INTRODUCTION

WELCOME!



If you are reading this, you are probably preparing to teach children the Bible story series of lessons. Wonderful! God is pleased when His people want to share His Word with others. Jesus loves children and wants them to know Him as their Savior, their Good Shepherd, and perfect Friend.

If you have never taught children or taught the Bible before, you may be nervous or full of questions. Let's learn the whys and hows of teaching children the Bible.

WHY – Why Should We Teach Children the Word of God?

1. Because God greatly values children.

Children are a gift of God. (See Genesis 4:1, 33:5, Ruth 4:13, Job 1:21, Psalms 127:3-5.) Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. Matthew 18:10

2. Because Satan targets children, and they are sinners needing a Savior. Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. Matthew 18:6

... a child left to himself brings shame to his mother. Proverbs 29:15



Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me,

and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

Mark 10:13-16

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

(Other verses: Matthew 19:13-15; Luke 18:15-17)



Absolutely!

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:1-4

INTRODUCTION

HOW – Methods of Teaching this Bible Story Series to Children



WAYS YOU CAN USE THE HANDOUTS

1. Sunday take-home papers IDEA: You can teach the Bible story in Sunday school, then give the handouts to the children so you can read

the memory verses together. Tell the children to take their lessons home to read, answer the questions, memorize the verses, and bring their papers back next week. Next week, you can go over the questions if you have time, and children can correct any wrong answers. They can also tell you their memory verses or, to save time, they could tell them to a partner. You can separate children into pairs and one looks at the verse on the lesson while the other tries to tell them the verse exactly right. Then they can switch.

- 2. School weekly take-home papers
- 3. Neighborhood Bible club handouts

IDEA: You can teach a Bible story to a group gathered outside, then give each child a copy of the lesson to take home. Have the name and address of your church or ministry on the paper and invite the children to come Sunday to learn more. Tell them they can bring their whole family too!

4. Personal teaching at home

IDEA: You can use these lessons for Bible teaching, but also as a tool as children learn to read, or to practice reading out loud. Use the questions to practice comprehension and writing skills. You can also use these lessons as tools to teach your children to be teachers of the Word of God. They can take turns teaching the lesson themselves.

5. Use them as curriculum to teach from in school or a teaching class for adults.

TEACHING THE STORY

Use gestures and change your tone of voice to fit exciting or scary or sad parts. You can use different voices when people are speaking in the story, such as a young David's voice and then a big, deep Goliath yelling voice.

If you know the story well, you can act out parts or get brothers and sisters in Christ to join you and act out the whole story!

You can use items to show the children during the story, such as a stuffed lamb or shepherd's rod when talking about the Good Shepherd.

The Bible is the best book in the world, so you want to tell stories in an interesting way with enthusiasm!

MEMORIZING VERSES

Ideas to help the children memorize the verses:

- 1. One phrase at a time you say and they repeat, then do it with 2 phrases at a time, then 3, etc. until they can repeat the entire verse to you.
- 2. Use motions or music it is often much easier for children to memorize something when there are motions to go with the words, or they can sing the verse in a song.
- 3. Give rewards or points for saying the verse correctly the next week.
- 4. Fill in the blanks make a game out of memorizing. You say most of the verse, but if you stop, the children jump up to say the next word, then you continue until you stop again and they jump and say, etc.
- 5. Make it silly say the verse together while hopping on one foot, say it in a whisper then shouting, say it in a baby voice or a deep old man voice. The kids will have fun but also learn at the same time!

INTRODUCTION



KEEPING ORDER IN YOUR CLASS

Much of this will depend on your culture and what is appropriate to do when a child is causing trouble or distracting other children.

Here are some ideas, but you

can adapt them to your setting.

Teach children the rules and expectations from the very first day. Tell them exactly what is not acceptable and what will happen if they break the rules. Then, always follow what you said – do not just talk about consequences but not do them. You will lose the children's respect.

For the entire class:

Whisper – instead of yelling to get a class' attention, try whispering. It sounds strange, but it often works! Silence – you will not continue the story until they are quiet and sitting still.

Wiggle time – if you notice them getting restless, you can have them stand and you count to 10 as they wiggle wiggle wiggle as much as they can, but by #10 they have to be sitting quietly ready to listen.

If just one or two children are disruptive:

Soft rebuke – often just saying the child's name brings his attention back to you.

Silence – if you stop the story and wait, all the children will wait for the disruptive child to notice, and then he is embarrassed and will quiet down.

If a child is continually disruptive or disobedient:

Lose rewards or points.

Make them sit up front away from their friends. Have an assistant sit beside them.

Call the parent to have to come in and sit with them.

REWARD IDEAS

Ideas that do not need money:

Draw a smiley face or write "Great job!" on lessons done well or verses said correctly.

Allow the best-behaved child to do something special, like lead the line or go first in a game.

Allow the good children to come help you act out the story.

Ideas if you have money:

Stickers on verses they say correctly.

Prizes every 12 weeks for the ones who did all

Big prize at the end for the ones with the most points.

Ideas of things children could earn points for:

Memorizing verses

their verses.

Answering questions correctly
Bringing their Bible or their lesson back
Bringing a friend to class
Behaving well

CONCLUSION

If God has led you to teach children the Word of God, He will give you the courage you need to do it! Have faith and get started. It may be difficult at first, especially if you are shy or have never taught children before, but you will not be the first to feel unqualified for God's work. Moses, one of God's greatest leaders, told God he was not a good speaker and wanted God to pick someone else. Read God's response in Exodus 4:11-12.

These words are true for you also. God made your mouth. God will be with you.

He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it. 1 Thessalonians 5:24

THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD FOR US

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God's Word is perfect. It has no errors. God wrote the Bible. God is perfect. He never lies. He never makes mistakes.

REVIEW

Because this is the first lesson, you have nothing to review with the children. Instead, use this time to get to know your children. Learn their names. Ask questions like what they like to do or how many siblings they have. Show them that you care about them and are interested in them. Have your Bible in your hands or on your lap during this time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

What is a holy book? (A book from God, a special book. Some children may mention names of books that they think are holy. You will get many different answers. That is okay right now.) Have you ever heard about or read part of the Bible? Do any of you have your own Bible?

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Tell the children that during the story today they should listen to find out what the Bible is like and why it is perfect.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Have a child explain the story to you. Have 2 children respond to what you told them to listen to find out.



TALK ABOUT IT

Ask the questions from

the lesson paper. Give one lesson paper to each child. Show them the inside page where they can write the answers to the questions. Explain the Think About It section. Ask children: If someone asked you why you believe the Bible is true, what would you say? (Because God wrote it, because God never lies, etc.)

MEMORIZE

Read the 2 lesson verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Explain verse one and ask the children if they believe verse 2. Read together one more time. Tell students to memorize both verses at home for next week's class.

PRAY

Teacher - Pray short, simple prayers. You do not need to impress the children with long prayers. They need to hear you talk to God like He is your loving heavenly Father and dear Friend. When you dismiss the children, try to tell each child goodbye.

DISMISS CHILDREN

WHO IS GOD?

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is eternal, perfect, never lies, never changes. God knows all things, is everywhere, has all power.

REVIEW

Have students say the 2 memory verses from last week. For a few minutes, talk about the lesson you did last week. Talk about why the Bible is God's Word, who wrote it, and why God wrote it. Hold your Bible during this time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher- Ask students to guess some things about you, like how old you are or what your favorite food is, etc. When they finish guessing, tell them the truth. If they want to know you well, should they guess? Guessing is not the truth. To know the truth, you should find out from that person.

What do you think God is like? How old is God? Where does He live? (Do not correct them if they are wrong. Write down the things they say. They will learn the right answers in the lesson today. Keep what you wrote down to use later.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In the story today, we will learn many things about God. Listen to find out what God is like. We'll see if

at the end, you are able to say at least 5 things about what God is like.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What did you learn about God in this lesson? (different answers) Write down the things they say.



TALK ABOUT IT

Look at the things you wrote down in the beginning and the things you wrote just now. What is different about what the children said about God before and what they say now? What is the same? Talk about these things with the children. What have they learned about God that they did not know before? Let them talk about these new truths. Help them with the things they do not understand.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain that eternal life means life that will never, ever end. Have students read verses out loud once. Ask: When God says He does not change, does that mean He will always be eternal, all-powerful, etc.? (Yes!) Have students read the verses aloud again. Remind them to memorize the verses for class next week.

WHERE DID EVIL COME FROM?

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God did not create evil. God is holy. There is only one God.

REVIEW

Have students say their verses from last week. Talk about the verses and what they tell us about God. Talk about the fact that since God is perfect, the Bible is perfect too.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

What are some bad things that people do? (Kill people, steal things, lie, cheat, etc.) If God is perfect, then why do people do bad things? (Do not expect an answer for this. You want them to think about it.) We need to know why people lie and steal and cheat. We need to know why people do bad things.

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Evil did not come from God. Listen to find out where evil came from and who it came from.

TELL THE STORY

Teacher- Use a gentle voice when you talk about God. Use a harsh voice when you talk about Satan. Show their character by your voice. Be enthusiastic and use hand motions when it is a good time to do that in the story.



REVIEW THE STORY

Why did God make Satan leave heaven? (Because Satan wanted to take God's place.) What is sin? (Anything that displeases God. Anything that goes against God.) Have students tell you what some different sins are. Why can there be no sin in heaven? (God is perfect.) Ask them if evil was created by God. (No) Where did it come from? (Satan)

TALK ABOUT IT

What happens when people walk around in the dark? (They will run into something, hurt themselves, etc.) Do you remember the first thing God said in the beginning when everything was dark? (If they do not remember "Let there be light," read Genesis 1:3 out loud.) God is all light and goodness. Satan is all dark and evil. Would you rather live in the darkness or light? (light)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses twice. Explain the last verse if they do not understand. Remind them to memorize the verses for class next week.

GOD CREATED THE WORLD

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is eternal.

God created all things.

REVIEW

Have students say last week's verses. Ask the students: Who tried to take God's place? (Satan, Devil) Did God let Satan take His place? (No!) What happened? (God sent Satan away from heaven.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Tell the children to look around them and point out beautiful things they see. Bring a leaf and have children look at all the details in it. Could they make a leaf? (no) Could they make the sky and the oceans? (no) Only Someone very smart and all-powerful could make all this. Who is He? (God)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Be able to say at least 5 things that God created and how He created man.

TELL THE STORY

Teacher- When you tell a Bible story, try to do extra things to make it interesting and real to them. The more you teach, the more ideas you will have of what to do. For this lesson, you can use some of



these ideas or think of your own.

When you talk about the darkness, have the children cover their eyes. Then let the children open them for light. Point to the sky for day 2. Day 4 point to the sun. Draw a fish with a pencil on paper, or with chalk on the board, or with your finger in the dirt. Have children name some of their favorite animals for day 5.

REVIEW THE STORY

Say what God made on each day again. Let the children help you. Have the students tell you as many things that God created as they can think of.

TALK ABOUT IT

Show the leaf again. Have children try to copy the design in the dirt or on paper with lots of details. How long did it take? And just think, all God had to do was speak and there it was! Let children talk about how wonderful God is.

MEMORIZE

Read the 2 lesson verses out loud twice. Read verses together with the students out loud. Tell students to memorize both verses at home for next week's class.

GOD MAKES MAN AND WOMAN

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God created man and woman with His own hands.
God made man and woman to fellowship with Him.

