Promise	Verse	Text
The Messiah would be born		Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin

Promise	Verse	Text
of a virgin.	Isaiah 7:14	shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Emmanuel. Fulfillment: Luke 1:31-33
The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.	Micah 5:2	But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting. Fulfillment: Luke 2:4-5
The Messiah would be a descendant of the house of David.	2 Samuel 7:12	When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom forever.

Promise	Verse	Text
The Messiah would be a "Man of sorrows."	Isaiah 53:3	He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
The Messiah would be rejected by His own people.	Psalms 69:8	I have become a stranger to my brothers, and an alien to my mother's children.
The Messiah would be betrayed by a friend.	Psalms 41:9	Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me. Fulfillment: John 13:18, 26
The Messiah would be crucified between two thieves.	Isaiah 53:12	He poured out His soul unto death, and he was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many.
As He died, His spirit would		Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You

Promise	Verse	Text
be commended to His Father.	Psalms 31:5	have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. Fulfillment: Luke 23:46
The Messiah would be raised from the dead.	Psalms 16:10	For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. Fulfillment: Acts 2:32-36
He would take His place at the right hand of God.	Psalms 110:1	The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool."
He will some day return to earth to reign.	Zechariah 6:11-15	He shall bear the glory and shall sit and rule on His throne.

Fulfillment in Jesus Christ

Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies when He came to deliver humans from the reign of sin and bind us into God's family.

Luke 4:16-19

So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the Synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted. To proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Jesus fulfilled over 300 specific prophecies from the Bible. Here are just a few:

Promise	Verse	Text
He prophesied that He would die, and rise again.	Matthew 16:21	From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things ... and be killed, and be raised the third day.
He prophesied that He would sit on David's throne.	Matthew 19:28	So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones,

Promise	Verse	Text
		judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”
	Luke 1:32-33	He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.
He became the full and final sacrifice for sins.	John 10:11-18	I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep...I lay down My life for the sheep.
	Hebrews 9:12	Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.
He taught that	John 18:36	Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom

Promise	Verse	Text
His kingdom is not part of this present world system.		were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”

After Jesus’ death and resurrection, Peter boldly proclaimed that Jesus was the promised One. At the end of his sermon, he said...

Acts 2:36-39

“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

Everyone in the world — including you and me — is born a sinner and needs to be saved. God knew we would need a Savior right from the beginning. That’s why He made the promise to Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, and David.

And, God was faithful to His promise. He came in human form and was born as a baby in Bethlehem. He lived a sinless life and experienced a savage death by being nailed to a cross. Because Jesus gave His blood when He died on the cross, we can be forgiven and saved from the punishment for sin.

Now we look forward to the fulfillment of God’s other promises. He will

come back to get us and take us to the place that he went away to prepare for us. We can count on Him being faithful to His Word.

Future Prophecies

Promise	Verse	Text
He promised that He would come again in great power.	Mark 13:26	Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.
	John 14:3	And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.
	Acts 1:11	This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.

We can count on God to be faithful to His Word.

Meanwhile we should prepare ourselves for His coming. What would be the best way to get ready for His return? (*Teacher, let the children respond.*)

Closing Prayer

Father, it is so exciting to think that any day now Jesus could come in great power and glory to get us! We look forward to that day with the same anticipation that we wait for Christmas. But Lord, we don't want You to catch us doing something ungodly on the day that you return. Cause us to keep our minds and hearts centered on the things of God, not on the things of this world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Learning Activities

Craft Corner

Heaven is a Wonderful Place. What will the mansion Jesus is preparing for us be like? Copy a Heavenly Mansion from the last page in Lesson #1 for each child onto card stock. Allow them to color and decorate their mansions. Have them choose their favorite door and windows to glue on and color. Ask them which aspect of heaven is most exciting for them to think about. As they work ask, "How do you feel when you remember the hope Jesus gives us? How does hoping in Heaven make your hard problems easier to work through?"

