

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: BIRTHDAY GIFT BOX

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Inexpensive birthday gift for each child who has a birthday in the current month, wrapped gift box containing one of the birthday gifts (for the child whose birthday is closest to current date)

OPTIONAL: Continue this pattern for the club year. Offer this same gift to all T&T™ kids during their birthday month.

ACTIVITY:

STEP 1: Hold up the gift box and ask all the kids who have a birthday in the current month to stand. Find out which child has the closest birthday to the date of today's club meeting and ask him or her to come forward to receive the gift. (If no kids have a birthday in the current month, call out the next month. Keep naming months until kids stand.)

STEP 2: Before you hand the gift to the T&T kid, say, "I changed my mind. In order to have this gift, you need to do a chore for me." Name a tedious chore, such as vacuuming or sweeping the floor, wiping all the tables, or washing the windows. Watch the child's face, and ask, "Do you still want the gift, even though you have to work for it and you don't know what it is?"

STEP 3: After the child responds, tell the child you are just joking about the chore and that you will give him or her, as well as the other kids with birthdays in the same month, a gift at the end of T&T that day. Ask these questions:

To the child who came forward:

A. How did you feel when I said you had to work to get the gift? Why did you feel that way?

To all T&T kids:

A. Remember your last birthday or Christmas gift. Did you have to work for that gift? Why not?

B. What is a gift? Is it still a gift if you have to work for it? Why not?

STEP 4: In your own words, say, "A gift is something someone gives us out of kindness or love. They don't expect us to work for the gift or be good enough to have it. They don't expect us to give them something in return."

Today we're going to talk about a gift that God gives us, and it's the best gift of all."

STEP 5: Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:



RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: GOOD OR BAD LIST?

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Bible bookmarked at Genesis 1 and Ephesians 2:8-9, whiteboard with dry erase markers and eraser

LESSON PREP: Start two lists on the board. Title the first list “God’s Good People List” and the second list “In Big Trouble List.”

ACTIVITY:

STEP 1: Since some of your kids may have no church or Bible background, begin by introducing them to God and the Bible. Open your Bible to Genesis 1 and use your own words to share these key concepts:

- A. God was alive before anyone or anything else. God created the whole universe and everything in it, including us. The word *created* means “made from nothing.”
- B. God is good, and everything He made was good. That means that there was nothing wrong with anything He created, including the first two humans He created.
- C. (*Hold up your Bible for this point.*) The Bible is God’s special book. We’ll learn more about the Bible next week, but you need to know that in the Bible God talks to us and tells us about Himself.

STEP 2: Write the names Adam and Eve in the God’s Good People List. Explain that Adam and Eve were the first humans created by God. They were created to be like God in many ways, and they were sinlessly good, at first, meaning they hadn’t sinned. (Help kids understand that sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God. Sin can also be those good things that God wants us to do that we don’t do, like helping someone in need.) But God gave them freedom to make choices for themselves. One day they made a very bad choice! Ask these questions and let the kids respond:

- A. Does anyone know what Adam and Eve chose to do? (See Genesis 3, if needed.)
- B. Was what Adam and Eve did a sin? Why?
- C. What is sin?

STEP 3: Erase Adam and Eve’s names from the first list and move them to the In Big Trouble List. Explain that as soon as Adam and Eve sinned, they got in big trouble with God, so now you are moving their names from the God’s Good People List to the In Big Trouble List. Ask the kids these questions:

- A. Have you ever gotten in big trouble for disobeying your parent, a teacher, or someone else? What happened?
- B. Does anyone know the big trouble that happened to Adam and Eve?

STEP 4: Explain that Adam and Eve had to leave the beautiful garden where God walked and talked with them. They also got the worst punishment that people could ever get: DEATH! Write the word *DEATH* in capital letters above or below the In Big Trouble List. Explain that sin is so serious to God that He said the punishment for sin is death. It’s very sad because Adam and Eve lived for many years, and then they died. Sadder than that, all the people who lived after Adam and Eve died too, because they were related to Adam and Eve and they were sinners too.

Add several random Bible character names to the In Big Trouble List (except Enoch and Elijah who may not have died; see Genesis 5:24 and 2 Kings 2:11).

STEP 5: Point to the God’s Good People List and say that any person on this list would get the reward of *LIFE* forever with God in heaven. Write the word *LIFE* in capital letters above or below the list. Then explain that since Adam and Eve first sinned, no human has ever been good enough to make the list, because all humans are born as sinners and all humans sin. And that includes us!

Add general name categories like T&T kids and T&T leaders to the In Big Trouble List. Explain that because of our sin, we all deserve death, like Adam and Eve, and there’s nothing we can do to get ourselves out of this punishment.

STEP 6: In your own words, say, “But I have some good news, kids! God still loved Adam and Eve, and all of us who are sinners. He didn’t want us to die and miss out on life forever with Him in heaven, so He gave us a big gift. He made a way to save us from the punishment for our sin!”

Write the name Jesus Christ in the God’s Good People List. Explain that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, down from

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

heaven to become a man (who was also God). Jesus Christ lived on earth like us, but He never sinned. He is the only person who is good enough to be on this list. He didn't deserve to be punished, but He let people kill Him by nailing Him to a cross. Jesus took the punishment of death FOR us, so that we don't have to be punished for our sin! Then Jesus Christ didn't stay dead. After three days in a tomb, He came alive again. He went back up to heaven, and He's there now.

STEP 7: Open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-9. Tell kids that they will be learning and memorizing words from the Bible in T&T, and the first words to learn are from Ephesians 2:8-9. Read the verses from your Bible, and then read them again slowly in phrases, letting the kids repeat each phrase after you. Write the word *GRACE* in capital letters on the board somewhere. Share these key concepts:

- A. The Bible uses the word *grace* a lot. Grace means giving somebody something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God has shown us a lot of grace! He loves us and gives us kindness and gifts that we don't deserve.
- B. God's most amazing gift to us is Jesus! If you and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and trust that His death was the punishment we deserve for our sin, then we will be saved from that punishment, and we will live forever with Jesus in heaven.
- C. Remember, we said that a gift is something we don't have to work for or be good enough for; someone gives it to us out of kindness and love. We didn't deserve the gift of Jesus; we deserved to be punished for our sin. But because of God's grace, He gave us Jesus so we could be saved.

Notes:

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START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 2: GIFT PICTURES

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Sheet of paper for each kid, colored markers or crayons

STEP 1: As you are handing out paper and markers or crayons, tell the kids to think about their favorite birthday or Christmas gifts. Direct kids to each draw a picture on the paper of the best gift they have ever received.

STEP 2: After a few minutes, let several kids share about their pictures. Ask these questions:

- A. Who gave the gift to you?
- B. Did any of you have to work for your gift or be good enough to get it? Why not?
- C. What is a gift? Is it still a gift if you have to work for it? Why not?

STEP 3: Wrap up the discussion by saying in your own words, "A gift is something someone gives us out of kindness or love. They don't expect us to work for the gift or be good enough to have it. They don't expect us to give them something in return. Today we're going to talk about a gift that God gives us, and it's the best gift of all."

STEP 4: Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 2: GOSPEL POWERPOINT

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Gospel PowerPoint® (Resource Bundle), computer, digital projector, screen or bare wall

STEP 1: Present the Gospel PowerPoint. Your kids will hear a clear gospel presentation using engaging visuals and the Gospel Wheel.

STEP 2: After the PowerPoint, open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-9. Tell kids that they will be learning and memorizing words from the Bible in T&T, and the first words to learn are from Ephesians 2:8-9. Read the verse from your Bible, and then read it again slowly in phrases, letting the kids repeat each phrase after you. Write the word *GRACE* in capital letters on the board somewhere. Share these key concepts:

- A. The Bible uses the word *grace* a lot. Grace means giving somebody something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God has shown us a lot of grace! He loves us and gives us kindness and gifts that we don't deserve.
- B. God's most amazing gift to us is Jesus! If you and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and trust that His death was the punishment we deserve for our sin, then we will be saved from that punishment and we will live forever with Jesus in heaven.
- C. Remember, we said that a gift is something we don't have to work for or be good enough for; someone gives it to us out of kindness and love. We didn't deserve the gift of Jesus; we deserved to be punished for our sin. But because of God's grace, He gave us Jesus, so we could be saved.

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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: NOTE EXCHANGE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Pencils or pens, small sheets of paper, container for notes, Bible

STEP 1: Direct the kids to each write their name and a short note on the paper sharing something about themselves or something they think is very important for another kid to know or remember, such as advice they want to give related to the topic of school, family, friends, sports, T&T club, or their faith. The tone could be funny or serious. Give the kids a few minutes to compose the note.

STEP 2: Tell the kids to fold the note and write From: followed by their name on the blank, folded-over portion. Collect all the notes and place them in a container. Then pass the container around to the leaders and let each leader pull out a note.

STEP 3: Give the leaders a minute to read their notes. Let a few volunteers share the message on their notes.

STEP 4: Explain that sometimes we talk to each other with our mouths, and other times we talk by writing words on a paper. Receiving a note from someone is just as important as what the person says to you out loud, but you might remember the words more if they are written down because you can read them over and over again.

STEP 5: Hold up your Bible and tell kids to think of the Bible as a very long note from God to us. Then share these key concepts:

- A. In the Bible, God tells us who He is and why He created us. He tells us about ourselves and what the punishment is for our sin. He tells us about His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment for our sin so we could live forever with God.
- B. God's words in the Bible are just as important as if He said them out loud and right to our face. We need to listen to them and obey!
- C. We can read His words to us over and over again so we remember them always.

STEP 6: Tell the kids that they will be learning more about God's Word, the Bible, today. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a deeper love for God and His Word through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: BIBLE FACTS SCROLLS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Bible bookmarked at 2 Timothy 3:16 and Romans 10:17; Facts for Bible Scrolls sheet (Resource Bundle); scissors; glue stick or tape; seven paper rectangles of the same size (cut from white paper or brown paper bags); chopsticks, craft sticks, or dowels; string or rubber bands; picture of a Bible scroll (Resource Bundle); map of Bible lands in Jesus' time (Resource Bundle)

LEADER PREP: Beforehand, print out the Facts for Bible Scrolls sheet. Cut out each fact. Then make scrolls by cutting out seven paper rectangles of the same size. The rectangles should be large enough to contain a fact. (To add an ancient look to your scrolls, cut the rectangles from the unprinted sides of brown paper bags. Scrunch up the brown paper and smooth it out with your hands or a rolling pin. Repeat this scrunching and smoothing process several times until wrinkles cover much of the paper.) Glue or tape one Bible fact to the center of each rectangle. Then lay a chopstick, craft stick, or dowel along both of the short ends of each rectangle. Tape or glue them in place and let glue dry. Next, roll the paper once or twice around the chopsticks, craft sticks, or dowels so they are covered completely and tape or glue the paper in place and let glue dry. Gently roll the ends of the scroll to the center from both sides and secure with a string or rubber band. Number the scrolls (to correspond to the fact number inside each scroll), hide them around your room, and write a clue for finding each scroll. For example, a clue could be that the scroll is sitting up high or behind something blue. (To save time, you could skip the clues and let the group, or a selected smaller group, search for all the scrolls at once.)

ACTIVITY:

STEP 1: Hold up your Bible and explain that the Bible did not always look like the book it is now. It was first written a long time ago on scrolls. It took many scrolls to contain all the words of the Bible. The scrolls had to be unrolled to read what was written on them.

Hold up the picture of a real Bible scroll. Explain that the paper in the scrolls was not like our paper today. It was either made from animal skins or papyrus plants, which grew by the Nile River in Egypt.

STEP 2: Tell the kids that you have made and hidden little scrolls around the room. Inside each scroll they will find and read one or two facts about the Bible. All these facts will help them see that the Bible is a very special book. There is no other book like the Bible! Give the first clue and choose a kid to find the first scroll. Unroll the scroll and discuss the fact on it. Give the second clue and choose another child to find the second scroll. Unroll the scroll and discuss the fact on it. Continue in this pattern until all the scrolls are found. Here are the facts written on the scrolls, with explanations.

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Explain that the Old Testament starts with God telling us about His creation of the world and the first people, Adam and Eve, who sinned in the garden. In the Old Testament, God speaks of His promise to send a Savior to save people from sin, and we hear true stories of the people who were waiting for the Savior to come. In the New Testament, God tells us of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior, who came to save people from sin. We hear true stories of people whose lives were changed after they trusted Jesus as their Savior. We also learn how we should live our lives each day.
2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
3. Most of the true stories of the Bible take place in or near the land of Israel. Show the map of Bible lands and point out Israel and some of the other surrounding countries. Emphasize that the Bible tells us about real places and real people who really lived. The Bible is not make-believe!
4. God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible. These men lived at different times and in different places. Some were rich; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others had never gone to school. Some of the different jobs the writers had were king, farmer, fisherman, doctor, shepherd, priest, government leader, and many more.
5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are

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START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

Bibles in more than a thousand different languages!
People all over the world can read the Bible.

7. The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

STEP 3: Open your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16 and read the verse to the kids. Explain that Scripture is another name for the Bible, and ask them to tell you what they think it means that the Bible *is given by inspiration of God*. Let them suggest various ideas.

STEP 4: Explain that *given by inspiration of God* means that all the words of the Bible came from God, but He didn't actually breathe them out like you or I take a breath to speak. And He didn't write them in the way you or I sit down to write a note or a letter. Rather, God chose at least 40 different men to write the Bible. The Holy Spirit of God told those men what He wanted them to write and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. These men didn't all get the message from God at the same time. It took many years for God to give His message to all the men He chose to write it.

Summarize that the Bible is one big book but it is divided into 66 smaller books, written by many different men. There is no other book that *is given by inspiration of God* like the Bible is! The Bible is a special book.

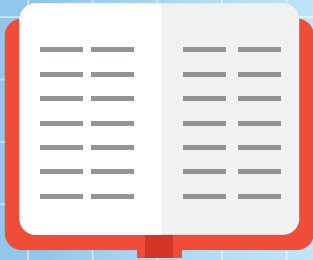
STEP 5: Open your Bible to Romans 10:17 and read the memory verse aloud once. Then read it again and let the kids recite it with you as you read. Explain that though the Bible has 66 books, there is one BIG message from God in the Bible. The big message of the whole Bible is the good news about our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is *the word of God* that Romans 10:17 tells us about. Faith is what happens when we hear and believe in what Jesus Christ did to save us from sin.

Notes:



FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 1



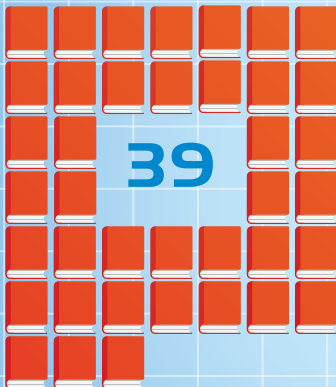
OLD TESTAMENT



NEW TESTAMENT

The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

BIBLE FACT 2



39



27

The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament.



FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

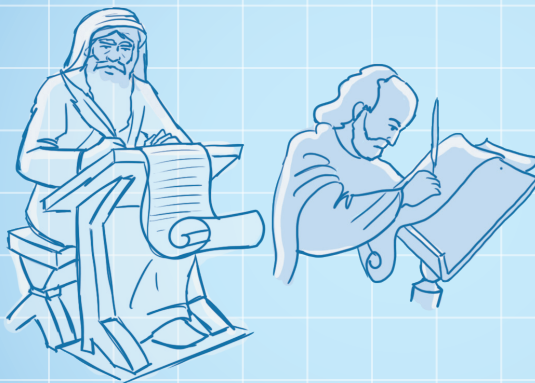
BIBLE FACT 3



All the stories in the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the land of Israel.

BIBLE FACT 4

**40
MEN**



God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible for Him.



FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 5

1,500
YEARS

It took over 1,500 years for the Bible to be written.

BIBLE FACT 6

יֵשׁוּעַ

JESUS
(HEBREW)

Ἰησοῦς

JESUS
(GREEK)

ישוע

JESUS
(ARAMAIC)

The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic.



FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 7

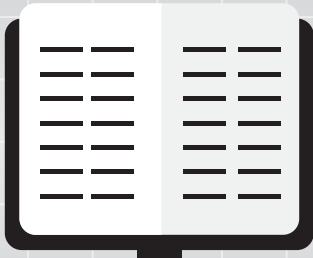


The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!



FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 1



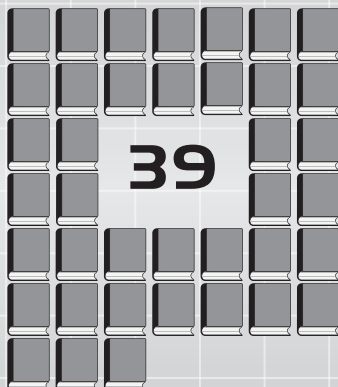
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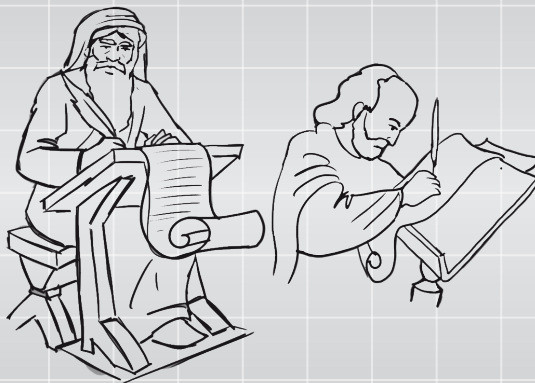
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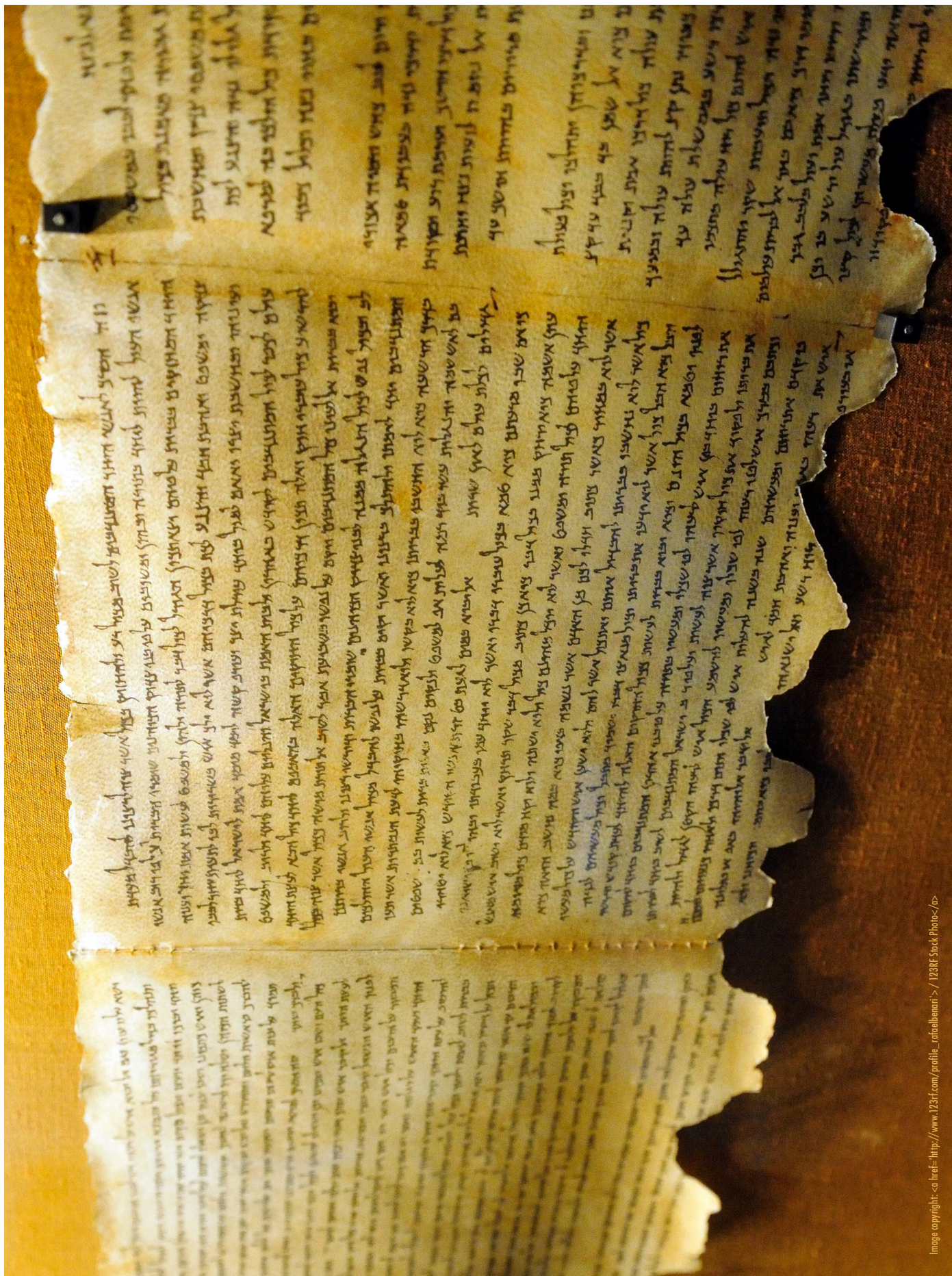


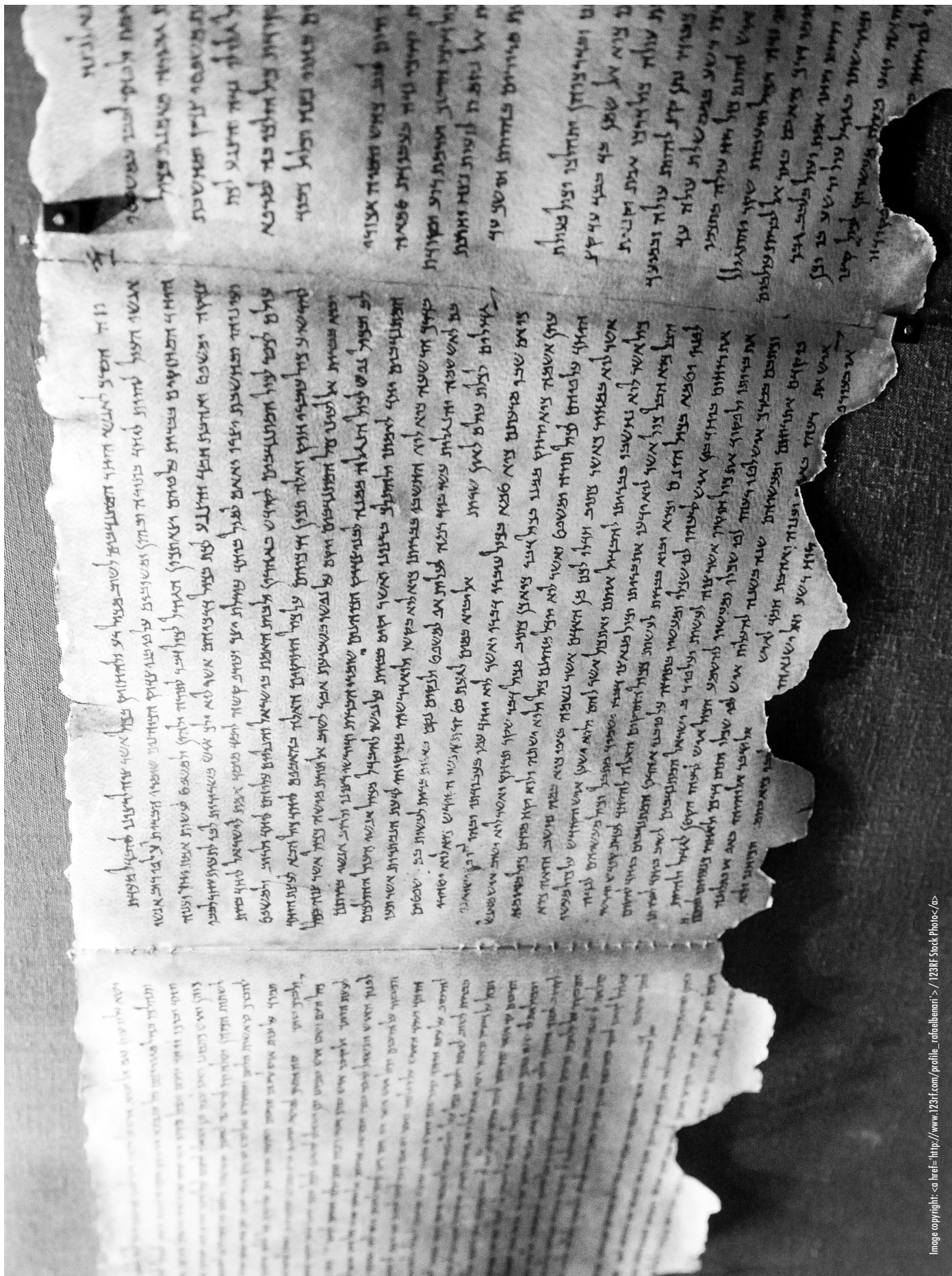
FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 7



The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!



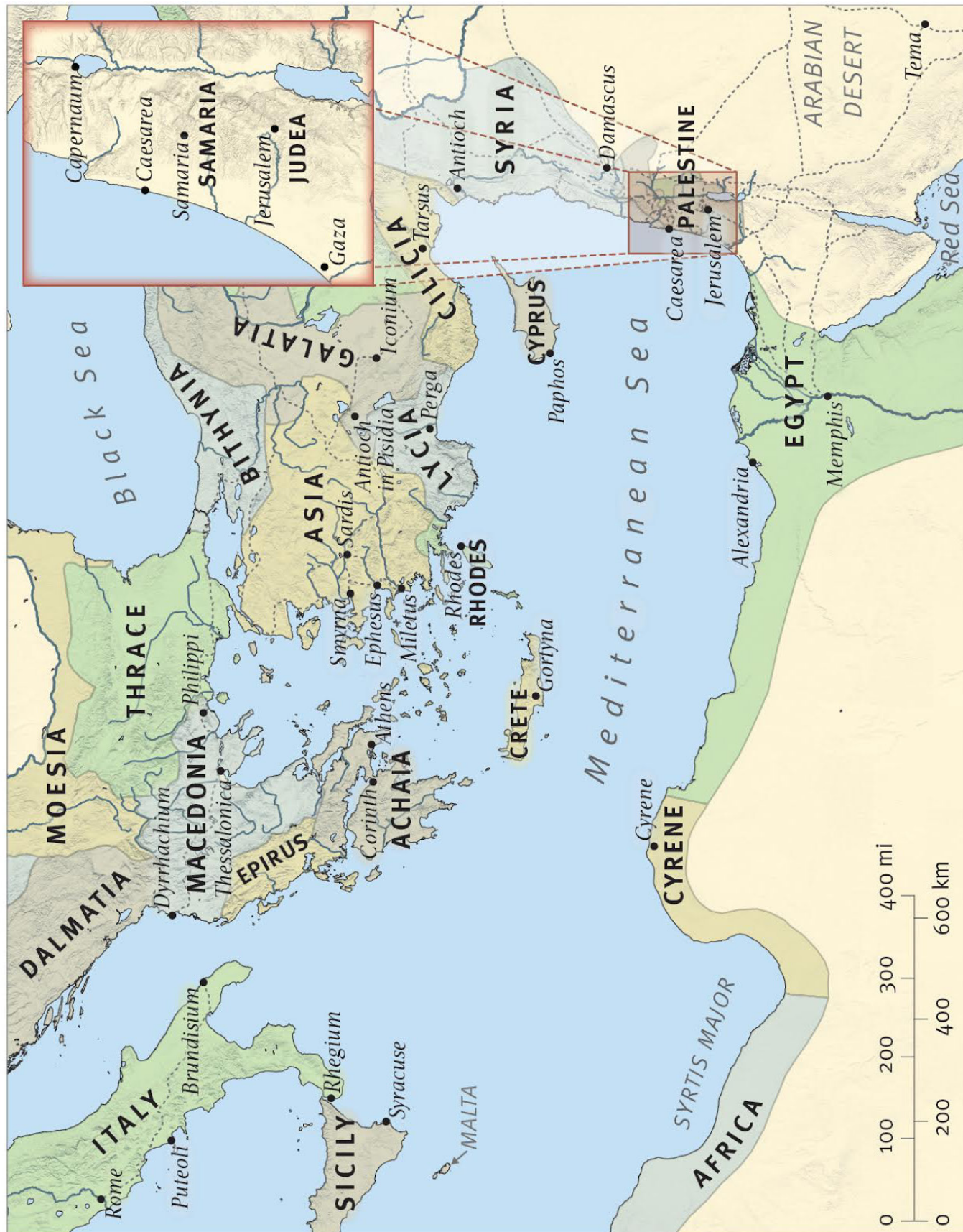


MAP OF BIBLE LANDS IN JESUS' TIME



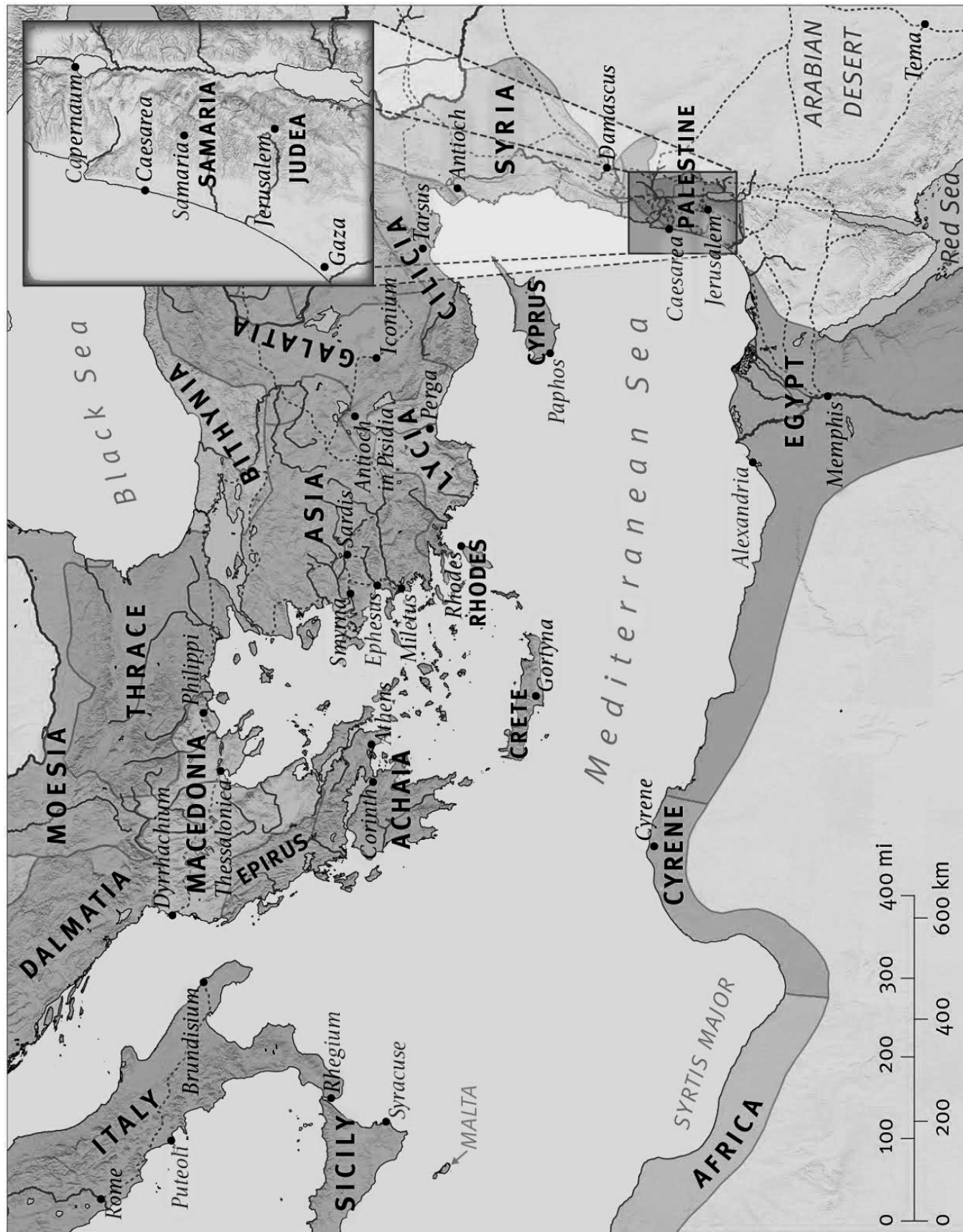
NOTE: In addition to the accompanying visuals (following two pages), consider using Google Earth* to access a view of Israel and the surrounding countries. This will also allow you to zoom out and show kids where they are in proximity to these locations.