REVIEW

Have the students say their verses from last week. Have students name some things that God created. Go through the days of creation and let the students help you. Talk about what God is like and how wonderful He is to be able to create everything.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Why do you think God made people? (You will get many different answers. Do not say any are wrong, just listen.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Find out why God made people. How did God make the man? Why did God make the woman? Did God like the people He made?

TELL THE STORY

Teacher- While you are talking about God making man out of the dirt, show the children by acting out the motions of reaching down and taking dirt in

your hands to make a man.



REVIEW THE STORY

Have a child who listened and behaved well be the "teacher." Let him or her stand in front of the group and tell a summary of the story again.

TALK ABOUT IT

Why did God make man and woman? (To fellowship with Him.) Did God talk to them and spend time with them? (Yes) Be sure to tell them again that there was no sin in God's perfect world. Did God make the woman with His own hands? (Yes) Make sure the children understand that God talked to both Adam and Eve. He made both with His own hands, and He spent time with both. Make sure they understand that women and men are both special to God.

MEMORIZE

Read the 2 lesson verses out loud twice. Read out loud with the children twice. Tell students to memorize both verses at home for next week's class.

GOD GIVES ADAM AND EVE A CHOICE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is holy. Sin changed everything. Everyone has sinned.

REVIEW

Have students say the 2 memory verses from last week. Ask students to tell you some of the things God created. What day did He create man and woman? How did He make man? How did He make woman? Hold your Bible during this time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Why did God create men and women? (to fellowship with Him) Did Adam and Eve fellowship with God? (Yes) What do you think it was like to live in God's garden? (wonderful, perfect, no problems, lots to eat)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, God gives Adam and Eve a choice. Listen to find out what that choice was and what Adam and Eve chose.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

If there is time, have some of the students act out the story. One can be the Serpent, one can be Adam, and one can be Eve. They can act out the scene



in the garden until they get to the part where Adam and Eve eat the fruit. Then have the children sit back down and quickly review the rest of the story.

TALK ABOUT IT

What is sin? (Anything that displeases God, goes against God, disobeys God, etc.) Let them name some different sins. (lying, cheating, being selfish, being angry, disobeying, etc.) Make sure they understand that anytime we disobey God, it is sin. Make sure they understand that every person has sinned. It does not matter how good they are; every person has sinned. Read Psalm 14:1-3 out loud to the children.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. If you can, think of motions you can do to go with the words in the verses. It is easier to memorize verses with motions or music. Have students read the verses aloud again doing the motions with you. Remind them to memorize the verses for class next week.

GOD GIVES ADAM AND EVE A PROMISE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is holy. He must judge sin. Sin brings death. God promised a Savior.

REVIEW

Have students say the 2 memory verses from last week. What did the Serpent tell Eve? (That God wasn't telling the truth, they would not die, etc.) What did Eve do? (She ate the fruit and gave some to Adam.) What did Adam do? (He ate the fruit.) What happened after they sinned? (They sewed leaves together for clothes, were afraid, hid from God, etc.) Hold your Bible during this time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Was there any way Adam and Eve could undo what they had done? (no) Could they take their sin away? (no) Could they give anything to God that would take their sin away? (no) How do you think Adam and Eve felt after they sinned? (terrible, ashamed, etc.) How do you think they felt when they had to leave the garden and could not talk with God every day like before? (very sad, etc.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

God had a plan so people could fellowship with Him again. Find out what that plan was.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let 1 child who listened well share what was God's plan so people could fellowship with Him again. Ask the students how they think Adam and Eve felt when God promised to send a



Savior for them. (glad, etc.) Make sure that the children know that the Savior was not just for Adam and Eve, but for ALL people. God would send the Savior for us all.

TALK ABOUT IT

God promised to send a Savior. Should Adam and Eve believe God? (yes) If the Savior did not come for many years, should they still believe? (yes) Should they teach their children about God's promise? (yes) What if the Savior did not come for more than 100 years? Should Adam and Eve's grandchildren and great grandchildren still believe? (yes) Why should they still believe? (Because God always keeps His promises, God never lies, etc.) Ask children if they believe God will keep His promise. Tell them you hope they will come back every week to hear more about God's plan and the Savior that God promised.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Ask: Who is the "one man" in Romans 5:12? (Adam) Have students read the verses aloud again. Remind them to memorize the verses for class next week.

CAIN AND ABEL GIVE GOD A SACRIFICE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



We cannot please God with our own way. Only God's way is the right way.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What did Adam and Eve do wrong? (disobeyed God, ate the fruit, etc.) How did everything change because they sinned? (different answers) What was the promise that God gave? (to send a Savior) Do you think God will keep His promise and send a Savior? (yes)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—Call up 2 students. Explain this before to them so they will know what to do. Give each student a piece of paper or a stick. Tell them to draw a fish on the paper or in the dirt with the stick. One student obeys. The other uses his foot to draw, and he draws a bird or something else.

Who obeyed me? (the first one) Who do you think made me happy? (the one who obeyed) Who made me sad? (the second one) Should I accept what the second one did as good enough? (no) No, he did not do what I said to do. (Let students sit down.) If God told you to do something in a special way, would you obey God and do it? (yes) Would you go against what God said and do it your

own way? (No!)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Find out who in the story did things God's way, and who did things his own way.



REVIEW THE STORY

What did Cain do to Abel? (killed him) Why do you think Cain killed Abel? (Let the children say different things they think.) What happened to Cain? (Let one or 2 children explain what happened after Cain killed Abel.)



Think about Cain and Abel. Which one did things God's way? (Abel) Which one did things his own way? (Cain) Because God is perfect and holy, can He be pleased when people go against Him and do things their own way? (no) God would have to punish those people. Why would He have to punish them? (Because they sinned, He is holy, etc.) Make sure the children understand that sin must be punished. Explain to them that God's way is always best. They should do things God's way instead of their own way.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain the second verse if the children do not understand. Remind them to memorize the verses for class next week.



A FLOOD COVERS THE WHOLE WORLD

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Have faith in God even when vou do not understand. God always keeps His promises.

REVIEW

Have students say the memory verses from last week. Let one or 2 students tell you the story of Cain and Abel. Talk about why it is good to do things God's way instead of our own way.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Do you think Adam and Eve taught their children about God's way? (yes) Should Adam and Eve's children teach their children about God's way too? (yes) Why? (To please God, God's way is best, etc.) Should all the people follow God's way? (yes)

Teacher- if there is time, play a special racing game to show how we cannot win if we do not follow instructions. Have half of the students stand in a line to race, and cover their eyes with a cloth or their hands. The other half of the students stand to the side. They can tell instructions or shout where the racers should go. Only the ones who listen and follow the instructions will cross the finish line and win.

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Find out whose way the people in the story were following. Find out who was the man who followed God.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Who was the man who followed God? (Noah) Ask children if they have ever been on a boat. What was it like? (rocky, crowded, nice, maybe scary during a storm) Ask them what they think it would be like to be on the ark with all those animals for such a long time. (smelly, maybe hot, crowded, etc.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Was God protecting Noah? (yes) How did God protect Noah? (He told him to make the ark, kept him safe, etc.) Should Noah have trusted God all 40 days and nights when it rained? (yes) Should you trust God too? (yes) Why can we trust God? (God always keeps His promises. He loves us. He never lies. He is perfect.)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Ask: What were the "things not seen" in the verse? (flood, rain, etc.) Have students read the verses aloud again. Remind them to memorize the verses for class next week.

GOD MAKES MANY LANGUAGES

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Pride is sin.
God deserves the glory.
He will not share His glory.

REVIEW

Have students say the 2 memory verses from last week. What were the people like when Noah lived? (very bad, sinful, going their own way) How did God take care of Noah? (He told him to build an ark, kept him safe, etc.) Hold your Bible during this time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher - Talk with one student before class and tell her what you would like her to do. When it is time, tell the students you will play a game: they should follow your motions. Then stand up, sit down, jump, wave, and do other things that the students will mimic. Except the one- she will stand beside you and do her own motions, or stand still and frown and do nothing. Have students sit down.

Was that fun? (yes) Do you think _____ had fun? (no) Why not? (She did not follow your motions, she was frowning, etc.) If there were prizes for this game, should she get a prize? (no)

Is God pleased when we go against Him and do things our own way? (no) Whose way is best? (God's) Where do we find out what God's way is? (Bible)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Find out what God did to the people building the tower.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What did God do to the people building the tower? (changes their languages, etc.) What does it mean to be proud? (If children do not know, explain. Pride

is when we make ourselves

first, when what we want is most important.) Is God pleased when we want all the praise for ourselves? (no)



TALK ABOUT IT

Who should be most important in our lives? (God) How do we show that God is most important in our lives? (Praising Him, reading our Bible, praying, obeying God's Word, etc.) Why do you think God changed the language? (because the people were proud and wanted all the glory)

What would you do if suddenly you could only understand one or 2 people in this whole group? (The children will probably answer that they would go be with the people they understand.) What do you think may have happened if God had not stopped the people from building the tower? (Let children discuss ideas. You can suggest that the people would have become too proud. They would have thought they were powerful and deserved glory. They would have made themselves most important instead of God.)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice together.
Remind students to memorize the verses for class next week.

ABRAM LEAVES HOME TO FOLLOW GOD

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God always keeps His promises.

REVIEW

Have students say the 2 memory verses from last week. For a few minutes, talk about the story from last week. Let one or 2 students tell you about the Tower of Babel and what happened to the people. Hold your Bible during this time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

If I asked you to come on a trip with me, would you come? (Let children raise hands if they would come. Some children may not raise their hands.) Ask the students who did raise their hands if they would come even if you did not tell them where you were going. If they would still come, ask them why. (They may give many different answers.) Tell students that today they are going to learn about a man who went on a trip even though he did not know where he was going!

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Find out what God's promise was.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let one child tell you what God's promise was. (To bless Abram, give him the land, etc.) Read Genesis 12:3 again. Tell the children that the part about all people on earth being



blessed through Abram is a very special promise. God was still working out His plan for a Savior. One day the Savior would be born and He would be a descendant of Abram. That is why God said all peoples would be blessed, because the Savior would come through Abram's family line for all people.

TALK ABOUT IT

Would it be hard to leave your family? (Let children raise their hands.) Would it be hard to leave your home or village? (Again, let them raise hands.) Why did Abram leave his home and family? (To obey God, God told him to, etc.) Did Abram do the right thing? (yes) Do you think it was hard for Abram? (yes) Did God help him? (yes) Tell children that God will help them too. Even if it is hard, they should obey God.

Would God have blessed Abram like He did if Abram had stayed in his land with his family? (no) Why not? (He did not obey.) Will God bless us as much as He wants to if we do not obey? (no)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice together.
Remind students to memorize the verses for class next week.

ABRAHAM HAS THREE VISITORS

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Nothing is too hard for God.

REVIEW

Have students say the 2 memory verses from last week. Talk about the story from last week. Let one student tell you what happened to Abram in the story. Talk about how worshipping idols is wrong and we should only worship the one true God. Talk about how God always keeps His promises. Hold your Bible during this time.

Always Begin
The Lesson
With Prayer



QUESTIONS

How many of you would believe me if I told you that today you would be able to flap your arms and fly like a bird? (The children will probably laugh.) Do you think I could teach you to fly like a bird? (No!) Why not? (Only birds can fly. People cannot fly. It's impossible, etc.) Tell students that you cannot do that because it is impossible. Tell students that today they will learn about an impossible thing that really did happen!

