## LET'S LEARN MORE FROM GOD'S WORD

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



The Bible is inspired by God and perfectly true.

## **REVIEW**

(Teacher - Be excited to welcome students back. If

possible, say hello to each student as he or she comes to class. Try to learn their names in the first few weeks.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

What has been your favorite Bible story so far? (different answers) What is something you have learned about God from the Bible? (different answers)

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

We learned many things from the Bible in our lessons last year, but the Bible has many more wonderful stories for us. Listen every week to learn more!

#### **TELL THE STORY**

(Teacher- Hold your Bible in your lap during this lesson. When you talk about the Bible, show students where to find the Old Testament and the New Testament.)

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Review Game—Have all the children stand. Tell them that if you say a name or story from the Old Testament, all the students should jump back. If you say a name or story from the New Testament, they should jump forward. Then say different names and stories from today's lesson, mixing them up.

Old Testament stories: God created the world, Adam and Eve, how sin came into the world, Noah, changing language, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, saving Israelites from slavery, giving the laws



New Testament stories:
Jesus born, why Jesus died,
Jesus rose from dead, letters to Jesus' followers

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher–Ask 2 students to cover their eyes. Tell the rest of the students to watch you. Then run to one side, then the other, then hop on one foot, then raise one hand, then make a face.

The 2 students may look now. Next, ask the other students to tell the 2 students exactly what you did. Did you run to the left first or the right? Did you hop on your right foot or your left? Did you raise your left hand or your right? What kind of face did you make?

The students will probably have different answers, or not remember, or have different ideas of what your face meant. Explain that if they could not all say the same thing about one minute of things that happened, it is impossible that 40 men could say the same thing about many hundreds of years. Only God could write the Bible!)

## 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. (If there is a reward for memorizing verses, or if they should bring their lessons back next week, tell them now.)

## **GOD IS MY CREATOR**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God created us and wants us to know Him.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. (Teacher

-Have students pretend that you have never heard about the Bible before. You do not know anything about God. Ask questions as if you really do not know anything, like, What is God like? Does He know who I am? Where do you learn about God? How do you know the Bible is true? Did God really write it? etc.)

## Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

If you wanted someone in another country to know about you, how could you share things about yourself with that person? (different ideas, like letters, calling, gifts, internet, etc.) What would you think if that person thought the letters you sent wrote themselves and the gifts you sent bought themselves, and you didn't really exist? (different answers, like you'd think they were not smart, or you'd be angry)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Listen to find out how God shows Himself to people.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

What are some ways God shows Himself in His creation? (different answers) How do you think God showed us about Himself in His Son, Jesus? (Jesus taught what God the Father is like, He was



kind, did miracles, etc.) How do you think God feels when people think He is not real and the world created itself? (sad, upset, etc.)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher—It is very important for students to not believe that everything happened by chance. To think that all the wonders of this world created themselves is not science. It is rejecting God and following lies. To live thinking they are just accidents that happened somehow would be to miss out on the beautiful value God created them with, and the wonderful purpose He has for each of them. If any of them are struggling with this, you can have them stay after class and go through Genesis chapter one together. Pray with them that they will understand and believe that God made them for a reason and loves them very much.)

## 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 IS ONE IN THREE PERSONS**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God is one God in 3 Persons. Sometimes we do not understand everything about God; we have to believe by faith.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who created you? *(God)* What does God know about you? *(different answers)* Does anyone remember the 3 ways God shows Himself to us? *(His creation, His Son, His Word)* 

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you have ever been in an airplane? (different answers) Could you build an airplane? (no) Could you fly an airplane if you had one? (no)

Airplanes do exist and they can fly from one country to another country across the ocean. People ride in airplanes even though they do not really understand how an airplane can get up in the air and stay up without crashing. But they still ride on the airplane even though how it works is a mystery to them. They trust that the people who built it and the people who fly it know more than they do.

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today we will learn a mystery about God. Find out what this mystery is.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the mystery about God? (God is one God in 3 persons, or God is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.) Can people be 3 people at once? (no) How can God do it? (Because He is God and





(Teacher—Have one student come to the front. Cover his eyes. Tell the students to pretend that this boy is blind. He has never seen the sun, or flowers, or trees, or water. He has never seen anything. How could they explain to him what the color red was? The students will not be able to explain color to someone who has never seen color. But that does not mean it does not exist. How about a rainbow, or lightning, or what a kite looks like waving in the sky?)

Just like there are some things a blind person cannot understand because they cannot see, there are some things we cannot understand because we are human and not God. When we get to heaven we will understand. Until then, we can trust what God says about Himself, because God never lies.

## 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 BLESSES OBEDIENCE AND FAITH**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God has a special, important job for each of His children. Doing this job with faith pleases God.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Last week we learned that God is one God in 3 Persons - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. How can God be 3 in one? (*Because He is God and can do anything.*) What is believing that what God says is perfectly true? (*faith*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Have the students cover their eyes. Ask them what they can see with their toes. Students will probably laugh. Ask if they can see with their ears. Tell them to try to see with their elbows, or their noses. It is fine to let this be a funny time. You want them to understand that each part of the body has a special job.)

#### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today, you will hear about many heroes in the Bible. Find out what was the same about all these people. Also, you will find out that you are part of a special body. Find out what body this is, and why you are part of it.

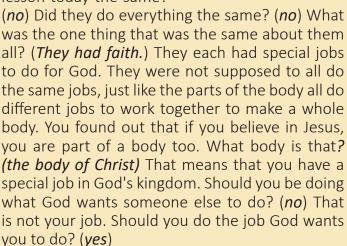
#### **TELL THE STORY**

(Teacher–For the story today, read the front lesson and the inside application on their handout

and put them together for your story. Read 1 Corinthians 12:16-18 out loud when you talk about the body of Christ.)

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Was everyone in the lesson today the same?



#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher—talk about how God gives each of His children certain gifts—things that they can do well for God's work. Maybe some of them will be preachers or teachers or encouragers. Whatever job God gives them to do, they should do it the best they can. And they should always have faith. Without faith, we cannot please 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.

## GIDEON FIGHTS A BATTLE FOR GOD

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God will help us do what He has planned for us.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who

stole 3 things from the city of Jericho and hid them? (Achan) Who saw what he did? (God) What happened to Achan? (He died.) What did we learn from Achan's life? (different answers like, no one can hide from God, if you do wrong confess it right away, etc.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—separate the students into 2 groups. Make one group bigger than the other group.) Pretend that you are 2 armies. Does the small group think they could win in a fight against the bigger group. (Some may say yes, some no.) Pretend some of the soldiers in my small group are afraid and go home. (Teacher—choose a few of the students and have them sit down.) Some of the others get sick. (Teacher—choose a few more to sit down, then speak to the ones left in the very small group.) Would you want to fight that big group now? (no)

#### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

A story like this one really happened once. Listen to find out if the small group still fought against the very big group, and if they did, who won.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Whatkind of a person do you think Gideon was? (different answers) Did Gideon think he was the great soldier the angel said he was? (no) How did Gideon fight the Midianites with only 300 men? (Let one or 2



students tell the rest of the story.) Who helped Gideon become a great warrior? (God)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

God had a special plan to use Gideon and protected Gideon so he could do what God wanted him to do. God has a special plan for you too, and He can protect you.

No one can stop God's plan. Hard times may come, but God will be with you and help you to bear them. He may even make you into mighty men and women like He did for Gideon!

#### Memorize

Read the verses out loud twice. Say
the verses with the children with much
enthusiasm. You can say them marching
around the room or shouting like soldiers
getting ready to fight. Whenever you have
time, teach the verses with motions or make
up a song so you can sing them together.
Tell students to memorize the verses at
home for next week's class.

## SAMSON LOSES HIS STRENGTH

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



The things you are good at come from God. Use these talents for God.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who did the angel of the Lord say Gideon was? (*a mighty soldier*) Was Gideon a mighty soldier right then? (*no*) Would he become one? (*yes*) Who would help him become a mighty soldier? (*God*)

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With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—have something very heavy that a student could not carry by himself. Have one small student hold up this heavy thing with you helping him.) Can he hold this thing by himself? (no) What would happen if he decided he did not need my help and took this to carry by himself? (He would drop it.) (Teacher—ask student if he would like to carry it without you. If he says no, carry it together to the back and then back to the front again. Say, "Now try to hold it without my help." Let go. Leave the thing where he drops it for the whole lesson. If he says yes, let go and let him try. He will drop it. Leave it there for the whole lesson.)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

A man in our story today tried to have strength without God's help. Find out what happens when he becomes proud of his own strength and tells an important secret.

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Who gave Samson his strength? (God) Why do you think Samson told Delilah the secret of his strength? (different answers) Do you think Samson was smart? (no) Do you think Delilah loved Samson?



(no) Why not? (She tricked him, cut his hair, etc.) Should we always do what other people want us to do? (no)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Samson cared more about what he wanted than what God wanted. He wanted to go his own selfish way and ended up with much sadness.

(Teacher—point to the heavy thing that is still on the floor.) What happened when the student tried to carry this without my help? (*He dropped it.*)

When we are like Samson and want to live for ourselves instead of God, we end up with trouble and sadness and hard times. Satan wants you to live sin's way. Satan wants you to think that sin's way is fun and God's way is boring and too hard. But sin's way never ends up good. God's way always ends up good.

#### Memorize

Read the verses out loud twice. Say the verses with the children 2 or 3 times. Talk about how these verses could have helped Samson. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

PRAY THEN DISMISS CHILDREN.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **RUTH GOES TO A NEW LAND**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Trust God to take care of you. Think of others before yourself.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who

gave Samson his great strength? (*God*) Did Samson want his own way or God's way? (*his own way*) Who did Samson tell his secret to? (*Delilah*) What did Delilah do? (*She cut his hair*.) What happened when his hair was cut? (*He lost all his strength.*) What can we learn from Samson's life? (*Let different children tell what they learned.*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Put a cloth over 1 student's eyes so she cannot see. Tell the student you will tell her where to go and she must follow exactly what you say. Say things like, "Take 2 steps forward," and "Step to the left," "Turn right and take 2 steps," etc. Tell her where to go until she has gone safely to another part of the room. Then she can take the cover off her eyes.)

Did she obey what I said? (yes) Was she safe? (yes) Why do you think she obeyed me instead of going her own way? (You could see and she could not, etc.) That is what trust means.

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today, some people are going to new lands. Listen to find out who goes to Moab, who goes to Israel, and how God takes care of a woman named Ruth.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Act out the story with students playing parts for Naomi and her family, Ruth, Boaz, and some harvest workers.



