

FRIENDS OF JESUS



Book Eight

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 Eight

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FRIENDS OF JESUS Year 4

Seth Lunga, Editor

WHO AM I?

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

SALVATION

5. What is Salvation?
6. Who Can Be Saved?
7. Can Being Good Save Me?
8. What Must I Do to Be Saved?
9. Helping Others Receive Salvation

CULTS

10. What Is a Cult?
11. Dealing With Cults

CHRISTIAN VALUES

12. Need For Trustworthiness
13. Importance of Being Honest
14. The Need for Courage

AIDS

15. AIDS and its Transmission
16. Solutions to AIDS' Problems

SEX EDUCATION

17. Functions of the Body
18. Care of the Body
19. The Body as God's Temple

HARMFUL HABITS

20. Dangerous Habits
21. Effects of Harmful Habits

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

22. Our Enemy
23. Where Did the Devil Come From?
24. How Can I Resist the Devil?
25. The Source of Our Spiritual Strength
26. Faith: Our Greatest Defence
27. Assurance of Victory Over the Devil

CHOICES

28. Good Choices

29. Bad Choices

30. Making Choices

31. What Happens When I Make Bad Choices

32. Worthy Choices

PRACTICE

33. Practicing What Does the Bible Says

CHALLENGES

34. Loneliness

35. Courage in Facing Challenges

36. Perseverance

37. Challenge to Good Stewardship

38. Being Poor

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

39. What Are Spiritual Gifts?

40. Spiritual Gifts Are Given by God

41. The Gifts Are For Building the Church

RESPONSIBILITY

42. I Am Responsible to God

43. I Am Responsible at Home

44. I Am Responsible at School

45. I Am Responsible in My Family

46. I Am Responsible in the Community

47. I Am Responsible for What I Do

WITNESSING

48. What Does It Mean to Be a Witness?

49. Witnessing to Others

PRIDE

50. Pride

DEATH/LIFE AFTER

51. Why We Die

52. Is There Life After Death?

in the clouds. All the Christians, those who have died and those who are alive then, will immediately have new resurrection bodies. If we die before Jesus comes back to earth, we will come back with him.

Song: (5 minutes)

Christ Is Coming

(Tune: *Jesus Loves Me*)

Christ is coming, this I know.
 He, Himself has told me so.
 John fourteen, and one, two,
 three,
 Read yourself, and there you'll
 see.
 Yes, He is coming.
 Yes, He is coming.
 Yes, He is coming.
 The Bible tells me so.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to help the children to remember what they have learned today. Also ask God to have the Holy Spirit speak to each child about his/her sin so that each one may repent of their sin and receive eternal life in Jesus.

Thank God that Jesus is coming again.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by dividing the children in to two groups. The first group learns the first part of the verse and the second group learns the second part and the reference. Let them say their parts one after the other several times, and then change parts.

Group 1: Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection and the life."

Group 2: "He that believes in me will live, even though he dies" (John 11:25).

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements
2. Sing a song.

Soon and Very Soon

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

We are going to see the King.

3. Close in prayer.
4. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

CONTENTS

How to Lead a Child to Faith in Christ	Cover
Introduction to Book Eight	
Lesson	Page
27 Assurance of Victory Over the Devil	105
28 Good Choices	109
29 Bad Choices	113
30 Making Choices	117
31 What Happens When I Make Bad Choices?	121
32 Worthy Choices	125
33 Practicing What the Bible Says	129
34 Loneliness	133
35 Courage in Facing Challenges	137
36 Perseverance	141
37 Challenge to Good Stewardship	145
38 Being Poor	149
39 What Are Spiritual Gifts?	153
40 Spiritual Gifts are God Given	157
41 The Gifts are for Building the Church	161
42 I Am Responsible to God	165
43 I Am Responsible at Home	169
44 I Am Responsible at School	173
45 I Am Responsible in My Family	177
46 I Am Responsible in My Community	181
47 I Am Responsible For What I Do	185
48 What Does It Mean to Be a Witness?	189
49 Witnessing to Others	193
50 Pride	197
51 Why We Die	201
52 Is There Life After Death?	205

Year 4 Lesson and Unit Titles

How to Counsel a Child Cover

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

William Chanda
Cheela Chilala
Eunice Kaulu
Joyce Sakala
Pauline Sakanjole
Theresa Zulu
Stephanie Upshaw Knighten
Cindy Abbott
Carol Bowers
Evelyn Moss
Paula Kilpatrick

Editor:
Seth Lunga

Special thanks:
Mary Thompson
Lorie Mattox
Beth Kilpatrick

Then Jesus called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

Lazarus came walking out of the cave with his hands and feet wrapped in grave's cloths and with a cloth around his face.

"Untie him and let him go," Jesus said.

Lazarus lived again; but like all of us will do, eventually he died another physical death. The good news is that Lazarus and all who believe that Jesus is the resurrection and the life will live forever, spiritually and again physically at the time of the final resurrection of the dead.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Will Enter His Gates

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart.

I will enter his courts with praise;

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made.

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

He has made me glad.

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

In the Bible in the book of Revelation, the very last book of the Bible, the Apostle John saw what was

happening in heaven and what is going to happen at the end of time. Heaven is such a wonderful place that John did not have the human words to describe everything he saw, but someday all of us who are Christians will see it.

Paul also wrote about the resurrection of the dead and going to heaven in his letter to the Corinthians and in his letters to the Thessalonians.

In the church at Corinth there were some people who were not sure that there is life after death; but when the Apostle Paul heard about this teaching, he wrote them a letter to correct the misconceptions of life after death. He wrote, "But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?"

Jesus told his disciples before his crucifixion that he was going away to prepare a place for them so that they could be where he was. He also told them that he would come back to earth to take them to heaven to be with him.

Paul wrote the Thessalonians that when Jesus comes back, the Christians that have already died will come with him. Then the Christians on earth will also change to have new bodies.

No one knows when Jesus is coming back to earth; but when he does, everyone will see him coming

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

Mary and Martha were sisters who were good friends of Jesus. They sent word to tell Jesus to come quickly because his good friend, their brother Lazarus, was very ill.

When Jesus received the news, he was on the other side of the Jordan River with his disciples. His disciples knew how much Jesus loved Lazarus, Martha, and Mary. They thought that he would leave immediately to go heal Lazarus. But Jesus did not leave for two days. He told his disciples that the sickness Lazarus had was not going to lead to death, but it was to show God's glory through Jesus.

As Jesus was going to Bethany, he told the disciples that Lazarus had died but that he was glad that he was not there because the disciples would learn to believe more.

When they arrived at Bethany, they learned that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days.

As soon as Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him.

"Lord," she said, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you."

Jesus said, "Your brother will rise again.."

"Yes" she replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Martha answered, "Yes, I believe."

Mary went and told Mary that Jesus was there. When Mary went to the place where Jesus had met Martha, she said the same thing to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

Jesus felt great compassion for Mary and all the friends who had followed her. "Where have you buried him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they answered.

Jesus was weeping as they went to the tomb, which was a cave with a large stone over the entrance.

"Take the stone away," Jesus commanded.

Martha answered, "But, Lord, there will be a very bad smell. He has been buried four days."

Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed you would see God's glory?"

When the stone was moved away, Jesus looked up to God and said, "I thank you, Father, that you hear me. I know that you always hear me, but I say this for the people who are here listening so that they will believe that you sent me."

INTRODUCTION FOR FRIENDS OF JESUS CLUB LEADERS

Welcome to Book Eight 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
P.O. Box 1759
Edenvale 1610
South Africa

Kenya Baptist Media
P.O. Box 30370
Nairobi, Kenya

Baptist Bookstore
Makishi at Great East Rd.
Lusaka, Zambia

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



IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH?

SCRIPTURES: John 11:1-44; 1 Corinthians 15:12-22,35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

MEMORY VERSE: "Jesus said unto her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He that believes in me will live, even though he dies'" (John 11:25).

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this lesson the children should know that:

1. There is life after death,
2. The life after death is the believers' sure hope because Christ promised that those who believe in him will have everlasting life,
3. Jesus Christ is coming again to earth.. When he comes, the dead in Christ will rise to meet him in the air, and there will be no more death.

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. (Put both hands across the chest.) Say the club commitment: "Because Jesus is my example, I pledge myself to grow in wisdom, body and in favour with God and man."
5. Welcome visitors who have come to the meeting for the first time.

Song: (5 minutes)

Soon and Very Soon
 Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
 Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
 Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah.
 We are going to see the King.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Begin with prayer asking God to give you the Spirit of understanding and to guide you in your preparations.
2. Study all the Scriptures: John 11:1-44; 1 Corinthians 15:12-22,35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.
3. Read the lesson through many times to understand the content of the lesson well.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Many people have questions about what happens when people die. Is death the end of all things or is there something more?

The Bible tells us what we can look forward to at the end of life here on earth because as Christians we have a wonderful home in heaven.

Application: (5 minutes)

Death came into the world because of the sin of disobedience, and all are under the power of death. All men had no choice but to die both a spiritual death and a physical death, but the Lord God in his infinite love and mercy did not want us to perish. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that who ever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Adam lost eternal life when he disobeyed God, but God has provided eternal life to whoever will believe in Jesus Christ. For he said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though he dies" (John 11:25).

Song: (5 minutes)

The Love of Jesus Is So Great
(# 4 in *Friends of Jesus Song Book*)
Jesus love is so great, His love is great indeed!
Jesus love is so great, His love is so great.
Oh, look!
Jesus died upon the cross (oh, look!)
Jesus died for all our sins (oh, look!)
Jesus died upon the cross (oh, look!)
Jesus love is so great. His love is so great.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by having the children repeat after you phrase by phrase.

