

YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES

Up, Up, Up and Away

YE2A · Teacher Edition

Primaries · Year 1: Life of Christ

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

A Son is Given

MEMORY VERSE

“Today. . . a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.” - Luke 2:11

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Tell the name of Jesus’ mother and her husband.
2. Name the town where Jesus was born.
3. Repeat that Jesus was born to be the Savior of the world.
4. Recognize that Jesus was born to be their Savior too.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angels

Bethlehem

Fulfillment of Prophecy

Jesus, Birth of

Mary and Joseph

Shepherds

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student’s and teacher’s book, cassette tape player and tape, attendance and memory verse charts, adhesive stars, crayons, pencils, marker pen, poster board, glue, pictures of family members for the poster and a sheet of butcher paper for the time line

PREPARATION

Before class, attach a long sheet of butcher’s paper to the wall, low enough for the children to draw on. Divide the paper into four sections. Label the sections: 1. Angel announcement; 2. Long trip; 3. Animals share; 4. Surprised shepherds.

Cut out a number of pictures of children, babies, moms and dads. Write the word “Families” at the top of a poster board. Allow the children to glue the pictures to the poster board while they tell you about their families.

Purchase or make two charts that can be used to record each child's attendance in class and to keep track of their memory verse recitation. Have enough colored stars for the children to place on their charts each week. Hang the charts low enough so that the children can reach them.

Children like to receive praise and recognition for participating in class. Tell the children that they will receive a special award ribbon at the end of this unit for perfect attendance. There will also be an award for everyone who can recite their memory verse every Sabbath. This will encourage the children to keep coming back for more, and will make your Sabbath Schools something children look forward to.

In addition to the weekly memory verses, you can assign Psalm 119:9-16 to be recited at the end of this unit. A small award should be given to those who have memorized as much as they can.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

This is an exciting age group to teach! Most of them have begun to read and write. Encourage them to read their lessons before they come to class so that they can enjoy participating in class.

Read the lesson in the student's book and the teacher's guide early in the week. You will have time to think about how you can be most effective in telling the story. You may want to use flannel graph figures, or a simple nativity set that can be purchased at your local Christian book store to aid in making the story come alive. These can also be used during your review time. As the children see the different people (Mary, Joseph, the angel), and recognize the place that Jesus was born as a barn where animals slept, it will help them remember the story.

The birth of Christ was an event that God's people had anticipated for many years. It was one of the greatest moments in history. You will want to convey the significance, the joy and happiness that we feel because Jesus was born to be our Savior!

We want the children to begin to experience the joy of knowing that Jesus is their friend and Savior too! So be excited and enthusiastic. Let your voice and mannerisms help the children "catch" the wonder of this fantastic event!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to reinforce the lesson in the children's minds and help them remember the story.

1. Do you remember the name of Jesus' mother?
2. What was the name of Mary's husband?
3. Can you tell me the name of the town where Jesus was born?
4. What kind of place was Jesus born in?

5. Where did Mary put Jesus to sleep?
6. Why was Jesus born?
7. Is Jesus your Savior, too?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Make a time line of the events surrounding Jesus' birth. Divide your class into four groups. Assign each group the task of drawing the following events: Angel announcing Jesus' birth to Mary; Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem (Be sure to include the donkey Mary rode on.); The stable scene (including the animals and manger); Shepherds tending their sheep and the angel making the announcement. Tell the children to make their picture interesting by adding grass, stars in the sky, the road Mary and Joseph traveled and any words that might have been spoken.

SONG

"Go Tell It On The Mountain" is on page 61 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer for the first week or two and then start asking for volunteers to lead in prayer.

Jesus as a Child

MEMORY VERSE

“Jesus became wiser and stronger” (NIRV). - Luke 2:52

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain that when Jesus was very young, Herod wanted to kill Him.
2. Describe how Mary and Joseph found Jesus with the teachers in the Temple.
3. Explain that they should know God’s Word like Jesus did.
4. Be motivated to read their daily devotionals, learn their memory verse and be in Sabbath School each week.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angel

Bible study

Egypt

Herod

Honor Your Father
and Mother

Jesus, Childhood of

Jesus, Wisdom of

Jesus, Without Sin

Jesus Sets Example

Nazareth

Obedience

Passover

Temple

Ten Commandments

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student’s and teacher’s books, memory verse and attendance charts, stars, tape player, cassette tape, songbook, crayons, scissors, glue, butcher’s paper and construction paper.

PREPARATION

Halley's Bible Handbook suggests that the angel who appeared to Joseph in a dream and directed their flight to Egypt was Gabriel. Herod the Great (37-3 B.C.) got his throne, and kept it, by brutal crimes, even murdering his wife and two sons. He slew the children of Bethlehem trying to kill Jesus Christ. Mary and Joseph's stay in Egypt was probably only a year or two.

How we wish that the Bible told us more about the childhood of Jesus. We know He was the oldest child in the family. He must have learned responsibility very early. After He was twelve, He probably went to Jerusalem three times a year for the holy days.

Before you come to class, cut enough strips of butcher's paper six inches wide and five feet long so that each child will have one. Enlarge and photocopy the pattern pictures from page 7 onto construction paper, and give each child a sheet.

Arrive early enough to prepare the room and to anticipate the arrival of the children. As the children arrive, greet each one with a smile and a hug. Call them by name and let them know how happy you are to see them.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

The reading level of each child will vary.

We hope the parents and teachers will ensure that the children read or have read to them each of these lessons. Children don't tire of hearing a story over again. Repetition is a way of learning.

Begin your class by talking to the children about good kings and bad kings. Ask them to tell you some things that good kings and bad kings do. Tell them that Herod was a really bad king who ruled the area where Christ lived. This should lead naturally into the lesson. Know it well enough to tell it with suspense and drama.

The life application in this lesson is for the children to learn the Bible. A systematic study of the Bible from the time a child can remember, will do much to lay a foundation for a lasting relationship with God. Make sure they learn how important it is that they know their memory verse, read their devotionals and study their lesson each week.

We can't expect children to do as we say and not as we do. They will be watching your example more than you may know. Your attentiveness and taking notes in Sabbath services will most likely be observed by your students. They need to know that you take learning the Word of God seriously.

