

YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES

Time Out for God

YE3A · Teacher Edition

Juniors · Year 1: Life of Christ

Christian Educational Ministries — a faithful digital edition of the printed program

Something Worth Celebrating

MEMORY VERSE

“For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.” - Luke 2:11

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain the events surrounding Jesus’ birth, including the purpose, place, His earthly parents and the angels’ appearance to the shepherds.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angels
Bethlehem
Christmas
Feast of Tabernacles
God’s love
God’s plan
Jesus, Birth of
Jesus, God the Son
Jesus, Savior
Jesus - Without Sin
Mary and Joseph
Obedience
Praise
Shepherds

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students’ and Teacher’s books, attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts, marker pens, poster of the birth of Christ, newsprint pad, songbook, cassette or CD, and music player

PREPARATION

Since this is the first YEA lesson in this book, make an assignment for the students to memorize the 12 Apostles and Matthew 6:9-13 to recite in ten weeks. There should be an award for those

who love God and the Bible enough to do this.

Before class, prepare or purchase a chart to keep track of the student's attendance, their memory work and their daily devotionals. Get poster board that is about three times as wide as it is deep. List the student's names on the left side and put dates across the top for each of the three categories. Draw lines down from each date and across from each name to form squares. Use a different color marker pen for each category and put a check mark or star in the week's square for those in attendance, those who can recite their memory work, and for those who read their devotional readings each day that week.

Arrive early enough to have the room set up. Disney World, television, movies, theme parks, etc. have made our kids accustomed to a very visual world. Sabbath School will be more effective when many visuals are used. A warm atmosphere can be created with posters representing the birth of Christ which can be purchased at your local Christian bookstore. Tack these to the wall or bulletin board along with the charts. Arrange the seats in a semicircle. As the students arrive, greet them warmly.

Many of your juniors may be making the transition from elementary school to middle school. Most of them will still look to their parents and teachers as mainstays in their lives. By the time they enter the fifth and sixth grade, their world can become a dog-eat-dog place. It may be more competitive than supportive. Such comparisons as my school, my grades and my friends are better than yours, are not uncommon. Students may mask their own insecurities. But a wise teacher will recognize this type of behavior and will do her part to encourage students to accept each other.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

After opening the class with prayer, begin with an icebreaker game. It can be used to great advantage in helping kids become accustomed to participating in class. First have each junior give his name. Starting with the first person again, have each one give his birth date. Then go around the class and let each one tell where he went to the Feast last year. The next get acquainted question could be what his favorite Holy Day is. After that, ask him to tell what his favorite holiday is. End with his least favorite holiday.

The birth of Christ is such a beautiful story and so essential to our salvation. Had Jesus not come in the flesh, we would have no Savior. He didn't suddenly come on the scene as a 30 year old man, but was born in Bethlehem as a baby. Our children should be able to enjoy this story as much as any other person. Even though they don't keep Christmas, they can love the story of Christ's birth and share it with their friends.

As you teach the lesson, include other sections in the Bible and events related to the birth of Christ that are not covered in the Students' book.

Today's lesson subject: Ask: How did you feel about this lesson as you read it in preparation for today's class? What holiday did it make you think about? If anyone said that Christmas was their least favorite holiday, ask: Why do you feel that way? Listen to the students and allow them to express their feelings. Help them to understand that it would be better to concentrate on what they have in common with their friends (that Christ was born to be our Savior) than to be judgmental about their friends keeping Christmas. Keep them focused on how blessed they are to have the Feast of Tabernacles to celebrate for eight days and not just one.

Jesus' Birth: Ask: Have you ever thought that Jesus might have been born on the opening night of the Feast of Tabernacles? Jesus became flesh and tabernacled with man. He temporarily lived on this earth for a purpose. Ask: Have you heard a minister explain this on the opening night of the Feast? Let them express how they felt about hearing the story of the birth of Christ and the songs that were sung that night. Ask: Did you feel some of the joy that the shepherds felt when the angel appeared to them and announced Jesus' birth?

Stress that the purpose of Jesus being born was to be our Savior. Because Adam and Eve and every person after them sinned, a Savior was necessary to pay the penalty for our sins or we would all die and never live again. This is something really worth celebrating.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

On a newsprint pad, list the following questions:

1. Where was Jesus born?
2. What were the names of His earthly parents?
3. Who were the first people to know about His birth?
4. How did they find out about His birth?
5. Why was Jesus born?
6. What difference does His birth make in your life?

Ask one of the students to volunteer to read the story they wrote to complete the Activity in their book. As the student reads it, have the other students listen carefully for answers to the questions on the newsprint pad and raise their hand as soon as they hear one. Let the student who raises his hand first give the answer.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Let the students act out the story in their lesson. Allow them time to brainstorm and choose which character each one would like to play.

SONG

“Everybody Ought to Know” is on page 11 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead in prayer thanking God for such a beautiful story that shows how Jesus came in the flesh to be our Savior.

From Carpenter to King

MEMORY VERSE

“So Jesus grew both tall and wise, and was loved by God and man”(TLB). - Luke 2:52

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain similarities of Jesus' background to theirs.
2. Cite two events in Jesus' childhood.
3. Explain why Jesus will return to this earth.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angel

Bible study

Carpenter

Egypt

Family

Galilee

Herod

Jerusalem

Jesus, Birth of

Jesus, Childhood of

Jesus, Return of

Jesus, Savior

Jesus Sets Example

King of kings

Loving God

Mary and Joseph

Nazareth

Obedience

Passover

Temple

Wise/Wisdom

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and devotional charts, poster board, pictures, glue, strips of paper, carpenter tools, marker pens, songbook, cassette or CD, and music player.

PREPARATION

What happens when your students go home is largely determined by the effectiveness of the class you teach. Concentrate on being result-oriented. By reading the complete Students' and Teacher's lessons early in the week, thoughts and ideas will connect and mature. Give several days to pray about this subject and to gain God's help in making it truly effective.

