

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Psalms 90:2; Genesis 1:1

Lesson Objective: The student will learn God has always been. He has no beginning or end.

Materials: Rope or Measuring Tape, Paper, Crayons, Colored Pencils

Memory Verse: Revelation 22:13 "I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last."

Lesson Summary

Have you ever really thought about the fact that God has always been? He wasn't created like the earth or all the animals. He has always been. The Bible tells us in Psalms 90:2, "Before the mountains were brought forth or even the very earth formed, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God." He is the Alpha and Omega! The beginning and the end! The Bible also says in Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." God has always been and was before everything we know as our world. He is a great big God who was there in the beginning of time (that we measure) to be the Creator of the Universe. Isn't it amazing to think that the night sky we look up at to view the beautiful stars and moon, was created in the beginning by God? Yet the God and Creator of all things, cares enough to know how many hairs you have on your head. He wants to have a personal relationship with you. That is a loving God who deserves our adoration and praise! You are one of God's special creations! Let us give praise to the One who has always been and always will be!

Bible Point:
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goes here.



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Take a rope or measuring tape and let the students see that there is a beginning and an end to those objects. Then discuss how God does not have a beginning or an end. Have students try to brainstorm things that do not have a beginning or an end.
2. Have students draw a picture of the earth or a night sky (or one of God's amazing creations), and then print the memory verse on the same page.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. When did God begin?
2. What does it mean when we say God is the Alpha and Omega?
3. How does it make you feel when you think about the fact that God has always been?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Genesis 1:1; Revelation 19:6; Psalms 139

Lesson Objective: The student will learn God is All Powerful, All Knowing, and Everywhere

Materials: Paper, Markers, Scissors, Craft Sticks and Glue

Memory Verse: Psalm 48:1a "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God"

Lesson Summary

Can you believe God is so powerful that He created the whole Universe? Can you believe this powerful God also know everything about everything? Can you believe this powerful God who knows everything is big enough to be everywhere at the same time? Well, believe it! The Bible tells us that God spoke the Universe into existence. That's awesome power! The Bible also tells us that God knows what we say before we speak it and what we think before we think it! Wow! That's awesome knowledge! We also know from the Bible that you can't get away from God's Spirit. If you dug a deep hole in the ground, or flew to the moon, God would be right there with you. Whoa, right?! Since God is all powerful, all knowing, and big enough to be everywhere, we can't overpower Him, outsmart Him, or hide from Him. What we can do is worship Him. That is actually why God created us! He wants us to love and worship Him as our God. He is great and greatly to be praised! Will You worship Him today?

Bible Point:
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goes here.



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Have the students partner up and see if they can count how many hairs are on each other's heads. Set a time limit for competition. Discuss how God knows that number!!
2. Have students trace their hands with thumbs touching (so they can be cut out to look like praise hands). Have students write the memory verse on the hands and then tape them onto a craft stick.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How much power does God have?
2. Where all can God be at the same time?
3. Can you hide from God? Why or why not?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Genesis 1:1-19

Lesson Objective: The student will learn God is the Creator of the Universe

Materials: Construction Paper, Crayons or Markers

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

Lesson Summary

How fast does it feel like it takes for four days to go by? Your days probably consist of getting yourself ready every day, attending school, eating, maybe playing sports, going to church, or some other activity. Before you know it, four days have gone by. In the first chapter of Genesis in verses 1-19, the Bible tells us what God did in just four days. (Read Genesis 1:1-19) In just four days, God created the entire universe including the earth, stars, oceans, and trees! Isn't that amazing? To us four days seem to pass so quickly. It passes so quickly, we feel like we can only do what we must do. We feel rushed to even be able to do things like go to school every day. But God, being so awesome and almighty, can make so much happen in what seems a short amount of time. We should want to worship the One who created the Universe because He wants to be our friend. Isn't it great to think we can have a personal relationship with the Creator of the Universe?! Let's give thanks to the Creator of all things!

Bible Point:
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Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Divide a piece of construction paper evenly into four rectangles. Have students draw a picture of what was created each day 1-4. Label the days 1-4.

2.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What did God create in just four days?
2. How does it make you feel when you think about all God created in four days?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Genesis 1:20-25

Lesson Objective: The student will learn God created the animals.

Materials: Construction Paper, String, Scissors, Crayons or Colored Pencils

Memory Verse: Revelation 4:11 "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

Lesson Summary

Do you have a pet at your house or do you have a favorite animal? (Allow time for students to discuss and get excited about animals.) Why do you like animals? Do you think they are cute? Are they fun to play with? Where did animals come from? God created them. God created all the animals that live in the water, the sky, and land. On the fifth day of creation God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that has life and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven." What kind of animals do you like that live in the water? What animals do you know that live in the sky? On the sixth day of creation God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so." What are your favorite animals that live on the land? How boring would the earth be without all the animals that God created! It is amazing that God created so many animals in just two days! He is the Creator of all things great and small! He created you, and he also created the animals!

Bible Point:
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goes here.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have students draw and color a face of their favorite animal. Then have them cut the face out and make holes for eyes. Help them poke holes on the two sides, and tie string from one hole to the other. Have them try on their animal masks!

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What type of animals did God create on the fifth day?
2. What was created on the sixth day?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Gen 1:26-31; 1 Cor 6:19; Eph 3:17-19; 1 Jn 3:4-9, 16; 4:8, 16; Lk 23:34

Lesson Objective: The children will learn that we were created for God's love.

Materials: Bible, paper, scissors, markers

Memory Verse: "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him." 1 John 4:16

Lesson Summary

Did you know that your body is specially designed by God to be the temple of the Holy Ghost? Unfortunately, we are born with sin living in this special temple, and the Holy Ghost will not live in the same temple as sin. Thankfully, because God loves us, He sent His only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and free us from the bondage of sin. Therefore, when we repent of our sin and receive the love of Jesus in our heart, sin is thrown out of the temple and we are able to receive the Holy Ghost in its place. When the Holy Ghost is living in our temple, we are able to be like God. Since God is love, everything we do should reflect God's love as well. God's love is for everyone and it stretches far beyond what we can understand. With Him we have the ability to love strangers and our enemies just as easily as we love our friends and family. The Good Samaritan had God's love and showed it by taking care of the stranger in need. Stephen was full of God's love and showed it when he prayed and asked God not to punish those that stoned him. Jesus is a picture of God's perfect love. A man who had never sinned gave himself as a sacrifice so that everyone in the whole world could be forgiven and freed from all sin. He even prayed and asked God not to punish those who persecuted Him. He said, "Forgive them Father, for they do not understand what they are doing" (Lk 23:34). What is living inside your temple today? The Bible says if we do not love then we do not know God, for God is love (1 Jn 4:8). Let us take time and pray and ask God to fill our temple with the Holy Ghost and love, so we can be an example and lead others to know God's love.

Bible Point:

God Is
Love



Ideas to Illuminate:

Cut out a heart shape from paper for each child and write at the top, "God is Love". Allow the children to write or draw ways we can show God's love to the world. Write the memory verse on the back of the heart as a reminder.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is so special about how God created us? Is there anything else in His creation like us?
2. How can we have the love of God in our temple?
3. How can we show God's love to others so they can know the love of God is real?

Theme: God Creates Man and Woman

Faith-N-Focus Lesson: Created for His Purpose

for Young Disciples

Lesson Text: Gen1:26-28; 2:7, 18, 20-23

Date: February 10, 2019

Writer: Mandy Thompson

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Gen 1:26-28; 2:7, 18, 20-23; Eph 4:24; Jn 14:12

Lesson Objective: The children will learn why God created us.

Materials: Bible, tools, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Ps 139:14

Lesson Summary

God created man in His image. After God created Adam he said, "It is not good for man to be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him" (Gen 2:18). So he caused Adam to go into a deep sleep and removed one of his ribs. God then made Eve out of Adam's bone. When Adam saw Eve he said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man" (Gen. 2:23). The relationship between Adam and Eve is a symbol of the relationship between Jesus and His church. Adam gave his body in order to create Eve; Christ gave His body in order to create the church. Eve was created to be Adam's helper; the church was created to be Jesus' helper. Adam's helper had to be like him; the church must be like Jesus (Eph 4:24). We must look at the big picture of our lives. God created us for His purpose. He completes us and we complete Him. God has filled us with His love and has given us the responsibility of taking care of all His creation and spreading the gospel to every creature in the world (Gen 1:28; Mark 16:15). Jesus even said we would do greater things here on earth than He did (Jn 14:12). We are God's creation and His tools to be used for His purpose (Is 43:7; Eph 2:10). Everything we do should be a reflection of God. Take time to pray and ask God to show you what kind of tool He has created you to be. God has a special purpose for everyone!

Ideas to Illuminate:

Bring different kinds of tools to show the children for discussion. For example, talk about what a hammer and a screwdriver are used for.

Discuss how a hammer can't turn a screw and a screwdriver can't hammer a nail, but they are both needed to build something. Relate it to how God has a job for every person. We can only do the job He has created us to do, but when we all work together we build God's church. Show the children an example of building plans. Then relate it to the Bible as our plan of how to build God's church. Talk about how each building project has a leader; someone they can talk to for direction and understanding. Relate it to how God is our leader who we talk to in prayer for direction and understanding.

If time allows, the children can draw a picture of the different tools of God (teachers, preachers, deacons, worship leaders, prayer warriors, etc).

Bible Point:

I Am
God's
Tool



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Teacher Preparation

Readings: Gen 2:16-17; 3:1-24; 1 Jn 2:1; Ja 1:15; 2 Cor 5:21; Rom 5:17-19

Lesson Objective: The children will learn the importance of obeying God.

Materials: Bible

Memory Verse: "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people." Jer 7:23

Lesson Summary

God gave Adam a beautiful garden to live in. He gave him all the food and water he could need. He allowed him to name all the animals and gave him dominion over all creation. He created Eve to be his helper and gave them the ability to walk and talk with Him in the cool of the day. What more could man possibly need and want? Then, there came a voice that put questions and temptation in their minds. "Did God say you couldn't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? Will you really die if you touch it? Isn't the fruit beautiful? Isn't it good to eat? Don't you want to be wise like God?" Rather than go back and ask God again for direction and understanding, they relied on their own understanding and ate the forbidden fruit. Adam and Eve immediately felt ashamed and tried to hide from God. When God asked what they had done they both made excuses and put the blame on others for their choices and actions. Because God is just, He did not pity them; instead He handed out their punishment and cast them out of the garden. They no longer had God's protection. He no longer provided for them. They had to work hard for everything they had. Most importantly, they lost their connection with God. Today, God is the same. If we disobey Him, we separate ourselves from Him. However, we have hope in Jesus who can save our souls. If we repent of our sins and ask Jesus to be Lord of our lives, we can have that close connection with God. He will be our protector and provider. He will talk to us and give us peace and understanding. We can have a garden experience with God and we can keep it. When we hear the voice of question and temptation we must go to God in prayer and read His word to remind ourselves what God says and expects us to do. Do not lean on your own understanding of what is right and good. God will not listen to our excuses and blame when we make the wrong choices because He has provided everything we need to be successful. The Lord plainly states in Jeremiah 7:23, "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people." What more could you possibly want?