## **TALK ABOUT IT**

The Bible says that a good name is better than great riches. What does that mean? (Let different children give ideas. If they do not know, explain that being honorable and earning respect from others is better than being rich.) By what Boaz said about Ruth, do you think Ruth had a good name? (yes) She was a foreigner. What things did she do to earn a good name? (She stayed with her mother-in-law, went out and got wheat, helped Naomi, etc.)

Talk about ways the students can earn a good and honorable name. They can be loyal and helpful and kind like Ruth. They can obey their parents and do things for them, like Ruth did for Naomi, etc. Let them each think of one thing they can do today to earn a good name.

## 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 CHOOSES A NEW KING**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



People look at your outside. God looks on the inside, in your heart.

## **REVIEW**

Review Game—Have students say memory verses from last week. Choose one student to begin telling the story of Ruth. Let that student talk for a minute or 2, then choose another student to continue the story. Keep choosing different students until the story is finished. Who took care of Ruth in the new land? (*God*) Ruth's grandson had a son who became the king of Israel. What was that king's name? (*David*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—bring something that is ugly on the outside but beautiful on the inside. Examples: an ugly box with something pretty inside, or a folded piece of paper that looks ugly, but is beautiful when you unfold it, or a picture of an ugly cocoon and the beautiful butterfly that comes out. Show this thing to the class. Let students talk about what it looks like. Then show them the beautiful thing inside. Let students talk about how it looks now.)

Did any of you guess that something beautiful was inside? How did I know there was something beautiful inside? (You looked inside, or you put it there, etc.)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today a prophet learns that even though people care about looks on the outside, God cares about

people's hearts. Find out whose heart was good, and what God chose that person to be.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Why did Samuel think



the first son was the new king? (He was big and strong.) What did God tell Samuel about the way people looked? (People look at the outside, but God looks at the heart.) Who was the last son? (David) Where was David? (out with the sheep) Who did God choose as the next king? (David)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher—If there is time, make something ugly on the outside but beautiful on the inside. If you have paper, let them draw and color a beautiful butterfly on a piece of paper, then fold it closed and draw a cocoon on the outside.)

God looks on the inside of people. It is more important to be beautiful on the inside, in our hearts, than to be beautiful or handsome on the outside. It is okay to be pretty on the outside too, but the most important is the inside. When we are kind, loving, and good, God sees that our hearts are beautiful, and He is pleased.

## 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.

## **DAVID FIGHTS A GIANT**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



You are not too young to serve God!

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Why did

God send the prophet Samuel to Jesse's house? (to see or anoint the new king) Why did Samuel think the first son was the new king? (He was big and strong.) What did God tell Samuel about the way people looked? (People look at the outside, but God looks at the heart.) Who did God choose as the next king? (David)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine you are standing with a group of people. The people in the group start saying bad things about your best friend. They laugh and call him names. How would you feel? (angry, hurt, etc.) You know the things they said are not true. Would you do anything about it? Would you want to defend your friend? Why? (different answers)

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, someone is saying bad things about God. Listen to find out who is saying bad things, and who has the courage to stop him.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Let students act out this story. If there is time, let different students act it out again. This story is fun to act out!

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Sometimes there are people like Goliath in

our lives, saying things that aren't true and trying to make us afraid or give up. Other times, it seems like there is a Goliath inside of us trying to get us to do wrong. Sin sometimes seems too big to fight against. Sin is from Satan, who is even worse than Goliath. Satan lies about God. Satan wants you to be afraid of him and give up. Satan wants you to do wrong and come over to his side.

When you are tempted to do something wrong, think of that sin as a great big Goliath. Ask God to help you, then tell that Goliath the truth! Do not give in. Fight and win! Use God's Word as your sword. Do not do whatever wrong thing you are tempted to do. Ask God to help you kill the Goliath temptations in your life so you can live in victory!

## Memorize

Read the verses out loud twice. Ask students how they can use these verses when they are fighting against the temptations in their lives. 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 SOLOMON A QUESTION**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God blesses unselfishness.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What

was the name of the giant who was saying bad things about God last week? (Goliath) Who was brave enough to fight him? (David) What weapon did David fight with? (a sling and stone) Who won? (David!) Who helped David win? (God)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

There was once a man who decided that he wanted to be the ruler of the world. He got a huge army together and took over one country, then another, then another. Finally, he took over the last country of the world that he knew of. He had done it. He had gotten his wish. Did he shout for joy? No! He cried with sadness because there were no more countries for him to take over. He had gotten what he wanted, and it did not make him happy at all.

#### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

A man in our story today got to ask God for one thing—anything he wanted. Listen to find out what he asked for, and if it was a good thing or not.

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Let one student come to the front and be the "teacher." Let him tell the story again quickly, then ask a few questions if there is time.



## **TALK ABOUT IT**

So many people want to

have a lot of money and many things. But many people have all the money they could ever need, and still are not happy. They have so many things, but they are still empty inside. Money will not help them make good decisions. Having cool things will not help them to get good friends who are kind. Having fame or a good job will not give them peace with God. All the things that people want in the world do not last.

But to have wisdom is a wonderful thing. Wisdom will help you save your money instead of wasting it. Wisdom will help you see you do not need many things to be happy. Wisdom will help you choose the right friends and make wise decisions. It is so much better to have wisdom than to have riches. Riches do not last. Wisdom lasts.

Solomon got his wisdom from God. We get our wisdom from God too! God is perfectly wise. There is no One better to learn wisdom from. Today, let's ask God to give us wisdom, and then each day let's read God's Word to get wisdom from it.

## 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.

## **SOLOMON MAKES A WISE CHOICE**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Talents and abilities are from God. Get wisdom from God's Word.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, what did Solomon ask God for? (wisdom) Why do you think Solomon asked for wisdom instead of money or power or a long life? (Let different students say what they think.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

If 2 boys today were fighting over a ball, and each one said the ball was his and the other boy stole it, how could we know which one is telling the truth and which one is lying? Any ideas? (*Let different students talk if they have ideas*.) It would be hard to find out which one is telling the truth.

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

A problem like this did happen to King Solomon once. Listen to find out what Solomon did to find out who was telling the truth.

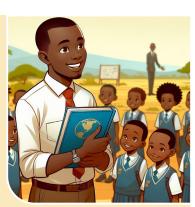
## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the problem in this story? (Let one student tell the beginning of the story.) What did Solomon do to find out who was telling the truth? (Let a different student finish the story.) Did he do a wise thing? (yes) Where did Solomon get his great wisdom from? (God)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Let's apply God's truth to our own lives. Imagine you and your friends are very poor. There is a fishing contest soon where the winners will win some money. You want to win money to give



to your family, but you do not have a boat to fish from. Your friends want to steal a boat. They say it will not be wrong because after the contest you can give the boat back. You do not know what to do. It is good to get money to give to your family, but you do not know if it is okay to steal.

The first thing to do is pray. Ask God to give you wisdom. Then study God's Holy Word. Can any of you think of parts in the Bible that talk about stealing? (Some students may talk about the 10 Commandments, or about Achan who stole and was punished.) Can you think of another way to get a boat for this contest? (Maybe they could ask someone to use their boat, or work for someone to get to use their boat for that day. Let the students discuss different ideas that would be better than stealing.)

(Teacher—Make sure they understand that it is from God's Word that they made the decision not to steal. God's Word told them what to do.)

Will God bless us when we obey Him? (yes)

## Memorize

Read the verses out loud twice. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

## **ELIJAH GETS FOOD FROM BIRDS**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God protects us. Do not let angry people stop you from doing what is right.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. (Teacher—Let one or 2 students review the story of Solomon and the 2 mothers. Talk about how we get wisdom by asking God for wisdom and studying His Word. If there is time, talk about the fishing contest again, and how they thought of better ways to get the boat than stealing. Talk about how God's Word gives us the wisdom to know what is wrong and God gives us the courage to not do it.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you like crows? (*Probably none of the children will raise their hands.*) Why do you not like crows? (*They are loud, they steal food, they eat trash, they are dirty, etc.*) Do crows give food to people or steal from them? (*steal from them*)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

In our story today, some birds like crows called ravens are doing amazing things. Listen to find out what the ravens do in this story.

## **TELL THE STORY**

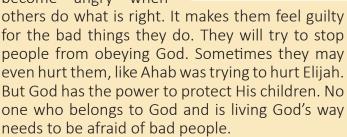
#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

In what ways were Ahab and Jezebel bad? (They worshipped idols and not God, they built a temple

to the false idol, etc.)
How did God take care
of His prophet Elijah?
(He had the ravens
bring him food, kept
him safe, etc.)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Sometimes people will become angry when



Remember the fishing contest and the boat that some friends wanted to steal? We read how God says it is sin to steal. We knew it was wrong and decided not to steal something. But if you told your friends it was wrong, they might get angry. They might say or do mean things. They may try to get you to change your mind. You do not need to be afraid. God has the power to protect you. It is better to do what is right, even if it makes people angry. And if your friends are always trying to get you to do wrong with them, and get angry when you do not, they are not good friends at all. It would be good for you to get new friends who love Jesus and want to do 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.



## **ELIJAH VISITS A WIDOW**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Do what is right and trust God to take care of your needs.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who

was the bad king in Israel? (*Ahab*) Who was God's prophet? (*Elijah*) How did God take care of Elijah? (*He had ravens bring him food every day.*) Should we let angry people stop us from doing what is right? (*no*)

Always Begin
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## **QUESTIONS:**

I want you to pretend that you are very poor. You only have a tiny bit of food to eat. An old man comes to the door. He says he has been walking many days. He is hungry. He asks you to give him some of your food. Would you want to give him some of your food? (Let students just think of their answers without talking.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

It is a hard decision. In our story today, a woman had to make this decision. She did not know it then, but what she decided would change her life.

## **TELL THE STORY**

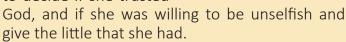
#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the hard decision this woman had to make? (if she would give food to Elijah even though she would not have enough for herself) What did she decide? (to give him food) How did

this change her life? (Let one or 2 students tell the rest of the story.)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Even though Elijah said he was a man of God, the woman had to decide if she trusted



It is hard to be unselfish sometimes, especially when you do not have much. Would you give your food to someone if you knew you would have to go hungry? Would you share your blanket with someone even if it meant you would not be as warm? These are hard choices. But in 2 Corinthians 9:7, God says he loves a cheerful giver. God blesses people who are willing to give to others in need. When we give, we are showing God's love to others.

And then, after we do what is right, we can trust God to take care of us and give us what we need. The woman did not run out of food. She had enough for her, her son, and the man of God. She trusted God to take care of her, and God did. He will take care of you also when you trust Him.

