

FRIENDS OF JESUS



Book Seven

HOW TO LEAD A CHILD TO FAITH IN CHRIST

- ▶ Pray for the child who shows interest in becoming a Christian.
- ▶ Expect the Holy Spirit to convict the child of sin.
- ▶ Counsel the child by asking simple questions:

"What would you like to talk with me about?"

"Why do you think you need to be saved?"

God loves you and wants you to love him.

"Why don't all people love God? (sin)

"What is sin? (disobeying God, breaking God's laws, making wrong choices)

"Who has sinned? (everyone)

"What does sin do?" (separates you from God, reason people are lost)

Jesus is God's answer for sin.

"Who is Jesus?" (God's only Son, lived a perfect life, is the only way to God)

"What did Jesus do for you?" (died on the cross, rose from the dead, prepared a place for you in heaven)

What do you need to do to be saved?

1. ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER. "Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence" (Romans 3:23).
2. REPENT OF YOUR SIN. Repent means to be so sorry for your sin that you will never want to do it again. "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that he will forgive your sins" (Acts 3:19).
3. BELIEVE IN JESUS. Believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Trust Him to save you from your sins. "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life" (John 3:16).
4. RECEIVE JESUS INTO YOUR LIFE BY ASKING HIM TO COME IN AND BE YOUR LORD. "Some, however, did receive him and believed in him; so he gave them the right to become God's children" (John 1:12).
"Have you ever done this?"
"Would you like to pray and ask God to forgive your sins and to come and live in your life? (Ask the child to pray.)

What has happened to you?

- ▶ Jesus comes to live in your life.
- ▶ Your sins are forgiven.
- ▶ You become a Christian.
- ▶ You become a child of God.

What is next?

- ▶ MAKE A PUBLIC PROFESSION OF YOUR FAITH. As soon as you receive Christ into your life you will want to tell others what has happened to you. "If anyone declares publicly that he belongs to me, I will do the same for him before my Father in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

▶ BE BAPTIZED.

"What is baptism?" (a picture of death, burial and resurrection; an act of obedience; shows others what has happened to you)

What else should you do?

Read your Bible, pray, tell others about Jesus, get involved in church. "If you love me, you will obey my commandments" (John 14:15)

HOW TO COUNSEL A CHILD

Your goal as a leader is to help boys and girls to know Christ as their Saviour and Lord. Children should never be coerced or forced to make a decision for Christ. At the same time you can expect the Holy Spirit to convict of sin as you faithfully teach each week. So be aware of the children's responses as you teach.

You will know a child is ready to receive Christ when:

- ▶ he asks questions about how to be saved.
- ▶ he understands the meaning of sin.
- ▶ he continues to show interest for several weeks in becoming a Christian.

You can know a child is **not** ready if:

- ▶ he confuses being saved with baptism.
- ▶ he comes because his friends respond to the Gospel.
- ▶ he wants to join the church, be baptized and take communion.

SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNSELING A CHILD:

- ▶ Speak to the child alone but near other children.
- ▶ Use your Bible.
- ▶ Use simple words the child will understand.
- ▶ Assure him that he can be saved even if he is young.
- ▶ Give the child the opportunity to withdraw if he is not ready to commit his life to Christ.
- ▶ Pray with the child.
- ▶ Encourage the child to read the Bible and pray every day.

TALK TO PARENTS

Some parents and pastors do not believe that a child can understand how to be saved. There is evidence in the Old and New Testaments that God speaks to children and wants them to know him. "Never forget these commands that I am giving you today. Teach them to your children" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). God spoke to Jeremiah when he was young, (Jeremiah 1:7) and he spoke to the boy Samuel. (1 Samuel 3:6-16) Jesus asked the disciples to bring the children to him. (Matthew 10:14) He wanted to bless them, and he wanted the children to know God through him.

Ask the parents to encourage their child and help him grow as a new Christian. "Teach a child how he should live, and he will remember it all his life" (Proverbs 22:6).

FRIENDS OF JESUS



Book Seven

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FRIENDS OF JESUS Year 4

Seth Lunga, Editor

WHO AM I?

1. I Am A Creation of God
2. I Am an Object of God's Love
3. I Am a Target of the Devil
4. I Am a Precious Being

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8. What Must I Do to Be Saved?
9. How Can I Help Others Be Saved?

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1. Ask the children to briefly share what they have learnt from the lesson.
2. Challenge the children to trust God in everything.
3. Encourage the children to share what they are learning with their friends and to invite them to the club next week.
4. Make announcements.

The faith in me is greater than the mountain (3x)

The faith, the faith in me!

The faith in me is greater than the devil (3x)

The faith, the faith in me!

6. Ask one of the children to close in prayer.

7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

5. Sing a song:

reason Christians should always carry the shield of faith is so that they can put out all the burning arrows shot by the devil. This implies that without faith the shots of the devil will have an effect on the life of God's people.

Thirdly, the extent to which faith overcomes the arrows of the devil is that all the arrows of the enemy are put out. In time of need, trouble, and weakness it is only through trust in God and his Word that children of God will be able to remain faithful to God, knowing who he is and what he can do as revealed, demonstrated and promised in his word. (Numbers 23:19, Jeremiah 1:12, Matthew 24:35)

"For without faith it is impossible to please God, but whoever comes to God must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). By placing our faith in God alone, he helps us to remain strong when Satan tempts us to do wrong. The temptation is not the sin, but surrendering to the temptation is sin.

Putting on all of the armor of God is important in your protection against the devil. You need to put on "truth as a belt tight around your waist" and have "righteousness as your breastplate" of protection. You should "accept salvation as a helmet" and the "word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you." Put this armor on in prayer as you ask for God's help to defeat the work of the Enemy in your life.

Song: (5 minutes)

Have Faith in God

Have faith in God.
He's on his throne.
Have faith in God.
He watches over his own.
He can not fail.
He must prevail.
Have faith in God.
Have faith in God.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God that he provides even the faith that we need to withstand the attacks of the devil. Pray that the children will learn to trust God to provide for all of their needs, even their need for faith, because he loves them.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by having the children repeat phrases after you: "At all times carry faith as a shield, for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the evil one" (Ephesians 6:16).

Divide the boys and girls to say the verse. (Use actions—some demonstrating shooting of arrows and others lifting a shield against the arrows)

Boys: At all times carry faith as a shield,

Girls: for with it you will be able

Boys: to put out all the burning arrows

Girls: shot by the evil one.

All: Ephesians 6:16.

(You can put it in song form to make it easy for the children to remember the words.)

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

INTRODUCTION FOR FRIENDS OF JESUS CLUB LEADERS

Welcome to Book Seven of the four-year curriculum of Friends of Jesus club lessons. The lessons have been written to help boys and girls to grow as Jesus grew: in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men. The lessons include Bible stories, Memory Verses, activities, games, dramas, music, object lessons and character stories.

The purpose of *Friends of Jesus* clubs is to reach children for Christ who are not in church. The clubs can meet anywhere and at any time which is convenient for you, the leader, and the children.

As a leader, you need only to have the lesson books and the *Friends of Jesus Leaders' Manual*. There will be eight lesson books, two for each of the four years.

Additional helps which are available are as follows:

- *Friends of Jesus Song Book* with 27 indigenous songs from different countries of East and Southern Africa.
- A CD of the songs in the *Friends of Jesus Song Book*.
- "*How to Become a Christian*" booklet to use with a child who wants to invite Jesus into his life.
- *Friends of Jesus* badges. The badges are green and white in colour. The logo is representative of growing as Jesus grew: physically, spiritually, socially and intellectually.

The lesson books, leaders' manual and the materials listed above are available at the following addresses:

BIMS	Kenya Baptist Media	Baptist Bookstore
P.O. Box 1759	P.O. Box 30370	Makishi at Great East Rd.
Edenvale 1610	Nairobi, Kenya	Lusaka, Zambia
South Africa		

May the Lord use these lessons to bring many children to faith in Christ.
Mrs. Evelyn Moss, editor

FRIENDS OF JESUS CLUB

Club Verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

Club Song:

Pastor Ambrose Nyangao



Jesus grew in wisdom,
Jesus grew in body,
Jesus grew in favour with God and men.

You can grow in wisdom,
You can grow in body,
You can grow in favour with God and men.

I can grow...

Luke 2:52...

Club Commitment: (Put hands over heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."

Friends of Jesus Cheer: (Stand in a circle.)

Teacher: "We are..."

Children: "Friends of Jesus." (Repeat three times.)

All: (Hold hands up and shout.) "WE ARE FRIENDS OF JESUS."

Friends of Jesus Badge

The badge is green and white in colour. The logo is representative of growing as Jesus grew: physically, spiritually, socially and intellectually.

Requirements for wearing the badge are:

- Say the club verse.
- Sing the club song.
- Say the club commitment.
- Memorize and say ten salvation Scripture verses.
- Attend club meetings regularly for three months, or have perfect attendance for two months.



decided to start training the following day. They excitedly said, "We would like to play the best team in this town, and we will teach them a lesson."

Simon's team played the first game over the weekend and won by a goal (1-0). However, they lost the following four matches. They sat down to analyze the cause of their losses and found that their major weakness was goalkeeping. One of the substitutes, Andrea, said "Why don't you try me as goalkeeper because in our community team I have been manning the posts."

They changed the goalkeeper and asked for a replay with each of the teams. To the amazement of their supporters, the new goalkeeper made many daring saves.

Their first opponent made many attempts on the goal as they were tearing the defence apart, but they could not beat the goalkeeper. At the end of the game, the opponent was awarded a penalty shot, which their captain carved accurately to the top far right corner of the goal post; but Andrea stretched himself fully and managed to punch the ball away as the crowd and his team mates cheered.

The team managed to win over all their opponents because of the excellence of their goalkeeper and they ended up as the leader of the weekend tournaments.

Explanation: (5 minutes)

Our lives without faith are like a football team without a good goalkeeper. Without faith the devil

will easily defeat us and overcome us in almost every situation.

When we put our trust in God and his word, there is no temptation that God will not overcome on our behalf. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Faith in God overcomes all the attacks of the devil just as a good goalkeeper was a remedy for the team's poor performance.

Song: (5 minutes)

What A Mighty God We Serve

What a mighty God we serve.

What a mighty God we serve.

Angels bow before Him.

Heaven and Earth adore Him.

What a mighty God we serve.

Bible teaching: (20 minutes)

During time of war in ancient days, every soldier depended on his shield. It was an important means of protection against the poisonous arrows or bullets of the enemy.

The Apostle Paul, when writing to the Christians at Ephesus about the full armour of God, said, "At all times carry faith as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the evil one" (Ephesians 6:16).

Paul writes that the children of God need to carry the shield of faith at all times. Paul means that faith is not only important for our salvation or when we are faced with a serious problem, but through all of our daily activities, faith is essential for us to live well.

Secondly, Paul says that the

FAITH: OUR GREATEST DEFENCE

SCRIPTURES: Hebrews 11:1-6; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24; Romans 1:16-17; Ephesians 6:10-18

MEMORY VERSE: "At all times carry faith as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the evil one" (Ephesians 6:16).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Understand what faith is,
2. Know that without faith they cannot be victorious,
3. Know that faith in God is practical. It is through faith that we can withstand the attacks of the devil.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Hebrews 11:1-6; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24; Romans 1:16-17; 1 Corinthians 10:13.
3. Study Ephesians 6:10-18.
4. Know the song, verse, and commitment; and be ready to teach without the book.
5. Read the teaching story many times and be prepared to teach it in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment (put your hands over the heart). "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognize those who had a birthday, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

I am weak, but Thou are strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I will be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Just a closer walk with thee.

Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Simon and his schoolmates decided to form a football team so that they could be playing with other teams on the weekends. Many of the friends were so excited about the idea that within a short period thirteen boys registered. Simon was chosen to be the captain of the team, and everyone

I AM A CREATION OF GOD

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:26-31

MEMORY VERSE "So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female" (Genesis 1:27).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson, the children should:

1. Realize that man is the center of God's creation,
2. Know that they were created in the image of God,
3. Know that they were created for a purpose - to worship God.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for guidance and wisdom as you teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures: Genesis 2:7-8; John 1:3; Ecclesiastes 11:5.
3. Study Genesis 1:26-31.
4. Study the lesson so you can teach it without having to refer to the book.
5. Know from memory the club song, verse, and commitment.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse, Luke 2:52.
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment.

5. Recognize visitors, those who brought a visitor, and those who had a birthday during the past week.

Song: (5 minutes)

He's Got the World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in his hands. (x4)

Game: (10 minutes)

Have the children stand close together in a group. Throw a small, soft ball at the group in such a way that it comes down on them. Whoever is hit by the ball steps out of the group and names five things—living or non-living—that were created by God. If the child fails to do so, he or she is disqualified. Whoever is naming should not give the name of anything twice or name something already named.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

God created us, and he created us in his own image. God created many things, but we are the best of God's creation.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

A long time ago, there used to be a large island in the middle of a large lake. On the island there was a large city. The city had beautiful roads and beautiful gardens.

The city was called Chimana. It was ruled by a king called Ganda. Ganda was a proud man who boasted about his power and his wealth. He also boasted about his great city.

"There is no city like Chimana in the whole world," Ganda used to say. "I built this city with my wisdom and wealth. I am the greatest on earth."

One day King Ganda was visited by another king from a far away country. His name was Chana. King Chana was not rich like King Ganda. He had heard about Ganda and his city and wanted to see them for himself.

When King Chana arrived in Chimana, he was taken around by King Ganda. King Ganda wanted to show King Chana that he was the greatest king on earth. King Chana marvelled when he saw the wealth and kingdom of King Ganda.

"I am the greatest," said King Ganda. "There is nothing impossible with me. I can build anything!"

King Chana did not have a lot of wealth and power, but he had a lot of wisdom. He looked at King Ganda and said, "My friend, I admit you are a great man. You are very rich. You have many clever scientists who have helped you build this great city. But don't think you can make everything we see on earth."

"What!" said King Ganda. He laughed and said, "My friend, tell me one thing I cannot make."

King Chana thought for a moment and said, "I am sure there are many things that you can make, but there are many you cannot make. For example, you cannot make a tree, grass, animals or even an insect."

King Ganda laughed and said his scientists could make all those things.

"Okay," said King Chana. "I will ask you to make something very small."

"What is that?" Ganda asked.

"An ant," said King Chana.

"An ant?" King Ganda said and laughed for a long time. "You think my scientists can fail to make such a small thing?"

King Ganda called his best scientist and told him to make an ant within a few hours. The scientist failed. "Your Majesty," the scientist told King Ganda, "I can't make an ant." King Ganda was annoyed. He wondered why a great scientist could fail to make a small thing like an ant.

King Ganda told the scientist to call nine other scientists so that they would be ten altogether. He gave them one day to make the ant.

King Ganda said to King Chana, "My scientists will make the ant." The ten scientists also failed. King Ganda became more annoyed and ashamed. He ordered the scientists to call all scientists in Chimana to help them.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by letting children repeat after you: "I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him, will bear much fruit, for you can do nothing without me" (John 15:5).

Divide the children in two groups and let them say the phrases.

Group 1: I am the vine

Group 2: And you are the branches

Group 1: Whoever remains in me

Group 2: And I in him

Group 1: Will bear much fruit.

Group 2: For you can do nothing

Group 1: Without me.

Group 2: John 15:5

(Then let the children sing it in a tune you make up.)

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children what they learned in the lesson.

2. Challenge the children to depend on the Lord in their lives. Assure them that in the Lord they are safe and they have all the strength they need to live a life that pleases God.

3. Make announcements.

4. Encourage them to bring friends next week.

5. Sing a song:

Oh, How I Love Jesus

Oh, how I love Jesus

Oh, how I love Jesus

Oh, how I love Jesus

Because he first loved me.

5. Close in prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

On the cross He died for me,
Praise God, He set me free.

Bible study: (10 minutes)

Jesus said, "I am the real vine and my father is the Gardener. He breaks off every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and he prunes every branch in me that does bear fruit, so that it will be clean and bear more fruit. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself. It can only bear fruit if it remains in the vine.

"In the same way, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. For you can do nothing without me."

Jesus was telling the disciples that their spiritual supply lay in him. The strength to live the Christian life that is pleasing to God is found only in Jesus. Jesus used the vine as an example for the disciples and for us to show a very deep truth. Jesus is the vine. The vine is the source of life for the branches. The branches only remain fruitful when they are part of the vine.

Through its roots the main trunk draws from the ground nutrients which are passed on to the branches. In turn flowers and then fruit are produced on the branches. If the branches are cut off from the main trunk, they dry and die.

Jesus wanted the disciples to know that they had become spiritually alive through him. The spiritual strength they needed to overcome evil

was in him. He told them to remain united to him, and he would remain united to them.

Jesus said that without him a Christian can do nothing. This statement teaches us that Jesus is the only source of our spiritual strength.

The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit shows us Jesus and glorifies him. No wonder the apostle Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

The Holy Spirit also works to cleanse our lives of sin. The power of God cannot flow into a dirty branch and then out to help someone. We must be clean branches.

Song: (5 minutes)

My God Is So Great

My God is so great, so strong and
so mighty!

There's nothing my God cannot do!
(clap, clap)

My God is so great, so strong and
so mighty! There's nothing my
God cannot do! (clap, clap)

The mountains are His,

The rivers are His,

The stars are His handwork, too.

My God is so great, so strong and
so mighty!

There's nothing my God cannot do
(for you)!

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray thanking God for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who lives in each Christian.

Three hundred scientists gathered to make the ant. After a whole week of trying, the scientists asked their king for more time. "Give us a month, O King," they pleaded with King Ganda. After a month, the scientists still failed. They asked for another month but still failed to make an ant.

King Ganda, now very angry, was also very ashamed. He called fifty of his warriors and ordered them to kill the scientists for bringing shame to his kingdom. "Don't do it," King Chana said to King Ganda. "These men cannot be blamed. It is impossible for them to make an ant."

King Ganda spared the lives of the scientists. He said to King Chana. "If my scientists cannot make an ant, no one else can make it."

"I know someone who can make the ant," said King Chana.

King Ganda was shocked. "That is impossible," he said. "No one is greater than I am. Who is that?"

"Almighty God," said King Chana. "He is one who created the heavens and the earth. He created everything that lives. He created you and your people. He created all the animals and insects. He created the ant your scientists have failed to make. He created the land and the sea, the rivers and lakes. Everything. He is the King of Kings."

King Ganda did not believe in God, but he was touched by the

words of King Chana. "Tell me about this King of Kings," King Ganda said to King Chana. "If he can do what I can't do, he must be greater than I am. He must be the greatest."

King Chana told King Ganda everything King Ganda needed to know about God, the Creator. King Ganda humbled himself and prayed for forgiveness from God.

"From now on," said King Ganda, "I will worship the King of Kings. He will rule in my heart. He will rule in Chimana."

Questions:

1. Why did King Ganda think he was able to make anything?
2. In what ways was King Chana different from King Ganda?
3. Why did King Ganda think his scientists could easily make an ant?
4. Why did the scientists fail to make the ant?

Summary: (5 minutes)

Some people like King Ganda are proud and boast about who they are and what they can do. They think they have more cleverness than anyone else.

They are wrong. God is wiser than any human being. God alone can do anything. Nothing is impossible with him. (Luke 1:37) God created all things. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

King Ganda did the right thing when he humbled himself and turned

to God. When we see that there is pride in our hearts, we should humble ourselves.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

(To the tune of *Amazing Grace*)

Jesus, I know you are King of
Kings,
Come take control of me;
Touch me, guide me, O Lord, I
pray,
Come now and set me free.

Teaching the Bible: (10 minutes)

God is the Creator. Apart from him there is no other creator. He created man to be like himself. The Bible teaches this truth in Genesis 1:26-31.

Man is different from the other things created by God because man was created to be like God. Other animals were not created to be like God. God created man so that man can worship God. Trees cannot worship God. The grass and the hills cannot worship God. Only man can worship God. God created man to do good and to obey God's words.

When man sinned and turned away from God, he sent Jesus to save man from the power of sin. God wanted man to continue worshipping him. God created man so that man could love God because God loves us and wants to live with us and in us forever. We were created for a purpose and that purpose is to worship God.

Application: (5 minutes)

God created you. You are special in his eyes. God created you to be like him. God wants you to worship him. He wants you to obey him. He does not want you to die in your sins.

God loves you. That is why he sent his Son Jesus to die on the cross for your sins. Jesus died to save you so that you can worship God.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray with the children, acknowledging God as Creator. Thank God for creating the children in his own image and for making them special and precious in his sight. Thank God for sending Jesus to die and providing a way for us to return to God.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Have three children read Genesis 1:27 in phrases and have the children repeat after them. Then have all of them say the verse together.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Remind the children to treat each other as special beings and to love and appreciate each other.
2. Make announcements.
3. Sing together any of the songs sung earlier.
4. Show the children the need to put what they have learned into practice.
5. Close with prayer
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Andrew answered, "I know that on my own I cannot pass the examinations. I need the help of the teacher."

His friend James laughed and said, "Do not waste our time with your questions when we want to knock off and go home. You hear me!"

Andrew looked at him and shook his head in disapproval.

When the examination time came, Andrew passed; but James did not go through.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What was wrong with James? (Let the children give their own answers. Then the teacher should give the following answer: James did not submit to the teacher).
2. What do we learn from the life of Andrew? (Let the children give their answers. Then give your answer: Andrew recognised that his success depended on the teacher. He was submissive to his teacher and asked for help when he did not understand.)

Explanation: (10 minutes)

1. Andrew and James represent Christians in their resistance against the devil.
2. Andrew represents Christians who recognise that they can only resist the devil through Jesus and what they learn from Jesus.
3. James represents Christians who are not whole-heartedly submitted to the Lord and do not depend on him.
4. The examination represents the time we are tempted by evil. If we submit

to the Lord everyday, we will overcome evil just as Andrew passed his examination. If we submit to the devil, we will be overcome just as James failed his examination.

Song: (5 minutes)

His Name is Higher

His name is higher than any other.
His name is Jesus. His name is Lord.
His name is Wonderful, His name is Counsellor;
His name is Prince of Peace, the Mighty God.
His name is higher than any other,
His name is Jesus. His name is Lord.

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

Hold your small branch before the children and explain to the children that just as this branch only survives and remains fruitful by being part of the main trunk, even so we will only have strength to overcome the evil one by depending on Jesus.

Questions:

1. Show the branch to the children, and ask: What is this I am holding?
2. Ask: How does it survive? (Let the children answer. Then give a summary of your previous explanation.)

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Died to Set Me Free
(#9 in the Friends of Jesus Song Book)
He died to set me free, Halleluya,
Jesus died to set me free.