Juniors learn best when they have a lot of colorful and exciting things to see, touch, move or hear. So bring as many construction tools as you can find to class and have them on the table when the students arrive. Cut out a picture of a large crown and a Middle Eastern home or get a poster from your Christian bookstore.

This lesson provides the opportunity to reinforce the importance of family. There is no such thing as a perfect family. A family is made up of people who love and care for each other and share living experiences. The first recorded experience in this lesson required prompt, cooperative action to save the life of Jesus.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

As the students arrive, have them examine the tools you brought and see which ones they can identify. Start a discussion on what other tools would be needed to construct a house. Get some of the students to tell the earliest thing they can remember. As they relate stories that are about their family, ask the class who was involved in this story. Mention how important family is to us. Point out that they are the people we love most and can count on in time of need and trouble. Tell them that families should work together on common goals.

After opening the class with prayer, begin the discussion as follows:

Family Working Together - Ask: How many of you have helped your dad do things like paint the house or plant a garden or build a dog house? How did you feel about working with your dad?

Family Crisis - Ask: Who can tell us what crisis Jesus' family experienced soon after He was born? Has anyone faced a crisis where your life was at stake? Explain that Jesus' family crisis took full cooperation and immediate action. When the angel told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt they didn't delay, and they left that very night. There are times when we must not delay, but must immediately obey God.

Jesus' Childhood - Ask: How many brothers and sisters do you think Jesus had? Read Mark 6:2-3. This shows that Jesus had four brothers and at least two sisters. Ask: What type of work did Joseph, Jesus' dad, do? Joseph was a carpenter and most likely taught Jesus that trade. This was a learning and sharing time for father and Son to draw close together as they earned a living. Lead them to understand that Jesus was just about their age when He was in the Temple discussing deep questions with the teachers of the law. Point out that "Jesus grew both tall and wise and was loved by God and man." They like it when they are measured and have grown an inch. But they also need to become wise so God and man will love them.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Before class, write the review questions on strips of paper. Give one or more questions to each student. Then let each student ask the class the question on his strip of paper. Every time one is answered correctly, let him glue the ends of the paper together making a chain. If the question cannot be answered by the class, loop the paper but don't glue it. Point out that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and the same thing is true in families and Sabbath School classes. We all must work together to have strong families and a good class.

1. What crisis did Jesus' family experience shortly after He was born?
2. How long did Joseph delay before he took Mary and Jesus to Egypt?
3. Name two ways that Jesus grew.
4. Name two events in Jesus' childhood that we learned today.
5. What type of work did Joseph do?
6. How old was Jesus when He discussed the law with teachers in the Temple?
7. Why will Jesus return to this earth?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Have the students make a poster with the picture of the Middle Eastern home and the crown. Let one of them write above it "From Carpenter to King." Under this have the class write, "Putting Christ First Pays Great Dividends." Then lead the class in a discussion of what these benefits are.

Application: Show your Juniors the benefits of obeying God. Help them to understand there will be a reward waiting for them that far surpasses anything this world has to offer. Putting Christ first in their lives will pay great dividends.

SONG

"One Door, and Only One" is on page 44 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the students to volunteer to lead in prayer. If no one volunteers, go ahead and lead in the prayer.

A Dove For Obedience

MEMORY VERSE

“After His baptism, as soon as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened to Him and He saw the Spirit of God coming down in the form of a dove”(TLB). - Matthew 3:16

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that everyone should be baptized when they are old enough to repent of their sins.
2. Cite that the dove pictures God's Spirit.
3. Define what the Holy Spirit can do in their lives.
4. State that Jesus never did anything wrong, but He was baptized in order to obey His Father.

TOPICS & THEMES

Baptism

Dove

Forgiveness

Galilee

God's Voice

Holy Spirit

Jesus, God the Son

Jesus Sets Example

Jesus - Without Sin

John the Baptist

Jordan River

Obedience

Prayer

Repentance

Sin

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts, poster of birds or pictures made into a poster, newsprint pad, marker pens, white construction

paper, string, tacks, crayons, yarn, pencils, songbook, cassette or CD, and music player.

PREPARATION

“The place chosen of God for the introduction of the Messiah to the nation was the lower Jordan, at, or near, the very spot where the waters divided for Joshua on Israel’s entrance into Canaan. Here John the Baptist established himself, and began his work of arousing the nation to expectancy. Soon all eyes were focused on him, wondering if he himself were the Messiah” (Halley’s Bible Handbook, page 424).

The YEA program introduces three and four year old children to baptism and creates expectations that someday they will be baptized. Additional information is given in each progressive age group as these expectations are nurtured. Because of the enormous benefits derived from having God’s Spirit, we should work and pray that each child will be baptized as early as they can fully comprehend what repentance is. This world is an evil, wicked place and our children need God’s Spirit like no other generation before them. Your job as a teacher is to nurture the expectation that each child will be baptized before he becomes an adult – as early as maturity will permit.

Before class, draw pictures of doves on white construction paper, cut them out, punch a hole in them and tie strings through nine of them. Save some without holes for the Activity. Write a review question on eight of the doves. Tack one dove without a review question on it near the place you will stand while teaching the lesson. Tack the other nine doves to the ceiling so that they look like they’ve been scattered.

The students will probably start talking about the doves as they enter the room. So, research as much information about doves as you can find.

Tack a poster of either doves or birds in general on the wall, or cut out a number of pictures and make a poster. Tack it to the wall, along with the attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Open the class with prayer. Start the lesson by asking students to tell about any experiences they may have had with doves, where they saw them, if they saw them feed their young, etc. Then give them additional information that you have learned from your research.

Witnessed a baptism: Ask: How many of you have seen a baptism? How did you feel about it? As you go over the lesson with them, use additional material and research that will add to their knowledge. When you come to the part about the sky opening up and a dove descending, pull down from the ceiling the dove without a review question. Be careful not to let the tack hit or hurt the children.

What is sin? - Ask: Who can name some sins? Get them to name as many sins as they can think of and write them on the newsprint pad. Ask: Which of these sins breaks one of the Ten Commandments? Write the commandment by each sin you listed. Try to get them to give sins that break all Ten Commandments.