*References to resources not created by Awana are for your information and not necessarily an endorsement of content.



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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 2:

LETTER FROM A PASTOR OR AWANA MINISTRY DIRECTOR

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: One-page letter written by your church pastor, Awana ministry director, or another person your kids respect

LEADER PREP: Beforehand, ask your pastor, Awana ministry director or another respected person to write a short letter to your kids sharing a few interesting things about himself or herself (hobbies, family background, details about when they were the kids' age, or when they trusted Christ as Savior). The person should also include some advice or words of encouragement to the kids related to the club year and their faith.

STEP 1: Read the letter to your kids and ask them what they learned about the person from the letter and what words they want to remember from the letter.

STEP 2: Then explain that the person could not be with your club in person today, but these are the words the person wanted to say to us, and his or her written words are just as important as if the person were here to speak the words out loud to us.

Finally, hold up your Bible and tell the kids to think of the Bible as a very long letter from God to us. Share these key concepts:

- A. In the Bible, God tells us who He is and why He created us. He tells us about ourselves and what the punishment is for our sin. He tells us about His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment for our sin so we could live forever with God.
- B. God's words in the Bible are just as important as if He said them out loud and right to our face. We need to listen to them and obey!
- C. We can read His words to us over and over again so we remember them always.

STEP 3: Tell the kids that they will be learning more about God's Word, the Bible, today. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a deeper love for God and His Word through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:



RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS



START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 2: MOSES INTERVIEW

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Bible bookmarked to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Romans 10:17, Bible Facts Fill-in-the-Blanks worksheet (Resource Bundle), adult leader to play the role of Moses, optional Moses costume and props (robe, white-haired wig, staff, etc.)

LEADER PREP: Beforehand, choose an adult male leader to pretend to be Moses. For fun, he can wear a robe and white-haired wig and carry a staff.

STEP 1: To start the discussion, open your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and read it to the kids. Explain that Scripture is another name for the Bible, and ask them to tell you what they think it means that the Bible *is given by inspiration of God*. Let them suggest various ideas.

STEP 2: After some discussion, explain that *inspiration of God* means that all the words of the Bible came from God, but He didn't actually breathe them out like you or I take a breath to speak. And He didn't write them in the way you or I sit down to write a note or a letter. Rather, God chose at least 40 different men to write the Bible. God, the Holy Spirit, told those men what He wanted them to write and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. These men didn't all get the message from God at the same time. It took many years for God to give His message to all the men He chose to write it.

STEP 3: Introduce Moses as a special visitor. Explain that a long, long time ago, Moses wrote the first five books in the Old Testament. Ask Moses to share and explain each of the Bible facts.

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Explain that the Old Testament starts with God telling us about His creation of the world and the first people, Adam and Eve, who sinned in the garden. In the Old Testament, God speaks of His promise to send a Savior to save people from sin, and we hear true stories of the people who were waiting for the Savior to come. In the New Testament, God tells us of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior, who came to save people from sin. We hear true stories of people whose lives were changed after they trusted Jesus as their Savior. We also learn how we should live our lives each day.
2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
3. Most of the true stories of the Bible take place in or near the land of Israel. Show the map of Bible lands and point out Israel and some of the other surrounding countries. Emphasize that the Bible tells us about real places and real people who really lived. The Bible is not make-believe!
4. God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible. These men lived at different times and in different places. Some were rich; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others had never gone to school. Some of the different jobs the writers had were king, farmer, fisherman, doctor, shepherd, priest, government leader, and many more.
5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are Bibles in more than a thousand different languages! People all over the world can read the Bible.
7. The first book ever printed was the Bible; and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

Kids can fill in the blanks on their worksheets as they listen carefully.

STEP 4: After Moses finishes his presentation, open your Bible to Romans 10:17 and read the memory verse aloud once. Then read it again and let the kids recite it with you as you read. Explain that though the Bible has 66 books, there is one BIG message from God in the Bible. The big message of the whole Bible is the good news about our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is *the word of God* that Romans 10:17 tells us about. Faith is what happens when we hear and believe in what Jesus Christ did to save us from sin.

BIBLE FACTS FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS



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and the

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in the Old Testament and

in the New Testament.

3. All the stories of the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the

land of

4. God used at least

different men to write the Bible for Him.

5. It took over

for the whole Bible to be written.

6. The Bible was first written in three

, and

7. The

ever

was the Bible,

and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!

BIBLE FACTS FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS



1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the

and the

2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called

There are

in the Old Testament and

in the New Testament.

3. All the stories of the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the

land of

4. God used at least

different men to write the Bible for Him.

5. It took over

for the whole Bible to be written.

6. The Bible was first written in three

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7. The

ever

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SECTION

1.1

God Is Truth



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: That's the Truth!

What You'll Need: Nothing

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Ask the kids to turn to someone next to them and share one personal statement that is true. (E.g., "I have brown hair." "I am wearing a blue shirt.")

After allowing a minute or two for kids to talk, ask for a volunteer to answer: "Will some of these statements ever change? If so, how?" (E.g., hair coloring could change, a person could change the color of clothing they are wearing.)

Share these key concepts:

- The statements that everyone shared help us know a little more about each individual. God gives us statements that help us know more about Him. One statement that God tells us is that He is truth.
- Some true statements about us or the world we live in may change, and sometimes it's hard to know if something is really "always and forever" true. But since God is truth, everything He says is true.

STEP 2: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we're going to learn that God is truth and what that means for you and me." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.1

God Is Truth



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: True Statement!

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Have kids work in groups of two or three. Give groups one minute to write on their papers a statement that is true, such as "the sun is hot."

STEP 2: Have each group share their true statement.

Ask the following questions after each statement is read:

- How do you know that statement is true?
- Could there ever be a time when that statement would not be true?

STEP 3: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn that God is truth, and everything He says is true." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.1

God Is Truth



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: True or False

What You'll Need: Bible

PREP: Before class, bookmark the following verses in your Bible for easy access: Romans 3:23, John 1:14.

STEP 1: Have kids stand in front of their chairs. As you read each of the following statements, have them remain standing if they believe the statement to be true. Have them sit in their chairs if they believe the statement to be false.

- Giraffes have purple tongues.
- Insects have eight legs.
- All people have sinned.
- A tomato is a vegetable.
- Jesus, God's Son, is truth.

STEP 2: Go back and read each statement again, explaining whether the statements are true or false. Use the following verse summaries as a guide.

- Giraffes have purple tongues. (True. Look at one next time you are at the zoo!)
- Insects have eight legs. (False. Insects have six legs!)
- All people have sinned. (True. Romans 3:23 says that all people have sinned!)
- A tomato is a vegetable. (False. It is a fruit!)
- Jesus, God's Son, is truth. (True. John 1:14 says that Jesus is full of grace and truth!)

STEP 3: Explain that when we examine what people believe to be true by what the Bible says, we can recognize the truth from lies. We can know that truth will always go along with God's Word, because God is truth (Jeremiah 10:10).

Step 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION

1.1

God Is Truth



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: The Truth of the Law

What You'll Need: Truth of the Law Handout cut apart on the lines, Bible (optional: funny costumes)

(Leader's Note: You can use sheets of blank paper instead if you are not able to print the handout.)

STEP 1: Tell the kids that God's Ten Commandments come from Exodus 20:1-17, and if you have time, read this passage together.

STEP 2: Have kids work in small groups to complete the activity. Hand each group one of the paper slips with a commandment and give groups three minutes to come up with a way to wordlessly act it out (create a charade). The other kids guess which commandment they have. (Optional: Let them pick funny costumes to wear for their skit.)

Listed below are the commandments on the handout from Exodus 20:1-17:

- Do not lie.
- Do not steal.
- Honor the Sabbath day.
- Honor your mother and father.
- Do not have any graven images.
- Remember the Sabbath.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have the groups take turns acting out and guessing the commandments. Have the group that is acting keep their handout page turned over until the correct answer is guessed by the other kids. For added competition, you can use a watch to time how long it takes.

STEP 4: Congratulate all the groups on their hard work. Explain that knowing the laws that God gave to us will help us know the truth of how we are to live our lives. When we choose to follow the way of truth, we are choosing to obey God.

STEP 5: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Truth of the Law Handout

Do not lie.

Do not steal.

***Honor the
Sabbath day.***

***Honor your
mother and father.***

***Do not have any
graven images.***

***Remember the
Sabbath day.***

SECTION

1.2

God Is All-Powerful



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Who's Your Hero?

What You'll Need: Who's Your Hero? Handout, markers, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: If you are not able to print the handout, you can use blank paper.)

PREP: Print out copies of the handout (make one for every two or three kids).

STEP 1: Have kids work in groups of two or three to create their ideal superhero. Distribute to each group a handout page, as well as markers, pens or pencils, and give groups one minute to describe or draw their superheroes.

STEP 2: After one minute, give each group 20 seconds to share about their superheroes. After each group has presented their heroes, ask, "Why are superheroes so popular?" Explain that people like the idea of a superhero who can dive in and save the day. But comic book superheroes make mistakes, and often they have their own weaknesses.

STEP 3: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we're going to learn how God is all-powerful and what that means for you and me." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:



Who's Your Hero? Handout

MY IDEAL SUPERHERO



SECTION

1.2

God Is All-Powerful



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Strongest Man

What You'll Need: Two balloons, a cardboard tube (either from a gift wrap roll or a paper towel roll), masking tape

PREP: Blow up both balloons, and tape one to each side of the cardboard tube. Practice using your creation like a weight set to lift up and down, pretending like it is really heavy.

STEP 1: Show kids your weight set that you prepared ahead of time, and talk to them about how there are contests where people see how much weight they can lift. They have an actual heavy weight, not a fake one like this one. Then if you have time, let them use your creation pretending it's heavy to lift, and see who is the best actor of the group.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How would you feel if you were the strongest person in the world?
- What would you do if you were the strongest person?

Remind the kids that there is someone much stronger than the strongest person in the world.

STEP 3: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn that God is all-powerful and that there is nothing He cannot do." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is All-Powerful



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Power on Display

What You'll Need: Bible, three pieces of paper or poster board, (optional: toddler musical instruments)

(Leader's Note: If you don't use musical instruments, you can have each of the three kids pick a different sound to make to buzz in, like "ding" or "moo.")

PREP: Write Matthew 8:23-27, John 9:1-12, and Matthew 28:1-8 on the paper or poster board, one on each paper.

STEP 1: Welcome kids to your game show, Power on Display. Ask for three volunteers to come to the front. Announce the rules of the game: They will hear a passage of Scripture and try to be the first to signal using their musical instrument (or preassigned sound), and answer what Jesus demonstrated His power over.

STEP 2: Using the following passages, start your game. Remind the kids that their job is to determine what Jesus demonstrated power over. Allow kids to answer even while you are still reading.

Below are the passages and the answers:

- Matthew 8:23-27 (storm)
- John 9:1-12 (sickness and disease)
- Matthew 28:1-8 (death)

STEP 3: Congratulate your contestants and get applause from the other kids. Share that because Jesus is God's Son, He is omnipotent, or all-powerful, and there is nothing He cannot do. Jesus demonstrated His power when He calmed the storm, when He healed the sick or disabled, and when He arose from the dead. Then share the main points from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is All-Powerful



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Power on Mount Carmel

What You'll Need: Bible or children's story Bible, (optional: table or elevated surface capable of holding the weight of several kids)

PREP: Bookmark 1 Kings 18:17-39 in your Bible, or in a children's story Bible. (Optional: Move a table or elevated surface to the middle of the room.)

STEP 1: Assign the following characters to your kids:

Elijah

Ahab

Prophets of Baal (three kids)

The tribes of Israel (all the other kids)

STEP 2: Open your Bible to 1 Kings 18:17-39, and instruct the kids to act out the passage as you read it aloud. Explain that Elijah's showdown with the prophets happened on a mountain, where God's people gathered to watch. Have the kids playing Elijah, Ahab, and the prophets either stand up in the middle of the room, or get on the elevated surface, and imagine they are on a mountain. Have the other kids sitting down, gathered around the mountain to see what happens, just like the Israelites would have.

Pause as needed to give directions to the actors. (For example, ask the child playing Elijah to pretend to laugh at the prophets of Baal.)

STEP 3: After they have acted out the passage, have them sit down, and ask what they noticed as they acted out the story.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION

1.3

God Is Everywhere



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Travel Planner

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ahead of time, ask a leader to be prepared to answer questions concerning how far he or she has traveled, or interview a kid from your group who you know has traveled. On the night of club, set up a chair in the front of the room for your guest.

STEP 1: Ask the guest to take his or her seat.

Choose several of the following questions to ask him or her.

- What is the farthest you have been from home?
- How long did it take for you to travel to your destination?
- How long were you gone?
- What or whom did you miss the most while you were gone?

STEP 2: Explain that we can understand the idea of traveling and being away from the place we call home. But it is hard for us to think about being in two places at once, because it is impossible for us to do so. Our powerful God who created the whole universe is omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere, all at the same time. Only God has that incredible power.

Continue the discussion by asking how they think God feels when people try to hide what they do from Him.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn about God's omnipresence and what that means for you and me." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.3

God Is Everywhere



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: How Far Is Your Reach?

What You'll Need: A few kids during this activity will need to take off a shoe, (optional: use a measuring tape instead)

PREP: Have four-five kids each take off a shoe (that you will be using to measure with).

STEP 1: Ask for two kids to volunteer to have the span of their arms measured. Ask the volunteers to raise their arms so that they are level with their shoulders. Being careful not to touch the kids, use shoes to measure how many shoe lengths their arms span from fingertip to fingertip. Ask another kid to keep track of the measurements. Have someone measure the width of the room from wall to wall by putting one shoe toe to heel in front of the other. Ask: "Could either of these kids reach their arms from one wall to another?"

STEP 2: Tell each kid to try to touch the ceiling, while keeping at least one foot on the floor. Give them 30 seconds to try. Ask: "Could any of you touch the ceiling with your hand while your foot was still on the floor?"

STEP 3: Discuss the following concepts.

- Just like we cannot reach our arms from one wall to another wall, or touch the ceiling and the floor at the same time, we cannot be in two places at once. It is impossible for us.
- Our powerful God who created the whole universe is omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere, all the time. Only God has that incredible power.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we are going to learn about God's omnipresence and what that means for you and me." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.3

God Is Everywhere



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Where is God?

What You'll Need: Where is God? Handout, pens, Bibles

PREP: Print out handouts for each child.

(Leader's Note: If you are not able to print the handout, you can use blank paper.)

STEP 1: Assign pairs or groups of kids one of the following verses by giving them the handouts:

- Psalm 139:7
- Psalm 139:8
- Psalm 139:9
- Psalm 139:10
- Daniel 6:16-22
- Jonah 1:17

STEP 2: Give pairs or groups two or three minutes to study their verse(s) and determine God's location in their passage. If time allows, have the groups share what they drew.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God is omnipresent, or everywhere, all the time. (Psalm 139:7-10) That means that He is present at the exact same moment where you are and where other people are all over the whole world.
- God is also present in all the galaxies and in the deepest part of the earth. (Psalm 139:8-9) Nothing is hidden from God.
- There is no place you could ever go to hide from God. He is everywhere. (Jeremiah 23:24)
- For those who have a relationship with God, we can rejoice that God is always with us. No matter what problems we may face, we do not face them alone. (Isaiah 41:10)

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Where Is God? Handout

Circle the verse that you are responsible for, and get to work!

Psalm 139:7

Psalm 139:8

Psalm 139:9

Psalm 139:10

Daniel 6:16-22

Jonah 1:17

Where is God?

Write or draw where God is in the passage of Scripture!

SECTION

1.3

God Is Everywhere



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Jonah's Timeline

What You'll Need: Paper, crayons, colored pencils or markers

STEP 1: Give each kid a sheet of blank paper, and assign each one a number between 1 and 5.

STEP 2: Have each number group sit together. Give each group paper, crayons, colored pencils or markers. Assign each group one of the following verses, based on their coordinating number.

1. Jonah 1: 2 (God called Jonah to Ninevah.)
2. Jonah 1:3 (Jonah chose to flee from God and took a ship in the opposite direction.)
3. Jonah 1:4, 5 (Jonah fell asleep.)
4. Jonah 1:15 (Jonah was thrown into the water.)
5. Jonah 1:17 (A fish swallowed him.)

STEP 3: Have each group read the verse they were assigned, and draw a picture of what happened in that verse.

STEP 4: After three minutes, read the summary below of Jonah's story. As you start each new part of Jonah's timeline, have the groups stand in the order of events from 1 to 5, so everyone can see their drawings.

Jonah's Story

Jonah tried to run away from God. He took a ship to the farthest place he could go (at that time) to try to get away from God. (Jonah 1:3-5)

God knew where Jonah was when he was asleep on the boat, and God knew where Jonah was when he was tossed into the stormy waters. (Jonah 1:15)

God sent a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the fish for three days and three nights. While he was in the fish, Jonah prayed to God. God heard him, and the fish spit Jonah up on dry land. (Jonah 2:1-10)

There is no place you could ever go to hide from God. He is everywhere. (Jeremiah 23:24)

We can rejoice and take courage when we are scared or afraid, knowing that God is always with us. (Isaiah 41:10)

STEP 5: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is All-Knowing



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: I Predict ...

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Explain that a prediction is a statement that a person makes about something that they think will happen in the future. (E.g., "I think that (kid's name) is going to invent something cool when he is older.")

STEP 2: Ask kids to make a prediction about something that will happen in the future. These predictions could be about anything. Give the following examples: "I predict (baseball team) will win the next World Series." "I predict that I will be a doctor when I grow up."

STEP 3: Call on volunteers to share their predictions with everyone. Be sure to ask some leaders as well.

Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes it's fun to think of things that might happen. But none of us can know 100 percent what will happen in our future.
- God is omniscient, or all-knowing. That means He knows everything. He knows exactly what will happen.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we're going to learn that God knows everything about us and the world He created, and how we can trust Him with everything in our lives." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is All-Knowing



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Hot or Cold ...

What You'll Need: A prize (like a piece of candy or a small toy)

PREP: Before class, obtain a prize. Before kids enter, hide the item. Make sure it is not easy to see, but make sure that it can be found by kids within a short period of time.

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may hide several prizes around the room.)

STEP 1: Explain to kids that you have hidden a prize somewhere in the room, and that you will play Hot or Cold with them to help find the hidden object. As a child gets closer to the hidden object, call out, "hot." If they get farther away from the object, call out, "cold." The game ends when the prize is found. (If needed, give kids several clues about the location of the prize.)

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Who was the only person who knew exactly where the prize was all along?
- How did you feel knowing there was something hidden but you didn't know where it was?
- Was there ever a time when your parents or a grown-up hid a special present from you and you had to find it?

STEP 3: Share these important concepts:

- God is omniscient, or all-knowing. He alone knows everything.
- God knows everything about the world He made, and He knows everything about you!

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by saying, "Today we're going to learn that God knows everything about us and the world He created and how we can trust Him with everything in our lives." Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson activities.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is All-Knowing



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Symbols of Knowledge

What You'll Need: Easel with whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, Symbols of Knowledge Handout, scissors, and a Bible

(Leader's Note: If you are not able to print the handout, you can use blank paper and write out the verse references by hand.)

PREP: Set up your easel with paper and markers, and cut the handout into strips. Put the strips in your Bible to bookmark the verses the kids will need to read in order to draw their pictures.

STEP 1: Invite several volunteers to join you at the front of your space for a game. You will be playing a drawing and guessing game, and the audience needs to guess what the answer is. Your volunteers will be drawing a picture or symbol to represent what God knows, based on the Bible verse you give them.

STEP 2: Have the first volunteer read the verse to themselves from your Bible, draw a symbol or picture to represent what God knows about, based on their verse. Let the other kids guess what it is. If they can't guess it within one minute, you can let them write words too.

The Bible verses from the handout:

- Psalm 139:1
- Psalm 139:2
- Psalm 139:3
- Psalm 139:4
- Matthew 10:30
- Jeremiah 29:11

STEP 3: After everyone has played, thank your volunteers and audience.

STEP 4: Share the concepts about what God knows

from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Symbols of Knowledge Handout

Psalm 139:1

Psalm 139:2

Psalm 139:3

Psalm 139:4

Matthew 10:30

Jeremiah 29:11

SECTION

1.4

God Is All-Knowing



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Four Corners

What You'll Need: Bible bookmarked to verses in the lesson, masking tape, paper, marker

PREP: Write each word (Person, Nature, Future, and Thoughts) on one piece of paper. Tape each of the pages to one corner in the classroom.

STEP 1: Invite your group to stand in the middle of your space.

STEP 2: Explain that many verses in the Bible tell us all the things that God knows, and that they are going to do an activity to help them learn all that God knows. Point to the sign that says Nature and say, God knows all that happens in nature. Point to the sign that says People and explain that God knows details about each person. Point to the sign that says Future and explain that God knows what will happen in the future. Point to the sign that says Thoughts and explain that God knows our thoughts. Point to each wall again in the same order and repeat the topic that God knows about (Nature, People, Future, Thoughts).

STEP 3: Make sure the kids are standing in the middle of the room. Read the first verse aloud, and ask kids which of the four topics the verse says God knows about: person, nature, future, thoughts. Have kids race to the wall that represents that topic. Congratulate the kids who get there first. Continue the activity by choosing several of the verses and topics below. Remind them of the topic names for each wall as needed.

- Psalm 139: 3-4 (Thoughts)
- Job 37:14-15 (Nature)
- Psalm 139:2 (People)
- Psalm 103:14 (People)
- Job 37:16 (Nature)
- Psalm 139:13-15 (People)
- Job 38:8-11 (Nature)
- Isaiah 46:9-10 (Future)

- Jeremiah 5:22 (Nature)
- Jeremiah 29:11 (Future)
- Psalm 94:11 (Thoughts)

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Three in One



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Painting a Picture of God

What You'll Need: 3 small plastic cups of red, blue and yellow paint, one large piece of white paper, a paintbrush (optional: an easel)

PREP: Ahead of time, pour paint into small plastic cups. Gather white paper and a paintbrush. If you prefer, you can put the paper on an easel to make it easier for kids to see.

STEP 1: Have kids sit so that they can see the white paper easily. Talk about how each cup of paint is a primary color. Discuss what a primary color is and how you can't mix other colors to get it, but you can mix it with other primary colors and create new colors. Tell them that primary colors are very important because they are the basic building blocks for all the different colors you see.

STEP 2: Explain that the first color you will put down will represent God the Father. He is going to be the color red because He loves us so much. Paint a big glob of red on the paper.

Ask the following question:

- What words would you use to describe God the Father?

STEP 3: Explain that the next color you will put down on the paper will represent Jesus, the Son of God. He is going to be the color blue because He brought us peace with God. Paint a big glob of blue paint right next to the red paint.

Ask the following question:

- What words would you use to describe Jesus the Son of God?

STEP 4: Explain that the next color you will put down on the paper will represent God the Holy Spirit. He is going to be the color yellow because He gives us the power and ability to become the people God wants us to be. Paint a big glob of blue paint right next to the other two globs of paint.

Ask the following question:

- What words would you use to describe the Holy Spirit?

STEP 5: Encourage kids to see that each color is different and we see each of them differently, but God is one God. Take the paintbrush and swirl the three colors together to create a swirl of color (with each color still being visible). Together the three persons of God are one God. This concept is called the Trinity. Each person of God (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit) is distinct just like the primary colors, and together they are one God, just like the swirl of color. Remind them that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are always with us and are always working together to help us grow more like Jesus.

STEP 6: Transition to the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids to a better understanding of the Trinity.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Three in One



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Trinity Triangles

What You'll Need: Plain or colored popsicle sticks (3 per kid), markers, black marker, school glue or glue dots, a piece of yarn or string

PREP: Ahead of time, ask volunteers to write one name of God on each kid's set of three popsicle sticks ("Father" on one, "Son" on one, and "Holy Spirit" on one). Be sure to write it in black permanent marker so that kids can color the sticks if they are not already colored. Then set out one of each labeled popsicle stick in front of each child's place, along with three glue dots or a bottle of school glue to share.

STEP 1: Invite the kids to sit down and hand out a set of popsicle sticks. Ask them to look at the sticks and pick up the popsicle stick that says "Father."

Ask the following questions:

- What are some things that a good father does?
- What are some things that you have seen in the Bible that God does as our good Father?

Explain that one of the great parts of trusting Jesus as your Savior is that you are invited into God's family. God becomes your Father. Talk about how meaningful it has been to you to have God as your Father.

STEP 2: Ask kids to pick up the popsicle stick that says "Son."

Ask the following questions:

- What are some things that a good son does?
- What are some ways that you have seen in the Bible that Jesus was a good son?

STEP 3: Ask kids to pick up the popsicle stick that says "Holy Spirit."

Ask the following questions:

- What are kinds of things does the Holy Spirit do?
- What are some ways that you have seen in the Bible that show you what the Holy Spirit does?

Explain that becoming a child of God is a process. The Holy Spirit's job is to help you grow and change so that you look more and more like a child of God. Your job is to listen to His voice and obey Him. Explain that as you do this, you will begin to look more and more like Jesus.

STEP 4: Talk about how you have looked at each of the persons of God separately, but you never want to forget that each of these persons are one God. Each lives in complete unity with each other and they work together all the time. This understanding of God is called the Trinity. Give each child three glue dots and have them glue the popsicle sticks into the shape of a triangle.

Ask the following questions:

- How does being in complete unity with one another and being one make God different from any other god?
- How does knowing about the Trinity help you understand something new about who God is?

Encourage kids to tie yarn around the triangle so that they can hang the Trinity triangle in their rooms and remember that God is different than another other god and is worthy of our worship. Remind them that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are always with us and are always working together to help us grow more like Jesus.

STEP 5: Transition to the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids to a better understanding of the Trinity.

SECTION

1.5

God Is Three in One



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Three Roles, One God

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, tape, sticky notes

PREP: Before class, write each verse reference on a sticky note. Take three pieces of paper, and write God the Father on one, God the Son on another, and God the Holy Spirit on the last one. Tape them to different walls or flat surfaces in your space, so the kids can see them.

STEP 1: Divide the kids into groups, passing out a sticky note with a verse reference to each group.

STEP 2: Give groups five minutes to look up their verse(s) and determine if the verse describes God the Father, God the Son, or God the Holy Spirit. Have kids race to stick the note with their reference under the correct heading before the time is up.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have kids share their answers.

Colossians 1:2 (God the Father)

Romans 8:26 (God the Holy Spirit)

Romans 5:6-8 (God the Son)

Galatians 5:22 (God the Holy Spirit)

Psalm 37:23 (God the Father)

John 20:31 (God the Son)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts, as you walk around the room and stand by the different signs.

- God exists as three persons in one, called the Trinity. The three persons are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. All three persons are fully God, yet each has its own unique responsibilities in the lives of those who have a relationship with God.
- The first person in the Trinity is God is the Father of all creation and the Father of Jesus Christ.

When we trust in Jesus as Savior, God becomes our heavenly Father. As our Father, God guides our lives (Psalm 37:23), gives us grace and peace (Colossians 1:2), and offers forgiveness through Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9).

- God the Son is the second person in the Trinity. Jesus came to earth as a man and died on the cross and rose again. God offers us salvation from sin through Jesus Christ. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, God forgives all your sin. When He looks at you, He sees Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- The third part of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, plays a special part in our lives after we trust in Jesus as Savior. The Holy Spirit is always with us. He helps us when we are weak (Romans 8:26), He convicts us of sin (John 16:8), and He helps us understand God's Word. As we learn more about how God wants us to live, the Holy Spirit helps us become more like Christ (Galatians 5:22).

STEP 5: Continue the discussion by sharing anything else from the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Three in One



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Three Equals One

What You'll Need: Bibles, Three Equals One Handout, pencils

PREP: Print out enough handouts for the kids in your group.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that, even though the word Trinity is not in the Bible, there are many verses that talk about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. There's something mysterious about how they work together, that God wants us to solve by putting together the clues found in Scripture.

STEP 2: Give each child a handout, and assign the following verses to kids to look up and read. Explain that these verses are like the clues that tell us more about God. Ask leaders to help kids look up the verses as needed. As they read these verses, write down their observations, just like a detective would when trying to solve a case.

The verses the kids will look up:

- 2 Corinthians 13:14
- Matthew 3:16-17
- Matthew 28:19
- John 10:30
- 1 Peter 1:2

STEP 3: Have the kids take turns sharing what they discovered with the group.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

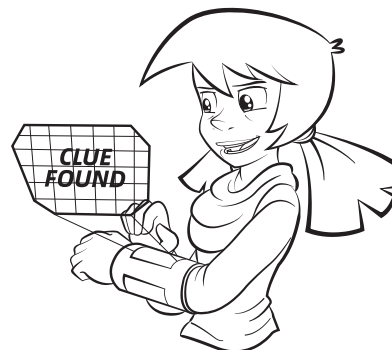


Three Equals One Handout

Check the box next to the Scripture reference that has been assigned to you!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 13:14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 3:16-17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 28:19 | <input type="checkbox"/> John 10:30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 1:2 | |

Write down what you discover about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and how they work together as the Trinity!



FATHER	SON	HOLY SPIRIT
THE TRINITY		

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Match Up

What You'll Need: Happy face stickers, or you can print your own on Avery 5160 labels using the Match Up Handout

PREP: Split up the sticker sheets so that each child will have enough to use. If you want to print your own, copy or print the Match Up Handout on Avery 5160 labels.

STEP 1: Explain that learning more about God, like we have in this unit, helps us to have joy (point to smiley face). Give children a few stickers, and have them stand around the room. Announce that their challenge is to stick as many people as they can with stickers as you call out the lessons that you have learned about during this unit. The rule is that they have three seconds after each title you call out to put stickers on each other.

STEP 2: Have the kids walk around the room. Begin to call out each of the lesson titles, then counting to three, so that kids can know how long they have to still use their stickers. Then wait at least 30 seconds before calling out the next one.

- God Is Truth
- God Is All-Knowing
- God Is Everywhere
- God Is All-Powerful
- God Is Three In One

STEP 3: Conclude the game by playfully acknowledging who stuck the most stickers, and who has the most stickers stuck to him or her. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a better understanding of who God is. Transition into the main lesson.

Notes:



Match Up Handout

To create the happy face stickers for this introduction activity, print the following page using Avery 5160 labels.



SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Who Are You?

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Tell the kids you need a volunteer to interview. Ask the volunteer to come to the front of the room and to complete each of the following statements with the first answer that comes to mind.

- My name is ...
- I am good at ...
- I live in ...
- My favorite thing to do is ...
- I do not like ...

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why was this interview helpful?
- Why is it helpful to learn more about other people?

STEP 3: Share the following concepts:

- When we learn more about what a person is like, we can better understand them. And as we get to know another person better, we can have a better relationship with them.
- The same is true about God. We get to know more about Him when we learn His characteristics from God's Word, the Bible. The more we know about God, the more we will want to know about Him. We will grow closer to Him and learn to appreciate Him more.

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: One Thing

Notes:

What You'll Need: One Thing Handout, five rolls of tape, scissors, envelopes or resealable plastic bags

PREP: Print out the One Thing Handout and cut the puzzle pieces out. For greater challenge, cut up each puzzle piece into several smaller strips and place the strips from each puzzle piece inside a plastic bag or envelope. You will need to make a puzzle for each group.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- God's Word tells us characteristics about Him to help us know more about who God is.
- Your memory verses from this unit will help you remember these characteristics of God. When you learn who God is, you will learn to love and worship our great God more and more.