THE SOURCE OF OUR SPIRITUAL STRENGTH

SCRIPTURES: John 15:1-5, Philippians 4:13, Ephesians 6:10-11

MEMORY VERSE: "I am the vine. You are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me" (John 15:5).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Know how to depend on the Lord for spiritual strength,
2. Realise that in their own strength they cannot overcome evil,
3. Be able to teach others to depend on the Lord.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for God's insight as you prepare and for the children you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background material for your lesson: John 15:1-5, Ephesians 6:10-11, Philippians 4:13, 2 Corinthians 10:3-4.
3. Study John 15:4-5.
4. Know the song, verse, and commitment.
5. Be able to teach the lesson in your own words.
6. Collect a branch of a plant to use as an illustration (object) as you teach from John 15:1-5.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment: (Put your hands across your heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognise the visitors and those who brought visitors.

Song: (5 minutes)

My Jesus is, my Jesus is,
My Jesus is the number one.
It doesn't matter what other people say,
My Jesus is the number one.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Andrew and James were very good friends and classmates. Andrew paid attention to what the teacher was saying, but James did not. When the teacher gave them homework, Andrew worked hard on it; but James took his homework lightly.

When the teacher was teaching, Andrew asked the teacher for clarification on whatever he did not understand; but James did not.

One day as they were going home James asked, "Why are you fond of asking questions in class?"

I AM AN OBJECT OF GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 19:13-15, Matthew 18:1-5, Mark 10:13-16

MEMORY VERSE: "See that you don't despise any of these little ones. Their angels in heaven, I tell you, are always in the presence of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 18:10).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Realize that God loves them,
2. Know they are as precious in the sight of God as older people,
3. Realize that God expressed his love for them by sending his Son Jesus to die on the cross,
4. Know the nature of God's love.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance as you teach the children.
2. Read the Scriptures: Matthew 19:13-15, Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 1 John 2:1-2, Mark 9:36-37.
3. Study Mark 10:13-16.
4. Study the lesson and know the club song, verse, and commitment.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song, *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. With hands over the heart, say the club commitment together: "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday the past week, those who are visiting as well as those who brought a visitor today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, yes, I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduction: (1 minute)

Our lesson today is about the love God has for little children. Children are precious in the sight of God, and he wants them to know him and to know that he loves them.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

There was once a village called Malasha. It was a very big village. Many children lived in it.

The people of the village drew their water from a river called Sunta. The river was near the village, and

children liked playing on the banks of the river. Sometimes they swam in the river even though it was dangerous.

One day a group of ten little boys went to swim in the river. While the children were swimming, one of them was caught by a crocodile. The crocodile was big. It killed the little boy.

The other boys quickly swam to the banks of the river. They cried out for help.

Some men and women from the village ran to the river. By the time they arrived, the crocodile had disappeared into the water with the boy.

The other boys cried as they looked at where their friend had been in the water. The women also wept.

The boys were told to dress and return to the village. All the people went back to the village. Soon news of the death of the boy spread through the village.

The chief called for a meeting of the elders of the village. All the elders soon gathered at the chief's palace.

"What are we going to do about the crocodile?" the chief asked the elders. "This is the first time that a crocodile has killed one of our people."

"The crocodile must be killed," one of the elders said. Everybody agreed with him.

"How will the crocodile be killed?" the chief asked.

"I have a plan," an old man said.

The chief said to the old man, "Tell us your plan."

The old man told them his plan, and they all agreed with it. Everybody was pleased with the plan.

"Tomorrow we should kill the crocodile," the chief said.

The following morning, seven brave men gathered at the chief's palace to get the last instructions for their mission of killing the evil crocodile. He told them to be brave.

"Make sure you kill the crocodile," said the chief. "I don't want my people to fear drawing water from the river. I want the children to swim and play in the river again."

The men promised to kill the crocodile and started off for the river. When the men got to the river, two of them took off their clothes and stepped into the water. The other men hid themselves in the tall grass on the banks of the river. They were all armed with guns.

The two men in the river pretended to be bathing. As they continued splashing water onto their bodies, the crocodile suddenly appeared a few metres away from them. The crocodile slowly slid through the water towards the two men. One of them saw it. "The crocodile is coming," he told his friend.

The two men went on splashing water onto their bodies. The crocodile drew closer. The men with the guns quietly waited for the

tempting Jesus to prove that he was really God's Son. Satan knew that in Psalm 91, the Bible tells us that God will send angels to guard and keep Jesus. He knew that Jesus would not be pleasing God by putting himself into danger foolishly.

Jesus replied, "It is written, you shall not tempt the Lord, your God." It was not right for Jesus, and it is not right for us, to do anything just to see if God will keep his word.

Satan was defeated. Jesus used God's Word to resist Satan's lies of temptation. We can do the same. We must know God's word and keep it in our hearts.

Song: (5 minutes)

Walking with Jesus

Walking with Jesus,
Walking every day,
Walking all the way,
Walking with Jesus,
Walking with Jesus alone.

Walking in the sunshine,
Walking in the shadows,
Walking every day,
Walking all the way,
Walking in the sunshine,
Walking in the shadows,
Walking with Jesus alone.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God for Jesus who loved us enough to die on the cross and conquer the devil and remove all of his power. Ask God to help the children to depend on Jesus to help them and keep them safe every day.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by allowing the children to repeat phrases after you: "So then, submit yourselves to God. / Resist the devil, / and he will run away from you. / Come near to God / and he will come near to you" (James 4:7-8).

Use actions as you say the verse. After the children have learned the verse, choose a suitable tune and sing the words of the verse.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Thank the children for their coming and participation.
2. Make announcements.
3. Encourage the children to bring a friend the following week.
4. Sing a song:

Let God Arise

Let God arise, and his enemies will be scattered.

Let God arise, and his enemies will be scattered.

Let God arise, and his enemies will be scattered.

Let God, let God arise!

The One in me is greater than the devil

The One in me is greater than the devil

The One in me is greater than the devil

Let God, let God arise.

5. Close with prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

The devil can only be in one place, and he is limited in his knowledge. He cannot know what you are thinking. Only God can know what you are thinking. The devil uses the same lies over and over.

Every day we need to allow God to lead and guide us. God loves you even more than your parents love you. He will always help you.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

The Best Book to Read

The best book to read is the Bible.

The best book to read is the Bible.

If you read it every day,

It will help you on your way.

Oh, the best book to read is the Bible.

The best Friend to have is Jesus,
The best Friends to have is Jesus;
He will hear me when I call;
He will keep me lest I fall,
Oh, the best friend to have is Jesus.

The best thing to do is to trust Him,
The best thing to do is to trust Him;
And if you on Him depend, He will
keep you to the end;
Oh, the best thing to do is to trust Him.

Bible Teaching: (15 minutes)

Even Jesus was tempted by Satan. The Bible tells us that one day Jesus was led into the desert by God's Spirit. While Jesus was in the desert, Satan came to tempt Jesus to do wrong. Jesus had been in the desert for forty days and night. He had fasted

and prayed. At the end of that time, Jesus was weak and tired. Satan knew this, and he came to tempt Jesus. First, Satan encouraged Jesus to turn the stones into bread so Jesus would not be hungry.

Jesus was hungry, but Satan was tempting Jesus to take care of his hunger his way and not wait for God's timing. Jesus said to him, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." Jesus was telling Satan that God's word would give eternal strength and food would not.

Satan was not satisfied to tempt Jesus just once. Next, Satan took Jesus to a high mountain and said, "Look, I will give you all this if you will worship me." Satan was telling Jesus a half truth. He was offering Jesus the kingdoms of the world which had become Satan's when sin came into the world. But Jesus knew that the day was coming when he would take control of the world from Satan and Satan would be banished to eternal darkness.

If Jesus had fallen for Satan's trick, he could have avoided going to the cross, but Jesus knew that going to the cross was God's perfect plan of love for all people. So Jesus did not fall for Satan's trick. Jesus said, "You shall worship the Lord and him only shall you serve." Again Jesus won the victory over Satan.

Satan tried again by taking Jesus to Jerusalem to the highest point of the temple and saying, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down." He was

crocodile to get close to the men in the water.

When the crocodile was about to catch one of the two men, the five men on the bank fired their guns. They all hit the crocodile in the head.

The crocodile tried to swim away but could not. It could only twist its body and splash. The five armed men rushed forward and fired again. They hit the crocodile.

The two men in the water got hold of the crocodile as it kept kicking and twisting. The crocodile's blood flowed on the water. After a few minutes, the crocodile stopped struggling. It was dead. The two men in the water pulled the crocodile out of the water onto the bank of the river.

The seven men carried the dead crocodile to the chief's palace. The chief was very happy. All the people in the village gathered at the palace to see the dead crocodile. They were happy. The children were very happy. Now they could play in the river again.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Why was it necessary to kill the crocodile?
2. Why did the five men hide in the grass?
3. Why were the children happy at the end of the story?

Summary: (5 minutes)

The devil is like the crocodile. He only comes to destroy the good things created by God. The devil

destroys the lives of people. He always looks for a chance to destroy children.

God, however, is loving and caring like the chief. He does not like what the devil is doing. That is why he sent his Son Jesus to destroy the works of the devil. God sent Jesus to save us from the power of the devil, just like the chief sent the seven men from the village to kill the evil crocodile.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus' Love Is Very Wonderful

Jesus' love is very wonderful.

Jesus' love is very wonderful.

Jesus' love is very wonderful.

Oh, wonderful love!

So high you can't get over it.

So low you can't get under it.

So wide you can't get around it.

Oh, wonderful love!

Teaching the Bible: (15 minutes)

(Open your Bible to Mark 10:13-16.)

The Bible teaches that God is love. He loves little children. They are precious in his sight.

The devil is different from God. He hates little children. He wants them to do evil instead of good.

The devil uses some people to make children sin against God. God wants children to do good. He wants them to pray. He wants them to follow what the Bible says.

God does not want anyone to make children do what is evil. The Bible teaches that God will punish those who make little children do

what is evil. "If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around his neck and be drowned in the deep sea." (Matthew 18:6).

One day Jesus was teaching a large group of people. He noticed that a group of women were coming to him with their children.

The disciples also saw the women coming to Jesus. They knew that Jesus was very busy doing the important work of teaching about the truths of God.

The disciples stopped the women from getting close to Jesus and said, "Jesus is too busy for you to bring children to him to be blessed."

When Jesus saw what his disciples were doing, he rebuked them. He told his disciples, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I assure you that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it."

Then Jesus gathered all the children into his arms and blessed them.

Application (5 minutes)

Jesus wants little children to come to him. He loves them. He does not want anyone to chase them away from church or from God.

Jesus loves you. He wants you to come to him. He does not want you to die in your sins. If you come

to him, he will receive you. He will be happy to receive you. He will give you life, and he will protect you.

Jesus said that all people, young and old, must come to him with the same kind of faith and trust that a young child would have. Do you have that kind of faith in Jesus?

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray with the children. Thank God for the love that he has for children. Also, thank God for sending his Son Jesus to die to pay the price for the sin of all people.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by having the children repeat phrases after you.

"See that you don't despise any of these little ones. / Their angels in heaven, / I tell you, / are always in the presence of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 18:10).

Divide the children into four groups and have them say the phrases in order. Change groups. Then have everyone say the verse all together.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Remind the children of the main points in the lesson.
2. Make announcements.
3. Sing any of the songs sung today.
4. Close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Jesus on your side, you have all the power of God, which the devil cannot overcome.

Song: (5 minutes)

What A Mighty God We Serve

What a mighty God we serve.
What a mighty God we serve.
Angels bow before Him.
Heaven and Earth adore Him.
What a mighty God we serve.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

One day John was coming home from school with his books in one hand and a lunch box in the other.

When he was close to his home, a young man smoking a cigarette, met him. The young man suddenly stopped in front of John and said to him "You, little boy, give me that lunch box before I beat you!"

John dashed aside and called out loudly, "Joseph! I am in trouble!"

Immediately John's strong older brother Joseph came running toward him. The young man looked in Joseph's direction and ran away, leaving John alone.

Joseph hugged his brother, and they walked home hand-in-hand smiling. John and his brother had made a plan. They knew that the young man was going to cause a problem for John. John had seen him before causing problems for other younger boys walking home from school.

When John told Joseph about the young man, Joseph promised to be

close by each day to help John when he needed it. John knew that all he had to do was to call for Joseph and he would come.

Application: (15 minutes)

God also tells his children to call upon him in time of trouble, and he will hear us and help us. The only way we can resist the devil is through the help of God.

The apostle James says, "So then, submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil and he will run away from you. Come near to God, and he will come near to you" (James 4:7-8).

These verses teach us that the first thing we need to do is to submit or give ourselves to God. We must not put confidence in ourselves, but in God. We are told that we should draw close to God and he will draw close to us. We draw close to God by praying to him and reading our Bible, which teaches us about God and through which God speaks to us.

The Lord will help us in time of trouble if we call on his name. When you are tempted to do wrong things, ask God to help you; and he will.

God is always ready to help us, but we should also be willing to do what pleases him. We are told that we should come close to God, and he will come close to us.

We should know that God has power over the devil. Jesus stripped the devil of all power on the cross and through the resurrection. God is Almighty, but the devil is not. God is everywhere and knows everything.

HOW CAN I RESIST THE DEVIL?

SCRIPTURES: Ephesians 6:10-18, James 4:7-10, Matthew 4:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: "So then submit yourselves to God, resist the devil and he will run away from you" (James 4:7-8).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Be able to surrender their lives to God as their protector,
2. Know that they can resist the devil in their lives by trusting the Lord.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children and whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures: Ephesians 6:10-18, Matthew 4:1-11, Jeremiah 33:3.
3. Study James 4:7-10.
4. Know the song, verse and commitment.
5. Know the lesson well so that you are able to teach it in your own words.
6. Get a short stick(s) for a tug-of-war object lesson.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer by committing the lesson and the children into God's hand.

2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment. (Put your hands over your heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who are visitors those who brought a visitor, and those who had a birthday during the past week.

Song: (5 minutes)

The One in me is greater than the devil (repeat 3 times)
Let God, let God arise.

Game: (10 minutes)

Tug of War

Divide the children into two groups. Give them a small stick about 12 inches long. Let one child from one group try to pull against everyone in the other group. Continue to let each child in the first group try to be successful in pulling the other group to their side. Play the game again in pairs.

Application: (5 minutes)

Just as the child who was standing alone was easily pulled, so are you going to be easily overcome by the devil if you stand alone. But with the

I AM A TARGET OF THE DEVIL

SCRIPTURE: 1 Peter 5:8-9

MEMORY VERSE: "The thief comes only in order to steal, kill and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness" (John 10:10).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson, the children should:

1. Know that God loves them, but the devil hates them,
2. Realize that the devil wants them to do evil in the eyes of God,
3. Know that friendship with the devil does not pay,
4. Realize that Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil,
5. Realize that they can resist and defeat the devil through Jesus.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Ask God to give you guidance and wisdom as you teach.
2. Read the Scriptures: Genesis 3:1-15, Job 1:6-12, Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13, 1 John 3:8.
3. Study 1 Peter 5:8-9.
4. Study the lesson so you can teach it without having to refer to the book. In addition, know the club song, verse, and commitment by heart.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse, Luke 2:52, with the children.
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. With hands over the heart, say the club commitment together: "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognize birthdays of the past week. Also recognize visitors and those who have brought visitors today.

Sing: (5 minutes)

I Will Hide

I will hide right under the blood.

I will hide right under the blood.

I will hide right under the blood
where the devil can do me no harm (x2)

Not me, no harm, no harm, no harm,
no harm, no harm, no harm no harm, no harm

Where the devil can do me no harm!

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the Lesson: (1 minute)

Today we shall learn that the devil is our enemy and wants to destroy us. We shall also learn that Jesus is our friend and is able to help us win in our battle against the devil.

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

The village of Sanda was built in the middle of a thick forest. It was a big and beautiful village. The forest surrounding Sanda was full of wild animals. The people of Sanda used to hunt the animals for meat.

An old hyena lived in the forest near the village. The hyena could not find food to eat. It started catching little children and eating them.

When the children of Sanda stopped playing in the forest, the hyena started going to the village at night to catch children while they slept. The hyena used to enter houses to look for children to eat. When the hyena entered a house, it would look around for any sleeping children. If it found a sleeping child, it would drag the child into the forest to eat it.

One day the men of the village made a plan to kill the hyena. They took five logs and carved them in the form of little children. It took them the whole day to carve the logs of wood. At night the logs of wood were put on the floor in one of the huts. The logs of wood were put in different parts of the hut and covered with blankets. Under the blankets, the logs of wood looked like sleeping children.

Later, the men hid in a hut next to the hut where they put the logs of wood. They were armed with spears. After a long time, the hyena came. The hyena thought all the people in the village were asleep. It came to the hut with the five logs of wood and found the door open.

When the hyena saw the logs of wood covered by the blankets, it thought they were children. The hyena was very happy. "Tonight I am very lucky," the hyena said. "I will have enough food for more than one week."

The armed men waited for the hyena to enter the hut. When the hyena had entered the hut, the men ran out of the hut where they were hiding and locked the door of the hut where the hyena was.

When the door was locked by the men, the hyena knew that it had been caught. When the hyena discovered that there were no children in the hut, it tried to get out of the hut but could not.

The men went from hut to hut to announce the capture of the hyena. All the people of the village woke up. They were very happy. The men set fire to the hut in which the hyena was trapped. The villagers sang songs of joy as the hyena was burned to death.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Where was the village of Sanda built? (middle of a thick forest)
2. Why did the children of the village stop playing in the forest? (hyena began eating children)
3. Why did the men of the village carve the logs of wood? (to fool and catch the hyena)
4. Why were the logs of wood covered in blankets? (to look like sleeping children)
5. Why did the men burn the hut? (to kill the hyena)

other angels. He became dissatisfied with the position he had and desired to have a higher place.

He started thinking that he should be the one receiving the worship God was receiving. Unfaithfulness was established in him, and he decided to organise other angels so that they could stage a rebellion against God.

The angel resolved that he was going to overthrow God and take over the throne. In Revelation 12, we are told that there was war in heaven. Michael, the archangel, (commander of the armies of God) fought against Satan.

Satan managed to convince a third of the angels to join him and fight against the loyal angels of God, but Satan was overcome and thrown out of heaven along with the other angels that supported him.

Therefore, Isaiah said that is how you have fallen, you morning star. You made the nations tremble, and you were glorious until pride was found in you. You said in your heart that you would ascend above the throne of God, and you would establish your throne above that of God. But you were cast down below.

Song: (5 minutes)

He is Lord

He is Lord, He is Lord.
He has risen from the dead,
And He is Lord.
Every knee shall bow.
Every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord.
(Sing it with actions)

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God that Jesus is Lord. Ask God to help the children to be humble and to always depend on Jesus for all of their needs.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"The Lord is with me, I will not be afraid; what can anyone do to me?" Psalm 118:6

Write each word on a piece of paper and have papers placed around the room. Say "Go" and have the children find the words and put them into the correct order. If there is a need, divide them into groups and have one verse for each group.

Read the verse. Remove words from the verse as they repeat it until they are able to say the verse without looking at the words.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Encourage the children to invite their friends to the next Friends of Jesus club meeting.
2. Sing a song:

In the Name of Jesus

In the name of Jesus, (repeat)
We have the victory.
In the name of Jesus, (repeat)
Demons will have to flee.
Who can tell what God can do?
Who can tell of his love for you?
In the name of Jesus,
In the name of Jesus,
We have the victory.

3. Close in prayer.
4. Sing the club song.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Bible teaching : (15 minutes)

King David was a great man in Israel with sons and daughters. One of his sons, Absalom, wanted the throne of his father David. He started conspiring with some advisors to his father to take over his father's throne.

One day he went to one of the key men and said, "How do you look at the leadership of my father?"

Before the man answered, he said, "He is very cruel; do you see the way he treats you? In my case I would not treat you like he does. If you support me, I will definitely take power and give you an honourable position in the kingdom."

The man looked at him and smiled. Then he said, "That is what I have been waiting to hear. I will definitely support you and help in mobilising other senior people among the king's trustees."

The men spread the plan of overthrowing King David, and they set a date to do it. They organized horses for chariots and the kingly garments for Absalom, the king's son.

On the set day they woke up early in the morning and blew the trumpet in the kingdom as a sign of the inauguration of King Absalom. Many people within the kingdom were taken by surprise and were quite shaken.

The men of David, however, organised themselves to fight Absalom and killed him, enabling David to continue reigning on the throne.

Just as Absalom organized people to overthrow his father David, the devil organized other angels in heaven

to rebel against God. The devil did this in order to gain control in heaven and enjoy the worship God was enjoying from the other angels.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have The Joy Down in My Heart

I have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart.

I have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

(2) I have the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart.

(3) I have the love of Jesus down in my heart.

Bible teaching: (20 minutes)

(Turn to Isaiah 14:12-15 and have it open in your lap.) In the book of Isaiah in the Old Testament, we see what happened in heaven when Satan rebelled against God. The Bible tells us that God created angels in different orders and gave them different responsibilities. Among the angels of high order that were close to the throne of God was the one who we know as Satan

This angel had other angels under him. He instructed them to carry out God's instructions. By the authority God gave him, he was feared and he shone like a morning star. He was so glorious that the kings of the earth could tremble before him.

However, he started to envy the glory of God and the worship God was receiving as the creator from all the

Drama: (10 minutes)

Let the children dramatize the story with one of them playing the role of the hyena.

Summary: (5 minutes)

Like the hyena in the story, the devil always wants to destroy. The devil is evil. He wants people to die in their sins. He wants to destroy children.

The devil is always making plans to destroy the people of God. God is not like the devil. He protects his people. God has prepared the fires of hell for the devil and his evil angels.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus is my shelter.

Jesus is my refuge.

My redeemer and protector,

Jesus my Lord!

Bible teaching: (10 minutes)

The devil is our enemy. He is an enemy of God. The devil is against everything good. He is against all people. In 1 Peter 5:8-9, the Bible says that the devil is like a lion, looking for people to destroy. He wants people to be sinning against God. He wants many people to go with him to hell when he is punished by God.

The Bible teaches us to fight the devil. It tells us not to do what the devil wants. The devil is diligent and tireless. He will not give up trying to get us to do the wrong things. He is also very deceptive. He knows the

Scriptures well, and he will misquote it. He will try to hide his real intentions by making us think that we can enjoy sin and not suffer any bad effects from it.

We can look at how Jesus resisted temptation when the devil came to him in the wilderness. Jesus knew the Scriptures well; and when the devil misquoted them, he could answer back with the truth.

The devil is limited in his power. He and the demons can only be in one place at a time. They do not know everything. They use the same tricks over and over.

God is many times more powerful than the devil. God does not want you to be destroyed by the devil. God can protect us from the devil's evil works. He gave us his son Jesus to be with us all the time. When we receive Jesus as our Saviour, he gives us the power to fight the devil.