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Find out what God's impossible promise was. Find out who did not believe what God said and who did believe.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What was God's impossible promise? (to have a baby) Talk about how people as old as Abram and Sarah could not have babies. Why do they think Sarah

laughed? (Because she was

too old, it was impossible, etc.) How do you think she felt when she heard the Lord ask why she laughed? (shamed, embarrassed, etc.) Why do you think she lied? (Let children talk about it.)



TALK ABOUT IT

Let's talk about God for a while. What do you know about God? (Let many different children answer. God is eternal, knows everything, can do anything, etc.) If God is so wonderful and powerful, can He let Abram and Sarah have a baby? (Yes!) Is He powerful enough to do something impossible? (yes)

Now let's talk about you. If God can do anything, can He keep His promises to you? (yes) Can He help you when you ask Him to? (yes) Can He answer your prayers and forgive your sins? (yes) Why can He do all these things? (Because He is God, He is all-powerful, etc.) So never think that anything is too hard for God!

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice with motions. Remind students to memorize the verses for class next week.

SODOM AND GOMORRAH ARE DESTROYED

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Stay away from evil. God is merciful even though we do not deserve it.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Ask the students: What was the impossible thing God was going to give Abram and Sarah? (A baby) Can God do what is impossible? (Yes!) Why? (Because He is God, all-powerful, made everything, etc.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



Teacher—if there was a time in your life when God kept a promise to you, this would be a good time to tell them about it.

QUESTIONS

If I told you not to go over there because you would be bitten by a poisonous snake behind that tree, would you obey? If you did not obey me, and you went to that place, what might happen? (You would be bitten by the snake.) Pretend you did not obey and went to that place. But then I ran to the place and killed the snake before it could bite you. Would you deserve that? (no) Why not? (You didn't obey.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today we are going to hear a story from the Bible where God helps a man who does not deserve it. Listen to find out who that man is and how God helped him. Listen to find out what happened to his family.



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What happened to Lot's wife? (She turned into salt.) Why? (She looked back, did not obey.) What happened to Lot's sons-in-law? (They stayed and died.) Why? (They did not believe.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask the children to tell you if they think Lot deserved God's help. What should Lot have done? (Stayed away from the city, obeyed God, etc.) Talk about what mercy is and how God gives us mercy when we do not deserve it. Do you think Lot ever taught his sons-in-law about God? (The children will probably say no. If they say no, ask why not and let them talk about what they think.) Talk about how important it is for us to live right so others will believe us when we tell them about God.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.



GOD ASKS ABRAHAM TO GIVE UP HIS SON

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Obey God even when you do not understand.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What is mercy? (Doing good for others even when they do not deserve it.) Who had moved into the wicked city of Sodom? (Lot) How did God help Lot even though he did not deserve it? (He saved his life, took him out of the city, etc.) Talk about how God is merciful to us too.

Always Begin
The Lesson
With Prayer



QUESTIONS

I want you to think of your very favorite pet or toy. Now I want you to think of how you would feel if God asked you to give that thing to Him. How would you feel? (Children may give many different answers—no answer is wrong.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will hear a story about Abraham. God asked Abraham to give Him something very special. Find out what it was. Find out if Abraham did what God wanted and what happened next.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let 2 or 3 students tell you the story. What did God want Abraham to give Him? (Isaac, his son) Did Abraham obey God? (Yes)



TALK ABOUT IT

Do you think it was hard for Abraham to obey God? (Yes) Why? (Let children discuss their ideas.) Explain that God tests us sometimes. He wants to know if we love Him most. He wants to know if we love Him more than anything or anyone.

Talk about their tests in school. Does their teacher test them so they will fail? Why do teachers give students tests? (different answers - These are not to get a right or wrong answer, but to get them to think.)

Why do you think God tested Abraham? How do you think God might test someone in our time? (different answers)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. If you can, teach some motions to go with the verses or make the verses into songs. Verses are easier to memorize when there are motions or music to go with them. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

ISAAC NEEDS A WIFE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God answers prayer. God is watching over us.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Our story last week was about Abraham and his son Isaac. What was the test God gave to Abraham? (Let different children give answers.) Did Abraham obey God? (yes) What happened? (Let children tell you the rest of the story.) Talk about how God tests us to see if we love Him most.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

How many of you have ever prayed to God? (All the children will probably raise their hands.) Do you think God heard you? (yes) Do you think God answers our prayers? (Some may say yes, some no, some may not know. That is okay, you will teach them today that God does answer prayers.) Explain to the children that God does not usually answer our prayers by speaking to us out loud, but He uses many different ways to answer our prayers.

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will hear a story of a man who prayed

and God gave Him a

wonderful answer. Find out who was the answer to this man's prayer, and why this person was the answer

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let a few of the children act out the story of Rebekah and the servant while you tell the story. One child can be the servant, one Rebekah, one Abraham. Some children can play Rebekah's family and some could even pretend to be the camels!

While you are telling the story and they are acting it out, stop to talk about how God answered the servant's prayer. Let children tell you how God answered his prayer. After the acting is finished, have students sit down again.

TALK ABOUT IT

Talk to the children about the 3 ways God answers prayer: yes, no, or wait. Be sure they understand that God always knows best and we should trust what He says. Tell the children that God gives His answers in many ways. He tells us through His Word, through people, and sometimes through things that happen.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.





JACOB STEALS THE BLESSING

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Do not deceive. Trust God and do what is right.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Last week we learned that God answers our prayers. What are the 3 answers God may give to us? (yes, no, wait) Isaac needed a wife. When the servant prayed to God at the well, what happened? (Let one or 2 children tell about Rebekah coming to the well.) Did God answer the servant's prayer with a yes, no, or wait? (yes)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Pretend that you want something very special. You know your parents are going to give it to you someday later. But you want it now. It would be tempting to tell a lie to get that thing now. Maybe it would seem easy to steal it. Would God be pleased if you lied to get that thing? (no) Why not? (Lying is sin. It is against God.) Would God be pleased if you stole it? (no) Why not? (It is sin and is against God.) What would please God? (To wait until your parents gave it to you.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

The story today is about someone who did not wait for God to give him something special. He got it his own way. Find out what this special thing

was and how he got it. Find out if it made him happy.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What was the special thing Jacob wanted? (the birthright and blessing) How did he



get it? (Let one or 2 children describe how Jacob deceived.) Did it make him happy? (no) Did it make his family happy? (no) What happened to Jacob? (He had to leave home.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Teacher—if there was a time in your life when you were tempted to deceive to get something you wanted, you could tell the children about that time. What did you learn from the experience?

Explain that being sneaky to make someone believe something that is not true is wrong. Ask them what ways children now might be sneaky and deceive. Tell students that when they are tempted to deceive, they should ask God to help them tell the truth. Tell the children to wait for God's way instead of deceiving to get things their own way.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JACOB HAS A DREAM

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is merciful to sinful people.
God never forgets
His promises.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, Jacob deceived his father to get what he wanted. How did he deceive his father? (Let one or 2 children tell you the story.) What happened after that? (Let a different child finish the story.) Did Jacob's deceiving make anybody happy? (no) Was God pleased? (no)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Raise your hand if you have ever done anything wrong. (All hands should raise.) The Bible says that every person has done wrong. Jacob did wrong. Did he deserve to be punished for what he did? (yes) What bad thing happened because Jacob sinned? (He had to leave home.)

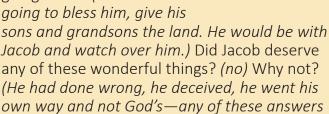
LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today we will find out what happens to Jacob. Listen to find out what God tells Jacob that He will do.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What did Jacob see in his dream? (A ladder with angels on it.) Who was at the top? (The Lord) What did the Lord tell Jacob He was going to do? (He was





TALK ABOUT IT

are fine.)

Ask the children if they remember what mercy is. (If they do not, remind them that mercy is doing good for others even though they do not deserve it.) Explain that God blessed Jacob because God keeps His promises. Jacob did not deserve it. But God had mercy on Jacob. Tell the children that God is merciful to us too. He keeps His promises to us even when we do not deserve it. He watches over us. Together, thank God for how wonderful He is. Thank Him for being merciful.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JACOB GETS A NEW FAMILY

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Sin brings bad results. God can change people.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, Jacob had a dream. What was his dream about? (Let one or 2 children explain the dream.) Before that, Jacob had done something wrong. What was it? (He deceived his father.) How did he deceive his father? (Let one or 2 children quickly tell the story.) What happened to Jacob because he did wrong? (He had to leave home.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer

QUESTIONS

If you planted rice, what kind of plants would you harvest? (rice) Not potatoes? (no) Not watermelons? (no) Why not? (You planted rice.) What if you planted watermelon seeds. Would you get rice? (No!) What would you get? (watermelons) Do you always get what you plant? (yes) Today we will learn this is true in life too.

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, Jacob finally gets to his uncle's house. But something happens to Jacob that Jacob had done to someone else. Find out what that thing was and what problems happened because of it.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Ask children how they would have felt if they had been Jacob. (sad, miserable, angry, etc.)
Ask them how they think Rachel and Leah may have felt. (They can give many different



answers.) Was anyone happy because Laban deceived Jacob? (No—some students may say that Laban was happy. It is fine if they say that.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Explain that being sneaky and deceiving is not God's way. God's way is to be truthful.

Also talk about how sometimes God punishes us by letting our sins come back on us. Jacob deceived someone, then someone deceived Jacob. If we deceive others, then maybe someday others will deceive us!

It is like the things we plant in our fields. Our actions are what we plant in our lives. If we plant good things in our lives, we will harvest blessings. If we plant wrong things and bad things, bad things will come up.

God wants us to plant good things in our lives. Plant good things in your life by obeying God and doing what is right.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JOSEPH IS SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Forgive.
God is always
watching over you.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Have one or 2 students help you review the story.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—if there was a time when you were afraid, you can tell students about it.

How many of you have ever been afraid? (Some children will raise hands.) Sometimes when people are afraid, they scream or hide or run away. Does this make them less afraid? (no)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today, we will learn what to do when we are very afraid. Listen to find out what happened that would make the person in our story afraid. Find out where this person had to go and why.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Why did Joseph's brothers hate Joseph? (Their father loved him most, he had dreams they did not like.) Would you be afraid if someone threw you in a pit? (yes) Would you be afraid if you had to go far away and be a slave? (yes)

TALK ABOUT IT

If Joseph had screamed, would it get him out of the pit? (no) If he ran around, do you think it would make him less afraid? (no) There was nothing Joseph could do to get out of the pit. But there was



something he could do to make himself not afraid anymore. He could trust God. Do you think God could see Joseph in that pit? (yes) Why? (God can see everything.) Do you think God could take care of Joseph even far away? (yes) Why? (God is everywhere.) Even though what happened to Joseph was very frightening, he did not have to be afraid.

When we are afraid, we can trust God too. Screaming will not help. Running around will not help. But we can pray. We can remember God is always with us. We can ask Him to help us not be afraid.

Teacher - If there is time, talk to the students about things they are afraid of. You can ask them to tell you what things make them afraid. When they tell you, ask them if they think God can help them not be afraid anymore. Talk to them about how God watches over them all the time. When you pray to dismiss the children, thank God for always watching over them.

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JOSEPH IS PUT IN PRISON

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is in control.