Benefits of God's Spirit - Children are especially self-centered and want to know what's in it for them. Ask: What benefits come from having God's Spirit? These should be listed on the newsprint pad as well for emphasis.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Let each student pull down a dove with a review question on it. He or she gets to ask the class that question. If the class is small, each student can pull down more than one dove.

1. Where was Jesus baptized?
2. Who baptized Jesus?
3. Why was Jesus baptized?
4. Why should you be baptized?
5. What does baptism picture?
6. What is sin?
7. What kind of bird lit on Jesus' shoulder?
8. What did the dove picture?
9. What can the Holy Spirit do in your life?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

From the Activity in the Students' book, have students tell what things the picture of the river flowing says to them. Pick a different one from each student's list and let them write it on the newsprint pad.

Enlarge the dove below and make a copy for each child. Have students write the memory verse on the backs of their doves. Punch holes in them and have each student tie a piece of yarn through the holes to make door hangers.

SONG

"Down in My Heart" is on page 69 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the students to lead in prayer thanking God for His Holy Spirit.



Jesus' 12 Helpers

MEMORY VERSE

“Therefore go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you”(TLB). - Matthew 28:19-20

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that good education and training are necessary parts of their lives both physically and spiritually.
2. State five good things they can do to change an enemy into a friend.
3. Cite why praying for our enemies is important.

TOPICS & THEMES

Beatitudes
Disciples, Calling of
Family
Holy Conduct
Jesus, His Ministry
Jesus, Our Friend
Jesus, Savior
Loving Others
Prayer
Sharing the Gospel

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts, different color marker pens, newsprint pad, poster board, pictures for the poster, butcher's paper, basket, map, songbook, cassette or CD, and music player

PREPARATION

In addition to reading all of the scriptures and the entire Students' and Teacher's books, check other sources for additional information that isn't covered in the Students' book. Notice that in

Matthew 10 the disciples went through two years of training before being sent out. The New Testament mentions the work they did in Palestine, Asia Minor, Greece and Rome. Colossians 1:23 says that the Gospel was preached to every creature under heaven. This was about 62 A.D. This seems to imply that in 30 years the story of Christ had been told over the known world.

A map would be helpful to point out these places to the class. A poster with pictures of football players and cheerleaders with the caption, “I’m on God’s Team,” would be a good visual reminder to reinforce this lesson. You could add to the poster a picture of the Bible, YEA’s Sabbath School book and a copy of the devotional readings.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Juniors are probably at an ideal age for teaching. They have reached enough maturity to handle serious questions and, at the same time, they are still young enough to enjoy play. They understand that they can’t always have their own way and they work well in groups.

However, Juniors are not always perfect. Some students require a lot of attention. When you become aware of who they are, pay special attention to them before class to help prevent disruptions during the lesson. There may be times you will need to use the “time-out” concept to keep order in the class. Gently ask the disruptive student to sit in a chair that is not a part of the area where the activity is being done. After quietly speaking with this student include him again with the class.

Open the class with prayer, then start the lesson by saying: In last week’s lesson we learned that Jesus was baptized. He never sinned. Ask: Why was He baptized? When Jesus chooses people to help with His work, what kinds of people do you think He looks for? Let’s see if we can name four qualities. Write these in four columns on a newsprint pad with a marker pen as the students name them. These qualities should be:

1. They work hard.
2. They’re obedient
3. They work well as a team.
4. They should be respectful.

As you tell the story about Jesus calling His 12 disciples, ask students to listen for these qualities. Make sure that you include situations where the disciples showed these qualities.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Use the qualities listed on the newsprint pad and get the class to tell ways that the disciples had these qualities. As they give them, list them under each category. Now ask them to give ways that they show these qualities in their daily lives. List them in a different color under the appropriate category.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Before class, write each of the ten things listed below on separate strips of paper, and attach a long piece of butcher's paper to the wall. Put the strips of paper in a basket and let each student draw one. If the class is small, have them draw more than one. If the class has more than ten students, have them work in pairs. Explain to the class that we are going to make a mural by drawing pictures about what we learned in today's lesson. Ask each to read the statement on the paper they drew, go to the butcher's paper on the wall, and draw a picture to illustrate what their statement says. They can use conversation bubbles and write in a prayer, sentence, or words to clarify their illustrations or make them better. When they are finished, ask them if this took thinking and planning. Say: We will always have to think and plan if we're to be Jesus' really good helpers.

1. Read my Sabbath School lesson.
2. Learned my memory verse.
3. Read my devotional each day.
4. Smiled at someone I did not know.
5. Was friendly to someone who was mean to me.
6. Prayed for someone who was mean to me.
7. Helped an enemy do her school work.
8. Invited an enemy to play with me.
9. Chose an enemy for my team.
10. Invited someone to Sabbath School.

SONG

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" is on page 23 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the students to lead in prayer. Suggest that they pray for our enemies.

A Recipe for Prayer

MEMORY VERSE

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects”(RSV). - James 5:16

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that praying to God is very much like talking with a dear friend.
2. Recite the basic ingredients that go into a prayer.
3. Tell that they can't be forgiven of their sins unless they forgive those who wrong them.

TOPICS & THEMES

Forgiveness

God the Father

God's Kingdom

God's Love

God's Provision

Prayer

Prayer, The Lord's

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts, marker pens, paper, pencils, pictures from magazines, construction paper, yarn, poster board, songbook, cassette or CD, and music player.

PREPARATION

Even though Juniors are concrete thinkers, research shows that this age group expects and appreciates certain qualities in their teacher. They want a teacher who listens to them. For them to really know you are listening, eye contact is important as preteens give their comments. Even though they like variety, they want a certain consistency with the routine in Sabbath School. They also expect you to be fair. They want everyone to be treated equally. Juniors thrive on encouragement and need wise council when they reveal their secrets to you. Making them feel special with a surprise or treat will go a long way in solidifying your relationship with them.

Don't forget positive reinforcement for jobs well done. A birthday card or personal notes will also be appreciated by Juniors in your class.