At the end of the class make sure each child has his book and growing chart to take home with him. Do everything you can to make them feel loved and important to you. This will ensure that they will want to come again and again to Sabbath School.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

The review section is designed to reinforce the things learned in the lesson. Make this section a fun time. Try to include every child. But, don't embarrass the shy child. Give time for them to feel comfortable participating. Praise them when they do.

1. Do you remember why Joseph took Jesus and Mary to Egypt?
2. What was the name of the bad king who wanted to kill Jesus?
3. Where did Mary and Joseph find Jesus when He was left behind?
4. What was Jesus doing in the Temple?
5. Can anyone tell us what time of the year this was? Was there a particular day mentioned that made it special?
6. Jesus knew God's Word really well. What can you do to know God's word?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

The children will be making a Growing Chart. Give each child a strip of butcher's paper and a sheet of construction paper with the patterns printed on it. Write across the narrow end of the strip, "Growing Chart." Color and cut out these pictures. Glue them to the strip of butcher's paper, beginning at the bottom and ending at the top, leaving space between the pictures. This can be hung on the wall and used to measure the child's growth.

SONG

"The B-I-B-L-E" is on page 18 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer thanking God for the example Jesus set by knowing God's Word. Ask that God might help each child to follow Jesus' example.

Below are some examples:



This is My Son

MEMORY VERSE

“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” (KJV). - Matthew 3:17

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain that to repent means to be deeply sorry for disobeying God and to begin obeying His every way.
2. Know that Jesus was baptized as an example of what we should do.
3. Anticipate that when they are old enough to repent of their sins, believe in Christ and obey Him, they will be baptized.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Baptism

Belief/Faith

Dove

Food Laws

Forgiveness

Fulfillment of Prophecy

Galilee

God's Kingdom

God's Voice

Holy Spirit

Honey

Jordan River

Jesus, Messiah

Jesus Sets Example

John the Baptist

Locusts

Obedience

Repentance

Sin

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA teacher's guide and student's book, white construction paper for each student, crayons or markers, glue, yarn, scissors, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, songbook, cassette tape and tape player

PREPARATION

It has been said that, "Perfect preparation precedes perfect performance." Make it a habit of reading next Sabbath's entire lesson on the Sunday preceding the class. This gives time to prepare for the class. Good planning includes knowing the lesson well enough to make an interesting presentation, becoming familiar with the activity and song and gathering supplies.

Give some thought to the room where the class is held. Are there things that could be done to make it more conducive to learning – more child friendly? Should the blinds be opened to let more light in? What about the furniture arrangement? What can be done to make it better for this particular class? If the chairs and tables are inadequate, children can be taught sitting on carpet squares using lap boards. Supplies and books can be kept in a cardboard box and carried to the room each week if there are no bookshelves and storage bins to use.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

This lesson should be made fun and interesting. One way to do this is to keep the children involved in the lesson by asking them questions as you tell the story. Remember, six to eight year olds are more open to faith than they may ever be again. They are not too young for you to create the expectation that when they are older, they should repent, obey God and be baptized. Teachers and parents will want to give much prayer and thought to this as they study and prepare.

This lesson introduces God's plan of salvation to the children. It is designed to create an awareness of sin, the need to repent, be baptized and receive the gift of God's Holy Spirit. Conversion and a walk with Christ are the greatest things that can ever happen to these children. Sell the benefits and weave a strong life application throughout the lesson – especially in the conclusion.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Remind the class at the beginning of the lesson that questions will be asked. This will motivate them to listen better. The review questions will help you understand how well they grasp the lesson. Encourage class participation from every child. Praise the children when they participate and answer correctly.

1. What does it mean to repent?

2. What is sin?

3. Can you name some sins? (Help them if you need to with lying, stealing, doing things they should not do on the Sabbath, disobeying their parents, etc.)