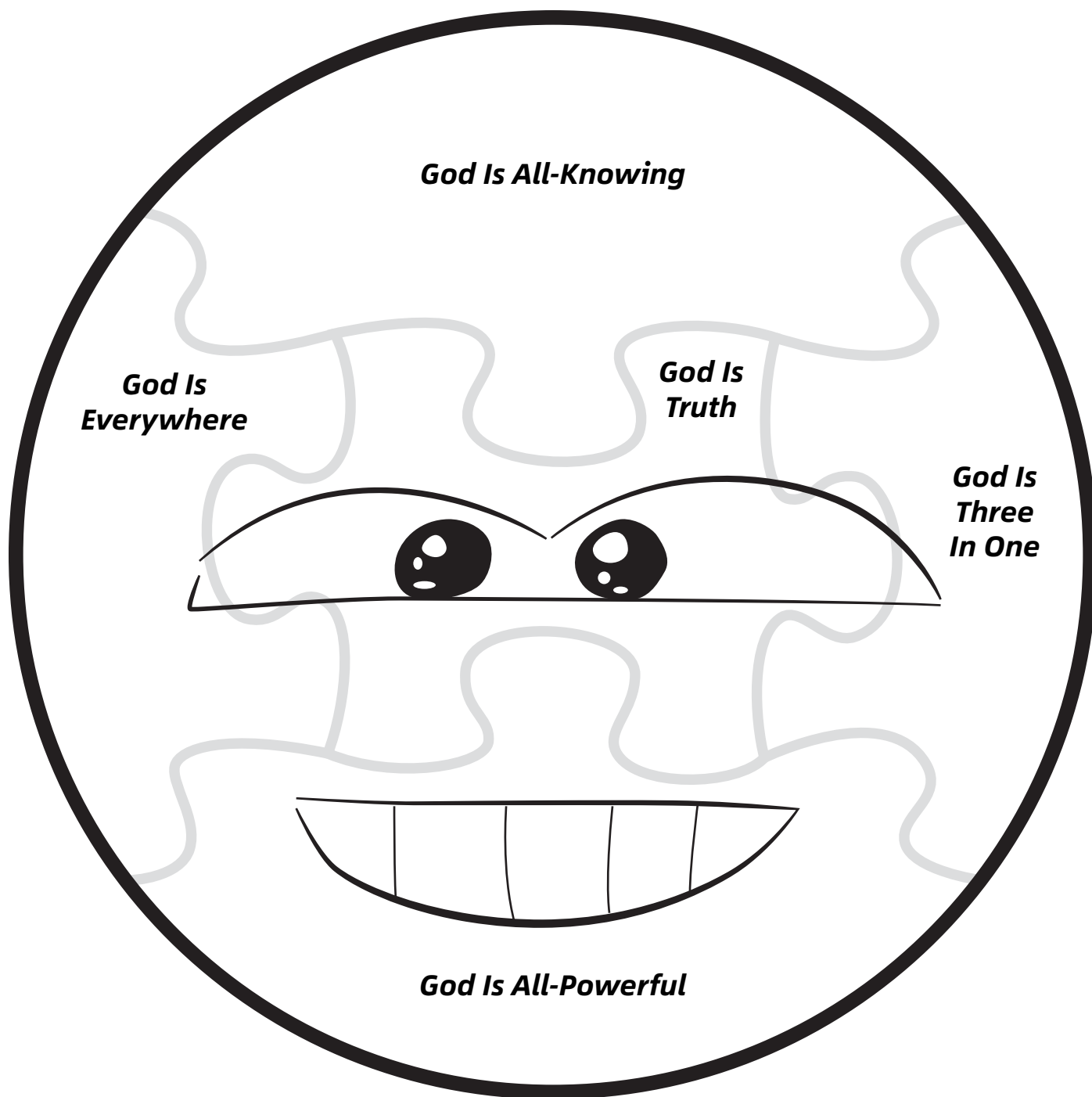
STEP 2: Explain that the group is going to have a challenge to put together a puzzle from all the things we've learned about God. Have the kids break up into groups, and give each of them a bag or envelope with the strips for a piece of the puzzle, and a roll of tape.

STEP 3: Give the kids a few minutes to work to put their piece together with tape, and then to complete the puzzle together. When they have finished, ask them what the picture is. Explain that it can give us happiness and joy to know more about God, because when we know Him more, we can trust Him more.

STEP 5: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.



One Thing Handout



SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Case Studies

Notes:

What You'll Need: Five boxes or suitcases

PREP: Gather five boxes or suitcases, and label them 1-5. Set them up in your space.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that the truths we learned about God's character can help us in everyday situations we might face.

STEP 2: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide.

STEP 3: Request five volunteers from your group to answer some tricky questions (they can get help from the other kids watching too). Let them each pick a case or box to open, one at a time, like they are on a game show, and then read the scenario out loud.

Cases:

1. *Your friend tells you that everybody can decide what is true, even something like whether stealing is bad. He or she wants to know what you think. Can you give a reason why is it important to rely on God's Word for our source of truth?*
2. *You're worried about something bad that happened yesterday. How does knowing that God is all-powerful help you?*
3. *You are leaving to go somewhere far away that you have never been to before. How does knowing that God is everywhere make you feel?*
4. *You lost something that's really special to you. How can God's omniscience help you?*
5. *You are feeling lonely. What is a way God could help you through the different parts of the Trinity?*

STEP 4: Congratulate the kids for answering all the questions, and sum up any additional information you want to share with them.

SECTION 2.1

Books of History



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Historical Order

What You'll Need: Paper, pen (optional: smartphone or tablet or computer with Internet connection)

PREP: Decide on four major world events that you think your kids would know about (e.g., Civil War, Titanic sinking, WWII, first man walking on the moon), and write the title of each event on a piece of paper.

STEP 1: Tell the kids about the four famous events in history, and for each one, ask kids to raise their hand if they know something about it. Call on four kids (one per event), and have them line up in front of the room, each holding the paper of the event they know about.

STEP 2: Ask each volunteer to talk about their event, and have the rest of the kids try to put the events in chronological order by having the volunteers stand in that order. (Optional: Check the order on your smartphone, tablet, or computer.)

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Historical events help us understand what happened in our past.
- Learning about famous, historical events help us understand why the different countries and cultures of the world live and function as they do. It also gives us a better understanding as to why certain laws were made, and it helps us see where we have come from.
- The first 17 books in the Bible are called the Books of History. These books contain true facts and events from the beginning of time. They are a part of the history of mankind, and every detail contained in those books is true.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the truths about the Books of History in the Old Testament.

Notes:

SECTION 2.1

Books of History



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: History According to Me

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Explain that this week they will be learning about the Books of History from the Old Testament. Before you get started, you want to tell them about something that happened. Then read the following story.

On the Way Home

One day Sam and Erin were on their way home from the grocery store, when they saw a small dog hiding under a bush. They thought it might be hungry, so they gave it a dog treat, and took it home.

STEP 2: Then ask the kids to help you fill in some blanks to your story.

A Place:

An adjective (describing word):

An animal:

An object:

An adjective (describing word):

A food:

Then, fill in your blanks below, and read the story out loud.

On the Way Home

One day Sam and Erin were on their way home from _____, when they saw a _____ hiding under a _____. They thought it might be _____, so they gave it a _____, and took it home.

Ask the following questions:

- Why was our version of the story not historically accurate?
- What would Sam and Erin think of our updated story?

- Why is it important to have an accurate account of history?

STEP 3: Share these concepts.

- We know certain events are true because people reported the facts as they saw them, and they were written down so others would have an accurate record.
- God's Word contains the history of our world, and especially God's people, the Israelites. We know every word in the Bible is true and accurate because God's Word is truth (John 17:17).

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the truths about the Books of History.

Notes:

SECTION
2.1

Books of History



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Old Testament History

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Divide kids into three groups and assign one of the following historical events to each group:

The flood

The Tower of Babel

The Battle of Jericho

STEP 2: Give groups five minutes to come up with poses that represent their events. Tell kids that they will be doing a "mannequin display" of key points of their stories, where everyone freezes like a statue in a pose that creates a "snapshot" scene representing a moment.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have each group present their mannequin displays.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

STEP 4: Close in prayer, thanking God for always keeping His promises.

Notes:

SECTION

2.1

God Is Truth



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Key Old Testament Historical Figures

What You'll Need: Computer, printer, Key Old Testament Historical Figures Handout, costumes (if possible)

PREP: Before large group, print the Old Testament Historical Figures Handout and cut apart the sections. Have costume options ready for use.

STEP 1: Ask for two volunteers and give each a section of the handout. Give them a few seconds to read it through, and choose something to wear as a costume. While they are doing this, explain to the group that they will be getting to know two characters from the Books of History.

STEP 2: Ask each volunteer to stand and read his or her section. After each section is read, ask the following questions.

- Why was that person an important part of Israel's history?
- How did God use circumstances in his or her life to help keep His promise to Israel?

STEP 3: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Key Old Testament Historical Figures

Joseph

Hi, I'm Joseph. I'm a great grandson of Abraham. My 10 older brothers were often jealous of me because I had amazing dreams, and also because my dad made me a beautiful, colorful coat. Anyway, one day they sold me into slavery! I ended up in Egypt working for a powerful leader. My life wasn't always easy; I had to work hard. I was wrongly accused and ended up in jail! But I believed God's promises, and God was with me.

One night the leader of all Egypt, Pharaoh, had a dream. It bothered him, and no one could tell him what it meant. A former prisoner mentioned me, and Pharaoh had me interpret the dream. I was able to explain the meaning of the dream to him with God's help, and Pharaoh was so impressed that he made me second-in-command under him! Over the next years, I was able to save my family from a severe famine, and I was even able to have them come and live near me in Egypt. I was able to forgive my older brothers and to see my father again. God used my life in big ways to keep His promises to my people.

Ruth

I'm Ruth. Some people may say I had a hard life. I was married to a good man who was an Israelite. I was not familiar with his people or his God. But then, my husband died and so did his brother AND his father. I was left with my mother-in-law and sister-in-law. I promised my sad mother-in-law that I would go wherever she went and that her God would be my God. I ended up returning with my mother-in-law to her people. We were very poor, and I had to work hard to provide food for us.

One day, as I was working in the field, the owner saw me and asked about me. He told his men to leave extra food for me. When I told my mother-in-law, she was thrilled. The owner, Boaz, was a relative, and there was a way that Boaz could help us! I did exactly what my mother-in-law told me to do, and Boaz came to our rescue. We were married and had a little baby boy named Obed. Even though there were sad, hard times in my life, God was always with me. And He even used me to help keep His promises to the Israelites through my great-grandson, King David.

SECTION 2.2

Books of Wisdom



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Rhyme Time

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids stand in groups of two. Instruct one person in each pair to say a word. Then the other person in their pair needs to come up with a legitimate word that rhymes. Once they do, they can switch partners, and the challenge is to see how many times they can switch in two minutes. Have leaders walking around the room ready to offer assistance when needed.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have kids return to their seats. Read a simple poem (e.g., "Roses are red, violets are blue ..."). When you hear the word *poetry*, usually you think of words that rhyme and have a pattern.

STEP 3: Share these concepts.

- There are many different forms of poetry. In fact, most songs are poems set to music.
- Some poetry does not rhyme, and often if a poem is translated from a different language, it will not rhyme.
- Five of the books of the Bible are known as Books of Wisdom, or Poetry Books. Many of these books contain poems that do not rhyme in our language.
- God gave us these Books of Wisdom so that we would learn more about who He is, and how we can better worship Him.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids recognize the importance of the Books of Wisdom and how they impact your lives.

Notes:

SECTION
2.2

Books of Widsom



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Wise Words

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids if they have ever heard any wise sayings. Allow several to share. Read several of the wise sayings from below.

- A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
- Don't judge a book by its cover.
- Appearances are often deceiving.
- Slow and steady wins the race.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes a saying wise?
- Are all of these sayings wise? Why or why not?
- How do you know if a saying or advice from a friend is wise?

STEP 3: Transition to the main lesson by explaining that God has given us five books full of wisdom in His Word. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids recognize the importance of the Books of Wisdom and how they impact your lives.

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

Books of Wisdom



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Wisdom and Worship

What You'll Need: Two pieces of paper, masking tape, Bible

PREP: Write Wisdom on one paper, and Reason to Worship on the other. Tape them on opposite walls from each other. Mark all the verses in your Bible ahead of time.

STEP 1: Have the kids stand in the middle of your space, and explain you are going to play a game. Each verse you read will either contain a wise saying or a reason to worship God. When they hear the verses, they need to go to the sign they think most correctly describes the verse — a wise saying or a reason to worship.

STEP 2: Read the following verses out loud, and cheer for the kids as they decide each time.

- Proverbs 3:5-6 (wisdom)
- Psalm 19:1 (worship)
- Job 36:5 (worship)
- Psalm 34:3 (worship)
- Proverbs 19:11 (wisdom)
- Proverbs 18:24 (wisdom)
- Ecclesiastes 12:13 (wisdom)

STEP 3: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

Books of Wisdom



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Books of Wisdom Overview

What You'll Need: Bibles, Books of Wisdom Handout

PREP: Print the Books of Wisdom Handout, and fold each page in half to look like a book.

STEP 1: Ask for five volunteers who have their Bibles. Assign one of the following verses to each volunteer, giving it to them by handing them the corresponding "book" from the Books of Wisdom Handout. Ask leaders to help kids look up verses, if needed.

These are the verses that the books direct them to:

- Job 42:2
- Psalm 103:1
- Proverbs 1:7
- Ecclesiastes 12:13
- Song of Solomon 2:16

STEP 2: Ask each volunteer to hold up their book and read his or her assigned verse.

STEP 3: Share the following concepts as they relate to each verse.

- God uses the five Books of Wisdom in the middle of the Old Testament to teach us how to make the choices He wants us to make and how to worship Him.
- Job, the first of the books, shows us how God used the problems and trials of Job to teach him and us about God.
- Psalms is a collection of 150 songs that teach us how to worship God, how to ask for God's help, and how to encourage others to know who God is.
- Proverbs is a book of short sayings to help Solomon's son have the wisdom to make good choices.

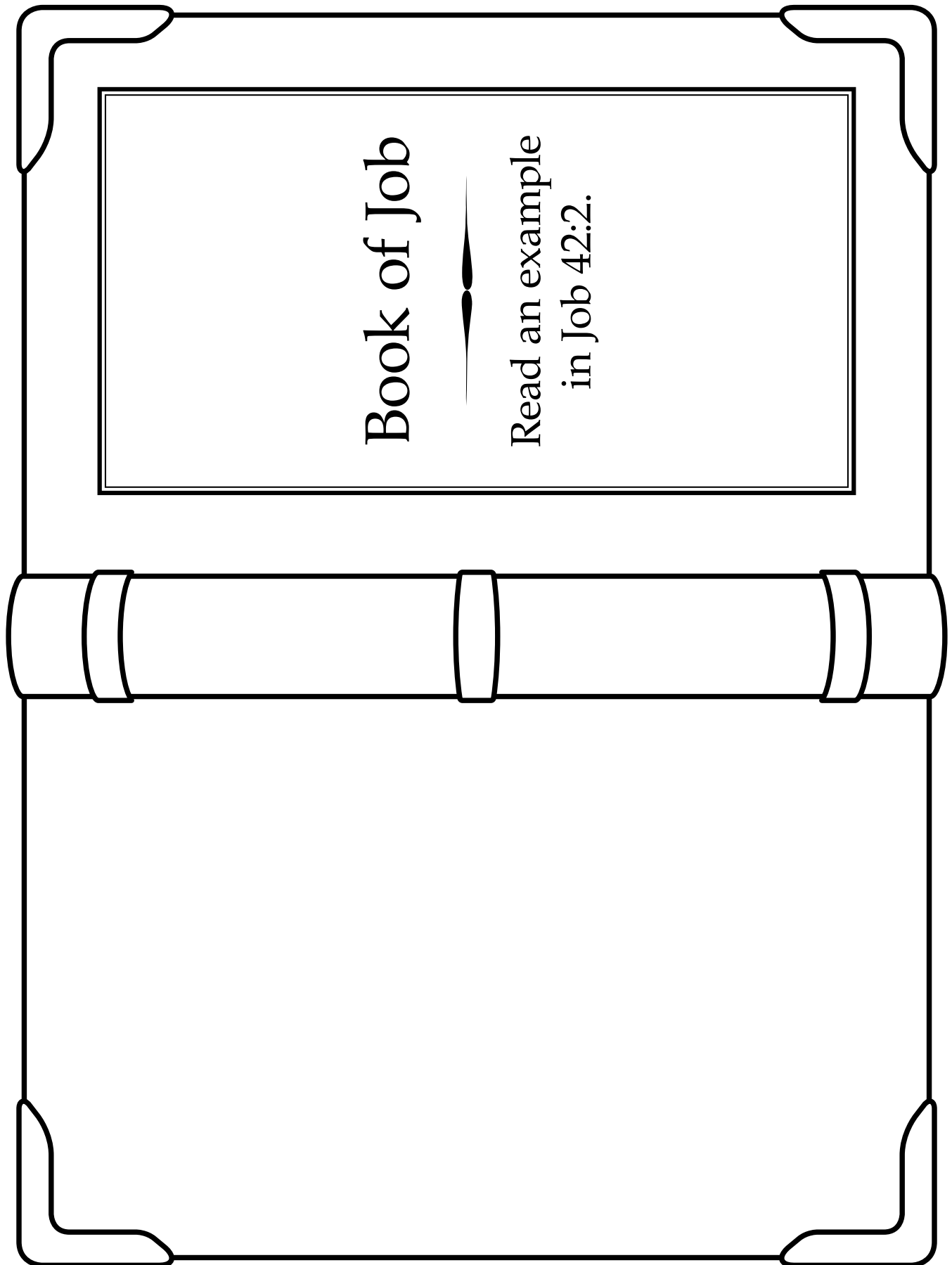
- Ecclesiastes shares Solomon's search for happiness and contentment, which can only be found by fearing God and obeying His commandments.
- Song of Solomon shows what true love between a married man and women should look like.

Notes:



Books of Wisdom Handout

PREP: Print the following pages of the Books of Wisdom Handout, and fold each page in half to look like a book.



Book of Psalms

Read an example
in Psalm 103:1.

Book of Proverbs

Read an example
in Proverbs 1:7.

Book of Ecclesiastes



Read an example
in Ecclesiastes 12:13.

Book of Song of Solomon

Read an example in
Song of Solomon 2:16.

SECTION 2.3

Books of Prophecy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Predictions

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Read each of the following predictions. Have kids stand if they think the predictions will come true.

- You will have a flying car by the time you are 30.
- People can live on Mars by the year 2218.
- Someone in this room will grow up and become a doctor.
- Someone in this room will one day be a parent.

STEP 2: Discuss the following questions:

- Why do you think some of these predictions might come true?
- Why do you think some of these predictions won't come true?
- What is the difference between a prediction and a prophecy?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We have the whole Bible (Genesis to Revelation), but people in the Old Testament had to rely on men to whom God spoke in order for them to hear God's Word.
- These men of God, called prophets, had to give the people the very words God spoke to them.
- The people knew these prophets were from God because they spoke in God's name and what they said came true.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and understanding the Books of Prophecy.

Notes:

SECTION
2.3

Books of Prophecy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Prophets in Order

What You'll Need: Sticky notes

PREP: Prepare the sticky notes by writing the name of one book of the prophets on each note.

STEP 1: Divide kids into groups of three or four. Give a Books of Prophecy set to each group.

STEP 2: Give groups one minute to put the titles of the Books of Prophecy in order. Have leaders help groups as needed.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

We have the whole Bible (Genesis to Revelation), but people in the Old Testament had to rely on men to whom God spoke.

These men of God, prophets, had to give the people the very words God spoke to them.

The people knew these prophets were from God because they spoke in God's name and what they said came true.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and understanding the Books of Prophecy.

Notes:

SECTION 2.3

Books of Prophecy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Prophecies Fulfilled

What You'll Need: Bible bookmarked to the verses in the lesson activity, three pieces of poster board (or blank paper), a marker (preferably red)

PREP: Draw a large box in the middle of each of the three pieces of poster board. At the top of the first one, write Isaiah 9:6 and at the bottom, write Luke 1:31. At the top of the second one, write Micah 5:2 and at the bottom, write Matthew 2:6. At the top of the third one, write Isaiah 53:5 and at the bottom, write 1 Peter 2:24.

STEP 1: Ask for kids to raise their hands if they have seen a checklist before. Elaborate that a checklist has boxes that only get checked when something is done. Tell them that sometimes when someone is checking off a box on a checklist, they may even yell the word, "Check!" If you think it would work with your group, let them try yelling, "Check!" Explain to the kids that today we are going to be checking off some boxes that have to do with prophecies given in the Old Testament that the New Testament shows us are about Jesus.

STEP 2: Ask for volunteers to read the verses on the poster board. Have a volunteer read Isaiah 9:6. Share with kids that this prophecy was about the birth of Jesus, the Messiah. Have a volunteer read Luke 1:31, and then help kids recognize how the passage in Luke tells us that Jesus would fulfill the prophecy in Isaiah. After the volunteer finishes reading, ask the group, "Did we hear that Jesus would fulfill that prophecy?" Have everyone together yell "Check!" as you use the marker to write a big check mark in the box.

Continue with the rest of the prophecies and help the kids recognize how God used the prophets to share what would come to pass. See the reference list to check your answers.

Below are listed the verses:

Isaiah 9:6 (prophecy)

Luke 1:31 (Jesus to fulfill)

Micah 5:2 (prophecy)

Matthew 2:6 (Jesus to fulfill)

Isaiah 53:5 (prophecy)

1 Peter 2:24 (Jesus to fulfill)

STEP 3: Share these key concepts. Allow time for kids to ask questions or give responses to your teaching.

- The last 17 books of the Old Testament are known as the Books of Prophecy.
- Prophets were men called by God to warn people about their sin and tell them God's messages, which were called revelations.
- Prophets would often tell about events that would happen in the future. However, sometimes their jobs would be to tell about and explain events that were currently happening to the people.
- Some prophets had specific messages to the Israelites. Jeremiah was to warn the Israelites that they would be punished if they did not stop sinning and start obeying God. His prophecies were fulfilled when Babylon took over Israel.
- Several of the prophets told about the coming Messiah. They shared truths about His birth, life, death, and resurrection. These prophecies were fulfilled and recorded in the New Testament.
- When we study prophecies and their fulfillments, we can see that God and His Word can always be trusted as truth. God ALWAYS keeps His Word.

SECTION 2.3

Books of Prophecy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Prophet Personalities

What You'll Need: Computer, printer, Prophet Personalities Handout, scissors

PREP: Print out a copy of the Prophet Personalities Handout and cut apart the sections.

STEP 1: Ask for three volunteer readers, and give each volunteer a section from the Prophets Personalities Handout.

STEP 2: Have the volunteers read their prophet's overviews. Then share these key concepts:

- The last 17 books of the Old Testament are known as the Books of Prophecy.
- Prophets were men and women called by God to warn people about their sin and tell them God's messages, which were called revelations.
- Prophets would often tell about events that would happen in the future. However, sometimes their jobs would be to tell about and explain events that were currently happening to the people.
- Some prophets had specific messages to the Israelites. For example, Jeremiah was to warn the Israelites that they would be punished if they did not stop sinning and start obeying God. Ezekiel prophesied about Israel's exile and about heaven. Daniel prophesied about future events.
- When we study prophecies and their fulfillments, we can see that God and His Word can always be trusted as truth. God ALWAYS keeps His Word.

Notes:



Prophet Personalities Handout

Daniel

Hi! I'm Daniel. You may remember some of the famous stories about me, like the time I was thrown into the lion's den? Many people think that's the only thing I did to show others I believed in and trusted God. But that's not true.

Did you know that God also used me as a prophet? He gave me many different messages to tell the people. In one, God revealed a message to the ungodly King Belthazaar in a strange way. See, King Belthazaar was having this party, and they were REALLY partying. All of a sudden, the people at the party saw a hand writing on the wall! No body, no anything, just a hand!

I was called to the scene, and God gave me the words of the message to share with the king.

There were many other prophecies that God gave me about things that still haven't happened. Even though it may be hard to think about, but the things that I wrote thousands of years ago will still come true. These weren't my words; they were God's Words. I just wrote them down for Him. And because God always keeps His promises, you can know for sure that the prophecies I wrote about the future will come true.

Ezekiel

My name is Ezekiel. I was supposed to work as a priest, but God had another job for me. He gave me many messages to tell His people who had been captured and taken away from their homes. God's messages to me were very different. He often had me do some pretty unusual things to share His messages to His people. One time, I had to build a small model of the city of Jerusalem. Another time I had to cut part of my hair and throw it up into the wind. And then there was the time that I had to bake bread — on poo! Yeah, some of those things were pretty weird and gross, but near the end of my book, I got to share some pretty cool prophecies about heaven. Guys, it's going to be so beautiful there.

Every time God asked me to do something, I always obeyed. God used these unusual examples to show His people how they had sinned against Him, a holy righteous God. I began to understand just how much God hates sin. And I hope that those who read and study my book understand that too.



Prophet Personalities Handout

Jeremiah

I'm Jeremiah. One of my nicknames is The Weeping Prophet. God called me before I was even born to be His prophet, but it was not easy. God wanted me to tell His people, the Israelites, that they had not obeyed. God gave them so many opportunities to turn from their sin, but they didn't. They kept on sinning and disobeying what He commanded them to do. My message to the people was that God was going to punish Israel for their sin. There was going to be another country who would come in and take over the people. This message came true when Israel's enemy, Babylon, defeated Israel. Many of the people were taken from their homes and forced to move far away.

Even though God's people deserved to be punished, He still loved them. In fact, He told me to tell them that He had good plans for them. If they began to seek Him with all their hearts, then He would bring them back. God never gave up on His people, and He will never give up on us either. We can trust in God, because He has a plan and a future for all of us, as long as we seek Him with all of our hearts.

SECTION 2.4 | *The Gospels*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Christmas Celebration

What You'll Need: Christmas decorations (optional); Christmas CD and CD player, or Smartphone or tablet (optional)

PREP: Optional: Decorate the classroom with Christmas decorations and play Christmas music in the background.

STEP 1: As kids enter the classroom, tell them Merry Christmas. Explain that they will be learning about the four Gospels in the New Testament. They tell about when Jesus came to earth, so we're having a mini Christmas celebration.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- When people think of the Gospels, they often think of the birth of Jesus. But the Gospels contain much more.
- The Holy Spirit inspired four different men from different backgrounds to share the true story of the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying the Gospels in the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.4 | *The Gospels*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: What Do You See?

What You'll Need: Computer, printer

PREP: Ahead of time, search the Internet for optical illusions. Print out several images, or be prepared to show those images to your kids in class.

STEP 1: Show images to kids and ask, "What do you see?" and listen to their responses.

STEP 2: Share the following concepts:

- When two people look at these images, they may see two different pictures, depending on their perspectives. If they examine the picture long enough, they may be able to see the second part to the image.
- The Holy Spirit inspired four different men to write about Jesus' birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John each wrote their Gospel from his own backgrounds and perspectives of how he perceived Jesus and His ministries.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying the Gospels in the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.4

The Gospels



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Same Story, Different Perspectives

What You'll Need: Funny objects, crazy costumes, person willing to wear them

PREP: Explain to the person wearing the costume that you will want them to remain hidden from the group until you have the four volunteers with you. Then he or she will need to run through your space, acting a little crazy and saying things that don't make sense, like numbers or animal noises in a random sequence.

STEP 1: Explain that you need four volunteers to stand with you at the front of your space, because you want to ask them a few questions.

STEP 2: When all four are standing with you, have the person wearing the funny costume run through your space, and then leave.

STEP 3: Explain that you need to ask some questions about what everyone just saw. Have volunteers take turns telling what they saw, while the other volunteers cover their ears. If they need a little prompting you can ask more specifically what they saw, heard, and wondered when the person came running through.

STEP 4: Thank your volunteers and have them sit down.

STEP 5: Tell the kids that it seemed that each person had something different to say about what he or she just saw, because each person noticed different details and remembers different parts of the event. In the same way when Jesus came to earth, four different men wrote about what they noticed and remembered about Him

STEP 6: Share these key concepts:

- The first four books of the New Testament are known as the Gospels. They tell the true story of Jesus Christ's life on earth.
- The Gospels are named for their writers. The

Holy Spirit inspired the writers and made sure that everything they wrote was true. All four writers told the true story of Christ's birth, earthly ministry, miracles, death, and resurrection.

- Matthew was one of Christ's followers. He showed that Christ is the true King and the promised Messiah.
- Mark heard about Jesus from Peter. Mark showed that Jesus has power and authority, but came to serve and to sacrifice Himself for others.
- Luke was a historian and a doctor. He recorded details of Christ's miracles and death, and also focused on the truth that Jesus was fully God and fully man.
- John was one of the disciples who was closest to Jesus. He focused on the truth that Jesus is fully God.
- When Jesus came to earth, four different men wrote true accounts about Him. This is a gift to us, because by putting it all together we better understand what things were really like.

STEP 7: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

2.4

The Gospels



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Gospel Overview

What You'll Need: Gospel Overview Handout (from the Resource Bundle), scissors, Bible

PREP: Bookmark your Bible with Matthew 5:17, Mark 10:25, Luke 19:10, and John 20:31.

STEP 1: Ask for five volunteers to come to the front.

STEP 2: Explain that today you are learning about the Gospels. These are by four different people whose writings help us understand more about who Jesus is.

STEP 3: Give each volunteer a letter, and have them stand in order so that the letters read JESUS. Have each child read the reference inside their letter. As the verse reference is read, use your Bible to read the verse, or have the child read it from your Bible.

This is what the letters will say:

J- Matthew 5:17

E- Mark 10:25

S- The Gospels help us know Him better!

U- Luke 19:10

S- John 20:31

STEP 4: After this, share the following key concepts to help guide your discussion of the Gospels.