Do not be anxious.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. A very frightening thing happened to Joseph in our story last week. What was it? (Joseph's brothers threw him into a hole and then sold him as a slave to Egypt.) What was the one thing Joseph could do to make him less afraid? (Trust in God.) Why should Joseph trust in God? (Because God was watching over him.) Why should we trust in God? (Because God is always watching over us.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

How many of you have ever been in prison? (The children will probably giggle —this question does not need an answer of course.) What do you think it is like in a prison? (dark, maybe cold, maybe wet, bugs, maybe rats, very dirty, bad food, etc.) Would you want to go to a prison? (no) How would you feel if you were in prison? (afraid, sad, miserable, lonely, etc.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, Joseph is put in prison! He did not do anything wrong. Find out why Joseph had to go to prison and how he got out of prison.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let one child tell you why Joseph had to go to prison. Let a different student tell you how Joseph got out of prison. Let another student finish the story.



TALK ABOUT IT

What happened to Joseph was a terrible thing. Joseph was probably afraid. He may have been worried. But there was Someone watching over Joseph even when he was in prison. Who was watching over him? (God) Could God see him in prison? (yes) How do you know? (God sees everything.) Talk to children about how we can trust God even in the bad times. Remind them that God is always watching over them, no matter where they are or what they are doing. Remind them that when they are afraid they can trust God. When they are worried, they can pray to God and ask Him to help them. Even in bad times, God is still watching over them and He still loves them.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain that the word "anxiety" and "anxious" mean worrying. God does not want us to worry.
Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JOSEPH'S BROTHERS COME TO EGPYT

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Forgive.
God works out bad things for good.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What was the terrible thing that happened to Joseph in our story last week? (He was put in prison.) Why? (Potipher's wife lied about him.) Who was watching over him in prison? (God) How did he get out of prison? (Let one or 2 children quickly finish the story.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Who were the bad people who threw Joseph into a hole and sold him as a slave? (his brothers) Were his brothers nice people? (no) What if you were Joseph, and you saw those brothers again. Would you want to forgive them? (No!) Why not? (Let children discuss why they would not want to forgive the brothers.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today, Joseph sees his brothers again! Listen to find out if Joseph forgives his brothers or not. Find out what happens to Joseph's family.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let one student be the "teacher" and quickly tell the story in his or her own words.

TALK ABOUT IT

Do you think Joseph's brothers were sorry for

what they did to Joseph? (yes) How can you tell from the story that they were sorry? (They said God was punishing them for what they did.) Talk to the students about how God wants us to forgive other people who do wrong to us. What Joseph's brothers did was very wrong. But Joseph knew that God was watching over him all the time. He knew that God had worked out the bad for good. Tell the children that even when someone does something bad to us, God can work out the bad for good, just like He did for Joseph. He wants us to forgive people when they do wrong to us. He wants us to forgive others the same way He forgives us when we do wrong. When we forgive others, we are showing God that we trust Him and know He can work out the bad things for good. When we forgive others, we are doing what God wants.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.





BABY MOSES IS PUT IN A RIVER

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Everything God does is perfect. Obey God's laws over man's laws.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—bring a toy baby to class. Hold the baby. Let the children touch him.

Talk about what it would be like if the baby were a real baby. What sounds would he make? What would he need? Ask the students if they have any baby brothers or sisters. Let them tell the class what sounds babies make and how they help take care of them.

Then, when the children are sitting down, hold the baby close to you and look afraid. Act out that this is your baby and someone wants to kill him. What can you do? Someone help! How can you hide him? Ask children to think of how you could hide the baby so he would be safe. What if he cries? What if he gets hungry? (The children may think of good ideas; they may think of none.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, this really did happen. Find out how they hid the baby and if it worked or not. And find out what important job the big sister had.

TELL THE STORY

Teacher- This is a very exciting story. Let your face show what the people were thinking and feeling. Use many gestures. Use a basket in the story. Put the toy baby in the basket and pretend to float it down the river. Do what you can to make the story real to them.

REVIEW THE STORY

Act out the story with the toy baby as Moses. Have students play

the mother, Miriam, Pharaoh's daughter, some servants, and some children can be the tall grass of the Nile River!



TALK ABOUT IT

Talk about how Moses' mother trusted God to take care of her baby. She decided to obey God's laws instead of the Egyptian laws. The Egyptian law said the baby should die. But God does not want people to murder other people. Moses' mother knew it was more important to obey God than man. She did what was right and trusted God to take care of her.

Also talk about how God had a special plan for Moses. And He has a special plan for them too!

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Talk about how these verses would help someone like Moses' mother. Talk about how the children can remember these verses when something scary happens to them. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. If you can, teach some motions to go with the verses. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

MOSES SEES A BURNING BUSH

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God does not choose perfect people to be heroes. God has a plan for your life. He will help you do what He has planned for you.

REVIEW

Why were Moses' parents hiding him? (The Egyptian king made a law that all the baby boys would be killed.) Was this a good law? (no) What did Moses' mom do when they could not hide Moses anymore? (She put him in a basket in the river.) Who came to the river? (the king's daughter or Pharaoh's daughter) What happened when she saw the baby? (She decided to keep him as her son.) Miriam had been watching. What did she do then? (She said she could get a woman to take care of the baby.) Who got to take care of baby Moses? (his mother) How can we see that God was watching over this little baby? (Kept him safe, let him go back to his mother, etc.) Do you think God has a special plan for this baby? (yes) You are right! We will hear more about him in our story today.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—hold up a stick

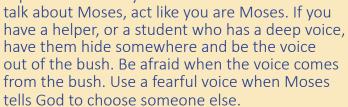
What would happen if this stick was on fire? (It would burn up.) How could I stop the stick from burning up? (Pour water on it, etc. to make the fire go out.) Could I make this stick burn all day without burning up? (no) If I wanted to get your attention, and I held up a stick on fire, would you notice? (ves)

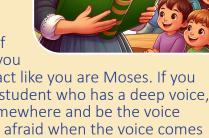
LISTEN TO FIND OUT

God used a bush on fire to get Moses' attention. Find out what God told Moses when he stopped to see it.

TELL THE STORY

Teacher- Use lots of expression. When you





REVIEW THE STORY

Quickly review the story, letting a different student hide behind the "bush" and be the voice. Ask questions to let the children help you tell the story.

TALK ABOUT IT

Tell the students that God always knows what is going to happen and He does everything perfectly. God had promised long ago that the Israelites would be slaves in Egypt for 400 years. When Moses had to run away, 360 years had passed. God let Moses live in the desert for 40 years. Then, when it had been 400 years, God sent Moses back. God was still working His special plan for Moses. God let this happen in just the right time. And He taught Moses many things about living in the desert that he would need to know later. Come back to learn more about that.

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

PHARAOH WILL NOT LET THE PEOPLE GO

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is all-powerful. He is to be obeyed. Pride is sin.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What was the strange thing Moses saw one day in the desert? (a burning bush that did not burn up) When he stopped to look, who spoke to him? (God) Where did God tell Moses to go? (back to Egypt) Why? (to deliver God's people from slavery, or to take the Israelites away from Egypt) How many years had Moses been in the desert? (40)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—choose 2 students before the lesson and tell them what to do. Have these 2 students come to the front at this time. Give one student a piece of paper or a small object. Tell the student to give the paper to the other student. He gives the paper. Then tell the second student to give the paper back to you. Second student says no. Tell the student if he does not give the paper, you are going to punish him. He still says no. Tell the student if he does not give the paper, he cannot eat dinner that night. He still says no. Tell the student if he does not give the paper, he cannot eat for 2 days. He still will not give the paper.

What do you think he should do? (Give the paper.) The paper does not belong to him. It belongs to me, the teacher. He should obey the teacher. Why do you think he will not give the paper? (different answers) Would you give the paper if I told you to? (Most will probably say yes.) Why? (Because you are the teacher, we should obey you, etc.) Do you think he is smart to not obey? (no)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, God told someone to do something. This person said no. Even after God did many things to show the man His great power, he still said no. Find out why the man kept disobeying God.



TELL THE STORY

Teacher - If it is possible, fill a cup with red-colored water or juice. When you talk about God turning the water into blood, pour some of the water out of the cup into a clear glass. Look at it like it is blood—do not drink it!

REVIEW THE STORY

Let different students help you tell the story again quickly. When you talk about the different plagues, let the students say what it would be like if that happened to them today. How would life be different if all the water was blood? Talk about all the other things people do each day with water that they could not do now. (wash clothes, cook, drink, take baths, etc.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Talk about the Pharaoh. Let children give different ideas why he kept disobeying God. Talk about pride and why pride is sin. Which would you rather be, an Egyptian or an Israelite? (an Israelite) If you want to be blessed by God, should you obey him like Moses or disobey Him like Pharaoh? (obey him like Moses) God is not finished. Come back next week to see what it will take for Pharaoh to let God's people go.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

GOD SHOWS HIS GREAT POWER

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is greater and more powerful than all other gods. He is the only true God.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who did God send to tell Pharaoh to let His people go? (Moses) Did Pharaoh let the people go? (no) Why not? (He was proud, he did not believe in the one true God, etc.) What did God do to show Pharaoh His great power? (Let different students talk about some of the plagues God sent.) Would you have wanted to be in Egypt during this time? (No!) Do you think the Pharaoh will let God's people go yet? (yes or no)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Imagine you are going to play your favorite sport. There are 2 teams you can be part of. You get to choose which team you want to be on. You watch the first team. They hit the ball, but it does not go far. They run, but not very fast. Sometimes they even run the wrong way!

Then you watch the second team. They hit the ball, and it goes and goes! They run fast. They are much faster than the first team. They play perfectly. They have never lost a game.

Which team do you want to be on? (the second) Why? (They are the best!)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

The Egyptians believed in many false gods. The one true God wants to show that He is the most powerful God. Listen to find out who wins.



TELL THE STORY

As you tell the story, explain that Egypt had gods for all these things that God's plagues won over.

REVIEW THE STORY

Talk about the different gods the Egyptians worshipped. Did these gods keep the terrible things from happening? (no) Was God able to stop the plagues when He wanted to? (yes) Who is more powerful? (God) Do you think the Israelites were starting to understand that God was the one true God? (yes) He is more powerful than any other god. He is greater than anything people worship. Read Isaiah 45:22 out loud.

TALK ABOUT IT

What do you think the Egyptians learned about God during this time? (That He is all-powerful, that He is greater than their gods, etc.) God proved to the Egyptians and the Israelites that He has all power and He is the greatest. What can we learn about God from this story? (That God is greater than any gods, that He is more powerful, etc.)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home.

THE VERY FIRST PASSOVER

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



A picture of our salvation through the blood of God's Perfect Lamb. God's Perfect Lamb, the Messiah, would die to save us from sin just as the lamb died to save the firstborn from death.

REVIEW

Some terrible things happened to the Egyptians. What are some of the terrible things God did to the Egyptians? (river turned to blood, frogs, lice, etc.) Did Pharaoh let the people go? (no) Why do you think God did these things to the Egyptians? (to prove He is the one true God, He is most powerful, etc.) God has one last thing to do. We will find out what that last thing is in our story today.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—pass out papers and pencils or crayons. Tell one group of students to draw pictures of sheep following a shepherd. Tell the other group to draw pictures of the children following their teacher. Hold up one picture of sheep and one picture of people.

What are some of the differences in these 2 pictures? (sheep and children, a shepherd and teacher, etc.) Is there anything that is the same? (The sheep and the children are following.) Good. If I tell you, "You should be like these sheep. You should follow your teacher's instructions," does that mean I want you to eat grass like sheep? (Children will probably laugh.) What do you think I would mean when I say you should be like sheep? (We should follow our teacher's instructions like sheep follow a shepherd.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

There are many pictures in the Bible. God tells us about one thing to teach us about something else. Listen to find out what the picture is in today's story. What does it teach us?