4. Why was Jesus baptized?

5. Why are people baptized today?

A. To follow Christ's example.

B. To obey the command in Acts 2:38.

C. To bury the old self in the watery grave of baptism (Romans 6:4).

D. To show that our sins are washed away (Acts 22:16).

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

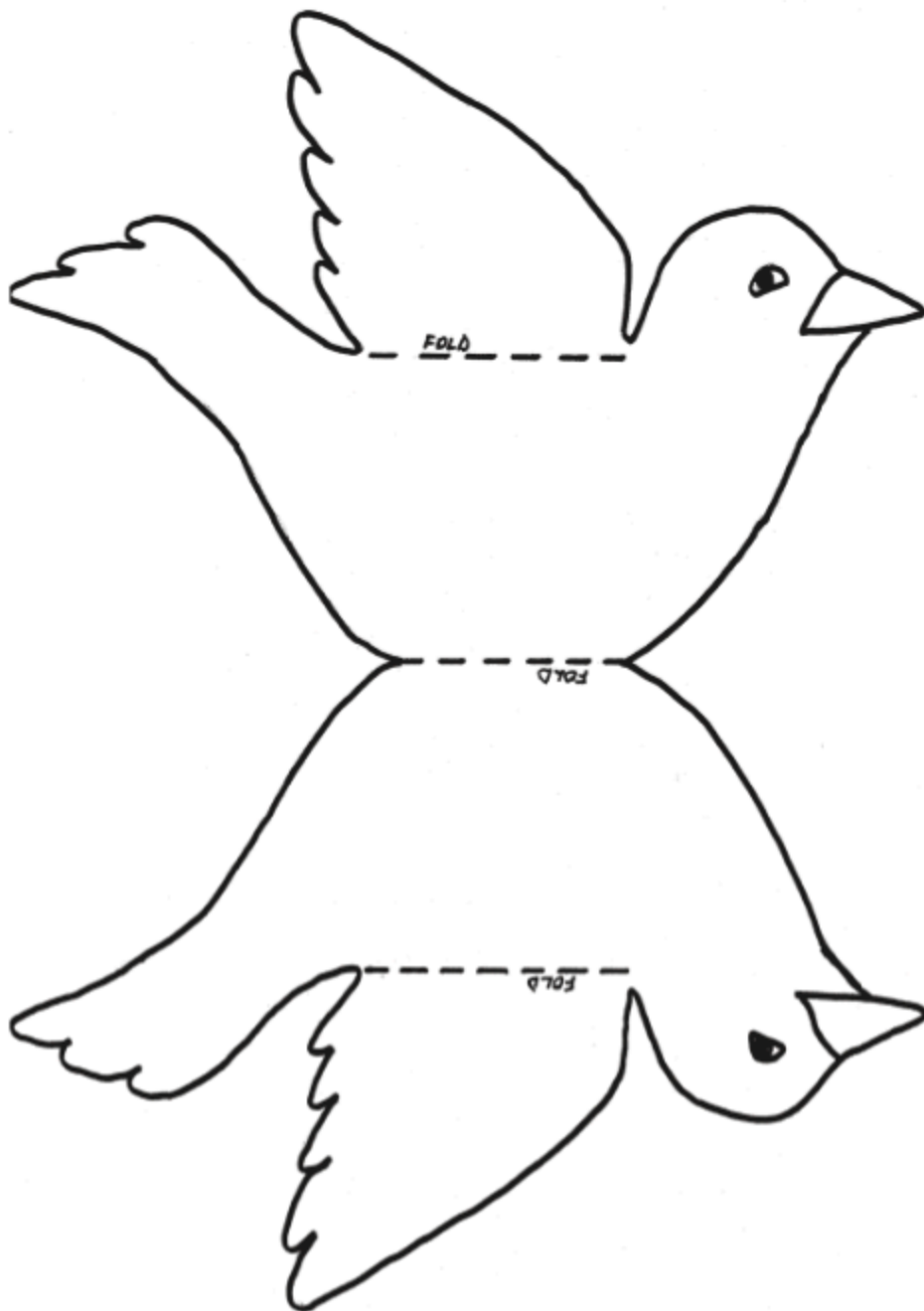
This activity is to create flying doves. Enlarge and photocopy enough of the dove patterns onto white construction paper so that each child will have one. Allow the children to color both sides of the dove and cut it out. Fold the wings down on the dotted line. Fold the bodies of the dove on dotted line and glue the two sides of the dove together, attaching a piece of yarn to the top of the body. This can be hung in their room to remind them of Jesus' baptism.

SONG

"I Am A C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N" is on page 52 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Children should never remember a time when they did not pray. Call on different children to pray on a rotational basis at the end of each class.



Three Choices

MEMORY VERSE

“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone’”(KJV). - Luke 4:4

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Tell what Jesus did when He was tempted.
2. State what it means to fast.
3. Explain who is more powerful, Jesus or Satan.
4. Explain what to do when Satan tempts them.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Angels

Bible Study

Bread

Fasting

God’s Omnipotence

God’s Protection

Honor Your Father and

Your Mother

Jesus Sets Example

Obedience

Prayer

Temptation by Satan

Worship

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student’s and teacher’s books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, baseball cap, baseball, bat, colored construction paper, marker pens, craft sticks, glue, scissors, cassette tape and tape player, songbook and candy or small favors.

PREPARATION

Children of all ages are fascinated by superheroes. Television has promoted the superhero as the protector from all problems, the avenger of all adversaries, the vindicator of all victims. Nothing is more powerful in the eyes of a child than their superhero. In today's lesson the children will be introduced to supernatural power. The power given by God that enables them to resist and overcome their enemy – Satan.

Variety is one of the greatest tools available in holding the attention of the class. When you read the lesson and scriptures early in the week, begin to think about how you can vary this lesson and make it special from every other lesson.

Before you come to class, draw a baseball diamond on a sheet of newsprint or poster board. Attach this to the wall in your classroom. Make enough copies of the baseball pattern so that each child in your class can have one. Number the balls from one to ten (For larger classes, repeat the numbering).

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Come to the class wearing a baseball cap and carrying a baseball and bat. Make a pennant that says, "We're on God's Team" and pin it to the wall. Teach the lesson while holding the bat in your hand.

Explain that the temptation of Jesus followed immediately after His baptism. Jesus went out into the wilderness to spend time talking to His Father. He was so engrossed in His communion with the Father that He didn't even take time out to eat. Jesus became an example to us by proving that His heart is not divided. He was totally focused on obedience to His Father.

Satan had been looking for an opportunity to gain the advantage over Jesus. Surely Jesus was weak from going without food for forty days - now was his chance to tempt Jesus. But, every time Satan threw Jesus a temptation ball, He hit it back and won the game. Had Jesus accepted the devil's offer to give Him all the kingdoms of the world, our salvation would have been impossible. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He was not about to worship Satan and be defeated! Instead, God's word and power enabled Jesus to defeat Satan.

Remind the children that God can give them the power to defeat Satan as well. God is ready to give them that power when they go to God in prayer and ask Him for it. Knowing their Bible by learning their memory verse each week and reading their daily devotionals will enable them to quote scriptures when they are tempted – just like Jesus did!

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Place the numbered baseballs into a baseball cap and have each child draw one out of the cap. Ask each child the question corresponding to the number on their ball. They will advance around the bases according to the value given to each question using the ball to mark their place

on base (this can be held in place with a straight pin or tape). Award a piece of candy to each child who answers their question correctly. (This activity can be repeated by putting the balls back into the hat and having the kids draw again.)

1. What does it mean to be tempted? (Triple)
2. Who tempted Jesus? (Single)
3. How many times was Jesus tempted? (Triple)
4. What did Jesus quote when He was tempted? (Triple)
5. How many days did Jesus fast? (Double)
6. What is fasting? (Triple)
7. Where did Jesus go to fast? (Double)
8. Who came to care for Jesus when Satan left? (Single)
9. Did Jesus ever give in to Satan's temptations? (Double)
10. How can you have the power to win over Satan? (Home Run)

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

"I'm On God's Team" pennant. Have several different colors of construction paper and allow the children to choose one that is their school's color. Also give each child two craft sticks. Fold the sheet of construction paper diagonally, lengthwise. Cut along the fold, forming two triangular pennants. They may want to draw their school mascot on one. On the other have them write "I'm On God's Team." Glue the pennants to craft sticks.