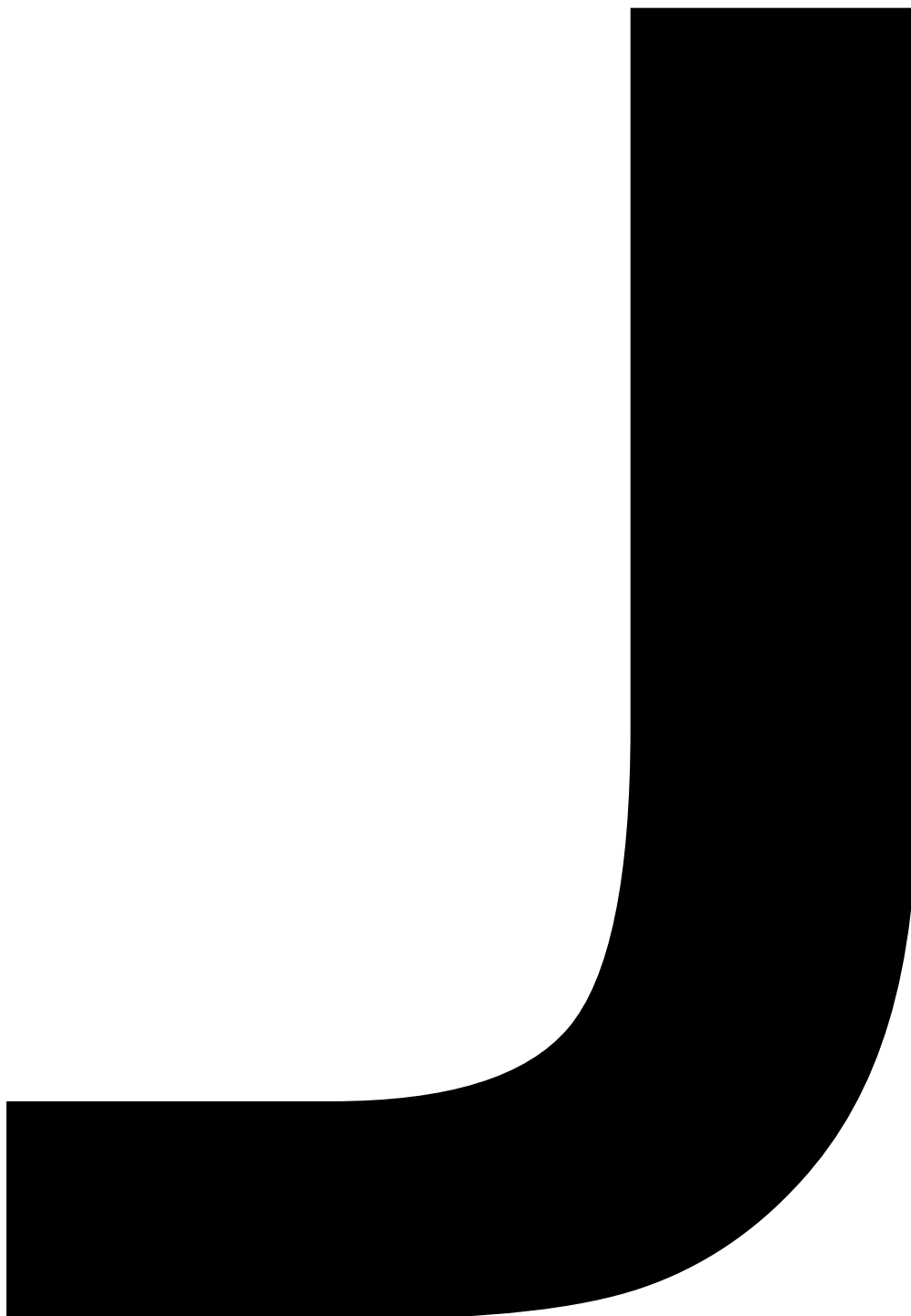
- The first four books of the New Testament are known as the Gospels. They tell the true story of Jesus Christ's life on earth.
- The Gospels are named for their writers. The Holy Spirit inspired the writers and made sure that everything they wrote was true. All four writers told the true story of Christ's birth, earthly ministry and miracles, death and resurrection.
- Matthew was one of Christ's followers. He

showed that Christ is the true King and the promised Messiah.

- Mark heard about Jesus from Peter. Mark showed that Jesus has power and authority, but came to serve and to sacrifice Himself for others.
- Luke was a historian and a doctor. He recorded details of Christ's miracles and death, and also focused on the truth that Jesus was fully God and fully man.
- John was one of the disciples who was closest to Jesus. He focused on the truth that Jesus is fully God.
- When Jesus came to earth, four different men wrote about what they noticed and remembered about Him. This is a gift to us, because by putting it all together, we can better understand what things would have really been like.

STEP 5: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

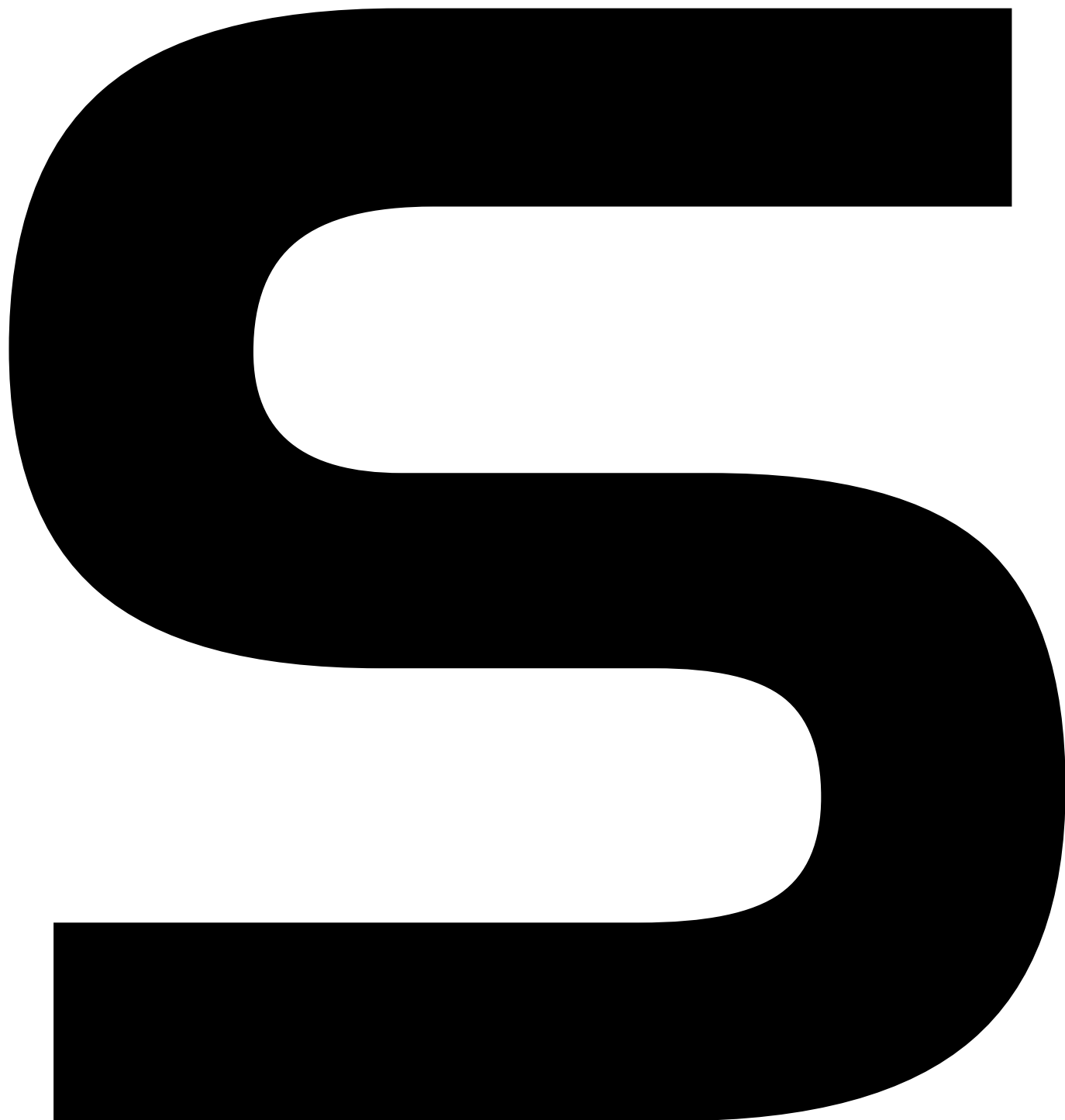
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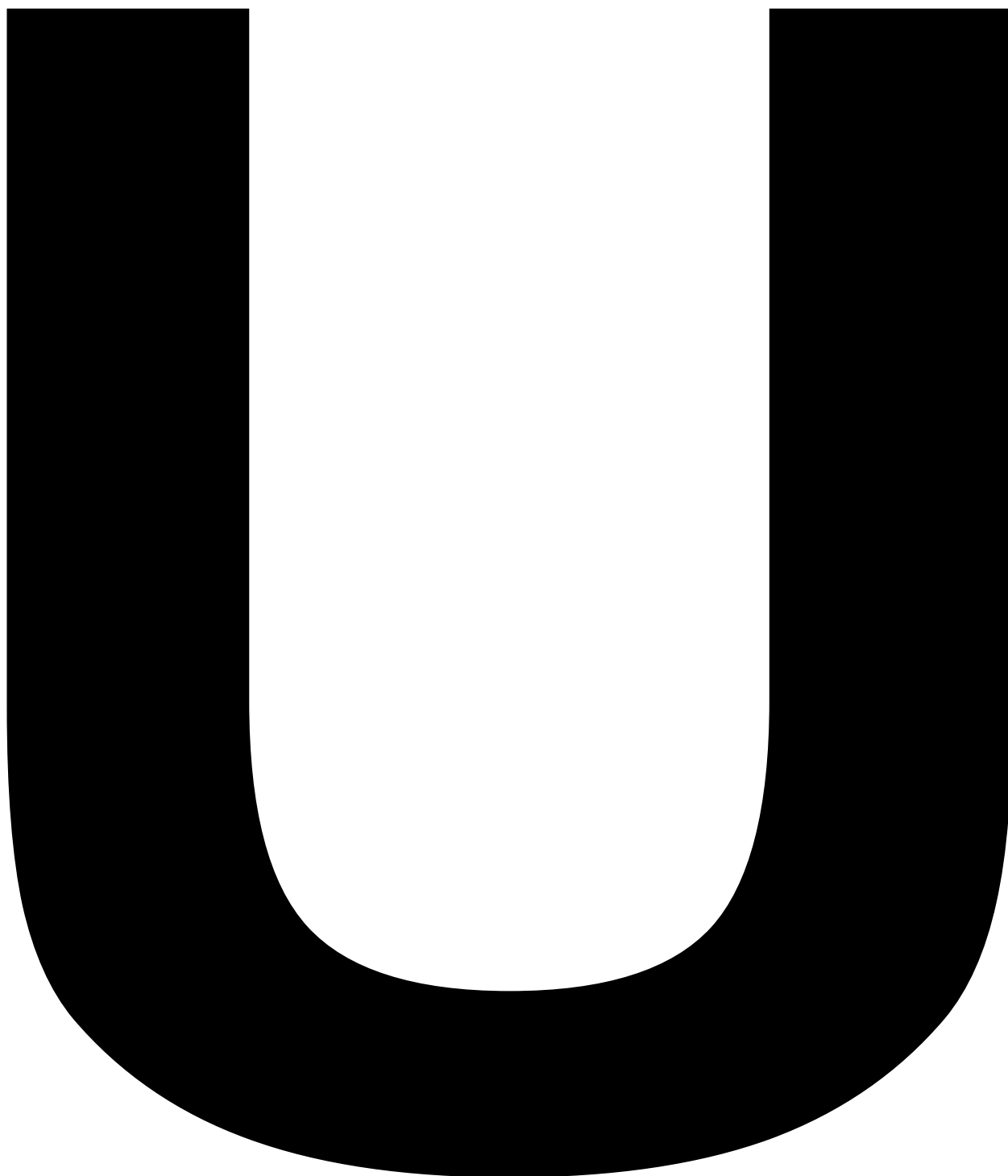
Matthew 5:17



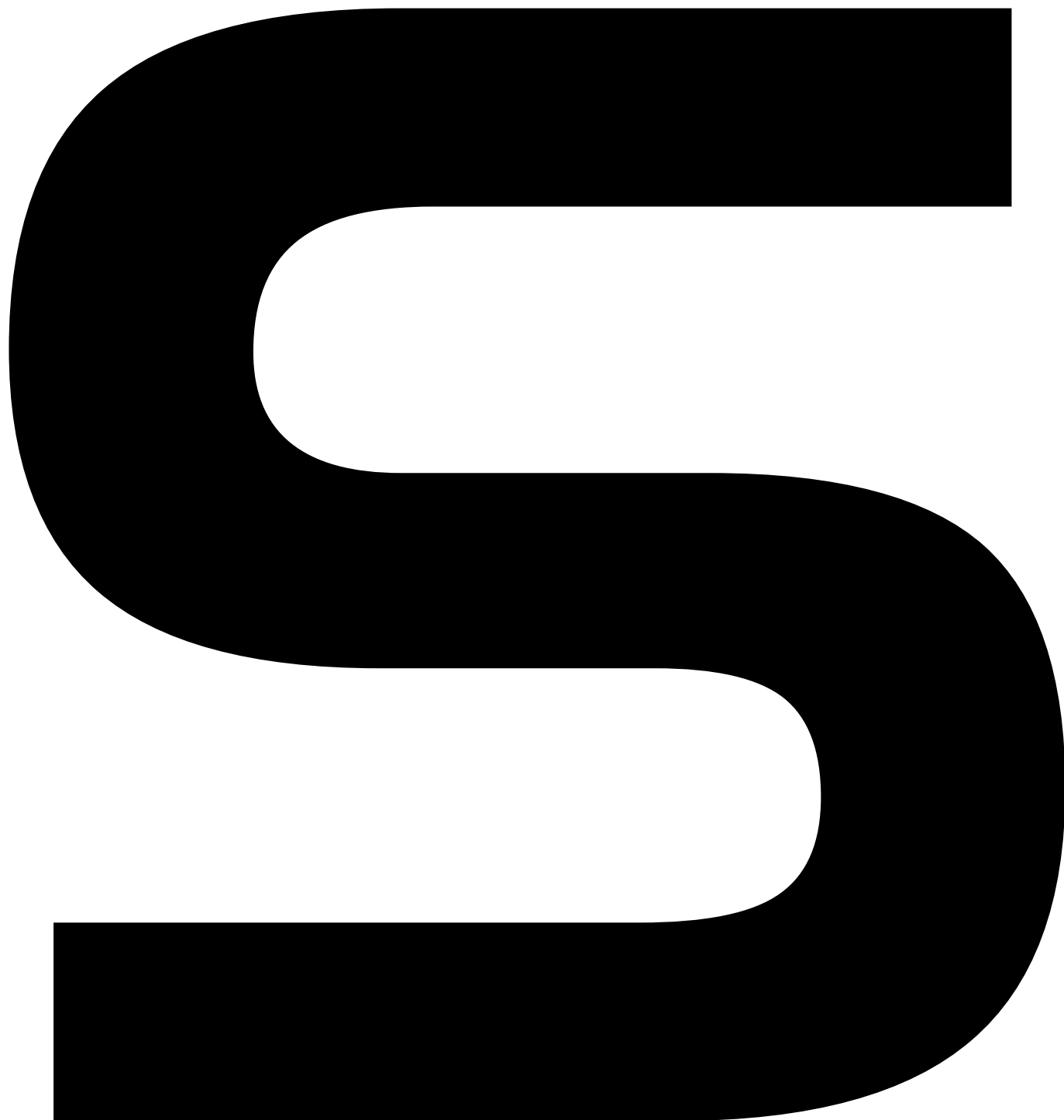
Mark 10:25



The Gospels help us know Him better!



Luke 19:10



John 20:31

SECTION 2.5 | Acts



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Best News Ever!

What You'll Need: Newspaper or computer and printer or smartphone or tablet with Internet

PREP: Before class, search a newspaper or Internet for two or three positive news stories (you can type "positive news" in a search engine), make sure the stories are age appropriate.

STEP 1: Share with kids an overview of one or two of the news stories. Then ask the following questions:

- What makes this story good?
- Why is it easier to share good news instead of bad news?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His followers to tell everyone the good news that He died and rose again to pay the punishment for sin.
- The book of Acts shares how Jesus' followers began to share this good news with everyone they met. As a result, the early church began.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and obeying the book of Acts in the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.5

Acts



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Special News Bulletin

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have the kids stand in a line. Explain you will be sharing special news bulletins with the person on the one end of the line, and then the kids will need to whisper the message in the ear of the person next to them to pass it along, like the game Telephone, the last person to receive the message will tell the group what they heard.

STEP 2: Start the game, by whispering the first message to the child at the beginning of the line.

Here are the messages you can share, or you can make up your own:

A missing pet is returned.

Two brothers dig up a dinosaur fossil in their backyard.

A little girl discovers a priceless treasure hidden in her family's attic.

STEP 3: After you have finished playing, share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His followers to tell everyone the good news that He died and rose again to pay the punishment for sin.
- The book of Acts shares how Jesus' followers began to share this good news with everyone they met. They shared it from one person to the next, just as you did in your game. As a result, the early church began.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and obeying The book of Acts in the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.5 | Acts



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Examples to Follow

What You'll Need: A box wrapped up like a present (it doesn't need to have anything inside), Bible, paper, string, hole punch

PREP: Write Giver on one paper, and Receiver on the other piece of paper. Punch holes on two corners of each paper. Mark the following passages of Scripture in your Bible (Acts 3:1-8, Acts 8:4-6, Acts 16:25-31) so you have them ready.

STEP 1: Explain that the book of Acts tells us many stories about how God's followers shared the good news about Jesus with other people. Sharing the gospel is like giving someone a present, because it is good news that gives hope. Show them the present, and explain that you are going to play a game.

STEP 2: Ask for two volunteers to stand at the front. Give one the sign Giver and the other the sign Receiver. Have the Giver hold the present. Explain that in each story the group will be working to identify who gave the good news, and who received it.

Read the following passages out loud from your Bible, and have the kids identify who is the giver of the good news in the Bible, and who received it. The answers are written for you in parenthesis to reference if needed.

The stories you will read:

- Acts 3:1-8 (Peter and John give to the crippled beggar.)
- Acts 8:4-6 (Philip gave to the crowds in Samaria.)
- Acts 16:25-31 (Paul and Silas gave to the jailer.)

STEP 3: After the group has worked through these stories, tell the kids that the believers in each passage are good examples to follow. Just as these people in the early church shared the good news of Jesus, we also get to do so. When you share about God's love, it is like giving a gift to

someone. Sometimes he or she will receive it, and sometimes he or she won't, but our job is to be the giver of the good news, regardless of how it is received.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION 2.5 | Acts



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Early Church Activities

What You'll Need: Bibles, Early Church Activities Handout

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that you will be doing a matching game together to talk about the book of Acts. Acts is about the beginning of the early church, and together you are going to read about what the people in the early church did.

STEP 2: Read Acts 2:41-47 aloud. Encourage the kids to follow along as you read.

STEP 3: Have 16 volunteers get bracelets, and find the person with the bracelet whose picture or words match their own. Below are listed the matches.

Actions in the early church:

They were baptized. (drop of water)

They devoted themselves to teaching/doctrine. (speech bubble)

They devoted themselves to fellowship. (two smiley faces)

They devoted themselves to the breaking of bread. (loaf of bread)

They devoted themselves to prayer. (praying hands)

They cared for one another by selling their possessions and dividing them among themselves. (money symbol)

They met together in homes every day. (house picture)

They had glad and generous hearts. (heart)

They praised God. (praising hands)

They had favor with all people. (thumbs up sign)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- The apostles and the early church depended entirely on their relationship with God, and began to share Jesus Christ with the world.
- These early believers then went out and shared Christ everywhere they went. People saw their testimonies and believed in Jesus.
- We get to follow the example of the early church in Acts and share the good news about Jesus Christ around the world.

STEP 5: Discuss the following questions:

- How were these believers like people in our church?
- How are they different?
- What would our church look like if we followed the example of people in the early church people?
- How can you personally follow these examples?

STEP 6: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids follow the examples of the early believers in Acts.

Notes:



Early Church Activities Handout

They were baptized.

They devoted themselves to teaching/doctrine.

They devoted themselves to fellowship.

They devoted themselves to the breaking of bread.

They devoted themselves to prayer.

They cared for one another by selling their possessions and dividing them among themselves.

They met together in homes every day.

They had glad and generous hearts.

They praised God.

They had favor with all people.

Early Church Activities Handout



SECTION
2.6

The Epistles



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: A Special Letter

What You'll Need: Stationery or paper, envelope

PREP: Before class, write a letter to your T&T group. (Optional: Ask a church leader to write a short letter to your club.)

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that your T&T club received a letter. Read the letter aloud, and then pass the letter around for the kids to read.

STEP 2: While the kids are reading the letter, ask if anyone wants to share a time when they received a special card or letter.

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- How do you feel when you get a letter or a card in the mail?
- Why might people send a letter or a card?
- What other ways do people communicate with one another?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- People in New Testament times who lived far apart could only communicate by visiting or sending a letter.
- It would take a long time to receive a letter, so it meant a lot for someone to send a letter.
- The Holy Spirit inspired men who were traveling to share the good news to write letters to different people or churches they had visited. These letters are a part of the New Testament and are called the Epistles.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and obeying the Epistles.

Notes:

SECTION
2.6

The Epistles



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Card for Every Occasion

What You'll Need: Random assortment of greeting cards (they can be written on or blank)

STEP 1: Show the kids the greeting cards you brought, noticing with them the different occasions why people send greeting cards, like birthdays and special days.

STEP 2: Ask the kids:

- How do you feel when you get a letter or a card in the mail?
- Why might people send a letter or a card?
- What other ways do people communicate with one another?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- People in New Testament times who lived far apart could only communicate by visiting or sending a letter.
- It would take a long time to receive a letter, so it meant a lot for someone to send a letter.
- The Holy Spirit inspired men who were traveling to share the good news to write letters to different people or churches they had visited. These letters are a part of the New Testament and are called the Epistles.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by explaining that today's lesson is about the Epistles, which are letters written to and from early Christians. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and obeying the Epistles.

Notes:

SECTION 2.6

The Epistles



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Important Reminders

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, six chairs, balloons, permanent marker, Important Reminders Handout, scissors, tape

PREP: Write each verse reference on a balloon with a permanent marker, and print out the Important Reminders Handout, cutting it along the lines. Tape each portion to a different chair, and line the chairs up along one side of the space where you meet.

STEP 1: Have kids work in pairs or groups, and give each pair or group one of the balloons with a verse reference written on it.

Philippians 4:8 (Think about good things.)

Ephesians 2:10 (God created us to do the work He has prepared for us.)

Ephesians 4:32 (We need to be kind to each other.)

Colossians 1:13-14 (God has delivered us from darkness to light.)

1 Peter 2:11 (We should not give in to sinful desires.)

1 John 1:9 (God will forgive us if we confess our sins.)

STEP 2: Encourage kids to read their passages and find out the lesson that believers can learn from that Epistle verse.

STEP 3: Once they have an idea about what their verse might mean, have them line up on one side of the space, with their balloon.

STEP 4: Explain that they will now have to get their balloon to the right summary of what the verse is about, by blowing it there (no touching it with anything). Then have the game begin by saying, "Go!"

STEP 5: Check the kids' answers, and congratulate

them. Then share the following concepts.

- The people in the early church told everyone about the good news of Jesus, and the church grew (Acts 2:41-45). They even sent out missionaries to share Christ with others who lived far away (Acts 8:26-40). As those people came to know Christ, they started churches in their towns and villages. Soon there were many churches all over.
- These brand new churches needed help. The Holy Spirit inspired men to write letters to believers and churches to help them know how to get along with other believers and how to live like Christ (2 Peter 1:21).
- When a church would receive a letter, they would read it aloud as a group. Each of the letters were a little different. Some of the letters taught the believers truths about God and salvation (Romans). Others taught them how to function as a church (1 and 2 Corinthians). Some letters pointed out that believers were sinning and needed to get things right (Philippians 4:2).
- Each Epistle is valuable for believers today. As we study the Epistles, we will learn exactly how God wants us to treat one another and serve Him.

STEP 6: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



Important Reminders Handout

***We should think about
good things.***

***God created us
to do work He has
prepared for us.***

***We need to be kind
to each other.***

***God has delivered us
from darkness to light.***

***We should not give in
to sinful desires.***

***God will forgive us
if we confess our sins.***

SECTION 2.6

The Epistles



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Early Church News

What You'll Need: Bible, computer and printer, Early Church News Handout

PREP: Before class, print out copies of the Early Church News Handout. Cut apart the sections.

STEP 1: Divide kids into three groups and tell the groups to imagine they are one of the first New Testament churches.

STEP 2: Give the groups their corresponding section of the handout and have a spokesperson from each group read aloud their information to the group, and fill in one of the sections with what the verse says. After one minute, have the spokesperson from each group pass the letter to another group and then choose a new spokesperson from that group to read that letter. Continue the activity until each group has read all three letters.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The people in the early church told everyone about the good news of Jesus, and the church grew (Acts 2:41-45). They even sent out missionaries to share Christ with others who lived far away. As those people came to know Christ, they started churches in their towns and villages. Soon, there were many churches all over.
- These brand new churches needed help. The Holy Spirit inspired men to write letters to believers and churches to help them know how to get along with other believers and how to live like Christ (2 Peter 1:21). Often while these men were traveling to churches, they would remember something that they wanted to share with one of the churches. They would then write a letter to that church and send that letter with someone.
- When a church would receive a letter, they would read it aloud as a group. Each of the letters were a little different. Some of the letters taught the believers truths about

God and salvation (Romans). Others taught them how to function as a church (1 and 2 Corinthians). Some letters pointed out that believers were sinning and needed to get things right (Philippians 4:2).

- These letters would then be passed around to the other churches. All of the churches benefited from the Epistles (Colossians 4:16).
- We, too, benefit from the Epistles. When we read, study, and apply the truths of these books to our lives, we will grow to become more and more like Christ. We will know how to get along with other believers, and we will have the wisdom and strength to tell others about Christ.

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

Early Church News

ROMANS:

**Greater understanding of
our salvation and growing
in the righteousness of God!**

Dear Roman Believers,

It has come to our understanding that a letter you received from Paul is listed in the Bible as Romans and is open for all believers to read and study. In order to help believers study your letter from Paul, we have listed the following summaries for the book.

The book of Romans was written by Paul to the believers in Rome. This book offers a greater understanding of our salvation, and encourages us to grow in the righteousness of God.

We appreciate your willingness to share this great letter with other believers

Sincerely,

Fellow Believers in Christ

Romans 6:23

Romans 12:1-2

Romans 10:9-10

Early Church News

EPHESIANS: Who we are because of our salvation, and how to get along with others!

Dear Ephesian Believers,

It has come to our understanding that a letter you received from Paul is listed in the Bible as Ephesians and is open for all believers to read and study. In order to help believers study your letter from Paul, we have listed the following summaries for the book.

The book of Ephesians was written by Paul to the believers in Ephesus. The first few chapters of the book focus on who we are because of our salvation in Christ. The rest of the book deals with how we are to get along with other believers, members of our family, and employers and employees. The book ends with instruction on the armor of God.

We appreciate your willingness to share this great letter with other believers

Sincerely,

Fellow Believers in Christ

Ephesians 2:8-9

Ephesians 4:32

Ephesians 6:1-2

Early Church News

PHILIPPIANS: Keep growing in the faith, and get along with each other!

Dear Philippian Believers,

It has come to our understanding that a letter you received from Paul is listed in the Bible as Philippians and is open for all believers to read and study. In order to help believers study your letter from Paul, we have listed the following summaries for the book.

The book of Philippians was written by Paul (who was in prison for preaching the gospel) to the believers in Philippi. Paul wrote to the believers to encourage them to keep growing in their faith. Two believers were struggling with one another, and Paul urged them to get along with one another.

We appreciate your willingness to share this great letter with other believers

Sincerely,

Fellow Believers in Christ

Philippians 1:6

Philippians 4:8-9

Philippians 4:19

SECTION
2.7

Revelation



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Promises Kept

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to turn to each other and share a time when someone made them a promise and kept it.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- God has given us many promises in the Bible, and all of them will come true because God is truth and always keeps His promises.
- The last book of the Bible, Revelations, contains promises for our future. And because God always keeps His promises, we know that they will come true.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying the promises in the book of Revelation.

Notes:

SECTION 2.7 | *Revelation*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Reminders of Heaven

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ahead of time, ask a leader to share the things that make him or her look forward to heaven.

STEP 1: Introduce the leader you are interviewing and explain that he or she will be sharing about the things that make him or her look forward to heaven.

Ask:

- What makes you think about heaven?
- How do you feel when you think about heaven?

STEP 2: Share the following key concepts:

- The book of Revelation is the last book of the Bible. The Holy Spirit inspired John to write about visions of the end times and of heaven.
- When we study the book of Revelations, we will be able to learn more about the home that God has promised to those who accept Jesus as their Savior.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying the promises in the book of Revelation.

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

Revelation



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Future Promises

What You'll Need: Bibles, long piece of a large roll of paper (or several poster boards taped together), markers or crayons, tape

PREP: Write each verse reference on the bottom of the paper, spaced far enough apart to make sections for the kids to draw and write. In the middle of the paper, write Promises from Revelation.

STEP 1: Explain that today you will be working with them to make a banner of the promises found in Revelation. Divide kids into pairs or groups. Make sure at least one person in each group has a Bible. Give them a section on the paper with a verse reference.

The passages with promises from Revelation:

- Revelation 1:3
- Revelation 20:10
- Revelation 21: 4
- Revelation 22:5
- Revelation 22:7

STEP 2: Give groups five minutes to read their verses aloud and to determine the promise located in the verse. Explain that they get to write in their promise, or represent it with pictures or symbols.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have each group share their promise. Congratulate them on their work, and (if possible) find a space on the wall to tape up the finished banner.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

Revelation



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God Will Make Things Right

What You'll Need: God Will Make Things Right Handout, scissors, Bible

PREP: Print out one copy of the handout pages, and cut out if possible.

STEP 1: Explain that in today's lesson on Revelation, you will be looking at three things that are wrong right now, but the promises found in Revelation show that God will make them right.

STEP 2: Ask for three volunteers, and give them each one of the handouts with the thumbs down. Explain that these three things don't seem right. Read the words on the thumbs down, or have the kids read the one they are holding.

STEP 3: Explain that the promises in Revelation can help us understand that God will make these things right. Switch each of the thumbs down to thumbs up, and read the verse or have the kids read the verse listed on their thumbs up.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

Sin and Satan

Adam and Even sinned, and everyone (except Jesus) after them has been a sinner. Satan is God's enemy and the enemy of all who love and obey God. How will God make this right and defeat His enemy?

Pain and Death

Because of sin, we have pain, suffering, sadness, and death on the earth. How will God make this right?

Eternity

Jesus said we would one day be with Him forever.
How do we know God will make this right and fulfill
His promise?



Sin and Satan

(Revelation 20:10)



Pain and Death

(Revelation 21:4)



Eternity

(Revelation 21:3)

SECTION
2.8

The Bible Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Favorite Book

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to share books they have read at school. If kids cannot think of books, ask if they have read any of the following books:

Charlotte's Web

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Little House on the Prairie

Henry Huggins

(Suggest other popular kids' books titles your kids may have read.)

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What do you think makes a book good?
- What do you think teachers look for in a good book?
- Why is it important to read good literature?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- It is important to read and study good literature. Books teach us much about society, culture, and how other people think and feel.
- The Bible is the very best book that has ever been written, because it was inspired by the Holy Spirit and everything in the Bible is true.
- The Bible is powerful and contains everything we need to know about God and His plan.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION
2.8

The Bible Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Favorite Bible Character

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ahead of time, ask a kid or leader to be prepared to share about their favorite Bible characters.

STEP 1: Introduce your interviewee to the group.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What is your favorite Bible character?
- What makes this character so special?
- Why do you think this character is in the Bible?
- What can we learn from this character's life?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The Bible is full of true stories and characters.
- By studying the 66 books of the Bible and the characters in them, we learn about God's plan for us, and how we can grow closer to him.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.8

The Bible Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Summary Statements

What You'll Need: Summary Statements Handouts, masking tape

PREP: Print out all of the handouts. On the wall or other flat surface, tape the seven categories (Books of History, Books of Wisdom, Books of Prophecy, the Gospels, Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation)

STEP 1: Briefly review the seven categories of the Bible as you share these key concepts.

- God's Word was written by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write down what He told them to write (2 Peter 1:21). These men from different walks of life, wrote the 66 books that make up the Bible.
- The Books of History give early world history and highlight the beginning of the Israelites and describe how they became a nation. The Books of History show us that God had a plan from the very beginning for His greatest creation, man. We can learn from the lives of key people in these books (Genesis 12:1-3).
- The writers of the Books of Wisdom share their thoughts and feelings with God and offer Him praise. They also teach us how to live a life that pleases God. Studying these books show us who God is and how we can get wisdom to make right choices (Proverbs 1:7).
- The Books of Prophecy were written by prophets to warn people about their sin and tell them God's messages. These books show us everything God says will happen will come true. We can also learn that God wants us to love and obey Him only (Ezekiel 38:23).
- Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the Gospels and teach what Jesus Christ did while He was here on earth. When we study the Gospels, we learn key truths about Jesus' birth, ministry and life, death and resurrection (Luke 2:52).
- The Book of Acts tells us how the early church

began. We can learn from the early church how to share the good news and how to love and encourage other believers (Acts 2:41-42).