The YEA Sabbath School materials are designed to provide a curriculum that will develop in each student a strong spiritual foundation. Prayer, daily Bible study, obedience to God and His law, and giving should be expounded and encouraged at every opportune moment. Learning to pray is one of the most basic essentials for a Christian. The benefits derived from knowing God through daily contact are invaluable. Prayer can be an enormous help to Juniors when they face personal and family difficulties.

Before class, look through magazines and cut out such pictures as an etiquette book, a telephone, a recipe book, mixing bowl, mixer, measuring cup and spoons and a recipe. Make a poster using these pictures and caption it, "A Recipe for Prayer." Tack it to the wall or bulletin board along with attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts. Also, design and make door hangers for each student out of construction paper. Write on each one "Time- out for God."

List these things on the newspaper pad: Greeting, praise, request, apology, closing remarks.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

After the students arrive, open the class with prayer. Divide the class into pairs. If you have an odd number, you can be a child's partner. Give each pair a piece of paper and a pencil. Have each pair sit facing one another. Space the pairs far enough apart so that conversations can be carried on among each pair at the same time. Tell them to list on their papers the words that are on the newsprint pad. Ask them to pretend that one of the pair has telephoned the other person. You have given them a recipe to follow in their conversation. They are to greet one another, compliment or praise the other person, make a request or ask the other person for something, apologize or ask forgiveness for something, and then have a friendly closing to their conversation. Allow them four or five minutes to carry on a "phone" conversation and let them know when they only have 30 seconds left to complete their "phone" conversation.

Now have each pair write beside each category what they said to fulfill this part of the conversation.

Arrange your students in a semicircle and ask one pair to tell the class what kind of greeting they used to begin their "phone" conversation. Let another pair tell about any praise or compliment they gave to the person they were conversing with. Get another pair to tell what they asked the other person to do while they were talking. The next pair can tell about any apology that was made during their talk. Let another pair tell how they ended their conversation. If any pair is left without a comment for a category, ask if another pair can share what they said.

Prayer Recipe - Ask: Do you realize what you have just done? You've carried on a conversation with a friend, much like you do when you pray. There were certain ingredients that went into your conversation recipe. The recipe for prayer is just that simple.

Request - Ask: How did you feel when your partner asked you to do something for him or her? Do you think they asked for too much? How do you think God feels if your entire prayer is nothing but "give me"?

Students' Activity - Tell students to open their books to this week's Activity. Have one student read the Bible phrase and let another student tell how they rephrased it. After they finish, ask: How do you feel about God not being willing to forgive you of your sins if you can't forgive another person who has wronged you? What does holding a grudge do to a friendship? Is it worth it to hold a grudge?

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the prayer in Matthew 6:5-9 called?
2. Name the ingredients that went into this prayer.
3. What did Jesus tell us to ask for in this prayer?
4. What will keep you from being forgiven of your sins?
5. How does an unforgiving spirit affect friendships?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give students another piece of paper and pencil and ask each one to write out a prayer using the recipe on the newsprint pad. Give each student one of the door hangers you made before class. Allow them to select pictures to decorate their door hangers from the ones you cut out of magazines. Remind them that prayer is a private time. They probably don't want to be disturbed when they pray, so they can hang this on the door to let everyone know not to disturb them.

SONG

"Whisper a Prayer" is on page 57 in the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let one of the students volunteer to lead in prayer.

The Best of Seven

MEMORY VERSE

“If you turn back your foot from the sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honourable; if you honor it, not doing your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” - Isaiah 58:13-14

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that you don't mess around with the Sabbath. It is a day of rest that God created for man.
2. State that Jesus never broke the Sabbath.
3. Tell that it is good to take care of human needs and suffering on the Sabbath.
4. Explain that there are blessings for keeping the Sabbath.

TOPICS & THEMES

Creation

David

Holy Conduct

Jesus, His Ministry

Jesus, His miracles

Healing

Jesus - Without Sin

Loving Others

Rest

Sabbath

Sabbath Conduct

Showbread

Temple

Worship God

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance and memory verse and daily devotional charts, butcher's paper, newsprint paper, wrapping paper, different color marker pens, songbook, cassette tape or CD and music player.

PREPARATION

The memory verse may be too long for the younger children. We recommend that you shorten it if needed.

Before class, use a long piece of butcher's paper to make a seven day calendar. Write Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, etc. across the length of it. Put a big "one" under Sunday, "two" under Monday, etc. In a different color on another long piece of butcher's paper, write, "God is So Good!" Tack this across the wall under the calendar.

After the students arrive, ask one of the students who prints well to go to the chalk-board or newsprint pad. Ask the students what things they can do the first six days of the week. Help them list everything they can think of that they can do on those days. The student at the chalkboard should write "work days" at the top and list each activity as the students give them. This list should include such things as going to school, doing their homework, attending ballgames, dance lessons, going to the movies, shopping, skating, swimming, other sports, etc. Now read Exodus 20: 8-11 or have one of the better readers do it. Then ask them what things they can do on the Sabbath. Ask the student at the chalkboard to write at the top of another sheet of newsprint "Sabbath" and list the things as the students give them. This list should include such things as rest, sleep in, attend Sabbath Service, attend Sabbath School, pray, read their Bibles, read their Sabbath School lesson, take a nature walk, visit friends, visit the elderly or sick, play such games as Bible trivia, check the YEA web site, write a note to a YEA pen pal, etc. Tack both of these lists under the calendar and the sign that says "God is So Good."

Now ask the class how they feel about this. Ask them if they noticed that God gives them six days to do all of their work and the other things listed. Then, He is so good that He gives them a day to spend with Him. Get the entire class to say together, "God is So Good!"

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Self-centeredness is a problem with every age group and Juniors are no exception. Teaching religious values, such as keeping the Sabbath, calls for the children to reach beyond selfishness to a communion with something larger than themselves. Try to understand the students' points of view and what they're going through. Juniors are old enough to begin thinking less about rewards and punishments and more about living up to God's expectations.

After opening the class with prayer, emphasize that we shouldn't dread the Sabbath even though we can't do some of the same things that we do the other six days of the week. Stress the

benefits. Conclude by reading Isaiah 58:13-14 from the NIrV Kids Devotional Bible.