SONG

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

CLOSING PRAYER

The children will learn from hearing the teacher pray. It is important that you lead in prayer from time to time. However, it is also important to rotate having the students pray.



Come, Follow Me

MEMORY VERSE

“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” - Matthew 4:19

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Name four of the disciples.
2. Explain that a disciple is a follower of Jesus.
3. Explain that they can be disciples today.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Andrew

Calling Disciples

Disciples

Fishing

Jesus, His Ministry

Jesus, His Miracles

Miraculous Catch

Obedience

Peter

Sea of Galilee

Sharing the Gospel

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student's and teacher's books, colored construction paper, crayons, scissors, glue, old newspapers, rubber bands, memory verse and attendance charts, stars, music player and music CD/tape, songbook, and large glass bowl

PREPARATION

By reading the lesson, scriptures and teacher's book early in the week, your subconscious mind can begin to work on it. The lesson will have time to develop and connect with other thoughts.

Keep in mind that these lessons are designed to lead students into a lifelong relationship with their friend, Jesus, as their Savior and Lord.

Pray that God Himself will teach the children in your class. It is the teacher's or parent's task to present His message to the children with love, clarity, persuasion and even passion.

Before you come to class, enlarge the pattern for the "fish" craft and photocopy it onto construction paper so that each child in your class will have one. Also, make copies of the fish for the review, and write the review questions on the back of the fish. Put the fish into a large glass bowl.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Begin your lesson by pointing out to the class that Peter, Andrew, James and John were only four of the twelve disciples Jesus called when He was on this earth. Make an assignment for the class to memorize the names of the twelve disciples by next Sabbath. Give a Bible marker or some small award to each child who knows all twelve (Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, a second James, Thaddeus, Simon and Judas).

As you tell the story, involve the students by asking questions. You will not only keep their attention, but be able to tell whether or not the children understand what is being taught. If the students do not understand, you may need to spend a little more time explaining that particular point.

One of the more interesting asides of this lesson is the miracle of so many fish in the net. It was so loaded down that it was about to tear. This miracle was performed before Jesus told the disciples that He would make them fishers of men. Doubtless, the symbolism is that there are so many people God is calling out of the world that our nets are burdened down as well. The urgency to leave everything and go after these people without delay is made clear as well.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary points out that the details in our lesson today are similar to that in John 21, giving the narrative a ring of truth. In Luke's account, Peter refers to Jesus as "Lord," abasing himself before Jesus and acknowledging his own sinfulness. "Luke's reason for including this incident may be not only to portray the confrontation of human sinfulness with Jesus but also to show that to receive the saving grace of Christ as man must repent. . . ." Luke also refers to the fact that the men left everything to follow Jesus – a condition of discipleship that is taught later on by Jesus.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Have each child draw a fish out of the bowl. Allow the children to read their question to the class (You may need to help the younger children), and ask for volunteers to answer the question. If your class is large, you may need more questions.

1. Name the four fishermen who became disciples.
2. What is a disciple?
3. Are there disciples today?
4. How many fish had the fishermen caught before Jesus told them where to cast their net?
5. What is the name of the sea where Jesus found the fishermen?
6. Did the disciples follow Jesus right away?
7. Can you be a disciple of Jesus?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

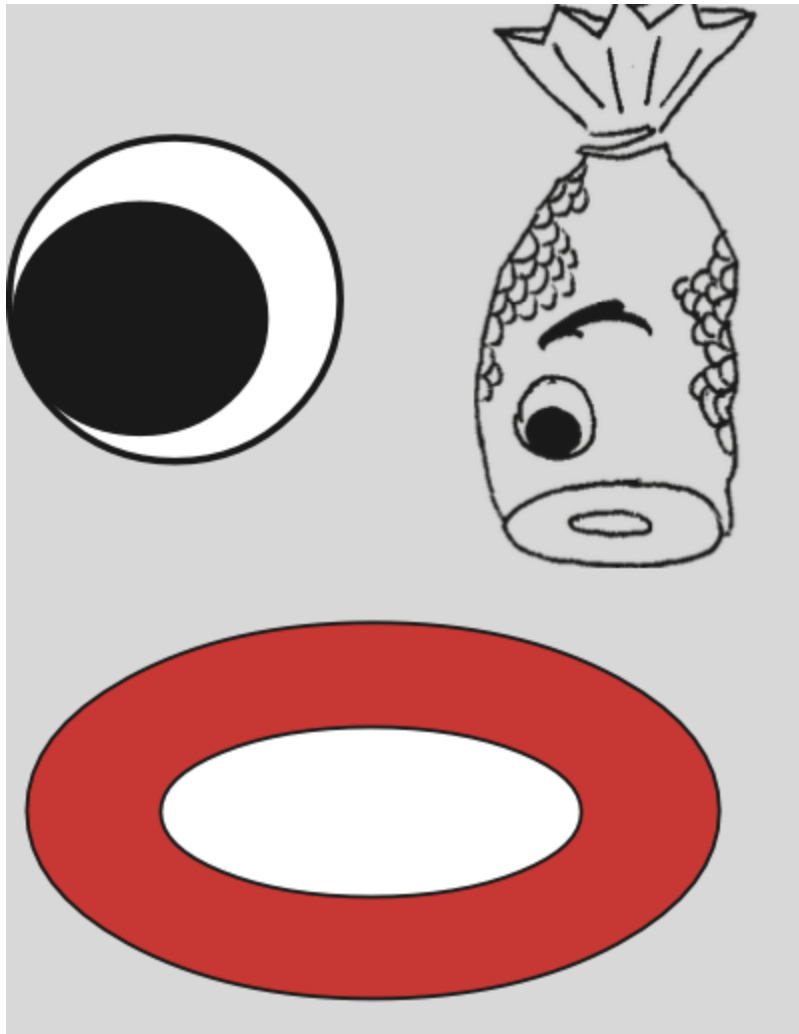
Give each child a lunch size paper bag. Cut out and glue the “mouth” to the flat bottom of the bag. Glue the “eyes” on either side of the bag. The children may wish to color their fish and give it scales and gills. Stuff the bag with crumpled newspaper and close the bag by placing a rubber band two inches from the top edge of the bag. Fan out the edge to form a tail.