John 10:10 tells us the Jesus came to bring us life. He came to bring us abundant life. When we confess our sin, ask God to forgive us and help us to turn away from sin and the devil and turn to Jesus, then we receive a new life that will never die. Then Jesus lives in us. He will always be there to fight the devil.

Application: (5 minutes)

The devil wants you to live in sin and disobedience to God. He will do everything that he can in his limited power to turn your mind and heart away from God.

Jesus can save you from sin and from the power of the devil. In your own power you cannot fight the devil. You need Jesus to win the fight. You can ask Jesus to come into your heart and defeat Satan.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine. Let it shine.
Let it shine.

Won't let Satan blow it out.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Won't let Satan blow it out.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Won't let Satan blow it out.
I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine. Let it shine.
Let it shine.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray together with the children, thanking God for his protection in the midst of danger from the devil. Ask God to continue protecting the children from the evil one.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Let the children read out phrases from the Memory Verse after you have read out some phrases, as follows:

Teacher: "The thief comes..."

Children: "...only in order to steal, kill and destroy..."

Teacher: "...I have come..."

Children: "...in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness."

All: John 10:10.

Be sure that all of the children have said the verse all the way through enough times that they know it well. Be sure that the children know that these are Jesus' words.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Remind the children of the main points in today's lesson.
2. Make the day's announcements.
3. Sing a song:

Lord, I Want to be Like Jesus

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

4. Close with prayer.

5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Ever Shining

(#6 in the Friends of Jesus Song Book)

Yesu amawala, amawala, amawala,
(repeat)

Jesus ever shining, ever shining, ever shining, (repeat)

1. When walking, Jesus ever shining, ever shining, ever shining.
2. When working, Jesus ever shining...
3. When playing, Jesus ever shining...
4. When singing, Jesus ever shining..
5. When praying, Jesus ever shining...

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

In a certain village there was a king who was very wise and loved by his people.

He had a dependable adviser who assisted him in making decisions on many issues. The king loved this man so much that he decided to build him a house within the fence of the palace and share with him authority over part of the kingdom.

When the rainy season came, the king had workers to plough the advisor's land, plant, and weed his farms. They built barns for him for proper storage after the harvest.

His wife and children were well looked after and mixed freely with the king's family.

One day one of the messengers said to him, "Sir, you are one of the wisest people I have ever met in this kingdom. If only you were our king, things would be much better than they are."

The wise man thought about the chief messenger's remarks and decided to go and share the idea with his wife. The wife listened attentively; and after he was finished speaking, she said, "Of course, that is true. Who else advises the king more wisely than you? He is just ruling at your expense!"

Then they decided to talk with other close workers and associates within the kingdom. A good number of them agreed to support them, overthrow the king, and take over the throne. One of the cooks agreed to poison the king's food so that after he died, the wise man could be proposed to become their next king.

However, before the plot could materialise, one of the workers tipped another adviser, who in turn informed the king. The wise man was brought into the presence of the king and was found guilty.

The king ordered the messengers to put him into prison and his family taken to a remote village where they should stay and till their own land. The family went to live in a small village with just a few belongings.

Just as this wise man fell because of pride, the devil also fell because of pride.

Song: (5 minutes)

The Lord is my master
Satan go away (2x)
My Lord loves me so,
And I love my Lord.
I will serve Him alone.
(Sing with a fast, rejoicing tune.)

WHERE DID THE DEVIL COME FROM?

SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 14:12-15, Revelation 12:7-9, 2 Samuel 15-18

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord is with me, I will not be afraid; what can anyone do to me?" Psalm 118:6.

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Know the origin of the devil,
2. Know how he fell from heaven,
3. Understand that God did not create the devil the way he is today.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Isaiah 14:12-15, Revelation 12:7-9, 2 Samuel 15-18.
3. Know the song, commitment, and verse.
4. Know the lesson so that you can teach it without the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin the lesson with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*

4. Say the club commitment: "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and man." (Put hands over the heart.)

5. Recognise those who had birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Oh, How I Love Jesus

Oh, how I love Jesus

Oh, how I love Jesus

Oh, how I love Jesus

Because he first loved me.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Drama: (20 minutes)

1. Divide the children into two unequal groups. The larger number is to represent God's obedient angels, and the fewer are to act as those enticed by the devil.
2. One of the children is to represent God and one is to represent the devil.
3. The one acting as the devil should begin to whisper his plan of dethroning God. (The minority should side with the suggestion)
4. Finally the plot should be put into effect.
5. The one acting as God should speak authoritatively to the archangel Michael, and the devil should be thrown out. The devil should be called Satan, the deceiver, at the end.

I AM A PRECIOUS BEING

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 19:13-15

MEMORY VERSE: Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Realize that they are precious in the eyes of God,
2. Know that God cares for them,
3. Know why they are precious,
4. Realize that they should treat themselves as precious beings,
5. Treat other people as precious in the eyes of God.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray that God will give you wisdom as you teach the children and that he will prepare the children's hearts to listen to your lesson.
2. Read the following Scriptures as you prepare for the lesson: Genesis 1:26-27; Zechariah 2:8; Mark 9:36-37, 9:42; Matthew 18:1-5.
3. Study Matthew 19:13-15.
4. Make sure you know the club song, verse, and commitment from memory. Be able to teach the story in your own words.
5. Collect various types of objects

which are precious to children. For example: a beautiful toy, a watch.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Together with the children, say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song, *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. With hands over the heart, say the club commitment together: "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves the Little Children.

Jesus loves the little children

All the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white,

All are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Game: (15 minutes)

Divide the children into two groups. Give a watch or some other object that they would consider to be of value to one of the groups and let them hide it. Then let the other group find it. The groups can exchange roles until the time is finished.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute)

In today's lesson we are going to learn about how precious we are in God's eyes. We are also going to learn that God cares for us and that we should care for ourselves because we are precious to him.

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

Joseph and Paul are both ten years of age. They are neighbours. They play together and go to the same school. Their parents are good friends.

Joseph and Paul enjoy playing together every day. Their parents like buying them gifts, and the boys love receiving gifts.

One day Joseph's father bought him a little toy car as a Christmas gift. The car was beautiful. Joseph was happy.

Joseph ran over to Paul's home to show Paul the toy car. Joseph found Paul sitting on the veranda.

"Paul!" Joseph shouted. "Look, my father has bought me a beautiful car as my Christmas gift!"

He showed the little car to Paul. Paul jumped up and said, "That is wonderful! Father has also bought me a little car!"

"Let me see it," said Joseph.

Paul ran into the house and came back with his toy car. The two boys were happy. "Your car looks like my car," Paul said.

"Yes," said Joseph. "Let's go and play with our cars."

The two boys went behind the house and started playing. Paul was careful with his toy, but Joseph did not care how he played with his car.

After only a few minutes, Joseph damaged his car, but Paul's was still looking new.

"Joseph," said Paul. "Look, you have damaged the car!"

How do you think that Joseph felt after he damaged his new toy?

Song: (5 minutes)

(Use a suitable tune)

I Am Precious

1. I am precious.

I know I am precious.

I am precious in the eyes of God.

I am precious, more precious than gold.

2. We are precious.

We know we are precious.

We are precious in the eyes of God.

We are precious, more precious than gold.

3. You are precious.

Know that you are precious.

You are precious in the eyes of God.

You are precious, more precious than gold.

(While singing the third stanza, the children should point at each other.)

Object lesson: (5 minutes)

Show the children the various types of precious objects you collected, and then tell the children why you have brought the objects. Tell them that the objects are

Do you want to be a friend of the devil, who hates you and lies to you?

There is another lion that is written about in the Bible. He is the Lion of Judah. The strength and power of the Lion of Judah represented the power of God to protect Judah, his chosen people. The Lion of Judah is another name for Jesus. He is all powerful. He knows everything. He is always with us. He always loves us.

Jesus willingly bore all the punishment for the sins of everyone. When Jesus died on the cross, he even bore the sins that Judas committed when he betrayed Jesus. If Judas had repented, Jesus would have forgiven him.

Do you want to be a friend of Jesus, who loves you and cares for you?

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, yes, I know,

For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong.

They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me.

The Bible tells me so.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God that he provides a way of escape through Jesus whenever temptation comes our way and that he protects us from evil.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

The teacher should divide the children into three (3) groups.

One group should say loudly with actions: "Be alert, be on watch!"

Another group says: "Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion"

Others finally say: "looking for someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8).

(All the actions should first be demonstrated by the teacher).

After the children learn the verse, have them change parts. Then say the verse altogether.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children the questions, "Who is your enemy?" (the devil) "Who can protect you?" (God)

2. Make announcements.

3. Remind the children of things they need to do before the next lesson.

4. Encourage them to bring a friend next week.

5. Sing a song:

I Will Hide Right Under the Blood

I will hide right under the blood,

I will hide right under the blood,

I will hide right under the blood where the devil can do me no harm. (x2)

Not me, no harm, no harm, no harm, no harm, no harm, no harm, no harm, no harm

Where the devil can do me no harm!

6. Close with prayer.

7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

was putting on different masks, but his or her name remained the same. Just as a mask did not change the person behind it, the devil does not change even if he comes in the form of an angel.

Even if someone appears as an angel of light, if what he says is different from what the Bible says, you can know that it is the devil.. We must know what the Bible says in order to protect ourselves from the devil..

Song: (5 minutes)

Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

(Divide the children into two groups. One group sings the "hallelujah part." The other group sings, "Praise ye the Lord!" Each group stands on their part while the other group is sitting. Everyone stands and sings the last "Praise ye the Lord!")

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

The Bible says that our enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. The enemy only comes to steal, kill and destroy.

The devil is always looking for a way to do evil to man. The devil at

times causes men to be sick. He causes accidents and death. The devil brings hatred, war, divisions and quarrels in the family. The devil at times brings poverty and fighting in the world. The devil sends thieves to steal other people's property.

We cannot see the devil. We do not know when he is going to attack us. The devil can make himself to be like an angel of God. He does not look evil, but he is.

A man dressed in a suit and driving a new truck came to a house. The man told the servant that he was sent by the owners of the house to collect the television, refrigerator, and the cooker for repair. The servant packed these items with the man, and he drove away. In the evening the owners blamed the servant for his carelessness and fired him. The thief appeared like a good man, but he was not.

Also the devil at times tempts people to sin even if they go to church, pray or even preach the Word of God to others. The devil is looking for people who will cooperate with him so that he can work through their lives.

God is also looking for people that will cooperate with him so that he can work through their lives. God loves us. His nature is love. It is impossible for God not to love us.

The Bible says that when Judas betrayed Jesus, the devil entered into him. He gave himself over to the devil. When he admitted that he had betrayed an innocent man, Judas did not repent. He killed himself.

precious. Tell them that the objects serve different purposes and are important. Tell the children that the objects should be looked after with great care.

Finally, let the children give you names of objects they consider precious.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Do you know why you are precious in the eyes of God? It is because you are created by God.

God created you in his own image. You are therefore more precious than big buildings, cars, or houses. These things are created by man.

It does not matter if you are short or tall, slim or fat, light or dark. It does not matter what people say about you. You are very precious to God. He loves you. He cares for you.

Every person was created by God. Every person was created in the image of God. Since all people are precious in the eyes of God, we must not do bad things to other people.

God wants to do good to all people. He wants all people to come to him. He does not hate anyone. He does not chase away those who come to him.

The Bible tells us (Matthew 19:13-15) that Jesus loves little children. They are precious to him. When the disciples wanted to chase the children away, Jesus was angry that the disciples wanted to do that. He stopped the disciples from

sending the children away. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

This verse also teaches that Jesus wants even little children to come to him. Jesus does not only call adults. He also calls little children. Jesus can save adults. He can also save children.

Another lesson that this verse teaches is that it is wrong to stop other people from coming to Jesus. It is good to help people come to Jesus. Every time you come to the club, bring other children with you. Tell other children about what Jesus has done for you through the club.

Application: (5 minutes)

God loves you because you are precious. He does not want you to die in your sins.

Because your life is precious and you want to take good care of your life, you need to give your life to Jesus. He will take good care of you. He will protect you. He will save you from your sins.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, yes, I know,

For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong.

They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me.

The Bible tells me so.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Have the children bow their heads and pray, thanking God for creating them in his image and for caring for them. Have them thank God for creating them as precious beings.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Help the children memorize the Memory Verse by having them repeat phrases of the verse after you, as shown below:

Teacher : Jesus said...

Children: Jesus said...

Teacher : Let the children come to me...

Children: Let the children come to me...

Teacher : ... and do not stop them...

Children: ... and do not stop them...

Teacher : ... because the Kingdom of heaven...

Children: ... because the Kingdom of heaven...

Teacher : ... belongs to such as these.

Children: ... belongs to such as these.

Teacher : Matthew 19:14.

Children: Matthew 19:14.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Remind the children that they are so precious that Jesus suffered just to save them from perishing.

2. Make announcements.

3. Sing: *I am Precious* or *Jesus Loves Me*.

4. Challenge the children to put what they have learnt into practice.

5. Close with prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Ask the children why we would think that the devil is like a lion.

(1) A lion is a wild animal.

(2) It is a dangerous animal to man.

(3) It attacks man when he is unaware.

(4) It roars when it is within reach of man.

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

Anyone can be tempted by the devil. The sin is not in being tempted, but in believing the lie and acting upon it.

After Jesus was baptized and he heard God speak to him, he went into the wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan.

Satan came to Jesus when Jesus was seeking direction from God as to how he would do his work here on earth. Satan was very clever in using Scriptures to tempt Jesus to do his work the easy way.

Jesus, however, knew the Scriptures well; and he knew when Satan misquoted them. He recognized the lies that Satan told. The devil told Jesus that if Jesus worshipped him, he would give to Jesus all the cities of the world because everything belonged to him. But Psalms 24:1 says, "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it." Jesus told the devil that the Scriptures say to worship God and serve only him.

When Satan misquoted Scripture to Jesus, Jesus quoted true Scripture back to him. We must also know Scripture well so that we can

also defeat the devil when he tells us lies. Jesus knew that God's way was always best, and he knew that God always told the truth.

Adam and Eve knew God's truth; but when Satan came to them, they believed him instead of God. Satan is still telling lies about God today. When we believe Satan's lies instead of God's truth, we will be devoured by sin just as if we have been eaten by a lion.

Song: (5 minutes)

Wide As the Ocean

Wide, wide as the ocean,
High as the heavens above.

Deep, deep as the deepest sea is
my Saviour's love.

I, though so unworthy,
Still am a child of his care.

For His Word teaches me that His
love reaches me everywhere.

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

The teacher should demonstrate how the devil hides true character or personality by masking some of the children whom their friends know very well. Present one child and ask "What is his or her name?" (Let the children call out the name loudly.) Mask the child and ask again what is his or her name? (Let the children call out the name loudly.) Put a different mask on him or her and let the children call out the name loudly.

The teacher should explain to the children that no matter in what form the devil comes, he still remains evil. The devil is just like the person who

OUR ENEMY

SCRIPTURES: 2 Corinthians 4:4, 11:14; Luke 4:1-13; Matthew 7:15; John 10:10; Genesis 3:1-13; John 8:44

MEMORY VERSE: "Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

OBJECTIVES: The children should realize:

1. That the devil operates in different ways,
2. That the devil can tempt anyone,
3. That they should be alert to the dangers of temptation.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. The teacher should pray for God's guidance before preparing the lesson.
2. Study the Scriptures: 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Corinthians 4:4, 11:14; Matthew 7:15; John 10:10; Genesis 3:1-13; John 8:4; and Luke 4:1-13.
3. Prepare the masks made from paper for the object lesson.
4. Know the songs and stories from memory.

2. BEGINNING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment: "Because Jesus is my example, I pledge myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men" (with both hands across the heart).

5. Recognise those who had a birthday during the past week, visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

In the Name of Jesus

In the name of Jesus, (repeat)

We have the victory.

In the name of Jesus, (repeat)

Demons will have to flee.

Who can tell what God can do?

Who can tell of his love for you?

In the name of Jesus,

In the name of Jesus,

We have the victory.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (5 minutes)

Ask the children if they have heard the sound of a roaring lion. Ask them what they think of when they think about the lion.

Many people think of the lion as being the devil because of the Scripture verse found in 1 Peter 5:8. This verse is our memory verse for today: "Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour."

WHAT IS SALVATION?

SCRIPTURE: John 3:16

MEMORY VERSE: "And eternal life means to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, whom you sent" (John 17:3).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson children should be able to:

1. Tell the meaning of salvation,
2. Name two wrong ideas about salvation,
3. Say a Bible verse about salvation (John 3:16),
4. Understand no one can save himself.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children you will teach today.
2. Read the following Scriptures about salvation: Matthew 1:21, John 3:3, 17:3, Acts 2:37-38, Acts 4:12, John 10:9, Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 John 4:15; 5:12.
3. Study John 3:16.
4. Know the memory verse, song, and commitment by memory.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse- Luke 2:52.
3. Sing the club song. *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. With hands over the heart, say the club commitment together: "Because

Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday in the past week, those who are visitors, and those who have visitors today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Never Fails

Jesus never fails,

Jesus never fails,

Jesus never fails.

The man of this world will let you down

But Jesus never fails!

Your brother will let you down.

Your sister will let you down.

Your mother will let you down.

Your father will let you down.

Jesus never fails.

Jesus never fails.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute)

Our lesson today is about salvation. Salvation means to be saved or rescued from death. To save is to deliver or protect. You may be thinking, "I'm not about to die. Why do I need to be saved?" The story I am going to tell you is about a boy who got into trouble and needed to be saved. After the story I will ask you some questions about it. Listen carefully to learn what he did wrong and why he needed to be saved.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Kondo was a proud boy. He always thought he was the cleverest boy in his village. Kondo did not listen to advice. He thought he could do anything on his own. Kondo always told his friends that he was their king.

One day Kondo and five of his friends went to play in the bush. As usual Kondo declared himself the leader of the group. "Remember I am your king," Kondo said to his friends. "You must all do what I say?"

As Kondo and his friends were playing, they saw a young rabbit. "Let us catch the rabbit!" one of the boys shouted.

"No!" Kondo said, "You don't know how to catch rabbits. I will catch it. All of you should just watch?"

Kondo ran after the rabbit, but the rabbit ran away. Kondo did not go far before he fell into a deep ditch. The ditch was covered with sticks and grass to hide it. Kondo did not realize it was a trap for catching animals.

Kondo's friends saw him when he fell into the ditch. They ran to the ditch and looked down at Kondo at the bottom of the ditch.

"Kondo," one of the boys said, "I will run to the village to call one of the men so that he can pull you out of the ditch."

Kondo, however, ordered the boy not to go to the village. "You think I can't come out of this ditch? You

think I am a fool? I will show you how I can get out on my own. I don't need anybody's help."

Kondo's friends obeyed his words. They watched as Kondo struggled to get out of the ditch. Kondo tried every way he could to come out of the ditch. He failed.

After trying for thirty minutes, Kondo became tired. He could not think of a way to get out of the ditch. Kondo sat down at the bottom of the ditch.

"Come on, King," Kondo's friends said, "Come out! We know you can do it!" Kondo did not answer. They laughed at him. Kondo began to cry. "Come on, great king!" the boys said. "You are a clever boy. You can't fail to come out."

Kondo cried more loudly. He was afraid. He pleaded with his friends to forgive him for his behaviour.

Kondo said, "I promise to be good to you," he pleaded. "Please call one of the men from the village to help me."

The boys felt pity for Kondo. One boy ran to the village and called a man, who came with a rope. The man put the rope down into the ditch and told Kondo to hold it as the man pulled Kondo out of the ditch.

From that day onwards, Kondo became a good boy. He never boasted. Kondo never called himself a king again.

Questions:

1. Was Kondo a king?

ourselves. No one fools God. "A person will reap exactly what he plants. If he plants in the field of his natural desires, from it he will gather the harvest of death; if he plants in the field of the spirit, from the spirit he will gather the harvest of eternal life" (Galatians 6:7-8).

Only God can change our minds so that we want to do the things that are pleasing to him. God does not want us to do things that will harm ourselves or others. The first step in making our minds different is to ask Jesus to come into our hearts and minds and take control.

Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind. The second commandment is to love others the way that you love yourselves.

Song: (5 minutes)

Create in Me a Pure Heart

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit
within me. Psalm 51:10

Talk with the children about what it means to have a pure heart and a steadfast spirit. A steadfast spirit is to have a new attitude which shows a loyalty to God.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to help all of the children to have pure hearts and a desire to live according to God's plan for their lives.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect" Romans 12:2.

Teach the Memory Verse by dividing the children into two groups:

Group 1: Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world,

Group 2: but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind.

Group 1: Then you will be able to know the will of God

Group 2: what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

Everyone: Romans 12:2

After the children know the verse well in the groups, have them say all of the verse together. Allow individual children to say the verse.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.

2. Song: (Tune for *Keep Me True*)

Make me pure, Lord Jesus,

Make me pure.

Make me pure, Lord Jesus,

Make me pure.

There's a life that must be lived

To bring honor to your Name.

Every hour by thy power

Make me pure.

(Sing saying: I'll be pure)

4. Close in prayer.

5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Song: (5 minutes)

Walk in the Light

Walk in the light, in the light,

Walk in the light of God.

(The children should sing it while walking in a circle while flickering their fingers as a sign of light.)

Activity: (10 minutes)

On paper list at least 6 bad/harmful habits. Then have children discuss what happens to us if we participate in these type of activities. Be sure to remind children that God is a loving Father, who loves us despite our sinful behavior; but he is not pleased with us when we disappoint him through our disobedience.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Proverbs 23:29-35 gives a description of someone who drinks. The writer of Proverbs says that if we show him someone who has to try out fancy drinks, he will show us someone miserable and sorry for himself, always causing trouble and always complaining. His eyes are bloodshot, and he has bruises that could have been avoided.

The writer warns: "Don't let wine tempt you, even though it is rich red, and it sparkles in the cup, and it goes down smoothly. The next morning you will feel as if you had been bitten by a poisonous snake. Weird sights will appear before you eyes, and you will not be able to think or speak clearly. You will feel as if you were out on the ocean,

seasick, swinging high up in the rigging of a tossing ship. 'I must have been hit,' you will say: 'I must have been beaten up, but I don't remember it. Why can't I wake up? I need another drink.'"

Today statistics in some countries are showing that people who drink have a higher incidence of HIV/AIDS infection. Alcohol dulls the brain. People do things that they would not do if they were sober.

Sometimes criminals trick people into using a drug that they know will be addictive very quickly. They do this because they are making much money from dealing in drugs. Protect yourself and others by reporting anyone who tries to get you involved with drugs. Narcotic drugs are illegal and often lead to death.

What does God think about social drinking and habits, such as smoking, which harm the body and also often lead to death?

These activities are the things of the standards of this world. God tells us not to live our lives according to these standards.

He wants to make us different people by changing the way we think so that we can become like Jesus. If we become like Jesus, we will know the things that God wants us to do and the things that he does not want us to do. We will do good and perfect things that are pleasing to God.