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man,/ and death through sin,/ and in this way death came to all men,/ because all sinned" (Romans 5:12).

Let individual children say the verse.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sins so that we can have eternal life. Ask God to help the children to remember what they have learned today and for them to have the desire to obey God.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Today we have learned why people die, but we have also learned that God because of his love has provided a way through faith in Jesus so that we do not perish.
2. Make announcements.
3. Remind the children of the things they should do before the next club meeting.
4. Encourage them to bring a friend next week.
5. Sing: *The Love of Jesus Is So Great*
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

ASSURANCE OF VICTORY OVER THE DEVIL

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 28:16-20

MEMORY VERSE: "Jesus drew near and said to them, 'I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth'" (Matthew 28:18).

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

1. Know that God has thoroughly defeated the devil through the death and resurrection of Jesus,
2. Understand that because of Jesus, they can be victorious over the devil through Christ.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and the children you will teach.
2. Reading the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Matthew 16:13-19, Luke 10:17-19, John 10:10-11, Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 2:13-15, Hebrews 2:14-16, Revelation 12:10-11, Revelation 20:1-3.
3. Study Matthew 28:16-20.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to teach them without the book.
5. Study the lesson and be prepared to teach it in your own words without using the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer, committing the lesson 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 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 had a birthday during the past week, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor,

Song: (5 minutes)

I am Delivered
I am delivered. Praise the Lord!
I am delivered by His blood.
Once I was bound by the chains of Satan.
I am delivered. Praise the Lord!
(If you do not know the tune, make one for your class).

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Once upon a time King Arkaniriah reigned in his kingdom for many years and peace prevailed during his reign. The kingdom was so prosperous that the neighbouring king became jealous of him.

King Zecarila decided to wage war with King Arkaniriah in order to destroy the peace in his kingdom. King Arkaniriah had warriors with bow and arrows together with short-guns while King Zecarila had rifles. When war broke out, King Arkaniriah was easily overcome and became subject to King Zecarila. From that day on he and all his people received orders from King Zecarila and paid tribute to him.

After fifteen years of loyalty to King Zecarila, King Arkaniriah had freedom of movement. This gave him an opportunity to meet another powerful king, King Hokani. King Hokani promised to come to his aid so that he might be free and reign over his kingdom again. He had weapons superior to those of King Zecarila.

According to the agreement with King Hokani, King Arkaniriah was instructed to mark the houses of his subjects with black paint on the door posts. In three months time when the attack started those with the black paint on their houses would be spared.

The time came and King Hokani overcame King Zecarila because of his superior weapons, but some men managed to escape. In order to ensure King Arkaniriah's security, King Zecarila gave him some of his superior weapons that he could use to rule his country.

King Arkaniriah thanked King Hokani and gave him some precious gifts from his kingdom. The two kings had a feast together. King Arkaniriah and his people sang songs of joy because of their victory. They were

thankful for the superior weapons they had for safety against their enemies.

Explanation: (5 minutes)

King Arkaniriah represents a person without Christ, and Zecarila represents the devil, who tries to make people his slaves. King Hokani gives us the picture of Jesus, who is superior to the devil and who alone sets men free and gives them authority over the devil.

Jesus is the only one who has superior weapons to those of the devil. It is necessary, therefore, that we trust in Christ and choose to stay close to him. He is the only one who has defeated the devil through his death. We will learn more about this in our Bible lesson today.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Why was King Arkaniriah defeated by King Zecarila? (Let the children answer. Then give your own answer, which should be: "Because King Arkaniriah had inferior weapons".)
2. What was the result of his defeat? (Allow the children to answer. Then give your own answer: "King Arkaniriah and his people become subjects of King Zecarila.")
3. What did King Arkaniriah do after fifteen years of loyalty? (Let the children answer. The answer is, "King Arkaniriah asked for help from the superior King Hokani.")
4. What was the result of his agreement with the king with superior weapons? (Let the children answer, then say,

feelings, and he was always blaming himself for being responsible for the loss of the family pet, the beautiful bird. Disobedience brings many problems to all of us.

Does this story remind you of something that the Bible tells us about?

Song: (5 minutes)

Jesus Died to Set Me Free
(# 9 in the *Friends of Jesus Song Book*)

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

Thank you for saving me.
Thank you, Jesus, I thank you for saving me.
Thank you, Jesus, thank you, Lord.
Thank you for saving me.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Adam and Eve lived in the beautiful Garden of Eden that God had created just for them. Everything in the garden was perfect. They had everything that they needed. Every evening God came and visited with them.

It was not God's plan for Adam and Eve to die, but God gave Adam and Eve the choice to believe and trust what he said to them.

When Satan came in the form of a serpent, he told Eve that God had lied to them about eating fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Satan said to Eve, "If you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you will not die. You will know everything that God knows."

Eve looked at the tree and saw that the fruit looked good. She began to doubt God and to believe Satan. After she ate some of the fruit, she gave some to Adam; and he ate it, also.

The first thing that happened is that Adam and Eve lost their innocence. They realized that they were naked and began to make clothes out of fig leaves.

When God came in the evening, they hid from him. God was very sad that Adam and Eve had made the wrong choice. He told them that they must leave the garden and that they would have to work hard to provide the food they needed to live.

The worst thing that happened was that their disobedience to God brought death into their lives and the lives of all their descendants. God never intended for Adam and Eve or their descendants to die.

It was only when Jesus came and was crucified for the sins of all the people of the world, that death was conquered. Now those people who believe in Jesus and repent of their sins can know that again they can have eternal life.

The result of sin is death. God gives us the gift of eternal life when we trust Jesus to be our Lord and Saviour.

someone on the winning team.
2. Put children on a line each one with a cooked egg. Mark another line that they should reach in an egg race. They should roll the egg with their head only and not the hands. The first to reach to the line wins.

You can play it over to give at least many children a chance to participate in the game and have fun.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Our lesson today is called, Why We Die. Everything has a beginning, so when did death enter into the world and why did death enter the world?

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

One man had a son whom he loved very much, and he was always sharing good times with him. The son loved his father, and he enjoyed being with him.

One day the father brought home a beautiful bird in the cage as a family pet. The son was to take care of the bird by giving it food and water. Everyone in the family was very happy to have the family bird as a pet.

The father told his son not to open the cage because the bird would fly away and be lost. The father locked the cage and gave the keys to the son to keep. The son was fond of the bird and was playing with it all the time as he was feeding it.

One day the son thought of the instructions his father gave him never to open the cage because the bird

would fly away, and they would lose it. He thought that even if he opened the cage, the bird would come back. He decided to disobey his father's instructions and to open the cage.

He took the key and slowly opened the cage and let the beautiful bird out. Immediately the bird flew away and never came back.

The son knew that he had disobeyed his father's instructions never to open the cage. He started feeling guilty and responsible for the loss of the bird of the family. He did not want to face his father because the instruction had been clear to him. He went and hid himself when the father came back home.

Instead of being greeted by his son as was the practice, the son was nowhere to be seen. The father realized that something must have happened to his son for him to start behaving like this. When the father saw his son, he asked him where the bird was; and he said, "It is gone."

"Why? What happened?" The father asked.

"I opened the cage, and it flew away," said the son. The father was not happy with his son's disobedience because the family no longer had a beautiful bird.

Whenever we disobey instructions, heavy consequences follow. In this story the good relationship that existed between the father and the son was hurt. The son's disobedience brought about guilt

"King Arkaniriah was given superior weapons after the enemy was defeated. This made sure their future would be safe.")

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

There is Power in the Blood

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.

Bible teaching: (20 minutes)

Do you know that through Jesus, his death and resurrection, you have victory and authority over the devil?

Even if you do not see the devil, you have power to defeat him through the name of Jesus. The devil becomes subject to you because of the power of Jesus in you.

Jesus spoke to the disciples saying, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18).

Jesus was born as a human being and was tempted by the devil in different ways, but he did not disobey God.

Jesus was condemned to death, but on the third day he rose from the tomb. Since Jesus was loyal to the all-powerful God, the owner of authority, he was given all authority in heaven and on earth. For this reason Satan and his demons do not have any authority over the Lord Jesus. He is the king of heaven and earth.

All who trust in Jesus, therefore, have nothing to fear from Satan. Why?

Because Jesus has authority over the devil and all evil and Christians have Jesus living in them.

When a person receives Jesus as his or her personal Saviour and Lord, he or she becomes a child of God. As a follower of Christ he or she is one with Jesus. Christians, therefore, do not have a spirit of fear, but a spirit of love, power, and self-control through Jesus. (1 Timothy 1:7) God will always be with them, and he will never forsake his children. He is there day and night; when it is dark and when the sun is shining. He is living in and through those who believe in him.

Ephesians 1:22-23 tells us that all the powers of evil were put under the authority of Jesus when he rose from the dead. Now those who trust in him also sit together spiritually in Christ through the presence of the Holy Spirit. That may be a difficult truth to understand. Just remember that you are safe from the power of Satan when you have Jesus in your heart.

Jesus is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. His name is above all other names because he pleased God in his life here on earth. God chose to give all authority and power to his Son.

Just as the powers of evil are under the authority of Jesus, they are also under the authority of a believer because of Jesus. The choice is ours to make: do we sin and follow Satan or do we choose to follow Christ? Are you choosing Jesus?

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Majesty

Majesty, worship His majesty.