#### 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.



## **ELIJAH GIVES THE PROPHETS OF BAAL A TEST**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Leaving God to serve idols or our own desires is very wicked.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Last

week, a woman was almost out of food. What was the hard decision she had to make? (if she would trust God, give the prophet food) What did she choose? (Let 1 or 2 children tell the rest of the story.) Will God take care of us if we trust Him? (yes)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

If I wanted to know who was the fastest person in this room, how could I find that out? (have a race) (Teacher—if there is time, have a race with all the children, then let the winner come stand with you at the front.) Why did he win? (He was the fastest.)

Now what if I wanted to know who could fly the fastest? (*Children will probably laugh.*) Could we have a flying race? (*no*) Why not? (*People cannot fly.*) You cannot fly? (*no*) Choose one student. What if he could somehow fly, and he was the only person in the room who knew how to fly? If we had a flying race, who would win? (*He would.*) He would win. In fact, he would be the only one in the race at all! We would not even have to have the race because he would be the only one who could fly.

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today there is a contest. But it is not a running contest or a flying contest. It is a contest between the one true God and false gods. Listen to find out who wins.



## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Tell me about the contest that Elijah had with the prophets of Baal. (Let one or 2 students tell about the contest.) What happened when the prophets of Baal had their turn? (They prayed, yelled and cut themselves, but nothing happened.) What happened when Elijah prayed? (God sent fire from heaven and burned up the altar.) What did God show all the people that day? (He is the one true God with all power.)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Having a contest between God and false gods is not like seeing who can run the fastest. God is the ONLY true God. There is no other. He does not have to compare with false gods because there is nothing and no one who can compare to Him. There is no contest. God is the only One with all power.

## 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.

## A WIDOW NEEDS GOD'S HELP

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God cares for us. Pray about what you need.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Last

week, Elijah had a contest with the prophets of Baal. What was the contest? (Who was the true God) How did God show that He is the only true God with all power? (Let a student finish the story.)

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## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Bring a small jar of water and 3 cups. Have 3 students come to the front. Give each one a cup. Then start to pour water into the first cup. Pour some into the second cup. Have only enough water in the jar to fill 2 cups. When you get to the third cup, there is none left.) What happened? (You do not have any more water.) Why not? (You poured it all out.) Can I give you all a drink from this small jar of water? (no)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, a woman only has a small jar of oil. Listen to find out how God provides for her.

## **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

This would be a good story to act out. Have actors for Elisha, the woman, and her 2 sons. You can let the other children sit down and be the jars!

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

God knows that we need His help. (Teacher—Read Philippians 4:19 out loud.) When you or people you love have needs, you can pray to God about those needs and ask God to help you and them. God may



send someone to help, or He may give strength to get through the hard time.

If you know someone who needs help, you should help them if they can. In the story, those neighbors had to be kind and give their jars for the woman to use. We can be kind also and help people who need us. This is being like Jesus. Maybe we can be the answer to someone's prayer.

(Teacher—This would be a good time to have a kindness project with your students. Do you know someone who is sick, or who is very poor or very old, or needs help with something? You could have your class work together to be kind to that person. Maybe they could bring food, or maybe they could go to this person's house and help them do their work for a day. This would teach students to do what they are being taught, not just to listen and hear.)

#### 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.

**NAAMAN HAS LEPROSY** 

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Act in a way that shows God's love to others.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Last

week in our story, a woman had a bad problem, and God fixed the problem for her. Someone tell me what happened. (Let 2 or 3 students each tell part of the story.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

Back in Israel during the time of the Bible, if a person had a terrible disease called leprosy, he had to leave his family and go live outside the city. The other people did not want to catch it. If a leper came near someone, he had to yell, "Unclean! Unclean!" so no one would get close to him. Back during this time, people who had leprosy died of it. No one knew a cure and there were no hospitals or clinics.

#### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

In our story today, a great military leader gets leprosy. Will he have to leave his family, and die of the disease? Listen to find out!

## **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Have students help you retell or act out the story.

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Leprosy in a person's body is a lot like sin in a person's heart. People who have leprosy cannot cure themselves or make the leprosy go away. We cannot make our sins go away. People with leprosy



cannot feel pain and do not know when they hurt themselves. The more people sin, the more they hurt their lives, and they do not even know it. Eventually, people with leprosy died. Sin brings death too, spiritual death.

But there is hope for all sinners. They do not have to die spiritually because of their sin. Jesus took the punishment for their sins when He died on the cross. It is as if someone came and said, "I will take away your leprosy and put it on myself." Jesus took our sins and took them upon Himself. Now any person can be cleaned again by accepting Jesus' gift. (Teacher—Read 1 John 1:7 out loud.)

If you have already accepted Christ, do not go back to living in sinful ways as if you were not clean. No leper who has been cured would go back to living like a leper again. When you are tempted to sin against God, think of it as leprosy. Know that God wants you to be clean and healthy spiritually and keep the sin away.

#### 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.

A KING FINDS THE LAW

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



When we find out we have done wrong, we should confess our sin and turn away from it.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who had leprosy in our story last week? (*Naaman*) How did he get cured? (*Let 1 or 2 students finish the story.*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

I am going to tell you an imaginary story. You get to tell me how you would finish the story:

Once a girl went outside to play. She played all morning and came back home at lunchtime. She went inside and saw a note on the table from her mother. Her mother said she was going to be at the market all morning. Her mother said that the daughter should cook the rice for lunch, so they could eat as soon as she got home.

Lunch? But that was right then! She did not know her mother wanted her to cook the rice for lunch!

Now, you finish the story. What should she do? (Let the students give ideas.)

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, a king finds out that God made laws and the people have not been obeying. Listen to find out what he does.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

How old was Josiah when he became king? (8) What did Josiah do when he heard what God wrote in the Book of the Law? (He tore his robes, read the Book of the Law to people, promised to follow



God's Laws, smashed the idols, etc.)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Josiah had not known about God's Law, but when he learned the truth, he obeyed it. And this pleased God.

The little girl in our story today did not know she was supposed to cook the rice for lunch. But when she found out, she should have begun right away. It is the same with us. If we learn from the Bible that there is something we should be doing that we are not doing, we should start doing it.

If we are doing something and then we learn from the Bible that it is wrong, we should stop doing that thing right away and ask forgiveness. When we ask forgiveness and turn away from wrong, that is called repenting. God wants us to repent of our sins. He does not want us to just say, "I'm sorry," and then keep doing the same things.

## 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.

## **ESTHER SAVES HER PEOPLE**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God answers our prayers with yes, no, or wait.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What

did King Josiah do when he found God's Law? (tore his robes, taught the people the Law, promised to follow God, broke down altars, smashed the idols)

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#### **QUESTIONS:**

Do you think God always listens to our prayers? (Let students quickly discuss their ideas.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

An evil man is planning to kill all the Israelites in the land. Only one woman can save them, but she has to decide if she will risk her life, or let her people be destroyed. Listen to find out what happens.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the only way Esther could save her people? (by telling the king) Why would telling the king risk her life? (If the king did not want to see her, she would be killed.) What did Esther ask people to do for her? (pray) Was she brave enough to go see the king? (yes) When she went to see the king, what happened? (Let 1 or 2 students finish telling the story.)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Esther prayed and her friends prayed. When the time came, God helped Esther have courage, and the king let Esther live. God had answered her prayers. God answers our prayers too. He does



not always give the same answer to our prayers. He might say:

<u>No</u>, because He knows what we ask for is not what is best for us.

<u>Wait</u>, because He wants us to trust Him and wait for Him to provide in His perfect time.

Yes, because we have asked for what is in God's will.

You can pray for specific things, like help for a test, or courage to tell someone about Jesus. When you pray, remember God knows best. If what you asked for does not come, that does not mean that God did not hear your prayers. He may want you to wait, or He may know that you do not need this thing, or that this thing would pull you away from God. (Teacher—If there was a time you asked God for something and God said no, like asking for something selfish as a child, this would be a good time to tell that story so the children can learn from your experiences.)

## 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.

**JOB TRUSTS IN GOD** 

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Trust God even in bad times. Satan fights against God and hates God's people.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. How did Esther save her people from being killed? (*Let one or 2 students tell the story quickly.*) In what ways does God answer our prayers? (*yes, no, wait*) Can we trust that His answer is best, no matter what it is? (*yes*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you have ever taken a test? (Let students raise hands.) Why do you think teachers give you tests? (To see what we have learned, or what we still need to learn.) School would be easier if you never took tests, but you would not learn as much or as well.

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

God sometimes gives us tests in our lives. He tests us to see if we really trust Him and have learned to have faith. Listen to find out how the man in our story is tested, and how the test ends.

## **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What did Satan do to Job? (Let students say the bad things that happened.) Did God still care about Job? (Yes, He did.) What happened in the end? (Job got twice as much as before.)



#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

The Bible calls Satan the Accuser. He accuses us of doing wrong. He tries to get us to doubt God's love for us. He tries to get us to feel angry at God. He tries to get us to reject God and turn away from Him. Satan will try to get you to do wrong, to question God, and to give up.

Do not listen to Satan's lies. Remember what God teaches in His Word. God always keeps His promises, so you do not need to doubt Him. He always does what is best for you, so you do not need to question God. He will give you strength, so you should not give up.

Satan fights a battle against God. He cannot win against God, so he tries to get you to turn from God because then He wins a small victory. Do not let Satan win in your life. Keep trusting in God. When you trust God even during hard tests, like Job did, you are winning against Satan.

## 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.

## THREE YOUNG MEN OBEY GOD

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Do not turn from God even if people threaten you. God has the power to deliver you.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What bad things happened to Job? (Let one or 2 students talk about the bad things.) Who did these things to Job? (Satan) Did Job get angry and curse God? (no) How does the story end? (Let one student tell how God blessed Job in the end.)

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## **QUESTIONS:**

Do not answer out loud but think about these questions in your head. Has anyone ever laughed at you for believing in Jesus or the Bible? Have they ever hit you? How would it feel to have a powerful person say that if you don't reject Jesus, he will do something bad to you?

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

In our story today, 3 young men face death if they will not bow down to an idol. They have to decide if they will stay loyal to God, or if they will give up their belief to save their own lives. Listen to find out what they decide and what happens to them.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

What were the 3 young men told to bow down to? (an idol, a statue) What would happen if

they didn't? (They'd be thrown into a fiery furnace.) Did the 3 men give in and worship the idol? (No!)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

These young men had a very hard decision to make. There were other

Israelites in the land, but it seems that the others bowed to the idol.

These boys decided it was more important to obey God than to take care of their own safety. They had great courage. They knew God could deliver them from the fire. They also said that even if God did not deliver them from the fire, and they died, they still would not bow to an idol. They were willing to give up their own lives to do what God wanted.

What about you? You may never have to give up your life to follow God, but maybe some people may hurt you or say mean things to you because you follow Jesus. Are you willing to have people be unkind to you for Jesus' sake? We do not have much strength in ourselves to be willing to suffer for Jesus. But God gives strength when we need it. We can pray for courage and God will help us to do what is right, no matter what.