Or, you may also use the following optional directions:

Heavenly-Mansion Doorstop

Purpose: *Look forward to Heaven.*

Materials: *gift wrap, scissors, newspaper, duct tape, clear tape, glue; for each child: small brick or rock, two copies of the Heavenly Mansion (page 6), one copy of the windows and doors (page 6), one cereal box*

1. Say: "Jesus is preparing a permanent home for us in Heaven. He is our hope for life that never ends."
2. Ahead of time, use a craft knife to cut open the windows and doors of the mansions. Guide the children to make their doorstops. Give these instructions: Place the brick or rock in the bottom of the cereal box, stuffing crumbled newspaper around it to fill up the box. Tape the cereal box tightly closed with duct tape. Wrap the cereal box in gift wrap. Glue two mansions, side-by-side, on the front, making certain that the brick is at the bottom of the box. Choose which picture to glue behind each window or door.
3. Ask: "Which window or door is your favorite one to open? How do you feel when you remember the hope Jesus gives to us? How does hoping in Heaven make your hard problems easier to work through?"

Game Center

Use the following questions as a hand out, send it home as a "take home" paper, or use in a game of your choice.

The Long Wait

In the beginning, God created a wonderful world.

1. _____ and _____ disobeyed God and brought sin into the world. But God promised a Savior who would save people everywhere from sin.

2. God told a man named _____ that the Savior would come from his family.
3. _____ led God's people out of Egypt where they had been slaves. As they traveled to the promised land, God made another promise: One day a Savior would lead God's people out of the slavery of sin.
4. Later God's people became the nation of Israel. God repeated His promise. The Savior would come through the family of King _____.

Over and over again God spoke to His people through prophets. These men reminded Israel of the coming Messiah — God's promised Savior. God's people listened and waited in hope.

5. One of the greatest prophets was a man named _____. He told Israel many things about the Messiah.

Read Isaiah 7:14.

6. Isaiah said that the Lord would send a sign when the Savior came. A virgin would have a _____ named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Isaiah promised that the Savior's birth would be like a great light that suddenly brings joy and life to people trapped in darkness.

Isaiah wrote that the Savior would come as a child and someday be a great ruler.

Read Isaiah 9:6.

7. For whom would this child be born? _____

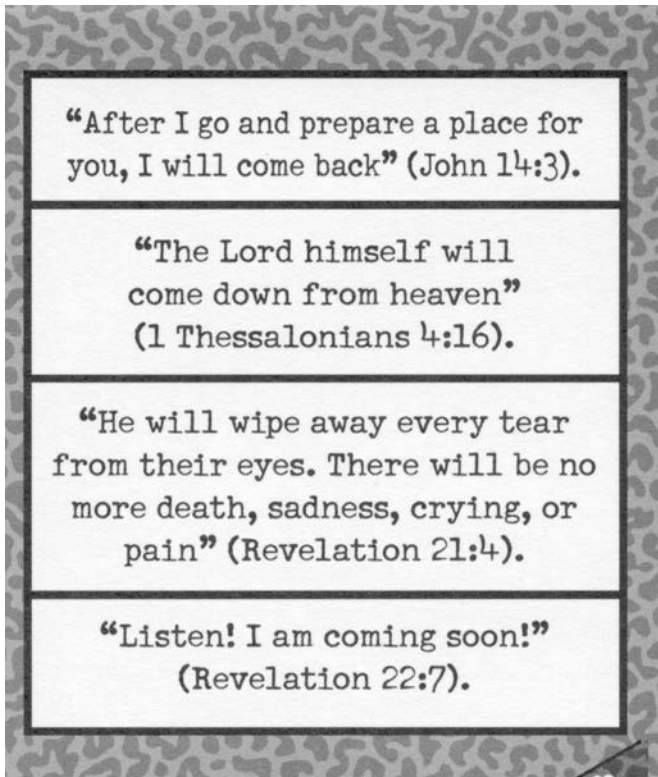
(This meant the Jews, but the Savior also came for all of "us.")