“Do not work on the Sabbath day.

Do not do just anything you want to on my holy day.

Make the Sabbath a day you can enjoy.

Honor my holy day.

Do not work on it.

Do not do just anything you want to.

Do not talk about things that are worthless.

Then you will find your joy in me.

I will give you control over the most

Important places in the land.

And you will enjoy all of the good things

In the land I gave your father Jacob.

The Lord has spoken.”

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Ask the students to turn to the “Activity” in their book. Have one student read one of the things he listed that will please God and make the Sabbath more fun. The person next to him can tell who she would enjoy doing that activity with. Then let the next person give one good thing on their list that they can do on the Sabbath to help another person. Then let the next person tell who they would like to do that good deed for. Continue around the room until everyone’s list is finished. Then ask: What benefits will you gain from doing these things because you love God and the Sabbath so much?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

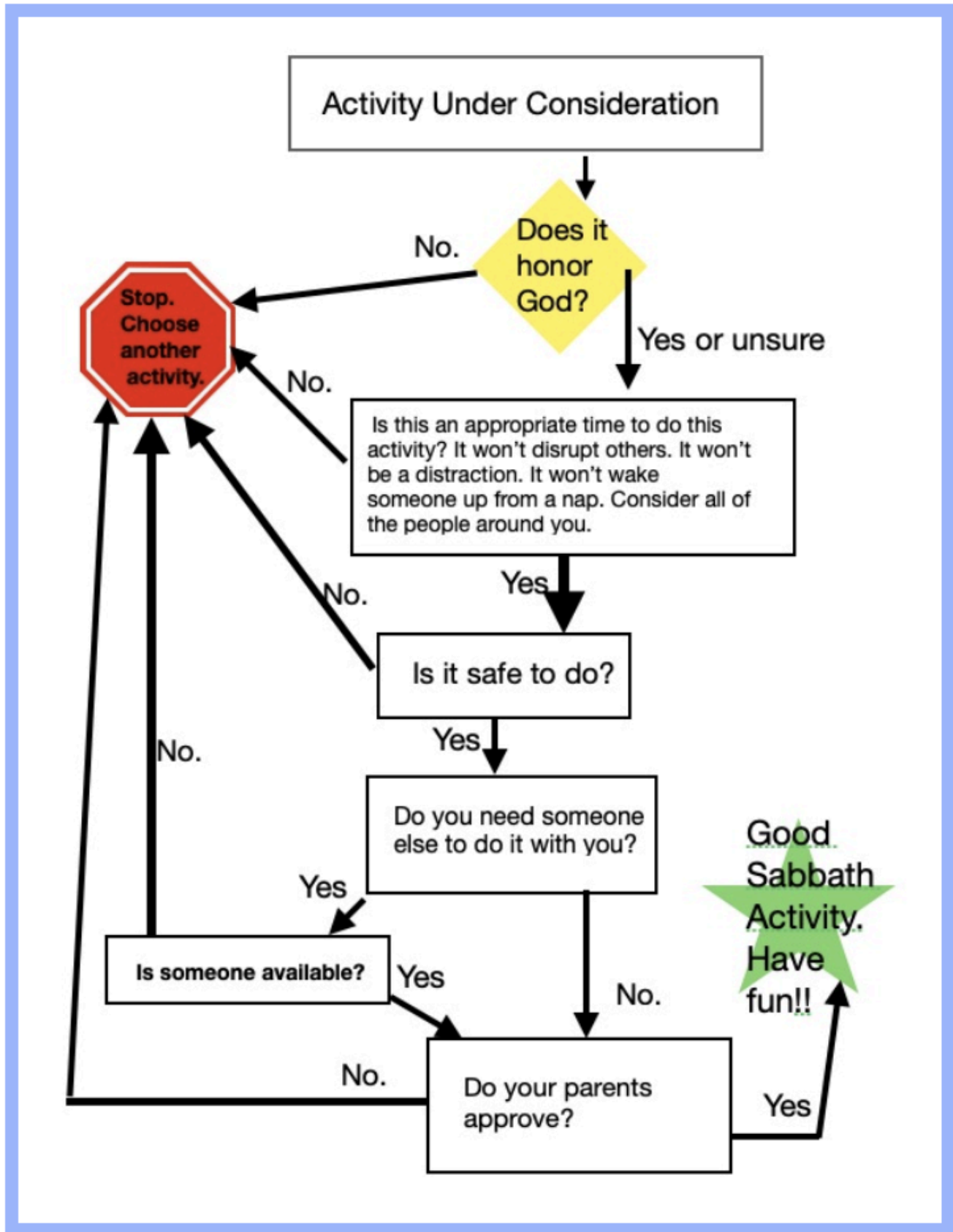
Divide the class in thirds and assign each group one of the three different stories (Jesus and His disciples walking through the grain field, David and the special bread in the Temple and Jesus healing the handicapped woman) given in the lesson for them to act out. Give the groups two or three minutes for them to brainstorm how they will act it out before they perform. Then have each group act out their assigned skit.

SONG

“My God is So Big” is on page 14 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the students to say the closing prayer.



Hang in There!

MEMORY VERSE

“He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” - Matthew 24:13

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that God doesn't always answer their prayer on the first request.
2. Tell that God honors patient, persistent prayers.

TOPICS & THEMES

Ask

Jesus, His Ministry

Perseverance

Prayer

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts, poster board, pictures, marker pens, songbook, construction paper, cassette or CD and music player.

PREPARATION

Before class, cut out pictures of a dog (preferably a Springer Spaniel), a judge and a man in bed asleep. Let the class make a poster with captions before the class begins. Across the top write “Hang in There!” Draw a bubble in front of the dog and write, “whack, whack” in it. In a bubble by the judge write, “Justice shall be done,” and by the man sleeping, write “Go away!” in a bubble. Have them tack this on the wall next to the attendance, memory verse and devotional charts.