- The Epistles are letters written to believers and churches. They teach us about our salvation, about who we are in Christ, and about how we can live holy lives that please Christ (Romans 12:1-2)
- Revelation gives us the hope of an eternity with God and shows us that God keeps His promises (Revelation 21:1-4).

STEP 2: Ask for two volunteers to compete in a game. Invite them to the front of your space. Explain that you will read the Summary Statements, and ask your two contestants to identify which of the seven categories best fits the statement. When they know the right answer, they can run and grab the right category, and whoever grabs the right one first, wins that round.

Summary statements you can read:

- These books were written to the early church and believers.
- These books contain details of the Flood and other early world history events.
- The people who wrote these books were given special messages from God.
- This book promises what will happen for believers who accept Jesus as their Savior.
- These books share Jesus' birth, life and ministry, death and resurrection.
- These books show how we can worship God and have wisdom to live a life that pleases Him.
- This book gives the details of how the church began and shows us how we can go and tell others the good news of Jesus Christ.

STEP 3: The importance of studying God's Word is that it will help us know how to love, obey, and worship God more.

BOOKS OF HISTORY

BOOKS OF WISDOM

BOOKS OF PROPHECY

THE GOSPELS

ACTS

THE EPISTLES

REVELATION

SECTION 2.8

The Bible Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Bible Books Timeline

What You'll Need: Summary Statements Handouts, markers or crayons, the kids' handbooks, Bibles

PREP: Print out all of the handouts.

STEP 1: Explain that you will be looking at the different sections of the Bible, and how they line up to give us a full picture of what God wants us to know. Divide your kids into equal groups, and give each a page from the handout.

STEP 2: Give kids five minutes to draw a picture that represents their categories. Encourage them to use their handbooks and Bibles as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, line up the groups in the correct order to display the seven category images (Books of History, Books of Wisdom, Books of Prophecy, the Gospels, Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation) and point to each one as you share the following key concepts:

- God's Word was written by men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write down what He told them to write (2 Peter 1:21). These men, from different walks of life, wrote the 66 books that make up the Bible.
- The Bible can be divided into seven categories: Books of History, Books of Wisdom, Books of Prophecy, the Gospels, Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation
- The Bible gives us everything we need to know about how to live a life that is pleasing to God (2 Timothy 3:16 and 17).
- All the books work together to reveal God's grand plans for man.
- Studying and memorizing God's Word will change your life and help you know and understand God better.

STEP 4: Lead the kids in prayer, thanking God for His Word and asking the Holy Spirit to help them understand the importance of studying God's Word.

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

Image of God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Talents

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask, "What is something that you are good at?" Encourage kids to think of things such as sports or subjects at school.

STEP 2: After several kids have responded, ask the following questions:

- Could an elephant ever be good at any of those things? A bird? Why not?
- Why can't animals possess these skills?
- What sets us apart from other creatures?
- What makes us different as individuals?

STEP 3: Share:

- God created all things, but man was created in God's image.
- Because we are made in God's image, we bear certain resemblances, or likenesses, to Him.
- Since we are made in the image of God, God placed us above all the animals and the rest of the world He created. He gave man the job of caring for all of His creation.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that man is made in the image of God.

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

Image of God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: That's Me!

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids stand in front of chairs. Explain that you will read several statements. If the statement fits the kids, they need to say, "That's me!" then sit down. Read each statement until only one kid is left standing.

Read these statements:

- I have brown eyes.
- I have blonde hair.
- I wear glasses.
- I can run fast.
- I'm good at math.
- I love to read.
- I am an only child.

STEP 2: Acknowledge the last kid standing, and then ask him or her the following questions.

- How does it make you feel to know that God made you unique from others?
- How do you feel knowing you are made in God's image?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God created all things, but man was created in God's image.
- Because we are made in God's image, we bear certain resemblances, or likenesses, to Him.
- God made each of us in unique and wonderful ways.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that man is made in the image of God.

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

Image of God



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Responsible Image Bearers

What You'll Need: Bible, Responsible Image Bearer Handouts

STEP 1: Explain that this lesson will be about how we are made in the image of God. Read Genesis 1:26-27 and ask for three volunteers.

STEP 2: As you explain each point, give each volunteer a hat to put on so that the group can read what's on it.

Share these points:

What does it mean to be made in God's image?

Volunteer 1 puts the hat on and reads out loud:
We are made in God's image! We have emotions, thoughts, and feelings. We can make decisions on information and can make choices.

What responsibility has God given over man?

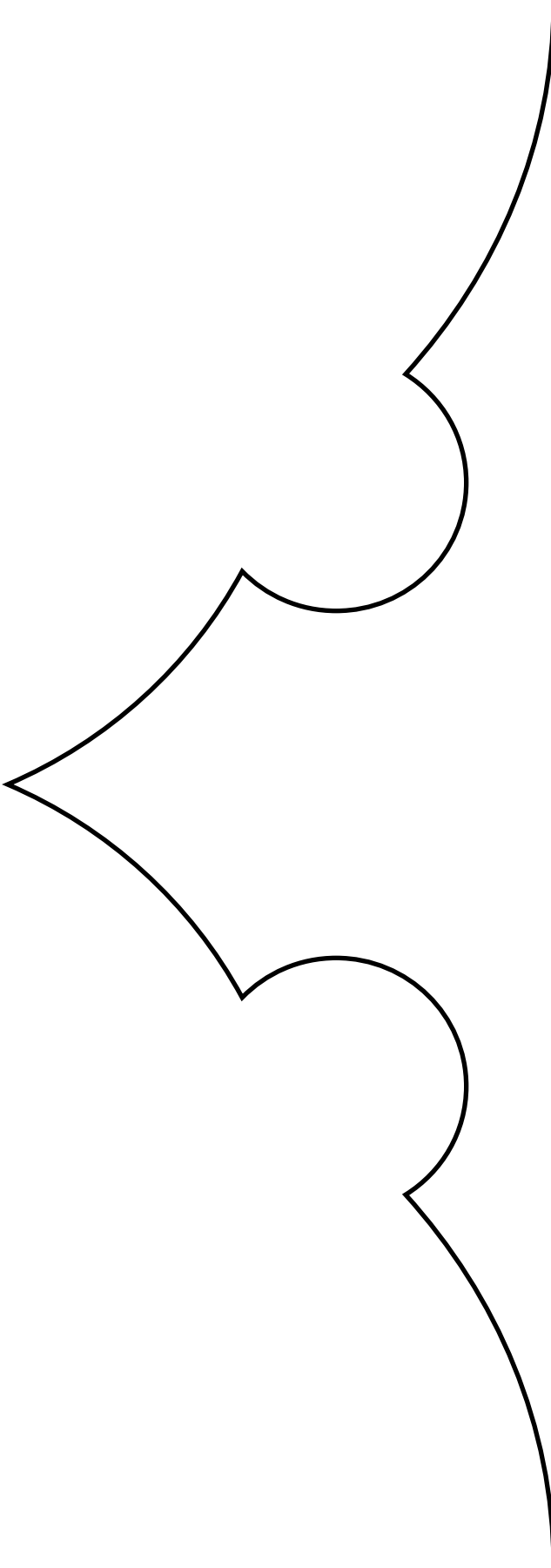
Volunteer 2 puts the hat on and reads out loud:
God gave responsibility to us! We are to care and rule over the rest of creation.

What does it look like for us to be over creation?

Volunteer 3 puts the hat on and reads out loud:
We are over creation! We have the responsibility to care for the world we live in, including the animals He created.

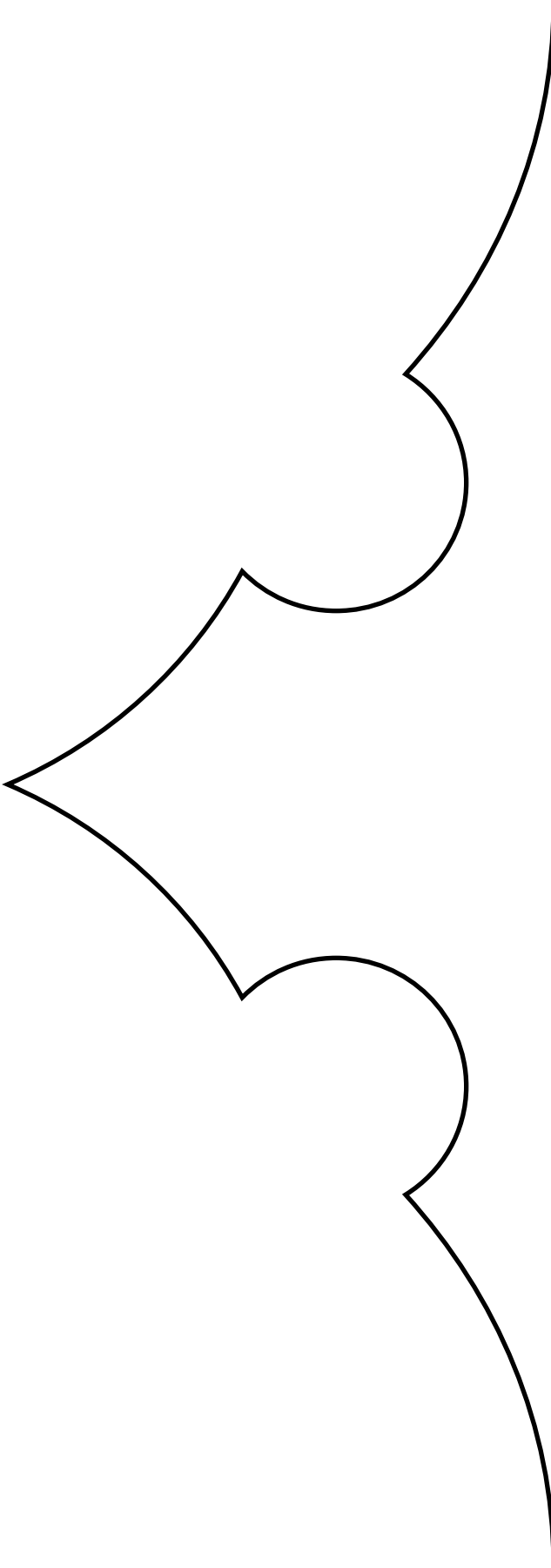
STEP 3: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

	<i>We are made in God's image!</i>
	We have emotions, thoughts, and feelings. We can make decisions on information and can make choices.

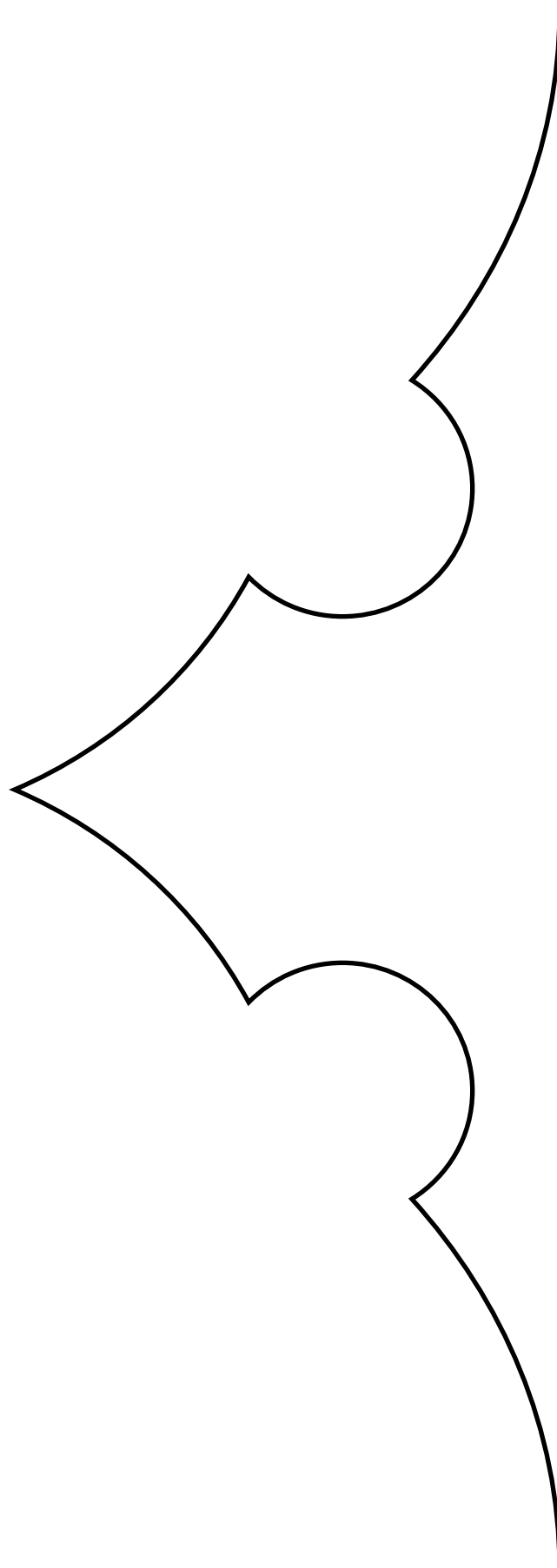
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God gave responsibility to us!

We are to care and rule over the rest of creation.

	<p><i>We are over creation!</i></p> <p>We have the responsibility to care for the world we live in, including the animals He created.</p>		
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SECTION

3.1

Image of God



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

What You'll Need: Bibles, whiteboard or poster board, markers

STEP 1: Assign the following verses to each individual, pair, or group of kids:

Psalms 139:2 (Man can think and reason, and God knows our thoughts.)

Colossians 4:6 (Man has the ability to speak.)

Ephesians 4:26 (Man has emotions, such as anger.)

Ephesians 4:32 (Man can love others.)

STEP 2: Draw a stick figure in the middle of the whiteboard or poster board, and as each verse is read, ask, "What human characteristics are mentioned in these verses?" Write their response or, come up with a symbol to represent it and draw it around the stick figure. The answers are above in parentheses.

STEP 3: As they look at the board with the answers written, ask the kids, "Based on this verse, how are we created in God's image?"

As you discuss the answer to this question, share these key concepts:

- Because God made us in His image, we are different from the rest of creation. Each of us is a unique creation made in God's image (Psalm 139: 14).
- We have emotions. We can love, share joy, and feel sorrow. We can also relate to others with our emotions and learn to love them like God loves them (1 John 4:7-8).
- We can think and reason and communicate. We can share what we are thinking, and we can

interact with others with our speech to glorify Him (Colossians 4:6).

- Because we are made in God's image, we have the responsibility to care for the earth God created (Genesis 1:26).

STEP 4: Close in prayer, thanking God that He made us in His image.

Notes:

SECTION 3.2 | Satan



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: I Will ...

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids sit in a circle. Explain that kids will have five seconds to complete the phrase I will ... when someone points to them. (Give examples such as, "I will brush my teeth before bed tonight.", "I will eat cereal for breakfast tomorrow.")

STEP 2: Point to a kid in the circle. After he or she has answered, point to another kid. Continue the activity for two minutes.

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- Why did you answer as you did?
- How do you know what you will do?
- What would the rest of you have done if a supervillan had come in here and said an "I will" statement about doing something bad?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- Satan was once a beautiful angel created by God.
- Satan developed a sin of pride. He made five I will ... statements that revealed his desire to be like God.
- Satan and the angels who followed him were kicked out of heaven.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of knowing who Satan is and how we can overcome his temptations.

Notes:

SECTION 3.2 | Satan



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Plans

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask for several volunteers to share their immediate plans (e.g., their plans after club; their plans for their next meal).

STEP 2: After volunteers have shared, ask the following questions:

- How did you decide on your plans?
- How will you accomplish them?
- Is there anything that could stop you from keeping your plans?
- Is there any time when making a plan and keeping it could be a bad thing to do?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- Plans are good when you follow and obey God.
- Satan had plans that were against God. Instead of following God's plan, he wanted to be like God and do his own thing.
- Because of Satan's sin of pride, he and his angel followers (demons) were cast out of heaven.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of knowing who Satan is and how we can overcome his temptations.

Notes:

SECTION

3.2

Satan



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Who Is Satan?

What You'll Need: Piece from a large roll of paper, or three pieces of poster board, Bibles

PREP: Cut the paper into three puzzle pieces, and write a verse reference on each of them. The verse references are: Isaiah 14:13-14, 2 Corinthians 11:14, 1 Peter 5:8.

STEP 1: Explain to the group that today's lesson will be about Satan, because we can honor God by being wise about His adversary, Satan. We can understand more about Satan from Bible verses that tell us about him. By reading a few of them, we can put together the pieces of who he is. Then we can figure out how God wants us to overcome his temptations. Ask for three volunteers to come up to the front of the room, and have them bring their Bibles.

STEP 2: Give one puzzle piece to each volunteer. Have kids look up their verses and read how Satan and/or his temptations are described.

The verses about Satan:

- Isaiah 14:13-14
- 2 Corinthians 11:14
- 1 Peter 5:8

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Satan wanted to be like God. He made five statements of pride that revealed his sin (Isaiah 14:13-14).
- Satan will try to do everything he can to stop God's plan to save man from sin. He disguises himself as an angel of light and tries to make bad things look good to cause us to sin (2 Corinthians 11:14).
- Satan is also like a roaring lion. He tries to cause us to sin and turn from God and His plan for us (1 Peter 5:8).
- We can only overcome Satan's lies and

temptation if we know the truth of God's Word (John 17:17).

- We must use God's Word and His armor to protect us from Satan's schemes (Ephesians 6:10, 11).
- God will one day defeat Satan and cast him into hell forever (Revelation 20:10).

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

3.2

Satan



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Overcoming Satan

What You'll Need: Bibles, Overcoming Satan Handout, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is about Satan, because we need to understand who he is, and how God wants us to overcome his temptations.

Things we can know from Scripture about Satan:

- Satan wanted to be like God.
- Satan will try to do everything he can to stop God's plan to save man from sin.
- Satan is also like a roaring lion. He tries to cause us to sin and turn from God and His plan for us (1 Peter 5:8).

STEP 2: Pair kids up, one with a Bible, and one with a handout page with a verse reference. They will look the verses up together and report back to the group.

Verses from the handout that the kids will look up:

- Romans 16:20
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Colossians 1:13
- Ephesians 6:10-11
- James 4:7
- Revelation 20:10

STEP 3: After the kids report back on what they have found, summarize these points:

- We can only overcome Satan's lies and temptation if we know the truth of God's Word (John 17:17).
- We must remember that God's Word is always true (John 17:17). We can use verses in Scripture to help us remember to follow what God wants us to do and to help us resist Satan (Ephesians 6:10-11, James 4:7).

- God will one day defeat Satan and cast him into hell forever (Revelation 20:10).

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



OVERCOMING

★ SATAN ★

ROMANS 16:20

This verse tells me I can overcome Satan by:



OVERCOMING

★ SATAN ★

1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

This verse tells me I can overcome Satan by:



OVERCOMING

★ SATAN ★

COLOSSIANS 1:13

This verse tells me I can overcome Satan by:



OVERCOMING

★ SATAN ★

EPHESIANS 6:10-11

These verses tells me I can overcome Satan by:



OVERCOMING

★ SATAN ★

JAMES 4:7

This verse tells me I can overcome Satan by:



OVERCOMING

★ SATAN ★

REVELATION 20:10

This verse tells me I can overcome Satan by:

SECTION 3.3

The Fall



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: One Rule

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: After kids are seated, tell them there is only one rule to follow. At your signal, your group will play the quiet game, where everyone has to stay quiet — the challenge is there is to be no noise of any kind from anyone.

STEP 2: Give a signal. See how long kids can go before someone breaks the rule.

STEP 3: Once the rule has been broken (or after one minute), ask the following questions:

- What was the hardest part about following the one rule?
- How did you feel during that time?
- What could be a consequence for this rule after it were broken?
- What if we said the quiet game was going to last for an hour, could you do it?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- God created man as perfect and sinless. He was made in God's image and likeness.
- God made man to have a relationship with Him.
- In the garden of Eden, God gave man only one rule to follow: Do not eat from the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the fall of man.

Notes:

SECTION 3.3

The Fall



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Temptation Troubles

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Brainstorm about what tempts kids their age to sin. Remind them that sin means anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God. Give one or two of the following suggestions to get them started.

Things that can make kids feel tempted to sin:

- A brother or sister picks on you.
- Someone breaks a promise to you.
- You do not want to do what someone asks you to do.
- You have to follow a rule you don't understand or like.
- You have to wait longer than you expected to do something.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes these situations temptations?
- How do you feel when you are faced with one of these temptations?
- If you choose to respond in anger or to sin, whose fault is it?
- Why is it a sin to respond in anger or negatively in these situations?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God created man perfect and sinless. He was made in God's image and likeness.
- God made man to have a relationship with Him.
- In the garden of Eden, God gave man only one rule to follow: Do not eat from the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Adam and Eve's sin caused all of us to face temptation.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the Fall of man.

Notes:

SECTION 3.3

The Fall



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Adam and Eve Scenarios

What You'll Need: Bible, Adam and Eve Scenario Handout

PREP: Print out a copy of the Adam and Eve Scenario Handout.

STEP 1: Explain that today's lesson is about the fall. Ask a female volunteer to read the Eve scenario, and then ask a male volunteer to read the Adam scenario.

STEP 2: After both scenarios are read, share the following key concepts:

- God created a perfect world with no sin, death, or pain. He made Adam and Eve in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26). They could think, feel, and make their own choices.
- Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful paradise known as the garden of Eden (Genesis 2: 8). They were to tend the garden.
- God gave them only one rule: They were not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:15-16).
- Satan, God's enemy, wanted to destroy God's plan and ruin His friendship with man. He tempted Eve and lied to her by telling her that the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil would make her be like God (Genesis 3:4-5).
- Eve chose to eat of the fruit, and she gave it to Adam, who ate it too. Immediately they sinned, and their perfect fellowship with a holy and pure God was broken (Genesis 3:6-7).
- Since then, every person who has been born after Adam and Eve (except Jesus) has been born a sinner (Romans 5:12).

STEP 3: Discuss the following questions together:

- Why do you think Eve ate the fruit when she thought it would make her like God?

- How do you think Adam and Eve felt after they had sinned?
- How do you think God felt after Adam and Eve sinned?
- How does it make you feel knowing that their choice to sin affected all the people who would be born after them?

STEP 4: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help us understand that we are sinners in need of a Savior.

Notes:



Adam and Eve Scenarios

Adam

I'm Adam, the very first human God created. My beginning was different from yours. God made me from dirt and then breathed His breath of life into me. I was never a little baby or a little boy.

Those first few days of my life were amazing. I could talk openly with God, and He gave me a beautiful garden to live in. He even gave me a special job: I got to name all the animals. That sure was a lot of work!

Even though I was friends with God, He made me a special friend, Eve. Together, we were close to God. We were even able to walk with Him and talk with Him, just like I'm talking to you now. Our beautiful home was perfect for us, and we had a lot of things to enjoy there. We had lots of freedom, and only one rule: We were not supposed to eat from one tree, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Then the worst day happened.

God's great enemy, Satan, disguised himself as a serpent. The wicked, Evil One came to Eve and questioned her about God's one rule.

Sadly, Eve listened to the serpent. She took the fruit and ate it. She brought the fruit to me. And I disobeyed God and ate the fruit.

Immediately, and for the first time, I knew something was wrong. I felt something I had never ever felt before. I had all these new feelings. I was scared, and worried, and nervous, and sad all at once. I looked at beautiful Eve, and I knew she felt the same thing too. We were both so ashamed.

We had broken God's one rule.

Eve

You have probably heard many things about me. I'm Eve. God made me from Adam's rib, and I was to be a friend and a companion to him. My first days on earth were wonderful. I had a beautiful garden full of wonderful things that I could touch and smell and eat. There were many creatures that I had never seen before. I had fun learning about my new world with Adam. And best of all, we were both good friends with God. We were able to walk with Him and talk with Him.

That is, until the worst day ever came.

I was alone in the garden, exploring everything around me. But I wasn't alone. Satan, God's great enemy, disguised himself as a serpent. He came to me.

"Did God really say you couldn't eat from all the trees in the garden?" he asked me.

I replied, "God said we could eat of all the trees except one. If we eat of that tree or even touch it we will die!"

"You won't die!" Satan replied. "God knows that if you eat this fruit you will be like Him and know good and evil."

At first, I wasn't sure, but then I looked closer at the fruit. It looked good, and I was sure that it would taste good too. I thought it couldn't hurt me to eat it. I mean, how bad would it be to know both good AND evil?

I took the fruit, and I bit into it. Then I gave some to Adam to eat. We both knew immediately that something wasn't right.

I began to feel ... sad. I was also ... scared. For the first time, I felt all alone, and I felt as if I had done something terribly wrong.

I was so ashamed, and I didn't want God to find me. Adam and I both hid from Him. We knew even then that what we did wrong would affect our friendship with God forever.

SECTION 3.3

The Fall



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Adam, Eve, and Me

What You'll Need: Bibles

STEP 1: Assign the following verses to three volunteers:

Genesis 3:5-8

Romans 5:12

James 2:10

STEP 2: Have the first volunteer read Genesis 3:5-8. Share these key concepts:

- God created a perfect world with no sin, death, or pain. He made Adam and Eve in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26). They could think, feel and make their own choices.
- Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful paradise known as the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2: 8). They were to tend the garden.
- God gave them only one rule: They were not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:15-16).
- Satan, God's enemy, wanted to destroy God's plan and ruin His friendship with man. He tempted Eve and lied to her by telling her that the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil would make her be like God (Genesis 3:4,5).
- Eve chose to eat of the fruit, and she gave it to Adam, who ate it too. Immediately they sinned, and their perfect fellowship with a holy and pure God was broken (Genesis 3:6-7).
- Adam and Eve's sin had disastrous consequences that still affect us today.

STEP 3: Have the second volunteer read Romans 5:12 and the third volunteer read James 2:10. Then share these key concepts.

- Because Adam and Eve chose to sin, every person born after them (except for Jesus) has been born with a sin nature.

- No matter how hard we try to be good, we will still be sinners. Even if we break just one rule (like Adam and Eve did), we will be guilty.
- Adam and Eve experienced a broken friendship with God because of their sin. We were born with that broken fellowship. In fact, we are born as enemies of God (Romans 5:10).
- Just as God still loved Adam and Eve, God loves us too. He made a way for us to be right with Him.

STEP 4: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help us understand that we are sinners in need of a Savior.

Notes:

SECTION
3.4

Sin and Suffering



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Sin and Suffering Skit

What You'll Need: Dishware object that can be broken (like a cheap mug or cup from a thrift store), hammer

ACTIVITY PREP: Clear an area to break the object and put down something underneath if necessary.

STEP 1: Show the kids the object, and explain that God had created a perfect world, and operated in perfect relationship with mankind, until the fall, when it was broken. Adam and Eve's sin still affects all people and the world today.

STEP 2: Take out the object, and place in in the spot where you can safely break it, and smash it with the hammer. Explain that just how the object is not the same after it's been broken, neither was mankind.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand why there is sin and suffering in the world.

Notes:

SECTION
3.4

Sin and Suffering



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: In the News

What You'll Need: Newspaper, smartphone, tablet with Internet or computer and printer

PREP: Before club, locate two or three current events stories that have to do with suffering, sickness, or the effects of sin. (Make sure they are appropriate for your age group.) Print them out if they are on the computer.

STEP 1: Summarize the three articles to your students, and then discuss the following questions:

- How do you feel when something is wrong and you are helpless to do anything about it?
- Why does it hurt to think of others who are suffering?
- Why is it hard to find joy in the midst of suffering?

STEP 2: Discuss key concepts:

- God created a perfect earth.
- Sin and suffering came after Adam and Eve chose to sin.
- Their sin and suffering affects the world and everyone in it to this day.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand why there is sin and suffering in the world.

Notes:

SECTION
3.4

Sin and Suffering



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Kid Problems

What You'll Need: Balloons (10 or more), large garbage bag

PREP: Blow up the balloons and put them in the garbage bag so that they are contained and don't pop.

STEP 1: Ask for a volunteer to stand in the front of your space. Explain that today you will be talking about sin and suffering, and how as kids they have to deal with those things too. Point to the kid in the middle and say, "This volunteer is going to be an example of what it can feel like when we face difficult things."

STEP 2: Brainstorm about situations or circumstances where kids their age might face suffering or struggles, and as they come up with ideas, throw (gently) one balloon at the kid in the middle for every idea suggested. The amount of balloons should seem overwhelming.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes wrong things happen and you can feel helpless to do anything about it.
- Sometimes it hurts to think of others who are suffering.
- Sometimes it is hard to find joy in the middle of suffering.
- One of the greatest consequences for Adam and Eve was a broken relationship with God. They would no longer have a perfect connection with Him in the garden (Genesis 3:22-24). The second consequence was death. Their bodies would grow old and they would eventually die (Genesis 3:19).
- Their sin affects us still. We are all born sinners (Romans 5:12), and we face sickness, hunger, and pain. But we are not alone. We can have hope in our struggles, knowing that if we trust in Jesus as our Savior, we can know God will make things right (Romans 4:3-5, 2 Corinthians 4:17-18).

STEP 4: Share that even though there are times we will suffer because of sin. We can have hope. Read the following verses and ask this question after each verse is read: "Based on this verse, how can we have hope even when we see sin and suffering?" As the kids answer, take a balloon and let your volunteer smack it away (aim so no one is hit).

Verses to read:

- Romans 8:18
- James 1:2-3
- 1 Peter 5:10

STEP 5: Share key concepts:

- God is with us if we have trusted Him as our Savior. He promises to never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).
- God will one day make all things right (Revelation 21:1-4).

Close in prayer, thanking God that even though there is sin and suffering in the world, He is always with us.

Notes:

SECTION

3.4

Sin and Suffering**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 2: Hope in Troubled Times****Notes:**

What You'll Need: Bibles, Hope in Troubled Times Handout, string, scissors, tape

PREP: Print and cut apart the handout. Cut six long pieces of string, and tape a slip of paper onto each of the strings. Hide the slips under things or off to the side of your space, so that the strings are visible.

STEP 1: Explain that you need six volunteers to each come up to the front and think of a scenario where someone their age might have struggles or suffer (e.g., sick friend or family member, bullying, parents who fight, parent losing a job). Once they each come up with something, have them pick the end of a string and hold onto it.

STEP 2: Once all six have shared a scenario, have them follow their string to find the verse reference that could give them hope in troubled times. When they find it, they need to look it up in their Bible and share it with the group. They can share how this verse could give them hope, or you could ask the group to come up with ways it could.

Verses on the paper slips:

- James 1:2-3
- 2 Corinthians 4:17-18
- 1 Peter 5:10
- Romans 4:3-5
- Romans 8:18
- John 16:33

STEP 3: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.



Hope In Troubled Times Handout

James 1:2-3

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

1 Peter 5:10

Romans 4:3-5

Romans 8:18

John 16:33

SECTION 3.5

Jesus Christ



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: A Little Help, Please!

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask for two or three volunteers. Have volunteers sit on the floor with their legs crossed. Instruct them to try to stand up without using their hands (for most kids this will be difficult). After a few moments, ask volunteers to help them stand.

STEP 2: After volunteers are seated, ask the following questions:

1. Why was it hard for the volunteers to try to stand without using their hands?
2. What are some other tasks we cannot do on our own and need help to finish?

STEP 3: Discuss the following key concepts:

- A. Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone who has been born since then were born sinners, including all of us.
- B. Because we are all sinners, we need help. We cannot get right with God on our own.
- C. After Adam and Eve sinned, God set a plan into action to save everyone who asked to be saved.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of knowing who Jesus Christ is and believing that He is the only way we can be saved.

Notes:

SECTION
3.5

Jesus Christ



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: That's Impossible!

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to try several of the following tasks:

- Lick your elbow.
- Twitch your nose.
- Wiggle your ears.
- Make your eyebrows go up and down one at a time.

(Listen for kids to comment "that's impossible" or "I can't do this!")