Unto Jesus be all glory, honour and praise.

Majesty, kingdom authority

Flow from His throne, unto His own; His anthem raise.

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.

Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.

Majesty, Worship his majesty;

Jesus, who died, now glorified,

King of all kings.

4. MEMORY WORK (15 minutes)

Teacher: Read while drawing close to the children: "Jesus drew near and said to them, 'I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth'" (Matthew 28:18).

Divide the children into two groups and leave a gap of about three metres between the two groups.

Group 1: "Jesus drew near and said to them" (while advancing slowly towards group 2).

Group 2: "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth." (while looking up and pointing up, looking down and pointing down.)

Repeat the verse until all know their part. Then change parts.

Sing the verse according to the tune of your choice. At the end they should excitedly say, "Jesus is the King of Kings! He is our king, also! Amen!"

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge the children to put their total trust in Jesus.

2. Ask the children to share with their parents what they have learnt.

3. Make announcements.

4. Encourage the children to visit one another and go through the things they are learning and sing the songs they are learning.

5. Encourage the children to invite their friends next week.

6. Sing a song: *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.

7. Close with prayer.

8 Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 51

WHY WE DIE

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-13, 17-19; Romans 5:12-19

MEMORY VERSE: "Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned" (Romans 5:12).

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this lesson the children should know that:

1. Death came into the world as a result of one man's disobedience to God. And through that one man death has reigned throughout human history,
2. Adam, though he knew the consequences of disobedience, yet chose to disobey God,
3. We must honour God by obeying our parents, teachers and all those who have authority over us.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Begin with a prayer to ask God to give you the Spirit of understanding and guide you in your preparations.
2. Study Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-13, 17-19; Romans 5:12-19.
3. Read the lesson through many times and be prepared to teach it.
4. Memorize the memory verse.

5. Prepare the eggs, spoons, and other items needed for the egg games.

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. 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.

Game: (15 minutes)

Egg Race

You can play at least two games with cooked eggs.

1. Divide the group into three or more teams. Give one spoon and a cooked egg to each team. One from each team will be on the line with an egg in a spoon. They must run to the mark and back without dropping the egg, but if the egg drops he/she must try again from the beginning. But if it drops again, they give it to the winning team; and it can be eaten by

I have pride in my Jesus because he died for me.

I have pride in my Jesus because one day, I will be with him forever.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and think about God. Ask God to forgive any of the children who have been proud in one way or another. Ask God to make the children humble before the Lord and to always remember to thank God for all the ways that he blesses them.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by writing phrases on small cards. Choose children to stand in front and hold the cards. Let the children show the cards one at a time.

Choose another group of children to hold the cards until the verse is learned.

“But Hezekiah was too proud/ to show gratitude for what the Lord had done for him,/ and Judah and Jerusalem suffered for it”/ 2 Chronicles 32:25.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell one thing they like about their friends.
2. Challenge the children to ask God to help them be humble children among their friends.
3. Make announcements.
4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
5. Sing a song:
I Am So Glad that Jesus Loves Me
I am so glad that Jesus loves me,
Jesus loves, Jesus loves me.
I am so glad that Jesus loves me.
Jesus loves even me.
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 28

GOOD CHOICES

SCRIPTURE: Joshua 24:14-28

MEMORY VERSE: ““As for my family and me, we will serve the Lord”” (Joshua 24:15b).

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

1. See the importance of making good choices in life,
2. Make good choices in life,
3. Depend on God when making choices,
4. Realize that God is always with 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 for the lesson: Joshua 24:14-28, Genesis 39:7-23.
3. Memorize Joshua 24:15b.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to teach them without the book.
5. Read the lesson many times and be prepared to teach it 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)

I Have Pride in My Jesus

I have pride in my Jesus because he loves me.

I have pride in my Jesus because he died for me.

I have pride in my Jesus because one day I will be with him forever.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Once upon time there was a family with only one child. They were a poor family, but they worked hard to send James, their only son, to school.

James always worked hard at school to make good grades. His friends used to laugh at him for being poor, but he would just respond by smiling and changing the subject to something else. James was liked by all of the students and his teachers.

One day some boys brought money to him so that he could keep it for them until they wanted it. He was suspicious about how they had obtained the money, so he refused to keep the money for them.

Another day they asked him to go with them and see how they got money. James went with them to the bus stop. They explained to him how they searched people as they got into the bus. They asked James also to try to search the people. James was surprised to hear what they were doing. He refused to steal and went home.

The following day James tried to talk to the boys about what they were doing wrong. These boys did not listen but continued to steal. One day they were caught and imprisoned for stealing. They were not able to continue school even after their sentence was completed.

James completed school and trained as a lawyer. His friends who stopped school were ashamed to greet him. They were ashamed that they chose to steal rather than to study. James chose to study under difficult situations, and he succeeded. He made good choices.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What kind of a family did James have?
2. Were his parents able to send James to school?

3. What are some good choices that James made? (He worked hard to get good grades and refused to steal.)

4. Did the friends make good choices? What happened to them as a result of their choices?

(They were caught and sentenced.)

6. What were the results of the good choices that James made. (He completed school and studied as a lawyer.)

Summary: (5 minutes)

There is always happiness when you make a good choices. James chose to do the right thing. He made a good choice by refusing to steal. The end was good.

His friends made bad choices, and the end for them was bad. If you choose to follow and serve God, you will be making right choices. God will be with you, and he will help you in everything that happens to you. At the end of life here on earth, you will have life that never ends in heaven. That is why making good choices in life now is very important.

Sing a 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.

than just respect. They think that everyone should agree with them and do what they want all of the time. They do not see themselves as people who have a responsibility to help others.

All of us need to humble ourselves. An humble person is peaceful, gentle, friendly, and full of compassion. When you humble yourself, God will lift you up. God wants to be proud of you just as he was proud of Jesus.

The Bible in Matthew 3:17 says, "And a voice from heaven said 'This is my son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'" God had great pride in Jesus Christ, his only son. He said it openly, "This is my Son, I am proud of him." He was proud of Jesus because Jesus never sinned. He always did good things.

God is telling us that we must always do good things for God to have pride in us. We must not hate people. We must not fight people nor steal from them. We must not do anything bad. Luke 2:52 says, "And Jesus grew in wisdom and in body and in favour with God and men."

Jesus grew in body from being born as a baby in Bethlehem. When Jesus grew to be the age of twelve, he went to the temple and started teaching the Word of God.

He also helped his father at home. His parents loved him, the people loved him, and God loved him. Jesus wants you to be like him,

to have pride in your parents; to have pride in God's Word, to love people, and to do good to everyone

Jesus loves you. In Matthew 19:14, the Bible says, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Jesus blessed the little children because he was proud of them. Be like Jesus, and you will be in his kingdom of heaven as he has promised. He does not lie.

Do not do bad things because all your friends are doing them. Ask yourself if God can say of you today that this is my son or daughter of whom I am proud just as he said it to Jesus. Believe in Jesus, and the Holy Spirit will lead you to do good things always. God will be proud of you.

If you do bad things, people and God will be disappointed in you. God has pride in a person who does good things. Talk to your Father in heaven through prayer. Read the Bible everyday. Even a verse every day will help you to remember to do good things. If you do not read, ask your older sister, brother, or your parents to read to you. Jesus loves you, and he wants you also to love him.

Sing a Song: (5 minutes)

I Have Pride in My Jesus
I have pride in my Jesus because
he loves me.

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

King Hezekiah was king over Judah. His palace was in Jerusalem. Hezekiah was a descendant of King David and King Solomon. David and Solomon had made the nation of Israel a great nation, but trouble had come because the people did not stay true to God. God had allowed all of the tribes of the Northern Kingdom to be taken into captivity.

As long as King Hezekiah and the people of Jerusalem and Judah were humble before the Lord, God blessed them richly. Enemies never defeated them. The Lord was always on their side. When Hezekiah became ill, he humbled himself before the Lord; and God healed him.

After getting well, Hezekiah felt too proud to go back to God to say thank you for healing him. When the king became proud, the city of Judah and Jerusalem suffered. The cities were no longer rich, and their enemies defeated them.

But they went back to God and asked for forgiveness and humbled themselves. God restored their relationship again. "But Hezekiah was too proud to show gratitude for what the Lord had done for him, and Judah and Jerusalem suffered for it.

"Finally, however, Hezekiah and the people of Jerusalem humbled themselves, and so the Lord did not punish the people until Hezekiah's death" (2 Chronicles 32:25-26).

This verse teaches that as long as a person remains humble before the

Lord, God will bless him. If you have pride in your life, God is ready to forgive you if humble yourself before him and repent. You can start a new life again. God is always going to be on your side to succeed.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus
(three times)

No turning back, no turning back.
(three times)

The world behind me (three times)

The cross before me (three times)

No turning back, no turning back.

Activity lesson: (10 minutes)

Another way of being humble is to show respect to people. We show respect to older people by the way we talk and act when we are with them. Are these some of the ways that you show respect? Let the children say after you and do after you the following:

Thank you (putting your hands together)

Sir or Madam (in soft tone)

Kneel down (as before an elderly person)

Yes, Sir or Madam.

How are you, Madam or Sir?
(kneeling down)

Give away something (with both hands).

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Sometimes people who have authority, such as kings, begin to think that they deserve even more

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Let all the children stand up and scatter. Let them say to each other, "Choose Jesus. He is your only hope." Let them continue to say this to as many people around them as they can.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Everyone makes choices in life. Some are good choices and some are not good. You have to depend on God to help you if you want to make good choices.