Bible Point:

I Choose
to Obey
God!



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Divide the room into two parts. One side of the room is the garden and the other side is outside the garden. The teacher calls out words that represent obedience and the children have to jump in the garden. When the teacher calls out words that represent disobedience they jump outside the garden.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What blessings did God give Adam and Eve in the garden?
2. Why did Adam and Eve have to leave the garden?
3. How do we receive the blessings of God in our lives today?
4. Can we lose God's blessings?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Gen 4:1-16; Heb 11:4; Rev 3:19; Is 1:18; Ja 4:10; Prov 10:12; Gal 5:19; Deut 8:5; Prov 3:12; Job 5:17; 1 Jn 3:1

Lesson Objective: The children will learn the dangers of jealousy and anger.

Materials: Bible, costumes and props

Memory Verse: "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Rev 3:19

Lesson Summary

Did you know that your parents correct your behavior because they love you? If you are doing something harmful to yourself, your parents will bring it to your attention in order to stop the behavior and keep you safe. Did you know that your Heavenly Father does the same thing? It doesn't matter how young or old you are, if your behavior will keep you out of Heaven, God will bring it to your attention, so you can correct it. He does this because He loves you and wants you to make it to Heaven. Therefore, we shouldn't get angry when God corrects us. We should humble ourselves and allow Him to change our ways. If we are too proud and resist God, He will resist us as well. We have an example of this in Genesis 4:1-16. Cain and Abel were brothers. They both brought offerings to the Lord. God was pleased with Abel's offering but was not pleased with Cain's. Cain became angry and jealous of his brother. God encouraged Cain to change his ways. God reassured Cain that he would be forgiven if he changed. However, Cain resisted God and allowed his anger and jealousy to drive him further away until he killed his brother in the field. God tried to warn Cain about his anger and jealousy. He knew that if Cain didn't change his ways it would lead to sin and his separation from God. Our heavenly Father always knows what is best for us. As His children, we should never resist His correction, but rather rejoice that our God loves us and wants us to make it to Heaven. When we have bad thoughts and feelings, we need to pray and ask God to get rid of them. Psalm 34:15 says, "The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. He is a good, good Father!"

Bible Point:

I Choose to
Follow
God!



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Allow the children time to act out the story of Cain and Abel. Then, have them act it out the way it would have happened if Cain accepted God's correction.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What are the dangers of jealousy and anger?
2. Should we be upset when God corrects our behavior? Why not?
3. What should we do if we feel jealousy and anger?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 John 4:7-21; Romans 5:6-8; Romans 8:38-39

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God is love.

Materials: Bible, red poster board, scissors, black marker, broken toy as object lesson

Memory Verse: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Lesson Summary

Recently, we studied about the creation of the world, and we learned that mankind was God's special creation. God made a wonderful world with many awesome things in it, but the most amazing creation was mankind. God made man in his own image, after his likeness. When he was finished creating, the Lord delighted in everything he had made. But then man sinned and rebelled against God, disobeying his commandment. Because of Adam's sin, now "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Although sin separates us from the Lord, God's love is the answer to this problem of sin. Instead of giving up on us and throwing us away, God decided to rescue man from sin. Because of his great love for us, God was determined to fix our broken lives. He sent Jesus Christ into the world to save us. Note: Close out the class by singing "Jesus loves me."

Bible Point:
God
loves
me.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity: Prior to class, cut a red poster board into the shape of a large heart. Write the memory verse on the heart. Cut the heart into puzzle pieces of various shapes. Note: cut larger pieces when teaching younger children. Scatter the pieces on a table, and then have the children put the pieces back into the shape of a heart. Review the memory verse.

Questions for Class Discussion:

Look at this broken toy. If the toy you loved the most was broken, would you try to fix it or would you throw it away? Note: Sin caused our hearts to be broken, but God loved us so much, he chose to mend our broken hearts.

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 1:26-35; 2 Samuel 7:1-16

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Materials: Bible, 3 inch strips of poster board, colored markers, glue, plastic gems, pasta noodles, small pieces of aluminum foil, stapler, or tape

Memory Verse: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Lesson Summary

The angel Gabriel came to a young woman named Mary, who lived in a town called Nazareth. Mary was a virgin. In other words, she had never been married before. But she was espoused (promised in marriage) to a man named Joseph. The angel Gabriel, God's special messenger, came to Mary with important words from God. Of course, she was amazed by what she saw and heard. The angel told her not to fear. She was highly favored of the Lord. God was going to perform a great miracle in her life. By the power of God, she will have a baby named Jesus. Jesus will be the Son of the Highest – the king of God's people (vv. 32-33). Also, Mary's baby boy will be called the Son of God (v. 35). This Word of the Lord was truly amazing. Through the power of the Holy Ghost, Mary was going to have a baby, but her son would be "King Jesus," the Son of God, and the Savior of the world.

Bible Point:
**God
sent
his
Son.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Crown Activity: Before the class, cut a poster board into 3" strips lengthwise – one strip per child. Allow each child to decorate his crown with the suggested items. Staple or tape the crown to fit the child's head.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What does a king look like? How does he dress? Where does he live?
2. How did Mary feel when the angel told her that her baby would be God's Son?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:7-11; Titus 3:3-6; John 3:17

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus came to save us from our sins.

Materials: Bible, mud (dirt and water mixture), pitcher of water, hand soap, bowl for rinsing, paper towel

Memory Verse: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Lesson Summary

Before Mary and Joseph came together in marriage, it became known that Mary was having a baby. At first, Joseph was determined not to take Mary as his wife. But then, the angel of the Lord came to Joseph in a dream. He helped Joseph to understand that Mary's baby was from God. The baby was a miracle of God's Spirit. Joseph was to name the baby "Jesus." The name Jesus means "Savior." The angel told Joseph that Jesus would "save his people from their sins." Jesus came to rescue us from sin. What is sin? It is disobedience to God's Word (Genesis 2:16-17). God says one thing, but we do another. Sin is going against the Lord. If you do something wrong, how does it make you feel? Are you sorry for doing it? Note to teacher: Talk about the need for being truly sorry (repentant) in order to be forgiven. Explain that we can be forgiven because Jesus came and died on the cross for our sins. He shed his blood for our forgiveness (Romans 5:9). He came to be our Savior and to wash away our sins (Rev. 1:5). When we are truly sorry and ask for forgiveness, the Lord is ready and willing to forgive (1 John 1:9).

Bible Point:
Jesus
is our
Savior.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Illustration: Prepare mud by mixing dirt and water. The teacher should place his/her hands in the mud and talk about how sin makes our hearts dirty. Have a student to apply an ample amount of hand soap and discuss how God applies the blood of Jesus to our hearts when we put our faith in Jesus. As you work in the hand soap, have another student to pour water over your hands and sing a song like "Nothing but the Blood of Jesus." Wash your hands until all of the dirt is gone. Say to the children, "Jesus came to wash away our sins." Note: you may have a child who is ready to accept Christ. Encourage him to pray, asking the Lord to forgive his sins.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is sin?
2. If you do something wrong, how does it make you feel? Are you sorry about it?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: John 20:24-31; Romans 10:9-13; Hebrews 11:1

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that we are saved through believing in Jesus.

Materials: Bible, costumes for Bible characters (optional), poster board, markers

Memory Verse: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Lesson Summary

Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins so that we could be forgiven. But he did not stay in the grave. By the Spirit of God, Jesus was resurrected from death. He arose from the grave, and today, he lives forevermore. We serve a risen Savior. On the same day that Jesus arose, he showed himself to his disciples. The disciples were meeting together, when Jesus came and talked with them, except Thomas was not there. The disciples told Thomas that Jesus had risen from the dead, but Thomas doubted. He refused to believe until he saw Jesus for himself. Eight days later, Jesus showed up again, but this time, Thomas was there. He saw the scars where Jesus had been crucified, and then he confessed, saying, "My Lord and my God." Thomas saw the Lord, and because he saw with his own eyes, he believed. Yet Jesus said that we are blessed because we believe, though we have not physically seen him. Do you believe in Jesus? The apostle Paul said, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). Note: Encourage your children to believe in Jesus Christ and to confess him as their Lord and Savior. Pray with them.

Bible Point:
We believe
in Jesus.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity #1: Role play. One child should be Thomas. One child should be Jesus. The rest of the students should be the disciples. The teacher (or a student) should read the story of "Doubting Thomas," allowing the children to act out the story.

Activity #2: Make the following graph on a poster board, listing the students' answers to the discussion questions below.

DOUBT	vs.	FAITH
1.		1.
2.		2.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is doubt?
2. What is faith?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: John 11:1-45; 1 John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus Christ gives eternal life to us.

Materials: Bible, note cards, markers, small gift bags or wrapped boxes, wrapped candies

Memory Verse: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Lesson Summary

During Jesus' ministry, he had some very close friends in a town called Bethany. Lazarus was a really good friend of Jesus. In fact, Jesus loved him and his two sisters, Mary and Martha (John 11:5). One day, Lazarus became extremely sick. His sisters sent for Jesus to come to Lazarus, no doubt, to heal him. However, before Jesus came, he died. By the time Jesus arrived, he had already been dead and in the tomb (grave) for four days (v. 17). If Jesus had only arrived sooner, they both knew that he could have healed Lazarus (vv. 21, 32). However, Jesus showed them that he also has the power of life and death. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection, and the life" (v. 25). Although he had been dead for four days, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. We serve a powerful God. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ promises to give eternal life to all who believe and place their trust in him. He offers the gift of life to those who accept him as their personal Savior. Note: Ask your students, have you accepted Jesus as your Savior?

Bible Point:
**Jesus
gives
me
life.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity: Depending on the number of students in your class, write portions of the memory verse on note cards, such as "For God" and "so loved." Place each card inside a small gift bag or a wrapped box. Allow the children to open the gifts. Have them place the cards in the right order to make the memory verse. Review the memory verse with the students. Note: In addition to the cards, you may choose to place wrapped candy inside the gifts.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. When do you receive gifts? How do you feel when you receive a gift?
2. Why would you refuse a gift? Why would anyone refuse eternal life?
3. Do you have eternal life? Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-20; Luke 24:45-49

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that missions is Christ's commandment.

Materials: Bible

Memory Verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Lesson Summary

What is "Missions?" In Matthew 28:16-20, we read what is called the "Great Commission." We can see the word "mission" in the word "**commission**." The Great Commission is Christ's commandment. Jesus commanded us to continue his missionary work in the world. When we think about commandments, we sometimes only think about the "10 commandments." But Jesus commanded us to "go," to "teach" (preach the gospel), to "baptize," and again to "teach" (preach the Bible). His basic commands were to go and to preach (Mark. 16:15). As Christians, we are to go and tell others about Jesus Christ. The first step is going – we cannot share Christ until we first reach out to others. We cannot spread the good news to the lost, if we stay away from people. We must go to our neighbors. Of course, the second step is to tell others. We must tell them all about Jesus. We must tell them about his love and saving grace. After they are saved and follow after Jesus, then we must tell them everything in his Word (the Bible). This is missions. We should be obedient and keep Christ's commandment. Let's go and tell others.