STEP 2: After kids have tried to complete the tasks, discuss the following questions:

1. What made these tasks so hard?
2. How did you feel trying to complete the tasks?

STEP 3: Tell kids about any frustrated comments they made while trying to complete the activities. Explain to kids that even though these were silly tasks that are impossible for many people, there is something far more serious that is impossible for all men to do.

Share these concepts:

- Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone who has been born since then were born sinners, including all of us.
- Because we are all sinners, we need help. It is impossible to be right with God on our own.
- After Adam and Eve sinned, God set a plan into action to save everyone who asked to be saved.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of knowing who Jesus Christ is and believing that He is the only way we can be saved.

Notes:

SECTION 3.5

Jesus Christ



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Key Words about Jesus

What You'll Need: Bibles, Key Words About Jesus Handouts

PREP: Print out handouts and cut out the locks and keys.

STEP 1: Share the following key concepts with your kids:

- God is holy, sinless, and just. He cannot be around sin (Habakkuk 1:13, 1 John 1:5).
- Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone is a sinner and an enemy of God's (Romans 5:10-12). There is nothing we can do on our own to save us from our sin, and we can't ever be good enough to not sin (Ephesians 2:8-9). Because of our sin, we cannot have a relationship (friendship) with God (Isaiah 59:2).
- God still loves us, and even in the garden of Eden, He had a plan to save anyone who wanted to be saved (Genesis 3:15).
- God's plan of salvation was through one person, Jesus Christ.

STEP 2: Explain that the Bible tells us a lot about Jesus Christ. Ask for three volunteers to hold the locks, and give the keys to three other volunteers.

STEP 3: Tell the kids with keys they need to look up their verses and find the lock that matches.

Verses on the keys:

- John 3:16
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- 1 Corinthians 15:4

Concepts on the locks:

- Jesus Christ is God's Son. He left heaven by His own choice and came to earth.
- Jesus took our sin when He died on the cross.

- Jesus didn't stay dead. After three days, He rose again.

STEP 4: After the kids have found their matches, check their work.

Share these concepts:

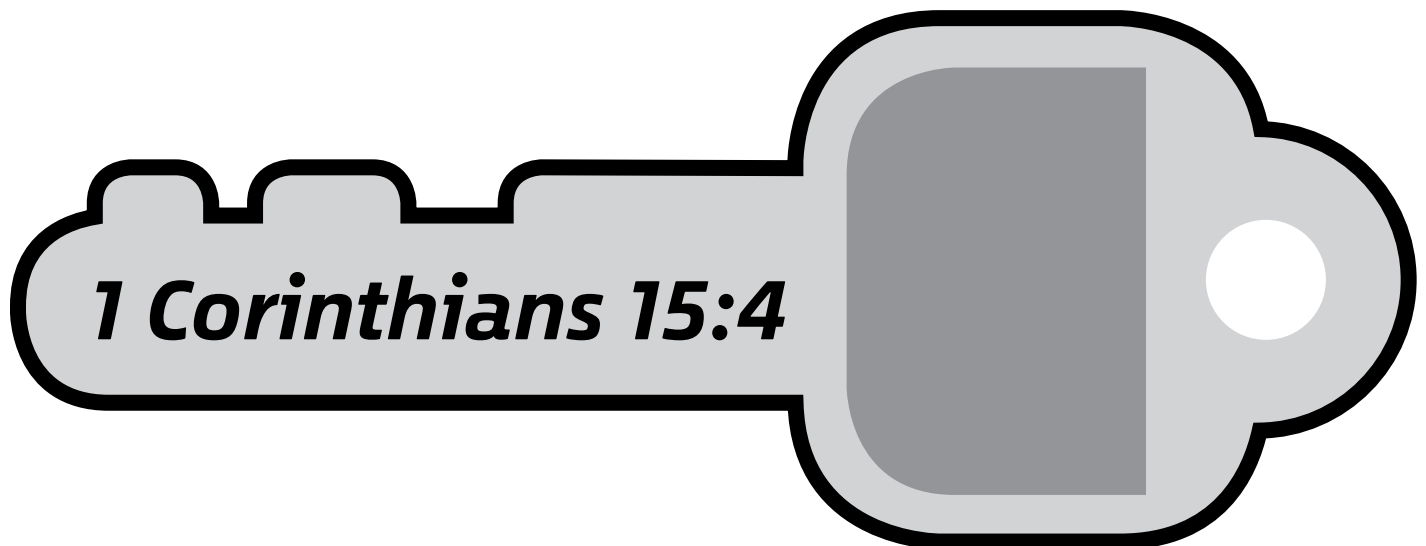
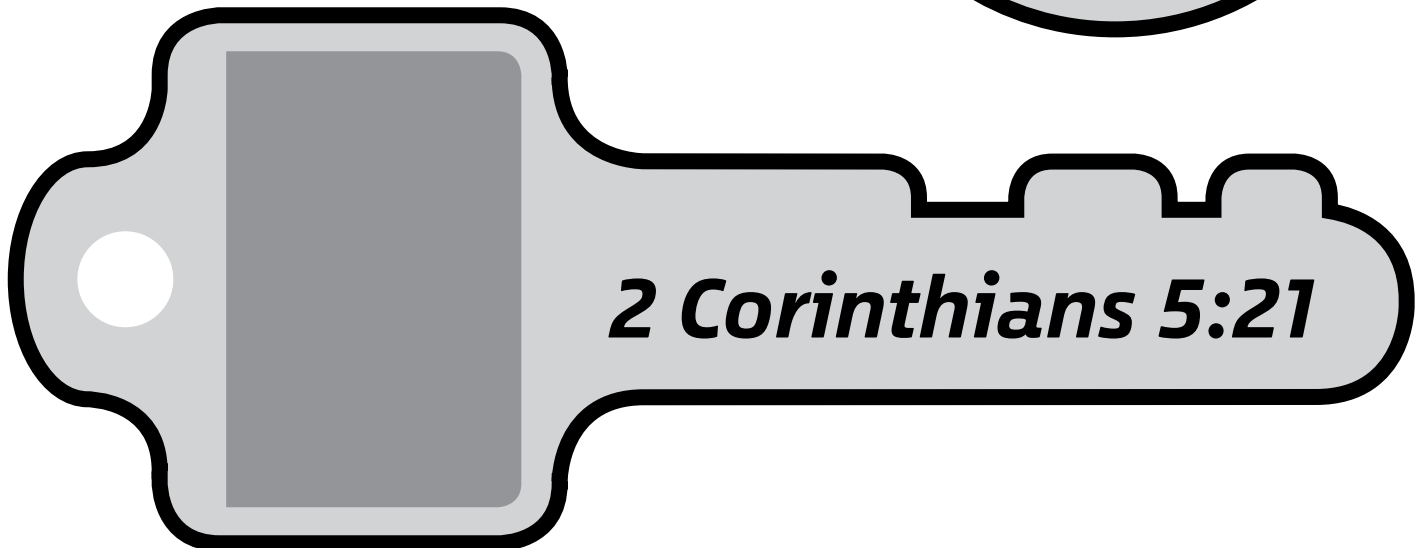
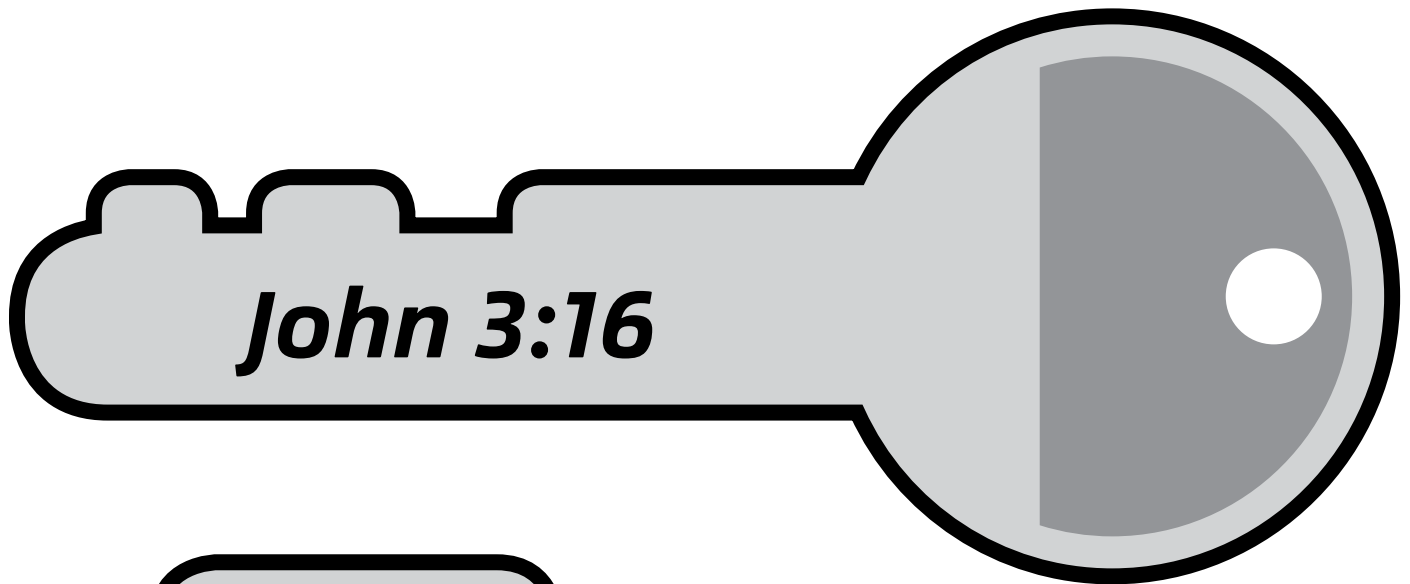
- When Jesus rose from the dead, He proved His victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).
- We have the choice to accept Jesus as our Savior. If we choose to do so, we can be right with God and have eternal life with Him in heaven (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10).
- If we reject Jesus as Savior, we face eternal punishment and separation from God (Revelation 20:12-15).

STEP 5: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

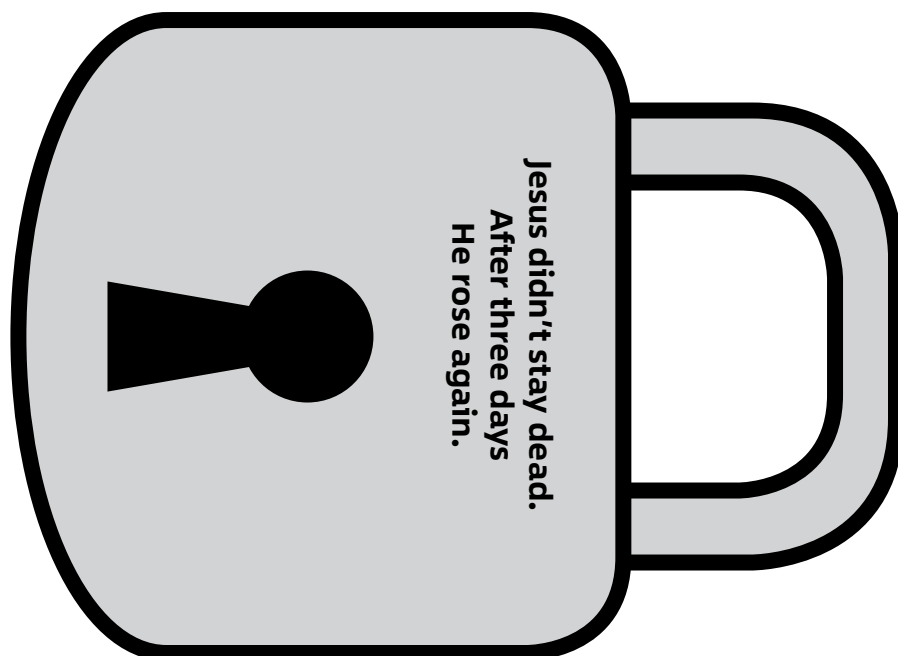
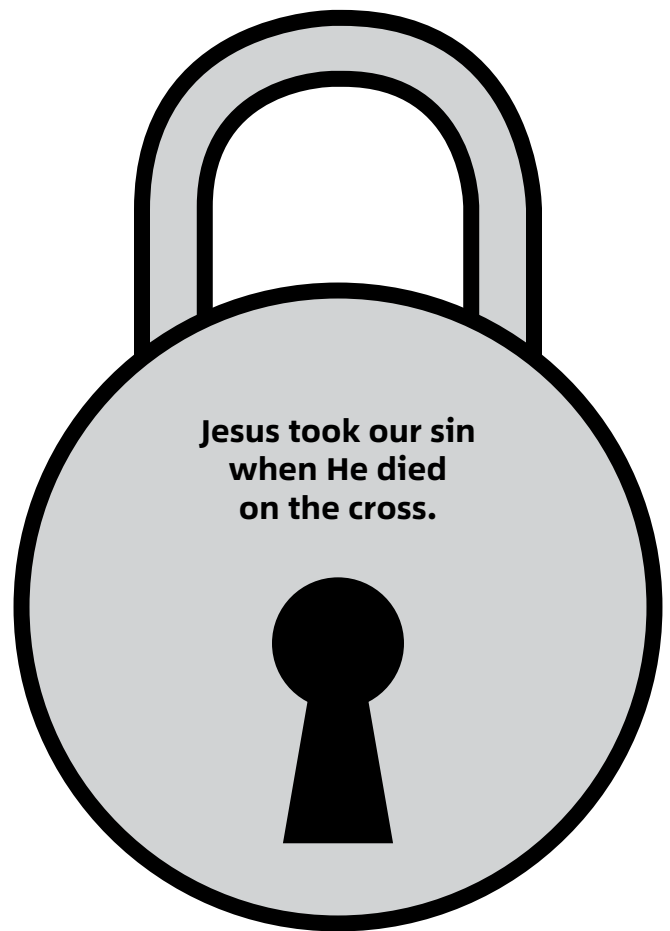
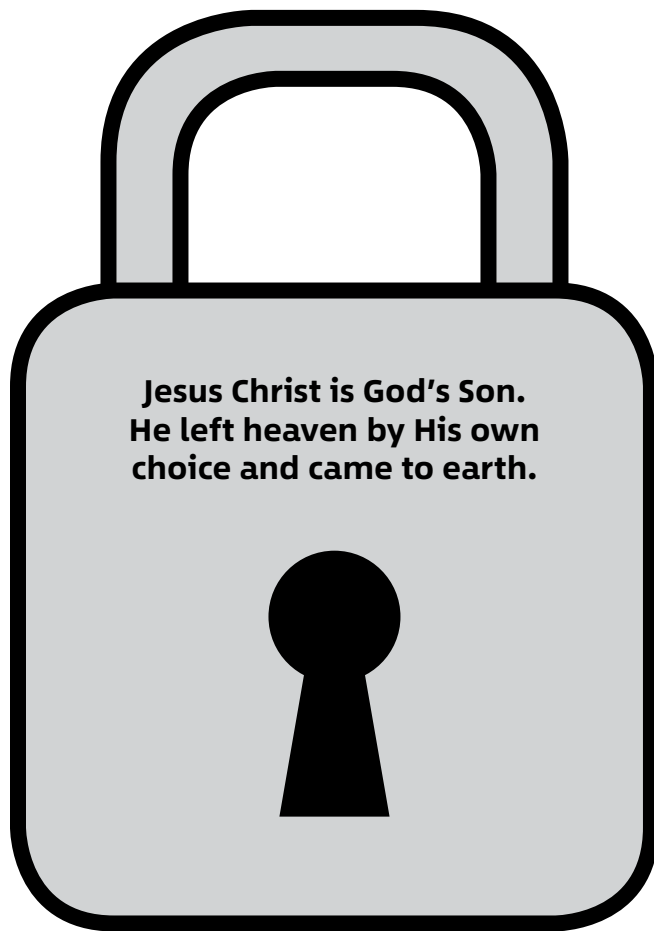


Key Words About Jesus Handout





Key Words About Jesus Handout



SECTION 3.5

Jesus Christ



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God, Man, Christ, Response

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, tape (three rolls)

PREP: Before class, write, GOD, MAN, CHRIST each on a separate piece of paper. Tape GOD on one wall of your space, and MAN on the opposite wall. Tape CHRIST on the floor in between. Put bookmarks in your Bible at: Habakkuk 1:13a, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12, Romans 4:25, and Romans 10:9-10.

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is about Jesus Christ. In order to understand Him, we need to understand four big themes from Scripture: God, man, Christ, and our response. Have your group stand near the sign that says, GOD.

STEP 2: Read Habakkuk 1:13a. Ask: "Based on this verse, what do we learn about God?"

After a couple ideas are shared, explain any remaining points:

- God created all things, but God created man in His image (Genesis 1:26). Because He created man, He has authority over man.
- God is holy, sinless, and just. He cannot be around sin (Habakkuk 1:13a, 1 John 1:5).
- Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone is a sinner and an enemy of God's (Romans 5:10-12). There is nothing we can do on our own to save us from our sin, and we can't ever be good enough to not sin (Ephesians 2:8-9). Because of our sin, we cannot have a relationship (friendship) with God (Isaiah 59:2).

STEP 3: Have the group stand by the sign that says MAN. Read Romans 3:23 and Romans 5:12. Ask: "Based on these verses, what do we learn about man?"

After a couple ideas are shared, explain any remaining points:

- Adam and Eve had a perfect relationship with

God that was broken by their sin.

- Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone is a sinner and an enemy of God's (Romans 5:10-12).
- There is nothing we can do on our own to save us from our sin, and we can't ever be good enough to not sin (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- Because of our sin, we cannot have a relationship (friendship) with God (Isaiah 59:2).

STEP 4: Have the group stand by the sign that says CHRIST. Read Romans 4:25. Ask: "Based on this verse, what do we learn about Jesus Christ?"

After a couple ideas are shared, explain any remaining points:

- That plan was fulfilled through one Man. Jesus Christ, God's perfect, sinless Son, willingly left heaven to come to earth (Philippians 2:5-8). He lived a perfect, sinless life, and then allowed Himself to be put to death to pay the punishment for sin (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- His death was the only acceptable substitute to pay the price for sin (Hebrews 10:14). God was satisfied with Christ's death, allowing all people the opportunity to be completely forgiven.
- Jesus did not stay dead. After three days, He arose from the grave, revealing that He had the power and victory over Satan, sin, and death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).

STEP 5: Have the group sit down, and read Romans 10:9-10. Ask: "Based on this verse, what do we learn about our response?"

After a couple ideas are shared, explain any remaining points:

- Christ's death on the cross completely paid the price for sin, and forgiveness is offered as a free gift to anyone who chooses to accept it (Romans 6:23).
- We have the choice to accept Jesus as our Savior. If we choose to do so, we can be right with God and have eternal life with Him in heaven (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10).

- If we reject Jesus Christ's free gift of salvation, we will face an eternity in hell, separated from God forever (Revelation 20:15).

STEP 6: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

(NOTE: As the Holy Spirit leads, give kids an opportunity to respond to the lesson and to trust Jesus as their Savior.)

Notes:

SECTION
3.6

The Lord's Return



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Momentous Events

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to share their favorite family activities they do to celebrate the following events:

- Christmas
- Birthdays

STEP 2: After kids have shared, ask the following questions:

- Why do we look forward to special events like birthdays or holidays?
- How do you feel as the event gets closer?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We all have things we look forward to, and it's fun to anticipate those events.
- Jesus promised an event for those who have trusted in Him as Savior. This event will mean the end of life as we know it and open up a brand new beginning with a never-ending life.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of the Lord's return for those who have trusted Him.

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

The Lord's Return



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: I Hope ...

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids sit in a circle. Tell kids they will see how fast they can each complete the sentence, "I hope . . ." For example, they might say, "I hope my mom makes spaghetti for dinner tomorrow." or "I hope we win our basketball game on Friday." Point to the first kid and say, "I hope . . ." and then, moving in a clockwise direction, ask the next kid in the circle. Continue until all the kids have completed the sentence.

STEP 2: After kids complete the activity, ask the following questions:

- How does hoping something will happen make you feel?
- How do you feel when you hope for something that takes a long time to happen?
- Why is it hard to hope for something you want?

STEP 3: After kids have answered the questions, share these key concepts:

- After Jesus told His disciples that He would soon die, He gave His disciples hope that He would one day return for them.
- Those who trust in Jesus as their Savior have that same promise: One day Jesus will come back for you and take you to heaven to live with Him forever.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of the Lord's return for those who have trusted Him.

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

The Lord's Return



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Rapture Details

What You'll Need: Bibles, two easels with whiteboards or pads of paper, markers

STEP 1: Explain that today's lesson will be about when Jesus returns. Announce you will be having a drawing game with some of the words that have to do with the rapture.

STEP 2: Ask for two volunteers, and have them come up to the easels. Divide the room of kids up into two teams, and tell them it is their job to guess what their teammate is drawing. Whichever team guesses it faster wins a point.

STEP 3: Begin the drawing game by giving the two volunteers the first word. Continue through each word, keeping track of which team wins, and congratulating them.

Words the kids will draw:

- Clouds
- Shout
- Trumpet
- Moment

STEP 4: Share following key concepts:

- Jesus promised His disciples that after He went back to heaven He would prepare a place for them and come back to get them and to take them with Him (John 14:1-2).
- Someday, Jesus will come in the clouds with shouts and trumpets. Next those who knew the Lord but have died will rise first. Those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior and are still alive will meet Him in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). This event will happen in just a moment (1 Corinthians 15:51-52). Many people refer to this event as the rapture.
- Even though we don't know when this day will come, we can trust that God always keeps His promises (Deuteronomy 7:9).

- Life is not always easy. There will be hard times and days when we are sad or lonely or hurt. But even in the hard times, we can take hope and comfort knowing that Jesus is coming back for us one day, and we will get to live forever with Him (1 Thessalonians 4:17-18).
- Until Jesus comes back for us, we need to go and tell others the good news so others can trust in Him as Savior (Matthew 28:18-20).

STEP 6: Close in prayer, thanking God for the hope we have in Jesus' return.

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

The Lord's Return



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Hope in Troubled Times

What You'll Need: Bibles, computer, printer, Hope in Troubled Times Handout, scissors

PREP: Ahead of time, print out a copy of the Hope in Troubled Times Handout and cut the case scenarios apart.

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is about Jesus' return, and what it means for us. Choose three volunteers to help you.

STEP 2: Ask the three volunteers to each read one of the case scenarios.

STEP 3: Remind kids that for those of us who have trusted in Jesus as our Savior, we have hope. Ask a volunteer to read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus promised His disciples that after He went back to heaven He would prepare a place for them and come back to get them and take them with Him (John 14:1-2).
- Someday, Jesus will come in the clouds with shouts and trumpets. Next those who knew the Lord but have died will rise first. Then those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior and are still alive will meet Him in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). This event will happen in just a moment (1 Corinthians 15:51). Many people refer to this event as the rapture.
- Even though we don't know when this day will come, we can trust that God always keeps His promises (Deuteronomy 7:9).

STEP 4: Remind kids that Paul said that looking forward to Jesus' return is a comfort to those around us. Ask: "How can the events of the Lord's return be a comfort to the people in the scenarios?" (They can know that those who trust in Jesus as their Savior will be in heaven when they die; there will be no sickness or suffering in heaven, etc.)

Share these key concepts:

- Even though life will be hard sometimes, and we will face sadness and hurt, we can have hope in knowing that Christ is coming back for us one day.
- When Jesus was ready to return to heaven after He rose from the dead, He told His followers to go and to be His witnesses, and then He was lifted up. Angels came and told them that just as Jesus was taken up from them into heaven, He would come again the same way (Acts 1:8-11).

STEP 5: Remind kids that until Jesus comes back for us, we need to go and tell others the good news so others can trust in Him as Savior (Matthew 28:18-20). Then ask: "Who can you share the good news of Jesus with this week?"

STEP 6: Close in prayer, thanking God for the hope that Jesus will one day come back for those who have trusted in Him as Savior.

Notes:



Hope in Troubled Times Handout

Ava's grandpa has cancer. He has been sick for a very long time. Last night, Ava's mom and dad told her that her grandpa would soon die, but they also said that he would be in no more pain because he had trusted Jesus as his Savior when he was a little boy. He was going to go to heaven when he died. Ava is glad her grandpa accepted Jesus as His Savior, but she is so sad to say goodbye to him.

Ben's uncle was in a car accident and passed away last week. Ben knows his uncle is in heaven because his uncle had trusted Jesus as His Savior. And since Ben trusted Jesus as his Savior, Ben knows he will see his uncle again one day. Still Ben is sad to think that his uncle won't be there to cheer him on as he plays soccer this weekend.

Andrew helps his next door neighbor, Mr. Higgins, every week. He takes out the trash for him and helps clean up his yard. It makes Andrew sad that Mr. Higgins often feels sick and has trouble walking. Andrew doesn't know if Mr. Higgins has accepted Jesus as his Savior, and he wants to tell Mr. Higgins about Jesus, but he is not sure where to start.

SECTION
3.7
Eternity

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)
Option 1: Burst Bubbles

What You'll Need: Bubble gum

PREP: Before class, purchase bubble gum, one piece per kid.

STEP 1: Ask kids to stand in a circle and give kids each a piece of gum. Allow kids a few moments to chew their gum as you explain that they will be competing in a bubble blowing contest.

(Note: If you have kids with allergies or orthodontic appliances who cannot chew gum, appoint them as judges of the contest. Encourage your leaders to participate as well!)

STEP 2: After a minute, ask kids to blow their best and biggest bubble and see how long it lasts before it pops or deflates. If you have judges, ask them to watch closely for bubbles that pop or begin to deflate and to tell those participants to be seated. Continue until only one kid is standing.

Ask:

- What causes bubbles to come to an end?
- How would you describe the lifespan of a blown bubble?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God is eternal; He has no beginning or end.
- All created beings have a beginning and an ending. Because of the fall, our bodies will decay and begin to fall apart. Our bodies will die, but who we are on the inside (our souls) will live forever.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of knowing where we will be for eternity.

Notes:

SECTION
3.7

Eternity



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Average Lifespan

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids guess the average lifespan of the following creatures. For each guess, answer "high" or "low" depending on the guesses. The average age of each animal, according to the Internet, is in parentheses.

Average Lifespans:

- Male housefly (28 days)
- Wild African elephant (56 years)
- Giant tortoise (100 years)
- Humpback whale (45-50 years)

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- God is eternal. He had no beginning, and He has no end.
- God created all things, and one day the heavens, earth, plants, and animals will die or end.
- We are created in Gods' image. Even though our bodies may grow old and pass on because of sickness or injury, who we are, our souls, will live forever.
- We have the choice to make as to where we will spend eternity.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of knowing where we will be for eternity.

Notes:

SECTION 3.7

Eternity



Main Lesson Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Two Choices

What You'll Need: Bibles, two balloons, permanent marker, two slips of paper, pin

PREP: Write Revelation 20:15 on a slip of paper, and Revelation 21:4 on the other. Roll each slip of paper up, and put each one inside an un-inflated balloon. Then blow up each balloon, and write ETERNAL PUNISHMENT on the outside of the one with Revelation 20:15 in it. Then write ETERNAL REWARD on the one with Revelation 21:4 on it.

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that the lesson today will be about eternity. Our lives are short and fleeting and will one day pass (Psalm 39:4-5). However, because God made us in His image and likeness, who we are on the inside will never end (Ecclesiastes 12:7, John 3:16). Our earthly lives will end in an instant, just like a balloon popping, and we will be left with the eternity that we choose.

STEP 2: Explain that it is up to each individual about his or her eternity. Read Matthew 25:46. Then share these key concepts:

- Jesus Christ, God's Son, took our punishment for sin and made it possible for us to live forever with God (Romans 6:23).
- God does not force us to have a relationship with Him. We all have a choice to make. We must choose whether to spend eternity with God in heaven or choose to reject Jesus and spend eternity in hell as punishment for our sin (Matthew 25:46).

STEP 3: Hold up the balloon that says ETERNAL PUNISHMENT. Pop the balloon with a pin, and unroll the paper inside. Read Revelation 20:15 and ask kids how eternal punishment is described. (Answers may include separation from God forever, darkness, pain, being alone.)

STEP 4: Hold up the balloon that says ETERNAL REWARD. Pop the balloon with a pin, and unroll the paper inside. Read Revelation 21:4. Have kids

describe what eternity in heaven looks like with God forever. (Answers may include: no sadness, no pain, no death, no tears.)

STEP 5: Explain that those who trust in Jesus as Savior have eternal promises they can claim. Even though they may face struggles and trials on earth, they can know that NOTHING can take them out of God's hand (John 10:27-28). They will always have the promise and guarantee of eternal life. Also nothing will ever separate them from God's love (Romans 8:35a, 38-39). And one day, they will be in God's presence and live with Him in heaven forever (Revelation 21:4).

STEP 6: Close in prayer, praising God for those who have accepted Jesus Christ as Savior, and affirm that they belong to God, and their choice to be saved is really important to Him.

Notes:

SECTION 3.7

Eternity



Main Lesson Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: No Separation

What You'll Need: Bible, No Separation Handout

PREP: Print out the handout, and cut it up into slips of paper. Fold them up.

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is about eternity. Share that those who trust in Jesus as Savior have eternal promises they can claim. Even though they may face struggles and trials on earth, they can know that NOTHING can take them out of God's hand (John 10:27-28). They will always have the promise and guarantee of eternal life. Also nothing will ever separate them from God's love (Romans 8:35a, 38-39). And one day, they will be in God's presence and live with Him in heaven forever (Revelation 21:4).

STEP 2: Tell the group that you will be hosting a password challenge for them with words about what can't separate us from God's love. Read Romans 8:35a, 38-39 out loud for your group.

STEP 3: Ask for five volunteers. Give each volunteer a folded slip of paper from the handout. Explain that his or her challenge is to get the group to guess the word he or she has by giving them clues. Have leaders give help or encouragement as needed.

Passwords — What cannot separate us from God's love:

- Death
- Life
- Angels
- Height
- Depth

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



No Separation Handout

Life

Angels

Death

Depth

Height

SECTION
3.8

Redemption Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Plans

What You'll Need: Computer with Internet

PREP: Search online for an image of a large Lego® set. Be prepared to show the image to your class.

STEP 1: Show the image of the Lego set to the class. Ask: "If you were to build this Lego set, what are the steps you would need to take in order to build it?"

STEP 2: Have kids brainstorm how they would build the set. Make sure one of the kids mentions that they would need to follow the instruction plans in the box.

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- Why are plans important?
- What would happen if you tried to build the set on your own without follow the plans?

Share these key concepts:

- God has a plan for each of us. He wants us to have a perfect relationship (friendship) with Him.
- Satan tried to destroy God's plan. But God is more powerful than Satan, and God's plan for our salvation is offered to every person.
- We can choose to follow God's plan to be saved from our sin. But the choice is up to each one of us. God doesn't force anyone to follow His plan.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of God's redemption on mankind.

Notes:

SECTION
3.8

Redemption Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Redemption Basics

What You'll Need: Computer, printer, copy of the Redemption Basics Skit, Bible, pack of gum

PREP: Ahead of time, ask two leaders to act out the Redemption Basics skit. Make two copies and give one to each leader.

(Note: The person who plays leader two needs his or her Bible and a pack of gum for the skit.)

STEP 1: Ask leaders to perform the Redemption Basics skit. Then ask the following questions:

- How do you think (leader's name) felt knowing someone else had something that really belonged to him?
- Do you think he had the right to get the ball back?
- Do you think it was fair that he paid the price to buy back the ball?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- This skit shows us what it means to redeem (buy back) something.
- The Bible says that God redeemed us from our wicked sin (Titus 2:14). This whole unit has shown us God's plan to redeem us and give us an opportunity to accept Jesus as Savior.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of God's redemption on mankind.

Notes:



Redemption Basics Skit

LEADER ONE enters the room, carrying a Bible. **LEADER TWO** enters and notices the Bible.

LEADER TWO: Hey! You found my Bible! I lost it last week. Man, I looked EVERYWHERE for my Bible. It means so much to me! *(Tries to take the Bible from Leader One.)*

LEADER ONE: *(Refuses to let him take the Bible.)* Ummm. . . this is not your Bible. See, *(another adult leader's name)* found it and told me I could have it if I gave him a pack of gum.