## 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.

## DANIEL WILL NOT PRAY TO THE KING

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Obey God over man. Do not fear what men can do.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What

were the 3 young men told to bow down to? (an idol) Did the 3 men give in and worship the idol? (No!) What happened? (Let one student finish the story.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you like lions? (Let students raise hands.) Would you like to spend the night with lions in your room? (No!) Why not? (They will eat you, etc.)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

A man has to decide if he will sin, or if he will be loyal to God. Listen to find out if he makes the right decision like the men last week did.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the new law the men made? (No one could pray to any god except the king.) Did Daniel obey this law and pray to the king? (no) What did he do instead? (He went home and prayed to God.) What was the punishment for Daniel? (He was thrown into a den of lions.) Did he die? (no)

What happened? (Let one student tell the rest of the story.)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Sometimes we have to decide if we will be loyal to God, no matter what. Maybe it is when people are talking against God



or Jesus. We have to decide if we will tell them the truth, or if we will just listen to what they say or even join them. Maybe it is when people want to steal something, and they will make fun of us or even hurt us if we say no.

We have to decide if we will do what is right no matter what.

When it is time to do right, even though bad things may happen, trust in God. Have courage that God will help you and be with you and give you strength. (Teacher—Read Isaiah 41:10 out loud.)

If you are facing bad things because you are loyal to God, call out to God to help. With the King of the universe as our heavenly Father, we do not need to be afraid of anything!

## 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.

## JONAH RUNS AWAY FROM GOD

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



You cannot run away from God. Obey the first time.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Let 3 or

4 students take turns telling part of the story of Daniel for review.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Have one student come to the front. Tell the class to pretend that one of the other students said mean things to him and even hit him. Now, ask the boy to go tell the mean boy that you love him and will forgive him if he is sorry. Would he want to do that? The boy will probably say no. Why should he go and be nice to someone who has been mean to him? Why should he not throw stones back at him or say mean things back to him or hit him back? Let the students talk about how it would feel to give a message of love and forgiveness to someone who has been mean.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, God tells a man to give a message to a group of people that is very mean. Listen to find out what happens when this man does not obey.

## **TELL THE STORY**

(Teacher—As you tell the story, be sure to tell the students that the Ninevites were very bad people. They used to kill their enemies and do terrible things to their prisoners. Jonah did not want to tell them about God! They were terrible people! He thought they did not deserve God's forgiveness.)

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Who was the prophet who disobeyed God and ran away? (Jonah) What animal did God use to swallow Jonah? (a big fish) Did Jonah obey the second time? (yes) Did the Ninevites believe God's message and feel sorry for their sin? (yes)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Sometimes God may ask you to do something you do not want to do. Whatever God wants you to do, it is better to do it the first time. Do not try to run away or hide from God. No one can run away from God.

Even if we may not want to love some people, God loves them. He wants us to give His message of love to all people, no matter who they are. He loves every person and died for all people. There is no one, no matter how bad, that God does not love.

#### 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 SENDS PROPHETS TO ISRAEL**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God's time is best.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. God has done many great things from

the beginning of the world. What are some of the great things God has done? (Let different students answer.)

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## QUESTIONS:

After God has done all those things for His people, do you think they will believe when He sends a message to them? (yes or no) Why or why not? (Let one or 2 students explain their answers.) Would you believe what God said after God did all those things for you?

If you knew God was going to send a message, how do you think He would do it? How can God send a message to a whole nation of people? (Let different students give ideas, maybe write it in a book, maybe tell it from heaven, maybe tell someone to tell the king, etc.) Do you think the people will listen to God's messages? (yes or no) Why or why not? (different answers)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

God is going to send many messages to His people. Find out if the people listen and obey God.

### **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

How did God send messages to His people? (by prophets) How did the prophets give God's messages? (They told people, and they wrote the messages down in the Bible.) Did the people listen and obey?



(no) Why do you think the people did not listen? (different ideas) Do you think their lives would have been better if they had obeyed God? (yes)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Ask the students what they think the Israelites' lives would be like if they followed God. Tell them about the blessings the Israelites enjoyed when they did follow God and obey Him. Tell the students that God's message to them is now in the Bible. Will they obey it and follow God's way, or not listen to what God wants?

Because you want the students to be excited about next week's lesson, tell them that some Israelites did believe God's prophets and God's messages. Those people looked for the Savior that God promised would come. They did not know when, but they believed He would come someday. And the time was coming soon. Tell them to come back next week to hear about the Savior that God promised to send!

### Memorize

Read the verses. Talk about how God does not forget, ever. Tell students to memorize the verses at home for next week's class.

## JESUS IS BORN IN BETHLEHEM

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus left wonderful heaven to come to earth because He loved us so much.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. God sent messages to His people. How did He do that? (*prophets*) Did most of the people believe and obey God's messages? (*no*) But the ones who did believe knew Someone was coming. They waited and waited. How many years went by with no prophets? (*400*) Did God forget about His promise? (*no*) No, God never forgets. God knew the perfect time.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine the king of a country came to visit your country. He said he loved the people of your country and wanted to help them. How could he show that he really did love your people? (*Let different children give ideas.*) The king tried many things. Then he did what no other king had ever done. He decided to show his love by leaving his palace in his own country and moving to your country. But he did not build a big palace in your country. He went to live in the poorest village with the common people. He dressed like them and ate what they ate.

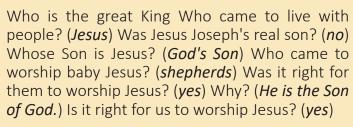
Do you think the people believed then that the king really did love them? (yes) Why? (He came to live with them, he left his palace, etc.) Do you think a king would really do this? (yes or no)

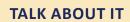
## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

One King, the greatest King of all, really did do this. Find out what He left to come, and who He loved so much.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**





Talk about how heaven is a perfect, beautiful place with no sickness, no sin, no dying, and no sadness. Talk about all the things Jesus left when He left heaven to come to earth. God loved us so much He sent His only Son to earth for us. Jesus loved us so much that He came to earth. God could not have done anything greater to show His love for us than to send His Son to live and die for us.

#### 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.



## **NICODEMUS COMES TO SEE JESUS**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



You must be born twice. God is a perfect, loving heavenly Father.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Let students say different things that Jesus left when He left heaven to come to earth. What was His birth on earth like? (poor family, born in a stable, etc.) Who came to worship Him? (shepherds) Who is Jesus? (the Son of God) Is He the Deliverer God promised would come? (yes) Why did Jesus come to earth? (He loved us.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Bring a picture of a caterpillar, cocoon, and butterfly to the lesson—or real ones if you can! Explain that the butterfly starts out as a caterpillar. Then one day, he makes a cocoon and goes inside. After a long time, he comes out a butterfly! It is the same creature, but he is totally different. Let students touch the objects and talk about them.)

It is almost as if the butterfly was born again into a new animal. He is really the same creature, but what a change! People are the same way. God wants to change us into new, more beautiful people who belong to Him. Jesus called this being born again.

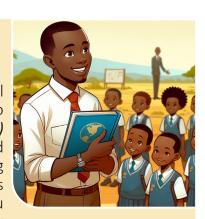
#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Listen to find out what being born again really means and how people can be born again.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

What did Jesus tell Nicodemus he had to do? (be born again) Did he understand what Jesus was talking about? (no) Jesus explained that you are born once in your



earthly family. Then you need to be born again into whose family? (*God's*) How are people born into God's family? (*when they believe in Jesus*)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Explain that when people are born into God's family, they should be different than they used to be. You do not look different like a butterfly does, but there will be some changes inside you.

You get a new nature from God. This new nature wants to follow God and be close to Him. You will not want to follow sin's ways as much as God's ways. God's Word says that God's Holy Spirit comes to live inside you! He will help you live this new way. The more you live God's way, the more people will notice that you are different. They will start to see the wonderful person God is making you to be. It will be as amazing as the butterfly!

## 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 CALMS A STORM** 

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is all-powerful.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, what did Jesus

tell Nicodemus about? (how to be born again) When we believe in Jesus and are born into God's family, who comes to live inside us? (God's Holy Spirit)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine that there is a dangerous snake in your yard. A man comes to catch the snake and take it away. He asks you to come and help him. You ask him if he has ever caught a snake before. He says no. He does not know anything about snakes. He has never caught any animal before. Would you want to go with this man? (no) Why not? (He does not know what he is doing.)

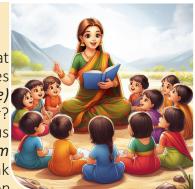
But then another man comes to catch the snake. This man has been catching snakes for many years. He has caught many snakes and has never been hurt. He wants you to help him. Would you go with him? (yes) Why? (different answers) Would you trust the first man? (no) Would you trust the second man? (yes) Why? (The first one does not know what to do; the second one knows what to do.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today, the disciples learn an important lesson about trusting Jesus. Find out what the lesson is.

## TELL THE STORY REVIEW THE STORY

What happened that made the disciples afraid? (a storm came) Was there danger? (yes) What did Jesus do? (made the storm stop) How do you think the disciples felt when



they saw the sea obey what Jesus said? (amazed, afraid, happy, etc.)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

The storm was bad. But Jesus created the sea and waves! He can command them to do whatever He wants. If the disciples had believed this, they would not have been afraid of the storm. They would have trusted Jesus and not worried.

You did not trust the first snake catcher. But you would trust the second one because he knows what to do. Jesus can be trusted always for everything. He knows everything and He is never afraid. He is the Ruler of everything. He has all power. So when He is with us, we do not need to be afraid of anything. Some bad things may come into our lives. They make us afraid because we do not know what will happen. But Jesus promised to be with us. We can trust Him and have faith that He will take care of us. He knows what He is doing.

#### 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 TO A SAMARITAN WOMAN

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus gives the water of life to anyone who believes in Him.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What

happened that made the disciples afraid? (a storm came) Was there danger? (yes) What did Jesus do? (made the storm stop) What did the disciples learn about Jesus that day? (He has power over the sea, they can trust Him, etc.)

**Always Begin** The Lesson With Praver



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Play a game where the children run a lot, maybe a race, or running around in a big circle. Then let them take a break for water. When they sit down for the story, ask them, if they ran again, would they want more water? When they say yes, ask why. They already got to drink water before. Would they need more water if they ran tomorrow? Why? Let children discuss how we get thirsty and need more water each day.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Jesus talked about water in our story today. Listen to find out what kind of water He was talking about.

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

How did Jesus know so many things about this lady? (He is the Son of God.) Was she a sinner? (ves) Did Jesus go away from her because she was a sinner? (no) What did He do? (Let 1 or 2 children tell the

# rest of the story.)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

People are thirsty to know God. When they



believe in Jesus, it is like having so much water they will never be thirsty again. People who believe in Jesus know God. They can spend time with God anytime they want! When they are thirsty to know more about God, they can read the Bible. (Teacher—Read John 6:35 out loud.)