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Read the application part of the lesson out loud. Explain that the Messiah was the Perfect Lamb that God would send. The little lamb never did anything wrong, but it died so the oldest child would not have to die. The Messiah never did anything wrong, but He would die to save us. The Bible says that sin makes us spiritually dead. The Lamb of God would die in our place so we would not have to stay dead spiritually and be separated from God forever.

TALK ABOUT IT

What was the picture in the story? (lamb and God's Perfect Lamb the Messiah) Remind them that it did not matter how good or bad the Israelites were; all that mattered was if they had the blood on the doors. It is the same in our lives. It does not matter if we have done many good things, or if we have done many bad things. The only way we can be saved is if we have accepted the blood of God's Perfect Messiah to save us from the punishment for our sins.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain what the verses mean. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week.

THE ISRAELITES CROSS THE RED SEA

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



No one can stop God's plan. God can fix even the worst problems. He is not afraid of any problem.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Review the past 3 lessons. Ask the students how many of the plagues they can remember. Talk about how God showed all the Egyptians and the Israelites that He is the one true God, the most powerful. Talk about how the Israelites must feel now that they are free.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—tell this short story with much drama and suspense.

One day a young girl was walking through the jungle. She was all alone. She noticed that she had walked too far from home. She began to be afraid. Just as she turned around, she saw a tiger staring at her. She shook with fear. If she stayed still, he could attack her. But if she tried to run, the tiger would catch her.

What could she do? She could do nothing. She started to cry. Then, just as the tiger was about to attack, she heard a loud shot and the tiger fell down. A hunter had been watching and shot the tiger to save her. She was so happy then. But she had been very afraid before.

How do you feel when something very scary happens and you cannot run away from it? (Let different children answer.) Has anything very scary ever happened to you? (Let one or 2 children talk about scary things that have happened to them.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

The Israelites had a very scary thing happen to them. They could not run away from it. They all thought they were going to die! They were very afraid. Listen to find out what the scary thing was, and what God did to save the Israelites.



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What was the scary thing that happened to the Israelites? (Let one or 2 children talk about how the Egyptian army came after them and they were trapped at the sea.) Was there any way they could save themselves? (no) What amazing thing did God do to save His people? (Made a path in the sea.) What happened to the Egyptian army? (They followed and drowned in the sea.)

TALK ABOUT IT

How would you have felt if you had been an Israelite and the army was chasing you? (afraid, etc.) How would you have felt when God made the sea go back and made a path for you? (happy, excited, amazed, etc.) Sometimes in your life things happen and there is nothing you can do. In those times, you can pray and ask God to help you. God is all-powerful. Read Deuteronomy 3:24 out loud. There is nothing too hard for Him. He made a dry path through the sea. He can take of you too.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

GOD TAKES CARE OF HIS PEOPLE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God has done many wonderful things for you. Think of things to be thankful for instead of complaining.

REVIEW

What was the scary thing that happened to the Israelites in our story last week? (The Egyptian army was chasing them, and they were trapped at the sea.) Did God leave them there with no help? (no) What did God do for them? (He made a path in the sea.) What kinds of things do you think they may have said about God after that day? (He is all-powerful, He can do what is impossible, etc.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—choose one student before the lesson. Explain to him before what he should do. When it is time, let the student come to the front. Give him or her a bag with something in it. Say, "Take good care of this." Student throws it on the ground. Pick it up. Give it to the student. Say, "I said to take care of this." Student throws it on the ground and walks away.

Did he take care of the thing I gave him? (no) Was he thankful for what I gave him? (no) Should I keep giving good things to him? (no) Why not? (He does not take care of them, he is not thankful for what you gave him.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

God takes care of His children. But sometimes they are

not thankful. In our story today Listen to find out the special thing God did for the Israelites and how they acted about what God gave.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What were the Israelites

complaining about? (no food, they were tired and hot) What was the special thing God did for the Israelites? (He made it rain bread.) What was it called? (manna) They were to take enough for how many days? (1) What happened if they kept some until the next day? (It stank and had bugs in it.) But then, on the 6th day, God said to keep enough for 2 days. Did the food have bugs in it then? (no)



Talk about how even after all the good things God had done, they were still complaining. Each day the Israelites went outside to get the manna. Did God ever forget? (no) Every day they could see that God remembered them and was still taking care of them. Read Philippians 4:19 out loud. What are ways God shows them He remembers them and is taking care of them? (giving them food to eat and a house to live in, etc.)

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Talk about what it means to give thanks in all circumstances. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week.

GOD GIVES TEN COMMANDMENTS

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



No one can be perfect. We cannot save ourselves by trying to do good. We all need God's grace.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. The Israelites had many things they could thank God for. What wonderful things had God done for them? (He delivered them from Egypt, He made a path in the sea, He gave them bread, etc.) They were to get enough bread for how many days? (1) What happened if they took more and kept it for 2 days? (It stank and had bugs in it.) When did God send the bread? (in the morning) Did He ever forget to send it? (No) He never forgot about the Israelites, and He never forgets about you, either!

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—find a large space either outside or in a big room. Have students line up side by side. Go to the other side of the room or space. Be very far away, at least 25 steps. Put something near you to mark the place. Now, tell students to try to jump past the mark in just one jump. Of course, no one will be able to do it. No one will even come close to jumping that far. Have students sit down.

How many people jumped across the mark? (none) Why not? (It was too far.) Did you try hard? (Yes) Was it impossible? (Yes) Why was it impossible? (It is too far for anyone to jump.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, God gives laws to His people. Find out what these laws showed the people about

themselves and how they needed God.

TELL THE STORY

Read the Commandments out loud from Exodus 20:1-17. This will remind the children that these laws are from God, not from man. This



is a long passage. You may want to only read the Commandments and not read the explanation parts.

REVIEW THE STORY

What was the name of the mountain Moses went up? (Sinai) How many commands did God give? (10) What were some of the commands God gave for the people to obey? (Let different children say one law each.) Would it be hard to keep ALL of these laws all your whole life? (yes) Would it be impossible, like trying to jump across the space was? (yes)

TALK ABOUT IT

Read the *Think About It* section from the lesson out loud, or just tell students about how they cannot be good enough, and how they need God's grace. Also discuss the 10 Commandments and how God's wants us to obey them. The first 4 are about our relationship to God. The last 6 are about our relationships with other people. Remind the students to ask God to help them keep His commands.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

THE PEOPLE WORSHIP A GOLDEN CALF

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Never turn from God to idols. Never put anything in God's place.

REVIEW

In our story last week, God gave commands for the people to obey. What were some of these commands? (Let different children say one each.) Did the law show the people that they are perfect or that they are not perfect? (not perfect) What is grace? (Helping someone when they do not deserve it.) Who gives grace? (God) The Israelites needed grace. Do we need God's grace too? (Yes)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—choose one student before the lesson and tell her what she should do. When it is time, have the student come to the front. Give the student something. The student looks at a chair and says "Thank you" to the chair. You stop her. "No, the chair did not give that thing to you!" The student looks at another child and says "Thank you." You tell her that the child did not give the thing to him. The student tells a book or some other object "Thank you." Then she tells the thing you gave her "Thank you." Have the student sit down.

What strange thing happened? (She thanked other things instead of the teacher.) Who gave the thing to her? (the teacher) Did the chair give her anything? (Children will probably laugh.) Did the book give her anything? (no) Then why did she say "Thank you" to these things? (There will probably be no answer—that is fine.) Do you think it was silly to say thank you to these things? (yes)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

God's people start being thankful to something they made instead of to God! Find out what that thing is, and how God feels about this.



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Aaron told the people to give him what? (their gold jewelry) What did he make with the jewelry? (a golden calf, or an idol) When Moses saw them worshipping, what did he do? (Threw the stones down and broke them, then he made the idol into powder and made the people drink it.) What did God give Moses? (2 more stones with the 10 Commandments on them)

TALK ABOUT IT

Talk about how God had done all those miracles in Egypt to show the Egyptians and the Israelites that He is the one true God. He is greater than all the false gods the people worshipped. But now, after God had done such wonderful things for the Israelites, they started to worship a golden cow! They started to thank something they made instead of the true God who saved them. They had already broken the first and second commands God gave. How do you think this made God feel? (sad, angry, etc.) How do you think it makes God feel when people still worship idols instead of Him? (sad, angry, etc.) Talk about how idol worship is thanking something God made instead of thanking the one true God. God is the one Who gives us life and helps us. He is the only one we should worship. Everything else is just like that student thanking the chair instead of the person who gave him something.

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

GOD TELLS MOSES TO MAKE A TABERNACLE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Another picture of the coming Messiah.
He is the perfect sacrifice for us.

REVIEW

Let one or 2 children help you review last week's story.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—if you have something in your house that means something special to you, bring it to the lesson. Show it to the students and tell them why it is special to you. It reminds you of something or someone special. Ask them if they have things in their house that remind them of something or someone special.

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today, we will learn about a building God told Moses to make that was full of special things. Listen to find out what these things were supposed to remind people of.

Teacher - If the students are already familiar with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, you can talk about how the Tabernacle pieces and Old Testament promises were fulfilled in Jesus. If they do not know about Jesus, you can keep this lesson with them looking forward, like the Israelites, to when the Messiah comes. Pray for their salvation when they understand.

TELL THE STORY

As you tell the story, talk about some of the different pictures. The fence around the Tabernacle had only one gate. There is only one way to God, through the Savior, the Messiah. The altar was where sacrifices were made so people could be forgiven from their sins.

The Lamb of God would be God's perfect sacrifice. Through Him we can be saved from eternal punishment for our sins. After that was the wash bowl, where the priests washed their hands before going into the Holy Place. Even after a person is saved for eternity, if they sin, they can confess their sin and be forgiven



right then, like washing their hands clean.

Inside the Holy Place are 3 things: the table with bread on it, the candlestick, and the altar of incense. We are to eat spiritual bread every day—reading God's Word and studying it. The candlestick reminds us of God's Holy Spirit, who gives us light and guides our path. Incense is like prayer. God says our prayers come up to Him like sweet smelling incense. Last of all is the Holy of Holies. Only the High Priest could go in there. But the Messiah would be the perfect High Priest, who would make the way for anyone to come to God freely.

REVIEW THE STORY

Draw pictures of the different pieces of furniture in the tabernacle. Talk about what each is and means.

TALK ABOUT IT

Draw the cross shape around the pieces of furniture in the Tabernacle. Talk about how God's system in the Old Testament was always preparing for the time when He would send the Messiah into the world. The Israelites looked ahead to God's promise. God knew that when He sent the Messiah, the Old Testament plan would be complete and the New Testament would begin. Testament means covenant. The Old Testament was the covenant – the promise – that the Messiah would come. The New Testament is the covenant that the Messiah made that offers us salvation.

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

TWELVE MEN SPY ON THE LAND

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Not believing God will do what He says is sin. Have faith in God. Faith pleases God.

REVIEW

Show the pictures you drew last week of the Tabernacle. Ask questions about each piece.

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—choose one student before the lesson and tell him what to do. When it is time, have all the students make 2 lines and face each other. Have the one student come to the front. Then walk through the 2 lines of students by yourself. Go back and tell the student to walk through the 2 lines. He says no, he is afraid. Tell him it is perfectly safe. He thinks he will get hurt. Tell him that you will walk with him. He still will not go. Ask if there is another student who will walk through the 2 lines with you. Choose one other student and walk together through the 2 lines. Have students sit down.