LEADER TWO: That's not fair! That Bible belongs to ME! Look in the front cover. It has my name in it. Oh, and my notes from church are in there too!

LEADER ONE: *(Looks inside the front cover.)* Well, it does have your name on the front cover. But the Bible is mine now because I paid for it with a pack of gum.

LEADER TWO: I really, REALLY want my Bible back. It is mine.

LEADER ONE: Well, if you give me a pack of gum, I will let you buy this Bible back from me.

LEADER TWO: Wait a minute, you mean to tell me that you want me to pay a price to buy back something that I OWN?!?!?

LEADER ONE: Yep.

LEADER TWO: *(Searches his pockets and pulls out a pack of gum.)* Aha! I have a pack of gum! *(Hands the pack to Leader One.)*

LEADER ONE: *(Takes the gum and examines it.)* Okay, I guess this gum will pay the price. You have successfully bought back your Bible. *(Walks away, taking out a piece of gum.)*

LEADER TWO: Wow! I finally have my Bible back! *(Pauses for a moment, then returns to his seat.)*

SECTION 3.8

Redemption Review



Main Lesson Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Redemption Plan

What You'll Need: Handbooks, paper, pens, a large white sheet or curtain and a way to hang it (or a way to shine a light in front of a group of kids, like a large flashlight)

ACTIVITY PREP: Prepare your space with a way to either hang a white sheet in front of the group or shine a light on them while the room lights are off.

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson will be a review of the different topics that the Redemption Unit has covered. Have kids work in pairs or groups, and assign the following topic to each pair or group.

Topics for the kids to do:

- MAN IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD
- SATAN
- THE FALL OF ADAM AND EVE
- SIN AND SUFFERING
- JESUS CHRIST
- THE LORD'S RETURN
- ETERNITY

STEP 2: Give kids five minutes to come up with a shadow statue pose to do that communicates their topic. Encourage them to use their handbooks as they prepare.

(Note: Ask leaders to help the pairs or groups as they work.)

STEP 3: After five minutes, ask each pair or group to present their shadow statue pose.

Share these key concepts as they do their pose.

- MAN IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD — Man was created in God's image (Genesis 1:26). He can think, have conversations, feel, make choices, and be creative.

- God does not force us to love Him. God gives us the choice to love Him and have a relationship with Him or to reject God and His offer of salvation through Jesus Christ.
- SATAN — God created Satan as the head angel, but he became God's enemy because he wanted to be like God. Even though he has tried to stop God's plan, God is in control and will one day punish Satan forever (Revelation 20:10).
 - Believers can rely on God's power to help us when Satan tempts us to sin. We can trust in the truth of God's Word (John 17:17) to help us overcome Satan's lies and temptations. We can also take comfort in knowing that God will one day defeat Satan (Revelation 20:10).
- THE FALL OF ADAM AND EVE — Satan tempted Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. They listened to his lie and broke God's one rule (Genesis 3:1-6). They became sinners and their relationship (friendship) with God was broken because of their sin (Genesis 3:8-13, 22-24).
 - Every person born after Adam and Eve are born sinners (Romans 5:12), and our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2). There is nothing we can do on our own to save ourselves (Ephesians 2:8).
- SIN AND SUFFERING — Because Adam and Eve sinned, their punishment affects the rest of creation and every person who has ever lived. We now face sin, sickness, hunger, pain, sadness, and struggles (Genesis 3:16-19).
 - Even though life is hard, we know that God is always with us. We have hope because God loves us (John 3:16). We never have to face our struggles alone (Hebrews 13:5).
- JESUS CHRIST — Jesus Christ, God's Son, willingly came to earth (Philippians 2:5-8). He lived a perfect life, and allowed Himself to be put to death to pay the punishment for our sin (Isaiah 53:4-5). He didn't stay dead. He rose again three days later (1 Corinthians 15:4) and proved His victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).
 - We have the choice to accept or reject Jesus as Savior. If we choose to accept Jesus as

Savior, we can be right with God and have eternal life with Him in heaven (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10). If we reject Jesus as Savior, we face eternal punishment and separation from God (Revelation 20:12-15).

- **THE LORD'S RETURN** — Jesus will one day come back for those who have accepted Him as Savior (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). This event is known as the rapture. At the rapture, those who have already died and have accepted Jesus as Savior will rise first. Then those who are alive will rise to meet Him in the clouds.
 - Even though we don't know when Jesus will come for us, we can trust His promise to return (John 14:1-2), and we can comfort others by telling them of the hope we have in the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:18). Until He comes for us, we have an important job to go and tell others about the good news of Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20).
- **ETERNITY** — Even though our bodies will grow old and die, who we are on the inside (our souls) will live forever. We have a choice to make where we will spend eternity (forever). If we choose to accept Jesus as our Savior, we will spend eternity forever in heaven with Him (Revelation 21:1-5). If we choose to reject Jesus as Savior, we will spend eternity in hell as punishment for our sin (Matthew 25:46).
 - Those who trust in Jesus as Savior have eternal promises they can claim. Even though they may face struggles and trials on earth, they can know that NOTHING can take them out of God's hand (John 10:27-28). They will always have the promise and guarantee of eternal life. Also nothing will ever separate them from God's love (Romans 8:35a, 38-39). And one day, they will be in God's presence and live with Him in heaven forever (Revelation 21:4).

STEP 4: If time permits, share your testimony with the kids. Be sure to show how God redeemed you from sin, and how you made the choice to accept Jesus as Savior. As the Spirit leads, give kids the opportunity to make a decision.

STEP 5: Close in prayer, thanking God for His plan to offer every person an opportunity to accept Jesus as Savior.

Notes:

SECTION 3.8

Redemption Review



Main Lesson Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Redemption Outcome

What You'll Need: Paper (two pieces), marker, masking tape

ACTIVITY PREP: Write the letter A on one piece of paper, and the letter B on another piece of paper. Tape them to opposite sides of the room.

STEP 1: Explain that today's lesson will be a review of what they have learned in the Redemption Unit. They are going to be playing a game of choosing between Option A or Option B. Have the group stand in the middle of the room, and then run towards the letter of the option they think is most true. You even will be giving them some big ideas about each lesson before you ask them to choose, so they need to listen carefully.

(Note: Some of these options will be funny and easy to choose between, but by getting the kids actively listening, you are still engaging them in an effective way. Feel free to make it extra silly if you want to.)

STEP 2: Go through the choices one by one, giving the kids time to decide and run from one wall to the next. Share the concepts and then give them the choice.

MAN IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

- Man was created in God's image (Genesis 1:26). He can think, have conversations, feel, make choices, and be creative.
- God does not force us to love Him. God gives us the choice to love Him and have a relationship with Him or to reject God and His offer of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Statement: Because I am made God's image, I can ...

- A) Think and make decisions.
- B) Shoot lightning bolts out of my fingers.

SATAN

- God created Satan as the head angel, but he became God's enemy because he wanted to be like God. Even though he has tried to stop God's plan, God is in control and will one day punish Satan forever (Revelation 20:10).
- Believers can rely on God's power to help us when Satan tempts us to sin. We can trust in the truth of God's Word (John 17:17) to help us overcome Satan's lies and temptations. We can also take comfort in knowing that God will one day defeat Satan (Revelation 20:10).

Statement: Because Satan is God's enemy and wants to destroy God's plan, I need to ...

- A) Trust in God's Word to help me overcome his lies and temptations.
- B) Turn into a gummy bear.

THE FALL OF ADAM AND EVE:

- Satan tempted Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden. They listened to his lie and broke God's one rule (Genesis 3:1-6). They became sinners and their relationship (friendship) with God was broken because of their sin (Genesis 3:8-13, 22-24).
- Every person born after Adam and Eve are born sinners (Romans 5:12), and our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2). There is nothing we can do on our own to save ourselves (Ephesians 2:8).

Statement: Because Adam and Eve sinned, I am ...

- A) A crocodile.
- B) A sinner.

SIN AND SUFFERING

- Because Adam and Eve sinned, their punishment affects the rest of creation and every person who has ever lived. We now face sin, sickness, hunger, pain, sadness, and struggles (Genesis 3:16-19).
- Even though life is hard, we know that God is always with us. We have hope because God loves us (John 3:16). We never have to face our struggles alone (Hebrews 13:5).

Statement: Because there is sin and suffering in this world, I need to remember that ...

- A) God loves me and that He is always with me.
- B) I should be really mean to people.

JESUS CHRIST

- Jesus Christ, God's Son willingly came to earth (Philippians 2:5-8). He lived a perfect life and allowed Himself to be put to death to pay the punishment for our sin (Isaiah 53:4-5). He didn't stay dead. He rose again three days later (1 Corinthians 15:4) and proved His victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).
- We have the choice to accept or reject Jesus as Savior. If we choose to accept Jesus as Savior, we can be right with God and have eternal life with Him in heaven (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10). If we reject Jesus as Savior, we face eternal punishment and separation from God (Revelation 20:12-15).

Statement: Because Jesus Christ is the only person who can completely pay the price for my sin, I can ...

- A) Choose to accept Him as my Savior.
- B) Eat pickles.

THE LORD'S RETURN

- Jesus will one day come back for those who have accepted Him as Savior (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). This event is known as the rapture. At the rapture, those who have already died and have accepted Jesus as Savior will rise first. Then those who are alive will rise to meet Him in the clouds.
- Even though we don't know when Jesus will come for us, we can trust His promise to return (John 14:1-2), and we can comfort others by telling them of the hope we have in the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:18). Until He comes for us, we have an important job to go and tell others about the good news of Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20).

Statement: Because Jesus promised to return and take those of us who choose to accept Him as Savior to live with Him, I can ...

- A) Have comfort in hard times and comfort others who are hurting.
- B) Hide in an underground fortress and never come out.

ETERNITY

- Even though our bodies will grow old and die, who we are on the inside (our souls) will live forever. We have a choice to make where we will spend eternity (forever). If we choose to accept Jesus as our Savior, we will spend eternity forever in heaven with Him (Revelation 21:1-5). If we choose to reject Jesus as Savior, we will spend eternity in hell as punishment for our sin (Matthew 25:46).
- Those who trust in Jesus as Savior have eternal promises they can claim. Even though they may face struggles and trials on earth, they can know that NOTHING can take them out of God's hand (John 10:27-28). They will always have the promise and guarantee of eternal life. Also, nothing will ever separate them from God's love (Romans 8:35a, 38-39). And one day, they will be in God's presence and live with Him in heaven forever (Revelation 21:4).

Statement: Because we have a choice to make as to where we will spend eternity, I can ...

- A) Choose to either accept Jesus as my Savior or reject Jesus as my Savior.
- B) Just eat gummy bears forever.

STEP 3: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
4.1**Faith****Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 1: Statements of Faith****What You'll Need:** Nothing**STEP 1:** Read several of the following statements:

- My legs will not fall off when I walk.
- I can sit in a chair without falling.
- I know someone will pick me up tonight from club.

STEP 2: Ask: "In what or whom do you have to trust in order for these statements to be true?" Help students recognize that in order for us to believe the statements, we have to trust in something or someone.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We often place our confidence or trust in something without thinking twice, like sitting in a chair. We do not have to worry about a chair because we have already personally witnessed that it is secure. In other words, we have put faith in that object, believing that the object will perform as expected.
- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we trust or have confidence that God will keep His promise of eternal life and a relationship with Him because of our trust in Jesus.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of faith.

Notes:

SECTION
4.1

Faith



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Faith in What We Cannot See

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask the following questions. Be ready to offer suggestions in parentheses as needed.

- What do we know about earth's gravity? (It keeps us from floating away into space; if we drop something, it will fall to the floor; if we throw something in the air, it will fall back to the ground, etc.)
- What do we know about electricity? (If we plug something in an outlet, it will turn on; if we turn on a light switch, it will light the room; etc.)
- Have you ever seen electricity?
- Have you ever seen gravity?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We believe in electricity and gravity, even though they cannot be seen, because we see the effects and the outcomes they produce (e.g., we can turn on the lights, we can jump in the air and know we will return to the ground, etc.).
- We often place our confidence or trust in something without thinking twice, like knowing that flipping on a light switch will give light to a dark room.
- In a similar way, when we accept Jesus as our Savior, we trust or have confidence that God will keep His promise of eternal life and a relationship with Him because of our trust in Jesus.
- Faith is believing in Jesus and what He has done for us.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of faith.

Notes:

SECTION
4.1**Faith****Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: Faithful Characters**

What You'll Need: Faithful Characters Handout, two volunteers (they can be kids or leaders) to read the handout as the faithful characters, (optional: microphone or way for your two volunteers to read from offstage)

PREP: Cut the handout in half and give each volunteer a half.

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson will be on faith.

Share these key concepts:

- Faith is necessary in order for us to accept Jesus as our Savior. In order to be saved, we must believe that Jesus, God's Son, took the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10).
- Faith is not a one-time event in our lives. After we have accepted Jesus as Savior, our faith will grow as we learn more about who He is and what He has done. We recognize the growing faith of the disciples during a windstorm at sea. The frightened men called out to Jesus who spoke and immediately calmed the water. The disciples recognized Jesus' authority over nature, and their faith in Him grew (Mark 4:35-41).
- Our faith will grow as we learn more about God and begin to recognize examples of faithful people in the Bible. Hebrews 11 contains many examples of real people who trusted in God and did great things for Him. As we study their examples, we learn that God will always be with us and will give us the strength and courage to do what He asks us to do.

STEP 2: Have your two volunteers read their character sketch from the Faithful Characters Handout. Then ask the following questions after each sketch is read:

- How did that person show their faith in God?
- What happened to that character because of their faith?

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Hebrews 11:6, together. Then share these key concepts:

- Faith is not only required for us to have a relationship with God, it is also required for us to please Him. As we learn more about God and grow in our faith, our relationship with God deepens. We want to praise and glorify Him with our lives and become the people God created us to be (Galatians 2:20).
- We know our faith is growing when we are ready to do what God asks us to do (Ephesians 2:10). As we do good works and demonstrate our faith by our actions, others will see it, and God will be glorified (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Faithful Characters Handout

Moses

Do you know who I am? Let me give you a few clues.

1. I was born at a time when a wicked Pharaoh was trying to kill all the baby boys of my people.
2. My mom hid me for several months, and then made a basket and put me in the river in my little basket boat. An Egyptian princess found me and adopted me.
3. I grew up as Egyptian royalty. I had all the wealth and education and power of a royal family. I had it made.

Did you guess who I am? Yep, I'm Moses.

You may think that my life was full of exciting adventures, and you are right; there were some amazing things that I saw God do. But there were other parts of my life when I was afraid, when I didn't understand what God was doing.

Did you know that I left Egypt, from my place of prominence in the royal family? I ended up in the desert, watching my father-in-law's sheep. But God called me from a burning bush and told me to go back to Egypt and help lead His people to the land God had promised them.

At first, I did not want to go. I told God that I wasn't qualified, that there was certainly someone better for the job than I was. But I realized that even though I was scared, God would be with me.

As I obeyed God, I saw Him perform amazing miracles to show the Egyptians that He is the true God. And guess what? I learned through all of that just how awesome God is! I realized that I could trust God, and I knew that I wanted to be the person God created me to be.

As my faith in God grew, God helped me do amazing things for Him. I helped lead the children of Israel through the desert. I watched God part the Red Sea. Through all of those adventures, I really began to know and understand God more. And the more I got to know God, the more I could trust Him.

Even though I was scared when God asked me to do the big things, I learned that He was always with me. He gave me the strength and courage to have faith to do even bigger things. And He will do the same for you too!

Sarah

Hey, there. I'm Sarah. You are probably more familiar with my husband, Abraham. Lots of people know about Abraham's faith in God. But did you know that God said I had great faith?

God promised Abraham that he would be the father of a great nation, and Abraham believed Him. But years went by, and I grew older and older. Soon I was too old to have a baby. But then God came to Abraham and said that in a year we would have a child. At first, I wasn't so sure. In fact, I even laughed when God said that I would have a baby. But then I remembered that God promised this to Abraham. God is faithful, and He has always kept His promises.

I chose to have faith and believe that God would be faithful to me.

And do you know what? He was! God gave me, an old lady, a baby boy. We named him Isaac, which means "laughter." Every time I see my boy, I am reminded that God is faithful.

I'm not some superhero, and I didn't do some huge thing for God, yet God included me in a list of men and women who had faith in Him.

I hope that when you hear my story you will remember this: You can trust God to do what He says He will do. God will never let you down, and He will always do what He promises.

SECTION

4.1

Faith



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Faith Lived Out

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pen, three cans of play dough. (Optional: If the dough seems to messy for your group, use pieces of aluminum foil instead for the kids to sculpt with.)

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is on faith. To help them understand what faith is, they will be completing a challenge. This challenge will involve looking at some examples of people who had faith.

STEP 2: Divide kids into groups of three to six and give each group one of the following passages, written on a sheet of paper.

Verses for the kids to sculpt:

- Mark 4:35-41
- Matthew 8:5-13
- Mark 5:21-24, 35-43

STEP 3: Give each group a container of play dough and tell them that they have five minutes to make a sculpture that represents their story.

STEP 4: After five minutes, have groups show their sculptures. After each group has presented their sculpture, review key parts of the narratives, and then ask the following questions:

- Who demonstrated faith in the story?
- What did the characters believe Jesus could do?
- What did the characters learn about Jesus?

STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- Just like the people in these Bible stories, our faith will grow as we learn more about God and begin to recognize examples of faithful people in the Bible. Hebrews 11 contains many examples of real people who trusted in God and did great things for Him. As we study their examples, we learn that God will always

be with us and will give us the strength and courage to do what He asks us to do.

- As our faith strengthens, we will begin to demonstrate our faith to others by our actions. We will seek to please God and glorify Him with our lives (Galatians 2:20). We will become the people God created us to be, and we will be ready to do what He asks of us (Ephesians 2:10). As we live out our faith in our actions, others will see it, and God will be glorified (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 6: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | Prayer



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Conversation Openers

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids think of words or phrases to start a conversation with others. Encourage them to use their imagination and think of fun ways to say hello. Examples include: Hey! Greetings! What's up?

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- When might we start a conversation with someone?
- Why is it sometimes hard to talk with someone?
- Why is conversation with others important?
- What are the benefits of having a conversation with someone?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- If we want to get to know someone, we have to communicate with them.
- Our relationship with others grows deeper when we listen to them and share with them what we are thinking and feeling.
- God wants us to communicate our thoughts and feelings, wants and needs to Him. Talking to God is called prayer.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of prayer.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | Prayer



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Common Phrases

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Give the following scenarios and ask what phrases kids their age might say or ask in each situation. Encourage them to respond vocally with expression.

You can't find your soccer uniform.

Your brother borrowed something without asking and now you can't find it.

You want to play your new game, but you need your parent's permission first.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions after kids have responded:

- Why do you have different conversations instead of the same conversation all the time?
- What is the purpose of conversations?
- Why is communication with others necessary?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We get to know others better when we communicate with them.
- Our thoughts and feelings change depending on our situations, and it is important to share them with the ones we care about.
- God wants us to communicate our thoughts and feelings with Him. We communicate with Him through prayer.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of prayer.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | Prayer



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Examples of Prayer

What You'll Need: Bibles, Examples of Prayer Handout, tape

PREP: Print out the handout pages and assemble them according to directions. Keep the verse pages to hand out, and tape the pocket pages to a wall.

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is on prayer.

Share the following key concepts on prayer with your kids:

- We communicate with God through prayer. We can talk to God anywhere and anytime (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6).
- There are no set rules to how we pray. We don't have to pray only at meals or bedtime. We don't have to get on our knees. We don't even have to close our eyes (although that does help us focus on what we or others are saying to God).

STEP 2: Choose five volunteers (or five pairs if you have a larger group). Explain that they will each be given a verse to look up and read.

STEP 3: After the three minutes, have the kids take their verse reference and place it in the pocket the verse is an example of, and congratulate the ones who get it right.

The verses and their correct matches:

Philippians 1:9 (Pray for love to abound.)

Colossians 4:12 (Pray to stand firm in the will of God.)

Hebrews 13:18 (Pray to have a clear conscience and to act honorably.)

Colossians 4:3 (Pray that God would allow them to share the gospel.)

James 5:16 (Pray for one another so that they may be healed.)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- The Bible contains many examples of how we can pray and what we can pray for. We can praise God when we pray (Psalm 135:3). We can thank God when we pray (Philippians 4:6). We can ask God to help us stay away from temptation (Luke 22:39-40).
- We can also pray for others. We can pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4). We can pray for the salvation of others (Romans 10:1). We can thank God for the faith of others (Colossians 1:3-4). We can pray for their health and safety (3 John 2).
- When we pray, we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need.

Notes:



Examples of Prayer Handout

Philippians 1:9

Colossians 4:12

Hebrews 13:18

Colossians 4:3

James 5:16

Pray for love to abound.

(Fold on the dashed line and secure sides with tape to create the pocket.)

Pray to stand firm in the will of God.

(Fold on the dashed line and secure sides with tape to create the pocket.)

Pray to have a clear conscience and to act honorably.

(Fold on the dashed line and secure sides with tape to create the pocket.)

Pray that God would allow them to share the gospel.

(Fold on the dashed line and secure sides with tape to create the pocket.)

Pray for one another so that they may be healed.

(Fold on the dashed line and secure sides with tape to create the pocket.)

SECTION 4.2 | Prayer



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: How Do I Pray?

What You'll Need: Bibles

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- We communicate with God through prayer. We can talk to God anywhere and anytime (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6).
- There are no set rules to how we pray. We don't have to pray only at meals or bedtime. We don't have to get on our knees. We don't even have to close our eyes (although that does help us focus on what we or others are saying to God). When we pray, we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need.

STEP 2: Explain that God wants us to talk with Him in our own words, but sometimes it's hard for us to know how to pray. Hold up your hand. Tell them that that we will use the hand signals to help us know how to pray. Demonstrate the following the hand signals and share the key concept under each signal.

- **THANK AND PRAISE** (show a thumbs up) — We can thank God for His blessings that He gives to us every day (Psalm 103:2). We can also praise God for Who He is (Psalm 150:1-6).
- **OTHERS** (use index finger to point to others) — We can pray for others. We can pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-4). We can pray for the salvation of others (Romans 10:1). We can thank God for their faith (Colossians 1:3-4). We can pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-2). We can pray for their health and safety (3 John 2).
- **SELF** (use fingers pointing to yourself) — We can ask God to help us stay away from temptation (Luke 22:39-40) and we can humbly ask for the things that we need or want.

STEP 3: Give the kids a chance to try out using their hand signals to remember how to pray. Remind kids that if we have accepted Jesus as our Savior,

we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need (1 John 5:14).

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION

4.3

Studying God's Word



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Spot the Errors

What You'll Need: Whiteboard and dry erase markers

PREP: Before class, write one or more of the examples from step 1 on the board.

(Note: Make sure kids will be able to easily spot the errors of the problems, but make them challenging enough that it takes them a moment or two to find them.)

STEP 1: Ask kids if they can spot the errors on the board. Offer hints as needed. Ask those who spot the errors to correct them.

Examples of things you could write:

- A Bible verse with several misspelled words.
- A multiplication problem with an error.
- A triple digit addition problem with an error.

STEP 2: After errors have been located and corrected, ask the following questions.

- How long did it take you to find the mistakes?
- Why were you able to locate the mistakes?
- What helped you know that it was a mistake?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Studying is a step above reading, or simply knowing about something. Studying requires understanding a subject or repeating the same math concepts over and over until you can confidently explain the subject and complete the problems correctly.
- We have been given the very words of God, written just for us! It is important for us to study God's Word so that we can confidently understand His plan for us and then share it with others.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and obeying God's Word.

Notes:

SECTION

4.3

Studying God's Word



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Basic Concepts

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask, "What are the most important things you learned in kindergarten and first grade?" Take comments from kids for several minutes.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What is the most important thing anyone said that they learned in kindergarten or first grade?
- Why is it so important?
- What are basic concepts about God's Word that you have learned so far this year in T&T?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- Some things that you learn in kindergarten and first grade are the foundation to the rest of your education.
- The Bible is God's form of communication with us. You have studied the basic concepts about God and the Bible this year in T&T. It is important for you to take the next step and study God's Word.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying and obeying God's Word.

Notes:

SECTION

4.3

Studying God's Word



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Personal Communication

What You'll Need: Personal Communication Handout, six plastic cups that aren't transparent, scissors, clear tape, Bibles, (optional: table)

PREP: Print out the handout and cut along the lines. Use tape to affix the slips with the explanations to the outside of each upside-down cup. Have the slips with the verse references ready for later. Place the cups upside down on the table, if using one, or on the floor if not.

STEP 1: Explain that today's lesson is about studying God's Word, the Bible.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible contains God's very words to mankind (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only instruction manual we need to live a life pleasing to God (2 Peter 1:3).
- God's Word is our personal communication from God and offers us four basic principles: teaching/doctrine (what we need to know to honor God with our lives), reproof/rebuking (what we do wrong against God), correction (what we need to do to correct our wrongdoing) and training in righteous/instruction in righteousness (how to honor and please God with our lives) (2 Timothy 3:16).

STEP 2: Get six volunteers, and give them each a slip of paper with a verse reference. As you give the kids the slips of paper, either read the verse for them, or let them look it up themselves. The challenge for the kids is to think about their assigned verses and determine how God's Word is described and/or what the benefit is for us to study God's Word. Then they need to find the right cup and build it into part of a cup pyramid. Check their answers against the list below.

List of verses and their explanations:

- Psalm 19:7 (God's Word is perfect and benefits us.)
- Psalm 19:8 (God's Word is right and makes our hearts happy.)
- Psalm 19:9 (God's Word is true and righteous.)
- Psalm 19:11 (God's Word warns us, and we are rewarded when we obey.)
- Psalm 119:105 (God's Word is a lamp and a light.)
- Psalm 119:165 (We will have peace if we love God's Word.)

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We study God's Word when we read and meditate (think about it over and over) on it. As we meditate on God's Word, our knowledge of it deepens, and we are able to confidently understand it and then share it with others (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 96:3).
- When we study God's Word, we are blessed, or happy (Psalm 1). We grow closer in our relationship with Him, and our faith in God will grow as we know Him more (1 John 5:20).
- Studying God's Word allows us to apply it to our lives. We will be able to confidently live out what we have read and heard (James 1:22). Our good works will be an example to others, and God is glorified when we become people who study God's Word (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 4: Encourage kids to begin to study God's Word regularly.



Personal Communication Handout

Psalm 19:7

Psalm 19:8

Psalm 19:9

Psalm 19:11

Psalm 119:105

Psalm 119:165

God's Word is perfect and benefits us.

God's Word is right and makes our hearts happy.

God's Word is true and righteous.

God's Word warns us, and we are rewarded when we obey.

God's Word is a lamp and a light.

We will have peace if we love God's Word.

SECTION

4.3

Studying God's Word



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Life's Instruction Manual

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pen

PREP: Write teaching/doctrine, reproof/rebuke, correction, or training in righteousness/instruction in righteousness on a piece of paper. Tape it to your space so the kids can see it.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 together two times. Then share these key concepts:

- The Bible contains God's very words to mankind (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only instruction manual we need to live a life pleasing to God (2 Peter 1:3).
- God's Word is our personal communication from God, and offers us four basic principles: teaching/doctrine (what we need to know to honor God with our lives), reproof/rebuking (what we do wrong against God), correction (what we need to do to correct our wrongdoing) and training in righteousness/instruction in righteousness (how to honor and please God with our lives) (2 Timothy 3:16).

STEP 2: Ask for two volunteers to compete in your game. Point to the paper that gives the different categories from 2 Timothy 3:16-17. After each verse is read, have kids compete to determine if that verse offers teaching, reproof, correction, or righteous training.

Verses (The answers are in parentheses below.)

- Psalm 90:2 (training in righteousness/instruction in righteousness)
- Proverbs 3:1 (teaching/doctrine)
- Matthew 18:15 (reproof/rebuke)
- Philippians 4:2 (correction)

STEP 3: Congratulate the kids for playing, and then share the following concepts.

- When we study God's Word, we are blessed, or happy (Psalm 1). We grow closer in our relationship with Him, and our faith in God will grow as we know Him more (1 John 5:20).
- Studying God's Word allows us to apply it to our lives. When we study God's Word, we become more complete in Christ. In other words, we become the person God created us to be. We are able to confidently live out what we have read and heard (James 1:22). Our good works will be an example to others, and God is glorified when we become people who study God's Word (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 4: Encourage the kids to study God's Word using their T&T handbooks. Encourage them to read their weekly verses each day and write down what they learn from these verses each day. Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help the kids learn the importance of studying God's Word regularly.

Notes:

SECTION

4.4

Worship



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Thank You Very Much!

What You'll Need: individually packaged snacks (being mindful of allergies), napkins (as needed)

PREP: Before class, purchase snacks for the kids. Have napkins available, if needed. Set the treats out before kids enter the room.

STEP 1: Share that you want to show them kindness. Encourage them to enjoy the snack. Note any responses of gratitude or appreciation they show to you. While kids are enjoying their snack, ask the following questions:

- What were you thinking when you saw the snacks?
- Was it a requirement for me to bring the treats? (Guide kids to understand that you didn't have to do this for them; it shows your care and love for them.)
- How did you feel when you received the treats?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- When someone does something nice for us, we are thankful, excited, and happy.
- We respond to the kindness by letting them know we care and are thankful for them.
- Worship is a response to God's goodness and kindness to us. As we realize what He has done for us, we respond by showing God we love Him.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of worship.

Notes:

SECTION
4.4

Worship



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Grateful Responses

What You'll Need: Easel with paper or whiteboard, marker

STEP 1: Ask the kids to tell you examples of words a person would say when they are showing gratefulness to someone else. Write down their ideas.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- When we remember what God has done for us or when we learn something new about God or His Word, we respond with love and gratefulness to God.
- Our response to what God has done for us is known as worship. We worship God by doing something to let Him know we Love Him.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of worship.

Notes:

A large empty rectangular box for taking notes.

SECTION

4.4

Worship



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: True Worship

What You'll Need: True Worship Handout, funny objects, crazy costumes, person willing to wear them

PREP: Print the handout, or make into a larger visual.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- Worship is anything we do to show God we love Him. Worship is the response believers display in their hearts, reactions, and thoughts to God's character and goodness (Psalm 86:9-10).
- God desires true worshipers to worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24). True worship comes from our heart and is a focused response to a truth about God or His Word (Nehemiah 8:1-3, 6).

STEP 2: Announce that it is time to play "Is it worship?" The kids will stand up if they think that the example given is worship, or sit down if they think it is not. Show the handout as a visual reminder to your kids as they do the activity. Read through the list below and tell the kids the right answer after each one.

Examples:

- When I see a beautiful sunset, I tell God how great He is. (Worship)
- When I eat French fries, I want ketchup. (Not worship)
- When I found out good news about a sick friend, I sang a song to God to say thank you for healing him. (Worship)
- When I go to bed, I pray to God. (Worship)
- When I go to the pool, I put on sunscreen. (Not worship)
- When I read the Bible, I think about how powerful God is. (Worship)
- When I bump my head, I get a headache. (Not worship)

- When God answered my prayer, I told my friend about it. (Worship)
- When I go outside, I put on my shoes. (Not worship)
- When I know the right thing to do, I trust God and do it. (Worship)

STEP 3: Congratulate the kids on playing the game. Even though some of the examples were silly, they got to think more about what worship can be.

Share these key concepts:

- We worship by praising God (Psalm 47:6). We can praise God by singing (Psalm 98:1), by praying (Matthew 6:9), and reading God's Word (Psalm 119:171-172).
- We worship God by telling others what He has done (Psalm 96:2-3). Telling others how good God is helps others understand who God is, and allows them to join with us in worship (Psalm 34:3).
- We worship God when we live completely for Him, allowing God to do whatever He wants with our lives (Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 13:6).