Bible Point:
Go and tell.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Red Light – Green Light: The teacher will be the leader, giving out commands. The teacher will shout, "red light," or "green light." When the students hear green light, they move toward the teacher. When the students hear red light, they must immediately stop in place. Any false motion sends them back to the starting line. The first student to reach the teacher is the winner and must quote the memory verse. The object of this game is listening to the teacher's commands.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Where will you go? Who will you go to?
2. What will you tell them?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 9:1-9; Acts 26:1-19

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Saul (Paul) accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and became a servant of the Lord.

Materials: Bible, costumes (robes, towels, sandals, flip-flops), flashlight

Memory Verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Lesson Summary

"Missions" is lives being changed by the Lord. "Missions" is souls being saved. Have you been saved? Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Has your life been changed by the Lord? Saul (later renamed Paul) persecuted the church. He was an evil man who mistreated the Christians (the followers of Jesus Christ). In fact, Saul was on his way to Damascus to arrest the Christians, but then he met the Lord. Everything completely changed when the Lord spoke to him. Saul realized that his actions were hurting Jesus. His response to Jesus was, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Saul no longer desired to serve himself, but he wanted to serve Jesus Christ. After he accepted Jesus as his Savior, he spent the rest of his life being the Lord's servant. This is how each of us should be toward the Lord – willing to do whatever he asks of us. God has a work for each and every disciple. Are you ready to serve him today? Note to teacher: This lesson could provide an opportunity to invite your students to be saved. Encourage them to ask Jesus to forgive their sins and be their Savior; and lead them in a time of prayer for salvation.

Bible Point:

**I will serve
the Lord.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Role Play: Have the students to act out the Bible story from Acts 9:1-9. Characters: Narrator to read the Bible story; Saul (Paul); high priest; someone to shine a light; the voice of the Lord; two traveling companions for Saul. After acting out the story, ask the following questions.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How did Saul react when he saw the light from heaven and heard the voice of Jesus? (vv. 4-6)
2. After hearing the voice of Jesus, was Saul willing to serve him?
3. Are you ready and willing to serve the Lord?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 9:10-19; Acts 22:1-16

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Paul was chosen by God to take the gospel to the world.

Materials: Bible, paper, scissors, colored marker, bag or box

Memory Verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Lesson Summary

God sent a disciple named Ananias to minister to Saul (Paul). At first, Ananias did not want to go to him, because he knew that Saul was an evil man who had persecuted the Christians. But Jesus Christ had changed the heart of Saul. Now Saul desired to serve the Lord. When the Lord spoke to Saul on his way to Damascus, the light from heaven had left him blind. When Ananias came to Saul, he laid his hands on him to receive his sight, and he spoke the Word of the Lord to him, telling him that he was chosen by the Lord for a special purpose. God wanted the Gentiles (non-Jews) to hear the gospel, the "good news" of salvation. Saul was the one that Jesus Christ was sending into the world with the gospel. God chose him to be the missionary who would take the gospel to the Gentile nations. Today, the Lord continues to call believers to serve in other countries as missionaries, just like Saul (Paul). Although everyone is not called to go like Saul, each one of us should be a missionary in our community, taking the good news of Jesus Christ to others. Everyone needs to hear about salvation through Jesus Christ, but someone must go with the gospel.

Bible Point:

**I will go
with the gospel.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Charades: On strips of paper, write the following ways that we can go with the Gospel. Put the papers in a bag or box. Allow the children to take turns choosing a strip of paper and acting out the charade. Have the other students to guess.

1. I can walk.
2. I can ride my bike.
3. My parents can drive me.
4. I can call on the telephone.
5. I can write a letter.
6. I can send an e-mail.
7. I can send a text message.

Question for Class Discussion:

Why should we go with the Gospel?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 9:20-30; 26:19-23; 17:1-4

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Paul became a missionary who preached the gospel.

Materials: Bible, newspaper, poster, white paper, colored markers or crayons

Memory Verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Lesson Summary

After Saul (Paul) was saved and knew that Jesus had chosen him to be a missionary, he soon began preaching the gospel to the lost (sinners). Preaching is boldly telling the Word of God to others. He first preached in the synagogues or Jewish churches. Saul (Paul) was a mighty preacher. He "confounded" and amazed the Jews. Using the Scriptures, he showed them that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God. Although he was a great preacher, not everyone believed him. Some hated him because of his preaching, and they even tried to kill him. Did this stop Paul (Saul) from telling others about Jesus? Of course not! He continued to speak boldly in the name of the Lord. Like the apostle Paul, we all should tell others about Jesus Christ. However, not everyone will want to hear your testimony. When someone refuses to hear you, do not feel bad about it. If you are saved and know Jesus as your Savior, then you have good news to tell. Just keep telling others about Jesus, and eventually, someone is going to listen to you. When one person repents and accepts Jesus as his Savior, "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God" (Luke 15:10).

Bible Point:

**I will tell others
about Jesus.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Good News Gazette: After discussing the question below, do this activity. As an example, show the class the front page of any newspaper. Then give each student a sheet of white paper with a horizontal line drawn 3 inches from the top and a vertical line drawn down the center of the page, forming a "T." At the top of the page, have the student to write, "Good News Gazette." Each student should think of an original headline, for example, "Jesus Is Coming Soon." Have the student write his headline under the name of the paper. Finally, have each student to write articles and draw pictures in the two columns to illustrate his headline.

Question for Class Discussion:

** What will you tell others about Jesus?

Write the above question on a chalkboard, marker board, or poster. As the children answer this question, list the main truths of the gospel. For example: God sent his Son into the world; Jesus died on the cross for our sins; He arose from the dead; He's coming again.

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:14-25

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God gives each disciple the ability to do missionary work.

Materials: Bible, white paper, hole punch, yarn or string, colored markers (crayons)

Memory Verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Lesson Summary

As Christians and disciples of Jesus Christ, we are not all the same. God gives all of us special gifts, talents, and abilities, but he does not give all of us the exact same ones. For example, some people can sing beautifully, but others cannot. Some people are really good at fixing things, but others only tear it up worse when they try to repair it. Some are good listeners, while others are talented speakers. We are not all the same. But thankfully, God is not asking us to be like somebody else. He is the one who made you special and gave you gifts. He simply wants you to use your God-given gifts, talents, and abilities for his glory and honor. Your special abilities are not only for your own good, but they were given to you for a greater reason. If we do not use our talents and gifts, then we are wasting them. Don't waste your talents, but look for ways to be useful. Jesus Christ wants you to work for him. He wants you to use your abilities to help his mission. When we use our God-given gifts and talents to do missionary work, we will hear Jesus say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21, 23). Are you ready to work for Jesus?

Bible Point:
**I will work
for Jesus.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

My Mission Book: Each student will need 3 sheets of white (copy) paper. Stack the pages and fold them in half to form a 5 ½ X 8 ½ booklet. Along the fold of the paper, punch a hole 2 inches from the top and another hole 2 inches from the bottom. Thread the pages together with yarn or string to bind the booklet. The booklet will contain 4 pages. Each student should write on the front of the booklet, "My Mission." On the bottom of each page, write the following statements, one per page: "I can pray," "I can tell," "I can give," and "I can help." Have the students to illustrate (to draw) how they can work for Jesus by praying, telling, giving, and helping. Note: as you make the booklets, ask the students the following questions.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What are your talents and abilities?
2. How can you use them for the Lord?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mark 1:14-28; Matthew 7:24-29; Luke 4:14-37

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus Christ taught the truth and preached the gospel.

Materials: Bible, sand, a rock/stone, pitcher of water

Memory Verse: "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people" (Matthew 4:23).

Lesson Summary

When Jesus began his ministry, he preached and said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15). He called Simon (Peter) and his brother, Andrew, and he also called James and his brother, John, to follow him. They believed and followed after Jesus. When he called them to become his disciples and to travel with him in ministry, they left everything behind, even their fishing business. Why would they leave everything and follow him? They left it all because Jesus preached and taught like no one else. He not only taught the truth and preached the gospel ("good news") of salvation, but he also had power over the devil (Mark 1:23-26). His words and teaching were powerful. For this reason, the disciples were willing to leave everything behind and follow him. In fact, all of the people who heard Jesus were amazed at his teaching. Jesus "taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes . . . for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him" (Mark 1:22, 27).

Bible Point:
Jesus
came
to teach.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Before the students arrive for the class, place a rock or stone (at least the size of your fist) on a flat surface. Completely cover it with sand. All that the students should see is a mound of sand. As you discuss the following questions, pour water over the sand until it all washes away, leaving only the rock. Explain: "When we obey the teachings of Jesus, we are like a house built on a solid rock, but when we disobey we are like a house built on sinking sand."

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Describe what sand is like. What can you do with sand?
2. What will happen if I pour water over this mound of sand?
3. Why doesn't the water wash away the rock?
4. Would you build a house on a solid rock or on sinking sand?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mark 1:29-45; Luke 4:38-44; Matthew 4:23-25

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus Christ healed the sick and the diseased.

Materials: Bibles, strips of paper, pen, bowl or bag

Memory Verse: "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people" (Matthew 4:23).

Lesson Summary

Jesus went to Simon Peter's home, and Peter's mother-in-law was sick with a fever. She must have been suffering from some type of infection in her body. When Jesus took her hand and lifted her up, she was healed of her fever. Then she was able to take care of Jesus and her guests (Mark 1:29-31). Not only did Jesus heal people with fevers, but the Bible says that Jesus healed many people who had all kinds of diseases (Mark 1:34). How many came to Jesus to be healed? When Jesus was visiting at Peter's home, the Bible says, "And all the city was gathered together at the door" (Mark 1:33). Large crowds of people came to him, bringing their sick and diseased. Jesus, along with his disciples, left Peter's home, and he traveled and preached throughout Galilee. One day, a leper came to him to be healed. Lepers have leprosy, a skin disease. According to the Jewish law, lepers were considered unclean. They had to stay away from other people. But this sick man came to Jesus, kneeling and begging to be healed. When Jesus said, "I will; be thou clean," he was instantly delivered from his disease (Mark 1:40-45). Jesus came to heal. He healed fevers, skin diseases, the paralyzed (Mark 2:3), and the lame (Mark 3:1). Today, Jesus has the power to heal us. Let's put our trust and faith in his healing power.

Bible Point:
Jesus
came
to heal.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Charades: "What Did Jesus Heal?"

Before the class begins, the teacher should write the following illnesses with the corresponding Scripture reference on strips of paper. Fold the papers, place them in a bowl or bag, and then allow five students to take one. Have the student to act out the illness, allowing the other students to guess the charade. After they correctly guess the charade, have all of the students to look up the Scripture and ask one of them to read it aloud.

"Blind" (can't see) – Matthew 20:30, 34

"Lame" (can't walk) – Matthew 21:14

"Deaf and mute" (can't hear; can't speak) – Mark 7:32, 35

"Fever" – Matthew 8:14-15

"Leprosy" (skin disease) – Mark 1:40-41

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mark 2:1-17; Matthew 9:1-13; Luke 19:1-10

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus Christ forgave sins and called sinners to repent.