There are students who make bad choices by choosing to stop going to school even when they have school fees. Others make bad choices by cheating during tests in school. When you have to choose between getting a better grade by cheating, or refusing to cheat, choose to do the right thing.

Do not look around to see what other people are doing. Don't be afraid even if you are the only one out of many people in the class who is not cheating. Do the right thing. You will be happy later, and God will bless you.

Ask God to help you make good decisions. Some decisions might be difficult to begin with; but God, who sees ahead, knows the end results. He knows what is best for you right now, and he knows what would be bad for you to do. Therefore, it is important to ask God before you make a choice about anything.

Joshua, a leader of the children of Israel, made the best choice any leader could make. He said, "As for my

family and me, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15b).

God had delivered the children of Israel from the slavery that they were under in Egypt. He had opened the Red Sea for them to cross on dry land and had destroyed Pharaoh's army when they tried to follow them.

Even though the children of Israel had seen God do mighty acts as he led and protected them, they complained. They even wanted to go back to slavery in Egypt during the time they were in the wilderness.

God did not like their complaining. He told them that they would have to stay in the wilderness for forty years until all of the people who were adults had died. Even Moses disobeyed God and could only look over into the promised land from a distance.

Years earlier Moses had sent twelve men to go into the promised land and bring back a report. Two men, Joshua and Caleb, brought back the true report about the promised land, and they remained alive.

Joshua was the leader of the people after Moses died. He led the people to cross the Jordan River and enter the promised land. Caleb was an old man by then, but he was still strong. He asked for a difficult place to conquer and settle.

If the people had had the faith that Joshua and Caleb had, they would have entered the promised land years earlier. Then they would

have been able to enjoy all of the blessings that God had planned for them many more years.

At the end of his life, Joshua called all of the people together. He made a long speech about how God had led the people up to that point. Then he said to them, "Decide today whom you will serve....As for my family and me, we will serve the Lord."

All the people agreed with Joshua. They promised also to serve the living God.

Application: (5 minutes)

You need to believe in Jesus as your Saviour while you are young. You should trust Jesus to live in you and allow him to rule your life. This is the best choice for your life. Depend on him every time you have to make a choice. Will you make God the centre of all your choices in life?

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 go with me, still I will follow.
Though no one go with me, still I will follow.
Though no one go with me, still I will follow,
No turning back, no turning back.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and ask God to help them make good choices in life.

4. MEMORY WORK (5 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by dividing the children into two equal groups. Let each group repeat phrases after you: "As for my family and me, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15b) Repeat several times.

Group 1: As for my family and me,

Group 2: we will serve the Lord.

All: Joshua 24:15.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell one thing they have learnt from today's lesson.
2. Challenge the children to depend on God when making choices in life.
3. Make any announcements.
4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
5. Sing a song:

Follow, Follow

Follow, Follow,
I will follow Jesus.
Anywhere, everywhere
I will follow him.

Follow, Follow,
I will follow Jesus.
Everywhere he leads me
I will follow him.

6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 50

PRIDE

SCRIPTURE: 2 Chronicles 32:1-26

MEMORY VERSE: "But Hezekiah was too proud to show gratitude for what the Lord had done for him, and Judah and Jerusalem suffered for it" (2 Chronicles 32:25).

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

1. Be submissive to one another,
2. Know the effects of pride,
3. Live humble lives.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: 2 Chronicles 32:1-26; James 3:16-17; James 4:6, 10.
3. Memorize 2 Chronicles 32:25.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to teach them without the book.
5. Be prepared to teach the lesson in your own words.
6. Prepare phrases of the Memory Verse on cards.

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)

Humble Yourself

Humble yourself before the Lord.
He will lift you up. (two times)
He will lift you. (two times)
He will lift you up. (two times)
If you only humble yourself
before the Lord,
He will lift you up.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute)

God wants you to have wisdom from above, and he wants you to prove it by your good life. He wants to see good deeds done in humility and with wisdom from him. God will give us wisdom if we ask him.

A humble person is not jealous, bitter, selfish, and boastful of his own wisdom. God blesses people who are humble and not people who are proud. Listen to a true story from the Bible about a king who was proud.

Tell a true story (5 minutes)

Samson was a Bible School student who wanted to obey God. One day he felt God was leading him to go to a town several miles away. He did not have money to take a bus, so he started walking through the bush.

On the way Samson stopped to ask if the path where he was walking was the right one. The man he talked with was kind and even spoke his language. The two men talked for a while. Samson told the man about Jesus and explained to him how to be saved. The man believed and trusted Christ as his Saviour.

The new believer suggested that Samson go to another village nearby to share the Good News with them.

Samson shared with the people of that village about Jesus, also. He told them verses of Scripture about Jesus love and how he died on the cross to forgive their sins. He said if they believed in Jesus, they would live forever in heaven with him. Many people believed and were saved because of Samson's witness.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What did Samson feel God wanted him to do?
2. What happened when Samson stopped a man to ask directions?
3. How was Samson a witness for Christ?

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses to the fact" (Acts 2:32).

Say: Peter, one of Jesus' twelve disciples, spoke the words of the memory verse to people who did not believe in Jesus.

Peter was able to tell them, "I was with Jesus' as a disciple for three years. I saw him die on the cross. I was with him after he rose from the grave. I and all the other disciples are witnesses to the fact that Jesus came, died, and rose again."

Say the verse with the children many times. Ask the boys to say it by themselves. Then ask the girls to say the verse.

Ask what it meant that God raised this Jesus to life. Ask: Why was it important that there were witnesses who saw Jesus alive.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Sing *Stop! And Let Me Tell You*
3. Ask someone to tell what it means to be a witness. (A witness is a person who tells what he has seen, heard, or experienced.)
4. Encourage the children to bring a new friend with them next week.
5. Close with prayer. Ask the Lord to help the children to tell someone about him this week.
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

BAD CHOICES

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 27:1-10

MEMORY VERSE: "You will earn the trust and respect of others if you work for good; if you work for evil, you are making a mistake" (Proverbs 14:22).

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

1. Consider seriously the decisions they make,
2. Know that choices have effects (consequences in life),
3. Know that every choice they make will bear fruit, either good or bad.

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: Proverbs 14:12, 22; Matthew 26:47-50.
3. Study Matthew 27:1-10.
4. Memorise the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to say them without the book.
5. Read the lesson 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 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. Recognise those who are visitors and those who brought them and those who have had a birthday.

Song: (5 minutes)

We Are Heirs

We are heirs of the Father,
We are joint heirs with the son.
We are children of the kingdom;
We are family; we are one.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

David was born into a Christian family. He always attended Sunday school The parents were leaders in their local church. Every morning and evening they read the word of God and prayed together.

A time came for David to start primary school. He was so excited about schooling that on the opening day he woke up at 05:00 hours. The

mother was so surprised that she asked him, "David, why have you awakened so early today?"

"Mum, I am really looking forward to being in class with friends today," he replied with excitement.

Then the mother said, "We are happy for you, son, but remember to make friends with well-mannered children. Avoid bad company at all costs as we have told you before."

David started school and did very well in his studies up to grade four. In grade five there was a boy who transferred from another school. This boy, named Lazarus, was so naughty that he was sent out of class almost everyday. However, his fellow pupils liked him because of the chocolates he carried in his bag.

One day Lazarus came to David and said, "Hello, David, how are you today with your Christianity? Here are some chocolates," pulling two out of his bag with a smile on his face. This continued for a month until Lazarus won the heart of David.

David was enticed, and on certain days he and his new friend ran to the shopping centre for some sweets. One day they found everyone was already in class.

Looking at them from the window, the teacher said, "You cannot come in because you are late. Where were you all this time?"

For the first time David arrived home early. The mother asked him, "David, why are you early?"

He looked at his mother then quickly looked down and merely mumbled, "Mummy, I am not feeling okay. I have a headache."

Mother said, "I am sorry, Son. Here is some Panadol. Take a nap while I prepare some food for you."

The following day Lazarus rushed to David and asked him, "What happened when you reached home yesterday?"

"Well, I told my mother that I had a headache, but I felt very bad about it inside me. I feel I am not doing the right thing."

Lazarus said, "Do not worry about how you feel. The most important thing is that your mother does not know the truth."

The friendship of Lazarus and David was strengthened with the chocolates they were enjoying together. However, because of the influence of Lazarus, David became a naughty boy in class.

At the end of the term, neither boy did well in the exams. The teacher wrote letters to their parents explaining about their bad behaviour. The parents of David were so disappointed that they could not believe what the teacher had written. David only stood quietly before his parents without response.

David allowed his new friend, Lazarus, to lead him to make bad choices. He disappointed his parents, his teacher, and most of all the Lord.

prison clothes and said: "In Damascus, Jerusalem and in Judea I told Jews and Gentiles they must repent of their sins and turn to God. I witness to everyone that Jesus is the Messiah, who died and rose again."

King Agrippa shouted at Paul and said, "Paul, you are mad. All you have learned has made you crazy."

Paul answered, "No, oh King Agrippa, I am not mad. I tell the truth. I speak to you because you already know about these things. I pray that you and all others who hear me today will come to know Jesus as I know him."

Paul was a bold witness for Jesus. He told three things: (1) what Paul's life was like before he met Jesus, (2) how he met Jesus, and (3) how his life changed after he believed in Jesus.

Application (10 minutes)

Say: Jesus wants all his followers to have courage to tell others why they believe in him. A good way to do that is to tell your story in the same way Paul told his story.

(1) What your life was like before you met Jesus.