STEP 4: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



WORSHIP



NOT WORSHIP

SECTION

4.4

Worship



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Worship from the Heart

What You'll Need: A worship song and a way to play it (smart phone, tablet or computer or CD and CD player), (optional: printout of the words to the song)

PREP: Before class, choose your favorite worship song. Be prepared to play it during the lesson. (Optional: Print out the words to the songs so the kids can read or sing along.)

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- Worship is anything we do to show God we love Him. Worship is the response believers display in their hearts, reactions, and thoughts to God's character and goodness (Psalm 86:9-10).
- God desires true worshipers to worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24). True worship comes from our heart and is a focused response to a truth about God or His Word (Nehemiah 8:1-3, 6).

STEP 2: Ask kids to share a few things they have learned about God from being in T&T this year. Encourage them to look through their T&T handbooks if they need ideas.

(Note: Encourage leaders to participate and to offer guidance as needed.)

STEP 3: Play your favorite worship song, showing the kids the words and explaining why it helps you worship God. Ask the kids for a few of their favorite worship songs.

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- We worship by praising God (Psalm 47:6). We can praise God by singing (Psalm 98:1), by praying (Matthew 6:9), and reading God's Word (Psalm 119:171-172).
- We worship God by telling others what He has done (Psalm 96:2-3). Telling others how good God is helps others understand Who God is, and allows them to join with us in worship (Psalm 34:3).

- We worship God when we live completely for Him, allowing God to do whatever He wants with our lives (Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 13:6).

STEP 5: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help the leaders and the kids respond to God with true worship from their hearts.

Notes:

SECTION 4.5 | *Serving*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: To Serve or Not to Serve

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Give kids the following scenarios:

- Mom asks you to take out the trash while you are playing a game.
- Your little brother wants you to help him build his new Lego® set. You want to read a book.
- Mom asks you to unload the dishwasher after dinner. You want to go and relax.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What choice do you have in the scenarios above?
- To whom do you have the opportunity to show kindness and love in the scenarios above?
- What do you have to give up in order to show kindness toward that person?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Doing something kind for others is an example of being a servant. Being a servant is a deliberate choice we make.
- Being a servant requires us to be humble.
- The greatest example of a servant is Jesus Christ.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids recognize the importance of serving others.

Notes:

SECTION
4.5
Serving

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)
Option 2: First Response

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask three volunteers to come to the front of the room. Explain to them that they are going to be the first responders. Their challenge is to act out the response with the attitude you describe.

- Ask your first responders to respond to this situation with a bad attitude.
 - o Your dad tells you to clean the bathroom.
- Ask your first responders to respond to this situation with a delayed attitude.
 - o Your mom needs you to help your little sister make her bed.
- Ask your first responders to respond to the situation with kindness and a good attitude.
 - o Your mom wants you to feed the dog.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What are some ways kids your age might respond to serving others if they do not want to do it?
- Do you think it is possible to serve others with a bad attitude? Why or why not?
- Why is your attitude important in serving others?

STEP 3: Share the following concepts:

- Doing something kind for others is an example of being a servant. Being a servant is a deliberate choice we make.
- Being a servant requires us to be humble.
- The greatest example of a servant is Jesus Christ.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids recognize the importance of serving others.

Notes:

SECTION 4.5

Serving



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Others First!

What You'll Need: Two poster board pieces, a marker, two pieces of string, a hole punch (optional: costumes for the kids to use to make it funny)

PREP: Write SELFISH on one poster board, and SERVANT on the other. Punch holes at the top corners of the poster board, and tie the string so that each of the poster boards can be worn around the neck of a kid.

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that today's lesson is about serving.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus is the perfect example of humility. He came to serve others and offer His life as the payment for our sin (Matthew 20:28). He displayed His humility by leaving heaven and becoming a man and choosing to die on the cross (Philippians 2:5-8).
- God calls us to follow Christ's example and be a servant, willing to do whatever He asks us to do (Romans 12:1-2).

STEP 2: Ask for two volunteers, and give each volunteer a poster board sign to wear around his or her neck. The word that each kid has is the way they need to pretend to respond to the different situations. (Optional: Give the kids the choice of what costumes they can grab to act out their response, with extra points for goofiness.) Choose situations from the list below, according to the time you have and the needs of your group. If you have a large group, have the two volunteers rotate out with other kids so that the activity involves more kids. Congratulate the kids that do the best job at acting it out.

Selfish or serving situations:

- Your mother is working late this evening. You are the first one home from school, and you notice there is still a mess on the table from breakfast.
- Your dad worked hard in the backyard all weekend, and it looked spotless. But after the windy afternoon, there are now leaves all over the yard, and most of the chairs and the trash can lids are scattered around the backyard. You have an hour before Dad gets home and you eat dinner.
- Your next door neighbor fell and broke her hip. She won't be home for several weeks. Her husband said she is very sad.
- Your classmate is really struggling with math, and math is your favorite subject. You notice that he is frustrated with his homework, which you finished earlier that day.

STEP 3: After each volunteer has presented his or her scene, ask the following questions.

- How might the person you are serving respond?
- What would you have to sacrifice or give up in order to be a servant in this situation?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- We serve others when we choose to love them as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:39), and put their needs and wants ahead of our own (Philippians 2:3-4). This often requires sacrifice (giving up something that we want) on our part, but we must always remember Christ's sacrifice for us (Ephesians 5:2).
- Following Christ's example of being a servant strengthens our relationship with God as we seek to glorify Him with our lives (1 Corinthians 10:31).

STEP 5: Ask: "Who can you serve this week?" After kids all have a person in mind, close in prayer, asking God to give kids the courage and the strength to serve that person this week.

SECTION 4.5

Serving



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Servant Characteristics

What You'll Need: Bible, Servant Characteristics Handout, (optional: tape)

PREP: Print handout and cut characteristics apart. Mark the pages in your Bible for the Scripture you will use (2 Timothy 2:24-25, Romans 12:18, Philippians 2:3-4).

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that this week's lesson is on serving, and you will be needing volunteers to complete a challenge about knowing what a servant is.

Share these key concepts about being a servant.

- Jesus is the perfect example of humility. He came to serve others and offer His life as the payment for our sin (Matthew 20:28). He displayed His humility by leaving heaven and becoming a man and choosing to die on the cross (Philippians 2:5-8).
- God calls us to follow Christ's example and be a servant, willing to do whatever He asks us to do (Romans 12:1-2).

STEP 2: Ask for three volunteers to help you with the game. Hand the Bible to the kids and let them read the following verses:

- 2 Timothy 2:24-25
- Romans 12:18
- Philippians 2:3-4

STEP 3: After the verses have been read, tell the kids that their challenge will be to identify characteristics that a servant should have.

STEP 4: Arrange (or have another adult help you arrange) the characteristics from the handout on the floor (or taped to the wall). The kids will have one minute to look through the words that give different characteristics and find all the ones that could be used to describe a servant. Each servant characteristic is worth one point. If they pick one

that isn't right, it will count half a point from their score. If you have a large group, divide up the room into three parts and have each part cheer for one of your volunteers. Make sure your volunteers understand the game, and then have them start.

STEP 5: After one minute, tell them to stop, and then go over with the group which words each kid picked up, and tabulate the final score. Congratulate the winner, and remind all the kids that we can't be a servant without remembering what a servant is like.

Share these final key ideas with your kids.

- We serve others when we choose to love them as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:39), and put their needs and wants ahead of our own (Philippians 2:3-4). This often requires sacrifice (giving up something that we want) on our part, but we must always remember Christ's sacrifice for us (Ephesians 5:2).
- Following Christ's example of being a servant strengthens our relationship with God as we seek to glorify Him with our lives (1 Corinthians 10:31).

STEP 6: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Servant Characteristics Handout

Grumpy

Doesn't argue

Grouchy

Selfish

Complaining

Gentle

Irritable

Patient

Sleepy

Mean

Humble

Lazy

Teachable

Mad

Peaceful

Uncaring

Tricky

Not Selfish

Doesn't need praise

SECTION
4.6

Fellowship



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Family Titles

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Give your kids a challenge to see if they can come up with the correct names we often give to the following relationships. The answers are in parenthesis.

Names to Guess:

- Female sibling (sister)
- Male sibling (brother)
- Mom's sister (aunt)
- Dad's brother (uncle)
- Aunt's children (cousins)
- Your mom's cousin's kids (second cousins)
- Your second cousin's kid (second cousin once removed)

STEP 2: After kids have tried to figure out the relationship names, ask the following questions:

- How do you define family?
- What is the most important thing about family to you?
- What is the hardest thing about being in a family?
- What is the best thing about your family?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are adopted into God's forever family.
- God expects those in His family to love one another, share the good news, and glorify Him.
- Fellowship is our relationships with believers.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of fellowship in the family of God.

Notes:

SECTION
4.6

Fellowship



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Caricatures

What You'll Need: Paper, pencils, crayons or markers

STEP 1: Distribute paper and drawing utensils to kids. Instruct them to draw a caricature of their immediate family (those who live in their home). Explain that a caricature is a funny drawing that exaggerates noticeable differences (e.g., glasses, round nose, curly hair).

STEP 2: After three minutes, ask kids to share their caricatures. Then ask the following questions:

- Why did you highlight those qualities in your caricatures?
- If your siblings or parents were drawing this caricature, which of your features would they have highlighted?
- What is the best thing that stands out in your family?

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are adopted into God's forever family.
- Each person in God's family has noticeable differences in their looks, personalities, likes and dislikes, and opinions.
- Even though each member in God's family is unique, God expects those in His family to work together, love one another, share the good news, and glorify Him.
- Fellowship is our relationships with believers.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of fellowship in the family of God.

Notes:

SECTION 4.6

Fellowship



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Manners, Please!

What You'll Need: Bibles, two pieces of paper, marker, tape

PREP: Write an A on one piece of paper, and a B on another piece of paper. Tape papers to the wall.

STEP 1: Tell the kids that today's lesson is about fellowship.

Share these key concepts:

- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted in to God's family (Romans 8:16).
- Just as human parents want their children to get along and live happily with one another, God desires us to have good relationships with other believers — our siblings in Christ (1 John 4:7-8).
- God has given us some rules and manners that will help us get along with our brothers and sisters in Christ

STEP 2: Explain that you will be playing a game of choosing between two options. Have your whole group go to the middle of your space, and tell them that their challenge is to each choose the answer they think is most true, and to go to the paper with A or B on it.

Ask for volunteers to read each of the verses out loud. Then ask: "What does the Bible tell us to do to help have good fellowship?"

- Proverbs 19:11
 - A. Overlook offenses; be slow to anger.
 - B. Get really upset whenever anyone does something wrong.
- Romans 12:18
 - A. Give out free gummy bears.
 - B. Live at peace with others.

- Ephesians 4:32
 - A. Be kind and tenderhearted/compassionate.
 - B. Act like a chicken.
- Ephesians 4:3
 - A. Strive for unity.
 - B. Don't really care if people don't get along — you can always give them gummy bears.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- In order for our relationship with believers to grow, we must display love, gentleness, and humility toward them. As we seek to serve them, our relationship is strengthened and our fellowship is deepened (Philippians 2:3-4, Ephesians 4:2-3). We will get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ better, and we will be able to recognize when they are struggling and need comfort. And because we have grown in our love for them, we will willingly reach out to them when they need us to comfort and encourage them (Galatians 6:2).
- We need to strive for unity. We cannot allow sin or personal preferences to come between us and other believers (Ephesians 4:3).
- God is glorified and pleased when we experience fellowship with believers that is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness, and love. Fellowship with other believers is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

Notes:

SECTION 4.6

Fellowship



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Fellowship of Faith

What You'll Need: Bible, a ball of string, hole punch, Fellowship of Faith Handout, marker

PREP: Print and cut apart the handout, and punch holes in each slip of paper

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that this week's lesson is on fellowship.

Share these key concepts:

- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted in to God's family (Romans 8:16).
- Just as human parents want their children to get along and live happily with one another, God desires us to have good relationships with other believers — our siblings in Christ (1 John 4:7-8).

STEP 2: Have the kids stand in a circle (or if your group is large, get a group of volunteers together on the stage).

STEP 3: Hold your ball of string, and explain that for today's lesson the group will be coming up with words that show evidence of fellowship from Scripture.

- Have a volunteer read Acts 2:42-47. Ask: "What displays of fellowship do you see in these verses?" Write down each answer the kids give, and tie it onto the string, and have the kid holding the ball of string throw it to someone across the circle. As the answers are given, the string should make a web-type pattern. (Answers could include: love, compassion.)
- Ask a volunteer to read Hebrews 10:24-25. Ask: "What displays of fellowship do you see in these verses?" Continue to write down each answer the kids give, and tie it onto the string, and have the kid holding the ball of string throw it to someone across the circle. As the answers are given, the string should make

a web-type pattern. (Answers could include: getting to know one another; encouraging one another.)

- Ask for other examples of evidence of fellowship that kids have seen, and add these to your web of string.

STEP 4: Thank your kids for participating in the activity, and ask them to continue holding the web of string as you share some last thoughts with the group.

Share these key concepts:

- Hebrews 10:24-25 offers an example of faithful fellowship. In this example, fellowship was centered around faith in Christ and a mutual desire grow closer together and glorify God.
- In order for our relationship with believers to grow, we must display the kinds of evidence of fellowship that this web of string shows us are in Scripture.
- God is glorified and pleased when we experience fellowship with believers that is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness, and love (1 John 4:7-8). Fellowship with other believers is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

STEP 5: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Fellowship of Faith



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:



Evidence of Fellowship:

SECTION

4.7

Witnessing



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Funny Story

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to think of a funny family story. Have two or three share their stories as time permits.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why do you like to tell that story?
- Why is it special and unique to your family?
- How do you feel when others respond to your story?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Sharing a story gives us the opportunity to tell others something about us or our family.
- Others can get to know us and our family better when we share or give evidence to the things that take place in our family, such as these funny stories.
- God asks us to give evidence or to tell what He has done for us. When we give evidence to what God has done for us, others can learn about God and see the truth that they need to accept Jesus as their Savior.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of witnessing with words, actions, and lifestyle.

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Witnessing



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Evidence Given

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ahead of time, ask a leader or special guest to answer some interview questions about how Jesus Christ has impacted his or her life.

STEP 1: Introduce your guest to the group, and explain that today's lesson is about witnessing to others about what Jesus Christ has done in each of our lives.

Ask your guest the following questions:

- Could you share when you realized that you wanted Jesus Christ to be your Lord and Savior?
- How has belonging to Jesus changed your life?
- How can others see a difference in your life now?
- Why is it important to share what God did for you with others?

STEP 2: Share these concepts:

- Our guest witnessed to us about how he or she accepted Jesus as Savior. Our guest gave evidence to us of what Christ did for him or her.
- Our guest is different now that he or she is saved, and others will be able to see that difference in him or her.
- Our guest is a witness by his or her testimony (words) AND lifestyle.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of witnessing with words, actions and lifestyle.

SECTION

4.7

Witnessing



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Evidence of a Changed Life!

What You'll Need: Bibles

STEP 1: Ask three volunteers to act out a passage of Scripture as you read it. Assign the following roles to the volunteers: Peter, John, and the lame man. Read Acts 3:1-10 slowly, offering encouragement and suggestions to the kids who are acting out the passage.

STEP 2: Briefly share these key concepts from Acts 3:1-10.

- Peter and John had a changed life because of what Christ did for them. They left their former jobs and followed God's command to be witnesses of Jesus to others.
- They offered the lame man something way better than the money that He wanted. Through the power of Jesus Christ, the lame man was healed, and he immediately believed and was saved.
- The lame man had a changed life. Not only could he walk, he praised God and shared the good news with others.
- Others saw the evidence of a changed life in the lame man, and they were amazed!

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- Why do you think Paul and John were so excited to give evidence of Christ to others?
- What did the lame man do that showed he believed in Jesus?
- How do you think the lame man felt?

STEP 4: Remind kids that while they can't go out and heal a lame person, they can witness just as good as Paul and John.

Share these key concepts:

- We witness to others in our words AND our lifestyle. When our speech, actions, and

treatment of others give evidence to the Holy Spirit's ministry in our lives, others recognize the evidence of a changed life through Christ (Galatians 5:22-23, Matthew 5:16, 1 Timothy 4:12).

- As others recognize the evidence of Christ in our lives, they, too, will want to choose to follow Him. When they accept Jesus as Savior, their excitement and joy causes others to notice, and then more people see the evidence of Christ.
- When we grow in our faith and our relationship with God, we will live a life that pleases Him. We will have love, joy, peace, compassion and patience (Galatians 5:22-23). As others see the evidence of what Christ did for us, our lights shine brightly for God, and others will be drawn to Him (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of one person to whom they can be a witness this week. Give kids a moment to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit to give them courage and opportunities to be a witnesses to that person this week. Then close the lesson in prayer.

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Witnessing



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Example to Follow

What You'll Need: Bibles, Example to Follow Handout, paper, marker, masking tape, beanbag (optional: use a sandwich size plastic bag filled with something if you cannot find a beanbag)

PREP: Tape five large squares on the floor of your space, arranged in a cluster (hopscotch style). Print out the handout pages, and tape each one inside a square. Tape a line several feet away, for the kid with the beanbag to stand behind.

STEP 1: Explain that today's lesson is about witnessing, and you will be playing a game where you will need volunteers.

Share these key concepts:

- Giving evidence to what Christ has done in our lives is known as witnessing.
- We witness when we tell others what Christ has done for us through salvation (Romans 5:1, 6-10).
- We also witness to others in our lifestyle. When our speech, actions, and treatment of others give evidence to the Holy Spirit's ministry in our lives, others recognize the evidence of a changed life through Christ (Galatians 5:22-23).

STEP 2: Tell kids that Timothy is a perfect example of someone who was a witness to others.

Share these fast facts about Timothy with the kids.

- Timothy was like a son to Paul (1 Timothy 1:2).
- Timothy was taught the truth of the Bible from an early age and had a sincere faith (2 Timothy 1:5).
- Paul told Timothy to not be ashamed to tell others about Christ (2 Timothy 1:8).
- Many Bible teachers believe that Timothy was much younger than other pastors of the early churches.

STEP 3: Read 1 Timothy 4:12. Explain the areas in which Timothy was to be a witness: speech, conduct, love, faith, purity. Then have the kids line up behind the line that you taped, and take turns throwing the beanbag towards the squares. Whatever square their beanbag lands in, they need to think of one way someone could be an example that relates. For example, if they land their beanbag in the speech square, they can say that someone can be a witness by not saying mean words about other people.

STEP 4: After you have finished a few rounds, thank your volunteers.

Then share these key concepts:

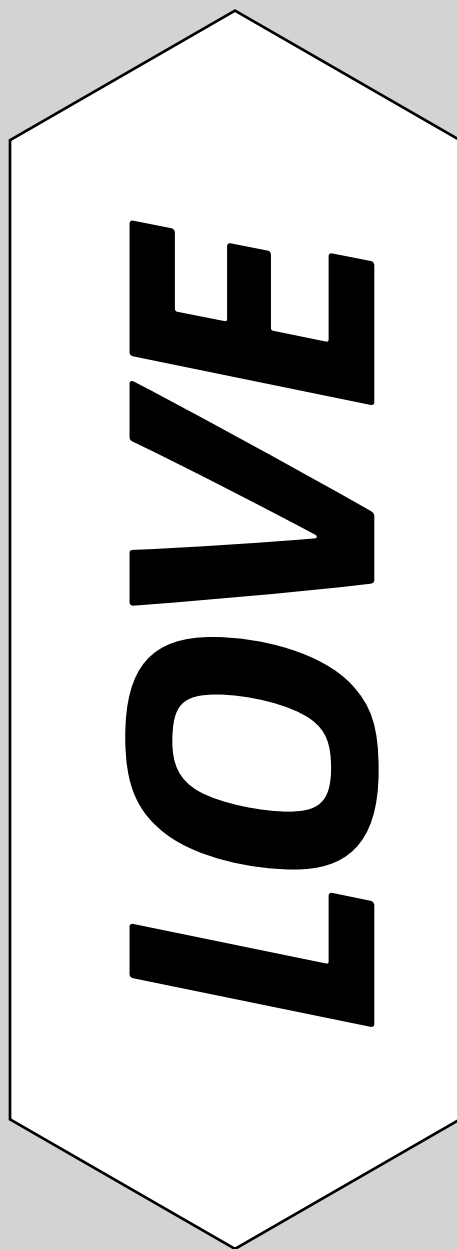
- As others recognize the evidence of Christ in our lives, they, too, will want to choose to follow Him. When they accept Jesus as Savior, their excitement and joy causes others to notice, and then more people see the evidence of Christ.
- When we grow in our faith and our relationship with God, we will live a life that pleases him. We will have love, joy, peace, compassion and patience (Galatians 5:22-23). As others see the evidence of what Christ did for us, our lights shine brightly for God, and others will be drawn to Him (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 5: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

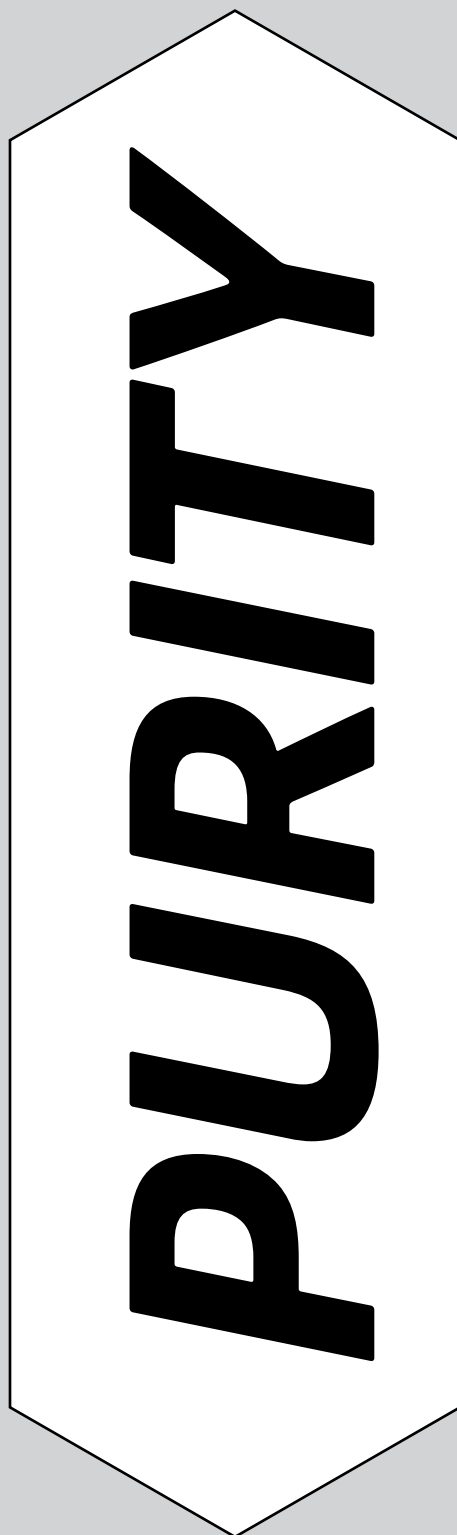
Notes:

SPEECH

CONDUCT



FAITH



SECTION

4.8

Evidence Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Training Schedule

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to raise their hands if they participate in a sport, play an instrument, or are involved in an afterschool activity. Give them an opportunity to share what they are involved in.

Ask the following questions:

- What would happen if you never practiced or trained?
- How often do you meet to practice or train?
- How does practicing or training benefit you?
- How does practicing or training benefit your coach, teacher, or instructor?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- A regular training schedule helps athletes, musicians, and scholars excel and get better in their field.
- Regular training schedules benefit both the participants and the instructors or coaches. The participants know their expectations, and the coaches or instructors set and work toward specific goals with their kids.
- In a similar way, God has developed a training program for believers, outlined in the Word of God. When we follow His plan for our training, we grow closer to Him, and He is glorified with our lives.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of training in faith, prayer, studying God's Word, worship, serving, fellowship, and witnessing.

SECTION

4.8

Evidence Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Plan to Succeed

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Write the following algebraic equation on the board.

$$x^3 + 1 \text{ and } (y^4x^2 + 2xy - y)/(x - 1) = 12$$

STEP 2: Explain to kids that this is an algebraic equation. Ask a volunteer to try to solve it while teaching the concepts used to the whole class.

After a moment or two, ask the following questions:

- What would happen if your teacher expected you to complete this problem on the first day of school, without helping you at all?
- Why would it be unwise for a teacher to teach algebra before addition or subtraction?
- Why is it important for your teacher to have lesson plans and goals for your learning?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- Just as your teachers have a plan for your educational training, God has a plan for your spiritual training that will help you grow closer to Him.
- God's plan for your spiritual training and growth is outlined in the Bible.
- When we follow God's plan for spiritual growth, we will grow closer to Him, and we will become the successful people He created us to be.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of training in faith, prayer, studying God's Word, worship, serving, fellowship, and witnessing.

SECTION

4.8

Evidence Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Summary Statements

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, seven poster boards, paper, pens, pencils, crayons or markers

PREP: Write the following words and verses on each of the boards, leaving room for kids to draw.

Faith (Hebrews 11:6)

Prayer (1 John 5:14)

Studying God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Worship (John 4:23-24)

Serving (Matthew 20:28)

Fellowship (Ephesians 4:1-3)

Witnessing (Matthew 5:16)

STEP 1: Have kids work in pairs or groups, and give each group markers, pens, pencils, or crayons. Assign each pair or group one of the topics and verses listed on the board. Encourage kids to review that topic and verse in their handbooks and to come up with a symbol or a picture that represents that aspect of training in our growth in Christ. For example, the pair with the first topic and verse may choose to demonstrate faith as a cross, the second group may demonstrate prayer as two hands. Give pairs or groups five minutes to come up with a symbol demonstrating that topic of training and then draw that symbol on their poster boards.

STEP 2: After five minutes, have pairs or groups present their symbols and read their verses in the order listed on the board.

STEP 3: After each group has shared their symbols, share the correlating key concepts listed below:

- Faith is the first step in our relationship with God. In order to be saved, we must believe that Jesus, God's Son, took the penalty for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10). Our faith grows as we learn more about who He is and what He has done. As our

faith strengthens, we will begin to demonstrate our faith to others by our actions. We will seek to please God and glorify Him with our lives (Galatians 2:20). We will become the people God created us to be.

- We communicate with God by praying anywhere and anytime (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6). We can share with God our thoughts, emotions, wants, and needs. We can also pray for others (Colossians 1:3-4). When we pray, we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need (1 John 5:14).
- The Bible contains God's very words to mankind (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only instruction manual we need to live a life pleasing to God (2 Peter 1:3). We study God's Word when we read and meditate (think about it over and over) on it. As we meditate on God's Word, our knowledge of it deepens, and we are able to confidently understand it, live it out in our lives, and then share it with others (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 96:3, James 1:22).
- Worship is anything we do to show God we love Him. Worship is the response believers display in their hearts, reactions, and thoughts to God's character and goodness (Psalm 86:9-10). We worship God when we praise Him, pray, read His Word, tell others about Him, live completely for Him, and allow God to use us to do whatever He wants with our lives (Psalm 96:2-3, Psalm 119:171-172, Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 13:6).
- Serving God means we are willing to do whatever He asks us to do. Jesus is the greatest example of a servant; He willingly obeyed God and died on the cross for our sins (Philippians 2:8). We can follow Christ's example of humility as we put the needs and interests of others before our own, recognizing their value and seeking to love and treat them as we want to be loved and treated.
- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted into God's family, and God desires us to have good relationships with our siblings

in Christ (Romans 8:16). As we get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ better, we will be able to recognize when they are struggling and need comfort. And because we have grown in our love for them, we will willingly reach out to them when they need us to comfort and encourage them, seeking unity and peace above all (Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:1-3). When fellowship with believers is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness, and love, it is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

- Witnessing is giving evidence of what Christ has done for us. We witness through our speech, actions, lifestyle, and our treatment of others (1 Timothy 4:12). When we grow in our faith and our relationship with God, we will live a life that pleases Him. We will have love, joy, peace, compassion, and patience (Galatians 5:22-23). As others see the evidence of what Christ has done for us, our lights shine brightly for God, and others will be drawn to Him (Matthew 5:16).
- Following these training steps will help believers grow in their faith, unashamedly becoming what God has created them to be (Ephesians 2:10). The training in a believer's life never ends. It is our job to continue growing in our relationship with God until He comes again or we die and live with Him in heaven.

STEP 4: Draw kids' attention to the symbols on the board. Encourage them to think of one way they need to grow and train in their relationship with God.

STEP 5: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help your kids continue in their spiritual training and to become the people God created them to be.

Notes:

SECTION 4.8

Evidence Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Training to Succeed

What You'll Need: Bibles, Training to Succeed Handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Print the handout, and make copies for all the kids in your group

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is about reviewing the things we can do to see the evidence of our faith. Pass out the handout pages so that every kid has one.

STEP 2: Explain that kids will be using their bingo board to talk about how they will continue to train in their assigned area. For example, the individual, pair, or group that is assigned faith may say that they will grow in faith by living out what I believe by my actions. They will do this by going around to each other and mingling, and getting each other to sign their initials on a square. The rules are that you can't have someone sign on more than one square, so they will be trading people quite a bit. Have leaders available to offer assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, wrap up the mingle time, and find out which kids have the most squares signed, and congratulate them.

Then share these key concepts:

- God has developed a training program for believers, outlined in the Word of God. When we follow His plan for our training, we grow closer to Him, and He is glorified with our lives. The categories of our training program are faith, prayer, studying God's Word, worship, fellowship, and witnessing.
- Faith is the first step in our relationship with God. In order to be saved, we must believe that Jesus, God's Son, took the penalty for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10). Our faith grows as we learn more about Who He is and what He has done. As our faith strengthens, we will begin to demonstrate

our faith to others by our actions. We will seek to please God and glorify Him with our lives (Galatians 2:20). We will become the people God created us to be

- We communicate with God by praying anywhere and anytime (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6). We can share with God our thoughts, emotions, wants, and needs. We can also pray for others (3 John 1:2, Colossians 1:3-4). When we pray, we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need (1 John 5:14).
- The Bible contains God's very words to mankind (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only instruction manual we need to live a life pleasing to God (2 Peter 1:3). We study God's Word when we read and meditate (think about it over and over) on it. As we meditate on God's Word, our knowledge of it deepens, and we are able to confidently understand it, live it out in our lives, and then share it with others (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 96:3, James 1:22).
- Worship is anything we do to show God we love Him. Worship is the response believers display in their hearts, reactions, and thoughts to God's character and goodness (Psalm 86:9-10). We worship God when we praise Him, pray, read His Word, tell others about Him, live completely for Him and allow God to use us to do whatever He wants with our lives (Psalm 96:2-3, Psalm 119:171-172, Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 13:6).
- Serving God means we are willing to do whatever He asks us to do. Jesus is the greatest example of a servant; He willingly obeyed God and died on the cross for our sins (Philippians 2:8). We can follow Christ's example of humility as we put the needs and interests of others before our own, recognizing their value and seeking to love and treat them as we want to be loved and treated.
- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted into God's family, and God desires us to have good relationships with our siblings

in Christ (Romans 8:16). As we get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ, we will be able to recognize when they are struggling and need comfort. And because we have grown in our love for them, we will willingly reach out to them when they need us to comfort and encourage them, seeking unity and peace above all (Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:1-3). When fellowship with believers is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness and love, it is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

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STEP 4: Remind kids that their training and growth in Christ does not end until they are in heaven with God forever. Encourage them to love God with their whole hearts and to live a life that pleases Him. When they accomplish these goals, they will live out the Awana theme verse, 2 Timothy 2:15. Encourage kids to recite it with you, and then close in prayer.

Notes:



Training to Succeed Handout

<p><i>Faith</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Prayer</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Studying God's Word</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>
<p><i>Serving</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Worship</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Serving</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>
<p><i>Fellowship</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Witnessing</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Prayer</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>