

JESUS IS INVINCIBLE

SERIES: SANCTIFIED

Join us throughout the month of August as we learn how God SANCTIFIES us when we choose to live for Him. We will be going through the books of 1 Corinthians, James, and Revelation.

REMEMBER VERSE

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23—May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SCHEDULE

All Services

0:00—0:10	Welcome/Check-In
0:10—0:15	Transition to Large Group
0:15—0:30	Large Group (B100)
0:30—0:35	Transition to Small Group
0:35—1:05	Small Group (Lesson/Activity/Respond)
1:05—1:15	Dismiss

NOTES

LEADER RESOURCES

SERIES OVERVIEW

WEEK 1: God Is Love

Letter to the Corinthians

WEEK 2: God Is Wisdom

Letter from James

CURRENT WEEK: Jesus Is Invincible

Return of Christ

WEEK 4: Remember & Celebrate

ZONK!

EQUIP

Jesus is invincible! Some of the best images that describe His invincibility can be found in the book of Revelation. John wrote this book in the apocalyptic genre. The word apocalypse means "an unveiling," and the book of Revelation truly unveils Jesus Christ in all His fullness.

Inspiration for Revelation

On the island of Patmos, an angel visited John and instructed him to write down this revelation of Jesus Christ and send it to seven churches. The purpose was to give these Christians hope and strength in the midst of persecution. This revelation gave them a glimpse and reminder of what they were fighting for.

Language of Revelation

Apocalyptic literature consists of symbolic visions recorded exactly as they were seen by the author and explained through a divine interpreter. Typical of the apocalyptic genre, John used symbolic language like a secret "code." For instance, first-century Jews would decipher "lampstands" to mean "churches," and "Babylon" usually referred to Rome. But those outside the church, such as Roman officials, wouldn't know the meanings of these terms.

Many of the images and metaphors in this book may also seem foreign to modern-day readers. That's because many of the images mirror Old Testament illustrations, and most of us today aren't as familiar with the Old Testament as John's readers would've been.

Symbolism in apocalyptic literature and prophetic language can refer to both soon-to-come and far-off fulfillments at the same time. For example, Daniel (another apocalyptic book) refers to an evil ruler who is to come. Daniel is pointing his readers to both Antiochus Epiphanes, who would soon come on the scene, as well as to the antichrist, who would arise in the end times.

Purpose for Us in Revelation

Revelation was written to a contemporary audience for a contemporary purpose. But the message still speaks to us today, revealing Jesus' true nature as astounding, terrifying, and beautiful. How incredible to know that one day our invincible Lord will vanquish evil. This gives us hope for the future and strength for today.

ENCOURAGE

The word invincible means "incapable of being conquered, defeated, or subdued." Synonyms for invincible include impassable, impregnable, indomitable, insuperable, invulnerable, irresistible, insurmountable, unassailable, unbeatable, unconquerable, and undefeatable.

When you reflect on these words as they describe Jesus, what images of Him come to mind? How do these images change how you think about your future, your plans—even your afternoon? Imagine your Savior, Jesus, as not only the suffering servant, who modeled perfect love for us here on earth, but also the invincible Lord of the universe who reveals the fullness of God!

Spend some time worshipping our invincible God. Allow God to fill you with the inspiration and strength that come from knowing that one day He will destroy all evil and bring you to live with Him—the invincible One—in heaven forever.

WELCOME

Some fun ideas to welcome kids as they check-in to your room at the beginning of service.

Invite the kids to color on the provided coloring page or work on the provided activity page.

As kids arrive, feel free to ask them this week's Connect Question. Feel free to write the question on the board and encourage some fun dialogue before you start your lesson.

QUESTION: Have you ever been injured or broken a bone? What happened?

RESPOND

A chance for kids to respond to what God is putting on their hearts through creative expression.

The book of Revelation lets us jump ahead to the end of the story, and guess what—Jesus wins! Jesus returns in power and might to conquer and destroy evil forever. Because Jesus is invincible, we can trust that Jesus is and will always be victorious!

INSTRUCTIONS: Hand each child a Jesus is Invincible Shield. Have kids decorate how they would like. When finished, have them cut it out. If they would like to add a strap to the back, they can use extra paper and glue a strip to the back. Remind them that Jesus is a mighty warrior who wins every battle—He is Invincible!

SUPPLIES:

- Jesus Is Invincible Shield
- Coloring Supplies
- Stickers
- Tissue paper
- Glue
- Scissors

REFLECT

A chance to reflect on what kids have just learned about The Big God Story.

The book of Revelation tells us that Jesus will win in the final battle against evil. Nothing and no one can defeat Jesus!

- Why was John on the island of Patmos? *Revelation 1:9*
- To whom did John write his letter? *Revelation 1:4*
- Why did these churches need his letter?
- How will Jesus look when He returns compared to how He looked during His first time on earth? *Isaiah 53:2-4; Revelation 1:13-16*
- What does the word invincible mean? How is Jesus invincible?
- How do we know Jesus will come back? *Revelation 22:20*
- What will happen when Jesus returns? *Revelation 1:7*

BLESS

A powerful way to bless the kids and parents by sending them off with a benediction.

INSTRUCTIONS: Invite the parents into your room at the end of the service to say one last prayer together with the whole family. Instruct them to find their child and sit/stand by their side. Explain what their child learned today and read the verse below. Pray together and then dismiss.

REVELATION 21:5-7 – He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

BLESSING: May you know that Jesus is invincible! May your heart be full of joy and hope as you wait for His return.