Nothing is hidden from God. God's Word tells us not to deceive

2. Was Kondo good to his friends?

3. Why did Kondo refuse help?

4. Did Kondo get out of the ditch by his own efforts?

5. Why did Kondo cry?

6. Why did Kondo's friends laugh at him?

7. What lessons did Kondo learn from his experience of falling into the ditch?

Summary: (5 minutes)

We should not be like Kondo. He was in a deep ditch and was too proud to ask for help. We should be humble. We should listen to advice and accept help from others.

Everyone has sinned, and sin is like a deep ditch. No one can save himself from sin. No one can pull himself out of his sins without the help of Jesus.

The man who saved Kondo used a rope to save him. Jesus died on a cross to save us from our sins. Kondo repented of the bad way he had acted. He cried and asked his friends to get someone to come and save him. We have to repent of our sins and ask God to forgive us. We must ask Jesus to save us because we can't save ourselves

Song: (5 minutes)

(Sing to tune of *Amazing Grace*)

Jesus, I know you are king of kings
Come take control of me.

Touch me, guide me, O Lord, I
pray

Come now and set me free.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Many people have wrong ideas about what salvation means. Some think salvation means to be baptized. Some think salvation means joining a church. Some think if they do good works then they will be saved. Others think that if their parents are saved, then they are also saved. These ideas are not correct. Only the Bible teaches the truth. What does the Bible say about salvation?

Listen as I read a verse that is the best-known verse in the Bible. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). There are several reasons why many people think this is the best verse in the whole Bible.

The verse tells us that God loved the world. God loves all the people in the world. It does not matter where the people live, what their skin color is, or if they have ever been to school. God hates sin and the evil things men do in the world. But God loves all people who live all over the world.

The verse tells us that God gave his one and only Son to save the world. God knew the people in the world could never be good enough to save themselves. His Son, Jesus, was the only one who had never sinned. He was the only one who could save the world.

The verse tells what a person has to do to be saved. Whoever believes in him, in Jesus, would be saved. No

one has to work for his salvation, and no one has to pay to be saved. All a person has to do is to believe in God's Son, Jesus, and trust him to save him.

Finally the verse tells the reward for believing in Jesus. Whoever believes in Jesus shall not perish, or die, but have eternal life. No one has to die and go to hell because he has done bad things. God wants everyone to be saved and to live forever with him in heaven.

Before Jesus was born, an angel told Joseph that his wife Mary would give birth to a son. He was to give him the name Jesus because he would save his people from their sins.

Application: (10 minutes)

God loves you. He does not want you to die in your sin. God sent his son Jesus to die for you.. The salvation of God is free. You do not need to buy it or to work for it. Yet it cost God the death of his Son, Jesus.

God is able to forgive you of all the sins you have ever done. No sin is too big for God to forgive. The blood Jesus shed when he died on the cross is able to wash away all your sins.

If you want to receive the gift of salvation, you need to repent of your sins. Ask God to forgive you of all your sins. Then ask Jesus to come live inside of you forever

What will you do? Will you accept God's free gift of salvation? Or will you turn away and keep doing things that are not pleasing to God? "Salvation is found in no one else, for

there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Jesus is ready to come into your heart. He wants to rule in your life. He wants to be your friend. Why not trust him today as your Saviour? This could be the best day of your life. This could be your spiritual birthday.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray for the children to think seriously about the truths they have learned today. Pray for their parents and brothers and sisters. Ask God to help all of them to know he loves them and wants them to be saved.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Say the verse with the children several times. Divide the children into six groups. The first group will say the reference. Then the others will say the five phrases in order.

John 17:3/ "And eternal life means/ to know you,/ the only true God,/ and to know Jesus Christ,/ whom you sent."

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask those who want to receive the gift of salvation to see you after the meeting.
2. Make announcements.
3. Sing any song of your choice.
4. Close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

come, he thought back to how he had come to be in this problem.

It had started when he began secondary school and had met his friends. John thought about how he had been nervous about going to the big school. He wasn't sure that he would have friends or do well. Then some boys began talking to him and including him in their activities.

John soon learned that the activities included smoking cigarettes and drinking beer and other alcoholic drinks. John wanted to keep his friends, so he went along with what they were doing. He knew that he could get in trouble if he were caught, but he reasoned that his father and uncles smoked and drank so it couldn't be too bad. It just made him feel older.

Then one day one of his friends brought three marijuana cigarettes. They decided to each smoke one. John liked the feeling smoking the marijuana gave him. Soon he was wanting to smoke them all the time to feel good. The only problem was how much they cost. In order to pay for his marijuana, he began finding things in his home that he could take out and sell. He only hoped no one would notice that the things were missing.

Now he had been caught at school. What would his father say? What would his father do?

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. How did John get into the trouble that he was in?

2. How did one action on John's part lead to something else, which led to something else?

3. What do you think his father will do?

4. What consequences do you think will be the result of John's trouble?

Application: (10 minutes)

People who smoke and people who drink socially are not looked down on by society. Many people think these are acceptable habits even though they are physically harmful to the people who do them and even though they may be harmful to the people around them.

Most people who smoke, drink alcohol, or use drugs begin when they are in their teens. They do it because their friends or family are doing it, and they want to be part of the group. They want to feel accepted by the people who are important to them. Sometimes people like the excitement or sometimes they feel older and more sophisticated.

No one plans to become addicted. No one plans for his life to center around his need for what he is addicted to. No one plans to destroy his life.

Everyone thinks that they can stop even when they have reached the point where they can't stop without help.

The best thing to do is to protect yourself and your dreams for the future by never taking the first drink or smoking the first cigarette.

EFFECTS OF HARMFUL HABITS

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 23:29-35, Romans 12:1-2, Galatians 6:7-10

MEMORY VERSE: "Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect" Romans 12:2.

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Know that God sees us wherever we are,
2. Realize that when we practice bad habits, we will suffer unpleasant consequences,
3. Understand we all should live according to God's plan.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Galatians 6:7-10, Proverbs 23:29-35, Romans 12:1-2.
3. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to lead them without the book.
4. Read the teaching story many times and be prepared to teach the lesson without using the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Say the club commitment: (Put your hands over the heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
3. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in his hands. (repeat 4 times)

He's got you and me in his hands. (repeat 4 times)

He's got everybody in his hands. (repeat 4 times)

(The song should be accompanied with actions).

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

John was in trouble. He and two of his friends had been caught smoking marijuana at school. As John sat in the school office waiting for the drug enforcement people to

WHO CAN BE SAVED?

SCRIPTURES: John 3:1-16

MEMORY VERSE: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

OBJECTIVES: As a result of this lesson, the children should:

1. Learn that Jesus provides salvation from their sins,
2. Know how to be saved,
3. Make a decision to become a Christian if God is speaking to them.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children.
2. Study well the story of Nicodemus in John 3:1-16.
3. Draw a big heart on a piece of paper as described in the Object Lesson.
4. Be prepared to explain the meaning of: sin, repent, believe, born again.
5. Be sensitive to the way the children respond to the lesson. Some may want to trust Jesus as their Saviour. Be ready to help them understand what it means to be saved.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song, *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment: (Put hands over heart) "Because Jesus is my example, I pledge myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors and those who brought a visitor. Express your joy that each one came to the Friends of Jesus club meeting today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (5 minutes)

Revise last week's lesson: "What is Salvation?" Ask if anyone remembers the meaning of the word *salvation*. (to be rescued from death, to deliver). Our lesson today teaches (1) what it means to be saved, (2) who can be saved (3) and what a person has to do to be saved.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Many people gathered at the lake shore to watch as the luggage was put into the big boat. Most of the passengers who were traveling lived on the other side of the lake. The only way they could get home was to cross the lake in the boat.

It was a good day, and everyone looked happy as they looked for a comfortable place to sit on the boat.

The boat crew made sure all the luggage was tied down well, and the people were ready to begin their journey. Soon they were on their way.

The travelers had been on the lake for an hour when dark clouds began to form above them. The wind began to blow so hard that the boat rocked back and forth. Then the rain started to pour out of the clouds. At first the crew captain assured the passengers he had everything under control. As the storm grew stronger, however, it was difficult for the crew to move the boat forward in the water.

Before long the crew realized everything was not all right and they were in big trouble. They began to dump their own loads into the lake. Then they asked the passengers to do the same with their luggage. But this did not help enough. Finally the crew sent out a distress signal for someone to come and save them.

The passengers were very afraid, and the storm was making some feel sick. They wondered if they would survive the storm and ever reach their homes again. The situation was bad. The crew captain knew no way to save his boat or his passengers. He waited for the worst to happen.

Some men on a much larger boat, however, were fishing on the same lake. When they heard the distress call for help on their radio, they started to move towards the boat that was in trouble.

The bigger boat was able to take the cruel weather without problems.

As soon as the fishermen reached the passenger boat, they began to rescue the people. Soon all the people were safe in the bigger boat. Those who were sick were made comfortable. The people who were rescued were grateful they were saved from the dangers of the storm. When they arrived home, they thanked God for sending help to save them.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What would have happened if the fishermen had not come to help the passengers in the troubled boat? (They would have all died.)
2. Did the fishermen choose which people they would rescue? (No, they rescued all who were in the boat.)
3. What was the response of those who were rescued? (They were very glad and grateful.)

Summary: (5 minutes)

When the people on the passenger boat were in the storm, they thought the end had come for them. They lost all hope they would be saved. It was at this bad time that the fishermen came to rescue them. Fortunately, everyone was put on the bigger boat and rescued from danger.

If you had been a passenger in the troubled boat, how do you think you would have felt? How would you have responded when you were saved? (Allow for responses.)

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Have the children acknowledge God's love by saying:

Esau knew that Jacob had deceived him again and also their father. Esau vowed that when their father, who was very old and ill, died that he would kill his brother Jacob.

Rebecca knew this and encouraged Jacob to run away for his own safety. Rebecca never saw Jacob again.

Deception was a habit that Jacob practiced, and it had terrible effects on him and his whole family. He thought he was doing the right thing for himself, but in the end he hurt himself and many people.

Drama: (10 minutes)

Ask for four volunteers to play the roles of Isaac, Rebecca, Esau, and Jacob. After the story has been presented through drama, ask the children to discuss how this story could have been different if Jacob had not deceived his family members.

Application: (5 minutes)

Encourage children to think of other times when they or someone else was deceptive. If they were the one who did the deceiving, how did they feel? If they were deceived by someone else, how did they feel?

Activity: (10 minutes)

Have the children divide into two groups. Ask children what a habit is. Are habits good or bad? Have each group think of several different habits. Then have them decide if the habit is a good one or a

bad/dangerous one. If they have trouble thinking of some, be prepared to share. Then have each group share their list of good habits and their list of bad habits. Encourage children to discuss why the bad habits are indeed bad.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray for the children to be honest in all their activities whether at home, at school or within the community. Also pray, thanking God for loving us and being willing to forgive us even when we have deceived others in the past. Encourage children to ask for God's strength to develop only good habits, not dangerous or harmful ones.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by letting the children repeat after you: "What you think is the right road may lead to death." (Proverbs 14:12).

Divide the children in two groups:
Group 1: What you think is the right road

Group 2: may lead to death.
Proverbs 14:12

Repeat this several times until the children are able to say the verse. Let individual children say the verse.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Sing a song: *God Is So Good*.
3. Ask the children for prayer requests. Then close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Song: (5 minutes)

Walk in the Light

Walk in the light, in the light,

Walk in the light of God.

(The children should sing it while walking in a circle while flickering their fingers as a sign of light.)

Activity: (10 minutes)

On paper list at least 6 bad/harmful habits. Then have children discuss what happens to us if we participate in these type of activities. Be sure to remind children that God is a loving Father, who loves us despite our sinful behavior; but he is not pleased with us when we disappoint him through our disobedience.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

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4. Did Kondo get out of the ditch by his own efforts?

5. Why did Kondo cry?

6. Why did Kondo's friends laugh at him?

7. What lessons did Kondo learn from his experience of falling into the ditch?

Summary: (5 minutes)

We should not be like Kondo. He was in a deep ditch and was too proud to ask for help. We should be humble. We should listen to advice and accept help from others.

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The man who saved Kondo used a rope to save him. Jesus died on a cross to save us from our sins. Kondo repented of the bad way he had acted. He cried and asked his friends to get someone to come and save him. We have to repent of our sins and ask God to forgive us. We must ask Jesus to save us because we can't save ourselves

Song: (5 minutes)

(Sing to tune of *Amazing Grace*)

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Finally the verse tells the reward for believing in Jesus. Whoever believes in Jesus shall not perish, or die, but have eternal life. No one has to die and go to hell because he has done bad things. God wants everyone to be saved and to live forever with him in heaven.

Before Jesus was born, an angel told Joseph that his wife Mary would give birth to a son. He was to give him the name Jesus because he would save his people from their sins.

Application: (10 minutes)

God loves you. He does not want you to die in your sin. God sent his son Jesus to die for you.. The salvation of God is free. You do not need to buy it or to work for it. Yet it cost God the death of his Son, Jesus.

God is able to forgive you of all the sins you have ever done. No sin is too big for God to forgive. The blood Jesus shed when he died on the cross is able to wash away all your sins.

If you want to receive the gift of salvation, you need to repent of your sins. Ask God to forgive you of all your sins. Then ask Jesus to come live inside of you forever

What will you do? Will you accept God's free gift of salvation? Or will you turn away and keep doing things that are not pleasing to God?. "Salvation is found in no one else, for

there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Jesus is ready to come into your heart. He wants to rule in your life. He wants to be your friend. Why not trust him today as your Saviour? This could be the best day of your life. This could be your spiritual birthday.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray for the children to think seriously about the truths they have learned today. Pray for their parents and brothers and sisters. Ask God to help all of them to know he loves them and wants them to be saved.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Say the verse with the children several times. Divide the children into six groups. The first group will say the reference. Then the others will say the five phrases in order.

John 17:3/ "And eternal life means/ to know you,/ the only true God,/ and to know Jesus Christ,/ whom you sent."

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask those who want to receive the gift of salvation to see you after the meeting.
2. Make announcements.
3. Sing any song of your choice.
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It had started when he began secondary school and had met his friends. John thought about how he had been nervous about going to the big school. He wasn't sure that he would have friends or do well. Then some boys began talking to him and including him in their activities.

John soon learned that the activities included smoking cigarettes and drinking beer and other alcoholic drinks. John wanted to keep his friends, so he went along with what they were doing. He knew that he could get in trouble if he were caught, but he reasoned that his father and uncles smoked and drank so it couldn't be too bad. It just made him feel older.

Then one day one of his friends brought three marijuana cigarettes. They decided to each smoke one. John liked the feeling smoking the marijuana gave him. Soon he was wanting to smoke them all the time to feel good. The only problem was how much they cost. In order to pay for his marijuana, he began finding things in his home that he could take out and sell. He only hoped no one would notice that the things were missing.

Now he had been caught at school. What would his father say? What would his father do?

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. How did John get into the trouble that he was in?

2. How did one action on John's part lead to something else, which led to something else?

3. What do you think his father will do?

4. What consequences do you think will be the result of John's trouble?

Application: (10 minutes)

People who smoke and people who drink socially are not looked down on by society. Many people think these are acceptable habits even though they are physically harmful to the people who do them and even though they may be harmful to the people around them.

Most people who smoke, drink alcohol, or use drugs begin when they are in their teens. They do it because their friends or family are doing it, and they want to be part of the group. They want to feel accepted by the people who are important to them. Sometimes people like the excitement or sometimes they feel older and more sophisticated.

No one plans to become addicted. No one plans for his life to center around his need for what he is addicted to. No one plans to destroy his life.

Everyone thinks that they can stop even when they have reached the point where they can't stop without help.

The best thing to do is to protect yourself and your dreams for the future by never taking the first drink or smoking the first cigarette.

EFFECTS OF HARMFUL HABITS

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 23:29-35, Romans 12:1-2, Galatians 6:7-10

MEMORY VERSE: "Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect" Romans 12:2.

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Know that God sees us wherever we are,
2. Realize that when we practice bad habits, we will suffer unpleasant consequences,
3. Understand we all should live according to God's plan.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Galatians 6:7-10, Proverbs 23:29-35, Romans 12:1-2.
3. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to lead them without the book.
4. Read the teaching story many times and be prepared to teach the lesson without using the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Say the club commitment: (Put your hands over the heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
3. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in his hands. (repeat 4 times)

He's got you and me in his hands. (repeat 4 times)

He's got everybody in his hands. (repeat 4 times)

(The song should be accompanied with actions).

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

John was in trouble. He and two of his friends had been caught smoking marijuana at school. As John sat in the school office waiting for the drug enforcement people to

WHO CAN BE SAVED?

SCRIPTURES: John 3:1-16

MEMORY VERSE: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

OBJECTIVES: As a result of this lesson, the children should:

1. Learn that Jesus provides salvation from their sins,
2. Know how to be saved,
3. Make a decision to become a Christian if God is speaking to them.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children.
2. Study well the story of Nicodemus in John 3:1-16.
3. Draw a big heart on a piece of paper as described in the Object Lesson.
4. Be prepared to explain the meaning of: sin, repent, believe, born again.
5. Be sensitive to the way the children respond to the lesson. Some may want to trust Jesus as their Saviour. Be ready to help them understand what it means to be saved.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song, *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment: (Put hands over heart) "Because Jesus is my example, I pledge myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors and those who brought a visitor. Express your joy that each one came to the Friends of Jesus club meeting today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (5 minutes)

Revise last week's lesson: "What is Salvation?" Ask if anyone remembers the meaning of the word *salvation*. (to be rescued from death, to deliver). Our lesson today teaches (1) what it means to be saved, (2) who can be saved (3) and what a person has to do to be saved.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Many people gathered at the lake shore to watch as the luggage was put into the big boat. Most of the passengers who were traveling lived on the other side of the lake. The only way they could get home was to cross the lake in the boat.

It was a good day, and everyone looked happy as they looked for a comfortable place to sit on the boat.

The boat crew made sure all the luggage was tied down well, and the people were ready to begin their journey. Soon they were on their way.

The travelers had been on the lake for an hour when dark clouds began to form above them. The wind began to blow so hard that the boat rocked back and forth. Then the rain started to pour out of the clouds. At first the crew captain assured the passengers he had everything under control. As the storm grew stronger, however, it was difficult for the crew to move the boat forward in the water.

Before long the crew realized everything was not all right and they were in big trouble. They began to dump their own loads into the lake. Then they asked the passengers to do the same with their luggage. But this did not help enough. Finally the crew sent out a distress signal for someone to come and save them.

The passengers were very afraid, and the storm was making some feel sick. They wondered if they would survive the storm and ever reach their homes again. The situation was bad. The crew captain knew no way to save his boat or his passengers. He waited for the worst to happen.

Some men on a much larger boat, however, were fishing on the same lake. When they heard the distress call for help on their radio, they started to move towards the boat that was in trouble.

The bigger boat was able to take the cruel weather without problems.

As soon as the fishermen reached the passenger boat, they began to rescue the people. Soon all the people were safe in the bigger boat. Those who were sick were made comfortable. The people who were rescued were grateful they were saved from the dangers of the storm. When they arrived home, they thanked God for sending help to save them.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What would have happened if the fishermen had not come to help the passengers in the troubled boat? (They would have all died.)
2. Did the fishermen choose which people they would rescue? (No, they rescued all who were in the boat.)
3. What was the response of those who were rescued? (They were very glad and grateful.)

Summary: (5 minutes)

When the people on the passenger boat were in the storm, they thought the end had come for them. They lost all hope they would be saved. It was at this bad time that the fishermen came to rescue them. Fortunately, everyone was put on the bigger boat and rescued from danger.

If you had been a passenger in the troubled boat, how do you think you would have felt? How would you have responded when you were saved? (Allow for responses.)

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Have the children acknowledge God's love by saying:

Esau knew that Jacob had deceived him again and also their father. Esau vowed that when their father, who was very old and ill, died that he would kill his brother Jacob.

Rebecca knew this and encouraged Jacob to run away for his own safety. Rebecca never saw Jacob again.

Deception was a habit that Jacob practiced, and it had terrible effects on him and his whole family. He thought he was doing the right thing for himself, but in the end he hurt himself and many people.

Drama: (10 minutes)

Ask for four volunteers to play the roles of Isaac, Rebecca, Esau, and Jacob. After the story has been presented through drama, ask the children to discuss how this story could have been different if Jacob had not deceived his family members.

Application: (5 minutes)

Encourage children to think of other times when they or someone else was deceptive. If they were the one who did the deceiving, how did they feel? If they were deceived by someone else, how did they feel?

Activity: (10 minutes)

Have the children divide into two groups. Ask children what a habit is. Are habits good or bad? Have each group think of several different habits. Then have them decide if the habit is a good one or a

bad/dangerous one. If they have trouble thinking of some, be prepared to share. Then have each group share their list of good habits and their list of bad habits. Encourage children to discuss why the bad habits are indeed bad.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Pray for the children to be honest in all their activities whether at home, at school or within the community. Also pray, thanking God for loving us and being willing to forgive us even when we have deceived others in the past. Encourage children to ask for God's strength to develop only good habits, not dangerous or harmful ones.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by letting the children repeat after you: "What you think is the right road may lead to death." (Proverbs 14:12).

Divide the children in two groups:

Group 1: What you think is the right road

Group 2: may lead to death. Proverbs 14:12

Repeat this several times until the children are able to say the verse. Let individual children say the verse.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Sing a song: *God Is So Good*.
3. Ask the children for prayer requests. Then close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

your clothing smell bad as well as your breath, but even worse the smoke that you take into your body affects the lungs and causes breathing problems. Smoking also can cause cancer which often kills people. Smoking is not good for our health, and it is also not a good witness if we are Christians.

Song: (5 minutes)

God Takes Care of Me

God takes care of me
Wherever I am and whatever I do.
Surely he does, surely he does.
He cares for all of us.

Bible teaching (15 minutes)

Do you know what the word deception means? Deception means leading someone to believe something that is untrue. A man in the Bible named Jacob was known for being a deceiver.

Jacob was the second born of twin sons to Isaac and Rebecca. During those times, the first born son received special privileges that the other children did not receive. One of those things was called a birthright.

When Jacob and Esau, his brother, were still young men, Esau came from the field hungry. Jacob had prepared a nice stew. Esau wanted the stew, and Jacob convinced Esau to sell his birthright for a bowl of stew.

Once Esau had eaten the stew, he realized that Jacob had used the situation to his advantage. He had

led him to believe that the birthright was not nearly so important as food.

Some years later, Jacob again deceived his brother and also his father. On that occasion, Isaac was hungry. He told Esau, who was a fine hunter, to go and find a choice animal and kill it and prepare something for him to eat. Isaac was very old by this time and was blind. So Esau hurried off to get the food.