Materials: Bible, blanket, simple costumes (towels, sheets, robes, sandals, flip-flops, and so on)

Memory Verse: "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

Lesson Summary

Jesus was preaching at a house (likely Peter's home) in Capernaum, a city by the Sea of Galilee. When everyone heard that Jesus was there, the house became so crowded, until people were standing outside the door. Four people brought their sick friend to Jesus to be healed. They carried their friend on a bed (pallet, mat, or cot) because he was paralyzed and could not walk. But when they arrived, they could not get in to see Jesus, because of the large crowd. So, they decided to enter the house from the roof. After they broke and removed the roof, they lowered their sick friend to Jesus. He saw their great faith in bringing their friend to him. But rather than healing the man, Jesus did something else for him – something much more important. Jesus forgave his sins (Mark 2:1-5). Sure, the man needed to be healed in his body. But he also needed to be healed in his spirit. He needed Jesus to forgive him. In order to prove that he had the power to forgive sins, Jesus then said to the sick man, "Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way to thine house" (Mark 2:11). Jesus healed his body, but he first forgave his sins and saved his soul. In the same way that sick people need a doctor, we all need Jesus to forgive us and to save us (Mark 2:17). In fact, the main reason that Jesus came into this world was to save us from our sins (Luke 19:10). When Jesus came, he called for sinners to repent (to be truly sorry for doing wrong and to begin doing right). Have you repented? Have you asked Jesus to forgive your sins? Would you like to accept Jesus as your Savior today?

Bible Point:
Jesus
came
to save.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Role Play

Pick seven students: one student as Jesus, one student as the paralyzed man, four students as the friends who carried the sick man, and a student to narrate the story. As the narrator slowly reads the Scriptures aloud, the students should act out the story. Suggestions: Have the four students to carry their friend around the room on a blanket. Provide simple costumes to allow the kids to dress up, such as, towels, sheets, robes, sandals, flip-flops, and so on.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Have you ever been to a doctor?
2. Why (when) do people go to a doctor?
3. Why do we all need Jesus?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Mark 3:13-19; Luke 6:12-19; Matthew 16:13-25

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus Christ is the leader of God's church.

Materials: Bible, scissors, heavy paper (poster board, construction paper, or cardstock), colored markers or crayons

Memory Verse: "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

Lesson Summary

Jesus knew that one day he would return to his Father. He then would place the responsibility for his mission on his disciples. Jesus spent a whole night in prayer. The next day, he called his disciples. From these, he chose twelve and called them apostles. He prepared them to carry out his mission and then sent them forth to preach and to continue his ministry. Today, we are the continuation of the church which Jesus organized. Jesus and his apostles taught, healed, and brought salvation to all who believed. **He is still doing this same work today through us.** We are following after his example: we teach the truth and preach the gospel (the "good news"); we bring God's healing to the sick and broken-hearted; and we give the hope of salvation to all people. Jesus Christ is the leader of God's church, and we should follow his leadership. Will you follow Jesus Christ?

Bible Point:
Jesus
leads
us.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Idea #1: To reinforce the memory verse, have the children to write the memory verse on a cross cut from heavy paper. Allow them to decorate the cross with colored markers or crayons. If you have young students, you may prefer to cut out the crosses prior to the class.

Idea #2: Play "follow the leader" with your students. Option #1: Set up an obstacle course in the classroom and have the students to follow you through the course. Option #2: Have the children to follow you around the room, repeating your actions (motions), such as flying in the air, hopping on one foot, and so on. Be creative.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How do we play "follow the leader?" [We follow the leader's directions.]
2. What happens if we stop watching and listening to our leader?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: John 14:15-17; Acts 1:1-15; Acts 2:1-18

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus' disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost).

Materials: Bible, 8 ½ x 11 sheets of paper, colored markers or crayons

Memory Verse: "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:39).

Lesson Summary

Before Jesus went back to the Father in heaven, he promised to baptize his disciples with the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-5). His disciples already understood *water* baptism. After we are saved and accept Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we are baptized (dipped) in water to say that we have truly become disciples and followers of Jesus Christ. But the baptism with the Holy Ghost is completely different than water baptism. This special baptism is "the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4; John 14:15-17). After Jesus was taken up into heaven, his disciples met together and prayed until they received the promise of the Father. On the day of Pentecost, a sound like a "rushing mighty wind" filled the house where they were meeting, what appeared to be fire came on each one of them, and they were all baptized with the Holy Spirit, speaking with other tongues (Acts 2:1-4). Jesus promised the Holy Spirit. His disciples received the promise of the Holy Spirit. God is faithful. He keeps his promises. Today, Jesus Christ is still baptizing his disciples with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:39). Note: Consider making the following promise to your students: "If you will come back to Sunday School next week, I promise to give you a special prize" – make sure you keep your promise.

Bible Point:
**Jesus promised
the Holy Spirit.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity: Give each child one sheet of paper (8 ½ x 11 or larger). Draw a line or fold the paper to divide it in half. On the left side, write the word "Before," and on the right side, write the word "After." Have the children to draw "Before" and "After" pictures.

Before: Draw a picture of Jesus making the promise to his disciples.

After: Draw a picture of the promise being received by his disciples.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is a promise?
2. Has someone ever made you a promise?
3. Did that person keep his promise? How did this make you feel?
4. Should people keep their promises? Why?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 1:8; Acts 3:1-26; Acts 4:1-13; Luke 24:45-53; John 15:26

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) will give us the power to tell others about Jesus.

Materials: Bible, flashlight and batteries, paper, scissors, crayons or colored markers

Memory Verse: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Lesson Summary

After the disciples were baptized with the Holy Ghost, Peter and John went up to the temple for prayer, where a lame man who laid at the Beautiful Gate was begging for money. When he asked for an alms, Peter and John stared at him, and Peter said, "Look on us." The lame man thought that they were going to give him some money. But instead, Peter told him, "I have no money; but I do have something to give you. In the name of Jesus Christ, rise and walk." When Peter took his right hand and lifted him, his feet and ankles were made strong. He was instantly healed. The lame man stood and began to walk, leaping and praising God as he entered the temple with Peter and John. Everyone in the temple was amazed and came running to see this miracle. So, Peter preached to them and told them that Jesus Christ had healed the lame man. He told them about Jesus' dying on the cross and being raised again from the dead (Acts 3:1-26). The religious leaders became angry because of Peter's preaching; they arrested Peter and John. On the next day, when the religious leaders asked exactly how they did this miracle, Peter again told these men that Jesus Christ had healed the lame man. The Holy Spirit not only gave Peter and John the power to heal the man in the name of Jesus, but the Holy Spirit also gave Peter the boldness and power to tell their enemies about salvation through Jesus (4:1-13).

Bible Point:
The Holy Spirit
gives us
power.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Object Lesson: Make sure the students see you remove the batteries from the flashlight. Turn off the lights. Attempt to read the memory verse in the dark while trying to use the flashlight without batteries. In frustration, ask question #1 below. Place the batteries back into the flashlight, turn it on, read the Scripture, and then ask question #2.

Activity: The teacher should cut paper into the shape of a light bulb. Have each child to print the memory verse on the light bulb cut-out and color it.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why is this flashlight not working?
2. What happened when we put the batteries into the flashlight?

Note: The batteries give the flashlight the power it needs to shine. When we are baptized with the Holy Ghost we have the power to shine for Jesus.

Teacher Preparation

Readings: John 14:26; John 16:5-15; Acts 8:26-40

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) will guide us in the truth.

Materials: Bible, and blindfold

Memory Verse: "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come" (John 16:13).

Lesson Summary

When Jesus went back to his Father in heaven, he did not leave his disciples alone. But he gave them the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) to be their Comforter (helper) and guide. The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth (John 16:5-15). He helps us to understand the Bible, God's Holy Word. In Acts 8:26-40, we see that the Holy Spirit was a guide to Philip and helped him to minister to a man from Ethiopia. God sent Philip on a journey, and along the way, he met a man having great authority, who served under Candace, the queen of Ethiopia. This man had come to worship in Jerusalem and was on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah. The Holy Spirit sent Philip to this chariot. When Philip came close to the chariot, he heard the man reading from Isaiah, so he asked him, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The Ethiopian said, "How can I, except some man should guide me?" The Holy Spirit then helped Philip to explain the truth to him. Through the guidance of the Holy Ghost, the Ethiopian man came to know Jesus as his Lord and Savior, and Philip baptized him in water.

Bible Point:
The Holy Spirit
guides us.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity: Pick one child and blindfold him. Lead him to one side of the room and then turn him in circles to disorient his sense of direction. Have the rest of the children to give him false directions, while the teacher speaks out the right directions to lead him back to his seat. He must focus only on the teacher's voice to find his way. Afterwards, discuss the following questions.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How did it feel to be blindfolded?
2. Were you able to hear the teacher's voice, even though others were talking to you?
3. Why was it important to listen closely to your teacher?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 10:1-48; Luke 11:9-13; Matthew 7:7-11

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that the baptism with the Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) is God's gift for every believer.

Materials: Bible, poster board, marker, box (bag), good and bad items

Memory Verse: "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38).

Lesson Summary

In Acts 10:1-48, we read the story of Cornelius, a Gentile, and a military officer. He feared the Lord and often prayed to God, but did not yet know Jesus Christ. In a vision, the Lord warned him to send for the apostle Peter and to hear his words (vv. 5-6, 21-22). Cornelius sent men to bring Peter back to his house. As they arrived, God told Peter to go with them. When they arrived at Cornelius' house, all of his family and friends were eagerly waiting to hear the words of Peter. God had something great in store for the house of Cornelius. Peter preached the good news of Jesus Christ to them. When the Gentiles heard and believed the Word of God, they too were baptized with the Holy Ghost and spoke with tongues, just like the Jews had done. The Jews were amazed that the Gentiles received the gift of the Holy Ghost (v. 45). The good gift of the Holy Spirit was promised by Jesus Christ (Luke 11:13). All believers, not just some, but all children of God, should receive the good gift of the Holy Ghost. This gift is God's will for his children today.

Bible Point:
**The Holy Spirit
is God's gift.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity: Draw a line on a poster board, forming two columns. Label the columns "Good" and "Bad." Lay the poster on a flat surface. Place items in a box or bag, both "good" and "bad" gifts. For example, a "good" gift could be a piece of "candy." A "bad" gift could be a piece of "rotten fruit." Place several items of each kind in the box (bag). Have each child to reach in the box and pull out an item, placing the item on the poster board under the correct column, good or bad. Afterwards, discuss the following questions.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Have you ever received a bad gift? What was it?
2. How does it feel to receive a good gift -- a gift you really wanted?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:18; Matthew 18:1-6

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God desires to use children in his service.

Materials: Paper, crayons, pencils

Memory Verse: "But Samuel ministered before the Lord, being a child, girded with a linen ephod" (1 Samuel 2:18).