When the disciples saw Jesus talking to this woman, they were very surprised. She was a woman, and she was from a group of people that the Jews did not like. The disciples probably would not have talked to her. But Jesus did not care if she was a man or a woman or a child. It did not matter to Him what race she was. He loved her just as He loves all people. He wants all people to know God.

Are you like Jesus? Or do you only talk to certain people who are like you? Do you only care about people who are close to your age or have the same skin color? God loves everyone. He wants all people to know the good news of His love. Will you tell them?

#### 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 ABOUT A GOOD SAMARITAN**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Treat all other people the same way you want to be treated.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Ask

students to explain the living water Jesus was talking about in last week's lesson. How do we get this living water? (*Believe in Jesus.*) Did the woman believe in Jesus? (*yes*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine you are on your way to the most important game of the year. If you do not hurry, you will be late. You start to run, thinking of how much fun the game will be. Then suddenly you see a robbery. Some men take an old man's money. They beat him up, then leave him on the road. He is hurt and cannot get up. What will you do? Will you leave him there, or help him? (Let different children answer.) What can you do to help him? (different ideas) What if helping him means you will be late for your special game? What if it means you will miss the whole game? (Children do not have to answer, just think about it.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, Jesus teaches a proud man about loving other people. See how much of Jesus' story you can remember.

## TELL THE STORY REVIEW THE STORY

Let one or 2 students tell the story Jesus told. If there is time, act it out.

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Jesus said the 2 most important laws are to

love God and love others. He said you should do to other people what you would like them to do to you. So think again of that game you were going to when you saw the robbery. If you had been robbed, what would you want someone else to do for you? (help you) So what should you do for that person? (help him)

When you do not know what you should do for someone, just think about what it would be like to be that other person, and then you will see what you can do to love and help him or her. Ask God to help you. He will!

(Teacher—This is a good opportunity to talk about races or nationalities or certain people your culture sees as lower. Talk about how God does not see anyone as lower. That kind of feeling and acting is what Satan wants, not Jesus.)

## 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.



WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SHEEP

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is the Good Shepherd. We should follow Him.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who

created all things? (God) What is God like? (Let many different children answer—eternal, knows all things, all powerful, loves us, etc.) How do we learn about God? (from the Bible) Who wrote the Bible? (God) How do we know it is true? (God never lies.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you have ever seen a sheep? (Let children raise hands.) Are they pretty? (yes or no) Are they smart? (no) What do they do? (eat, sleep, run away, etc.) Sheep like to follow, don't they? (yes) They like to follow other sheep or follow the person who takes care of them. What is that person called? (shepherd) Have you ever tried to take care of a herd of sheep? (yes or no) Do you think it would be hard or easy? (different answers) Why? (different answers)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

People are like sheep in some ways that are not good. We like to follow what other people are doing and think the way the people around us think. In this lesson, you will learn that people should be like sheep in some ways that are good. Listen to find out what ways we should be like sheep.

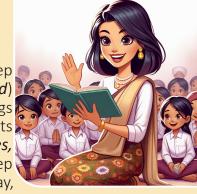
### **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Who should sheep follow? (the shepherd)
What are some things the shepherd protects sheep from? (wolves, thieves, etc.) If a sheep goes the wrong way,

does a good shepherd leave

it behind? (no) What does he do? (He goes and finds it.) Who is the Good Shepherd? (Jesus) How do we stay close to Jesus, the Good Shepherd (By reading the Bible and praying, obeying, etc.)



## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Jesus loves you very much. He wants to take care of you, just like a good shepherd takes care of his sheep. He wants you to trust Him. You do not need to be afraid or worried about anything, because He is with you. When the shepherd is with the sheep, they do not ever have to fear anything.

(Teacher—If you have time, you can teach the children a song about Jesus being our Good Shepherd. If you do not know a song like that, maybe you and the students can make one using the things they have learned about how Jesus is our Good Shepherd!)

## Memorize

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

A PHARISEE AND A TAX COLLECTOR PRAY

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Knowing about God is not the same as knowing God. God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. (Teacher—Let one student who behaves well come up and be the "teacher," and quickly review last week's story.) Who is the Good Shepherd? (*Jesus*) How do we stay close to Jesus, the Good Shepherd (*By reading the Bible and praying, obeying, etc.*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Bring in a picture of a famous person that many of the students know about. Let the students tell you what they know about this person. Tell them what you know.) How many of you know this man? (Let children raise hands.) How many of you have talked to this man? (None of the students should raise hands.) How many of you have stayed at his house and met his family? (none) How many of you go places with him? (none) Do you really know him? (no) You do not really know this man; you only know about him. What is different about really knowing someone instead of only knowing about someone? (You spend time with them, you do things with them and talk with them, etc.)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today there are 2 people in our story. Find out which one wants to really know God.

## TELL THE STORY REVIEW THE STORY

Who were the 2 people who went to pray? (a Pharisee and a tax man) Did it sound like the Pharisee wanted to know God, or he wanted God to know all the good things about



him? (He wanted God to know all the good things about himself.) What kind of prayer did the tax man pray? (Let one or 2 students answer.) Jesus said which one prayed the right way? (the tax man)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

There are many religious people who know many things about God. They want God to see all the good things they do. But they do not really know God. They have never asked God to forgive their sins and be their Savior. The people who humble themselves before God, like the tax man, are the ones who get to really know God. When people believe in Jesus, Jesus promised that He would come live inside them and be with them forever. People who only do good things for other people to see them do not have that wonderful promise. Do you want to be a person who knows about God, or a person who really knows 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.

## **ZACCHAEUS WANTS TO SEE JESUS**

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



No one deserves salvation. But Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What 2 men went to pray in our story last week? (a Pharisee and a tax man) What kind of prayer did the Pharisee say? (He talked about all the good things he did.) What kind of prayer did the tax man say? (He asked God for mercy.) Which one pleased God? (the tax man)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Tell the children to imagine 3 criminals are on trial and you are the judge. The first criminal is a thief. The second one is a murderer. The third is a liar. All 3 criminals must be punished. Ask the students what kinds of punishments they think the criminals should get. Let the students give different answers. The murderer will get the worst punishment. The liar will get the least bad punishment. Now imagine that you tell them their punishments, but then you decide to take the punishments for them. All 3 of them.)

If those things really happened, which person do you think would be the happiest? (the murderer) Why? (His punishment was the worst.) Do you think the others would be happy too? (yes) Did all 3 deserve to be punished? (yes) Did any of them deserve to have me take their punishment? (no)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

In our story today, Jesus forgives a very bad man. Find out what the other people thought about this and if what they thought was right.



## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Why could Zacchaeus not see Jesus? (He was too short.) What did he do to see Jesus? (climbed a tree) Why did the people complain when Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house? (He was a tax man and a robber.) How could the people tell that Zacchaeus had changed? (He said he would give half his money to the poor, and give money to anyone he had cheated.) Did Jesus say he came to save the good people or the lost people? (the lost people)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

It does not matter how bad or good we are, we all need God's mercy. The people who thought they were good thought they did not need forgiveness. So they did not ask for it. But Zacchaeus was forgiven because he saw he was a sinner and needed Jesus' mercy. Jesus will not say no to anyone who comes to Him for forgiveness.

#### 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 SCRIBES AND PHARISEES TEST JESUS

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



No one deserves God's mercy and forgiveness. But Jesus came to give mercy.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Let one or 2 students review the story of Zacchaeus. How could the people tell that Zacchaeus had changed? (He said he would give half his money to the poor, and give money to anyone he had cheated.) Did Jesus say he came to save the good people or the lost people? (the lost people) What did He mean when He said that? (Let one or 2 students explain that all people are lost and need God's mercy.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine that the 3 criminals who were on trial in last week's lesson come back. (Teacher—Review what happened last week, that one student was a thief, one a liar, and one a murderer. But you took their punishment even though they deserved to be punished.) This time they brought a girl to the judge. She cheated on an exam. They have been forgiven, but they want this girl to be punished. (Let students discuss what the 3 are doing and if they think it is good or bad.)

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

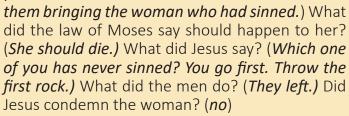
Today, some men bring someone to Jesus. They want her to be judged and punished. Listen to find out what Jesus does.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Why were the scribes and Pharisees angry with Jesus? (He said they looked good on the outside but their hearts were bad.) How did they try to test Jesus?

(Let one student tell about





## **TALK ABOUT IT**

The Pharisees and scribes could not judge the woman for her sin because they had all sinned too! (Teacher—Have students say Romans 3:23 together.) The only Person who has never sinned is Jesus. He is the only One Who has the right to judge. But Jesus took the punishment for their sins when He died for them. If any people, no matter how sinful, ask Jesus to forgive them, He will!

And if we know a sinful person, instead of judging that person, we can tell him or her about Jesus!

## 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.

PETER WALKS ON WATER

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



When problems come, do not stop having faith. When you are afraid, keep trusting in God.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who was trying to test Jesus? (the scribes and Pharisees, or the religious leaders) What was the test? (Let one or 2 students tell about them bringing the woman to Jesus and saying the law said she should die.) How did Jesus answer them? (Who has never sinned? You throw the first rock.) What did the men do? (They left.) Why could the men not judge this woman for her sin? (They had done bad things too.) Did Jesus condemn her or forgive her? (He forgave her.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

What are some things that people are afraid of? (Let different children give ideas.) Have you ever been afraid? (yes) (Teacher—If there was a time you were very afraid, you can tell the children about it now.) If you were facing a scary thing, would you feel less afraid if your mother and father were with you? (yes or no) What if Jesus was standing right there with you, would you be less afraid then? (yes) How many of you think you would not be afraid of anything if Jesus were right there with you? (Let children raise hands.)

## LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

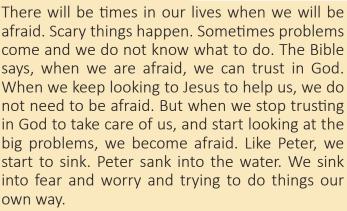
In our story today, someone gets very afraid, even though Jesus is right there with him. Listen to find

out who is afraid, and why.

## TELL THE STORY REVIEW THE STORY

Have students act out the story.

## **TALK ABOUT IT**



Many of you raised your hands that you would not be afraid if Jesus was with you. Then you should not be afraid, because He IS with you! If you have believed in Jesus as your Savior, Jesus has come to live inside you. He is always with you! There is never a time that He leaves you or lets you face a storm in life alone. Keep trusting Him. Look to Him instead of the big problems. Remember He is always with you. What a wonderful Friend!