8. Also, a prophet named Micah promised that the Savior would be born in the tiny town of _____.

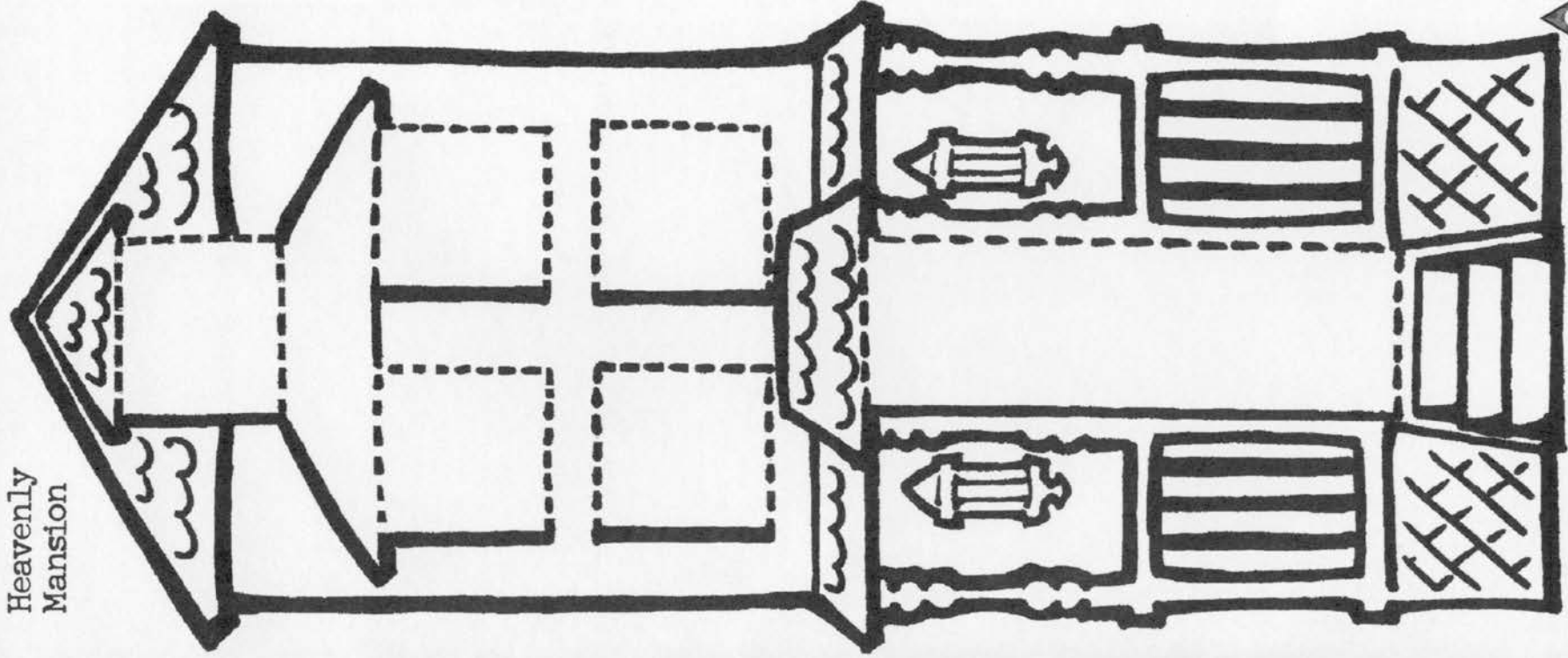
At last the long wait for the Savior was coming to an end. God's great promise was about to come true.











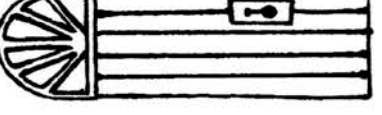


For to us a child is born to us a son is given... (Isaiah 9:6)

Experiment: You will need a kitchen timer, a piece of candy (or some other tantalizing goodie) for each child, and the verses that follow taped to four pieces of candy. Say, "When this timer rings, I will give each of you a piece of candy. I am going to set the timer for 2 minutes. During those 2 minutes I will write down words that you call out that describe your feelings as you wait to get your candy." When the timer rings, pass out the candy. Ask the four children whose candy has an attached scripture to read their verse to the class. Describe how we look forward to Jesus' return using all of the words the children called out that are suitable (i.e., excited, curious, anxious, etc.)



Heavenly Mansion



<p>We will see Jesus. Revelation 22:4</p> 	<p>We will rule forever. Revelation 22:5</p> 	<p>We won't need the sun. Revelation 22:5</p> 
<p>There will be no death. Revelation 21:4</p> 	<p>There will be no pain. Revelation 21:4</p> 	<p>We will live with Jesus. Revelation 21:3</p> 
<p>He will wipe away all tears. Revelation 21:4</p> 	<p>There will be no sadness. Revelation 21:4</p> 	<p>The glory of God will shine. Revelation 21:11</p> 
<p>We will eat from the tree of life. Revelation 22:14</p> 	<p>We will enter the gates of Heaven. Revelation 22:14</p> 	<p>Angels will guard the gates. Revelation 21:12</p> 
	<p>There will be no night. Revelation 21:25</p> 	<p>There will be streets of gold. Revelation 21:4</p> 