(2) How you came to believe in Jesus.

(3) How your life has changed since you became a Christian. Talk with the children about each point.

(1) **YOUR LIFE BEFORE CHRIST**
Were you afraid of dying? Liked to

fight? Used curse words? Disobeyed your parents?

(2) **HOW YOU MET CHRIST**

Was it in church? a Christian camp? Did you read a tract? A friend told you?

(3) **YOUR LIFE NOW** Not afraid of dying? Quit fighting? Want to tell others about Jesus? Read the Bible, pray and go to church? Obey your parents?

Ask the child whom you enlisted before class to tell how he/she became a Christian.

Ask the children to choose a friend with whom they will tell how and when they were saved.

Invite those who have not yet trusted Christ to stay after class. Explain to them how to be saved.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Father, please help the children to be able to tell others how to be saved. Help them not to be afraid to be your witness. Amen

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

God Is So Good

(Ask the children to walk around as they sing.)

1. God is so good,

God is so good,

God is so good.

He's so good to me!

2. He died for me

3. I love Him so.

4. I praise His name.

Have you ever seen a fight at school and told the teacher what you saw? Or have you seen a vehicle accident and told a person of authority about it?

A witness is a person who tells what he has seen, heard or experienced. If you have seen a fight and told the teacher what you saw, you were a witness.

(Allow 5 minutes for the children to tell something they have seen or experienced such as a fire, theft, accident or even something good that they have witnessed.)

Play the game: (15 minutes)

Tug of War

Divide the children into two groups. Give each group a small stick about 12 inches long. Let them tug each other to see which group will be successful in pulling the other group to their side. Play the game again in pairs.

2. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a Bible story: (20 minutes)

Ask: How do you feel when you have some really good news? Do you just keep quiet about it? Or do you want to tell everyone about it?

Paul, the first missionary, knew some good news about Jesus; and he wanted to tell everyone. He could not stay quiet because he knew the good news would help others as it had helped him.

For a long time Paul hated Jesus and all the people who followed him. He and some other Jewish religious

leaders went from Jerusalem, where they lived, to the city of Damascus. They went there to persecute the Christians and to put them in prison.

On the way Paul met Jesus, and his life was changed forever. Instead of hurting Christians, he believed in Jesus just like they did.

PAUL'S TESTIMONY

1. Paul told people about the bad things he did to hurt the Christians before he met Jesus.

2. Paul told how he met Jesus. A bright light shone from heaven and made him blind. Then Jesus spoke to him about what he wanted Paul to do.

3. Finally Paul told how his life had changed since he met Jesus on the road to Damascus.

Before Paul became a follower of Christ, he persecuted Christians and had them put in prison. Many times after he was saved, Paul was persecuted and put in prison.

In one city where Paul and his helpers were telling about Jesus, Paul was falsely accused and put in prison. He had to explain his case before Festus, a Roman governor. The next day he got to tell his story to the king.

King Agrippa had heard about Paul and requested to hear him.

There was a big ceremony the day King Agrippa and his sister Bernice marched into the main hall of the palace. When the king asked Paul to speak, Paul stood up in his

Song: (5 minutes)

There is No Friend

There is no friend like the lowly Jesus.

No, not one.

No, not one.

Drama: (10 minutes)

Divide the children into four groups: two to represent those who make wrong choices and two to represent those who make right choices.

1. One group should represent people who are advised against using a short cut, but they do so. Then a dog chases them. Some end up running through a shrub and are pricked by thorns and come out crying.

2. Then the other group should represent children who are asked by their parents to go to sleep early. These children refuse to do so and end up waking up late. As a result they miss their breakfast and go to school hungry for choosing to sleep late.

3. The other two groups should do the opposite and as a result their results are positive and beneficial.

Say: "Let us be careful what we choose; every choice will bear fruit."

Song: (5 minutes)

I Will Choose

I will choose to do right (x3) Me, me, me (while beating on the chest)

Even if my friends choose to do wrong, I will do what is right (x3) Me, me, me, Always what is right, me, me, me.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Before Jesus started his work on earth, he prayed to the Father in heaven. After praying throughout the night, he chose twelve men to work with him. One of the twelve was Judas Iscariot.

Judas was responsible for keeping the money, but he was unfaithful in looking after it. Everyday he used the money on personal things. He was stealing God's money. Jesus knew, and he wanted Judas to repent. Judas, however, pretended that he was as faithful as the rest of the disciples.

The chief priests and the Jewish leaders were looking for an opportunity to put Jesus to death. They decided that they were going to give thirty pieces of silver coins to the person who would betray Jesus. The unfaithful disciple quickly accepted the offer. Then he said to them, "The one I will kiss when we arrive in the Garden is the one to arrest." Judas did as arranged, and Jesus was arrested.

Early in the morning all the chief priests and the elders made their plans to put Jesus to death. They put him in chains, led him off, and handed him over to Pilate, the Roman governor.

When Judas, the traitor, learned that Jesus had been condemned, he was remorseful and took back the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. "I have sinned by betraying an innocent man to death!" he said. But the chief priests and elders refused to accept the coins. Judas threw the coins down in the Temple and left. Then he went out and hanged himself.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What were the results of Judas' bad choice?
(He became a thief. Judas misused God's money. Judas developed deep love for money. Judas betrayed his Lord. Judas was filled with deep sorrow and guilt, but he did not repent. Judas killed himself.)
2. What were the results of the chief priests and elders bad choice?
(They hated the Lord who taught the truth. They became evildoers. They plotted how to arrest Jesus. They killed an innocent man. They brought condemnation on their lives.)

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Serve Him, Serve Him
 Serve him, serve him,
 Serve him in the morning,
 Serve him in the noon-time.
 Serve him, serve him,
 Serve him when the sun goes down.
 Change Serve him to:
 Love him, Thank him, and Praise him.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Divide the children into two groups to repeat the phrases and actions of the verse after you:

Group 1: "You will earn the trust and respect of others if you work for good;" (Shake hands)

Group 2: "if you work for evil, you are making a mistake" (Turn away)

All: Proverbs 14:22.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Have the children say to each other, "I choose to be faithful. How about you?"
2. Challenge the children to take their pledge seriously.
3. Encourage the children to invite their friends the following week.
4. Encourage the children to share what they are learning with their parents and schoolmates.
5. Sing a song: *Give Me Oil*
 Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
 Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
 Give me oil in my lamp keep me burning.
 Keep me burning till the break of day,
 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving;
 Give me love in my heart, I pray.
 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
 Keep me serving till the break of day.
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

WITNESSING TO OTHERS

SCRIPTURE: Acts 25:23-26:32

MEMORY VERSE: "God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses to the fact" (Acts 2:32).

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

1. Know what it means to be a witness for Jesus,
2. Be able to tell three things Paul told King Agrippa about how he became a Christian,
3. Want to witness to someone about what Jesus has done for them.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Read all of Acts 25 and 26.
3. Study Acts 25:23-26:32.
4. Memorize Acts 2:32.
5. Make notes for yourself about Paul for the background of this lesson. (1) What did Paul do to Christians before he met Christ? (2) How did Paul meet Christ? (3) How did Christ change Paul's life? (4) What did Paul do after he was saved?
6. Open your Bible to tell the story, but do not read it.
7. Enlist a child who is a Christian to tell his/her testimony.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray for God to lead you and the children as you study the lesson today.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men" (Luke 2:52).
3. Say the club commitment: (Place hands over heart.) "Because Jesus is my example, I pledge myself to grow in wisdom, body and in favour with God and men."
4. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*
5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, visitors, and those who brought a visitor today.

Song: (5 minutes)

Stop! And Let Me Tell You
 Stop! and let me tell you
 What the Lord has done for me.
 Stop! and let me tell you
 What the Lord has done for me.

He forgave my sin
 and He saved my soul.
 He cleansed my heart
 and He made me whole.
 Stop! and let me tell you
 What the Lord has done for me.

Introduce the lesson:

Ask: Who can tell me who a witness is? What does a person have to do to be a witness?

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

(Ask the children to stand up and follow the exercises you lead them to do. They are to do only those actions when you say, "Simon says." If you don't say, "Simon says", then they are not to do them.)

Simon says: Jump two times.

Simon says: Clap two times.

Walk fast.

Simon says: Stop.

Simon says: Run behind me.

Simon says: Sit down.

Recognize those who listened well and followed all your commands.

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

Why Doesn't Everyone Believe in Jesus?

Today I have a gift for each of you in this bag. I hope you like the different fruit I brought. (Open your bag and offer a piece of fruit to each child. Some may not want to eat it. That's OK. Take a bit of a piece of fruit yourself. Pass the bag around again and offer the children another piece.)

Some of you did not choose to eat the different fruit I brought. That is not important. But it is important to believe in Jesus.

There are some people who decide not to take God's free gift of Jesus. They don't believe in Jesus. Do you know anyone who does not believe in Jesus? That person's reason for not accepting God's free gift may be much like those of you

who did not want to eat the fruit today. Maybe they are afraid to try it. And maybe the person who has never heard about Jesus is afraid to try believing in him. They don't know anything about him.

That's where we can help. We can tell them what we know about Jesus. That's what it means to be a "witness." We tell others what we know and have experienced.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Say the memory verse in phrases. Then say it several times together.

"Jesus drew near and said to them, 'I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth./ Go, then, to all peoples everywhere /and make them my disciples...'"(Matthew 28:18-19)

Say: Jesus wants us to tell everyone we meet about his love for them. We should share with them what Jesus taught us in the Bible. He did not say for us to send his message in a bottle. He wants us to tell people about him ourselves. Will you do that this week?