What just happened? (Let different students tell what has happened.) Why do you think he was afraid? (different answers) Did he have any reason to be afraid? (no) Should he have trusted me and obeyed what I said? (yes)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, God told the Israelites to go to a certain place. What happened to the ones too afraid to obey?

TELL THE STORY

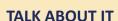
Teacher - When you tell about no one being able to enter the promised land except the 2 spies who believed, add that God was talking about the adults.

God said all the children would be able to go in. They were not punished because their parents disobeyed.

REVIEW THE STORY

How many spies went to look at the land? (12) Was the land good or bad? (good) Why did 10 men say they should not go? (The people were giants.)

(The people were giants.)
Did the Israelites trust God, or did they become afraid? (They were afraid.) How many spies said the Israelites should go into the land? (2) Why were they not afraid? (They knew God would take care of them.) Did the Israelites believe the 10 spies or the 2 spies? (the 10 spies) What was their punishment because they did not believe? (They had to walk in the desert for 40 years.) Who was going to get to go into the land? (The 2 spies that believed God's promise, and the children.)



Talk about how God had promised to give the Israelites this land. They did not even need to send spies. God had already told them He would give the land to them! But they did not trust God and did not believe that God would do what He said He would do. They have not believed so many times. God punished them for not believing. They did not get to enjoy the wonderful land God had given them. They had to walk in the desert. The only ones who would get to enjoy God's promise were the 2 who believed what God said. Read Hebrews 3:12 out loud. God has given us many promises in His Word. But we need to believe those promises. He tells us He will give us peace when we are afraid. But if we do not believe that, we will still be afraid. If we are afraid to obey, we often miss wonderful things God has for us.

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

THE DAY A DONKEY TALKED

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



No one can stop God's plan. Ask God to help you make decisions.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. How many spies went to look at the land? (12) Who had promised to give them this land? (God) How many spies were afraid and said they should not go in? (10) How many spies said they should because God would take care of them? (2) Did the people believe what God said, or what the 10 spies said? (the 10 spies) What happened to them because they did not believe? (They had to walk in the desert for 40 years.) Who would get to go into the land? (The 2 spies who believed God's promise, and the children.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

How many of you have animals at your home? (Let children raise hands.) What kind? (Let different children tell you about their animals.) How many of you have ever had an animal say "Good Morning" to you? (children will probably laugh) Have any of you ever heard an animal talk like a human person? (no) Some birds can be taught to say a few words, but can animals have a conversation with you? (no) Why not? (animals cannot talk)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Once, an animal really did talk to a man! Listen to find out what the animal said, and if the man

listened to the animal's advice.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Let the students act out the story while you tell it again.



TALK ABOUT IT

Tell the students that Balak had told Balaam that he would give him a big reward if he cursed Israel. Do you think Balaam should have gone with the men, or told them no? (told them no) Why? (different answers) Did God let Balaam curse His people? (no) What did Balaam do instead? (He blessed them.)

Talk about how important it is to ask God to help us make decisions. When we try to do things our own way for our own reasons, we often get in much trouble! Like Balaam, God's enemies want us to go with them and do wrong. We need God's help each day to know what we should do. No matter what we may think is the right thing, we need to do what God says is right. We can learn what God wants by reading His Word and studying it. Then we will know how God wants us to live. We can pray and ask Him to help us be wise and make wise decisions. God wants to help us go His way, because His way is the best.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.



THE GREAT WALLS OF JERICHO COME DOWN

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Obey even if people make fun of you. Care more about what God wants then what other people think or say.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What amazing thing happened in our story last week? (A donkey talked!) Why? (Let one or 2 children tell the story.) Who should we ask to help us make decisions? (God) How can we learn what God wants? (by reading the Bible)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

How many of you have ever been teased in a mean way by other people? (Let students raise their hands.) How does it feel when people laugh at you or call you names? (Let different children answer.) What are some things people laugh at other people about? (The way they look, how poor they are, what they wear, what they can or cannot do, etc.) Do you think God wants us to act like that? (no)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

God told the Israelites to do something that did not seem to make any sense. Listen to find out if that stopped the Israelites from obeying what God told them to do.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Who was the leader of the army? (Joshua) What

was the strange thing God told the army to do? (Let one or 2 children tell about marching around the city.) Did the army know why God wanted them to do this? (no) What happened to the walls? (They fell down flat.) Who won



the victory? (the Israelites) Who helped them win? (God) Do you think they could have won the battle without God's help? (no)

TALK ABOUT IT

Read Matthew 7:12 out loud. We are supposed to be kind to others and love them as God loves us. We should not tease people meanly or call them names. Even if other people tease us, we should still be kind.

Sometimes people may tease you meanly because you are a Christian. Maybe they laugh at you because you believe in the one true God and Jesus His Son. Maybe they call you names because you obey the Bible. If they do this, you are not the first one to have this happen. Talk about how we should obey what God says no matter what anyone says or thinks. People may laugh or tease, but still obey what God wants. Forgive them instead of getting angry. God will help you. God always wins the victory in the end.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

ACHAN SINS AGAINST GOD

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God sees all things. You cannot hide your sin from God. Do not covet.

REVIEW

Last week we talked about the huge, strong walls around the city of Jericho. What was the strange thing God told the Israelites to do? (March around the city,) Did they obey? (yes) What happened the last day they marched? (Let one or 2 children tell the rest of the story.) Could they have won without God's help? (no)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher - Tell the students that you are going to hide from them. Put a piece of paper in front of your face. The students will probably laugh. Then go squat behind a student, but they can still see you. Try to hide by covering your face with your hands.

Did I hide well? (no) How did you know where I was hiding? (They could see you.) Oh, so I need to hide somewhere that you cannot see? (yes)

I may be able to find a place to hide where you will not see me, but no matter how well I hide, God can still see me. He can see all things! No one can never hide well enough to hide from God. He sees everything, everywhere!

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, someone tries to hide a bad thing from God. Listen to find out what the man tried to hide, and what happened to him.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

God said that no one should take things from Jericho. Why? (They belonged to the Lord.) Who took some things? (Achan) Who saw what Achan did? (God) Did they win or lose the next



battle? (They lost.) Why? (Because Achan sinned.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Our sin affects other people. Achan may have thought no one saw and it would not matter. But it did matter. Thirty-six soldiers died in the battle. Then Achan's whole family died because of his sin. Our sin affects other people too. If you steal something, your family may have to pay for it. If you lie about someone, the person you lied about may be hurt by what you said. If you have done something wrong, confess it right away and ask God to forgive you. Then try to make it right as much as you can. If you stole, give the thing back. If you lied, tell the truth about what you lied about. Achan should have come to Joshua right away and told him what he had done. He should have given up the things he stole from God. But he did not. He waited until God told Joshua who it was, and then he was judged. Do not be like Achan and try to hide sin from God. Do what is right, and if you do sin, ask forgiveness right away and make it right.

Teacher- If there is time, practice asking for forgiveness and giving forgiveness. Have the forgiver say "I forgive you" instead of "No problem" or "It's okay."

MEMORIZE

Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

GOD'S PERFECT LAMB

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God gave a law system. God promised a Savior, a perfect Lamb.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Review Joseph's life by asking questions. What was the special gift Jacob gave to Joseph? What did Joseph's brothers do to him? Why was Joseph put in prison? How did God work things out for good? Did Joseph forgive his brothers?

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

What are some bad things that God does not want us to do? (lie, steal, kill, cheat, etc.) What is it called when we do these things? (sin) Does sin ever please God? (no) Did you ever think of how we know these things do not please God? (This question does not need an answer.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will learn how we got God's laws. Listen to find out what God chose as the payment for when we sin and break those laws. Find out what God's perfect plan is to pay for sin.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

God made a law system. But no one can be perfect before God. What did God chose as the payment for sin? (a lamb sacrifice) Could a lamb really take away their sins? (No) Who did God promise to send? (a Savior)



TALK ABOUT IT

If every person sins, can any person be perfect before God? (no) Can you be perfect? (no) Why not? (every person sins) Explain to the children that since we are not perfect, that means that we need payment for our sins too. We are just like the Israelites. Explain that God made His perfect plan for all people. He made it for the Israelites and for us. Do we need the Savior to take the punishment for our sins too? (yes)

Teacher—the students may not understand all of what that means. Today, you want them to understand that they are sinners and they need God's Savior. Tell them that God made the plan to send a Savior to take the punishment for our sins.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

GOD GIVES MANY PROPHECIES

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God knows everything. God told us about the Messiah before He came.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. God gave people laws to obey. But all people are sinners. Can any person be perfect before God? (No) Why not? (All people are sinners.) Can we be perfect? (No) Why not? (We all sin.) Who did God promise to send to take the punishment for sin? (the Savior) Do you think God will do what He promised? (Yes)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher—choose a student in your group. Do not tell the students who you have chosen. Tell them you have chosen a student to come up and stand with you. Tell them what color clothes this student is wearing. Tell them anything you can about what that student looks like. When you are finished telling the students everything you can about that student, all the students should know exactly who you are talking about. Have the students point to the student you chose, or say the student's name. Have that student come stand with you.

How did you know this was the one I chose? (Let students tell you the things you said about the student.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

God did the same thing about the Savior. He told us

many things about the Savior before He came. He did this so people would know the Savior really was the One sent from God. Listen to find out 5 things God said about the Savior before He came.



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Ask students to tell you what God promised about the Messiah before He came. Try to let each student give one prophecy. It is okay if a prophecy is said twice. See which ones they did not remember and repeat those.

TALK ABOUT IT

Teacher - The students will not understand the prophecies like the Israelites did not. That is fine. You want them to understand that to have faith is to believe even when they do not understand.

Remind students that God knows everything. He knows what will happen. He gave the prophecies so we would know that the Savior really was sent from Him. Let the children tell you what they know about God. (He knows everything, is all-powerful, loves us, etc.) This will remind the students that they can trust God, because He is so wonderful and loves them so much.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain that the verse in Isaiah is a prophecy. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

ZACHARIAS SEES AN ANGEL

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Have faith in what God says. God fulfills His prophecies.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who was the One God promised would come to take the punishment for sins? (the Savior) God said many things about the Savior before He came. What were these things called? (prophecies) Can you remember any of the things God said about the Savior before He came? (Let each child who raises a hand get a chance to answer.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Who can tell me what an angel is? (Let one or 2 children describe an angel from what they learned in lesson 3.) What do angels do? (They worship God, praise God, serve God, give God's messages to people. If the children do not answer right away, they probably do not know these answers. You can tell them these things if they do not know.) How would you feel if you saw an angel? (Let a few children answer.) If the angel gave you a message from God, would you believe the angel? (Most will probably say yes.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will learn about a man who saw an angel. He did not believe the message the angel gave

him from God. Find out what happened to that man.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What was the angel's message to Zechariah? (He would have a son.)

What would be special

about his son? (He would make things ready for the Lord to come?) Did Zechariah believe the angel? (no) What happened to Zechariah because he did not believe? (He could not speak for many months.)



Ask again what was so special about this baby. After the children answer, explain that God had told people about John many years before. He gave prophecies about John. The Bible said that someone would come to get things ready for the Lord to come. That meant that the Lord would be coming soon!

The people did not know what to think. But Zechariah knew God was getting things ready for the Savior to come. God had not forgotten His promise. It was almost time.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.



AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is the Son of God. He came for all people, poor and rich.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In last week's story, what did Zechariah see in the temple? (an angel) What did the angel tell Zechariah? (He would have a baby.) What was special about this baby? (He would make things ready for the Lord to come.) What was the baby's name? (John)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

We have heard many stories about how God can do things that are impossible. Can you remember some of the impossible things that God has done in our Bible stories? (Let every child who raises a hand get a chance to answer. Some answers might be Abraham and Sarah having a baby, Zechariah and his wife having a baby, God showing Rebekah to Abraham's servant, etc.) Do you believe that God can do what is impossible? (Yes!) Why? (Let different children say things about God.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will hear about another person who sees an angel and hears another impossible promise. Listen to find out what impossible thing God is going to do next!

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What was the impossible thing God would do next? (Let Mary have a baby.)
What would the baby's name be? (Jesus) Did Mary get frightened and run away? (no) Did she not believe the angel, like Zechariah? (no)



What did Mary do? (She accepted, believed, etc.)

TALK ABOUT IT

God wanted everyone to know that His promised Savior was not born from a man. It is important that people know that God's promised Savior was sent only by God. That is why it was so important that Mary was not married yet.

Teacher - Be sure the children understand that God let Mary have this baby by a miracle. God would not be Mary's husband, He sent Jesus to earth. God did a miracle to let Mary have a baby.

Talk about the hard times Mary may face since she has no husband yet. Let them discuss what other people might think and how people might judge her. Then explain to them that any hard times would be worth God's wonderful promise. It was a very special thing to get to be the mother of the promised Savior. Only one person in the whole world would get to do it. Mary was chosen as that one person. What a wonderful gift!

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS IS BORN

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who came to visit Mary? (an angel named Gabriel) What was the special message from God? (Mary would have a baby.) What would the baby's name be? (Jesus) Would this baby be a man's son? (no) Was this an impossible promise? (yes) Do you believe it will happen? (yes) Why? (God can do what is impossible.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

The wonderful Savior would be born soon. He is the One people have been waiting for for hundreds of years. He is the promised One! If you knew the promised One was going to be born, what would you want to do for His birth that was special? (Let children share ideas about how to make the Savior's birth special. Maybe they would let Him be born in the best house. They would give Mary many things. They would invite many important people to come see Him, etc.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today's story is about the very special night that the promised Savior was born. Listen to find out where Jesus was born and why He was born in that place.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Review the story by letting students act it out.

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask the children if Jesus had any of the special things they would

have planned for His birth. Ask them if they feel shocked or sad that He had to sleep in a stable, or if they are happy the shepherds came.

Explain to them what a very, very special night that was. Discuss the shepherds and how happy they were that God sent an angel to tell them about Jesus. Let the children say how they would have felt if they had been the shepherds.

Remind them that Jesus came to earth for ALL people. Explain that God's Savior did not just come for the shepherds or for Mary and Joseph. God's Savior did not just come for the people who lived at the time Jesus was born. God's Savior came for ALL people. That means you and them too!

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say them with great joy and use motions. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

SIMEON AND ANNA SEE JESUS

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God keeps His promises.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Have one or 2 children review the story of Jesus' birth or act it out.

Who did Jesus come to earth for? (all people) Did Jesus come to earth for me? (yes) Did Jesus come to earth for you? (yes) How do we know that? (The Bible says so, the angel said so, etc.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Pretend that your parents promised to give you something very special. You waited and waited and waited, but they did not give you that special thing. A whole year passed and you still did not get that thing. Then 2 years went by. How would you feel? (maybe sad, maybe angry, confused, etc.) Would you think your parents had forgotten about their promise to you? (Some children will say yes; some may say no.) Why would you think that? (They may answer yes because it had been so long, or they may say no because maybe their parents wanted them to wait till the right time, etc. No answer would be wrong.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, God made a promise to a

man. But many, many years passed and God's promise had not come yet. Listen to find out what that promise was and if God did what He promised He would do.



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What was the promise God gave to Simeon? (He promised Simeon would get to see the Lord before he died.) Did God do what He promised? (yes) How do you think Simeon felt? (Let different children answer.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Tell children that sometimes it is hard to trust that God will keep His promises. Sometimes much time goes by. Sometimes God's promises seem impossible. Remind the children that nothing is impossible for God. Remind them that God never, ever forgets anything. He never forgets His promises.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud. Ask: Who is the Father? (God) Who is the One Who came from the Father to earth? (Jesus) Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

PRAY

Teacher - When you pray before the children leave, thank God that He never forgets His promises. Thank God for sending Jesus to earth for all people.

DISMISS CHILDREN

MEN FROM THE EAST COME TO SEE JESUS

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God gave His Good News far and abroad.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, what had God promised Simeon? (That he would see the Lord before he died.) Who came to the Temple? (Mary and Joseph and Jesus) Who else was at the Temple? (Anna) After Mary and Joseph left, what did Anna do? (She told other people about Jesus.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

If you had a message to tell someone, but that person was very far away, how would you get that message to that person? (Let different students give ideas. No answer is wrong.) What if that person was so far away, they were in a different country and spoke a different language? (Let students answer if they have ideas. If not, that is okay.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, God sends a message about Jesus to people very far away. Listen to find out the wonderful way God showed these people where Jesus was and what they did when they saw Jesus.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

How did God show the men where Jesus was? (a star) Let one student tell the first part of the story, then let another student finish it. What did the men do when they saw Jesus? (They worshipped Him and gave Him gifts.)



TALK ABOUT IT

God is such a wonderful God. There is nothing too hard for Him. Let the children name some things about God that are good. (knows everything, created everything, loves us, etc.) Ask the children if they know why God showed the star to the men. (to show them where Jesus was) But why? Why did God want them to find Jesus? (because He is the Savior)

If the children did not know the answer, tell them the answer. Remind them that Jesus came for ALL people. He came to be the Savior of all the people in the whole world. God wants all people to know about Jesus and worship Jesus.

Teacher- If the children do not know what worship is, explain that to worship is to praise and respect and love God, to lift Him up above everything else.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS TALKS IN THE TEMPLE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is the Son of God.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What was the wonderful way God showed men far away about Jesus? (a star) What did these men do when they saw Jesus? (They worshipped Him and gave Him gifts.) Why did they worship Jesus? (He is the Savior sent from God.) Who did Jesus come for? (all people) Did Jesus come for you and me? (yes)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

What do you think Jesus was like as a little boy? (Let children give different ideas.) We know that Mary and Joseph had other babies after Jesus was born. How do you think Jesus treated His earthly brothers and sisters? (Let children say some things they think. You can remind them that Jesus is perfect.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will hear a story about when Jesus was 12 years old. Listen to find out where Mary and Joseph took Jesus and why He stayed there.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Where did Mary and Joseph take Jesus? (to Jerusalem) How many days did they look for Jesus? (3) Where did they find Him? (the Temple) What was He doing there? (He was listening to the teachers



of the law and asking questions.) Whose house did Jesus say He had to be in? (His Father's) Is the Temple Joseph's house? (no) Whose house is it? (God's) So Who was Jesus saying His Father is? (God)

TALK ABOUT IT

Ask children if they remember what the angel Gabriel told Mary. (Let children answer if they remember.) Look up Luke 1:28-32 and 35. Read these verses out loud. Explain that Jesus is the Son of God. Gabriel told Mary that Jesus is the Son of God. Do they remember what the word Immanuel means? (God with us) This was a prophecy God made many years before Jesus came. Now Jesus said Himself that He is God's Son. God loves people so much that He sent His Son to be our Savior. Talk about how great God's love is.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JOHN BAPTIZES JESUS

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus deserves the highest honor.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, Mary and Joseph took Jesus to a special place. Where did they take Jesus? (to Jerusalem or the Temple) When they left, was Jesus with them? (no) How many days did they search for Jesus? (3) Where did they find Him? (in the Temple) What was He doing? (He was listening to the teachers of the law and asking questions.) How do we know that Jesus is the Son of God? (There can be many different answers.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Jesus grew up and became a man. Another boy grew up too. Do you remember John? He was the baby the angel said would make things ready for the Lord. How do you think John will make things ready? (Let different children give ideas.) If you knew the Savior was coming, how would you make things ready? (Let different children give ideas.)

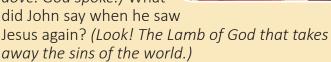
LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today you will hear about the day that John met Jesus. Listen to find out what Jesus wanted John to do and if John did it.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What did Jesus want John to do? (baptize Him) Did he do it? (yes) What amazing things happened? (The Holy Spirit came down like a dove. God spoke.) What





TALK ABOUT IT

John was a great man. He had many followers. But when Jesus came, John wanted his followers to follow Jesus instead. He knew that Jesus is most important. He said Jesus should have the highest honor. What does that mean? (Let children give different answers.) John also said, "He must increase, but I must decrease." John wanted himself to become less important and Jesus more important. How can we make Jesus more important in our lives? (Let children give different answers, such as obeying what He says, telling people about Him, not doing things that make Him sad, etc.)

We should be like John. We should praise Jesus and not ourselves.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. If you can, use motions with the words. Say the verses together 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS CHOOSES HIS DISCIPLES

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is more powerful than any person.
Jesus wants you to follow Him.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who baptized Jesus? (John) What happened after John baptized Jesus? (The Holy Spirit came down like a dove. God spoke from heaven.) What did John say when he saw Jesus again? (Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Imagine that you are a fisherman. You have been fishing all night long. You have not caught even one tiny fish. You are tired. You take your boat to shore. How would you feel if someone came to you and told you to throw out your nets again? (Let children give different answers such as tired, angry, would not want to do it, etc.) What would you do? (different answers)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, that did happen to a man named Peter. Listen to find out what Peter did and what happened next. Find out how this day changed Peter's life forever.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

At the beginning of the story, what was Jesus doing out near the lake? (teaching the people) How long had Peter been fishing? (all night) How many fish did he have after fishing all night?



(none) Do you think he wanted to obey Jesus? (no) When he did obey, what happened? (Let different children answer.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Do you think Peter was glad in the end that he obeyed Jesus? (yes) Jesus teaches us in His Holy Bible. Sometimes He may tell us to do things we do not want to do. But just like Peter, we will be glad in the end if we obey. Jesus knows what is best for us. He wants us to follow Him, just like Peter did. When we read the Bible and learn God's ways and do them, then Jesus is teaching us and we are following Him.

Read the second part of Luke 5:10 out loud. Explain that catching men means they would be bringing people to believe in Jesus.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Use motions or music to help them memorize the verses. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

PRAY

Teacher - If there is time, pray for each child by name. Ask God to help them always love Jesus and obey Him.

DISMISS CHILDREN

JESUS TEACHES US NOT TO WORRY

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Do not worry.
God will take care of you.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, whose boat did Jesus get in? (Peter's) How long had Peter been fishing? (all night) Did he catch any fish that night? (no) When Jesus told him to put out his net again, did Peter obey? (yes) What happened? (Let different children review the story.) Why is it important to obey what God says even when we do not want to? (God knows what is best, He loves us, etc.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher- Hold up a flower.

How many of you like flowers? (Let children raise hands.) What do you like about flowers? (different answers) What do flowers do all day? (Children may have different answers like grow, or do nothing. They may not say anything. That is fine.) Have you ever seen a worried or afraid flower? (Children will probably laugh.)

Teacher - hold up a picture of a bird, or point to birds if you are outside.