SONG

“Peter, James And John In A Sailboat” is on page 12 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

From time to time, the teacher or parent should lead in prayer as an example. However, ask the students to do the honors on a rotational basis most of the time.



A Hungry Crowd

MEMORY VERSE

“. . .God loves a cheerful giver.”- 2 Corinthians 9:7

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain that feeding the crowd was a miracle.
2. Discuss the importance of sharing what we have with others.
3. Explain that we should give thanks to God for our food.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Bread/Loaves

Disciples

Fish

Giving Thanks to God

God's Provision

Helping Others

Jesus, His Ministry

Jesus, His Miracles

Feeding of 5000

Prayer

Sacrifice and Offerings

to God

Stewardship

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student's and teacher's books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, music player and music CD/cassette, songbook, a loaf of French bread, peanut butter, jam, two small baskets, doily or colorful napkins, construction paper, marker, crayons, gift wrapping ribbon, posters or decorations

PREPARATION

Children are affected by their environment. Light, posters, color and seating arrangements can contribute to the impact of the lesson. Just a little effort can make a big difference sometimes.

Before class, enlarge and photocopy six sets (5 loaves and 2 fish each) of the “lunch” pattern onto construction paper and cut them out. You will also need ten fish for the review part of the lesson.

At home, cut a loaf of French bread in half lengthwise. Spread it with peanut butter and jam. Then cut across the loaf several times so that each child can have a piece. Cut enough fish out of colored construction paper for each piece of bread. Write a review question on each fish and punch a hole in it. Use gift wrapping ribbon to tie around each piece of bread leaving enough to go through the hole in the fish – tie it to the piece of bread. Line a basket with a paper doily or colorful paper napkin (this will make it more special) and place the bread into it.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

First, have the children recite the names of the 12 disciples that they memorized this week.

When preparing a lesson, it’s always good to remember the historical context. Herod ruled over Galilee and had recently ordered John the Baptist killed. He was beginning to look upon Jesus with suspicion. When King Herod heard about Jesus, he said to his men, “This must be John the Baptist, come back to life again. That is why he can do these miracles” (Matthew 14:1-3 TLB).

Children this age may have difficulty grasping how large a crowd of 5000 people is. However, The Expositor’s Bible Commentary says this crowd might have been 15 to 20 thousand – there were 5000 men alone. The Feast of Tabernacles may be the largest crowd of people the children have personally experienced. Yet that is much, much smaller than the multitude Jesus fed that day.

This lesson offers an opportunity to weave spiritual and character applications as the story is told. Jesus’ disciples were worried about how to feed the multitude with physical food while Jesus was giving them “living bread.” They were concerned that they would not be able to find enough food to feed so many. Jesus demonstrated His power by creating enough food to feed the multitude and have twelve baskets left over from five loaves and two small fish. The disciples focused on how much it would cost to feed so many, while the little lad stepped out in faith and showed kindness when he shared his food. Jesus accepted the little lad’s lunch, offering thanks both to him and to the Father for providing their daily bread. Emphasize the importance of realizing who gives us our food, and thanking God for it.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

After the lesson is taught, pass around the basket of bread and let each child take a peanut butter sandwich. Then have each child ask the question on the fish that is tied to his or her sandwich.

Ask them not to eat the sandwich until after the review questions are all asked and someone has thanked God for the food.

1. Who gave Andrew the loaves and fish?
2. How many loaves of bread and how many fish did he give Andrew?
3. How many people did the bread and fish feed? (Remind them that there were 5000 men plus women and children.)
4. How could only five loaves of bread and two fish feed so many people? (Jesus had to perform a miracle.)
5. What did you learn from what the little boy did? (He shared.)
6. What should you do before you eat breakfast, lunch or dinner?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

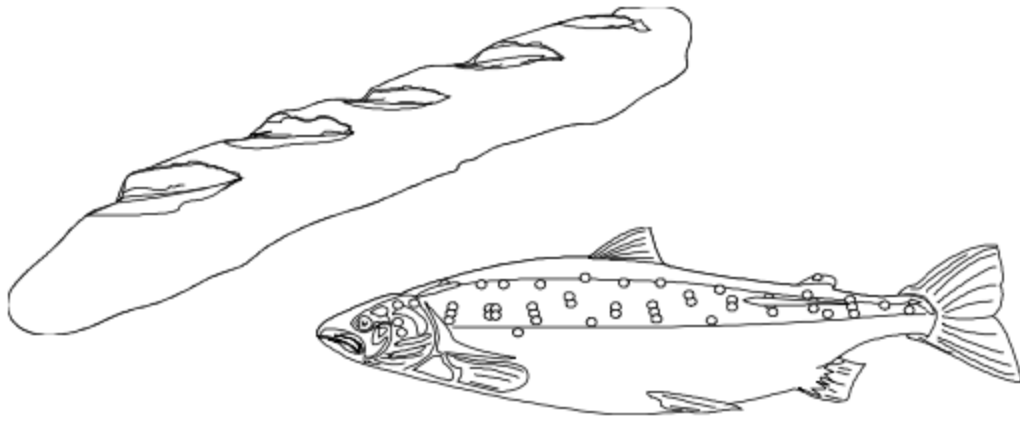
Divide your class into two groups and line them up single file at one end of the room, with an adult leader for each group. At the opposite end of the room, place two small baskets on the floor. Place one set of bread and fish in each basket (giving the remaining two sets to each adult leader). At your signal, the first child in each line is to run to the team's basket and pick up one item, bringing it to their leader. He tags the next player, then goes to the end of the line. The next player goes to the basket, until all of the food from the basket is gone. When the basket is empty, the next child goes to the leader and takes an item and returns it to the basket, tagging the next child, etc., until all the food from the leader's hand is in the basket. The first team to fill their basket is the winner. At the end of the game, the basket will contain more food than at the beginning.

SONG

"If You're Happy" is on page 47 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

This might be the time when the teacher or parent would want to ask the blessing on the food. However, you might ask for a volunteer.



