

# THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

## CHAPTER 25

**Timeless Truth:** Jesus is the promised Messiah.

**Bible Basis:** Matthew 17; 21; Mark 8-12; 14; Luke 9; 22; John 7-8; 11-12

**Key Verse:** "They all shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!' 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!' 'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'" Matthew 21:9, NIrV

**Parent Tips:** Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table at some point this week, and/or use the questions inside your books. Pick the questions that work best for your family. The Living Faith section (on the back) is a fun activity for you to do.

### GET THE POINT

**Preschool/Elementary:** Jesus, the Son of God, deserves our worship. I can give him my best praise.

**Middle School/High School:** Jesus is the Son of God and deserves our everything.

### TABLE TALK

#### Preschool/Elementary

- Jesus loves children. In this chapter of The Story, the disciples try to keep little children from coming to Jesus. Jesus got mad and said, "let the little children come to me." How does that make you feel?
- Do you think Jesus understands what it's like to be a child? Why?
- Jesus said, "Anyone who will not receive God's kingdom like a little child will never enter it." What do you think that means?
- What part do you like best about Jesus?
- What's your favorite story about Jesus so far?

#### Middle/High School

(other side)



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## **Middle School/High School**

- Jesus used startling statements to grab people's attention. In this chapter of *The Story*, he says "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me . . . will save it." What do you think that means? Do you think it's true? Why?
- Why do some of Jesus' teachings seem so opposite of what society says?
- Which of Jesus' teachings are the hardest for you to understand?
- Is it possible to follow the Bible's commands without fully understanding them?
- Talk about how faith impacts your walk with the Lord.

### **Living Faith**

In this chapter of *The Story*, Jesus makes it very clear that he is God's Son and the Messiah who's come to save people from their sins. Some people didn't like his teachings and walked away from him. The same thing happens today as people wrestle with what Jesus said. History records the fact that Jesus walked the earth and taught many people. But Jesus said he was God, and that causes a dilemma for people--or as C.S. Lewis might say, a "trilemma," as they decide if they think Jesus was a liar, lunatic or Lord. Figuring out what you think about Jesus is the most important decision you'll ever make.

C.S. Lewis is best known for writing *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and all of *The Chronicles of Narnia*, but he also wrote some great books about theology, including *Mere Christianity*. In that book he writes: "I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus is a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic--on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg--or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

After reading the above excerpt from *Mere Christianity*, discuss it as a family.

- What do you like best about Lewis' thinking?
- Why is this argument so effective?
- What do you think people who aren't Jesus followers would think about these statements?