Lesson Summary

Elkanah and Hannah were not able to have children. Hannah was very sad, because she saw that all the women around her were blessed with many children. In her sadness, she cried to the Lord, saying, "If thou wilt indeed look on thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life" (1 Sam. 1:11). The Lord did indeed bless Hannah with a son and his name was called "Samuel" which means *Asked of God*. Hannah remembered her prayer and her promise to the Lord; and while Samuel was very young, she brought him back to Eli, the priest. Hannah again cried out to God, but this time she was giving her only son Samuel back to the Lord, "As long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord there" (1 Samuel 1:28). Samuel was to stay with Eli to learn and serve the Lord in the temple. While Eli's sons were behaving badly and doing wrong, instead of helping their father in the temple, Samuel the young child served the Lord well. "But Samuel ministered before the Lord, being a child, girded with a linen ephod" (1 Samuel 2:18).

Bible Point:
**God wants you
to serve Him.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Reinforcement: After completing the lesson, distribute a piece of paper to each child with the words "I CAN..." at the top. Have the students then come up with several ways they can serve the Lord both in church and in their daily lives. Have them choose several to illustrate and label. You can label the younger children's work for them.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How did Samuel serve the Lord?
2. What can we do to serve the Lord at church?
3. How can we serve Him at home/school?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Samuel 2:20-36, 1 Samuel 3, Matthew 13:1-23

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that we must listen and obey when God calls.

Materials: Bible, bathrobes or simple costumes, a recording of a male voice saying, "Samuel, Samuel."

Memory Verse: "And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth" (1 Samuel 3: 10).

Lesson Summary

Eli the priest continued to train Samuel to serve the Lord. However, Eli's own sons continued to do evil things throughout the land. God sent a messenger to warn Eli and to tell him that his sons' wickedness would not go unpunished. He also told Eli that He would "raise up a faithful priest" that would do God's will. One night, after serving in the temple, Samuel went to bed. Samuel heard someone call and ran to Eli, thinking it was he who had called. Eli told Samuel he had not called him and to go back to sleep. Again, Samuel lay down to sleep and soon heard a call again. He ran back to Eli, sure that Eli needed something. Eli, however, had not called Samuel. Eli sent Samuel back to bed a second time. Samuel went and heard a call a third time. He ran back to Eli, but Eli had not called. However, Eli understood now that God was calling Samuel. He directed Samuel to answer the Lord, "Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth" (1 Sam. 3:9). Samuel went back to his bed and waited. The Lord came to Samuel again and this time Samuel responded as Eli had said. Samuel listened and then obeyed the Lord. God had a job for Samuel to do.

Bible Point:
We must
listen and obey.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Drama: Children love to act out this Bible story. Have two bathrobes or simple costumes and a recording of a male voice saying, "Samuel." (You can also use a live voice—the children enjoy if the person is hidden or out of sight.) Let the children act out the scene of Samuel and Eli at rest. Bath towels can be used for a bed. Take turns letting as many as want to act out the scene, but always have 'Samuel' repeat his part of the memory verse. You may narrate, or let one of the children do so.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How did God speak to Samuel?
2. Does God speak to us? How?
3. Is it hard to know the voice of God? Why or Why not?
4. Why is it important to not only listen, but also to obey?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Samuel 4 – 7

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that because Samuel listened and obeyed God, he was chosen to be Israel's last judge.

Materials: Paper, crayons, colored pencils, markers

Memory Verse: "And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the Lord." (1 Samuel 7:5).

Lesson Summary

God had told Samuel what was to become of Eli and his sons. Soon, Israel was in battle with the Philistines and things were not going well. Eli's sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were sent to bring the Ark of the Covenant. The Philistines took the ark and killed Eli's sons. When word got to Eli, he fell and died. Just as God had said would happen, Samuel was now the judge over Israel. The children of Israel were very upset because the Philistines had taken the ark of God. They knew the ark represented God's presence and blessings. They finally came to Samuel to ask for help. Samuel told them of the wrong things they had done and called on them to repent and put away the strange gods they had started to worship. Samuel also told them he would pray for them. When the Philistines heard the children of Israel were gathered, they came against them in battle. The Israelites were scared and asked Samuel to continue to pray. The Bible says that "Samuel cried unto the Lord for Israel; and the Lord heard him" (1 Sam. 7:9). Samuel knew that God alone could return the ark and save the Israelites. God called Samuel and he listened.

Bible Point:
God uses those
who listen and
obey Him.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Story board: This lesson lends itself to having the students create a story board or cartoon strip. Take a sheet of paper and have the children create three scenes from the lesson. The students can illustrate each scene with or without words. After completion, let each student share his/her story board with the class to reinforce the lesson.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did God allow the ark to be taken by the Philistines?
2. What did Samuel do to help the Israelites?
3. Why did God choose Samuel?
4. Does God still choose people today? Why?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Samuel 8 – 10; 1 Peter 2:9-10

Lesson Objective: The student will learn how God used Samuel to anoint Saul as Israel's first king.

Materials: Poster board and aluminum foil

Memory Verse: "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:" (1 Peter 2:9)

Lesson Summary

Samuel had gotten much older and the Israelites were not happy to have judges any longer. The elders came to Samuel and said they would like to have a king. Samuel knew this was not God's plan, but the people continued to complain. Samuel talked to God, and the Lord answered by telling Samuel to grant their request. However, He also told Samuel to warn the people that having a king would cause them to be very sad later. Samuel was God's anointed servant; however, the people neither listened to Samuel nor the Lord. They wanted to be like all of the other countries that had kings to rule them. The Lord listened to the people and then spoke to Samuel. He told him that a man would come to him from the land of Benjamin and that he would be "the one." When Saul appeared to Samuel the next day, the Lord spoke to Samuel again so that Samuel would know Saul was the one He had chosen to lead the people. Samuel had once again listened to God and obeyed his commandments. God chose Samuel to judge his people. God chose Saul to be king. He continues to choose those who will listen to His voice and obey His word.

Bible Point:
**God chooses
a leader.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Cut a poster board into strips long enough to create a "crown" for each child's head. Allow the children to cover the poster crown with foil to make it look more like a crown. You could also have them decorate with crayons or markers. After the crowns are made, allow each child to have a turn being "chosen to lead." Let them lead a game of "Follow the Leader" or "Simon Says." (Note: You can call it "King Saul Says" or "Samuel Says.")

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did God allow Israel to have a king?
2. How does Samuel continue to know God's plan?
3. Why do you think God chose Saul?
4. Does God still choose people today? How?
5. What are important qualities in a good leader?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Samuel 15 & 16; John 7:24; Matthew 23:27

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God does not always choose the most likely candidate.

Materials: 2 Boxes – one plain on the outside, the other wrapped or decorated; rocks, candy or treat

Memory Verse: "...For man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7b).

Lesson Summary

Samuel came to King Saul with a message from the Lord. King Saul was to go into battle and destroy Amalek completely. He was not to keep any of the spoils of battle. Saul, however, was disobedient to God's commands. His heart was no longer right before God. God knew Saul would not be able to lead the people any longer. God spoke to Samuel and sent him to anoint a new king. The Lord sent Samuel to a man named Jesse and told him that one of his sons was to be king (1 Sam. 16:1). Samuel went and obeyed God once again. However, as he saw each of Jesse's sons, he did not find the future king. Samuel asked Jesse, "Are here all thy children" (1 Sam. 16:11)? Jesse told him that there was one more son, but he was the youngest and was watching the sheep. His name was David, and he was only a boy! However, God saw David and knew that he would become one of the greatest kings to rule Israel. More importantly, God said, "I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will" (Acts 13:22). Samuel again listened to God and not man. He anointed the boy who would be king, and through David's family tree, our Savior would come!



Ideas to Illuminate:

Illustration: Tell your students that you have two gifts. One gift is something they will really like, but the other is filled with rocks. Do not allow the students to shake the box, but tell them they have to choose based only on how the boxes look. Place the treat inside the plain box and the rocks inside the pretty box. After the students choose, explain that things are not always as they might appear. Tell them that when God looks at us, He does not look at how we appear, but rather, he looks inside – at our heart.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did God's favor leave Saul?
2. Do you think Samuel was surprised by God's choice? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think God chose David?
4. What does God look at when choosing?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Kings 16:28-34; 1 Kings 17:1-6

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God will provide.

Materials: Goldfish crackers / loaf of bread, pitcher of water, and cups

Memory Verse: "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19).

Lesson Summary

At this time in the history of Israel, Ahab, the son of Omri, began to reign. He led the children of Israel into worship of the false god Baal. Wicked Ahab did more to provoke the Lord to anger than any of the other kings before him. God sent the prophet Elijah to inform Ahab of the punishment for all of his wickedness. There would be no rain in the land until God said. Afterward, the Lord told Elijah to go hide by the brook Cherith. God would send ravens to feed him, and he could drink from the brook. Elijah did as the Lord commanded. He went and lived by the brook. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and also bread and meat in the evening. Elijah got water to drink from the brook. Even though there was a drought in the land, Elijah's needs were taken care of. Just like Elijah, when we obey the Lord, God will provide.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have the kids to act out the story of Elijah being fed by the ravens. Let the kids take turns being "Elijah" and have the other students be the "ravens." The ravens will "fly" to Elijah with a cracker or a pinch of bread. As they give their food to Elijah they will say the Bible Point: "God will provide." As an option you can have water for Elijah if he gets thirsty.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did God get angry with Ahab?
2. What punishment did God send to Ahab and the Israelites?
3. How did God provide for Elijah's needs?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Kings 17:7-16

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God does the impossible.

Materials: Small jar with oil or water, two small bowls, flour for one bowl, spoon for stirring

Memory Verse: "For with God nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37).

Lesson Summary

The brook where Elijah was hiding had dried up because there had been no rain in the land. God commanded Elijah to leave that place and go to the city Zarephath. A widow woman was going to be the source of God's provision for Elijah just as the ravens had been for him at the brook. Again, Elijah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to the city. As he entered the gate of the city, a widow was gathering sticks. Elijah called out to her and asked her for a drink. As she was going to get him something to drink, Elijah also asked her for some bread to eat. She replied that she had only enough flour and oil to make one last meal for herself and her son. After that, she figured that she and her son would die for lack of food. But Elijah told her not to be afraid, asking her first to make him a small cake, and then to make one for herself and her son. Elijah said that the LORD God of Israel would make her flour and her jar of oil to last, until the LORD would send rain again. The widow did as Elijah instructed her. Because of her faith and obedience, her little bit of flour and small amount of oil did not run out. God did the impossible and provided for them all.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Demonstrate to the class how ingredients are normally used up when baking. Pour the small amount of oil/water and flour into one of the bowls. Stir the ingredients. Explain that, under normal circumstances, once the items are used, they are gone. Talk about the miracle that God performed by having the flour and oil last continuously, even after it was used.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did Elijah leave the brook? Where did God tell him to go?
2. What did Elijah ask the widow woman when he first saw her?
3. How did God reward the widow woman for taking care of God's servant?

Faith-N-Focus **Theme: Bible Heroes** for Young Disciples

Lesson: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal
Lesson Text: 1 Kings 18:17-46
August 25, 2019

Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Kings 18:1-46

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that the Lord is the true God.