Jesus Walks on Water

MEMORY VERSE

“Be brave! It is I. Don’t be afraid” (NirV). - Matthew 14:27

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe how Jesus has the power to stop a storm and calm the sea.
2. State that Jesus can help them when they are afraid.
3. Explain that Jesus is their friend.
4. Explain that they can pray anywhere, even silently.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Calming the Storm

Faith

Fear

God’s omnipotence

Jesus, God the Son

Jesus, His Miracles

Walking on Water

Jesus Sets Example

Obedience

Peter

Prayer

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student’s and teacher’s books, attendance and memory verse chart, stars, 8 ½ x 11" sheets of paper, music player and music CD/cassette and songbook.

PREPARATION

Six to eight year old children learn about God from their families and teachers. Sometimes the home does not provide the secure environment that it should. Sabbath Schools cannot only

provide it, but can also reinforce it with the right teachings. Here are just a few ways to help the children feel loved and secure in Sabbath School.

- Tell the children that you will contact their parents quickly should there be an emergency. Keep a list of home phone numbers just in case the parent is not at Sabbath services.
- Be attentive to children who have difficulty paying attention. His or her mischievous behavior could make other children in the classroom feel unsafe. Getting the child involved will go a long way to holding his or her attention and improving their behavior. Then give a lot of praise and positive reinforcement.
- Have rules to help the children know the limits. They will feel happier and more secure.
- Six to eight year old children like variety, but they also need consistency as well. Make sure that some parts of the lesson are presented in the same order each week.
- When you are planning to be away for the Sabbath, let the children know ahead of time. Bring the substitute teacher into the classroom and introduce her to the children. Tell them what the lessons will be about while you are gone and mention some good things about your replacement.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

This lesson focuses on a time when Peter felt very insecure, yet Christ rescued him. It gives the opportunity to begin building faith in the only secure source there really is – our God and Savior.

As the children arrive, greet them warmly. Begin a conversation about storms. Get them to tell what they do when dark clouds come up and the wind starts to blow. Ask if loud claps of thunder and lightening flashing through the sky scare them. You might even share some of your own fears with them so that they will realize that even adults are fearful at times.

“When Peter saw Jesus walking on the water he wanted to do it too. Dear, lovable, impetuous Peter! But he began to sink. Then Jesus chided him for his lack of faith. To us it seems that Peter had a good deal of faith, to even try it – a good deal according to man’s way of looking at things, but in Jesus’ eyes so little” (Halley’s Bible Handbook, page 539).

Emphasize that Peter was not afraid of the storm as long as he kept his eyes on Jesus and obeyed Him. But, when he took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the storm, he was afraid for his safety. Jesus’ message to us throughout the Bible is to “fear not.” The book of Psalms tells us that we don’t have to fear man, the terror by night or evil tidings. Jeremiah and Isaiah tell us the reason that we need not fear – because God is with us.

The remedy for overcoming our fears is to focus on God and His power not on the circumstances of life. He is waiting, ready to help and strengthen us if we will just ask Him in prayer.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Where was Jesus when the storm came up?
2. What did Jesus do when He saw His
3. Who wanted to walk on the water like Jesus?
4. How can you get Jesus to help when you are in trouble?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

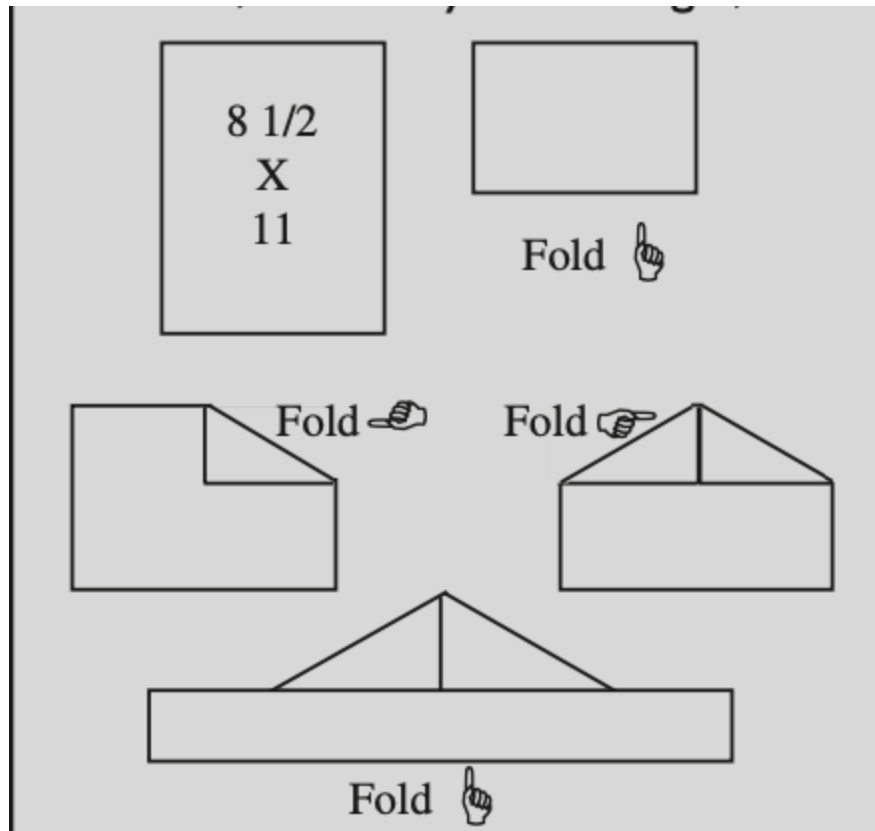
Give each child a sheet of 8 ½ x 11" paper. Following the diagram below, step by step, help the children fold their paper into a sailboat. Have them write, "Don't be afraid" on their boat. Now go around the room and ask each child to tell how or when Jesus keeps them safe. If they need prompting, make some suggestions, such as in a storm, the dark, when they are in danger, etc.

SONG

"Isn't He Wonderful" is on page 42 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children to lead in prayer. Suggest that he or she thank God for keeping them safe.