5. CLOSING TIME: (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Sing a song the children choose.
3. Ask the children to be a witness for Christ's this week. Tell someone what you know about Jesus' love.
4. Encourage the children to bring a new friend next week.
5. Close with prayer.
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer..

MAKING CHOICES

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 15:1-31

MEMORY VERSE: "Rebellion against him is as bad as witchcraft, and arrogance is as sinful as idolatry. Because you rejected the Lord's command, he has rejected you as king" (1 Samuel 15:23).

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

1. Know that there are bad results in choosing to disobey God's Word,
2. Make up their minds to obey God's Word,
3. Encourage other friends to live by the Word of God,
4. Aim at being obedient wherever they go.

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: Matthew 7:21-27, John 12:44-50, Deuteronomy 28:15-29.
3. Study 1 Samuel 15:1-31.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to say them without the book.
5. Study the lesson and be prepared to teach it in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson 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 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 had a birthday the previous week.

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.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (5 minutes)

There was a boy named Thomas, who was fond of playing in the dark. His mother kept reminding him of the dangers of playing at night, but he never listened.

One day he decided to run from the veranda to the gate. Suddenly, he hit his foot against the stone and fell. His nose hit the ground and

started bleeding. He went home crying. As she cleaned him up, she reminded him of her warning and that disobedience can cause one to be hurt. Just think, if Thomas had obeyed his mother, he would not have hurt himself that evening.

Drama: (15 minutes)

Divide the children into three groups of an army. One child should act as a commander, one group should represent loyal members of the army; one group should represent disobedient soldiers, and the third group should act as enemies.

Commander: "Soldiers, I have just received information from the headquarters that we have enemies along the border who are trying to get into our country. Therefore, each one of you should be on alert and no soldier should go out of the barracks without permission!"

Obedient soldiers: "Yes, sir."

Disobedient soldiers: (only frown)

Commander: "You are dismissed."

After walking away from the parade, the *disobedient soldiers* say, "Who can just stay within the barracks and keep freezing, expressing respect to seniors, saluting, running around and carrying out instructions! Some of us will still go out for pleasure. If the enemy is there, we will sort him out!" They laugh and go to put on civilian clothes. Secretly they sneak out of the barracks.

The enemy attacks them before they reach the city. (Some of the disobedient soldiers should escape with injuries; while others should act as dead people.)

The commander summons the soldiers again. Those who were injured by the enemies should be brought under guard.

Commander: "It was just yesterday when I issued a command that no one should go out of this barracks!" (He shouts at the top of his voice. Then he pauses, shakes his head, and points to the injured soldiers.) "But these soldiers thought I was just singing a song to them. That is why they are in the state they are in today!"

(The other soldiers should look at them with pity and disapproval.)

Commander: "Please take my words seriously and stay within the barracks."

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

I Surrender All

All to Jesus I surrender,
All to him I freely give;
I surrender all, I surrender all
All to thee my blessed Saviour
I surrender all.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Once upon a time there was a man who left his country on a pilgrimage to a foreign nation. He said goodbye to his family and promised to write to them on his

When you say "Go" those holding a bottle will run and give his bottle to the first child on the other half of his team 20 feet away. That child will open the bottle, read John 3:16, put it back into the bottle and run to give it the next team member on the other side. The first team that has all its members carry the bottle and read the verse will be the winner.

Sing: (5 minutes)

John Three Sixteen

(Make up a tune if you need to.)

John Three Sixteen,

That's the Good News Verse.

Read it so you'll know it.

Then to others show it.

John Three Sixteen,

That's the Good News Verse.

Tell the Bible story (15 minutes)

Matthew, also known as Levi, was a Jew. His job was to collect taxes from the Jews to give to the Roman government. Because he worked for a foreign government, his own people thought he was a thief and traitor. He was not even welcome to worship with them.

One day Jesus went to the place where Matthew was collecting taxes. Jesus saw him and loved him. Jesus knew Matthew would be a good helper to work with him. Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Matthew got up immediately from his tax work and followed Jesus.

Matthew was different after he met Jesus. He had made much money collecting taxes, but that was not important to him any more. Now he only wanted to be with Jesus.

Matthew thought about his tax collector friends. He wanted them to know Jesus, too. So he gave a big feast for Jesus. Matthew did not invite the Jews who thought he was a thief. No, he invited the other tax collectors and sinners to come to the feast. Matthew was a witness to his friends who needed to know Jesus, too.

Jesus chose Matthew as one of his twelve disciples. Years later God inspired Matthew to write the Gospel of Matthew.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. What was Matthew's work? (a tax collector)
2. Who did Matthew work for? (the Roman government)
3. What did Jesus ask Matthew to do? (follow him)
4. What did Matthew do after Jesus called him? (Immediately he left everything and followed Jesus.)
5. How did Matthew tell his friends about Jesus? (He planned a big feast and invited tax collectors and sinners to come meet Jesus.)
6. How was Matthew a witness? (He invited his friends to meet Jesus.)

Prayer: Ask God to help the children to tell their friends about Jesus just like Matthew.

some beer. Before long the two messengers felt tired and went to sleep. They forgot the reason the king had sent them.

The next morning the two messengers realized they had made a big mistake. It was late, and they decided to go back to the king. They lied to the king about telling all the headmen of all the villages. They did not think the king would know.

The day of the meeting came. Only two headmen from two villages came to hear the message of the king. The king was angry, and the messengers were frightened.

The king asked the messengers to explain why the other headmen had not come. The messengers just shivered and could not speak. The king ordered the messengers to be beaten ten strokes with a whip.

The messengers failed to do as the king commanded. Now many people would not hear the important message of the king.

Application: (5 minutes)

Jesus is the King of Kings. He gave an important message to his disciples and told them to take it to all the people in the world. The message was a command we read in Matthew 28:19-20. "Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations....'"

All people who have trusted in Jesus as their Saviour are his

disciples. The important message he gave to the first disciples is our command also. We are to go and make disciples of all the nations. That means we are to tell all the people in the world that Jesus loves them and died to save them. We are to teach them all of Jesus' words in the Bible.

Are we obeying? Or like the two messengers in our story, are we failing to tell others the message King Jesus gave us?

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask Jesus to help the children to know him, obey him, and tell their friends about him.

Play a relay game: (10 minutes)

Message in a Bottle

Say: There was a man who wanted to be a witness for Jesus. He wrote the words of John 3:16 on a piece of paper and put it in a bottle. Then he threw the bottle into the ocean. He believed the waves of the ocean would wash the bottle up on the beach far away. He hoped someone would find the bottle, read the message, and be saved. Do you think that was a good plan? NO

Divide the children into four groups. Two groups will make one team. Half of the team will stand behind a line about 20 feet from their other team members. Give the first child on each team a bottle with John 3:16 inside it.

arrival in the foreign country. The man, whose name was Paul, sailed off with excitement.

When he arrived in the country, he was well received. He was taken to the survey department, which was responsible for issuing maps to all foreigners. Paul gladly received the map and safely put it in his bag.

The government officer looked at him, smiled, and said, "We hope you will enjoy your stay in our country as you visit important places and as you follow that map."

Paul smiled back and said, "Thank you very much for your kindness, sir." And he walked out of the office with confidence.

The first week of his stay in the country, Paul strictly followed the map. The map helped him to locate many places. But later he thought to himself, "This place is small compared to my country. I might as well just do away with the map."

One morning Paul decided to visit one of the famous tourist spots in a remote area of the country. People traveled by trails to get there, and a map was essential for safe arrival. The map also helped visitors to stay in forests which were not infested with wild animals.

Paul said to himself, "This will be very adventurous." The first three days, each time Paul started, he quickly consulted the map. The map helped him to get to a lodging place where he spent the night.

The fourth day, he said, "I have now gained a strong sense of direction. I do not need to strictly follow the map. I know I will make it." He strode on whistling a tune.

Suddenly his route brought him to a crossroad of three trails. He paused, looked in the sky, and said, "I remember according to the map it is the one on the right. I do not have to consult a map."

After three kilometres he entered a thick forest. In the forest he stood still as a gentle breeze blew around him. He felt a chill pass through his stomach, and his hair moved. Then he saw a leopard above him. The animal leaped at him as he started to scream, "Help! I am in trouble!" All that he could hear was the echo of his own screaming.

Paul ran for his life, but the fierce animal caught up with him and tore him to pieces.

Summary

As long as Paul followed the instructions of the official and the map, he was safe. He even went to places he did not know. When he ignored the instructions and the map, he got lost and died.

God is the only one who has the map of the trails of life. If we ignore the instructions of God in the Bible, we will get lost and perish, just like the soldiers who disobeyed orders and like Paul, who thought he didn't need the map.

Bible teaching (15 minutes)

Did you know that even God's people, the children of Israel lost direction and were defeated? Israel disobeyed God and could not stand before her enemies, the Amalekites. God had told them what to do to win the battle, but they did not listen.

The Lord said to King Saul through Samuel, "You rejected the Lord's command, and he has rejected you as king of Israel" (1 Samuel 15:26).

Samuel said to Saul, "Rebellion against him is as bad as witchcraft; and arrogance as sinful as idolatry. Because you rejected the Lord's command, he has rejected you as king" (1 Samuel 15:23).

The Lord instructed Saul to lead the nation of Israel to wage war against the Amalekites, an evil nation. The Lord instructed Saul not to take anything from the city.

