

Who Is Jesus Christ?

Tomás was lost. He was supposed to be going to Terrence's house, but all the streets looked the same. Tomás knew he should probably turn around and go home, but he kept walking. Tomás knew he was way off track, but he didn't know how to get back on the right road.

"What are you doing way over here?" Terrence called when he saw Tomás.

Tomás felt relieved. "I'm lost. I didn't know where to go."

"That's OK. I'm walking my dog. If you walk back with us I can show you the way."



Liguori Publications • © 2017 All rights reserved.

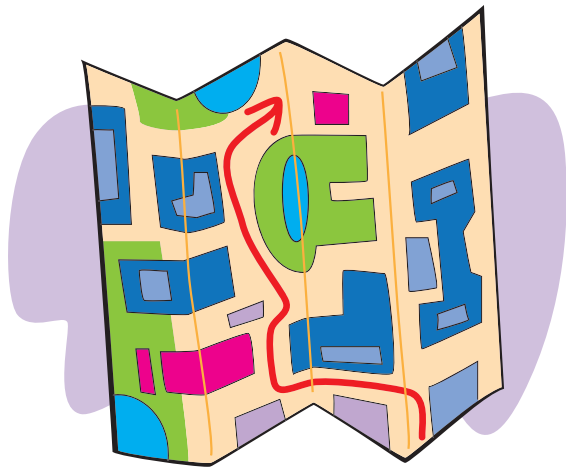
Liguori.org • 800-325-9521

CCC: 514-682

Who Is Jesus?

Jesus is the most important person in our journey toward God. Jesus Christ is the center of our faith. Without Jesus, we couldn't know God. Without Jesus, there would be no Church.

Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). Let's look at those words carefully.

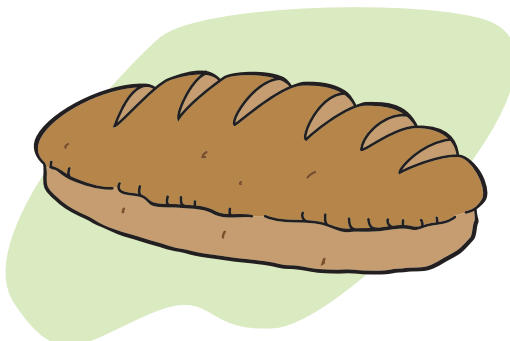


The Way

Jesus is the Way to God. When we know Jesus, we know God. What we learn from Jesus leads us closer to God.



How does Jesus lead you to God?



The Truth

Jesus didn't say, "What I tell you is the truth," but "I am the truth." Jesus asks us to believe in him because he is God. When we believe in someone, we trust what they say is true, too. That's why we also believe what Jesus taught.



Do you believe that Jesus is really God?

The Life

Jesus taught us how to live by his example. Jesus would often go off alone and pray. This helped him understand and obey his Father. We also spend time in prayer and live by God's rules. Jesus brings us everlasting life. That good news fills our lives with joy and hope.



What in your life brings you joy or hope?

Jesus Is...

Jesus didn't only perform good deeds. He also said a lot of things about himself. Here are a few:

- "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). How does light help you see? How is Jesus like a light?
- "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:14). What does a shepherd do? How is Jesus like a shepherd?
- "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower" (John 15:1). How does a vine help the plant it's attached to? How is Jesus like a vine?
- "I am the bread of life" (John 6:48). How does food give you life? How is Jesus like food?

The Life of Jesus

We read about Jesus' life in the **Gospels** of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Jesus' birth was a miracle. God sent an angel named Gabriel to ask a girl named Mary if she was willing to be Jesus' mother. She was engaged to a man named Joseph. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, and Mary and Joseph helped him to grow knowing and loving God.

Jesus did many good things. He taught people about God. He forgave people when they were sorry for the wrong things they'd done. He also healed people who were sick or injured. Some of the most exciting stories about Jesus describe the miracles he performed. A **miracle** is an event that doesn't have a scientific explanation. It seems impossible, but there's proof that it happened.