A Very Special Day

MEMORY VERSE

“The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath” (ASV). - Mark 2:27

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain that God created the heavens, the earth and all that was in them in six days and rested on the seventh day.
2. Explain that we are to rest on the Sabbath.
3. Describe right and wrong things a person can do on the Sabbath.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Creation

Helping Others

Holy Conduct

Jesus, His Ministry

Jesus, His Miracles -

Healing

Jesus Sets Example

Sabbath

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, student's and teacher's YEA books, crayons, pictures of nature scenes, banner, colored poster board, glue, seeds and beans, pieces of yarn, scissors, pencils or markers, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, songbook, music player and music CD/tape.

PREPARATION

Greet each child as they arrive. Give them a hug and say, “I’m so glad to see you this Sabbath day” (calling each one by name). If a child has come for the first time, get everyone’s attention and say, “We are especially happy to have (give his or her name) in our Sabbath School class today. Please be very nice to him or her. We want him or her to come back every Sabbath.”

All children are unique individuals having several basic needs – physical, emotional, social and spiritual. It is important for the teacher to always be aware of these needs. There could be trauma, neglect or abuse in the lives of some of the children. By keeping these things in mind as you teach, responding to those needs and praying for your class, your ministry will be more effective.

If the weather is good and the surroundings are favorable, this would be a good lesson to teach outside. Grass, trees, flowers, birds, the sun, clouds, squirrels, ducks on a pond, etc. are some of the wonderful things that could be pointed out that God created in six days. An alternate way would be to have pictures of birds, animals and other nature scenes tacked to the wall. Make a large banner to go under the pictures that says, “A Very Special Day.”

Cut colored poster board into 6 x 9 inch rectangles so that each child will have two. Use various colors, and give the children two contrasting colors. Make an oval pattern out of one of the rectangles so that the children can trace around it.

This might be a good day to plan a trip to visit a nursing home. The children can take the cards they make to someone who may need cheering up.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

Start the class by getting the children involved. Point to the pictures on the wall and ask different children to tell you what is in each one. Then ask, “Who made those things?” After someone answers, “God did,” ask them, “How long do you think it took?” Always praise each child for giving correct answers.

This was the last time in Luke’s narrative sequence that Jesus taught in the synagogue. “There was ample evidence of rabbinic precedent for helping animals in emergencies on the Sabbath. So Jesus uses a lesser- to-greater argument to move from helping animals (v. 15) to helping human beings (v. 16; cf. 12:24)” (The Expositor’s Bible Commentary).

Even though six to eight year old children may not be old enough to be converted, they do need to understand the Sabbath is for them as well as adults. You will be laying a foundation for their appreciation of the day. Present the lesson with the benefits they will derive from keeping the Sabbath. It is not a day that lasts forever with don’ts and drudgery. Rather it is the best day of the week when the right kind of fun and exciting things are provided. Make the class so interesting and such a fun time that they will wish the Sabbath came more often.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Use an animal hand puppet to ask the following questions:

1. What is a synagogue?

2. Why was the religious leader angry with Jesus?
3. How many days do we have in which to do our work?
4. What are some good things for us to do on the Sabbath?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child two contrasting poster board rectangles. Using the oval pattern, have the children trace around the oval on one of their rectangles (They will have to share the pattern). Next, cut out the oval and glue it in the center of their contrasting rectangle, making it appear like a framed picture. Have the children glue seeds and yarn to the oval to make a picture.

Have the children write the following scripture at the bottom of the card: “The Lord is good.” Psalm 34:8. These cards may be given to patients in a nursing home or hospital.

SONG

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

CLOSING PRAYER

Call on one of the children to lead the prayer. Suggest that they thank God for making the Sabbath day for us to enjoy.



Bring Them To Me

MEMORY VERSE

“Let the little children come to me. Don’t keep them away” (NIrV). - Mark 10:14

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Explain what happens at the “Blessing of the Children” ceremony.
2. Explain that Jesus loves all the children of the world.
3. Recognize that they are important to Him.
4. Discuss that God will bring His Kingdom to this earth someday, and that it will be a much better and safer place to live.
5. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Belief (Faith)
Blessing of Children
God’s Kingdom
God’s Love
Jesus and Children
Jesus, His Ministry
Obedience

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student’s and teacher’s books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, music player and music CD/cassette, songbook, scissors, crayons, pencils, construction paper, magazines with pictures of children, glue, Hershey’s Hugs, “sticky dots,” yarn or ribbon and hole punch.

PREPARATION

Review is always good for reinforcing the lesson learned the prior Sabbath. Consider starting by asking the children to tell what they remember about last week’s lesson. Help them to focus on the application.

As teacher and/or parent, your example will have a profound effect on the child. Often children in the class are experiencing difficult family situations. Their parents may be divorced or unemployed. This will take its toll on the child. Sabbath School can be one place where all the children can feel secure. The best way to teach a child about love and trust is by being a loving trustworthy person. Children mirror and learn from what they see and experience. Even though they may not fully comprehend the meaning of the word trust, they learn quickly which people they can count on to keep their word.

Look for opportunities to give positive reinforcement. Even if a child's actions are unlovable, tell him that you love him. Give lots of approving smiles, hugs and pats on the head. Strive for an atmosphere where every child feels he belongs to the group.

Before you come to class, cut yarn or ribbon into twelve inch lengths. You will need one for each child in your class. You will also need to bring magazines that have lots of pictures of children of various ages in them. You may want to ask the children to bring a picture of themselves to class for this activity. Sending a note home to the parents ahead of time will help to facilitate their response.

You will need at least one Hershey's Hug for each child in your class. Place a "sticky dot" on the bottom of each Hug, and number them from one to nine. These will correspond with the numbers of the review questions. (If your class is large, repeat the numbering.)

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

"A little child is teachable, trustful, free from mental pride, unsophisticated and loving. Jesus loved children. The disciples did not think children were important enough to bother with. That made Jesus indignant" (Halley's Bible Handbook, page 519).

This child centered lesson shows how important children are to Jesus, their Friend. The "Blessing of the Children" ceremony makes a real difference in the life of the child. God takes special notice and gives help and protection because of this blessing.

