

SEASON OF ADVENT

Week 1: December 2, First Sunday of Advent – “Stand” Luke 21:25-36

Note to the Teacher

The key emphasis for the lesson this week (Luke 21:25-36) is that God offers us the promise of hope and redemption in challenging times, and we are called to “stand up” (Luke 21:28) knowing that God keeps promises. This lesson doesn’t necessarily follow traditional Christmas scriptures, but it builds upon the anticipation that the promised Savior is coming. The Ice Breaker invites youth to share their own past predictions that came true. The Discussion encourages students to reflect on God’s fulfilled promises. The Activity allows youth to make a series of predictions about the future. Times are based on a 50-minute lesson period but can be adjusted as necessary.

Time Description of Activity

10 min **1. Ice Breaker**

Ask the students – have you or anyone you know ever made a prediction that came true?
Think about it in these categories:

- Sports
- Movie Plots
- Dating/Relationships
- Major life changes (moving, having a new sibling)

If time allows, ask the students to share some predictions that didn’t come true in those same categories.

5 min **2. Read Scripture**

Explain beforehand that these scriptures from the book of Luke feature Jesus sharing prophetic words near the end of his ministry.

Read Luke 21:25-36.

15 min **3. Discussion**

- Verses 25-26 mention challenging times and that people are afraid. What do people of the world seem to fear in our times now?
- What are some examples of things that make you fear for the future of the world?
- What does Jesus promise in verse 33?
- What word appears in both verse 28 and 36? (Stand)
- How do the words and promises of God help you to stand strong in a world with so many concerns?

- When do you believe that Christ will return to earth as he promised?

Say: "Advent is the season when we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas" - How does this scripture express this idea at the heart of Advent?

20 Min 4. Activity and Discussion: What Are Your Predictions?

Take this lesson to the next level by getting students' imaginations involved using the activity from the Youthworker Collective: <https://youthworkercollective.com/what-are-your-predictions/>

Close in the manner that is typical for you. Consider taking joys/concerns from the students, then ask for a volunteer to close in prayer.

50 min

NEEDED RESOURCES:

Sheets of paper (or half sheets, index cards, etc.)- 1 for every group of students

Pen or pencil for every group of students