

There's a Great Day Coming



- Theme:** Jesus promised he would come again, but he didn't say when, he just told us to be ready. Proper 28 (33) 25th Sunday after Pentecost.
- Object:** A calendar with some important dates marked on it.
- Scripture:** "However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows." Mark 13:32 (NLT)

This calendar is very important to me. I have a circle drawn around the most important days of the year on this calendar. Do you see the circle around this date? That's my birthday. Every year my birthday is the same day. I always know when it is. Here is Christmas Day. That's an important day, isn't it? December 25th is Christmas day. It may be any day of the week, but it is ALWAYS on December 25th. Your birthday is an important day too. If I want to be sure to remember your birthday, I will draw a circle around it and write a note that says, this is Mary's birthday. That way I will always know when it is your birthday.

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus told his followers that a very important day was coming. He told them that a day was coming when people would see him coming in the clouds with power and glory. He told them that on that day he would send his angels to gather his people and take them home to heaven to be with him.

That's an important day, isn't it? When is that day going to be? Jesus didn't tell his followers that part. In fact, he told them, "No one knows the day or hour when I will return. Only the Father knows. That is why you must be ready, I will come at a time when you least expect it." Wow! If we don't know when he is coming, how will we be ready? By doing the things that Jesus would want us to be doing — loving one another, caring for the sick, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor. If we are busy doing those things, we will be ready when he comes.

Dear Father, even though we don't know the day or hour when Jesus will come to take his children be with him, let us live in such a way that we will be ready when he comes. Amen.

CLOUD RELAY: Divide children into teams and run a cloud relay. The CLOUDS can be a few pillows along their run for them to jump over to complete their run.

MUSICAL CLOUD CHAIRS: This can be played just like the normal musical chairs but when the music stops, whoever is having to sit on the PILLOW CLOUD is the one who is out. Continue to play as time allows. For extra fun, the children who are out could sit on cloud pillows on the side lines.

CLOUD MOBILES: Each child can be given supplies to make fluffy clouds to hang from a hanger around the room. Construction paper, markers, cotton balls and words from today's lesson will be needed.

PAPER PLATE CLOUDS: Provide the children with a paper plate and cotton balls to make a cloud. In the middle of the plate, the children can be encouraged to write words from today's lesson to encourage them to live their lives to be ready for Jesus' return!

CLASS CALENDAR: A large colorful poster board can be made and decorated into a class calendar with special events to prepare for Christ's coming.such as READ YOUR BIBLE DAY, SPECIAL DAYS OF PRAYER as children suggest, etc.

POCKET CALENDAR BOOKLET: Each child can be given small squares of construction paper to make into a small book. Markers and stickers can be used to decorate this calendar booklet for important days to remember as class discussion helps for these ideas.

CHALK CLOUDS: The teacher can call on children to draw a cloud on the Chalkboard and to write or draw a picture of some way that we can prepare for the Lord's coming. Continue to fill the chalkboard with clouds as time allows!