## 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 DISCIPLES HEAR GOD'S VOICE

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is greater than the Law and the Prophets. Jesus is God's only Son.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Which disciple walked on the water in our story last week? (*Peter*) What made Peter afraid? (*the storm, waves and wind*) What happened when he stopped looking at Jesus and became afraid? (*He started to sink.*) Who saved him? (*Jesus*)

## Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine a great king asked you to give a message to his army. He told you what to say and you went and told the army the message. Was it your message or his? (his) Who is more important, the one who made the message, or the one who told the message to someone? (The one who made the message.)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today, God shows some of the disciples something important. Find out what it is.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

#### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Have one student come up front and be the "teacher." Let that student quickly tell the story again.

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Jesus is greater than any person. He is greater than Moses. Moses wrote down the laws, but they were God's laws, not Moses' laws. Elijah was a great prophet, but he gave God's message, not



his own message. Jesus is the Son of God. He is greater than any man. He is greater than the law and the prophets. He is God.

We do not worship great men, no matter how wonderful they are or what good things they have done. We should never worship any person because only God is to be worshipped. Only Jesus is worthy of worship. We do not pray to idols because they are just wood or stone or gold. But we also should not pray to people or worship people because they are just people! They are not God.

(Teacher—If you have any Catholic students, you may want to talk about how Mary was only a person and the disciples were only people. They are not God and should not be prayed to or worshipped. You can talk about when Cornelius bowed to Peter in Acts 10:25-26, and Peter said he should not do this.)

## 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 LOVES CHILDREN!

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus has time for children. You are special to Jesus!

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Have

1 or 2 students share about last week's story of Jesus with Elijah and Moses. God showed the disciples that who was greatest? (Jesus)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

What people care about you? (Let children raise their hands and say who cares about them—parents, aunts and uncles, brothers and sisters, friends, etc.) How do you know they care about you? What do they do to show you that they care? (different answers) How do your parents show you that they love you? (They feed you and give you clothes and give you a house to sleep in; they spend time with you and help you, they teach you, etc.) If you were older, and you had your own little baby, how would you show that baby that you loved her? (Let different students give ideas.)

## **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today, we will hear about Someone who loves children very much. Listen to find out who He is and why He is different from the other religious leaders.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Who did not like it that the children had come? (the disciples) What did Jesus do when the disciples started to send the children away? (He told them to let the children come to Him.) Then what did Jesus



do? (He picked them up in His arms and blessed them.)

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

Jesus loves you too! He has made you very special and He loves you as a special person. If you have accepted Him as your Savior, God has adopted you as His child! You are a child of God. How wonderful that is. Now God is the One who takes care of you. He shows His love for you in so many ways. Can you think of some of the ways God shows His love for you? (Let different children talk about how God takes care of their needs, answers their prayers, helps them, etc.)

(Teacher—talk about how God shows His love in the beauty He gives us in the world, in the seasons, in the way He provides food in the earth, in how He gives us people to love and to love us, etc. Take time in prayer with the children to thank God for showing His love to all of you.)

#### 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.

## A SON LEAVES HOME

## The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God forgives us, even when we go the wrong way. God is love.

#### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Some

children came to see Jesus in our story last week. Why do you think they wanted to be with Jesus? (Let different children give ideas.) Did Jesus send them away? (no) What did Jesus do? (He said let them come. He touched them and blessed them.) How do we know that Jesus loves us? (He gives us what we need, answers our prayers, died for us, etc.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

If a son rejects his family and runs away from home, how do you think his father and mother will feel? (maybe sad or angry) If the son lost all his money and came back, what do you think they would do? (Let children discuss if they think the parents would accept the son back or not.)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today you will hear a story from the Bible that is almost the same as this one. Listen to find out how this one ends!

## **TELL THE STORY**

## **REVIEW THE STORY**

Did the son spend his money on good things or bad things? (bad things) Things got so bad, he

had to do what? (feed pigs) What did he want to eat? (the pig's food) What did he decide to do? (go home and ask to be his father's servant) When his father saw him coming, did he send him away? (no) What did he do?

(ran to him, hugged and kissed him, gave him clothes, had a party, etc.)



When we sin and go away from God's path, we are acting like the son did. We are running away from God's care and going our own way. Things usually go wrong when we go our own way. But when we ask God to forgive us, God is happy to forgive. God is like the father. He will forgive us and celebrate that we are right with Him again. God does not get angry when we come back to Him. He is happy when we admit we have done wrong and ask forgiveness.

If you have sinned, and gone away from God's way, ask forgiveness and come back to God today.

#### 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.

**LAZARUS DIES** 

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Sometimes bad things happen so God will get the glory. God teaches us to trust Him in sad times.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, the son left home. What happened when the son had no more money? (Let one or 2 students tell the story.) What does this story teach us about God? (We are like the son and God is like the father. He is happy when we come back to Him and ask forgiveness.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine that someone you love is sick. You send a message to the doctor. But he does not come for many days. How would you feel? (sad, angry, afraid, etc.) What would you say to the person when he finally came? (different answers) Would you think that person still cared about you if he did not come soon? (yes or no)

### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today, Jesus has a sick friend, but He does not come and heal the sick friend. The friend dies. Did Jesus not care? Listen to find why Jesus did not come to heal His friend.

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Who was sick? (Lazarus) Who were Lazurus' sisters? (Mary and Martha) Could Jesus have healed Lazurus' sickness? (yes) What happened when Jesus came? (Let a few students tell or act out the rest of the story.)



### **TALK ABOUT IT**

The Bible says Jesus wept. He knew He would raise Lazarus from the dead, but He still was sad because He cared so much about him and his sisters. Jesus loves us too. He knows when we are sad and hurting. He knows when we cry. He is with us when bad things happen.

Like with this sad thing, Jesus can use our sad things to show people His great power or to show His great love. When we take our problems to Jesus, and trust Him to take care of them, He shows His power and love to us when He turns these sad things into good things.

If you are having sad times, talk to Jesus about them. Tell Him how sad you are and ask Him to take care of the problems. Then trust that He will do what is best. He loves you very much.

### 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 TEACHES HIS DISCIPLES TO SERVE

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Serve others in love, because Jesus served you. Lower yourself for others because Jesus lowered Himself for you.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What happened to Lazurus in our story last week? (Teacher—Do a popup review. Call a student's name and that student tells the story until you call another name, then that student continues, etc.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you would like to be a slave? (None of the children will probably raise their hands.) (Teacher—If some of the students do not know what a slave is, tell them it is a servant who does not get paid for working and the people think they own him.) What do you think it would be like to be a slave? (Let different children give ideas of what it would be like.) What kinds of things do you think a slave would have to do? (Wash the house, clean the floors, put away the trash, cook, bring you everything you want.) Do you think it would be fun to be a slave? (NO!)

# **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

In the story today, Jesus does something that a slave would do. The disciples are very surprised. But then Jesus tells them to do something that shocks them! Listen to find out what Jesus tells them to do.

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the surprising thing that Jesus did to the disciples? (He washed their feet.) What did Jesus then tell the disciples to do that was so shocking? (Wash each other's feet.)



#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

The disciples were not feeling very humble that night. They wanted to be better than the others. They wanted to know who was the greatest of them all. Jesus showed them a lesson instead of just talking to them. The disciples were so surprised when Jesus started to wash their feet that they paid attention. Jesus showed them an important lesson that day. They knew Jesus was telling them not just to wash each other's feet, but to serve each other in humility and love just like Jesus served them.

The disciples wanted to be great. But Jesus wanted them to learn that to be great, they must be humble and willing to serve others. You do not have to go around washing people's feet every day. But you should be willing to serve other people, like Jesus did. God thinks the people who serve are the people who are really great.

### 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.

PRAY THEN DISMISS CHILDREN.

# **TELL THE STORY**

# JESUS EATS THE PASSOVER FEAST

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus' death delivers us from sin, just as the Passover Lamb delivered the Israelites from death.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What was the surprising thing that Jesus did in our story last week? (*He washed the disciples' feet.*) Why was this a surprise? (*Usually only a slave did that.*) What was Jesus trying to teach the disciples? (*to serve each other*)

# Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



# **QUESTIONS:**

I want you to imagine you are a slave. Your manager was a very mean man who beat you and would never let you be free. But one day a kind, loving man came to the house. He paid the price to buy your freedom. You were free!

Now that you have been made free, would you stay in that house with the mean manager? (NO!) What would you do? (leave) It would be so silly to go back to being a slave when you have your freedom. Would you want to work for the kind man? (yes) Why? (He was kind and bought your freedom.)

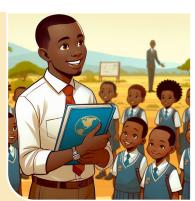
#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Listen to find out what Jesus bought our freedom from.

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the name of the special dinner they were having? (the Passover) What was the Passover a time to remember? (The time when God delivered the Israelites from death, when they put



the blood of the lamb on their door frames and it saved their oldest sons from death.) But this time Jesus talked about Himself as He broke the bread and gave the juice. What did He say when He broke the bread? (to remember that His body would be broken for them) What did He say when He gave the drink? (remember that His blood would flow for them) What was Jesus talking about? (when He would die on the cross)

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

All people are slaves to sin and to Satan. They live their lives doing what sin tells them to do. They are not free. When Jesus died, He paid for our freedom. When we accept Him, we become free too! We are not slaves to sin or Satan any longer. We belong to God now. The Bible says we have been bought with a price. Now we belong to God. We should not act as if we are still slaves to sin and Satan. We should serve our kind Savior and never serve sin again.

### 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 ARRESTED** 

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



We do not have enough strength in ourselves to do right. We need God's strength to keep us loyal to Him.

## **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Explain to me how we can be free of sin and Satan's power. (Let a few students explain that when Jesus died He paid for our freedom from sin and Satan.) (Teacher—Tell children that if they ever have questions or don't understand, or have not accepted Jesus and want to, they can stay and talk to you after class.)

# Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



# **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Have something in class that looks not heavy but is very heavy, such as a bag that is filled with rocks. Ask the students if they think they could pick the thing up. Let some of them try. When they cannot pick it up or cannot hold it for very long, have all the students sit back down.) What happened? (They might say the bag was heavier than they thought it would be.) Sometimes things are harder than we think they will be, and we are not as strong as we think we are.

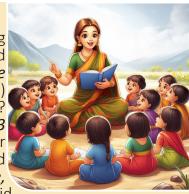
#### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today, Peter learns that he is not as strong as he thought. Listen to find out what happens.

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What was the thing Peter said he would never do? (deny the Lord or leave Him) What did Peter do? (denied the Lord 3 times) How did Peter feel when Jesus looked at him? (miserable, shamed, sad, etc.) Did



Jesus reject Peter forever? (No, He forgave him.)