Materials: Paper, markers or crayons

Memory Verse: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (Deut. 6:4-5).

Lesson Summary

After three years of no rain, God sent Elijah to show himself to Ahab. Elijah told Ahab to gather all the Israelites and the prophets of Baal together on Mount Carmel to test who the true God was. He questioned the people about their trying to serve God and Baal (1 Kings 18:21). Elijah challenged the 450 false prophets to build an altar, and whichever god answered by fire was the true god. Even after crying out, dancing around, and cutting themselves, the prophets of Baal did not hear one sound from their god. Elijah then repaired the altar of the LORD with twelve stones to represent the twelve sons of Jacob, and he dug a deep trench around the altar. He poured water upon the altar three times so that the water filled up the trench. Elijah then called on the name of the LORD, asking Him to hear his prayer, so that the people would know that the Lord is God and would turn back to Him. The fire of the LORD fell on the altar, consuming the sacrifice, the wood, and even the water in the trench. When the people saw it, they proclaimed that the LORD is the God! Elijah told Ahab to get ready for rain. At first, there was only a small cloud; but then God sent a great rain!



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have the students to draw different scenes from the Bible story. Examples: Elijah confronting Ahab; Elijah gathering the Israelites; the prophets of Baal and their altar; Elijah preparing his altar; God sending down fire on altar; Elijah on Mt. Carmel; the raincloud; the great rain. Then have them retell the story with their pictures arranging them in chronological order.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How long had it been since it rained?
2. What was the test to determine who the real God was?
3. Did it matter that there were 450 prophets against 1 prophet?
4. Whose God proved that He was the true God?
5. Who caused it to rain?

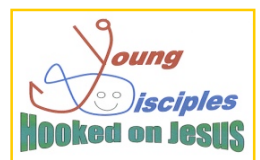


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Teacher Preparation

Readings: 1 Kings 19:9-21, 2 Kings 2:1-12

Lesson Objective: The student will learn how the LORD takes up Elijah and blesses Elisha.

Materials: 2 Boxes – None

Memory Verse: “The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust him shall be desolate” (Psalm 34:22).

Lesson Summary

God showed Elijah that he was to anoint Elisha to be the next prophet. When the time came for the LORD to take Elijah up into heaven, Elisha went with Elijah and left Gilgal. Elijah told Elisha to stay because the LORD had sent Elijah to Bethel. But Elisha did not want to leave Elijah. Prophets from Bethel told Elisha that God was going to take Elijah today. From there, Elijah went to Jericho. Again Elisha would not leave him. Prophets from each place warned Elisha that God was going to take Elijah today. God then sent Elijah to Jordan. Elijah hit the water with his coat, and the two men walked over on dry ground. Elijah then asked Elisha, “What do you want from me, before I am taken away?” Elisha said that he would want a double portion of Elijah’s spirit. Elijah told him it would be granted if he saw him taken up. As the two of them walked together, there appeared a chariot of fire with horses of fire. Elijah went up into heaven by a whirlwind, and Elisha saw it. God then used Elisha and blessed him with His Spirit.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Let the students think of something that God has blessed them with, but don't tell what it is. Have them take turns playing a “20 Questions” game. The class will try to guess what one child's blessing is by asking questions. The child answers with a simple “yes” or “no.” For example: Is it a toy? Is it something to eat? Can you ride it? Is it alive? Let the students think of something that God has blessed them with, but don't tell what it is. Have them take turns playing a “20 Questions” game. The class will try to guess what one child's blessing is by asking questions. The child answers with a simple “yes” or “no.” For example: Is it a toy? Is it something to eat? Can you ride it? Is it alive?

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What blessings has God given you?
2. If you could ask God for just one thing, for what would you ask Him?
3. What blessing did Elisha ask of Elijah?
4. How was Elijah taken up to heaven?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Jonah 1:1-17; John 14:15

Lesson Objective: The student will learn why we should obey God.

Materials: Bible, paper, colored markers, stapler, glue, or yarn

Memory Verse: "If you love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15

Lesson Summary

God spoke to Jonah and told him to go to Nineveh. Since Nineveh was a very bad city, Jonah did not want to go there, not even for a visit. But God was asking Jonah to go and preach to the people of the city about the terrible way they were living. Instead of doing what God asked, Jonah decided to disobey God and go his own way. Jonah went down to Joppa where he could get on a ship headed to Tarshish. Jonah paid the fee and purchased a ticket to go to Tarshish which was the opposite direction of Nineveh. As the ship set sail, the Lord sent a violent storm on the sea. The ship began rocking back and forth and was about to break. The sailors were terrified and began to pray to their gods. They threw the food and supplies into the water to lighten the load. What was Jonah doing? He was in the lower level of the ship sound asleep. The sailors woke him up and asked him to pray to his god. Jonah explained to the crew that he worshipped the God who created the sea and land. The men were very scared when they realized Jonah was running away "from the presence of the Lord" (Jonah 1:3). Jonah knew he had disobeyed God's commands and this storm was his own fault. If Jonah had not disobeyed God, none of this would have happened.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Travel Journal: Sailors often kept a journal in which they described their voyages and the weather. Make a travel log. Staple, glue, or tie several pieces of paper together to make a booklet. Allow students to write about the trip to Tarshish from Jonah's perspective. Decorate the cover with colored markers. Use this journal throughout the entire study of Jonah to record personal reflections on each lesson.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why didn't Jonah want to go to Nineveh?
2. What did Jonah decide to do?
3. What happened when Jonah got on the ship going to Tarshish?
4. Was Jonah afraid?
5. Do you think there would have been a storm if Jonah had gone straight to Nineveh like God asked him to?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Jonah 1:1 - 2:9; John 3:16

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that salvation comes from the Lord.

Materials: Bible, paper, scissors, colored markers, green crepe paper or yarn, can of sardines.

Memory Verse: "... Salvation is of the Lord." Jonah 2:9b

Lesson Summary

When Jonah tried to run away, God sent a great storm on the sea. The sailors tried to row against the storm, but it was too strong. Something had to be done. The crew cast lots to see who caused the storm. The lot fell on Jonah. After Jonah confessed of his guilt, the men threw him overboard into the sea. But God had a plan for saving Jonah from the raging waters. God sent a huge fish up from the deep to swallow Jonah in one big gulp. Inside the fish's stomach, Jonah was safe. Even though the conditions inside the whale were nothing like a nice hotel, Jonah had time to think about his actions, to talk with God, to repent, and to praise God for saving him. Just as Jonah knew that the storm was no accident, he also knew that whales don't usually swallow men whole. This was all God's plan for turning Jonah around so he could see things God's way. Now, Jonah realized that God is merciful and that "salvation is of the Lord."



Ideas to Illuminate:

Inside the Whale: Hang pieces of green crepe paper or yarn along the front edge of a table to create the belly of the whale. After you tell the Bible story, invite the children to sit underneath the table as you discuss the questions below. You may also open a can of sardines for the children to smell.

Where is Jonah? Cut a piece of paper into the shape of a whale for each child. Have each student to draw what it would be like inside of a fish's stomach. They should also draw Jonah as he was praying to God.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What did it look like in the belly of the whale?
2. How did it smell?
3. What did it feel like?
4. What was Jonah thinking while he was in the fish's belly?
5. What did Jonah do while he was inside the whale?

Faith-N-Focus **Theme: Bible Heroes** for Young Disciples

Lesson: "Jonah Preaches God's Word"
Lesson Text: Jonah 3:1- 4
September 22, 2019

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Jonah 2:10 - 3:10; Mark 16:15

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that each of us should share God's Word with others.

Materials: 2 Boxes – Bible, paper, pencils, robes, towels, sheets, sandals, toy microphone

Memory Verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."
Mark 16:15

Lesson Summary

After the great fish spit Jonah out on dry ground, the Lord spoke to Jonah again. God said the same thing as before, "Arise, go unto Nineveh that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee" (Jonah 3:2). This time, Jonah obeyed God. Jonah had learned his lesson the hard way. Now he would do exactly as God commanded. Jonah would not choose where to go or what to say. He traveled to Nineveh and began preaching as soon as he entered the gate of the big city. He preached, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown" (Jonah 3:4). This was not an easy message to preach. It was hard for Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh about God's judgment. But God would forgive them if they would stop sinning. Each one of us must tell others about God's salvation plan. God's Word is Good News!



Ideas to Illuminate:

News Flash: Man preaches on the city street corner. Assist the students in writing a script for today's story from a news reporter's perspective. Have the reporter to interview Jonah about what he is preaching and several townspeople about what is happening in their city. Allow the students to act out the script as a play.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What did God tell Jonah to do?
2. Did Jonah obey God?
3. Where did he go?
4. What did he say?
5. Are you willing to tell your family and friends about the Good News of salvation? Who will you tell?

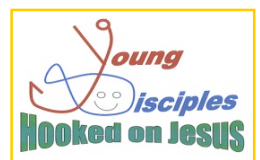


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Teacher Preparation

Readings: Jonah 3:1-10; 1 John 1:6-10; 2 Peter 3:9

Lesson Objective: The student will learn the meaning of true repentance.

Materials: 2 Boxes – Bible, paper, scissors, pencils, colored markers, travel journals

Memory Verse: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

Lesson Summary

When Jonah reached the city gate of Nineveh, he immediately began to tell the people that God would judge the city in 40 days. If they continued to live wickedly, God would destroy the whole city. The people of Nineveh believed Jonah's message. Even the king of Nineveh felt sorry for the way he had been living. Every person, from the richest king to the poorest man, repented of their sins. Repenting is when someone realizes that he is a sinner (someone who disobeys God's laws) and that he must make a change in the way he is living. To show their true repentance, all of the citizens of Nineveh took off their nice clothes and put on scratchy, itchy clothes called sackcloth. Every time the cloth would scratch their skin, it would remind them not to do bad things anymore. They even sprinkled ashes (bits of burnt wood) on top of their heads to show they were sorry for their sins. The people spent time in prayer asking God for forgiveness. "And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not" (Jonah 3:10). God forgave their sins because He does not want any to "perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).



Ideas to Illuminate:

Charades: On small pieces of paper, write key words from the Bible story such as: dirty, clean, scratchy, soft, bad, good, hate, love, forgive, destroy, etc. Allow one student at a time to choose a paper and make gestures and actions to demonstrate the word. The other students must guess the word from the actions.

Travel Journal: Allow the students to write about the response of the people of Nineveh to Jonah's preaching.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What message did Jonah preach to Nineveh?
2. Did the people of Nineveh listen and believe?
3. How did the people of Nineveh respond to Jonah's message?
4. Have you repented of your sins and started living God's way?

Faith-N-Focus **Theme: Bible Heroes** *for Young Disciples*

Lesson: Daniel- A Reputation of Strength
Lesson Text: Daniel Chapter 1
October 6, 2019

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Daniel 1:1-21

Lesson Objective: The children will learn that choosing to honor God will give them a holy reputation.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons or writing utensil.

