# The Most Important Thing ...

Children's Sermon from 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

## Children's Sermon Lesson Message on the Reliability of Christ: What does it



mean to believe in Jesus? How do we know the truth of what He says and who He is? We teach children many stories from the Bible, but it is important for us to emphasize that the Bible is the true word of God, and every story in it actually happened. This message contrasts popular legends and fairy tale stories with the life of Jesus, to explain that Jesus truly did live on Earth. The message also reminds kids that although we don't see Him, He is still alive and with us today!

Law/Gospel Theme: We have the wonderful promise of salvation through Christ alone. However, what can convince us of the truth of this? Scripture reminds us that Jesus is not just another story or legend. We have the hope of knowing that the Bible is the true and reliable Word of God. The Gospel good news we have assures us that Jesus truly lived, died, and rose again, which provides us with peace and joy that can only be found in knowing the Lord. This passage reminds us that we can trust in Jesus and put Him first in our lives.

Optional Materials: Books or images that contain elements of myth, fairy tale, or legend (optional).

Bible Passage: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

### More Teaching Ideas:

- Watch the video demonstration of this children's sermon and related Bible Craft ideas
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- Download our free <u>1 Corinthains Bible Coloring Page</u>
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## Children's Sermon (1 Corinthians 15:1-11) The Most Important Thing

Greet children and discuss strange legends...

Hello, children of God! Have you ever heard something that sounded too strange to be true? For instance, what if I told you that this book gave me precise instructions for spotting alien spaceships? (*Feel free to use other stories or examples as appropriate to the materials or audience you might have*). Really, check it out! There's even a picture...Okay, maybe you wouldn't believe that one. But this one is real...I have this map that will tell me exactly where I can find bigfoot! There's a trail marked out and everything. I think you might still be doubting. You don't really believe me, do you? Well, I guess it makes sense that you might be skeptical. After all, I don't really have proof of these things, and you know they aren't actually real. Describing these myths and legends is a bit like reading fairy tales (*hold up fictional story/fairy tale*). They're interesting, but we know they aren't true.

Do you know what? Some people think this way about Jesus, unfortunately. There are people out there who believe Jesus was like a legend or a myth. Some might think that He was a person who lived, but He was just a teacher or good guy, and not actually God's Son. People doubt that what the Bible says is true. So how do we respond? How do we know that we can trust Jesus?

Well, for one thing, we can actually look at a lot of scientific and historic evidence that proves the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. There are many prophecies that were made before Jesus came to live, that came true with His life. Besides that, we have the words of Jesus Himself, as well as a lot of others who saw Him and witnessed the work He did.

Paul reminds us of this in the book of 1 Corinthians. He describes how Jesus appeared to people after He came back to life from the dead. He truly died, and He truly came back to life. He showed up for the apostles, and then to over five hundred people! And then He came to Paul. Paul called himself the "least of the apostles" because he had tried to hurt the followers of Jesus before his conversion. But Paul knew first hand how real and how important Jesus is. After meeting Christ, he devoted his life to serving Him. Paul knew that it was God working in and through him that made anything possible.

The same is true of us, to an extent. We don't actually see Jesus with our eyes. He lived on Earth many years ago, so we have not walked with Him physically. However, we know and trust that He

Copyright © <u>Ministry-To-Children.com</u> – Permission granted for any non-profit use. Written by <u>Kristin Schmidt</u>. Scripture from ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles lived, and that He continues to be present with us. He cares for us and gives us what we need. Jesus is not a myth like Bigfoot or the Loch Ness Monster. He is God, come to Earth as a human to die and pay the price for our sins. Knowing that Jesus is true and that He died for us should provide us with great joy and excitement! We can have faith to believe His words. We don't see Him in bodily form on Earth, but we can see the work He does and we can be His hands and feet as we love others and share the good news of the Gospel. Paul's work is ours, too!

Let's pray and thank God for being real and true...

## Prayer:

(Have kids repeat each line) Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus Thank you that we can trust and hope in Him Help us to keep that hope And share your promises with others around us Thank you for your love We love you, God! In Jesus name, Amen!

### **Bible Verses/story to Reference:**

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed. -<u>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</u>

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Thank you for downloading these free materials. Our team is grateful for your trust and pray that God will bless your ministry.

This resource was prepared by <u>Kristin Schmidt</u> (pictured right). She serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO. She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.



Every week she writes new Sunday School lessons, Bible crafts, and children's sermons.

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May 2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

My name is Tony Kummer (pictured below). I started Ministry-To-Chidlren.com in 2007 as a free resource for anyone sharing Jesus with kids. It is my personal honor to share these resources with churches around the world.



<u>Reader donations</u> and your support at <u>The Sunday School Store</u> fund these free materials. Please keep us in mind when you are choosing your next children's ministry curriculum.

If you enjoy our material, be sure to <u>sign-up for my free email newsletter</u> called "Sunday School Works!" Every Tuesday, I send the latest new lessons, crafts, and coloring pages in print-friendly format to make your lesson planning easy.

May God continue to bless your ministry!

Jony Kummer

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