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

We all need God's strength to help us stay on God's path. Many temptations will come. Many times we will face tests. With Jesus with us, we can be strong. With His strength in us, we can do anything He wants us to do for Him. When it comes time for you to either stand strong for Jesus or deny Him, remember Peter. When you want to be strong, but know you do not have strength, let Christ's strength be strong for you.

And when you fail, know that God still loves you and forgives you when you ask for forgiveness. Jesus forgave Peter, and He still used Peter to do great things for Him. But Peter certainly never forgot his lesson—to let Christ be strong in him instead of thinking his own strength was enough. You can learn this lesson from Peter. Let Christ be strong in you. (Teacher—Read Philippians 4:13 out loud. Say the verse together as a class.)

### 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 DIES ON THE CROSS** 

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus died to save sinners. He is willing to save anyone, no matter how bad they are.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory

verses from last week. What did Peter do? (*denied the Lord 3 times*) How did Peter feel when Jesus looked at him? *(miserable, sad, etc.)* Did Jesus reject Peter forever? (*No, He forgave him.)* 

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



## **QUESTIONS:**

How many of you have ever ridden on a train or a bus? (*Let students raise their hands.*) Imagine that today, a train company is giving people a free ride to another city. Anyone can ride. All they have to do is get on the train. Many people come. Still there is room. But some don't believe the train ride really is free. So, they sit and wait. Others think they have to work for a ticket. They do not get on the train and try to stop others from getting on.

The driver calls out one last time for people to come. The train starts to move. Then, suddenly, the people see a man running. He jumps onto the train at the last minute!

(Teacher—Ask students who got to ride the train and who did not. Those who got on the train got to ride; those who did not get on did not. They could have all ridden, but each had to choose. Even the last man got to ride because he got on.)

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today, a very bad man believes in Christ right before he dies. Listen to find out if it is too late for him to have salvation.



# **TELL THE STORY**

# **REVIEW THE STORY**

Did Jesus forgive the thief on the cross? (yes) Even though he was a bad man? (yes) Even though he was about to die? (yes)

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Just like the free train ride, Jesus offers free salvation and forgiveness to anyone who accepts Him. But some people say it cannot be true. They say it is too easy, or they are too bad. Like the people who sat in the station, these people do not have salvation. Then there are those who will not accept Christ's free gift because they think they have to earn their own way to heaven. But people like the thief know they could never earn salvation. They know they need mercy. Those who accept Christ's free salvation are forgiven and given eternal life in heaven forever with God.

If you were given a free train ride, would you take it? *(yes or no)* Jesus wants to give you free salvation. Have you accepted His gift for you?

#### 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 ROSE FROM THE DEAD!** 

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Have faith in what God says. Do not doubt God.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who

does Jesus give free salvation to? (anyone who believes in Him as Savior) Does it matter how bad or good they are? (no) Why do some people not accept God's free gift? (different answers) Jesus is ready and wants to give salvation, free, to anyone.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

If I left this room and told you I would be back soon, would you believe me? (yes or no) Some of you would believe me and wait for me. Some would believe and wait for a while, but then if I did not come back right away, you would probably wonder if I was telling the truth. Some of you would probably worry right from the beginning if I really would come back or not. People are the same way about what God says. Some people believe. Some are not sure. Some are worried. God says the people who are happy are the people who believe.

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Listen to find out what Thomas does not believe.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What happened 3 days after Jesus died? (*He rose again*!) Which disciple was not there when

Jesus came to see the disciples? (*Thomas*) Did he believe what the disciples said? (*no*) How do you think Thomas felt when Jesus came into the room where they were? (*afraid, amazed, etc.*) Did he believe then? (*Yes*!)



#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

We are always supposed to believe what God says. And the place to find out what God says is in His Word. If you doubt that Jesus loves you, read the story about Jesus and the children again. If you doubt that Jesus died to save you, read about the thief on the cross again, or other verses that talk about salvation. Those verses will also tell you that salvation is free and you cannot work for it.

If someone has told you something you are not sure God wants for you, look to the Bible for direction. If God does not tell you in His Word to do this thing or believe a certain belief, you do not have to do this thing. It is okay to have questions. It is not okay to doubt what God's Word says. So if you doubt, look in God's Word. If it is not true, do not believe it. If God says it is true, then believe it and stop doubting like Thomas. People who believe God's truth are blessed people.

# 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'S PLAN OF SALVATION IS FOR YOU**

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God talks about lambs all throughout the Bible to teach us about His Perfect Lamb. Jesus is the Lamb of God.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Which disciple was not with the other disciples when Jesus came to see them? (*Thomas*) Did Thomas believe that Jesus had risen from the dead? (*no*) When Jesus came to Thomas, what did Jesus tell Thomas? (*Stop doubting and believe*.) Jesus also said that the happy people were the ones who believe even though they have not seen. Have you ever seen Jesus in person? (*no*) Do you believe He is alive? (*yes*) Then you are one of those happy people!

# Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



# **QUESTIONS:**

Can you think of any stories from the Bible that had lambs or a lamb in them? (Let different students answer—they can talk about any story where a person made a sacrifice. Some of the stories would be Cain and Abel, Abraham and Isaac, the Israelites in the desert, the Israelites before they left Egypt.) (Teacher—Talk about some of these stories and how lambs were important in the Bible.)

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Now, we will talk about a very special Lamb. Listen to find out who the Lamb is.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Can we ever do enough good to take away our sins? (no) Why did something have to happen to take away people's sins? (because sin cannot be in heaven) Who was God going to send? (Jesus, or the Deliverer) Who



was the perfect sacrifice for sins? (Jesus) Why is Jesus called the Lamb of God? (He was the Perfect Sacrifice to take away sins.) Did Jesus ever sin? (no) How did Jesus take away our sins? (He died on the cross and paid the punishment for sins.)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher—In this special lesson, make sure the children understand that the only way they can have their sins forgiven is to accept the sacrifice of the Perfect Lamb of God, to accept Jesus as their Savior. Take time to talk to and pray with any children who say they want to accept Jesus as their Savior. Also, be sure to tell the students that if they have never believed in Jesus as their Savior, they can do this at any time no matter where they are. And if they have already accepted Jesus, they are saved forever. They never need to do this again.)

# 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 GOES BACK TO HEAVEN** 

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Jesus is coming again someday. All people who have accepted Jesus should be ready for Him to come back.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine your parents have to go on a trip. They say they want you to take care of the house. They want you to keep the house clean and do the work that needs to be done. So they leave. The first day you work very hard. You make sure everything is perfectly clean. The next day you still work, but not as hard. By the 4th day the house is not clean anymore. You know your mother and father will come, but you do not know when, so you do not have things ready. Then one morning, early, you see your mother and father coming. You know the house is not clean and the work is not done. How would you feel? (ashamed, afraid, etc.) How would you have felt if you had kept the house clean and the work all done? (happy, proud, etc.) Even though you did not know when they were coming back, you should have been ready all the time.

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Someone promised us that He is coming back someday. Are we ready for Him to come back?

# **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

How many people saw Jesus at one time? (500) Jesus told the disciples that Who would come to them? (God's Holy Spirit) How many days did Jesus stay with the disciples? (40) What did the 2 men say after



Jesus left and went to heaven? (*One day Jesus will come back again.*) Do you believe that Jesus will come back again someday? (*yes*!)

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

The child should have been ready for her mother and father to come home at any time. Jesus could come back at any time too. We should be ready for Him. We should be sure that we are living our lives so we are ready for when He comes to take us to heaven to be with Him.

How can we be ready? By living God's way and doing what is pleasing to Him. Are we walking God's way or sin's way? Are we doing what pleases God or what pleases ourselves? Are our lives clean or dirty? We should check our lives and think about how we would feel if Jesus came back today. We want to be joyful when Jesus comes and not ashamed. Live today as if Jesus is coming back today. Maybe He will!

### 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.

STEPHEN DIES FOR JESUS

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Be willing to suffer for Jesus. Pray for those who are suffering. Be ready always to answer about your faith.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. How many people saw Jesus at one time? (500) Jesus told the disciples that Who would come to them? (God's Holy Spirit) What did the 2 men say after Jesus left and went to heaven? (One day Jesus will come back again.)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

Do you think there are people in prison somewhere right now because they believe in Jesus? (*yes or no*)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today a man suffers because he believes in Jesus. Listen to see if you can find out why, and what happens to him.

### **TELL THE STORY**

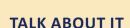
### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What kinds of things was Stephen doing? (telling people about Jesus) The people who hated Stephen hated who else? (Jesus) Why do you think they hated Jesus and Stephen? (Let some of the older students give ideas about what they

think.) What happened to Stephen? (He died, or he was stoned to death.) Where did Stephen go after he died? (heaven) How do we know he went to heaven? (He believed in Jesus as his Savior.)

(Teacher—Be sure the students understand

that Stephen did not go to heaven because he was killed. He went to heaven because he believed in Jesus.)



Some people think that people suffering for Jesus was only something that happened many hundreds of years before now. But there have been many times in history when people have hated the people who believe in Jesus. These angry people have made the believers suffer. It still happens today.

We should pray that God would make believers in these places strong in their hearts, so they will not be afraid. We should pray for our own hearts, that we would not be afraid if we had to suffer for the Lord.

And, also, we should make sure we know what we believe. The Bible says we should always be ready to answer about what our faith is. Let's pray about that right now.

### 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.



SAUL SEES A LIGHT FROM HEAVEN

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God can save anyone, no matter what bad things they have done. Keep praying for people who are not saved.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. In our story last week, what happened to Stephen? (He died, or was stoned to death.) Where did Stephen go after he died? (heaven) How do we know he went to heaven? (He believed in Jesus as his Savior.)

Always Begin
The Lesson
With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Bring a piece of cloth that is VERY dirty. Bring another piece of cloth that is clean. Hold up the clean cloth. Have students tell you about the cloth, what color it is, what size, etc. Then hold up the dirty cloth. Tell students to tell you about it. The first thing they will notice is that it is dirty. Let them talk about how dirty it is. Ask them if they have clothes at home that are so dirty that no matter how many times they wash them, the dirt stains will never wash off. Talk about how there are some stains that are so bad no washing can make them come out.)

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, I will talk about a man whose heart was stained with sin. The stain was very bad. Listen to find out if he was too bad to be washed clean by God.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Who was the man who watched while Stephen was being killed? (Saul) How did Saul feel about the people who believed in Jesus? (He hated them.) What happened to Saul while he was going to



Damascus? (Let one or 2 students talk about what happened in the story.) What did Saul do after he believed in Jesus? (He was baptized and started preaching about Jesus.)