Jacob and his mother Rebecca overheard the conversation, and Rebecca encouraged Jacob to go get two young goats that they would kill and prepare the way Isaac liked it.

Rebecca told Jacob to go to his father and pretend to be Esau. Jacob did that. He dressed in Esau's clothes and even put the hairy skins of the animals on his arms and neck so he would feel like Esau. Esau had much hair on his body, but Jacob did not.

Quickly Jacob went in and presented the meal to his father, who questioned him about how he had come back so soon and if he were indeed Esau. Jacob lied to his father, and the father ate the food and gave Jacob a special blessing.

A short time later, Esau returned with a good meal that he had prepared for his father Isaac. When he came in, he said to his father, "Arise and eat." Isaac asked who he was and he said, "Esau."

Then Isaac said, "Who was that who prepared a meal for me, and I have eaten it and given him a special blessing?"

Teacher: God loves all the people.

Children: He loves us, too.

Teacher: God loves all the boys.

Boys: He loves me, too.

Teacher: God loves all the girls.

Girls: He loves me, too. (repeat)

Repeat the activity. Ask the children to march around in a circle and clap their hands as they say: "God loves me, too."

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

On paper or on the ground, draw a big heart with a bow tied on top. Draw people inside the heart. Write these words above the heart: "Salvation—God's gift of love"

Say: Salvation is the act of being removed from a dangerous or difficult situation to safety. We learned in the story that the people on the small boat needed the help of those on the bigger boat to save them.

Because of sin God knew no one could save himself from eternal death except that he help them. God loves all people in the world—people of every tribe, every language, every color, every race. That is why he sent his only Son, Jesus, into the world to save mankind. Jesus died on the cross so that all people who believe in him can be saved eternally. This is God's gift of love to all who will believe in Jesus and accept his free gift of salvation.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

(Open your Bible to John 3:1-21 and hold it as you tell the story of Nicodemus.)

Say: Our Bible story today is about Nicodemus, a religious man who was a ruler of the group called the Pharisees (FAIR uh seez). The group followed very strict religious laws. They thought they were holier and better than others.

Nicodemus had heard Jesus and believed he was a teacher sent from God. Nicodemus wanted to talk to Jesus about some of his teachings.

One evening when it was dark, he went to talk with him. Nicodemus told Jesus he knew God was with him or he would not be able to do all the wonderful things he did.

Jesus told Nicodemus that if he wanted to see the Kingdom of God, he must be born again. Nicodemus was surprised to hear Jesus' answer. How could this be? He was a grown man, and this would be impossible.

Jesus was not talking about a physical birth. He was speaking of a spiritual birth. Just as you cannot see the wind that blows, you cannot see the new birth. The person may look the same, but he or she is changed on the inside.

Then Jesus told Nicodemus the wonderful words: "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life" John 3:16.

Nicodemus must have believed in Jesus that night. We read in the Bible about him again after Jesus died. He was one of the men who went to bury the body of Jesus after he was crucified.

Sin is a condition that affects all people—young and old. Everyone has done and said wrong things and needs to be saved. Every person is helpless to correct his life on his own.

Nicodemus thought he was a good person because he had kept the commandments. Yet he must have had some doubts, or he would not have gone to talk with Jesus.

Jesus explained to him that keeping the religious laws was not the way to enter God's kingdom. One enters the Kingdom of God by being born again. That means a change occurs from the inside out. You stop wanting to do bad things that please your friends or yourself, and you want to do what would please Jesus. You become a new person in Christ, and Jesus becomes your new master.

Do you understand that being born again is not a physical birth but a spiritual birth? Everyone who lives has a physical birth, but only those who believe in Jesus have a spiritual birth and are born again.

Do you have questions like Nicodemus had? If you do, why not talk to Jesus like Nicodemus did. Tell Jesus you believe he loves you and died on the cross to save you from eternal death. Ask him to forgive your sins and to be your Saviour. Jesus wants to save you. He is waiting for you to come to him to be saved.

Romans 3:23 says, "The reward for sin is death, while the free gift of God is eternal life to all those who believe and trust Jesus Christ."

We learned today that Jesus was God's love gift to all who believe in Jesus. Have you received God's love gift for you? Are you ready for Jesus to save you? If you have questions, I will be here to help you after our lesson today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Loves the Little Ones Like You/Me

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and thank God for his love and for providing salvation through his Son, Jesus Christ.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Begin by revising the truths taught last week during the Bible teaching time. Ask the following questions:

1. Who loved the world?
2. What did God do?
3. Who can have eternal life?
4. What must a person do to not perish but have eternal life?

Say the John 3:16 together.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask: What does it mean to be saved.? Who can be saved? How can we be saved?
4. Encourage the children to thank God for Jesus, who came to earth to save eternally all who believe in him.
5. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

father and mother were devoted Christians and brought up their children in a godly way. They prayed together every day.

John was very happy when he qualified to go to grade eight at a boarding school. While at school he met other schoolboys that he knew were smoking.

One day one of his friends asked him to escort him to the toilet. When they were there, the friend asked John to share a cigarette with him. John knew that this was not the right thing to do. His parents had warned him about other boys who would try to get him to do things that he knew were wrong.

John asked his friend, "Don't you know that if we are caught smoking, we will be suspended and sent home?"

His friend replied, "No one will know. Besides I have been smoking for a long time, and I have not been caught."

John said, "I don't think that I want to take a chance on losing all that I have worked for to get to go to school. I know that smoking is forbidden because it is not healthy. I don't want to hurt my body or make myself sick."

His friend replied, "If you smoked, you would get used to it and come to like it. It only makes you sick the first few times that you smoke."

John reminded his friend, "Don't you remember the demonstration that we saw of what

happens to our lungs when we fill them with tobacco smoke. They turn black. My friend, I think that it would be good if you would try to stop smoking now."

Did John make the right decision not to join his friend in smoking?

What do you think John's friend will do?

Do you think that it will be difficult for John's friend to stop smoking now?

If you think that he will find it difficult to stop smoking, why do you think that?

Do you think that it is better not to start a bad habit than it is to start a bad habit and then have to try to stop it?

Why do you think that people begin to smoke? Are these good reasons for smoking?

Do you think that God wants people to smoke? Why not?

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

1. Take a bottle, remove the lid and put a bit of paper in the bottle and light the paper with a match.
2. Then cover the top of the bottle to retain the smoke.
3. Continue with this process until all the paper has been burnt.
4. Ask the question: "Is there any difference in the appearance of this bottle than it was before?"
5. Let the children answer. Then tell them that is what happens to the people who smoke. Smoking makes

DANGEROUS HABITS

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

MEMORY VERSE: "What you think is the right road may lead to death" (Proverbs 14:12).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson children should:

1. Understand the effects of smoking in one's life,
2. Distant themselves from smoking and refrain from this habit,
3. Realize that deception is a habit that will have bad consequences.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson:
1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 2 Timothy 2:19-21, Revelation 21:8.
3. Study Proverbs 14:12.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment; and be ready to teach them without the book.
5. Read the teaching story many times and be prepared to teach it in your own words.
6. Collect a large bottle with a lid, some papers and matches for the object lesson.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson and children into God's hands.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment: (Put your hands over the heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognize the visitors and those who had a birthday the previous week.

Song: (5 minutes)

God Is So Good

God is so good. (3 times)
He's so good to me.

He cares for me. (3 times)
He's so good to me.

He answers prayers. (3 times)
He's so good to me.

I love him so. (3 times)
He's so good to me.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

John was the fourth born in a family of seven children consisting of four boys and three girls. Their

CAN BEING GOOD SAVE ME?

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:17-23

MEMORY VERSE: "For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it" (Ephesians 2 8-9).

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the lesson, the children should:

1. Know being good does not save anyone,
2. Know that doing good works will not save anyone,
3. Know that believing in Jesus is the only way to have eternal life,
4. Tell what a person must do to receive God's gift of salvation.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for wisdom and guidance as you prepare to teach this lesson.
2. Read the following Scriptures: John 3:16, Acts 4:12, Romans 10:9-13, 1 John 5:11-12.
3. Study Mark 10:17-23.
4. Take a ball for the game, "Good Behaviour—Bad Behaviour".
5. Memorize the memory verses.
6. Prepare a strip of paper for each child with the words, "You Are Invited." Put the strips in an envelope to use during the Object lesson.

7. Wrap a gift box to use as you teach the Memory Work. Put nuts, candy, fruit or other small items to give to the children at the end of the lesson.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray yourself or ask a child to pray.
2. Say the club verse and commitment.
3. Sing: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Recognize those who are visitors and those who brought visitors.
5. Recognize those who had birthdays during the past week.

Song: (5 minutes)

*Lord, I Want To Be Like Jesus
in My Heart*

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart

Game: (15 minutes)

Good Behaviour—Bad Behaviour

Ask the children to stand in a circle. Choose a leader who will stand in the middle and throw the ball to someone in the circle. That child must give an example of good behavior (Example: help his/her mother wash the clothes, carry water, care for a brother or sister, help an older person.) He/she will then be the leader to throw the ball to another child in the circle. The one who catches the ball will give

an example of bad behavior. (Examples: say ugly words, kick someone, tell lies, does not respect adults.) Continue playing until each child has a chance to give an example of good or bad behavior.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (5 minutes)

Ask: Is there something that you do really well? Are you a good soccer player? If you are, do you think you are good enough to play on the school team? Maybe you can play drums or another musical instrument really well. If so, do you think you are good enough to play in the school band? Perhaps you like to write stories. Can you write well enough to represent your school in a contest? (Give the children an opportunity to tell the things they can do well.)

All of you are good at something. But is your behavior good enough to get you into heaven?

As I tell the Bible story, listen to what one young man told Jesus. What did Jesus tell the young man he needed to do to have eternal life?

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

One day a young man came running up to Jesus. He knelt down and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to get eternal life?"

Jesus said, "Why do you call me good? Only God is good. But to answer your question, you know what the commandments are, don't you? 'Don't kill, don't commit adultery, don't steal, don't tell lies, don't cheat

anyone, honor your father and your mother.'"

"I'm very good," the young man answered. "I have obeyed the commandments since I was young."

Jesus looked at the young man and felt love for him. "That's good," Jesus said, "but there is still one thing you must do. Go and sell everything you have and give the money to the poor."

When the young man heard Jesus' words, he was very sad because he had many possessions.

As the young man turned to walk away, Jesus said to his disciples, "It is very hard for some to enter the Kingdom of God!"

The young man was good, but he was not good enough to get him into heaven.

The disciples were surprised to hear Jesus' words. So they asked Jesus, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "With man it is impossible, but with God anything is possible."

How about you? Are you good enough to get into heaven? Is anyone good enough? The answer to these questions is, "No!" Not one of us is good enough to get into heaven on our own goodness.

Many people, however, are like the young man who went to Jesus. They think they are good enough. They do not steal or fight. They do not kill or insult other people. Some of them even go to church every time there is a worship service or a meeting at church. They even help in the church. They give money to the poor.

Do you think it was easy for Daniel to do this? Daniel honored God. God blessed Daniel and his friends with good health and knowledge. They also were granted positions in the king's service. All of these men became important people.

The Bible tells us that our bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit. They should be kept pure, clean, and holy in God's eyes. Maybe you are asking who is this Holy Spirit? Why is my body a temple or house for him?

The Holy Spirit comes to live within individuals to be a teacher for them once they have a relationship with Jesus. The Holy Spirit only wants good things for you, which is why we are to follow his encouragement to stay away from those things that are not good for us or may even harm us. He is not there to boss us around but to help us to make the best choices.

When we choose to eat poorly, smoke, or have sex before we are married or with people other than our husband or wife, we are not using our bodies for God's glory. God did not create us to live this way. He created us to love and have fellowship with him. We dishonor the God who made our bodies when we don't take good care of ourselves.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

God Is So Good

God is so good, Hallelujah,
God is so good, Hallelujah,
God is so good,
He's so good to me.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God for giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit, who lives in our bodies.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"Don't you know / that your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit / who lives in you and who was given to you by God? / You do not belong to yourselves / but to God" (1 Corinthians 6:19).

Children first say after you. Then have groups say the phrases. Change the groups and then say all together.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge pupils to share what they have learned about how their bodies are special and they should not participate in activities which will harm their bodies.
2. Remind them that they have a choice in whom they will serve, Satan or God.
3. Make announcements.
5. Close with prayer.
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

and check if they are of the same height. God created us tall, short, fat, thin and with different coloured skin.

We are all made in the image of God. He loves us all. We should love and care for one another as children of one family.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon ordered that young men who were strong, healthy and handsome be brought into his service. The young men were to be smart and quick learners. The king wanted these men to learn the language and literature of the Babylonians. They were to train for three years and were to eat the king's food and drink his wine. After the three years of training, these men would enter the king's service.

One of the young men chosen was named Daniel. He decided that he could not eat the foods that the king provided for him and the other young men. According to his Jewish tradition, some of the foods were considered unclean.

So Daniel asked the chief official for permission not to have the king's food and wine. The official liked Daniel and understood why he was asking for permission, but the official was afraid of the king. He said if Daniel did not appear to be strong like the other young men that the king would kill him.

Daniel encouraged the official to allow them (Daniel and his three friends) to eat only vegetables and drink water for ten days. Then after that time he was to examine their appearance to see if they were unhealthy. At the end of the ten days, Daniel and his three friends looked healthier and better than any of the young men who had eaten the king's food. Not only were they healthier, but God gave them great knowledge and understanding of the language and literature.

Later at the end of the time set by the king, the chief official presented Daniel and his three friends to Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them and found that these four young men were the brightest of the men who had been in training. In fact, they were ten times more knowledgeable than the king's magicians and enchanters at the time Daniel and his friends were questioned. Nebuchadnezzar then placed the four men in his service.

Application: (5 minutes)

Daniel and his friends chose to follow the guidelines set by God. They did this even when it was not a popular thing to do. All the other young men except for Daniel and his three friends were eating the rich food of the king and drinking the wine. The four men risked being imprisoned or killed for not following the king's orders.

They give food to people who are hungry. Helping others is right and good; however, it does not save anyone.

Then how can we be saved? What must we do to have eternal life? The answer is we must believe in Jesus. He is the only one who can save us. It is not because we are good, and it is not because we do good things. We do need to go to church to worship God, but that is not the way to heaven. Giving to the poor is something we do because we follow Jesus' teachings, but it will not give us eternal life. When we confess our sins and ask Jesus to forgive us, he will save us. Believing in Jesus as our Saviour is the only way.

Stand up and we will sing a song about Jesus being the only way.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

(To the tune of *Rock of Ages*)

You cannot be saved by works.
Your good works are filthy rags.
You may sing and you may pray.
You may give gold away.
That can never save your soul.
Only Christ can make you whole.

Questions: (10 minutes)

1. What did the young man in our Bible story want to know? (He asked how he could have eternal life)
2. Why did the young man think he was a good person. (He thought he had kept all the commandments since he was a child.)
3. What did Jesus tell him to do? (Go

and sell all that he had and give the money to the poor.)

4. Why did Jesus ask the young man to give away all he owned? (Jesus knew his possessions were his god. The first commandment is, "You shall have no other gods before me." His love for things kept him from having the most important thing in the world—eternal life. He chose to keep his possessions and not follow Jesus.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

When the Saints Go Marching In
(March around as you sing our song. Pretend you are holding a trumpet or beating a drum as you sing.)

Oh, when the saints go marching in.
Oh, when the saints go marching in.
Oh, Lord, I want to be among the number
When the saints go marching in.

Oh, when they sing the Saviour's praise.
Oh, when they sing the Saviour's praise.
Oh Lord, I want to be among the number
When they sing the Saviour's praise.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to help the children love and obey him above all other things.

4. MEMORY WORK: (10 minutes)

(Show the children the gift you wrapped.)

Say: Do you like to receive gifts? If I were to give you this gift and then

ask you to pay me for it, would it be a gift? No, it is not a gift if you have to pay for it. When someone gives you a gift, it doesn't cost you anything. All you have to do is accept it. That's what makes it a gift.

Say John 3:16 with me. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"

God's gift to us was his only Son, Jesus. Whoever believes in Jesus will not die but will have eternal life. This is the gift of salvation. We can't work for the gift, and we can't buy it. It's free!

Our memory verse today is about this free gift: "For it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Say the verse with the children in phrases three times. Ephesians 2:8-9. / "For it is by God's grace/ that you have been saved/ through faith/. It is not the result of your own efforts,/ but God's gift,/ so that no one can boast about it."

Ask the children to stand in a circle. Give the wrapped gift to the first person who will say the first phrase of the verse. He/she passes the gift to the person on his/her left. That child must say the second phrase. He or she then passes the gift to the person on his/her left who will say the next phrase. Continue to pass the gift until the verse is complete.

Repeat the verse together again with the reference.

Open the wrapped gift and give a piece of fruit, nut, candy to each child.

Open the envelope with the papers that have, "You Are Invited" written on them.

Say: Look, this invitation is very special. It's not an invitation to a party; it's not an invitation to a wedding; it's not an invitation to go to church. Listen to what it says.

"When your time is finished on earth, God invites you to come to heaven to be with him forever. He gave his Son, Jesus, who came to Earth a long time ago. Jesus died on the cross so that all who believe in him could be saved. Please accept this invitation and receive the free gift of eternal life?"

(Be excited) Say: That's a wonderful invitation. Will anyone here accept the invitation? Today is a good day to talk to God about the invitation. Let's pray about it.

Prayer: Thank you God for the invitation to live with you in heaven forever. Please help these children to accept your invitation by believing in Jesus as their Saviour. Amen.

5. CLOSING TIME: (15 minutes)

1. Tell those who want to receive the gift of salvation to see you after the meeting.
2. Make other announcements.
3. Remind them to bring a friend.
4. Close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand, (3 times)

And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down as the floods came up, (3 times)

And the house on the sand fell flat.

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

The song that we just sang reminds me of a story.

The Mbulo family owned a very nice home, but they did not take care of their home and their belongings. They also were not wise in who they allowed in their home. They knew that some thieves had been stealing things in the neighborhood, but they were sure it would not happen to them.

On one evening when Mr. Mbulo was sitting in his easy chair relaxing, he noticed that the room did not look the same as usual. He called his wife and said, "Have you moved the furniture? Something seems different in our house." She said she had not moved anything but that she thought he had. They began to look around their home and found many things were missing. "What are we to do? It seems that we have misplaced some things," he said.

Poor Mr. Mbulo was not diligent about looking after his house; and within a few weeks, his house was empty of all his furniture and belongings. As he sat thinking about what had happened, he wondered if

he should have taken better care of his belongings.

Mr. Mbulo was foolish to not take care of his home. In the end, he had nothing in his home to take care of.

The same is true of our bodies. If we are reckless with our activities and do not take care of the bodies that God has given us, we may become sick from various diseases.

God expects us to take care of our bodies and not participate in immoral activities. These actions dishonor God and our bodies, which he describes as the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What happened to the Mbulo family?
2. Could this happen to someone today?
3. If our bodies are like a house, what should we do to protect our bodies?
4. How can we encourage others to protect their own bodies?

Song: (5 minutes)

God Takes Care of Me

God takes care of me
Wherever I am and whatever I do.
Surely he does, surely he does.
He cares for all of us.

Object lesson: (5 minutes)

Children stand up. Look around themselves. Stand next to each other

THE BODY AS GOD'S TEMPLE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Daniel 1: 3-21.

MEMORY VERSE: "Don't you know that your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and who was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourselves but to God" (1 Corinthians 6:19).

OBJECTIVES: At the end of the lesson, children should:

1. Know that as Christians their bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit,
2. Recognize the importance of their bodies and understand their obligation to God to live pure lives.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATIONS

1. Pray for yourself and the children you will teach.
2. Study the background Scriptures of the lesson: Ephesians 4:30-32, John 14:17, 2 Timothy 1:14, Romans 5:5.
3. Study 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and Daniel 1:3-21.
4. Know the song, verse, and commitment.
5. Teach the lesson without the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.

2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment: (With hands across the chest) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."

5. Welcome those who are visitors. Recognize those who had a birthday.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Drama: (10 minutes)

Encourage each child to role play a activity which is either good for our bodies or not good for our bodies. They should not use words, just actions. Then the group will have to decide what the person is doing and if it is a good thing or a bad thing for our bodies. Let the one who guesses correctly be next.

Sing the song: (5 minutes)

The Wise Man Built His House

The wise man built his house upon the rock (3 times)

And the rains came tumbling down.

The rains came down as the floods came up (3 times)

And the house on the rock stood firm.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

SCRIPTURE: Acts 16:25-34

MEMORY VERSE: "...Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your family" (Acts 16:31).

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the lesson children should:

1. Understand what a person must do to be saved,
2. Know that the choices boys/girls make can affect their future,
3. Be able to tell the story of the Philippian jailer who believed in Jesus.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare to teach this important lesson on salvation. Ask God to help you use words the children will understand well.
2. Pray for the children you will teach. Ask God to help the children concentrate on the lesson. Expect some children to ask you how they can be saved.
3. Read Scriptures about how to be saved: John 3:16, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:9-10, Acts 4:12.

Write these references on pieces of paper and put them in your Bible to use with those who want to talk about how to be saved.

4. Study Acts 16:25-34.
5. Memorize the memory verse.
6. Practice saying John 3:16 as a rap.
7. Plan to draw a line on the ground or in the room before the activity.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray
2. Sing the club verse, Luke 2:52
3. Say the club commitment.
5. Recognize those who had birthdays in the past week and the visitors.

John 3:16 as a Rap: (5 minutes)

(Divide the children into two groups. Suggest movements as they speak the words—or clap.)

John 3:16

John 3:16

For God,

For God,

For God so loved the world.

For God so loved the world.

That He gave,

That He gave

He gave His only Son.

He gave His only Son.

That whosoever believes in Him.

That whosoever believes in Him,

Shall not Die!

Shall not Die!

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Teach the Bible lesson: (15 minutes)
(Open your Bible to Acts 16:25-34.)

Today's Bible lesson is about a question many people in the world

ask: "What must I do to be saved?" Listen well so you will know the answers to these questions:

1. Who in our Bible story asked the question, "What must I do to be saved?"
2. What was the man in the Bible story told he needed to do to be saved?
3. What happened that frightened the man?
4. How did the man help those who told him how to be saved?

Paul and Silas were servants of Jesus who were put in jail. No, they had not done anything wrong. They did cast a demon out of a young woman, and some people did not like that. Also, Paul and Silas explained to the people in Philippi why idol worship was wrong. The power of Jesus was so much stronger than any power an idol had. Some people did not want to hear that because the town was well known for worshipping idols.

A mob gathered and started a riot against Paul and Silas. The city officials ordered Paul and Silas to be severely beaten with rods and thrown in jail.

The jailer was warned to make sure the two men did not escape. So guards were put next to them, and their feet were tied up.