Regardless of our age, we have times when it seems our lives are falling apart. Juniors are no exception to this. Lessons on prayer can be an enormous help for kids who feel defenseless and frightened when things go wrong. This lesson teaches a most encouraging and important principle. It gives them hope that God will hear their prayers if they won't give up.

The stories in Luke 18:1-8 and Luke 11:5-13 were told to teach that God will honor patient, persistent, persevering prayer. In Matthew 6:7 Jesus warned of “vain repetition,” and added,

“Your Father knows what things you need before you ask Him.” How do you reconcile this with the persistence of the widow and the importunity of the friend at midnight which Jesus commended? Sometimes it is not easy to reconcile two sides of a truth. But our own desires must be tempered by the calm submission to the will of God. And, God wants us to present our desires to Him, without allowing ourselves to become discouraged when He delays the answer.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

All too often we squeeze out meaningful prayer in Sabbath School classes. We allow activities and discussions to crowd out prayer time. Make a deliberate effort towards heart-felt, purposeful prayer time. Show by your example that prayer is a priority. To demonstrate the importance of prayer in our lives, begin and end each class with prayer. Before you open with prayer tell the class that God is interested in the big and the small things in their lives. Ask the students if they have a problem or a need that they would like for you to talk over with God. Mention a need that you have and ask them to please remember to pray for you.

Open the class with meaningful prayer. Juniors are at a great age to appreciate the power of prayer. As you tell the lesson, you might include Matthew 13:58 to show that our unbelief hinders our prayers. Mark 5:34; Matthew 9:28,29, 21:21 are good contrasts showing the importance of faith. We all want answers to our prayers so it is easy to emphasize the benefits of this lesson to your pre- teens. Help them to understand how persistence will benefit them in other areas of their lives, but it can be self-defeating if it is done in a wrong spirit and becomes obnoxious.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Write your review questions on the back of cutouts that look like a dog, a judge and a man sleeping. Let them select which one they want to answer.

1. Describe the judge that the widow came to.
2. Why did the widow need the judge's help?
3. What attribute of Maggie should we imitate?
4. Why did the man who was asleep answer his friend?
5. What do you have to do to make sure God hears your prayer?
6. Name another way that persistence will pay off in your life.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Go over the activity in the student's book with your class and let students check their answers. Then divide the class into two sections. Give them a few minutes to plan their drama. Let one

group act out the judge and the widow story and the other half of the class act out the friend wanting a loaf of bread from the man who is in bed. Then get everyone to form a circle, give a thumbs up and say “Hang in there.” Give the reminders while they are still in the circle. Have them hold hands for the closing prayer.

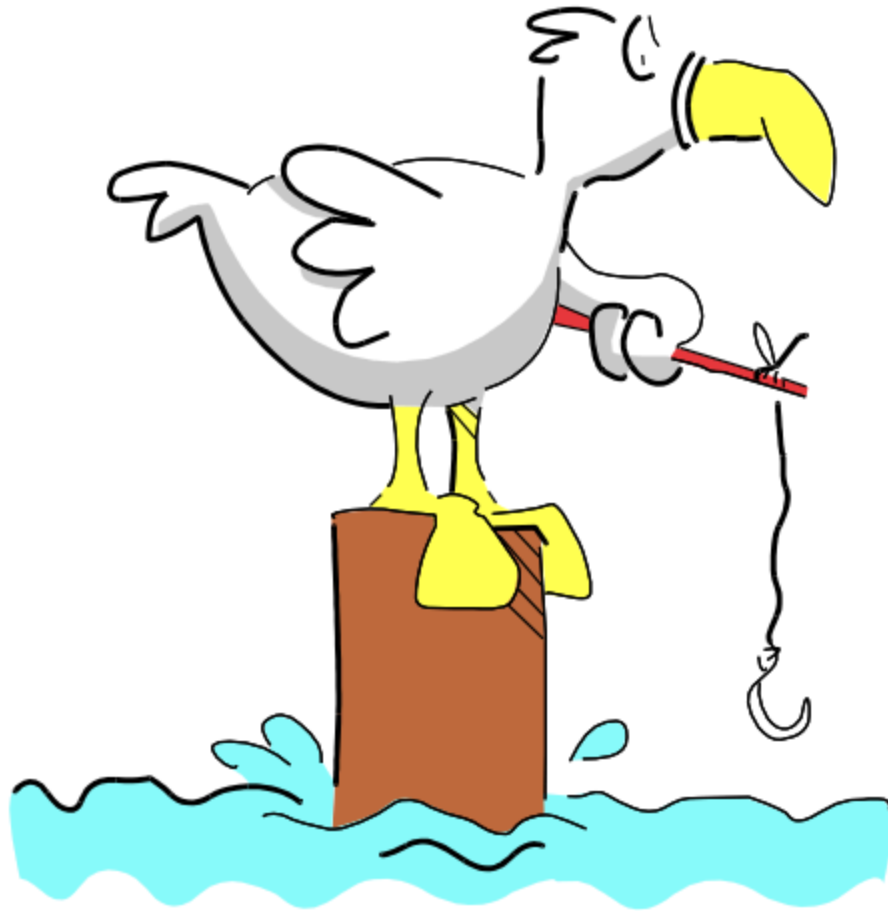
SONG

“Standin’ In The Need of Prayer” is on page 53 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

After the activity and reminders, ask one of the students to lead in prayer. Have the group form a circle and hold hands for the prayer.

DON'T GIVE UP!



A Rich Young Ruler

MEMORY VERSE

“And He said, ‘The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.’ Luke 18:27

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that to follow God we can't value anything more than Him.
2. Tell that eternal life is a gift that only Christ can give.
3. State that God rewards those who give up home or family for His sake.

TOPICS & THEMES

Camel

Eternal Life

God's Gifts

Jesus, His Ministry

Kingdom of God

Loving God

Obedience

Peter

Putting God First

Rich Young Ruler

Ten Commandments

Putting God First

Treasure

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and devotional charts, newsprint, poster board, marker pens, pencils, slips of paper, paper, songbook, pictures from magazines, glue, cassette or CD and music player.

