





I Go to Prepare a Place for You

John 14:1-3

Jesus comforted His disciples: “Let not your hearts be troubled. You believe in God. Believe also in me. In My Father’s house are many mansions. If it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, **I will come again** and receive you unto Myself that were I am there you may be also.”

Sing: “Big House” with motions (*YouTube*).

Discuss: How does Jesus’ promise to come again and take us to His Father’s house make you feel? (*Allow answers*)

Explain: When Jesus ascended back into Heaven after His resurrection, two angels appeared to His disciples and said to them, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11)

Apply: From these verses we know that Jesus is coming again and that He will come again in the same manner in which He ascended into Heaven. We don’t know when that will be, but we know it will be wonderful, and meanwhile, we do God’s work on Earth. **Great things are worth the wait**, and sometimes we can increase patience by doing other things to pass time. In the same way, Jesus is well worth the wait, and while we look forward to His coming, we live in His presence and serve Him in all we do.

Power Point

Jesus promised to prepare a place for us.

MEMORY VERSE

John 14:3, “My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?”

Surprise Box

To Get Kids Thinking About the concept that big things are worth waiting for, have a fancy decorated box sitting up front with a sign that says, “Surprise Box.” Explain that the students will have to wait until the end of class to open it, but promise that it will be worth the wait. Fill the box with:

Mini Puzzles or Brain Teasers: Include small puzzles or brain teasers that challenge their minds.

Stickers and Temporary Tattoos: Kids love stickers! Add a variety of colorful stickers or fun temporary tattoos. They can decorate their notebooks or show off their cool tattoos later.

Small Toys or Figurines: Tiny action figures, mini animals, or character figurines are perfect surprises.

Wrapped Candies or Treats: Wrap some candies or treats in colorful paper.

Bookmarks: Encourage reading by including bookmarks with fun designs. They can use them in their favorite books.

Glow-in-the-Dark Stars or Stickers: These magical items can be stuck to their notebooks or bedroom walls. The anticipation of seeing them glow in the dark will keep them intrigued.





I Go to Prepare a Place for You

Object Lesson: Suitcase

Show your class a suitcase. Ask: “What do you pack when you go on a trip?” Let the children answer and discuss with them the items they take and why.

To add interest, have items in the suitcase that you can pull out one-by-one. Some will be real items to take on a trip and most will be silly items that no one would take on a trip. Have fun with this.

Next, discuss the excitement they feel when they know that they are going on a journey. Let a few children tell about some exciting trip they have taken.

Read John 14:1-3 together. Explain that Jesus was talking to His disciples about going to Heaven and preparing a place for them.

Heavenly Art Project

Give each child a piece of construction paper and have them draw and decorate what they imagine their special place in Heaven might look like. Encourage them to use markers, crayons, and stickers.

Heavenly Treasure Hunt

Tell your students that they will be going on a treasure hunt inside the classroom. Explain that they are to find one thing in the room that they would choose to take with them to their heavenly home. Let them have fun with this. Some may decide they want to take a person with them, such as another classmate. No need to overthink this activity, but flow with the children’s imaginations to discuss our future home in Heaven and Jesus’ promise to prepare a special place for us there.

Crafting a Promise Box:

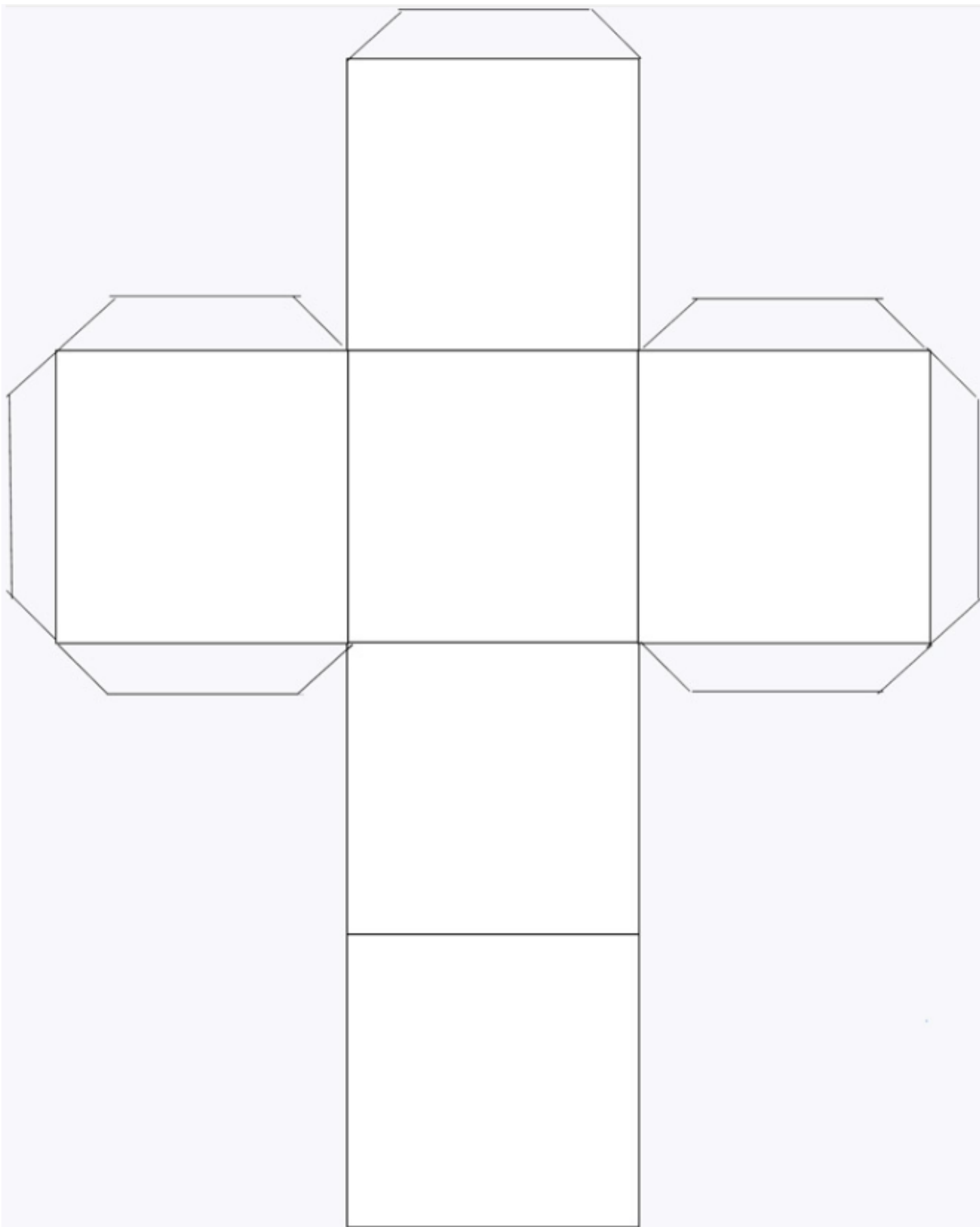
Have the children decorate small boxes (See *the template on the supplement page*) and fill them with slips of paper on which they write or draw things they are thankful for and promises from Jesus. Consider printing off today’s memory verse for each of your students. This can serve as a reminder of Jesus’ promise and the good things He has in store for them.

Close Your Eyes and Imagine

1. Ask your kids to close their eyes and imagine a time when they felt so sad that they cried. Let them open their eyes and ask, “How did they feel?” (Wait for answers) Then say, “In Heaven, there will be none of that! No crying, no pain, and no tears!”

2. Have them close their eyes again and say, “Imagine a place that never gets dark.” With their eyes still closed, read this Bible passage about Heaven: “*And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day – and there will be no night there.*” — Revelation 21:21-25
With eyes open, say, “God’s glory is so bright that it stays light all the time.” (You could let your students draw a picture of what they think Heaven is like.)





Photocopy this template on cardstock for each of your students and cut them out before students arrive. Then let your students decorate their “Promise Boxes” before they fold them and glue the tabs to create the box.