Memory Verse: "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right."
Proverbs 20:11

Lesson Summary

When Daniel and his three friends were in Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar gave orders to a man named Ashphenaz. He wanted Ashphenaz to go to the young men who had been taken as prisoners from Judah and look for those who were good looking, smart and were quick learners. King Nebuchadnezzar wanted the best of these young men to work for him in his kingdom. Ashphenaz chose Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah along with many other young men who were good looking, smart and quick learners. The king didn't want them to have their Jewish names anymore so he renamed Daniel and his three friends. Their Babylonian names were Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. The king took good care of all these men. He gave the young men delicious meals from his table. They were allowed to eat the rich, delicious foods that the king liked to eat. They could also drink the wine that he drank. Because he was a Jew, Daniel knew that he could not eat that food. Daniel wanted to obey God and eat the foods that God said he could eat. The Babylonians ate meat from pigs and Jewish people were not allowed to eat that meat. There were other foods that the Babylonians ate that Daniel knew he should not eat, especially if the food had been offered to idols. Daniel would not sin against God by eating food that God did not want him to eat. It took courage for him to take a stand to go and speak to Ashphenaz about his decision. This decision could have cost him his life but God had worked in Ashphenaz's heart and caused him to like Daniel. Ashphenaz put a man named Melzar in charge of Daniel. Daniel asked Melzar if he could take a test. He asked if he and his three friends could eat vegetables and drink water for ten days. If at the end of the ten days they looked worse than those who were eating the king's food, then he could punish him however he wanted. Melzar agreed to the test and at the end of the ten days the Bible says that Daniel and his three friends looked healthier than those who were eating the king's food. Since Daniel and his friends passed the test they didn't have to eat the king's food and were allowed to obey God.

Bible Point:
**God gives us strength
to live a holy life**



Ideas to Illuminate

- 1) Bring the children a snack, maybe fruit and then explain how their reputation reflects whether they have good fruit or bad.

Questions for Class Discussion:

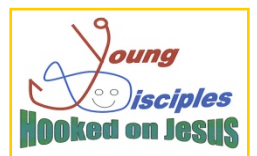
- 1) "In Daniels time", certain foods were considered unclean and forbidden. What kind of things do we have in our life today that might be considered unclean and forbidden?
- 2) How can you have a pure/holy reputation in school or around family and friends?



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Teacher Preparation

Readings: Daniel 3:10-30

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God gives them the courage and the encouragement they need even during hard times, peer pressures, and when they are being mistreated (persecution).

Materials: Bible, popcorn or something light that can be tossed (cotton balls, etc.)

Memory Verse: "Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9

Lesson Summary

Now Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, friends of Daniel, were acting as administrators over the province of Babylon when King Nebuchadnezzar decided to make a golden image that was about 9 stories tall. He had a ceremony announcing that everyone must bow down and worship the image when they hear the music being played. If they didn't, they were to be thrown into a fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego would only bow down to the one and only real God (our God). Because they wouldn't bow down, the King had his soldiers to make the furnace hotter then, bind them, and throw the three men in. It was so hot that it even burned up the soldiers. Then the King saw that there were not 3 but 4 men walking around and they were loose. The fourth man's image was like the son of God. He let them out and when he did the three men were not burned nor did they smell like smoke. King Nebuchadnezzar knew that the God that they served was the true and living God.

Bible Point:
**God is with
His children.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Have the kids pair up and then stand across from one another (a little far). With one piece of popcorn and use only one hand, have them toss the popcorn back and forth, each time they toss have them step a little closer. The closer they get the easier it becomes. Compare this to how the closer we get to God the easier it is to serve and the easier it is to trust that He will protect us.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. When were the people supposed to worship the golden image?
2. What would happen if someone didn't worship/bow down to the image?
3. How can we find the courage we need to remain faithful to God during hard times, peer pressure or when someone mistreats us?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Daniel 5:1,4-6,11-13,16-17,25-30

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that when we honor God, He rewards us with many blessings.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons or writing utensil.

Memory Verse: "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." James 4:10

Lesson Summary

After Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego survived the fiery furnace, King Nebuchadnezzar had a disturbing vision. Daniel interpreted the vision for the king, and told him that he would live like a wild animal for many years unless or until he gave up his sinful life by acknowledging God as Lord of all. Just as Daniel said, the vision came true and he lived as a wild animal until he finally changed his ways. But sometime afterwards, his son, Belshazzar became king. He did not honor God, nor humble himself. Instead, he did his best to fight against the Lord. He was having a great feast and in that same hour a man's hand appeared and starting writing on the wall. The King was afraid. He calls for Daniel who then interprets the writing. He interpreted it to say, "the king's reign is at an end and his kingdom will be given away." Then Daniel was rewarded with clothing, jewels and was made the third ruler in the kingdom. That night King Belshazzar was slain and then Darius became King. It pleased Darius and he set Daniel as a ruler under him.

Bible Point:
**God rewards those
who honor Him**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Have the children each write down a prayer. Their prayer should be one of honoring. Let them know that all good things come from God, and He alone is worthy of our praise.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did the king ask Daniel to come to him?
2. What did the writing on the wall say?
3. How and why was Daniel rewarded?

Faith-N-Focus

Theme: Bible Heroes

Lesson: Daniel-A Reputation of Faith

Lesson Text: Daniel Chapter 6

October 27, 2019

for Young Disciples

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Daniel 6:6-24

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that by having faith in God all things are possible.

Materials: Bible, paper, crayons or writing utensil.

Memory Verse: "But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." Matthew 19:26

Lesson Summary

Many of the king's subjects were upset by the favor Daniel received. Moreover, many people in the kingdom were already jealous of Daniel because of his high position within the kingdom as he was only a captive from Judah. Therefore, the people of King Darius' knew that they couldn't find any reasons of why the king would fire Daniel. So they came up with a plan that would have Daniel disobey the king by making a law against his god." They went to king Darius and said, "O great king, you are so wonderful that no one should pray to anyone but you." The king liked the idea. So if anyone was caught praying to any god other than the king then they were to be thrown into the lions den for 30 days. They knew that Daniel would still pray to his god so they spied on him and then went and told the king who knew that he had to honor his word. So Daniel was thrown in the lions den. The king liked Daniel though and was displeased with what he had to do so he fasted all night. The next day he went to check on Daniel and found that Daniels God had shut the lions mouth. Daniel was released but the men that tricked the king were thrown in the den along with their families.

Bible Point:
With God all
things are possible



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. By Faith (Game)
Write each of the clues shown below on index cards. Divide the class into two teams. Following the rules of Charades, have the kids act out the situations shown below. Tell the kids that all of the answers are about events in the Bible that took great faith. (All of these examples of faith can be found in Hebrews chapter 11.)

The walls of Jericho fell down
David killed the giant Goliath
Daniel survived the den of lions
Moses Parting the Red Sea

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How did Daniel show he had faith in God after he heard the decree?
2. How did the evil men know that Daniel would not give up praying to God?



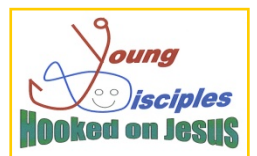
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Teacher Preparation

Reading: Joshua 1: 1-9; Joshua 1:16; Joshua 3:7; Joshua 6:1-27

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that victory comes by faith in God and not by military power or might.

Materials: Bible, paper towel tubes, wax paper, rubber bands, pencil, crayons, stickers

Memory Verse: "Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest." (Joshua 1: 9)

Lesson Summary

Joshua was chosen to lead the children of Israel after the death of Moses. God promised Joshua he would possess the land which was promised to his fathers. God also promised that He would be with him every step of the way. He promised Joshua victory over every place the soles of his feet walked. One of these cities was Jericho. The city of Jericho was surrounded by two gigantic walls. The walls were approximately 60 feet tall and over 6 feet thick!! To anyone looking upon this wall, it seemed impossible to conquer. However, Joshua was not discouraged. He trusted God completely! He remembered what God had promised him. God had given him specific instructions concerning Jericho. (Joshua 6) Joshua followed God's instructions and victory was won by the children of Israel that day. The walls of Jericho came crashing down just as God had promised. The people of Israel learned a crucial lesson under Joshua's leadership--VICTORY COMES BY FAITH IN GOD AND NOT BY MILITARY POWER OR MIGHT!! Just as Joshua trusted God for victory, we must trust God for victory in our lives. We must obey all He commands!! Faith brings obedience and obedience brings victory over Satan!

Bible Point:

Faith and
obedience
brings
victory!!



Ideas to Illuminate:

Jericho horns: let each child decorate a paper towel roll tube with markers, crayons, stickers, etc. Take the wax paper and cut into squares to cover one end of the paper towel tube. Attach the wax paper to one end using a rubber band. Poke a small hole in the wax paper with a pencil. Pretend to march around Jericho and let the children blow their horns.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What were the instructions that God gave Joshua about Jericho?
2. What happened when Joshua and the children of Israel obeyed God's instructions?
3. What might have happened if Joshua would have disobeyed God's instructions?
4. What are some commandments/instructions that God has given us?

Faith-N-Focus **Theme: Bible Heroes** for Young Disciples

Lesson: God Keeps His Promise to Joshua
Lesson Text: Numbers Ch. 13 & 14
November 10, 2019

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Numbers Ch. 13 & 14; Hebrews 3: 8-11; Hebrews 3:14

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God's promises are for those who trust God and obey His Word.

Materials: Bible, construction paper, Pencil

Memory Verse: Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest. (Joshua 1: 9)

Lesson Summary

Joshua was one of the twelve spies that Moses sent to search the land of Canaan. He and Caleb were the only two who came back with a good report. The others brought slander against the land. This caused the people to murmur and complain against God. They stated they would rather have stayed in Egypt than to have been brought out in the desert to die! Despite all the miracles they witnessed, they still rebelled against God and doubted Him. Because they failed to hearken to the voice of the Lord, God told them that they would not see the land which was promised to their fathers! Only their children, Joshua, and Caleb would inherit the land. Therefore, the children of Israel wandered in the desert for 40 years unto all the older generation passed. Because Joshua trusted the Lord and remembered the promise God made to him, he was able to enter into the promise land. God has many promises for His children, but we must be obedient to His Word to see them. God has promised that one day He is returning to bring His people home. We must accept Him as Lord and Savior to make it to heaven. Will you see the promised mansion He has for you?

Bible Point:
**God keeps
His
promises.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Trace the children's feet or have cut outs of footprints to give the children. Label one side "Standing on the Promises of God." On the other side have them list several promises that they have read in the Bible.
2. Sing the Hymn- Standing on the Promises of God.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How many spies came back with a good report after searching out the land of Canaan?
2. What were the names of these two spies?
3. Why did God not allow the original generation that he brought out of Egypt to see the promise land?
4. Why did Joshua get to see the promise land?
5. Name some promises that God has made to you.



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Teacher Preparation

Readings: Joshua 24; Ezekiel 20:7, 18, 39, 40

Lesson Objective: The students will learn they must choose to serve God.

Materials: Bible, large poster board, scissors, markers

Memory Verse: "Now therefore fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth."(Joshua 24:14).