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher—Hold up the dirty cloth again. Say again how there are some stains that we cannot wash away no matter how hard we try.) Some people think that they have sinned so much, their sins cannot ever be forgiven. They think sin has made their hearts so dirty that Jesus cannot wash them clean. But Jesus can wash away any sins! If Jesus could forgive and save Saul, He can forgive and save anyone. There is no one with a heart too dirty for Jesus to make clean.

(Teacher—This would be a good time to explain that people cannot just confess sins so they can keep sinning. People who truly accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior are not happy staying in their old sinful lives.)

### 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.

PETER IS PUT IN JAIL

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God always hears our prayers. Pray for others in need. Pray with faith.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Who was the man who watched while Stephen was being killed? (*Saul*) What did Saul do after he believed in Jesus? (*He was baptized and started preaching about Jesus*.)

Always Begin
The Lesson
With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—If possible, bring a snack for the children to eat. Make sure there is enough for each person. Do not show the snacks to the children. Tell the students to pretend they are very hungry. If they really were very hungry and needed food, what could they do? Some may give ideas about waiting until they get home to eat, or asking their friends if they had any food. Have one child come up to the front. Tell the child to ask you for some food. The child will ask. Give the child a snack. The children will probably be surprised since you usually do not have food to give. Tell them that you knew you would be talking about food today, and you knew they would be hungry, so you brought food for each of them. Give the snack and eat it.)

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

In our story today, people are asking God for something. Listen to find out how God answers their prayers.

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Why was Peter in jail? (He believed in Jesus.) What were many people doing? (praying for Peter) What did God do? (sent an angel and



got Peter out of jail) What happened when the little girl said Peter was at the door? (They did not believe her.)

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

God is a good, loving God. He wants you to pray to Him about what you need and about other people. If you know someone who is sick, or sad, you can pray for that person. And pray believing that God will help them. Just like I knew you would be hungry after we talked about food and planned ahead to give you some, God knows ahead of time what you will need. He wants you to tell Him your needs so He can take care of them.

(Teacher—Ask students who they would like to pray for, then pray together for all those people. Be sure they understand that they can pray for other people whenever they want, even if they are alone.)

#### 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.

PAUL AND SILAS SING IN JAIL

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Be cheerful in bad situations. The way you act is a witness about God.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Why was Peter in jail? (*He believed in Jesus.*) What were many people doing? (*praying for Peter*) What happened when the little girl said Peter was at the door? (*They did not believe her.*) Should we be surprised when God answers our prayers? (*no*) Should we pray with doubtful hearts or believing hearts? (*believing hearts*)

Always Begin
The Lesson
With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

Imagine you are a representative for a country, called an ambassador. You are going to different places talking about your country and your king. You make speeches and write agreements. People look at you and think you are what the people of your country must be like.

Imagine you go to one country and say, "My country is very nice. My king is wonderful. He cares about people." But then you say mean things about other people. You do not show respect for anyone. You do not speak kindly in your speeches. You write things that are not true. What will people think about your country and your king?

### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today, some of God's children are having bad times. Listen to find out if they are good representatives of Jesus or not.

### **TELL THE STORY**

# **REVIEW THE STORY**

What did Paul and Silas do while they were in jail? (prayed and sang songs) What suddenly happened? (an earthquake) When

the jailer came, what happened? (Let a student finish the rest of the story.) What do you think the other prisoners thought about God after that night? (Let different students say ideas.)



### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Since Paul and Silas were believers in Jesus, what they did showed other people about Jesus. People who are children of God are like ambassadors. When people who do not know Jesus meet us, they will watch our lives. If we live kind, loving lives, they will think that God must be kind and loving. If we live hateful, mean lives, do you think they will want to know more about God? (no)

What you do is a witness for God. People will look at your life to see what a believer in Jesus is like. You may be the only believer in Jesus that they know. When people look at your life, do they want to meet your Savior?

### 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.

# PAUL IS IN A SHIPWRECK

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Do not worry about what people think about you. Make what God thinks about you the most important.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Paul and Silas were put in jail. Tell me what happened in our story last week. (*Let a few children give parts of the story.*)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



# **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Let this be a fun time with you and the children. Have one child stand up front. Talk to the children about how people think and say so many different things. You cannot please everyone. Then start pretending you are many different people. Start telling him what to do. "Stand over here." "No, no, stand over there." "No, sit in that chair." "No, go out of the room." "You should not be wearing that shirt, you should be wearing a red shirt." "No, he should wear a green shirt." "No, he should wear a green shirt." "No, he should wear a blue shirt." etc. The children will probably laugh and the boy will probably stand there looking confused.) Can he please many people at one time? (no) No, all people have different things they think.

### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

Today, some people think one thing about Paul; then they think another. Listen to find out what happens to make them change their minds.

#### **TELL THE STORY**

As you tell the story, be sure to add that when the snake bit Paul's hand, the people thought he must be a bad man and God must be punishing him.



### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Let one student be the "teacher" and quickly tell the story again.

#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

If Paul had been worried about what people thought about him, he would have been upset when they said he must be a bad person. But Paul did not worry. Paul knew that people can think and say one thing, then change their minds in a minute. God showed the people that Paul was not being punished for being bad. God took care of Paul.

People are still like that. They may say bad things about you, then good, then bad again. You cannot spend all your time worrying about what other people think about you or say about you. If you belong to God, do what is right, follow God's way, and let God take care of what people think and say.

### 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 WANTS EVERYONE TO KNOW THE GOOD NEWS

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



We should share God's good news of salvation with others.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. What happened to the ship Paul was on? (It sank.) What bit Paul's hand? (a snake) What did the people think about this? (that Paul was a bad man and God was punishing him) Did Paul die? (no) Who took care of him and kept him from dying? (God)

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



#### **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Tell the children that they do not need to answer the questions you will ask right now. They should think in their hearts guietly.) In a small tribe deep in the jungle, there lives a little girl. At night this little girl looks up into the sky and sees the stars. She wonders, "Where did the stars come from? Who made them? Who made me?" This little girl does not know about God. No one has ever told her that God made her and He loves her. No one has ever told her about Jesus. There is no Bible in her language. How will she ever learn about God if no one tells her? How can she follow God's way with no Bible to teach her? How can she have salvation if she does not know what salvation is? Think about these things for a minute. There are many people in the world who have never heard about Jesus. What can we do about it?

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

What did Jesus want His disciples to go and do? (Go all over the world and tell people about Jesus.) Did the disciples obey? (yes)



### **TALK ABOUT IT**

There are so many people all over the world. Some people live in lands that have no Bible. Who will go there and learn their language and write the Bible in their language? There are some boys and girls who have never learned that God loves them. Who will tell them about God's love?

God wants all people to know about Him and accept His Son, Jesus, as their Savior. He wants them to go to heaven and live with Him when they die. And He wants you to be sharing the good news with others! God may want you to go to a different country and tell those people about Jesus. He may want you to be a preacher or teacher. Wherever you go and whatever you do, He wants you to be sharing His good news of salvation.

This does not only start when you are older. You can share God's good news now! Can you think of someone you can share the good news with?

# 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 TELLS JOHN ABOUT THE FUTURE**

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



Heaven is a wonderful, perfect place. All people will go either to heaven or hell.

### **REVIEW**

Have students say memory verses from last week. Let one student be the "teacher" and quickly tell last week's story.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



### **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—Ask the students, "What will happen tomorrow?" Let them tell you things they plan to do tomorrow. Then ask, "Are you sure all this is going to happen tomorrow?" They may say yes or no. If they say yes, say, "Are you really sure? What if there is a bad storm, or someone gets sick, or something else happens?" Then ask them what is going to happen next week. Some may answer, some may not know. Ask them what is going to happen next year. Ask them if they can tell you exactly what will happen in the future. No, they cannot.)

Why can people not tell what is going to happen in the future? (*They do not know.*) Does anyone know what will happen in the future? (*God does.*)

### **LISTEN TO FIND OUT:**

Today in our story, God tells a man what will happen in the future! Listen to find out what God talks about.

### **TELL THE STORY**

### **REVIEW THE STORY**

Have 4 students come to the front. Let them stand in a line next to each other. Tell them that the first one will start telling the story, but then when you nod

your head to the next one,

he must keep telling the story where the other person stopped. Then when you nod your head to the third one, he must tell from where the second one stopped. The last person will finish telling the story.



# **TALK ABOUT IT**

(Teacher—Let students spend some time talking about what they think heaven will look like and what it will be like to live there. Then talk to them about how people who believe in Jesus as their Savior will go to heaven and be with God forever. People who do not accept Jesus will never go to heaven. They will go to a terrible place of fire called hell and be separated from God forever. Explain the salvation message again and tell the students how they can accept Jesus as their Savior.)

# 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 BIBLE IS MY LAMP

# The day of class, before you teach, READ THE LESSON AGAIN.



God's Word is our lamp to light the path of life each day.

#### **REVIEW**

For this final lesson, celebrate what you have learned! Review

whatever you would like, such as the students' favorite stories, what they know about God, what they learned this year, etc.

Always Begin The Lesson With Prayer



# **QUESTIONS:**

(Teacher—If you are inside a building, cover all the windows and make the room as dark as you can. Hold a light in the front of the room.) Imagine you went to visit a friend and now you are going home. You had a flashlight, but you forgot it and left it at your friend's house. It is getting very dark. Soon it is too dark to see. (Teacher—Turn the light off so the room is totally dark. If some children become afraid or start talking, turn the light on again. If they are not afraid, keep talking while it is completely dark.) How do you think you would feel if you were in a dark jungle with no light? (afraid, nervous, etc.) What problems might happen because you cannot see anything? (Let at least 4 students give different answers.) Would you rather be walking in darkness or with light? (light)

#### LISTEN TO FIND OUT:

(Turn the light back on.) Life is like a journey. We need light to help us see the way. God has given us a special lamp for our lives. Find out what this

special lamp is and how it works.

# TELL THE STORY REVIEW THE STORY

What is the lamp for our lives? (*Bible*) Why did David say God's Word was a lamp to his feet and light to his path?

(Let 1 or 2 students answer what they think.)



#### **TALK ABOUT IT**

In the Bible, what does darkness sometimes mean? (sin) If I said a person was living in darkness, what do you think that might mean? (They do not live God's way, or they do not believe in Jesus, or they sin, etc.) If I said you were living in the light, what do you think that might mean? (following God's way, or obeying God's Word, etc.) If you were in a dark place and you did not want it to be dark, how could you change it? (Turn on a light, go somewhere where there is light, etc.) In our life, where do we look to find light? (God's Word) God's Word will keep us from the darkness of sin.

All of us should read the Bible every day to know what to believe, what to do, and how to make decisions that please God. We should read the Bible every day for our whole lives!

### 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.