NOTES

This script serves as an outline of what your storytelling might sound like. Items written in italics are cues for the storyteller and are not meant to be read out loud. You are fully encouraged to make it your own and add a personal touch.

The script serves as an example, however if you would like to teach based on the script and are in need of any supplies mentioned, we would be happy to supply those for you! Storytelling images mentioned will always be provided in your basket each week, but if you need any other supplies for your lesson, contact a Grove KIDS Staff member beforehand so we can supply it for you! You are also welcome to bring in your own props if you would like!

RESOURCES PROVIDED

- Island of Patmos Image
- Snow Image
- Blazing Fire Image
- Double-Edged Sword Image\
- Sun Shining Image

STORYTELLING

When someone wins every battle, it's called being undefeated. Do any of you know the word that describes someone so powerful that he's unbeatable, unstoppable, there's no possible way he could ever be defeated? *Encourage kids to answer.* It's called being "invincible." Today's part of The Big God Story shows us that Jesus is invincible. He is all-powerful, and no one can defeat Him. Let's pause and invite God to teach us today. *Lead the children in a Prayer of Release to pause, be still, and ask the Holy Spirit to quiet their hearts and minds.*

Throughout The Big God Story we've heard a lot about Jesus. What do you know about Jesus? *Invite answers.* Great thoughts! We heard how He is the Redeemer God promised to send. He's the One who made the way for God's people to be in perfect relationship with Him. He was also born in a manger in a small town called Bethlehem. During His lifetime He served others, healed them, and spoke to them about God. Then, Jesus died, rose again, and went up into heaven. After that, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to comfort and teach us. Throughout The Big God Story, Jesus modeled for us how to love God and others. And someday Jesus will return in all His glory—as the invincible One.

What do you think it will be like when Jesus returns? *Invite answers.* What do you think Jesus will look like? *Encourage kids to answer.* You know what's really cool? In the Bible we can read about all of these things in a letter called "The Revelation of Jesus Christ"—or the book of Revelation. It's the very last book in the Bible.

You've been hearing about the many letters that Paul and James sent out to the first churches to encourage them and strengthen them in their faith. Well, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" was also a letter written to the early churches—but a very different kind of letter. It was a letter describing a vision that an angel gave to a man named John.

Island of Patmos image. Because the Roman authorities didn't like John spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, they sent him away to an island called Patmos. There, an angel met with him and told him many amazing things. So the first thing John did was write a letter describing what the angel showed him and what Jesus looked like. John described Jesus as victorious, triumphant, and

invincible!

Turn with me in your Bibles to the very last book, Revelation. *Read Revelation 1:13.* John saw Jesus "dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest." *Continue reading Revelation 1:14.* *Snow image at words "white as snow," then Blazing Fire image.* *Ask a volunteer to continue reading verse 15.* *Have a new volunteer read verse 16.* *Double-edged Sword image at "mouth" and then Sun Shining image.*

Wow! What an amazing picture of Jesus in all His glory! John was so overwhelmed by this vision of Jesus that he fell on his face and worshipped Him.

Then John wrote many, many more chapters describing the battles between good and evil that will eventually take place—and how Jesus will win because He is invincible! Turn to chapter 19 and let's read about this celebration of Jesus' unbeatable power. *Ask a volunteer to read Revelation 19:6.* This will be an amazing moment when all of heaven rejoices in their invincible King! And what's really cool is the Bible says everyone will see it!

This is all pretty great ... but there's more. Put your finger on Revelation 19:11. John again described Jesus as He will appear in all His invincible glory at the end of the battle. *Have children close eyes as you read Revelation 19:11-16.* How many of you remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey? *Encourage kids to raise their hands.* In this letter, Jesus is riding on a white horse of victory. How many of you remember Jesus dressed as a man, washing His disciples' feet? *Encourage kids to raise their hands.* *Jesus on White Horse image.* *Direct children to open their eyes.* Here we see Him as the invincible One, radiating the glory of God and followed by the armies of heaven. How many of you remember Jesus wearing a crown of thorns? Now lots of crowns sit on His head, because He's "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" (v. 16). Wow! Jesus is the King of Kings, showing us all of God's glory.

In this great battle, Jesus defeats Satan and all the evil of this world. What began back in the garden of Eden is completed as Jesus, in power and glory, takes His place as the absolute ruler of the earth. Jesus defeats Satan. Jesus defeats evil. Jesus is invincible. We who believe in Him will get to live with Him, our invincible King, in heaven forever! *Read Revelation 21:3-4.*

The Bible says, "The old order of things has passed away." What do you think that means? *Encourage kids to*

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answer. Yes! After all this time, God will do what He said He would do in the beginning of The Big God Story: He will create a new heaven and a new earth! God will beat all evil, destroy death, and make everything new. And we will see Him face to face. I don't know about you, but I think that sounds really amazing! I want to be saved by an invincible King of Kings and Lord of Lords. I want to see Jesus return! I want Him to come back fully revealed as the glory of God, showing us once and for all what love and truth really look like! I want Him to return—for all people to see! *Share what you're personally most looking forward to about Jesus' return.*

Jesus is returning to earth. He is invincible. He can't be defeated. What do we do when we have this kind of amazing hope in an invincible God? What do we do because our Savior has promised to return to us? We shout, "Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!" *Have kids stand and shout, "Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!" as a group.*

RESOURCES PROVIDED

- None