PREPARATION

Your approval is important to Juniors. But for them to really value it and be concerned when you are disappointed in them, you must first have a relationship of love. Every child will need some of your time and individual attention to create this relationship. For them to really be drawn to Sabbath School every week, they must feel a part of the group. No one likes to feel excluded, especially kids. Try to make everyone feel equally important.

Children can learn love from the way you model it. Extend love beyond the classroom. Bring a birthday or get well card to class for someone in your church or community and have everyone write a note and sign it. Pray for peace in the world. Collect food or clothing for a needy person in the church or community. Teach religious values that stress love. These things will help the students see that Christ is first in your life.

Before class, cut out many pictures from magazines portraying wealth (money, jewelry, banks, high life styles, expensive cars, etc.), royalty, children their age, school activities such as ballgames, etc. As the kids arrive, have them start making a collage from these pictures. Ask questions that will encourage them to talk about wealth, fame and physical things that are important to them. Let one of the better printers write above the pictures making the collage, "Jesus is Number 1."

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

After opening the class with prayer, start the class by asking if anyone has ever seen a king, queen, prince or princess? If they have, give them time to share this experience with the class. Ask: Do you think this royal personage has more love for Jesus than his or her love for being part of a royal family? How do you feel about royalty or rich people? Include the students in a discussion as you go through their lesson and add details that aren't in it.

Rich Young Ruler - Ask: How did you feel about Jesus telling the young ruler to sell all that he had and give it to the poor? Ask: How would you feel if this were required of you? Encourage everyone to tell how they would feel.

There are those who think the needle's eye that Jesus mentioned was a small gate for foot passengers close to the large city gate in Jerusalem. Camels could kneel and go through this gate with great difficulty. It seems more likely that Jesus is saying that it is a real needle. This would show that it is impossible for a camel to go through it and that salvation is only possible with God.

Before you finish telling the lesson, go back to the answers you got when you asked "How would you feel if this were required of you?" Point out that everyone of us has to be willing to give up everything. We can't have anything in our lives that is more important than Christ if we hope to receive salvation. Have the class turn in their Bibles to Mark 10:28-31. Ask one of the better readers to read this aloud to the class. Ask: What kind of reward is that for giving up going to a

ballgame on the Sabbath, not keeping Christmas or giving up any other physical things for Christ?

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the important question asked by the rich young ruler?
2. What part of Jesus' answer was troubling to the young man?
3. Why do you think Jesus told him to sell every- thing he had and give it to the poor?
4. Do you think a rich man has a better chance at eternal life than a poor man? Why or why not?
5. How would you compare wealth and riches to the things God promises?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each student nine slips of paper and a pencil. Ask them to number their slips of paper one through nine and don't put their names on them. Have them turn to the activity in their lesson. If they have marked "often" for number one, write that on the slip they numbered one. If they have marked "never" on number two, write that on the slip they numbered two and so on. Give them a few minutes to complete this. Then pass a basket for each one to put their nine slips of paper.

Separate the slips of paper into nine stacks by numbers. Say: Let's see how much treasure we have put in the bank in heaven. Number a newsprint pad one to nine and put "often," "sometimes," and "never" to the right and just above the numbers. Now read the statement and write on the newsprint pad how many "oftens," "sometimes," and "nevers" are on the slips. Be sure to commend them if they do well. If they do poorly ask what they think about the treasure they have laid up. Then ask: What can we do about it?

SONG

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" is on page 23 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the students to lead in prayer asking God to help them to always put Christ number one in their lives.

Giving is Good!

MEMORY VERSE

“For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you give, large or small, will be used to measure what is given back to you.” - Luke 6:38

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explain that the first tenth of what they receive (their increase) belongs to God.
2. Tell that an offering is over and above a tithe.
3. State that they are robbing God when they do not tithe.
4. Explain that God blesses the tither and giver bountifully.

TOPICS & THEMES

Attitude

Generosity

God's Gifts

Jesus, His Ministry

Offerings

Pharisees

Pride

Stealing (aka Robbing)

Temple

Ten Commandments

Stealing

Tithes

Widow's Mite

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, attendance, memory verse and daily devotional charts, marker pens, songbook, award, cassette or CD and music player, chocolate hugs and kisses and a basket.

PREPARATION

Because so many people today are self-centered and only out for themselves, giving and especially tithing are not popular subjects. You can check through stacks of religious books for children and find such subjects as outreach, service, sharing, faith, etc. but it is nearly impossible to find one that discusses the biblical principle of tithing. Even in the churches in our tradition today, more and more people either don't understand the importance of tithing or lack the faith to do it. Could this be the reason for rampant financial problems, bankruptcies and marriage problems? Could this be why it requires both parents working today to make a living? By neglecting to obey this eternal spiritual principle, a vicious cycle sets in and it becomes increasingly more difficult to dig ones self out of financial problems.

It is important that God's children learn and appreciate the blessings of tithing and giving at an early age while faith is yet easy. Unfortunately, money, instead of God is often a family's security. The more they have or earn, the more difficult it often becomes to give back to God His tenth and then to give an offering. The students should understand that the first tenth is God's, not just what is left over.

This lesson calls on Juniors to do something very different from what the world around them says. It says money equals happiness and they are to look out for themselves. Jesus' teaching says for us to deny ourselves and follow God.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Prayerfully read the student's entire lesson and everything in the Parent and Teacher's guide as well. Other scriptures which will tie in with this lesson are Matthew 6:1; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7; Genesis 14:20 (the first place tithing is mentioned in the Bible) and Leviticus 27:30-33.

Start the lesson by helping Juniors to understand that without giving we would have nothing. Their mother and dad gave them life. They wouldn't have a home, food, clothes, school supplies, transportation, an allowance, etc. if someone didn't give it to them. God gives the earth we live on. He gives us the sun for light, warmth and energy. He gives rain that makes crops grow for us to have food. He gave us His Son that we might have eternal life. Giving is God's way. Giving is good!

Talk openly about the fact that it may be difficult to live with a different set of values from many of their friends. Encourage the kids to share the struggles they face as they try to live up to God's standards.