There is never a day in this present world that can compare to being with Jesus in His Kingdom. So it is never too early to help children anticipate God's coming Kingdom. Try to find everyday illustrations to show why it is needed so badly. Help the children to understand that they should yearn and pray daily for it to come. As you bring the lesson to a close, help the children to appreciate the benefits they will experience from applying this lesson.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Place the Hershey's Hugs on the table. One at a time, let the children pick one. Ask the child the question that corresponds with the number on the bottom of the candy. Make sure you have enough candy for each child to have at least one. When they answer their question correctly,

they may eat their candy. Explain that Jesus loves children. We will pretend that this is a hug from Him.

1. Is Jesus ever too tired or too busy for children?
2. Does Jesus love little children?
3. Who in our church blesses babies and children?
4. Did the disciples want the mothers to bother Jesus with their children?
5. Does everyone have to be like little children to be in God's Kingdom?
6. Should we pray that God's Kingdom will hurry up and come?
7. Will God's Kingdom be a lot better place to live than our world today?
8. What will make God's Kingdom a better place than our world?
9. How long will you be God's child?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Today the children will make a "Jesus Loves Children" booklet. Give each child a sheet of colored construction paper and two sheets of white paper. Fold all of the paper in half and put together to form a booklet. Using a hole punch, punch two holes in the folded side of the booklet about four inches apart and one half inch from the folded edge. Thread a piece of ribbon or yarn through the holes and tie in a bow in the front of the booklet. Have the children write the words, "Jesus Loves Children" on the front cover. Allow them to cut out pictures from magazines and glue them to the pages inside their booklet. Have them write their memory verse on the inside of the back cover.

SONG

"Jesus Loves the Little Children" is on page 56 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Ask one of the children to lead in prayer. Remind the child to pray that Jesus will soon come and bring His Kingdom to earth.

Who is My Neighbor?

MEMORY VERSE

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul” (NIRV). - Luke 10:27

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Recognize that “their neighbor” includes those who need help, and is not limited to people on their block.
2. Explain that they show love to God by loving their neighbor.
3. Explain that they have a responsibility to help people who need help and are hurting.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

God’s Law

God’s Love

God’s Provision

Helping Others

Jesus, His Ministry

Jesus Sets Example

Kindness

Loving God

Loving Others

Parable of Good

Samaritan

Samaritans

Ten Commandments

MATERIALS NEEDED

Bible, YEA student’s and teacher’s books, attendance and memory verse charts, stars, music player and music CD/tape, songbook, Good Samaritan picture, or magazine pictures of injured people, First aid kit with gauze, tape, etc., large Band-Aids, marker pen, perfect attendance and memory verse ribbons and pins.

PREPARATION

Six to eight year old children are curious and enjoy learning new things. However, they learn best when they have lots of bright, exciting things to see, hear, touch, move and do. Just telling the story may not be enough for this age group to understand and remember it well. They need visual aids to help them comprehend, remember and apply the principles in the Bible. Check with your local Christian book store for colorful posters to illustrate your story. You may find pictures of sick or injured people in magazines to use as illustrations.

Bring a first aid kit, Band-Aids, gauze, tape, etc. to demonstrate how the Samaritan bound up the man's wounds in our story.

During the review part of today's lesson, a large Band-Aid could be put on each child's arm. Use a marker pen to write "Be Kind" on each Band-Aid. Let them keep it on to show their parents. This will be a reminder of the lesson and provide a chance for the child to retell the story to their parents.

Since this is the last lesson in this first book, an award should be given for perfect attendance, and for those who have recited all of their memory verses in this book. You may make your own ribbons or you may purchase them at your local Christian book store.

HOW TO TEACH THIS LESSON

As the children arrive, greet them warmly, and begin a conversation by asking if they have ever had an accident in which they were hurt. This may have been a car accident or a bicycle accident. They may have had a cut, or even a broken bone.

Some may want to show you their scars. Tell the children that today they will hear a story about a man who was badly injured, and people walked past and didn't even help. As you tell the story, weave a strong application that will illustrate how we show our love to God by helping others.

Explain to the children that we all love our own bodies. We feed them, we put clothes on them, we take care of them when they are hurt or sick. But, when it comes to loving others, we often forget that we are to do the same for them.

The men in today's lesson who passed by the man as he lay injured in the road were more concerned about their own comfort than in the health and well-being of their neighbor. They demonstrated selfishness rather than generosity, loathing rather than love.

When asked by a lawyer what a man must do to live forever, Jesus referred him to the law. The Jews were a very prejudice people. There were people with whom they would have no contact whatsoever. The lawyer thought he would be able to keep the first part of Jesus' command, but he didn't like the idea that he must love these people as much as he loved himself. The lawyer

tried to avoid the issue by asking the question, “Who is my neighbor?” But, Jesus reemphasized His message by giving the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Ask the children the following questions:

1. What would you do if your little brother fell off of his bike and hurt his leg? (Go get help.)
2. What would you do if you came home from school and found your grandfather lying on the bathroom floor? (Call 911 or go for help.)
3. If you saw a stranger in the park and he said that he felt sick, what should you do? (For the children’s safety, it is imperative that you teach them to go to an adult they know or call 911 before assisting a stranger.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What two things does the law say we must do to live forever?
2. Who does the Bible mean when it says, “Love your neighbor?”
3. What happened to the man on the road to Jericho?
4. How did the Samaritan man show his love?
5. Can you think of some ways you can show love for your “neighbor?”

Give each child a large Band-Aid to place on his arm to remind them of the story.

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Have the class sit in a circle. Tell the first child to say: I show love to Jesus when I _____. The next child says: I show love to Jesus when I _____ and _____. Continue around the circle having each child repeat what everyone before them said, and then adding their own way of showing love to Jesus. These ways could be helping someone who is sick, injured, fallen down steps, being kind to a new person on the block, giving food to a hungry person, etc. Instead of eliminating a child who can’t remember what the others have said, have the children give hints so that everyone can enjoy the game.

SONG

“This Little Light of Mine” is on page 49 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Either lead in prayer or call on one of the children to pray. Remind the child to ask God to help us show our love to Him by helping others this week.