However, after they defeated the Amalekites, Saul and the people selected some fat animals and carried them alive into their nation. Saul even carried the king away alive. God was displeased and sent the prophet Samuel to tell Saul that he no longer was king of Israel.

Samuel informed Saul that the Lord had rejected him from leading the nation of Israel as king. Saul tried to plead with Samuel and blamed the people for disobedience. But Samuel could not change the words of the Lord.

John wrote that Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey my commands" (John 14:15). God wants his people to follow his instructions in the Bible. God is pleased when we obey his words.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Thank God for his Word and ask God to help the children to remember and obey his Word.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach by having the children repeat phrases after you. Then divide the boys and girls to say the verse:

Girls: "Rebellion against him is as bad as witchcraft."

Boys: "And arrogance is as sinful as idolatry."

Girls: "Because you have rejected the Lord's command."

Boys: "He has rejected you as king"

All: 1 Samuel 15:23.

5. CLOSING TIME: (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children what they have learned today.
2. Challenge the children to be obedient to God's Word, their parents and teachers,
3. Encourage the children to invite their friends the following week.
4. Make announcements,
5. Sing a song: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*.
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 48

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A WITNESS?

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 9:9-13

MEMORY VERSE: "Jesus drew near and said to them, 'I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples...'" (Matthew 28:18-19a).

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

1. Understand Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations,
2. Know the meaning of being a witness for Christ,
3. Be concerned for lost friends,
4. Witness to someone who is lost.

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: Matthew 28:19-20, Ezekiel 3:18, Acts 1:8.
5. Be prepared to teach in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with a prayer.
2. Say the club verse: Luke 2:52
3. Sing the club song.
4. Say the club commitment.
5. Recognize those who had a birthday during the past week, visitors, and those who brought a visitor today.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Tell the Good News

Christ was born in a distant land,
Tell the good news, tell the good news;
Lived on earth for the good of man,
Tell the good news, tell the good news.

Chorus

Tell the good news, tell the good news
Tell the good news that Christ has come;
Tell the good news, tell the good news,
Tell the good news to everyone.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

A long time ago there was a king who ruled a very big area. One day he called two of his messengers to come. He told his messengers to go to the headmen in all of the eight villages of his area and tell them to come see him in two days. He had an important message to give to all the people.

The king warned the messengers that he would punish them if they failed to take his message to all the headmen in the villages.

The messengers went to the first village and told the headman he was to go see the king in two days. Then the two messengers went to the next village. After giving the headman in the second village the king's message, the two messengers decided to drink

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

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

“Every one of us, then, will have to give an account of himself to God” (Romans 14:12).

Divide the boys and girls to say the verse:

Boys: Everyone of us, then,

Girls: will have to give an account

Boys: of himself to God.

Girls: Romans 14:12.

Repeat and change the parts until everyone knows the verse. Then have the group say the verse together.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge the children to confess any sin and promise to live godly lives.

2. Make announcements.

3. Sing:

I Surrender All

I surrender all.

I surrender all.

All to thee, my blessed Saviour,

I surrender all.

4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.

5. Close with prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 31

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I MAKE BAD CHOICES

SCRIPTURES: Genesis 3:1-24,
Genesis 19:12-26, Luke 9: 57-62

MEMORY VERSE: “But Lot’s wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt” (Genesis 19:26).

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

1. See results of bad choices,
2. Know how to avoid making bad choices,
3. Want to obey God’s Word.

4. Revise last week’s lesson and memory verse.

Sing: (5 minutes)

There’s No One Like Jesus

(#7 in Friends of Jesus Song Book)

There’s no one like Jesus, no one like Him.

There’s no one like Jesus, no one like Him. (repeat)

He is so good. He is so good. He is so good - Jesus.

There’s no one like Jesus, no one like Him.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON:

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

A long time ago there was a man born with a lame leg. He could only walk with the help of a stick. One day the man’s relatives took him to a church meeting where a preacher with the gift of healing was speaking.

The preacher prayed for the lame man, and he was saved and healed. At first he had difficulty walking, but on the way home he threw his stick in the bushes because he could walk alone

Every week on his way to church, the man who was healed would look at the place he threw his stick. He would say to his friends, “Look, that is the place where I threw my stick.”

1. TEACHER’S PREPARATION:

1. Pray for yourself and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Study Genesis 3:1-24, 19:12-26, Luke 9: 57-62.
3. Memorize Genesis 19:26.
4. Be prepared to teach the lesson in your own words.
5. Prepare small stones wrapped in small pieces of coloured papers.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer.
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, those who are visitors, and those who brought a visitor today.

One day the healed man stopped and looked for his stick. He found it, picked it up, and started using it again. Soon he became lame as he was before. He went crying to his pastor and asked for help.

The pastor said, "Once you are saved and healed, you should not go back to your old ways. Satan will always be there to tempt you to do wrong. The punishment is even greater because you know what you are doing is wrong."

1. What problem did the man in the story have? (He was lame.)
2. How was he healed? (He believed in Jesus, and the preacher prayed for him.)
3. Where did he throw his stick? (into the bush on the way home)
4. What did he decide to do? (to find his stick)
5. What happened when he tried to walk with the stick? (He became lame again).
6. What did the pastor tell him? (Once you are saved and healed, you should not go back to your old ways.)

The lame man had no hope that he would walk like others. One day after hearing the Word of God, he was saved and later healed. God was not happy when he chose to go back to his old ways.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

If you have given your life to Christ, ask God to help you not to go back to your old ways. Ask God to

help you obey his Word all your life.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus,
(Repeat three times.)

No turning back, no turning back
The world behind me, the cross
before me, (Repeat three times.)
No turning back, no turning back.

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Divide the children into three groups. Ask each group to stand in a queue behind a starting line. Put a rock for each group a certain distance away, but where you can see them well.

When you say, "Start," the first one in the queue must run and touch the rock and return and touch the next person behind the starting line.

No one who is running should look back once he starts to run. He should just aim at running to the end and back. The group which finishes first becomes the winner.

Application:

Ask: Why do you think I asked you not to look back after you started the race? (You waste time; lose your speed and direction.) The choice you make of looking back can cause you to lose the race.

Once Jesus met a man who said that he wanted to follow Jesus. Then the man said, "I will follow you, sir;

"Simon says jump." They jump only when you say "Simon says." If you just say the exercise, whoever performs the exercise is out of the game.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

I Surrender All

I surrender all.
I surrender all.
All to thee, my blessed Saviour,
I surrender all.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

The apostle Paul told the Christians that God is going to judge everyone of us according to what we do every day in our life. Therefore, none of us has the right to judge or despise the others.

God is just. He will not favour anybody. He does not look at the outside of a person, but he looks at our hearts. Whatever a person does or says, shows what is in his heart. For this reason, a person should not waste time showing people that he or she is good outside. Everyone should work hard to be good in the heart, where God sees.

You may be tempted to do wrong things because everyone else is doing the same things. You should know that on judgement day, God will not forgive you because you were tempted by your friends. You will be judged for doing the wrong thing as an individual.

When you are in a group who are doing wrong or bad things, you should always do what you believe is

right before God. You should not only do right things, but you should also help your friends to do what is right. Pray for them that God will help them to do right things.

Application: (5 minutes)

As you grow, you become less and less dependent on your parents. As soon as you start knowing what is good and what is bad, then you become responsible for what you do in life.

Before God, we are all responsible for what we do. Remember all that you think, say and do, God knows and sees. There is no privacy before God. Always know that God is near you. Before you do anything, ask yourself if it is right in the sight of God. It will be difficult sometimes; but if you ask God to help you, you will manage to do what is right.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart (four times)

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads. Pray that God will help them to live good lives all the time, so that they shall be ready to appear before God.

Saul was a tall, handsome man. At first he was a man who humbled himself before God, but after a time that changed.

Samuel told the people that he would teach them what was right and what was wrong. If they would obey the Lord and serve him faithfully with all their heart, God would keep them and their king safe. If they continued to sin, they and their king would be destroyed.

At that time one of the strongest enemies of the children of Israel was the Philistines, who lived on the coastal plain. They had chariots and horsemen as well as soldiers in large numbers.

The Israelites were afraid of the Philistines. When they saw the large numbers of them, the Israelites began to desert the army of Saul.

Saul was at a place called Gilgal, and he was supposed to wait there for Samuel to come and offer the sacrifices to God before the battle.

Saul waited for seven days for Samuel to come, and during that time his army was deserting him.

On the seventh day Saul told the people for them to bring him the burnt sacrifices and the fellowship sacrifices, and he would offer them to the Lord.

Just as he finished offering the sacrifices, Samuel arrived. Saul went out to meet Samuel; but Samuel said, "What have you done?"

Saul gave his excuses to Samuel, "The people were deserting me, and you had not come when you said that

you would; besides that, the Philistines are gathering at Michmash. So I thought that since the Philistines are going to attack me here and I have not tried to win the Lord's favor, I felt I had to offer the sacrifice."

Samuel responded, "That was a foolish thing to do. You have not obeyed the command the Lord your God gave you. If you had obeyed, he would have let you and your descendants rule over Israel forever. Now your rule will not continue. Because you have disobeyed him, the Lord will find the kind of man he wants and make him ruler of his people."

Questions:

1. Why did the people want to have a king?
2. Why was this desire to have a king an insult to God?
3. What are the consequences of doing what others want to do even when you know that it is not the right thing to do?

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus is a Wonderful Saviour

Jesus is a wonderful Saviour,
He will carry you through.
Jesus is a wonderful Saviour,
He will carry you through.
When the battle is done,
and the victory is won.
Our Lord will carry you through.