How many of you like birds? (let children raise hands) What do you like about birds? (different answers) What do birds do all day? (different

answers) Have you ever seen a worried bird? (no)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Jesus talked about birds and flowers. Listen to find out what Jesus wanted us to learn about birds and flowers.



TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

What did Jesus want us to learn from birds and flowers? (To not worry, to trust Him, etc.) Review the parts of the story that the children did not talk about in their answers.

TALK ABOUT IT

Talk about other wonderful things God has made. Show pictures or point to things like trees, the sky, clouds, sun, different animals, leaves, etc. Talk about how God takes care of all His creation. He sends sunshine and rain to make things grow. He gives food to the animals. Teach them that God takes care of His creation, and He will take care of them too. They are a special part of His creation!

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain the verses if they do not understand. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS FEEDS 5,000 PEOPLE

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Give what you have to Jesus. He can use little things (and little people!) to do great things.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. What did Jesus want us to learn from birds and flowers? (to not worry, to trust Him, etc.) How can we learn those things from flowers and birds? (different answers)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Imagine we were having a special Bible day. We would stay from morning until late in the evening. You brought just enough food for one meal for yourself.

But all the other children had nothing to eat. Would your one meal feed all the children? (no) Even if you only gave small parts, how many people do you think your meal could feed? (different answers)

Now imagine that everyone in your whole village or town came to this meeting. They were all hungry too. Could your one meal feed everyone? What if 100 people came? What if 1,000 people came?

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today we will hear about 5,000 hungry people and only one boy had a small meal! Find out how they all were fed.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

How did the disciples want the people to get food? (Go into the villages.) Did the disciples have any food to share with the people? (no)
Who had some food?



(one boy) What did he have to eat? (5 loaves, 2 fish) Who did he give his food to? (Jesus) What did Jesus do with the boy's food? (Let different children finish reviewing the story.)

TALK ABOUT IT

That little boy may have thought he could not help fix such a huge problem. But he gave Jesus his lunch and Jesus fixed the huge problem! How do you think the little boy felt? (different answers) How would you feel if Jesus used you to do something great? (different answers) Jesus can use you! When you see a chance to help for Jesus, let Jesus use you to help others. You can pray and ask God to show you how He wants to use you to help others.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Ask: Who are the verses talking about? (Jesus) Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses for next week's class.

PRAY

Teacher, pray out loud, asking God to use all the children to help others.

DISMISS CHILDREN

JESUS IS ARRESTED

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus knows everything, even the future.
He could have come down from the cross and not died.
Their need of salvation

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In last week's story, how many people were hungry? (5,000) Did the disciples have any food to share with the people? (no) Who had some food? (one boy) What did he have to eat? (5 loaves, 2 fish) Who did he give his food to? (Jesus) What did Jesus do with the boy's food? (Let different children finish reviewing the story.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Imagine that you know someone is going to try to rob your house tonight. Would you let them? (no) What would you do? (Let different children give ideas how they would stop the robber.) If he came to your house, would you just stand there and let him take everything? (no)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

In our story today, people come to arrest Jesus. He never did anything wrong, and He knew they were coming. Find out why Jesus did not run away or stop them from arresting Him.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Which disciple kept the money bag? (Judas) What did he sometimes do with the money? (He kept some for himself.) How much money did the religious



leaders give Judas to betray Jesus? (30 pieces of silver) What did the rest of the disciples do when Jesus was arrested? (They all ran away.)

TALK ABOUT IT

Read the application in the lesson out loud, or say it in your own words. If there is time, go back and talk about the lamb sacrifice and the Perfect Lamb of God who would come to be the Savior for all people.

If Jesus is God's Perfect Lamb, what do they think will have to happen to Him? (They may realize Jesus will have to sacrifice Himself to pay for sins, like the lambs in the Tabernacle. If they do not, that is fine. This will give them much to think about leading up to next week's important lesson about the cross.)

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain any parts the students may not understand.

Talk about what these verses mean in the students' lives. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS DIES FOR US

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is the Perfect Lamb of God, sent from God as the sacrifice for sin.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Which disciple betrayed Jesus? (Judas) How much money did the religious leaders give him? (30 pieces of silver) Was Judas happy after he betrayed Jesus and got the money? (no) What happened to him? (He hung himself.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

What are some of the wonderful things Jesus has done for people? (Let different children name some of Jesus' miracles.) How would you feel if Jesus had healed your mother or even you from a terrible sickness? (happy, thankful, etc.) But then what if people started saying bad things about Jesus? They became angry and said Jesus should be killed! But He did not do anything wrong. How would you feel then? (sad, angry, confused, etc.) What would you say to these people? (Let different children give ideas.) How would you feel when they took Jesus to a trial and said He was guilty? (terrible, sad, miserable, etc.)

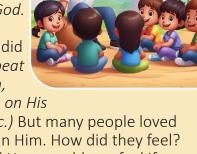
LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Listen to find out what happened to Jesus and how the people who loved Him felt about what happened.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

Why did some people hate Jesus? (He said He was the Son of God. He said He is God.) What terrible thing did they do to Jesus? (beat Him, lied about Him,



put crown of thorns on His head, killed Him, etc.) But many people loved Jesus and believed in Him. How did they feel? (confused, sad, etc.) How would you feel if you had been there? (different answers)

TALK ABOUT IT

The people who loved Jesus were so confused. They had believed what Jesus said. He is the Son of God. How could this happen? How could He die?

The people thought Jesus was going to be a great ruler. How could He if He was dead? How could He be the great Savior God sent if He was dead? The people did not understand why Jesus had to die. They did not understand that this was part of God's perfect plan. But it was. Come back next week to find out how God was going to make this terrible thing into a wonderful thing.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS LIVES!

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is alive. Jesus' death really was part of God's perfect plan of salvation.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, people who hated Jesus took Him to trial and did many terrible things to him. What did they do to Jesus? (lied about Him, beat Him, put a crown of thorns on His head, nailed Him to a cross, crucified Him, etc.) Did Jesus get angry at the people who beat Him and put Him on the cross? (no) Did He forgive them? (yes) What did Jesus say right before He died? (It is finished.) How did the people who loved Jesus feel? (confused, sad, etc.)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Imagine you are with the disciples. You are all hiding because you are afraid. Jesus is dead and you do not know what to do. The first day is over. You still hide, sad and confused. The second day goes and you are still afraid. The third morning some of the women take spices. They are going to the tomb to put spices on Jesus' body. You go with them. You all wonder how you will ever move the heavy stone. But when you get there, the stone is rolled away! How would you feel right then? (different answers) Would you want to go inside to see if the body was still there? (different answers)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

This is exactly what happens in part of our story today. Someone is at the tomb and talks to the women. Listen to find out what he tells them about Jesus. Find

out if what he said was really true.

TELL THE STORY

Teacher- Tell this story with much expression and excitement. It is amazing and wonderful! Your voice and your actions should show that



REVIEW THE STORY

Why did the soldiers guard the tomb? (Jesus said that after 3 days He would rise again.) Who rolled the stone away? (an angel) When the women came, what did the angel tell them? (Jesus was risen!) Did the disciples believe the women when they told the good news? (no) But then Jesus came to them! How did the disciples feel? (happy, excited, etc.) Do you think they were afraid anymore? (no)

TALK ABOUT IT

Jesus' death really was part of God's perfect plan. Jesus, the Lamb of God, died as the perfect sacrifice for sin. He paid the punishment for all your sins. If He had stayed dead, He could not have been the Savior. If He stayed dead, He could not save us from our sins. But He did not stay dead! Death is not more powerful than God! He is alive, and He really is the Savior. He can give salvation to anyone because He is the living Savior.

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. Explain any words they may not understand. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

JESUS GOES BACK TO HEAVEN

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus lives in heaven now. He sent the Holy Spirit to live inside us. Jesus will come back someday. God's plan of salvation

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Jesus had died and the disciples were very sad and afraid. But what happened 3 days later? (He rose from the dead!) How did the disciples feel when they saw Jesus again? (happy, etc.) Was Jesus' death part of God's perfect plan? (yes) Why did Jesus die? (To take the punishment for our sins, or to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins.) Could He be the Savior if He had stayed dead? (no) But can death be more powerful than God? (No!)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Jesus is alive! The disciples were so happy. Maybe they thought Jesus would stay with them forever. Where did Jesus live before He came down to earth? (heaven) Do you think Jesus stayed on earth forever, or went back to heaven? (Let children give different ideas.)

LISTEN TO FIND OUT

Today, listen to find out if Jesus stayed on earth or went back to heaven. If Jesus went to heaven.

find out who would be with them to help them after Jesus left.

TELL THE STORY

REVIEW THE STORY

How many days did Jesus stay on earth? (40) Then what happened? (He went

back to heaven.) But then would the disciples be all alone with no one to help them? (no) Who would come to help them? (God's Holy Spirit)

TALK ABOUT IT

Jesus promised that He would be with the people who believed in Him. But how could He say that if He went back to heaven? (You will answer this question, not the children.)

This is why Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives inside every person who believes in Jesus. The Holy Spirit is with us always. He helps us do what is right and helps us tell others about Jesus. Every person who believes in Jesus is never alone because the Holy Spirit is always with them. And then someday Jesus will come back from heaven and take all those who believe in Him back to heaven forever!

MEMORIZE

Read the verses out loud twice. If you can, use motions with the words. Say the verses together 2 or 3 times. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION IS FOR YOU

Read the lesson and Bible passage. The day of class before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God's plan of salvation. How to be saved.

Teacher-Before this lesson, please pray specifically for each child that you know has not accepted Christ. Pray for wisdom as you teach. Pray that the students will understand and receive the truth.

REVIEW

Have students say memory verses from last week. Jesus died a very terrible death on the cross. Why did He die? (To take the punishment for our sins, or to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins.) Did He stay dead? (no) After 3 days, what happened? (He rose from the dead.) Jesus taught His disciples for 40 days. Then what happened? (He went back to heaven.) Where is Jesus now? (heaven) What will happen when He comes back? (He will take the people who believe in Him to heaven.)

Where do we learn all these things about God and Jesus? (in the Bible) Who wrote the Bible? (God)

Always Begin Lesson With Prayer



QUESTIONS

Teacher - Choose a student before the lesson. Explain what you are going to do to that student so he or she will know what to do at the right time. When the lesson begins, hold up a pretty, wrapped gift.

Imagine I have a gift to give to someone. It is a wonderful, precious thing. It is very special to me, but I am giving it to you because I love you. You could never buy it. You could never earn it. All you can do is come and take it. This gift is for



gift is for_____.

(Say the student's name that you chose.) It is only for him. No one else can take this gift for him.

(Hold the gift out.) Do you want the gift? (Student nods yes.) Come and get it. (Student stays in his seat. You will have told him to do this before the lesson started.)

Can _____ (Say the name of a different student.) get this gift for him? (no) Can ____ (Say the name of another student.)? (no) Can his mother or his father? (no)

He is the only one who can come take this gift. If he does not accept it, what will happen? (Let the children give their opinions, such as nothing will happen, you may give it to someone else, you would be sad, etc.) Will I force him to take this gift? (no) Of course not. But I want him to take it because I love him. Will you take it? (Student comes and takes the gift.)

TELL THE STORY

Teacher - Today's lesson is very special. As you do the lesson, read out loud any of the Bible verses you want to. Stop to allow any questions. Finish with prayer at least 10 minutes early. You can ask students if any of them want to accept Jesus as their Savior. Keep those who do in a group and let the others go play. Then you can show them from the Bible—either one at a time or together in one group—how they can be saved.