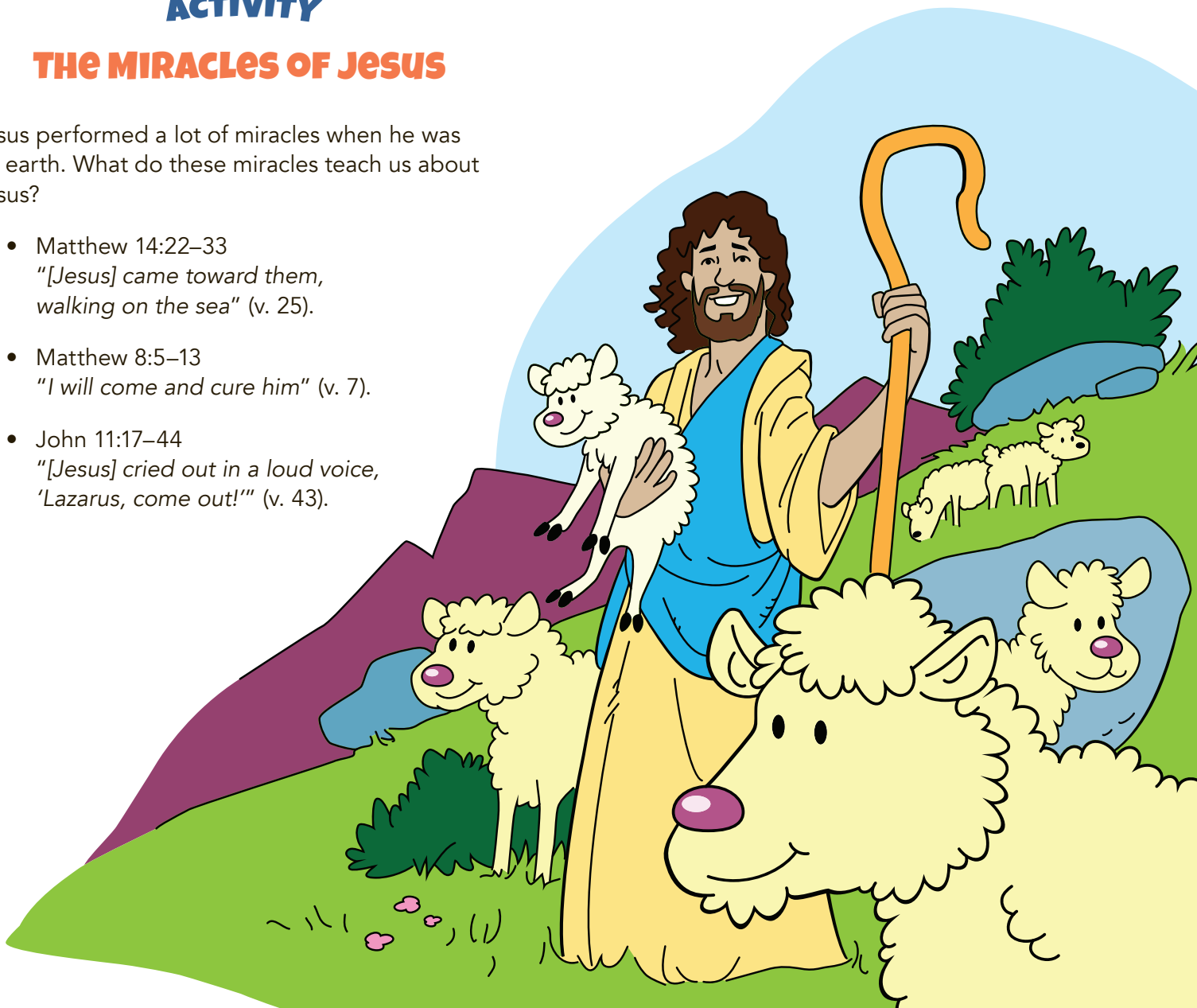
Not everyone liked what Jesus was doing or saying. So the religious leaders of the time plotted to have Jesus killed on a cross. Jesus knew what they were planning, but he let them plot anyway. Jesus died on a cross, but three days later, the greatest miracle of all happened. Jesus rose from the dead! He appeared to his friends so they would know he was alive. Anyone who believes in Jesus knows that he is real and lives forever.

ACTIVITY

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

Jesus performed a lot of miracles when he was on earth. What do these miracles teach us about Jesus?

- Matthew 14:22–33
"[Jesus] came toward them, walking on the sea" (v. 25).
- Matthew 8:5–13
"I will come and cure him" (v. 7).
- John 11:17–44
"[Jesus] cried out in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'" (v. 43).





List five things you learned about Jesus today.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

In Short

- Jesus is fully human and fully divine.
- Christ is the way to the Father and salvation.
- Your friendship with Jesus grows through sharing and reflection.



Journey of Faith for Children, Inquiry, Q4 (826351)

Imprimi Potest: Stephen T. Rehrauer, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists.

Imprimatur: “In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish has been granted on May 3, 2017, by Bishop Mark S. Rivituso, Vicar General, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication, nor is any liability assumed by this permission.”

Journey of Faith © 2000, 2017 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057. To order, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, stored, transmitted, or posted in any form by any means without prior written permission.

Editors of the 2017 *Journey of Faith for Children*: Theresa Nienaber-Panuski and Pat Fosarelli, MD, DMin.

Design and production: Wendy Barnes, Lorena Mitre Jimenez, John Krus, and Bill Townsend. Illustrations: Jeff Albrecht.

Unless noted, Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2000, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C., and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All Rights Reserved. No part of the *New American Bible* may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner. Excerpts from the English translation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church for the United States of America* © 1994 United States Catholic Conference, Inc.—*Libreria Editrice Vaticana*; English translation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church: Modifications from the Editio Typica* © 1997 United States Catholic Conference, Inc.—*Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. Compliant with *The Roman Missal, Third Edition*.

Printed in the United States of America. 21 20 19 18 17 / 5 4 3 2 1. Third Edition.