Don't you think Paul and Silas should have been angry and upset they were put in jail? Surprisingly, they were not angry. In fact, they started singing hymns and praying in the jail. As they praised the Lord, all

the other people in jail heard them singing.

Suddenly about midnight something happened. God sent an earthquake that shook the prison. At that moment the prison doors opened, and the chains fell off the legs of all the prisoners.

The jailer thought all the prisoners would run away, and he knew he would be killed if they did escape. The poor jailer pulled out his sword and started to kill himself rather than be killed.

Paul called out to the jailer and said, "Do not harm yourself. We are all here."

When the jailer saw that the prisoners were all there, he knelt down in front of Paul and Silas and said, "What must I do to be saved?"

Paul replied, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, you will be saved and all the people in your house."

What do you think the jailer did next? He washed the wounds of Paul and Silas. He took them to his home and gave them food. Everyone praised God. The jailer and everyone in his home believed in God.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Why were Paul and Silas put in prison? (for healing a young woman and saying it was wrong to worship idols.)
2. What did Paul and Silas do while they were in prison? (sang, prayed)
3. Who asked the question: "What must I do to be saved?" (the jailer)
4. Did the jailer believe? (yes, and all the people in his house.)

word can be ignored, listened to briefly, or obeyed. Our bodies are a special gift from God. He has told us how to care for our bodies, and he has told us some things not to do.

We should be pure in our thoughts, actions and speech. Our bodies should be guarded against bad behaviour such as having sex before we are married. Married couples also have restrictions in order to keep themselves healthy and honour their bodies. They should only have sex with their husband or wife.

Having sex before marriage or with someone other than your spouse may lead to diseases such as HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases. These diseases may even lead to death.

We need to keep our thoughts pure by not reading books or magazines or watching programs on television which make sexual activity that is not according to God's plan look right. This is another of Satan's lies. He wants to hurt people.

Sexual activity is right and appropriate within marriage, but outside marriage it can cause many problems and much heartache. "From now on, then you must live the rest of your earthly lives controlled by God's will and not by human desires" (1 Peter 4:2).

As friends of Jesus, you are expected to grow pure and holy in him. God sees you wherever you are and whatever you are doing. "There is nothing that can be hidden from God, everything in all creation is exposed

and lies open before his eyes. And it is to him that we must all give an account of ourselves" (Hebrews 4:13).

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus
(3 times)

No turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow (3 times)

No turning back, no turning back.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Lead the children in a prayer for God's guidance and strength.

"God, thank you for the bodies that you gave us. We know you created us to serve and glorify you in all we do. Give us your strength to remain sexually pure until we are married. Thank you for loving us. Amen."

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"...be innocent and pure as God's perfect children, / who live in a world of corrupt and sinful people. / You must shine among them / like stars lighting up the sky" (Philippians 2:14-15).

Learn the verse in phrases by having four groups. Change groups until everyone knows the verse.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Sing a song of your choice.
3. Say the closing prayer.
4. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7). He fought not only to physically run races, but he also faithfully shared his faith in Jesus until the end of his life.

Summary: (5 minutes)

Eric Liddell was someone who knew that in order to be successful he had to listen to instructions and train. There were times when he may have wanted to quit, but he did not. Instead he continued to do what he knew he needed to do in order to be successful.

The Bible talks about running with determination. In 1 Corinthians 9:24-26, it tells us that all runners in a race run but only one gets a prize. Everyone has to train, but as Christians we are running this race of life to know Jesus and become more like him. So we should live our lives and care for our bodies in a way that would please God.

Song: (5 minutes)

Keep Me True

Keep me true, Lord Jesus,
Keep me true (repeat)
There's a race that must be run,
There's a victory to be won,
Every hour, by thy power,
Keep me true.

Activity: (10 minutes)

Have each student take a strip of paper with a clue on it and begin to search. Once a student has found their sweet, they should take a seat. Encourage them to wait until everyone has found a sweet before

eating them.

As they enjoy the sweets, remind them that they had a choice of following the directions. They could have stolen the sweets from others or not participated at all.

Our sexual purity is the same. We can become sexually active before it is time, or we can wait and enjoy sex as God designed it. That choice is ours to make.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

A farmer went out to his field to plant some seeds. As he went, he tossed seeds. Some of the seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and ate up the seed. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It grew quickly but did not develop strong roots. When the sun came out, the plants died.

Other seeds were scattered into the thorn bushes. They grew up, but the thorns soon choked them out.

Jesus told this story to his disciples as written in Luke 8. The seed is God's word. The path represents those people who hear, but then the devil steals the word from them. The rocky places are the people who hear God's words; but when they are tempted to do wrong, they forget and return to their old ways. The seed that fell into the thorns represents the people who allow the world to tell them what to do. The seed that is planted in good soil stands for those who hear God's word, obey it, and tell others.

This story reminds us that God's

Activity: (10 minutes)

Mark a line on the floor or ground where you meet. Ask the children to stand on either side of the marker as you direct them.

1. Anyone who would choose red as his favourite color stand on the right side of the marker.
2. Those who choose to eat chicken instead of fish stand on the left side.
3. Everyone who would choose ice cream instead of candy stand on the right side.
4. Those who would choose to read books about real people more than reading comic books stand on the left side.

Continue a few more minutes. Then ask the children to sit down.

Application: (10 minutes)

Say: Every day you make choices. You choose what you like to eat, wear, read, who your friends are, and much more. You choose to read the Bible or not to read it. You choose to go to church on Sunday or stay home. Today you made a choice about coming to the Friends of Jesus Club. I'm so glad you came, and I hope you will invite your friends to come with you next week.

There is one choice you make that is more important than any other. It is not about food, or who your friends are. It is about whether you will choose to follow Jesus and live forever with him in heaven. Or, you will choose not to follow Jesus and live separated from him forever.

A few minutes ago I asked you to stand on one side of a line or the other.

You made a choice. Everyone in the world makes a choice about Jesus. I pray you will make the right choice and follow Jesus now and all your life.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Father, please help the children to know that choosing to follow you is the most important decision they will ever make. Amen.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

There Was Joy

(Tune: *There is Power in the Blood*)

Servants of Jesus were beaten with rods,
Then thrown in the jail; the inner cell.
Paul and Silas were tied up with chains

Yet they chose to sing and to pray.

Chorus:

There was joy, joy as they sang and prayed
To the Lord, to the Lord.
There was joy, joy as they sang and prayed
To the Lord, who gave them the joy.

What must I do to be saved from my sin?

The jailer cried out. He was afraid.

Believe in Jesus, and you will be saved

You and you family, too.

Chorus:

So believe, believe, believe in Jesus Christ,

He's the way, the only way.

So believe, believe, believe in Jesus Christ,

He's the only way to be saved.

4. MEMORY WORK: (10 minutes)
Acts 16:31 "...Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved—you and your family."

Say the reference and the verse in phrases three times with the children.

Divide the children into A & B groups.

GROUP A says: Acts 16:31

GROUP B: Believe in the Lord Jesus

GROUP A: and you will be saved

GROUP B: you and your family.

ALL: Acts 16:31

Repeat the verse again twice.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Early one Sunday a young man dragged himself home after spending the night partying with his friends.

Before he fell into bed, the young man set the alarm on his radio so it would wake him up in time to go to work.

When the radio came on next morning, a man was preaching. The young man rubbed his eyes. He heard the preacher ask a question: Suppose you were standing before God right now and he asked you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What do you think you would say?

The young man rubbed his eyes again and thought about the question. What reason would he give God? He knew he had not lived a life that was pleasing to God.

When he was younger, he went to church and loved to sing in the choir. But he quit going to church

when he was in Form One. He was too busy for God. He didn't need him.

All day the young man thought about the question: Suppose you were standing before God right now and he asked you, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" What do you think you would say?

That night before the young man went to bed, he found a tract a friend had given him. It asked: Do You Know For Certain that You will Go to Heaven When You Die?

It is as simple as A, B, C.

1. Admit you are a sinner and cannot save yourself.. (Romans 3:23)

2. Believe Jesus loves you and died on the cross to save you from your sins. (John 3:16)

3. Confess your sin and ask God to forgive you. (Romans 10:9)

4. Pray. "Dear God, I admit I am a sinner. I believe Jesus died for my sins. I choose to turn from my sin and give my life to him. I ask you to forgive my sin and for Jesus to be my Saviour. Thank you for saving me. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen."

5. CLOSING TIME: (15 minutes)

1. Sing: *There Was Joy About Paul and Silas*

2. Say the memory verse again.

3. Make announcements.

4. Say: If anyone would like to talk with me about becoming a Christian, please stay after the meeting.

5. Close in prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Eric enjoyed being in university and learning about many new things. When he was not busy with his studies, he was playing sports with his classmates.

Eric Liddell not only enjoyed sports, but he became known as one of the fastest runners at his university.

One day Bill invited Eric to compete in an athletic event at the university. Bill was a runner and wanted Eric to join him in a running event.

At first Eric refused. He was planning to go on a six-day bicycling trip with four other friends during the Easter break.

Finally Eric agreed to run, but Bill was concerned about Eric running so soon after the big bicycling trip. Bill knew that Eric would be using different muscles in bicycling than he would use in running. He feared that Eric would not be able to compete after the bicycle trip. He shared this with Eric, but Eric ignored Bill's advice.

When Eric returned from the trip, he began to train for the running event. Bill was correct. When Eric tried to run, his legs would cramp up; and he was unable to run effectively.

For the next five weeks, Bill and Eric trained together for the race. At times, it was quite painful for Eric as he strengthened his muscles to prepare for the race. Maybe there were even times that he wanted to

quit, but he continued to train vigorously.

On the day of the race, Eric was nervous. He had trained hard and would do his best, but would his best be good enough to win?

When the starter's pistol sounded, Eric ran with all his strength. When the race was completed, he had come in second by a few seconds. Eric did not stop with this race. He continued to train, compete, and win many races.

Eventually Eric competed in the Paris Olympics. He was to compete in the 100 meter race, which was his best event; but Eric refused to commit to running in this race because it was held on Sunday.

Eric was a Christian, and he felt he should not compete on that day. He registered for the 400 meter race instead. It was not his best event, but he told himself that he would train hard and do his best.

When the day for the event came, Eric again ran with all his strength; and he won. He ran so quickly that he set a world record and maintained that title for four years.

Eric continued to compete and win many more awards and medals. This same Olympian would one day demonstrate continued determination and endurance as he shared Jesus with the people of China as a missionary.

Eric's life could be summed up in the verse "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have

CARE OF THE BODY

SCRIPTURES: 1 Corinthians 9:24-26, Luke 8:5-18, 2 Timothy 4:7, 1 Peter 4:2, Hebrews 4:13, Philippians 2:14-15

MEMORY VERSE: "...be innocent and pure as God's perfect children, who live in a world of corrupt and sinful people. You must shine among them like stars lighting up the sky" (Philippians 2:14-15).

OBJECTIVES: At the end of the lesson, pupils should:

1. Understand the importance of caring for the body,
2. Develop a sense of importance of protecting the body,
3. Grow pure and holy in God.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children you will teach.
2. Study the background Scriptures of the lesson: Luke 8: 5-18, Philippians 2:14-15 and 1 Corinthians 9:24-26.
3. Know the song, verse, and commitment; and be prepared to teach the lesson without the book.
4. Have enough sweets hidden for each student to find one. Also write one clue for where each sweet is hidden.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray, committing the lesson to God.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: "Jesus grew in wisdom, Jesus grew in body, Jesus grew in favour with God and men."
4. Say the club commitment: "Because Jesus is my example, I pledge myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
5. Welcome visitors and recognize anyone who had a birthday.

Song: (5 minutes)

Wide As the Ocean

Wide, wide as the ocean,
High as the heavens above.
Deep, deep as the deepest sea is
my Saviour's love.
I, though so unworthy,
Still am a child of his care.
For His Word teaches me that His
love reaches me everywhere.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Not everything that we try to do is easy. Many times it takes much preparation in order to do something well. Taking care of our bodies helps us to do things well. Our story today is about a man who understood working hard to take good care of his body. He also knew that he was to use his body to honor God.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

HOW CAN I HELP OTHERS BE SAVED?

SCRIPTURE: John 1:35-42

MEMORY VERSE: "Jesus said to them, 'Go through all the world and preach the good news to all mankind'" (Mark 16:15).

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Understand that Jesus is the only One who can save sinners,
2. Believe God can use them to help others be saved,
3. Realize that all Christians have a duty to help others know how to be saved,
4. Know Bible verses that help them tell others how to be saved.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Ask God to give you wisdom to teach this lesson.
2. Read the following verses: 1 John 1:9, Matthew 28:19-20, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9-10, John 3:16, and Acts 1:8.
3. Pray for the children to understand the truths you will teach.
4. Memorize the memory verse. Be prepared to teach the verse as suggested in the lesson.
5. Plan to tell an experience as you introduce the lesson.
6. Take a newspaper and your Bible to use as you teach the object lesson.

7. If possible, write out the A.B.C. verses for each child to take home and learn.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray.
2. Sing the club song.
3. Say the club verse, Luke 2:52..
4. Say the club commitment.
5. Recognize those who had a birthday, those who are visitors, and those who have brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

God is So Good

God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, He's so good to me!
(2) He died for me.
(3) He rose again.
(4) He cares for me.
(5) I love Him so.
(6) I praise His name.
(7) God is so good.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (5 minutes)

Briefly tell the children about a problem or experience you had when someone came to help you. Ask two or three children to share an experience they had, or one they know about, when someone came to help them.

Ask: Have you ever helped someone else who had a problem and needed help? (Give time for the children to share. Make it clear to the children that the story has to be a true one and not a story they made up.)

Say: Everyone in the world who does not know Christ has a big problem. The problem is sin, and sin separates the person from God. To be without Christ is a problem a person can not fix himself. He needs help. Someone needs to introduce him to Jesus, who has all power.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Everybody Ought to Know
Everybody ought to know,
Everybody ought to know,
Everybody ought to know who
Jesus is.
He's the lily of the valley.
He's the brighter morning star.
He's the fairest of ten thousand.
Everybody ought to know.

Bible story: (20 minutes)

Today's Bible lesson is about a man named Andrew, who helped his brother know Jesus. We read about Andrew in John 1:35-42. (Hold your Bible as you tell the story.)

Before Jesus began his ministry of teaching and healing, God called John the Baptist to prepare the people for Jesus' coming. John obeyed. Even though John lived in the desert far from town, many people went out to hear him preach. Andrew was among those who went to hear John tell about the special person who was coming.

John's message to the people was a warning and a command. He said, "Prepare now for the Lord is coming. I am not worthy to be his slave. Repent now of your sins and be baptized."

One day Jesus came to the place where John was preaching in the desert. Andrew was there. John told the people, "This is the very One I told you about who was going to come. He is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

The next day Andrew was with John the Baptist again. Jesus walked by the place where they were. John said, "Look, there is the Lamb of God." So Andrew turned and followed Jesus.

Andrew believed Jesus was the Messiah the Old Testament prophets promised would come. This was good news, and Andrew had to share it.

The first thing Andrew did was to go and find his brother, Simon Peter. Andrew said, "We have found the Messiah." That very day Andrew took Simon Peter to meet Jesus.

Both Andrew and Simon Peter believed in Jesus and became Jesus' disciples. They followed Jesus and heard him preach and teach for three years.

Application: (5 minutes)

The Bible story about Andrew is an example of how you can help others know Jesus. Andrew did three things to help his brother know how to be saved:

- Andrew met Jesus and believed he was the promised Messiah.
- Andrew went to find his brother Simon Peter and told him the good news about Jesus.
- Andrew took Simon to meet Jesus, and he believed in him, too.

gives to us.

When someone chooses to become sexually active, the two become one physically. Sex is a special gift that God has given to married people. When we choose to have sex before marriage, the Bible says that this act affects our bodies.

We are also reminded of this is 1 Thessalonians 4:3-6. Paul tells us that we should learn to control our own bodies in a holy and honorable way, not allowing our passions to control us. God has called us to live a pure and holy life.

This is not always easy. Many people struggle with the temptations of sexual sin. We are told that we are not honoring God if we surrender to these temptation. Maybe you are thinking that no one understands your temptation. That is just what Satan wants you to believe.

It is our choice to make. We can choose to remain pure, or we can surrender to Satan's temptation. All people are tempted, but the temptation is not sin. When we surrender to those temptations, then we have sinned.

Not only have we sinned, but we have harmed God's plan for our lives. We have made it so that we will not be able to experience all of the good things that God has planned for us.

Song: (5 minutes)

(Tune is Happy Birthday)

He that knows to do good
(repeat 3 times)

And does it not, it is sin.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God for giving us all parts of our body. Ask him to help the children to follow his plans and use their bodies for his glory.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Divide the memory verse into two parts and the children into two groups.

Have the children say the parts after each other, and then have them change parts. "Your knowledge of me is too deep; / it is beyond my understanding" (Psalm 139:6).

Revise the memory verse until everyone can say it.

Remind the children that this verse is part of a song that David sang to God. Have them close their eyes and say the verse to God.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Encourage pupils to bring their friends to the club meetings.
2. Make announcements.
3. Sing a song:

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, yes, I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.

4. Pray for God's protection and guidance for the children as they go through the coming week.

Summary:

Growing up can be frightening at times. Our bodies are changing as well as the way we think about ourselves and about others. This is a normal part of life. God designed us this way so that we can become mature adults that are useful to him.

Activity: (10 minutes)

Have pupils think about some things that they have had to do that were difficult. Share your own experience. Reflect on how and what was necessary in order to be able to accomplish the tasks. Allow enough time for pupils to think on this and then for everyone to share if they would like to.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have The Joy Down in My Heart

I have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart.

I have the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

(2) I have the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart.

(3) I have the love of Jesus down in my heart.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

The bodies that God designed for us are amazing. Psalm 139:13-16

says that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. God knew us even before we were born. He even knows the number of hairs that we have on our heads at any moment.

Our bodies are very complex. They are made of thousands of parts from the tiniest bone in our ears to our eight-meter long intestines. Our bodies consist of over 50,000 billion cells which are frequently dying and being replaced. Our cells carry out different jobs in order to make our bodies work effectively.

Scientists tell us that we are made up of a collection of chemicals: carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, sulphur and phosphorus. Isn't it amazing how God designed people! We are indeed wonderfully made.

In Genesis 1:27, the Bible tells us that God created people in his own image, both male and female. In chapter 2, verse 18, God said, "It is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a suitable companion to help him." So he created a woman.

From the beginning, God planned for there to be differences between men and women. He created the differences for them to complement or complete each other. God gives us guidelines on how we as men and women are to use our bodies.

His plan was for us to enjoy our bodies and to experience all the joys that come with having a happy home that we share as a man and a woman along with the children that God

Andrew believed in Jesus and was saved. He told his brother what he had experienced. He took Simon Peter to Jesus, and he was saved.

If Andrew had kept the good news about Jesus to himself, Simon may not have known about Jesus.

Andrew loved his brother, but he could not save him. He knew Jesus was the only one who had power to change Simon Peter's life.

Andrew must have rejoiced when his brother Simon believed in Jesus. The Bible tells us that even the angels in heaven rejoice when a sinner repents. We, too, will rejoice when we help someone know who Jesus is.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Rejoice in the Lord always,
and again I say rejoice. (repeat)
Rejoice, rejoice,
And again I say rejoice.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to help the children to want to be like Andrew, who told his brother about Jesus.

Play a game: (10 minutes)

Divide the children into two teams. Draw a line the teams will stand behind in a queue. Mark off another line about 20 feet away called "the ditch." The first player in each line will run to the ditch, jump over the ditch, turn around and run back. He will touch the next player and say, "Jesus loves you." The team that finishes first is the winner.

Questions and answers: (10 minutes)

1. Who can tell another person how to be saved?

As Christians we all have a duty to tell others the good news that Jesus loves them and died to save them.

2. When do you tell them?

There is no right time or wrong time. If a friend or brother asks how you got saved, then that is the right time. Even if your friends do not ask, you can say, "May I tell you about my best friend, Jesus? Jesus loves me and died to save me. I asked him to forgive my sins and be my Saviour. Would you like to know Jesus? He wants to be your best friend, too."

3. What do you tell them?

Tell how you met Jesus. Then tell why knowing Jesus has made a difference in your life. That is your testimony. No other person has the same testimony you have.

How to tell others how to be saved:

There are many verses in the Bible to help someone know how to be saved. The A,B,C verses are easy to remember. Try to memorize them this week.

ADMIT YOU ARE A SINNER

Admit to God you are a sinner.

Romans 3:23: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

BELIEVE IN JESUS

Believe Jesus is God's Son and accept God's gift of forgiveness.

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only

Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

CONFESS YOUR FAITH IN JESUS

Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord.

Romans 10:9 "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Song: (5 minutes):

I have Decided to Follow Jesus

1. I have decided to follow Jesus.
(repeat twice)
No turning back, no turning back.
2. Though no one joins me, I still will follow. (repeat twice)
3. I have surrendered my all to Jesus.
(repeat twice)

Object lesson: (5 minutes)

(Hold up a newspaper.) Say: Almost everyone likes to read some part of the newspaper. Some like the first page that tells news of events in the world. Others like to read the sports page. Children often like to read the comics or cartoons.

This newspaper has some good news about places that have had no rain for a long time, and now the rains have come. The paper has some sad news about accidents and people who live where there is war.

(Hold up the Bible) The Bible also reports bad news and good news. The bad news is that people who are not saved when they die will live forever separated from Jesus. The Bible tells the good news, also. God

loves all the people in the world and wants them to believe in Jesus and be saved forever. No one has to be separated from Jesus when they die, but they do need to decide to follow Jesus before they die.

Go and tell someone today the Good News about Jesus.

4. MEMORY WORK: (10 minutes)

"Jesus said to them, / 'Go through all the world / and preach the good news / to all mankind'" (Mark 16:15).

Say the verse in phrases three times.

Say the whole verse again together.

Ask:

1. Where did Jesus tell his followers to go? (the world)
2. What were his followers to preach? (the Good News)
3. What does all "mankind" mean? (all people)

Put motions to the words as the children repeat the verse:

- Make a sign that indicates Jesus told the people to "go".
- Make a circle with your arms to indicate the world.
- Open your arms wide to show that the Good News is for all people.

5. CLOSING TIME: (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Sing: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*
3. Encourage the children to tell at least one person about Jesus this week.
4. Close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute)

Say: Growing up is something that children talk about. They play as if they are grownup and may even talk about what they will do when they are grown up. God made our bodies just as they are so that we will grow to be mature men and women.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

James was one of five children in the Sakala family. He was the oldest son. He had many friends, too.

James often felt as though he was not like other boys his age. He was much taller and seemed to be growing faster than all his other friends. This concerned James as he was often thought to be much older than he was.

Not only was he taller than his friends, but his voice sounded different. He was developing hair on his body and his face. His clothing was not fitting correctly. Everything seemed to be too small for him.