Lesson Summary

Joshua gathered all of the people of Israel to a place called Shechem. He spoke to the people and reminded them of all the ways God delivered their fathers from bondage and danger in order to lead them to the land He promised them. Then he reminded the Israelites they were living in the promise land without having to fight for it or build it with their own hands. Joshua warned the Israelites to turn away from their false Gods and to "fear the Lord, and serve Him in sincerity and in truth" (Josh 24:14). Otherwise God would withdraw the good that had been given to them. Joshua told the Israelites, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve". He then stated boldly, "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh 24:15).

Bible Point:
We will
serve God.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Cut a poster board into large squares. On the front of each square write the name of a category such as friends, school, home, etc. Then on the back of each square write a scenario of a challenge that might arise in that category. Have the students take turns drawing a card and deciding how he/she would choose to serve God in each situation.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why was it important for the Israelites to choose whom they would serve?
2. Who did Joshua choose to serve? How do you know?
3. How do you choose to serve the Lord?
4. Will you choose to serve God even when no one else will?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Joshua 22:5; Joshua 23

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God fights our battles and will use those who are faithful to carry out His work.

Materials: Bible, heavy poster board, scissors, crayons, stickers, two bags of adult clothing

Memory Verse: "And ye have seen all that the Lord your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the Lord your God is he that hath fought for you." (Joshua 23:3).

Lesson Summary

There is a constant spiritual battle going on and God is the Commander-In-Chief. He chooses and uses those He can trust to carry out His commandments. Joshua was a faithful servant and leader to the Israelites. God spoke to Joshua and gave him instructions on how to defeat the enemy and re-assured Joshua before the battles began, they were already won. Time after time, the enemy was delivered into the hands of the Israelites because it was God who did the fighting (Joshua 23:3). God warned the Israelites to be faithful and not turn to the right or to the left and serve other gods (Joshua 23:6-7). Joshua instructed the Israelites to cling to the Lord and love Him because not one thing He has said has ever failed (Joshua 23:8, 11, 14).

Bible Point:
Jesus
gives us
victory.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Craft/Activity: Before class, cut small shields and swords from heavy poster board. Have the students color and decorate their battle gear with crayons and stickers. Allow the students to dress up for battle. Lead them in a march around the room and sing "I'm on the Battlefield for my Lord" and "I'm in the Lord's Army".

Game: Divide students into two teams. Give each team a bag of adult clothing such as coat, trousers, hat, shoes, etc. Each team should have the same amount of similar items. Give a signal to begin. Allow each team member to put on the clothes, run to the opposite end of the room, shout the Bible Point, and then return to the team. He should remove the clothing and give the items to the next member who will repeat the process. Cheer as each team finishes.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did God choose Joshua to lead His people?
2. Is God faithful to His Word?
3. In what ways are you on the battlefield for the Lord?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 4:18-20; Mark 1:16-18; Luke 5:1-11

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus called Peter to leave everything and follow Him.

Materials: Bible

Memory Verse: "And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
(Matthew 4:19)

Lesson Summary

Wherever Jesus preached many people followed him. Jesus was walking by Lake Gennesaret and saw two fishing boats. The fishermen were cleaning their nets after a long night of unsuccessful fishing. Jesus got into Peter's boat and asked him if he would go out in the water a little way so he could teach the crowd of people. After Jesus had finished teaching the people, He told Peter to row out a little deeper and cast his nets into the water. Peter explained to Jesus that they had been fishing all night without catching anything, but since Jesus said to do it, he would. The men did as they were told, and were surprised at how many fish there were. Their nets were so full they were breaking from the weight of the fish. They called to the other fishermen in the second boat to come help them. Both boats were so heavy with fish they were sinking. When Peter saw the great catch, he came to Jesus and dropped to his knees and said, "Lord, I don't deserve to be around you. I'm a sinful man." Jesus told him not to be afraid to follow him. He was going to make them "fishers of men." Peter left his job and all he knew to follow after Jesus.

Bible Point:
Follow Jesus
when He
calls.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have the kids take turns being "Jesus" and play a follow the leader game. Sing the song "I will make you fishers of men, fishers of men, fishers of men. I will make you fishers of men, if you follow me."

Questions for discussion:

1. Why was Peter surprised when they caught so many fish?
2. Do you think Peter was happy that he obeyed Jesus even though he didn't understand Jesus' command?
3. What does it mean to be a fisher of men?
4. How can you follow Jesus?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-51; John 6:16-21

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Christians should not be fearful.

Materials: Bible, paper, pencils or crayons

Memory Verse: "But he saith unto them, It is I; be not afraid." (John 6:20)

Lesson Summary

After Jesus fed the five thousand men, he wanted to spend time alone to pray. He told his disciples to go ahead of him to the other side of the lake while he sent the multitude (large group) of people away. The disciples were in the middle of the lake when a terrible storm started. The winds were blowing hard making the waves crash against the sides of the boat. Jesus walked out on the water toward their boat. When the disciples saw him they were afraid. They thought it was a ghost! Jesus spoke out to them and told them to "Be of good cheer, it is I; don't be afraid." Peter wanted Jesus to ask him to come out on the water. Jesus told him to come. Peter stepped out of the boat onto the water to walk toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the wind fiercely blowing all around him, he became afraid. He started to sink and cried out to the Lord. Immediately Jesus reached out his hand to save Peter. Jesus asked him why he doubted and had just a little faith. The storm stopped as soon as the two got back in the boat. The disciples worshipped Jesus proclaiming the truth that he was the Son of God.

Bible Point:
Keep your
eyes on
Jesus.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Take a piece of paper for each child and fold in half and then in half again. This should make a book. Have the kids label the front PRAYER JOURNAL. Write down requests on the inside and check them off as God answers.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why wasn't Jesus in the boat with the disciples in the first place? Is it important for us to be alone to pray?
2. Why wasn't Jesus afraid of the storm?
3. How was it possible for Peter to walk on the water? Why didn't he sink right away?
4. I love Peter's excitement when he saw Jesus. He wasn't thinking about the storm when he was looking at Jesus. We will all have "storms" or troubles in our life. How can we make it through our storms? What are some storms you have experienced?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 16:13-20

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God uses us to build His Church.

Materials: Bible, paper, scissors, colored markers, adhesive tape, empty cereal boxes or wooden blocks, glue, craft sticks or wooden toothpicks

Memory Verse: “. . . upon this rock I will build my church; . . .”(Matthew 16:18).

Lesson Summary

Jesus had been performing miracles in the area. He had just fed four thousand men with seven loaves of bread and two fish. When Jesus came into the coast of Caesarea he asked his disciples “Who do men say that I am?” His disciples answered him that some thought he was John the Baptist; some said that he was Elijah; others said he was Jeremiah or one of the other prophets. Jesus asked them directly, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter spoke right up and answered “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus responded by saying that Peter was blessed, because man did not reveal this to Peter but the Father in heaven. Jesus then declared that Peter was like a rock. On that rock Jesus was going to build His church and the gates of hell would not prevail against it. He gave Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven, along with the power to bind and loose. Jesus told his disciples to not yet reveal to man that He was the Christ.

**Bible Point:
I will
build
God's church.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Activity: Write the following words on pieces of paper: Jesus, love, faith, truth, grace, forgiveness. Tape the words onto empty cereal boxes or wooden blocks. Discuss each word with the children and how it is important in building God's Church. As you talk, have the students arrange the blocks to form a building with the “Jesus” block being the foundation for the structure.

Craft: Give each child a piece of paper and a handful of craft sticks or toothpicks. Allow the students to glue the sticks on the paper in the shape of a church building. Have the students to print the Bible point on the top of the paper.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Do you know who Jesus is?
2. Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior?
3. How can you help in building God's Church? (Clean, give offerings, invite friends, love and forgive others, etc)

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 3:1-26

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that God gave Peter boldness to pray for the healing of a lame man.

Materials: Bible, costumes (robes, towels, sandals, etc.)

Memory Verse: "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God" (1 Corinthians 2:5).

Lesson Summary

Peter and John were going to the temple to pray. There was a man who had been crippled all his life and he was sitting by the gate. He had to be carried there every day to beg for money. When he saw Peter and John going into the temple he asked them for some money. Peter looked directly at him and told him he didn't have any silver or gold to give him. But then Peter said he would give him something; he commanded him in the name of Jesus to get up and walk. Peter took him by the right hand and lifted him up. Immediately his feet and ankle bones were strengthened. He went into the temple with Peter and John walking, and leaping, and praising God. He had never walked before. Can you imagine that? He was so excited! All the people in the temple recognized him as the lame man who begged at the gate. They gathered around him amazed at this miracle. Peter explained to the people that it wasn't his power that healed the man. He preached to them about Jesus and urged them to repent of their sins. Jesus used Peter to glorify His name through the healing of the crippled man.

**Bible Point:
Healing
comes in
Jesus' name.**



Ideas to Illuminate:

Let the kids act out this Bible story. If you have costumes, let the kids dress up. This is a dramatic event! Choose a child to be Peter, one to be John, another to be the crippled man, and the rest to be the amazed people. Peter can preach at the end of the story!

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Where were Peter and John going when they saw the lame man?
2. What was the crippled man doing by the gate? How long had he been unable to walk?
3. What gift did Peter give to the cripple man?
4. Are you surprised that the man was jumping around excitedly? How would you feel if you were him?
5. Jesus never changes. Can God still work through us like he did with Peter? Are you willing to let God use you?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Acts 12:1-19

Lesson Objective: The student will learn how God miraculously frees Peter.

Materials: Bible, paper, pencil or crayons

Memory Verse: "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

Lesson Summary

Herod the king was persecuting the church. He had just killed James the brother of John. When he saw the Jews were happy with this, he planned to arrest Peter. Herod put Peter in prison with four guards. Meanwhile the church was in constant prayer for Peter. On the night before Herod was going to bring Peter before the people, an angel of the Lord appeared to Peter with a shining light. The angel told Peter to get up quickly. He instructed Peter to get dressed and follow him. Peter's chains fell off. Peter didn't know if he was dreaming or not. They passed the first two guards and came to the iron-gate going into the city. The gate opened by itself and they walked out into the street. The angel then disappeared. When Peter realized he was outside the prison he knew that it was the Lord that had sent the angel to deliver him. Peter went to the house of Mary, John's mother. Many people were gathered together to pray for him. As Peter knocked on the door a girl named Rhoda came to answer it. When she heard Peter's voice, she was so excited she ran to tell the praying Christians. They thought she was crazy and told her it must be his ghost. Peter was still knocking at the door. They finally opened the door, and Peter explained to them how he had been delivered by an angel of the Lord. The next day when Herod found out Peter had escaped, he was furious. He ordered the guards to be put to death. God had protected Peter from the wicked king and rescued him from great danger.

Bible Point:
Jesus
brings
deliverance.



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have the students draw their favorite scene from this Bible lesson. Let them take turns sharing their picture with the class.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Who had put Peter in prison? Why?
2. How did Peter escape from prison?
3. What was the church doing for Peter while he was captured?
4. What was the reaction to seeing Peter freed?
5. Do you think the believers' prayers had any effect?
6. What is something that you've been praying about that seems like only God can answer?