



THE EASTER STORY

TEACHERS' GUIDE

LESSON 1: JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

THE
KING
OF
KINGS

A Story Told by Charles Dickens



mofac

ANGEL

KOVA

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OVERVIEW

The King of Kings is a full-length animated film from Angel Studios that brings the life of Jesus to the screen with heartfelt imagination and biblical faithfulness.

Inspired by Charles Dickens' short book, *The Life of Our Lord*, the film features Dickens sharing the story of Jesus with his young son, Walter. As the story unfolds, father and son imagine themselves present during Jesus' life.

The words spoken by Jesus throughout the film remain true to Scripture, and through the lens of a child's imagination, we witness his miracles, hear his teachings and see the power of his love and sacrifice. What begins as a simple bedtime story becomes a meaningful journey of discovery.

The King of Kings invites viewers to encounter the hope, truth and redemption of the gospel through the wonder-filled eyes of a child.

INTRODUCE THE LESSON BY STATING THE LEARNING INTENTIONS AND SUCCESS CRITERIA (SLIDE 1)

Today's lesson will look at Jesus' journey from villages around the province of Judea to the city of Jerusalem. We will consider some key events from along the journey that are important to Christians as they celebrate Easter.

SET THE CONTEXT

Jesus had been travelling around different places to teach people about God, and along the way he performed different miracles in front of crowds of people. Some examples of these can be read from the Bible: the feeding of 5,000 people in Matthew 14:13–21 and Jesus healing a blind man in Mark 8:22–25. After some time, Jesus and his friends (called disciples) moved away from the crowds to a quieter place, and Jesus asks the disciples to reflect on who people believed he was.

PART 1: WHO DO PEOPLE SAY JESUS IS? (SLIDE 2)

Ask learners to watch the clip and listen out for the different ways that Jesus is described. They can take notes and draw lines between the 'person/s' and 'belief' in section 1 of the supporting activity sheet.

Watch clip.

Discuss the answers with learners referring to the answer code, and have learners consider the reflective questions (SLIDE 3).

PART 2: WHO DOES JESUS CLAIM TO BE?

In the clip, the character of Jesus says 'Help me show the people why you put me here on earth' before the event of raising Lazarus from the dead. This is referring to words from a passage in the New Testament book of John in the Bible. Read the verses (SLIDE 4), and ask learners to discuss the related reflection questions (SLIDE 5).

PART 3: SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN THE STORY SO FAR

There are a number of key events demonstrated in this video clip taken from passages in the Bible that unfold the Easter story. Christians believe that each of these events tell them something about Jesus. Consider each one of the key events after Jesus predicts his death, and reflect upon the *reactions* of the character/s and the *reasons* why (SLIDE 6):

- Pharisees plot against Jesus
- Mary pours perfume on him



- The welcome from the crowd in Jerusalem
- Jesus angry in the temple courts

Refer to the learning intentions and success criteria of the lesson (**SLIDE 7**), and as their final task, ask learners to describe one event from the early part of the Easter story. The next part of the story will be explored in the next lesson. Further learning opportunity suggestions can be viewed with learners (**SLIDE 8**). If appropriate, these can be amended to suit the needs of the class stage.

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Create a glossary of terms by researching some of the unfamiliar vocabulary used in the lesson.
- Research the ancient Roman-influenced city of Jerusalem.
- Use stop-motion animation to re-enact a significant part of the story so far.
- Create a map of the area that this story takes place.