The changes were happening so quickly that James began to feel that someone else was in his body. He began to think differently about himself and others. Was this normal?

James then began to worry that he would just keep growing and would become a large hairy giant. So he told his parents, "I think I have a problem." His parents asked him if he were sick and if he needed to see a doctor.

He replied, "I don't know." Then he shared with his parents that his clothes were not fitting properly and

he was having so many changes in his body that it frightened him a bit. He shared that he was afraid that he would keep on growing and become a giant.

His parents reassured him that this would not occur. They told him that they had noticed that his body was changing. They explained to him that changes within our bodies are normal and that God was growing him to become a man.

James was sure that his parents were right, but he was still frightened.

As the months went by, James began to notice that he was not the only one changing. He noticed that his friends were all changing. The boys were growing taller, and their voices were changing, too.

The girls in his grade were also changing. They were much prettier than he had remembered them being when the school year began. Were they doing something differently or were his thoughts changing?

James began to realize that the changes he was experiencing were happening to others too and that he was a normal young man.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What was happening to James?
2. Did this frighten him?
3. Who did he talk to for advice?
4. Were the changes that were happening to James normal for him and other boys?
5. Were girls also experiencing change?

FUNCTIONS OF THE BODY

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:27, 2:18; 1 Corinthians 6: 15-20; Matthew 4:1-11; Thessalonians 4:3-6; 2 Samuel 13: 1-29

MEMORY VERSE: "Your knowledge of me is too deep; it is beyond my understanding" (Psalm 139:6).

OBJECTIVES: At the end of the lesson, pupils should:

1. Recognize that changes within our bodies are normal,
2. Know that God designed our bodies in a specific way,
3. Know that God wants us to live pure and holy lives.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the pupils you will teach.
2. Study the Scriptures for the lesson: Genesis 1:27, 2:18; 1 Corinthians 6: 15-20; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Samuel 13: 1-29; Psalm 139:13-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-6.
3. Study Ephesians 4:16.
4. Know the song, verse, and commitment by heart, ready to lead the children.
5. Study the lesson well so that you do not need the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray to commit the lesson in God's hands.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment: (with hands on the chest) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
5. Welcome visitors and recognize those who had birthdays.

Sing a Song: (5 minutes)

Search Me, Oh God

Search me, oh God; and know my heart today,
Try me, oh Saviour, know my thoughts, I pray.
See if there be some wicked way in me.
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

I praise Thee, oh Lord, for cleansing me from sin;
Fulfill Thy word and make me pure within.
Fill me with fire, where once I burned with shame.
Grant my desire to magnify Thy name.

WHAT IS A CULT?

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 7:15-23, 2 Peter 2:1-3, 2 Corinthians 11:12-15

MEMORY VERSE: "...Even Satan can disguise himself to look like an angel of light!" (2 Corinthians 11:14).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Know that it is not every religious group that is of God,
2. Identify some main features or characteristics of cults,
3. Know that we are only safe in the Lord,
4. Know that we need to read and learn the Word of God.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as the background for the lesson: 2 Peter 2:1-3, Matthew 7:15-23, Acts 16-19.
3. Study 2 Corinthians 11:12-15.
4. Memorize the verse, commitment, and song.
5. Read the teaching story many times and be prepared to tell it in your own words.
6. Collect a lemon and cover it with orange peels.

2. BEGINNING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment: (Put your hands over the heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognize those who are visitors and those who brought visitors.

Song: (5 minutes)

What a Mighty God We Serve

What a mighty God we serve.
What a mighty God we serve.
Angels bow before Him,
Heaven and earth adore Him;
What a mighty God we serve.

Object lesson (10 minutes)

Show the class the lemon you brought covered with orange peels. Ask: How many of you love oranges? (Let them answer) Would you like to eat some of my orange?

After the children answer, say: This orange may look very good, but when I remove the orange peels, it is really a lemon. Most of us would prefer a sweet orange to a sour lemon.

Religious cults are similar to a lemon covered with an orange peel. They may have religious names and

activities, but they were not begun by God under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to honour Jesus. Inside they are something else. What do these false churches look like inside?

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

One day a young man was invited by a schoolmate to attend a retreat at their church farmhouse.

When he arrived at the farm, the young man was received warmly. Everyone welcomed him with a smile. They carried his luggage and showed him his room and said, "Please feel at home. We are all brothers and sisters in the Lord. Amen!"

A young lady quickly arrived with a soft drink and handed it to him with a smile. A few minutes later a bell rang to begin the meeting attended by a thousand people.

A leader cheerfully said, "I kindly welcome you to this lovely and wonderful retreat in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour."

And almost at once everyone responded, "Amen, praise the Lord!"

"We have a lot of items lined up for you this weekend. We will have Christian films, gospel songs, testimonies and drama to convey the message of the Lord with clarity and emphasis," the leader said to the cheers of the audience.

The leader called upon a band who sang, *Amazing Grace*. The young man was so delighted that he thanked the friend, who sat next to him, for inviting him to the meeting.

Later they were shown a film of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden being tempted by the devil. After the film was over, the leader explained to the group that Adam and Eve did not sin by eating a forbidden fruit and disobeying God, but that it was a sexual sin.

The young man felt so confused that he immediately turned to the book of Genesis chapters 2-3 to verify what he had just heard, but he found that there was a contradiction to what the Bible says.

He told his friend that the Bible says, "You shall not eat of the fruit in the middle of the garden for in the day you eat you shall die!" (Genesis 2:17)

"Why is this man telling us a different thing?"

The friend said, "Just be patient. You will learn a lot of things which you do not know. Do you not remember that the Bible says you shall know that truth and the truth shall set you free?"

However, the young man was not satisfied with the answer and what was being taught. It was clear to him that the truth was not being told when one of the speakers said it was a mistake for Jesus to die on the cross, that he was supposed to marry and have righteous children all over the world.

"This is the work that the prophet Moonie of the Unification Church has come to complete, so you have to follow in his footsteps!" The speaker exclaimed.

The young man looked at his friend and said, "I think I am in a

That night, she told the same lie to her husband. "See, what I am saying is true. He came into my room. He even left his coat."

Joseph was eventually put in prison because of the lie that Potiphar's wife had told, but God was still with Joseph.

While Joseph was in prison, everything he did prospered; and this was noticed by his prison guards. During Joseph's time in prison the Pharaoh was having dreams that he nor anyone else could understand. God had blessed Joseph with the gift of interpreting dreams, and someone in the palace knew this.

Joseph was brought before the Pharaoh to tell him the meaning of his dream. After Joseph was able to help the Pharaoh, he was so pleased with Joseph that he gave Joseph an important job in his kingdom. Pharaoh made Joseph the second most powerful man in Egypt, next to Pharaoh himself.

Application: (5 minutes)

In the Bible story, Joseph did the right thing. He fled from sin. The Lord blessed Joseph for leading a life that was glorifying to God. The Bible says to flee (or run) from sexual sins. Even though Joseph was put in jail for something he did not do, the Lord was still with Joseph and remained faithful to him. Joseph had no idea what the Lord had planned for him, but he trusted God anyway.

You should do the same as Joseph and trust God to take care of you. You should follow all of God's commandments and love him with all of your heart.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Let the children choose a song to sing.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the Lord to help guide the children and yourself in making wise decisions. Pray for strength to do what is right in the sight of the Lord even when it is difficult.

4. MEMORY WORK (5 minutes)

Divide the children into two groups. Let them take turns asking and answering the question in the memory verse.

Group 1: "How can a young man keep his life pure?"

Group 2: "By obeying your commands" Psalm 119:9.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Review the lesson with the children and ask them what they have learned.

2. Have the children say the memory verse, Psalm 119:9

3. Make announcements.

4. Sing: *Jesus Loves Me*

5. Challenge the children to put what they have learned into practice.

6. Close with prayer.

7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

When the people who bought Joseph as a slave arrived in Egypt, they sold Joseph to a man named Potiphar. Potiphar happened to be an officer in the court of the Pharaoh, the king of all Egypt. Of course it didn't just happen that way. God planned it that way! Potiphar wasn't just any officer in the Pharaoh's court; he was the captain of the Palace guard. He was a big leader in Egypt, and Joseph was in an important place. Joseph went from a pit in the wilderness to live in the house of a rich and powerful man in the land of Egypt. God was with Joseph, and he blessed him.

Everything Joseph did for his master turned out really well. His master Potiphar saw this, and he said to himself, "Why don't I just let Joseph run everything, and then everything will turn out well." And that's what he did. Potiphar made Joseph his personal servant, and he put him in charge of all that Potiphar owned.

God was with Joseph. God blessed Potiphar's house and all the crops in his fields and everything he owned.

But trouble was in the future. Joseph was handsome and strong. The trouble to come was Potiphar's wife. She saw how strong and handsome Joseph was. And she wanted him. "Kiss me!" she said to Joseph one day while no one was looking. Potiphar was away,

working in another part of the house. Potiphar's wife grabbed Joseph as he walked by. "Kiss me!" she said again.

"I can't do that!" Joseph said. "My master trusts me! He has put me in charge of everything he owns. It is just like everything is mine. He is your husband. How can you ask me to kiss you? That would be wrong! And God would not be pleased with me at all."

But Potiphar's wife would not give up. Day after day, she secretly grabbed him and tried to kiss him. But Joseph always said no. But one day, there was no one at home. Potiphar and all the other servants were away. And Potiphar's wife saw her chance. She grabbed Joseph by the robe and wouldn't let him go.

"I will not kiss you!" Joseph said; and he ran away so fast he left his coat in her hand.

Now Potiphar's wife was angry. She was so angry that Joseph would not have her that she decided to get even. She had a terrible idea.

Suddenly she screamed! "Help me! Help me! This servant of my husband came into my bedroom and tried to kiss me!"

By then, the other servants had come back home, and they came running into her bedroom and saw her standing there. "Look!" she said, "When I screamed, he tried to run away. He ran away so fast he left his coat!"

wrong place." He took his Bible and went to his room.

The friend followed him and tried to persuade him to stay. But the young man only glanced at him with a smile and said, "No wonder people say that not everything that glitters is gold. Some items are only coated with gold appearances, but are not gold items."

Then he asked his friend to leave, read his Bible, prayed and slept. The following morning he packed his things and left for home.

Song: (5 minutes)

Follow, Follow

Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus.
Anywhere, everywhere, I will follow him. (repeat)

Bible teaching: (20 minutes)

One day when the Jesus was walking with his disciples, he asked them a question: "Who do people say the Son of man is?"

"Some say that you are John the Baptist, while others say that you are Elijah, while others say you are Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Then Jesus asked them: "What about you? Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

"Good for you, Simon, son of John!" answered Jesus. "For this truth did not come from any human being, but it was given to you directly by my Father in heaven."

A sure way of knowing that a church is a cult and not a true body of

Christ is to learn quickly their beliefs about who Jesus is.

Jesus was the Messiah, sent by God to save us from sin; he is the Son of the living God.

Some things taught by cults about Jesus are not what the Bible says:

1. It is wrong to say that Jesus was just a prophet.
2. It is wrong to say that Jesus was just a good teacher.
3. It is wrong to say that Jesus was just the son of a carpenter.
4. It is wrong to say that Jesus was just like any other human being.
5. It is wrong to put Jesus equal to any other religious leader.

(Ask the children to name some of the groups today who reduce Jesus to the level of a prophet or a mere human being. After the children make an attempt, then name some of them i.e. Jehovah's Witness, Unification Church, Mormonism, Islam, Buddhists, etc.)

The Bible tells us that there are true servants of God and there are false servants who are similar to the true servants. The true servants of God are called by God to promote his work, and they form true Christian organizations. The false servants are used by Satan and form false religious groups and organizations called cults.

A cult is a system of religious beliefs or rituals. Those who practice it are enthusiastic about their devotion to a person, idea or thing. Christianity is having a personal relationship with God through his Son, Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul wrote that in order for Satan to mislead many, he does not present himself as an evil being; but he behaves like an angel. He comes with a glorious light like an angel of God; but he still remains Satan and his works still remain evil.

Paul says that the people who are serving Satan behave like him. They also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, but they are not.

Many cults have beliefs about sexual activities between men and women that are different from what the Bible teaches. If there is a practice that is different from what the Bible says about one husband and one wife remaining faithful and true to each other, then you can be sure that that church is a cult and not a true church that worships God.

Application: (5 minutes)

1. Know a person or an organization and what they teach before joining them.
2. Read the Bible for yourself so that you know the truth on your own.
3. Ask your leaders the things you did not understand so that they are explained.
4. It is better to follow the truth than to enjoy help from people who teach lies and lead you to suffer in the end.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

No turning back, no turning back.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

No turning back, no turning back.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to protect the children from false prophets and their teachings.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by letting children repeat phrases after you: "...Even Satan can disguise himself / to look like an angel of light!" (2 Corinthians 11:14).

After the children know the phrases, have 13 children stand up and each take a word and the reference. Say the verse by having each child say their word in order. Do as many groups as time allows. Then have all the children say the verse again.

Ask the children what this verse means.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell you one thing they have learnt in today's lesson.
2. Challenge the children to read their Bibles and discuss with their parents or other Christians the Word of God.
3. Make announcements.
4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
5. Close with prayer.
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 16

SOLUTION TO THE AIDS PROBLEM

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 39, Psalm 119:9, 1 Corinthians 6: 13, 18, Hebrews 13:4

MEMORY VERSE: "How can a young man keep his life pure? By obeying your commands" (Psalm 119:9).

OBJECTIVES: After this lesson the children should:

1. Know there is only one way to stop HIV/AIDS, and that way is abstinence,
2. Choose God's way.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray that God will give you wisdom as you teach the children and that he will prepare the children's hearts to listen to your lesson.
2. Read the following Scriptures as you prepare for the lesson: Genesis 39, Psalm 119:9, 1 Corinthians 6: 13, 18, Hebrews 13:4.
3. Know the lesson well enough to teach without using the book. You must be able to tell the story in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray as you begin.
2. Together with the children, say the club verse, Luke 2:52.

3. Together with the children, sing the club song, *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. With hands over the heart, say the club commitment together: "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

There is Power

There is power, power, wonder-working power

In the blood of the Lamb.

There is power, power, wonder-working power

In the precious blood of the Lamb.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute).

Joseph had dreams from God. When he told his brothers his dreams, they resented him. Joseph went through many troubles, but he remained true to God and all of his dreams came true. This is his story.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Joseph was a young boy who had many brothers. His brothers were very jealous of him and did not want Joseph around anymore. The brothers made a plan to get rid of Joseph permanently. They sold Joseph as a slave.

The next day, however, David was informed that Uriah had spent the night sleeping at the door of the palace. "Why didn't you go home and see your wife?" David asked him.

"How can I eat and drink with my wife and sleep safe under my own roof when I know that your whole army is encamped in the open, ready to fight for the nation?" asked Uriah.

David sent Uriah back to the field with a letter to Joab, the commander of the army. The letter told Joab to put Uriah in the front line and keep him where the fighting was fiercest. Joab did as he was told, and during the next battle Uriah was killed.

Bathsheba grieved for her husband; but once the period of mourning was over, she agreed to marry David. After a while, she gave birth to David's son. God was not happy about what David had done, and he sent a prophet named Nathan to David to show him the cruelty of his treatment of Uriah, who had been such a brave and loyal servant.

Nathan began by telling David a story. The story went like this: There were two men, one was rich with many flocks and herds; the other man was poor. His only possession was a little lamb that he loved as a daughter and fed from his own plate.

A traveler arrived at the rich man's house asking to be fed. The

rich man, not wishing to lose one of his own sheep, instead killed the poor man's little lamb, roasted it, and fed it to his guest.

David was shocked by Nathan's story. "The rich man should be punished!" he shouted angrily.

"But you are the rich man," said Nathan. "And it is you who must be punished. You have sinned against God, and for this your son will die!"

David was very sorry for what he had done to Uriah. He repented of his sin, but the consequences were still there. David's son died just as the Prophet Nathan had said.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"If you wander off the road to the right or the left, you will hear his voice behind you saying, 'Here is the road. Follow it'" (Isaiah 30:21).

Use actions to teach this memory verse. Walk to the right and then to the left. Cup hands behind ears. Then whisper the words, "Here is the road. Follow it."

Let children name wise and unwise decisions.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Review the lesson.
2. Make announcements.
3. Encourage the children to bring a friend with them next meeting.
4. Sing: *Oh, Be Careful*
5. Close with prayer.
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 11

RESISTING CULTS

SCRIPTURE: 2 John 1:7-11

MEMORY VERSE: "Anyone who does not stay with the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God. Whoever does stay with the teaching has both the Father and the Son" (2 John 1:9).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Recognize the teachings of cults,
2. Stand against cults and their influence,
3. Appreciate the importance of learning the truth.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Acts 8:9-24, Isaiah 8:16-20, Deuteronomy 18:9-22.
3. Study 2 John 1:7-11.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be prepared to teach the lesson in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson into God's hand.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew

both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment. (Put your hands over the heart.)

5. Recognize those who are visitors and those who had a birthday.

Song: (5 minutes)

What A Mighty God We Serve

What a mighty God we serve.

What a mighty God we serve.

Angels bow before Him.

Heaven and Earth adore Him.

What a mighty God we serve.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

James grew up in a Christian home and began attending Sunday school when he was young. He memorized many verses and participated in Bible quizzes at church in the youth group.

After he completed his secondary school education, his parents said, "James, you have never been to our village since you were born. It is time you met your grandparents. We feel we should visit home before your results are out."

James excitedly said, "Oh! it is good for me, Dad, to meet my grandmother and grandfather. I have heard a lot about them!"

After a week James and his parents drove to the village and were warmly received by the grandparents. They were very happy to see James, their first grandson. They killed some chickens and had a good meal together.

The following morning the grandfather got a hoe and headed for the bush. James said, "I will go with you, Grandfather. This is adventure for me!"

The grandfather warmly said, "You are welcome, you little town boy. You help me carry this sack." James gladly grabbed the sack and followed him.

When they reached the bush, the old man started digging roots of different types and putting them in piles. Later he packed them into the sack.

Looking straight into the face of his grandparent, James asked, "What is the use of all these roots?"

His grandfather said, "Oh, James, I treat people with different diseases and make lucky charms out of these herbs."

Then with interest James asked, "But how do you know that this tree can be used for a particular disease and for such luck?"

"Well, James, my late grandfather trained me and his spirit continues visiting me in my dreams and shows me more herbs and tricks," he said smiling. "Do you want me to train you and share my spirit with you?" he continued.

James threw his hands in the air and said in protest, "I cannot get involved in such activities because I am a Christian."

The old man said, "But I am a Christian and a strong member and leader in my church. We are even members of the local Christian Council. Even if our teaching may differ, we all belong to one God, the very God who created the trees I am using."

"But Grandfather, Jesus and the apostles did not depend on the spirits of their ancestors for knowledge and healing. How can you say that you are Christian and practice differently from Jesus Christ and his teachings?"

The old man laughed and said, "James, you are still young, and you cannot understand these things. Foreigners have confused you and made you despise the teachings of your ancestors."

"The Bible is not for any race, Grandfather. It is for all people in the world. Anything that contradicts the Bible does not come from God."

The grandfather bent down, packed all the herbs, put the sack on his shoulders and said, "Let us go, young man. Your grandmother and parents are waiting for us at home." Then they headed for the village.

When they arrived, James narrated everything to his parents with amazement. The parents said, "Just continue praying for your grandparents that they may accept the truth and the Lord Jesus Christ as

good woman, and they have three sons and one daughter.

The younger brother saw many of his brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles make bad decisions and not reach their dreams. But one day the younger brother finally reached his dream to become president.

Questions:

1. What is the "cave" representing in the story? (temptation)
2. What is the "lion" representing in the story? (devil)
3. Would someone who truly loves you want to bring harm to you? (No)
4. What happened to the older brother? (His bad decision killed him.)
5. What happened to the younger brother? (His good decision saved his life.)
6. Who made a wise choice in the story? (younger brother)

Song: (5 minutes)

Oh, Be Careful

Oh, be careful little hands what you do.

Oh, be careful little hands what you do.

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

Oh, be careful little hands what you do.

Oh, be careful little eyes what you see.

Oh, be careful little eyes what you see.

For the Father up above is looking down in love,
Oh, be careful little eyes what you see.

Oh, be careful little ears what you hear.

Oh, be careful little ears what you hear.

For the Father up above is looking down in love,

Oh, be careful little ears what you hear.

Teaching the Bible: (15 minutes)

King David's armies were away fighting in the field, but the king himself stayed in Jerusalem. One evening as he was sitting on the flat roof of his palace, he saw a lovely woman bathing and combing her hair. He sent a messenger to find out who she was.

The answer came back that her name was Bathsheba, wife of Uriah the Hittite. David was so impressed by her beauty and grace that he gave orders for Bathsheba to be brought before him. He was very pleased with her. In time Bathsheba told David she was pregnant with his child.

Immediately David recalled her husband, Uriah, who was one of his best generals. He asked for a report on the war, and then told Uriah to return to his own house and be with his wife, Bathsheba.

with him. The girl replied, "Why, yes! I would love to!" So the older brother and the girl held hands and walked off into the bush.

As they were walking, the older brother was telling the girl how much he loved her. He said, "I love you so much. You have such pretty eyes and hair; I would do anything for you. If I could, I would take the stars and the moon from the sky; and I would give them to you." Just as he said that, they came to a big, dark cave.

The girl turned to the older brother and told him, "In that cave is a big, mean lion. The lion has beady red eyes, and sharp teeth, and sharp claws. Now, if you really love me and if you are really a man, then you will go into that cave and pick three hairs from the tail of the lion and bring them back to me. You will do this if you really love me and you are really a man."

So the older brother stood there and thought about this decision. And he thought to himself, "I am a real man. I can do this." So he pulled up his trousers, puffed up his chest, and marched into the cave. Unfortunately, the older brother never came out of the cave. No one ever saw the older brother again.

A few months later, the younger brother was at school, and he saw the beautiful girl. So he asked the beautiful girl if she would like to take a walk into the bush with him.

The girl said, "Why, yes! I would love to!" So the younger brother and the girl hold hands and walk off into the bush. As they are walking, the younger brother is telling the girl how much he loves her. He says, "Oh, I love you so much! You are so smart, and you dress so smart. I would do anything for you." Just as he says that, they come to the same big, dark cave.

The girl turns to the younger brother and says, "In that cave is a big, mean lion. He has beady red eyes, sharp teeth, and sharp claws. Now, if you really love me and if you are really a man, then you will go into that cave and pick three hairs from the tail of the lion and bring them back to me. You will do this if you really love me and you are really a man."

So the younger brother stands there and thinks about this decision. He remembers his older brother who went into the cave and never came out. He remembers his dreams to have a family and become president some day. He remembers that God has told him not to go into the cave, and so the younger brother refuses to go into the cave. He runs away from the cave and the girl, and he never even looks back.