Tithing and giving are such positive things because the benefits are so abundant. But it does take faith. As you go through their lesson remind the students of the benefits promised in their memory verse and in Malachi 3:8-12. Point out that holding on to everything God gives them

only brings short term happiness. Ask them if they think a robber can be really happy. Isn't he always wondering when his lifestyle is going to catch up with him? Choosing to tithe may mean giving up a little to begin with. God's blessings aren't always immediate. But the long-term benefits will come and they can live with full assurance that Giving is Good.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Do a "sword drill." Have the children take their Bibles and form a line facing you. You say "attention" and the kids stand at attention with their Bibles in their left hand beside them. Then you say "draw swords" and the children bring their Bibles in front of them at their waist with the left hand under it and the right hand on top. You give them a scripture to find and then say "charge." The first person who finds it takes one step in front of the others and reads the verse you gave. Have them look up the following scriptures and ask them to answer the question beside these scriptures.

Mark 12:38-44 - How much did the widow give?

Malachi 3:8-10 - How can you rob God?

Luke 21:1-4 - How did the widow's offering compare with the other givers?

Luke 6:38 - What determines what you will get back?

Leviticus 27:30-34 - Who does the tithe belong to?

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 - What kind of a giver does God want us to be?

Matthew 6:1-2 - If you give for man to see it, what happens?

Give an award to the student who wins the sword drill.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Go over the Activity in the student's book. Get each one to read their list of the things they trust to do something, and what it does for them. Then give each student nine Hershey kisses and a Hershey hug. Tell them that the hug represents the tithe. Tell them that you are going to pass the offering basket and they are to put their hug in it. Then tell them, "Look, God has given you nine kisses that you can have. You can eat them or give them to someone else. It is entirely up to you. But the hug is God's. Then pass the offering basket. Tell the kids that the minister will get their tithe like the priest got it in the Bible. After the class is over, have the students go with you and give the minister all of the hugs and let the class explain that it is their tithe.

SONG

"Every Promise In The Book Is Mine" is on page 15 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask for a volunteer to lead in prayer and thank God for the blessing of giving.

Don't Be a Fool

MEMORY VERSE

“Wine gives false courage; hard liquor leads to brawls; what fools men are to let it master them. . .” - Proverbs 20:1

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Tell why it is important that they are always careful of the things they do.
2. State the reason the servant thought it was okay for him to have a party and get drunk.
3. Give examples of what happens when people get drunk.
4. Explain why it is so dangerous for children to drink alcohol.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Alcohol

Holy Conduct

Jesus, Return of

Kingdom of God

Loving God

Obedience

Preparing for Jesus'

Return

Temptation

Wise/Wisdom

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bibles, YEA Students' and Teacher's books, newsprint pad, markers, any type of can with a label that says "beer," attendance, memory verse, and daily devotional charts, songbook, cassette or CD, music player, and awards

PREPARATION

Children are beginning to use alcohol/drugs at a much earlier age than ever before. The beginning of puberty may come as early as nine or ten years of age. This may have something to do with it, but more likely the influences of our society have more to do with it. One undeniable fact is that kids are now exposed to choices about chemical use at a much earlier age. Even grade school students report substantial peer pressure to try alcohol as early as the fourth grade. Prior to class, look up current statistics for substance use and abuse at a website like <https://drugabusestatistics.org/teen-drug-use/>.

It becomes even more important that the church and Sabbath School be clear and consistent in stating underage young people should not use alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Work with the parents to let them know that you support them in this. Suggest to the parents of your students that they make their views known to their children. Be a role model for your class to follow. Provide an example consistent with your message to your class.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

This lesson lends itself very well to the role playing method of teaching. The class may be divided into groups. Each group will be given a life situation to act out. They can either demonstrate the right or the wrong way the situation should be handled. Allow the group to decide which they will act out. At any point in the action the teacher can say freeze – this will represent Jesus’ return. Ask: Is this what you want to be doing when our Savior returns?

Life situation #1: Use the story of the boys from the student’s book. Allow the group to decide how they will handle the situation.

Life situation #2: Karen and her family were on vacation. They were staying in a very nice hotel. Her mother and father had gone out to eat dinner at a restaurant. Karen and her brother decided to stay in so they could swim in the hotel pool. They were going to order a pizza when they got hungry. Their room had a small refrigerator that was stocked with small bottles of liquor, wine and wine coolers. Karen and her brother wanted something to drink with their pizza. What should they do?

Life situation #3: It was a hot summer day. Paul’s baseball team had just won a double-header. Everyone was jumping up and down for joy. The coach asked Paul to carry his equipment bag to the bus. When he picked up the bag, Paul noticed a six-pack of beer. He showed it to some of the other boys on the team. They were all very thirsty. How would you handle this situation?

Life situation #4: You and your father have just had a big fight. He told you that you had to spend the rest of the evening in your room. When you hear your dad leave the house, you sneak out of the house and go to a friend’s house. You know you are being disobedient, but you are mad. Your friend offers you a beer, and tells you that it will help you calm down. He said his father always keeps beer in the refrigerator. How will this story end?

Tell the students that although this lesson is specific for alcohol, drug use is likewise a behavior that can have severe consequences, besides being an activity you wouldn't want to be doing when Jesus returns.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What did Jesus tell His disciples about the time when He would return?
2. What did He warn them about?
3. Why did the servant think it was okay to have a party and get drunk?
4. How do people act when they are drunk?
5. Why is it dangerous for children to drink alcohol?
6. Give two good reasons why you shouldn't allow alcohol to control you.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

After each group completes their role play, brainstorm about what is the best solution to that life situation. Write the solution to each situation on a sheet of newsprint.

Final Activity

This is the week when students should recite Matthew 6:9-13 and the names of the 12 Apostles. Give each one who can recite them an award. Stress that the award is given because they love Jesus so much that they wanted to put His words in their minds and hearts.

SONG

"Dare To Be A Daniel" is on page 9 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the students to lead in prayer, asking God to help them identify and resist the temptations of alcohol/drugs and tobacco. Be sure to thank God for His Word that teaches us about alcohol's dangers.