The younger brother continues happily in his schoolwork. He studies hard and reads the Bible. He makes good decisions. Many years later, the younger brother marries a

their personal Saviour. That is the solution to their problem."

They spent three more days at the village and went back home. James began praying for his grandparents and the members of their church.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Be Glorified

In my life, Lord, be glorified
Be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified
today.

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

Blindfold one of the children and lean him or her against a wall. Then lead the child in different directions while the child is trying to find the classroom door or any familiar object. Then let the children do the same to their friends.

Explanation: (5 minutes)

Explain to the children that cults will use even the Bible to blind you to the right way. Then they will lead you to their own wrong way or destination just as we led our blindfolded friends in a wrong direction purposefully. It is only the Lord Jesus Christ and the Word of God which will show us the will of God.

When the Royal Mounted Police in Canada are trained to recognize counterfeit money, they do not look at examples of counterfeit money. They spend their time studying the real money. Then when they see the

fake money, they recognize it at once.

As followers of Jesus we need to spend out time studying Jesus and what the Bible says about him. Then when false teachings come along, we will know that they are fake.

Sing the song: (5 minutes)

My Bible, My Bible and Me

My Bible, My Bible and me,
What a wonderful Bible,
My Bible and me.

My Jesus, my Jesus and me.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

The children of Israel, who were God's chosen people, followed other gods because of false teachings by false prophets. Jesus was rejected and crucified by religious leaders and rulers of his day because of false beliefs. The apostles also met much opposition from false teachers. These people even denied that Jesus came into the world as a human being.

The apostle John warned believers that there were many deceivers (people who mislead) in the world. John called such people enemies of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He wrote, "Be on your guard, then so that you will not lose what we have worked for, but will receive your reward in full" (2 John 1:8).

John encouraged the Christians of his day to reject anything which was contrary to the teachings of the apostles. The words the apostles

spoke were given to them by God through the Holy Spirit.

John was saying that what will help the believers to overcome deceivers was God's Word. The Word was even going to help them please God and be rewarded fully. He concluded that anyone who does not stay with the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God. To have God and his Son is to follow the teaching of the Bible.

Application:

Learn the Word of God, meditate on it, and ask God to show you the meaning of his Word with the help of the Holy Spirit. He will protect you.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
I have decided to follow Jesus.
No turning back, no turning back.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

No turning back, no turning back.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to show the children the meaning of his Word with the help of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to protect the children from false teachings.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Let the children repeat the phrases after you until they are familiar with the whole verse. Then divide the children into three groups and let each group repeat a portion with you.

Group 1: Anyone who does not stay.

Group 2: With the teaching of Christ.

Group 3: But goes beyond it.

Group 1: Does not have God.

Group 2: Whoever does stay with the teaching.

Group 3: Has both the Father and the Son.

All: "Anyone who does not stay with the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God. Whoever does stay with the teaching has both the Father and Son."

All: 2 John 1:9

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge the children to read the Bible and share the memory verse with their friends and parents.

2. Encourage children to bring their friends next week.

3. Make announcements.

4. Sing a song:

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path always.

Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path always.

(Psalm 119:105).

5. Close with prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 15

GOOD DECISIONS: ACTIONS & CONSEQUENCES

SCRIPTURES: Isaiah 30:21, 2 Samuel 11-12

MEMORY VERSE: "If you wander off the road to the right or the left, you will hear his voice behind you saying, 'Here is the road. Follow it'" (Isaiah 30:21).

OBJECTIVES: After this lesson the children should:

1. Be able to distinguish between wise and unwise decisions,
2. Know that God loves them even when they make mistakes,
3. Understand that doing the right thing is not always easy.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Study the Scriptures: Isaiah 30:21, 2 Samuel 11-12.
3. Read through the lesson and be prepared to tell the stories in your own words.
4. Be prepared with examples of wise and unwise decisions.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Welcome the children and pray with them.
2. Say the club verse, sing the club song, and say the club commitment.

3. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, visitors, and those who brought visitors.

4. Ask questions about last week's lesson, "The Need for Courage." Say the memory verse.

Song: (5 minutes)

Be Glorified

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introducing the lesson: (5 minutes)

Ask the children if they know what dreams and goals are and if they have any for their life. Question the children further to see if they know ways to accomplish their dreams. Also, ask them about the things that can keep them from reaching their dreams.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Once upon a time there were two brothers, an older brother and a younger brother. These two brothers went to the same school, and they were in love with the same girl. Now this girl was the most beautiful girl in school and very popular.

One day the older brother asked the girl to go for a walk into the bush

Song: (5 minutes)

Only Believe

Only believe, only believe
All things are possible
Only believe. (repeat)

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and thank God for promising to be always with them.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by selecting six children who can learn quickly. Whisper to each child the phrase of the verse they are to say.

Let the other children repeat after each child several times.

First child: Be determined

Second child: and confident

Third child: and don't let

Fourth child: anything make

Fifth child: you afraid.

Sixth child: 1 Chronicles 22:13b.

Then have the children say the verse without repeating after the other children.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell one thing they need to do in order to have courage. If they need help, remind them.

2. Challenge the children to take a step to believe in God and have courage to succeed in life.

3. Make announcements.

4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.

5. Sing a song:

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus loves the little children

All the children of the world.

Red and yellow, black and white,

They are precious in his sight.

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus died for all the nations,

All the nations of the world.

Every tribe and every race

Are included in his grace.

Jesus died for all the nations of the world.

6. Close with prayer.

7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 12

THE NEED FOR BEING TRUSTWORTHY

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 4:2, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Proverbs 16:7

MEMORY VERSE: "For the Son of Man is about to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he will repay everyone according to his deeds" (Matthew 16:27).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should:

1. Realize that God is going to reward according to what each one has done,
2. Know how to live trustworthy lives.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children.
2. Read the Scriptures as background material: 1 Corinthians 4:2, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Proverbs 16:7.
3. Know the song, verse, and commitment.
4. Memorize Matthew 16:27.
5. Be prepared to teach the lesson in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson into God's hand.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).

3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. Say the club commitment: (Put hands over heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and his righteousness.

And all these things shall be added unto you.

Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Drama: (15 minutes)

(Get four children and whisper to each one of them what they are supposed to say.)

Master: All my servants, come. I am going to trust you with my money while I am away. It might be stolen if I leave it in my house.

First Servant: When are you returning?

Master: After three years. (He gives the first servant two coins. To the second servant he gives three coins, and to the third servant he gives four coins.) Use my money well until I come back.

The second and third servants use the money and gain profit. The first servant hides the money. When the master returns, he calls the servants to return his money.

First Servant: Here are your two coins. It was in a safe place.

Second Servant: Here are your three coins and three more.

Third Servant: Here are your four coins and four more.

Master: Well done, my two faithful servants. You will be promoted for raising more than you were given. But to you, the first servant, you will get nothing.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Being trustworthy is important. All of us want friends that we can trust. We also need to be a trustworthy friend.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Martha studied hard and was very clever. She enjoyed school and always wanted to do her best. Everyday after school, she did her homework and made sure that she understood all the material. But one thing she wanted was to have more friends.

One day a new girl came to their school. Anne was very pretty, and soon she had many friends. Martha wished she could be as popular as Anne. Martha had a few friends, but she wanted to have many friends.

One day she said to Anne, "How do you have so many friends?"

Anne said "Oh, that is easy. I will show you how to have lots of friends, too." Martha was really happy to think that she would have many friends like Anne.

Anne said, "Meet me after school today, and I will teach you how to make friends."

Martha quickly did her school work and hurried to meet Anne. When she arrived, Anne started to tell Martha that she would need to make some changes in her life. One change was that Martha would need to spend more time with her friends and less time on her school work.

Martha said "I will not be able to get good marks if I don't study hard."

Anne said, "Do you really want to have more friends, or not?"

Martha thought about it for a while and then said, "OK."

Anne said, "You will need to spend a few hours each afternoon after school and most of your Saturdays and Sundays with your friends. You will also need to do whatever they want to do."

Martha said "What if they ask me to do something that is wrong?"

Anne said to her again, "Do you really want to have more friends or not?"

Martha thought about it, and then she said, "Yes, I do want friends, so I will do whatever I need to do."

Anne said, "Good, then I will introduce you to some of my friends right after school tomorrow."

In the name of Jesus,
In the name of Jesus,
We have the victory.
Who can tell what God can do?
Who can tell what he has done for you?
In the name of Jesus, Jesus,
We have the victory.

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Have the children stand up and say the sentences after you:

I believe in God.
With God on my side,
I will be determined.
I will be confident.
I shall not fear anything,
And I shall succeed in what God wants me to do.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

God says, "Be strong and courageous, all of you that hope in the Lord." He says there is no need for you to fear because he is all powerful. You should put on the armor that God gives you so that you will be able to stand against the tricks of the devil. You should do so now so that you are always ready.

King David knew about having courage in the Lord. As a young boy he had killed a lion and a bear that were threatening the sheep. He had faced the giant Goliath.

King David made all the necessary arrangements to build the temple of God. Then he called his son Solomon and encouraged him to build the temple of God without fear. He reminded Solomon how God

protected Israel and helped them to defeat all their enemies.

David told Solomon, "If you obey all the laws which the Lord gave to Moses for Israel, you will be successful. Be determined and confident and don't let anything make you afraid" (1 Chronicles 22:13.)

This verse teaches that if you obey God's law written in his Word, you will be successful in all that God plans for you to do. God says in this verse you should not fear anything, but you should be determined and confident that God is with you in whatever you do.

It was easy for the people of Israel and Solomon to build the temple of God because they believed in God's protection and God's promises. They built the temple without fear of an enemy destroying the temple.

Application: (5 minutes)

Trust God's promise. He will guide you and protect you. God wants you to come to him and trust him. God has good plans for your life. You can trust that God will protect you, guide you and help you to succeed.

If you doubt him, fear will overcome you. Fear will lead to worry about what is going to happen.

Will you always believe that God is with you?

Take the step to believe, and God will always be with you.

would be the next king of Israel, he and his men were hiding from King Saul in the wilderness. They were dependent on the generosity of other people who would provide for them. They offered protection to the shepherds who were taking care of their sheep in the area of Carmel, where David and his men were staying.

At the time of the shearing of the sheep, which was a festive occasion, David sent his men to Nabal, a very wealthy man whose shepherds they had befriended. He told his men to greet Nabal in David's name, to remind him of the service David's men had done to his shepherds, and to ask for anything that Nabal might have to give to David's men and to David.

Nabal insulted David's men when they spoke David's words and sent them away with nothing. When David heard what had happened, he was very angry. He and four hundred of his fighting men armed themselves with swords and set out for Nabal's place.

Meanwhile, one of Nabal's young shepherds, who heard what Nabal had said, went to Abigail, the wife of Nabal. He told Abigail how David's men had befriended them and how Nabal had insulted David.

Abigail was a beautiful woman of courage and intelligence. She acted quickly at this news. She gathered much food and went with her servants to meet David and his men.

Abigail offered all the food to David and asked for his mercy. She reminded David that God had chosen him to be king of Israel and that he would not want to have an offense against him when he became king.

David accepted the gifts from Abigail and thanked her for her advice which kept him from avenging himself.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. How much courage do you think that it took for Abigail to go out to meet David and his 400 men?
2. Did God protect Abigail and provide for her?

Summary: (5 minutes)

When food is prepared, everyone in the family is told to come and eat. It is up to each family member to make a step where the food is. He has to make another step to take the food and eat.

God calls you to come to him and trust him. You have to make a step and then trust him. Then you will have the courage which you need to have in order not to be afraid.

Who wants to have courage in his life? Then make a step to God and trust him. He will help you to succeed in your life.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

In the Name of Jesus

In the name of Jesus,
In the name of Jesus,
We have the victory.

The next afternoon after school, Martha hurried outside to meet with Anne. Anne introduced Martha to five of her friends. They seemed to be very friendly, and Martha was very happy.

Jean, one of her new friends, said to Martha, "Would you like to come over to my house?"

Martha was excited that Jean had asked her, and they walked to Jean's house which was nearby. When they arrived at Jean's house, Jean said, "Since you are my friend, I need you to do something for me. I don't understand our math homework, so I need you to do it for me."

Martha was very happy that she could do something for her friend, but she knew she should not do Jean's homework. "I will show you how to do the first one, and then you can do the others," said Martha.

"I thought you were my friend and you would help me. I don't understand it, and you are going to make me do them anyway?" cried Jean.

Martha said, "I will show you how and help you. Yes, I am your friend."

Jean continued to complain and say that Martha was not being a true friend because she wasn't doing Jean's homework.

Martha completed Jean's homework for her. By this time it was getting dark, so she had to hurry

home. As she left, Jean said "I knew you would be a good friend to me. Thanks, Martha."

When Martha arrived at her house, she was sad. She felt like Jean had not been a true friend to her. She wasn't sure that she wanted Jean for a friend if she had to do Jean's homework.

Martha's mother knew she was sad and asked her what was wrong. Martha told her mother what had happened. Martha's mother told her that true friends don't make demands of each other. Martha then realized that she liked her life with her few close friends best. She thanked her mother for listening to her and then did her own homework.

Application: (5 minutes)

Have the children talk about trust by answering the following questions:

1. Do you have friends you trust?
2. Why do you trust them?
3. Why is it important to trust each other?

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Trust and Obey

Trust and obey,
For there's no other way,
To be happy in Jesus,
But to trust and obey.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

When you are employed, you expect to be paid what you were promised. You should also work

hard so that you are paid according to how much work you have done. It is also important to do the work exactly the way you are told. Even if the employer is not there, the work must be done well.

It is necessary to be trusted by all people because you will be at peace with all people.

What we do in this life on earth is what will come up for judgement before Christ. The judgement will be fair. Each one will receive what he/she deserves and according to everything he has done, good or bad in his life time (2 Corinthians 5:10).

No one will receive what he/she did not work for in life. If he worked for good, he will receive something good. If he worked for bad, he will receive something bad.

All things that were done in secret will be revealed for everyone to know. God already knows whatever we do. It is important to know that all that we hide from our friends God sees. "God will repay everyone according to his deeds" (Matthew 16:27). The Bible teaches us that God will give each one what he worked for on this earth on judgement day.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Read your Bible, Pray Everyday

Read your Bible; pray everyday,

Pray everyday, pray everyday.

Read your Bible, pray everyday,

And you will grow, grow, grow,

And you will grow, grow, grow,

(two times)

Read your Bible, pray everyday,
And you will grow, grow, grow.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and ask God to help them live trustworthy lives and to see the need for that kind of life.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by having the children repeat the phrases after you:

"For the Son of Man is about to come/ in the glory of his Father with his angels,/ and then he will repay everyone / according to his deeds" (Matthew 16:27).

Allow the children to say the verse individually.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge the children to live trustworthy lives. God has a plan for each one of them. He wants each one to go to live eternally with him.

2. Make announcements.

3. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.

4. Sing a song:

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.

And all these things shall be added unto you.

Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelu! Hallelujah!

5. Close with prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 14

THE NEED FOR COURAGE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 25:1-39,
1 Chronicles 22:6-19, Psalm
31:24, Ephesians 6:10-18

MEMORY VERSE: "...Be determined and confident, and don't let anything make you afraid" (1 Chronicles 22:13b).

OBJECTIVES: By the end of the lesson the children should be able to:

1. Overcome fear in their lives,
2. Go through difficulties with courage,
3. Realize that God is always there to help them.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.

2. Read the following Scriptures as background material for the lesson: Psalm 31:24, 1 Samuel 25:1-39, Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Chronicles 22:6-19.

3. Memorize 1 Chronicles 22:13b.

4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to lead them without the book.

5. Learn the teaching stories and be prepared to teach them in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.

2. Together with the children, say the club verse, Luke 2:52.

3. Together with the children, sing the club song, *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.

4. With hands over the heart, say the club commitment together: "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body, and in favour with God and men."

5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

I have decided to follow Jesus.

No turning back, no turning back.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

Though no one joins me, I still will follow.

No turning back, no turning back.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

When David was waiting for God to fulfill the promise that he

and happiness when one sinner repents and turns to God. All the angels rejoice. (Luke 15:10)

God does not want you to try to hide your sins. Everyone is a sinner, and Jesus died for our sins. If you refuse to say you are a sinner, then you are saying God is a liar.

Everyone will stand before God one day. God wants you to succeed in life, and he wants you to be honest. If you tell the truth, God will help you to be successful. Are you willing to confess your sins? God will be very happy if you do.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Rejoice In the Lord Always

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice. (repeat)

Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice. (repeat)

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Have the children bow their heads and ask God to forgive their sins and to help them to be honest.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by asking the children to repeat the phrases after you.

"You will never succeed in life / if you try to hide your sins, / Confess them and give them up; / then God will show mercy to you" (Proverbs 28:13).

Divide the boys and girls to say the verse as follows:

Boys : You will never succeed in life,

Girls: If you try to hide your sins.

Boys : Confess them and give them up,

Girls: Then God will show mercy to you.

All: Proverbs 28:13.

This verse teaches that if you want to be a successful person, then you must not try to hide your sins. You are to confess your sins. This means to agree with God that you have done wrong. You are to confess your sins, and you are also to "give them up." If you will do so, God promises that he will show you mercy; and you will succeed in life.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge the children to confess any wrong they have done. Tell them that there is no sin that God cannot forgive.
2. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
3. Sing a song:

Keep Me True

Keep me true, Lord Jesus, keep me true,

Keep me true, Lord Jesus, keep me true.

There's a race that must be run,

There's a victory to be won,

Every hour, by thy power,

Keep me true.

4. Close with prayer.

5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 13

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING HONEST

SCRIPTURE: Acts 5:1-11,
Proverbs 12:17-19, 22

MEMORY VERSE: "You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you" (Proverbs 28:13).

OBJECTIVES: As a result of the lesson the children should:

1. Learn that God hates lying,
2. Want to be honest in all they say,
3. Be willing to confess their sins.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and for the children you will teach.
2. Read as background for the lesson: 1 John 1:9-10, Hebrews 4:13, Ephesians 6:14, Jeremiah 9:1-9.
3. Study Acts 5:1-11 and Proverbs 12:17-19, 22.
4. Be prepared to teach the lesson in your own words. Prepare the drama.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin the lesson with prayer.
2. Say the club verse, sing the club song, say the club commitment.
3. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor today.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Drama: (10 minutes)

Ask one girl to act as a mother, and ask a younger girl to act as a child. Explain to them what they are expected to say in the drama.

Mother: Joana, come quickly.

Joana: Yes, mother, I am coming.

Mother: Look after the pot of cooking meat. I am going to see our neighbour's child who is ill. Do not let it burn.

Joana: Yes, Mother, I will do my best.

Joana: (All alone) This meat smells good; let me have a look at it. (Joana takes a piece and eats it quickly.) Mm, this meat tastes good. Let me have some more. (She continues eating piece after piece until the mother returns.)

Mother: Joana where are you? (Joana can't answer because she has some meat in her mouth.)

Joana: Mm, Mm (Joana's eyes are fixed in one place.)

Mother: Oh, my daughter, what is wrong? I went to see a sick neighbour's child, and now my daughter is ill. (The mother comes close to touch her.)

Joana: (Joana takes the meat out of her mouth.) Mother, I was trying to frighten you. I am just all right.

Mother: But what have you taken out of your mouth?

Joana: Oh nothing, Mother, nothing. Oh, it is a stone, I just wanted to frighten you.

Mother: (Mother is suspicious now. She goes to check in the pot and finds only a few pieces of meat.) You dishonest child, you have eaten the meat which was meant for all the family.

Joana: I am sorry, Mother. I will never do it again.

Mother: You should confess your wrong before the whole family.

Joana: Yes, mother I will do so.

Joana: (to all the children) I am sorry for what I did. I am asking you to forgive me.

Sing: (5 minutes)

*Lord, I Want to be a Christian
in My Heart*

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart!

Stanza 2:

Lord, I want to be more honest in my heart.

Stanza 3:

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

One day Nelson's mother asked him to go to the market to buy tomatoes. She gave him money and told him to buy only tomatoes and

bring any money he had left back to her.

When Nelson arrived, there were many people at the market selling different foods. He looked around and quickly found the tomatoes. He purchased them and started to leave the market when he saw a vendor selling sweets.

He thought how much he would enjoy having just a few sweets. Then he remembered that his mother told him only to buy tomatoes. But would she really mind if he purchased just a few sweets with the leftover money?

Nelson decided not to obey his mother and bought some sweets. He unwrapped the sweets, and they tasted so very good. He still had a little money left.

When he arrived home, Nelson's mother said "Oh, thank you so much for going to the market for me." Then Nelson gave his mother the money he had left and quickly went outside. He said to himself, "See, Mother didn't even notice."

Two days later, Nelson's mother needed more food from the market so she and Nelson returned to the market. As they passed the vendor who had sold the sweets to Nelson, he said, "Hello again, young man, did you enjoy the sweets that you bought from me? Have you eaten them all?"

Nelson wanted to cry. His mother said, "What is he talking about, Nelson?" Nelson was very quiet and didn't want to say

anything. His mother asked him again. As he cried, he told his mother the whole truth. His mother was sad and surprised by Nelson's behavior.

He felt very ashamed. Nelson said, "Mother, I just wanted some sweets, so I used the money. I am sorry. I should not have used the money without asking."

His mother said, "We will go home now and talk about this. I am disappointed with you, Nelson." He felt very badly that he had disobeyed his mother.

Stand up activity: (10 minutes)

Divide the children into four groups, and tell the groups to stand in different places. Assign two groups to discuss, "Why is it important to be honest?" Assign two groups to discuss, "Why is it important to have an honest friend?"

After five minutes have the children come back and sit down. Ask each group to report what they decided from their discussion.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Trust and Obey

Trust and obey,

For there's no other way,

To be happy in Jesus,

But to trust and obey.

Teach the Bible story: (10 minutes)

(Open your Bible to Acts 5: 1-11.)

Ananias and his wife Sapphira wanted to help the church. They

owned some land, so they decided to sell it. The couple said, "We will give the church the money we receive for the sale of the property."

After the property was sold, Ananias and Sapphira changed their minds. They decided they would keep part of the money for themselves. When they gave the money to the disciples, they pretended that it was the whole amount. They lied.

The disciple Peter said to Ananias, "The property was yours before you sold it. The money you received was also yours. Why did you lie? You have not just lied to men; you have lied to God." As soon as Ananias heard Peter's words, he fell dead.

A short time later Sapphira came in, and Peter asked her, "Did you give the church the full amount you received for your property?"

Sapphira said, "Yes, we gave the full amount."

Peter told her that her husband had died because he had lied and she would die as well. Immediately she died and was buried beside her husband.

Ananias and Sapphira did wrong by lying. They did not admit their sin, and God punished them.

Application: (5 minutes)

God is always happy when a person confesses his sins to God. The Bible tells us there is great joy