Game: (10 minutes)

Have all the children stand up. Do different exercises by saying:

but first I want to go home and say good-bye to my family."

Jesus said to him, "Anyone who starts to plough and then keeps looking back is of no use to the Kingdom of God" (Luke 9: 57-62).

Jesus wants you to follow him and not make excuses or look back.

Object lesson: (5 minutes)

Show the small wrapped stones you brought, but the children should not touch them.

Ask:

1. Do these objects look nice? (Yes)
2. What makes them look alike? (the coloured papers)
3. Do you think that the object inside is also nice? (Answers may vary.)
4. (Ask two children to unwrap all the stones.) You see they are all just small stones. They looked nice on the outside, but the objects inside have no value.

You must ask God to help you make wise choices in life. If you do not, then what you choose may be of no value. You should not make choices just by the way something looks.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

There are many people in the Bible who chose to disobey God, and they ended in problems. Some of you also have disobeyed your parents and have put yourselves in problems. Can you think of some bad choices that you have made?

God is good. Everything he says to us is for our good. God always gives us the choice to follow him or refuse to follow him. When we do not follow him, we always have problems. Sometimes these bad choices lead to terrible results.

When Adam and Eve chose to disobey God by eating the fruit God said they should not eat, the punishment was terrible. The snake, Adam, and Eve were all punished. The snake was cursed, and Adam and Eve were thrown out of the beautiful Garden of Eden. Their disobedience brought death that extends to us today.

Years later God warned Lot and his family to run away because he was going to destroy the sinful cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. God sent angels to lead Lot's family to safety.

One of the angels warned them, "Run! Do not look back and do not stop until you reach the town of Zoar. If you do, you will be killed."

God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah just as he said. All the people in the towns died.

Lot's family was saved. Lot's wife, however, looked back to see the city where she had lived. When she did, she turned into a pillar of salt. She chose to disobey the angel's instructions, and she died. She made a bad choice.

Application: (5 minutes)

God gives us instructions in his Word about how he wants us to live. There are always bad results when we choose to go our own way and not listen to God. We will have to live with the consequences of our bad choices. Punishment will come.

I hope you will choose to obey God's Word and let it guide you every day of your life. You need to read God's Word every day and to pray. His ways are always right.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Walking With Jesus Is So Sweet
(#10 in the Friends of Jesus Song Book)

Walking with Jesus is so sweet,
Walking with Jesus is so sweet,
Is so sweet, is so sweet.
Walking with Jesus is so sweet.

Application:

God is just, and he is fair. He has given us the Bible, where we find all the rules about how to live here on earth. He does not want to punish us eternally, but he wants us to live with him forever in heaven.

Don't you want to choose to obey God? Will you decide today to obey and follow him always?

Sing: (5 minutes)

Follow, Follow, I Will Follow Jesus
Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus,
Anywhere, everywhere,
I will follow him.

Follow, follow, I will follow
Jesus,
Anywhere he leads me, I will
follow him.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and ask God to help them obey him and his Word.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"But Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt" (Genesis 19:26).

Write the Memory Verse on a chalkboard. Ask a child to erase two words, then say it again. Continue to erase the words until the children can say the verse well.

Act out the verse with motions.
(Look back, then stand still like a statue.)

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Challenge the children to avoid making wrong choices by obeying God's Word.
2. Make announcements.
3. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
4. Close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 47

I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT I DO

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 10-13:12,
Romans 14:12

MEMORY VERSE: "Everyone of us, then, will have to give an account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

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

1. Realize that they are responsible for the things that they do everyday,
2. Want to live good lives all the time.
3. Know that one day God is going to judge everyone for the way they have lived.

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.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Cause Me to Come
Cause me to come to thy river,
O Lord. (three times)
Cause me to live by thy river,
O Lord. (three times)
Cause me to drink from thy river,
O Lord. (three times)

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: Hebrews 4:13, Matthew 12:33-37, Romans 14:12.
3. Study 1 Samuel 10-13:12.
4. Study the lesson and be prepared to teach it 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. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

Saul was chosen by God to be the first king of the children of Israel. Until that time the people had been governed by judges, and God was to be recognized as their king.

After a time the people began to want to be like the countries around them who had a king.

At that time Samuel was a great judge in the country. He tried to tell the people that to want a king to rule them was an insult to God, but the people would not listen.

Then God told Samuel that he would choose a person to be king. The man that God chose was Saul.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Make cards with the following words on them:

But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power And you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

Use the cards by having children hold the cards while everyone reads the verse. Say the verse until everyone knows it.

Let the children say the memory verse without cards as a group and as individuals who want to try.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell you one thing they have learnt from the lesson. If they hesitate, remind them.
2. Challenge the children to start witnessing as they go home and everyday.
3. Make announcements.
4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
5. Sing a song:

Humble Yourself

He will lift you up.
He will lift you up.
Humble yourself before the Lord.
He will lift you up.

6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 32

WORTHY CHOICES

SCRIPTURES: Luke 10:38-42, Psalm 27:4, James 1:5

MEMORY VERSE: "Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:42b).

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

1. God has give us the opportunity to make choices,
2. They should seek God's guidance when making choices,
3. Wrong choices lead to sin.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for wisdom as you prepare to teach the children.
2. Read the following Scriptures as you prepare for the lesson: Luke 10:38-42, Psalm 27:4, James 1:5.
3. Memorise Luke 10:42b.
4. Be prepared to teach the lesson in your own words.
5. Take a small stone to use in the object lesson.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray and commit the lesson to the Lord.
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. 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. Revise last week's lesson and memory verse.

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

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.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: Talk about how we make friends. Ask: What kind of friends do we want? Ask: Why would we want to be that kind of friend to someone else?

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

One day Chimwemwe decided to go with his mother to the store. In the shop, Chimwemwe helped his mother to pick the items she needed.

When they were standing in the queue to pay, Chimwemwe noticed something near the counter. It was a magazine.

Chimwemwe elbowed his mother and directed her attention to the magazine.

"What is wrong, Chimwemwe?" his mother asked.

"That magazine bothers me." Chimwemwe replied.

"What bothers you about it?" his mother wanted to know.

"The woman is barely wearing any clothes," Chimwemwe replied, feeling uncomfortable this time. "I don't like it being there."

"Do you think we can do something?" his mother asked.

Chimwemwe was not sure what to do next. He knew he did not like what he saw. He could turn the magazine around backwards, but he knew someone would come along and straighten the rack and turn it so it would be seen again.

Chimwemwe realized that some guys would roll their eyes and look elsewhere. But he also realized that others would continue to look at the magazine cover and look inside for more pictures.

Chimwemwe needed to make a decision. He reasoned that he could choose to ignore the magazine or attempt to have the magazine removed.

Chimwemwe made his choice. He asked his mum if there was someone he could talk to in the shop about his desire to have the magazine

placed out of sight. His mother suggested that he could talk to the cashier at the counter.

Chimwemwe talked to the cashier about the magazine. He told the woman that the magazine was not good for him to look at and not good for other guys, too.

The cashier responded and removed the issue to the stockroom and promised to let the store manager know about Chimwemwe's concern.

"Thank you," said Chimwemwe.

"Thank you for saying something," the cashier replied with a smile on her face.

As Chimwemwe and his mother left the store, they saw the cashier gather up all the issues of the magazines and take them out of sight.

Application: (5 minutes)

Do you think that Chimwemwe did a good thing? Could this story have a different ending? What would you do then?

Song: (5 minutes)

O Be Careful

O be careful little eyes what you see.
O be careful little eyes what you see.
For the Father up above is looking down in love.

O be careful little eyes what you see.

O be careful little hands what you do.

O be careful little hands what you do.

For the Father up above is looking down in love.

No turning back, no turning back (two times)

The world behind me,

The cross before me (three times)

No turning back, no turning back.

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Let the children stand up and scatter around the room. Let them greet each other by shaking hands and telling each other, "Jesus loves you."

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Jesus says we should become his followers; and when we do, we become his witnesses. You cannot become a witness if you are not a follower of Jesus. It is important that you give your lives to Jesus.

When you give your life to Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes into your heart. The Holy Spirit is the power that makes you want to witness and know what to say. (Acts 1:8)

Jesus is our example in witnessing. Jesus knew that he came to be the saviour for everybody he met. The colour of a person's skin did not matter to him. The job that a person had did not matter to him. He witnessed to the fishermen, to the thief, to the tax collectors, to the adulteress, and to small children. He showed them love.

When he entered any house, he witnessed to the people in that home. He witnessed by living a holy life.

The way he talked made people want to follow him. He prayed for the sick; he went to mourn with those who were mourning.

During mealtime he talked about the Kingdom of God. Jesus was busy with the work of his Father. There was no place nor time Jesus did not witness.

Remember that we are told to witness as soon as we start following Jesus. We are not asked, but told. Let us tell people what we know and have seen about Jesus.

Application: (5 minutes)

God cannot work in you if you are not a Christian (follower of Jesus).

Receive Jesus as your personal Saviour, and then you will be filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will make you want to witness. You will love other people, and you will not want them die in their sins. It is up to you to see that your community is made aware of Jesus Christ as the Saviour. Will you be a witness for the Lord Jesus? Then give yourself to him.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

He is Lord

He is Lord, He is Lord.
He is risen from the dead.
And He is Lord.
Every knee shall bow.
Every knee tongue confess.
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and ask God to help them to witness in their community, everywhere and to everybody.

One child should act as an old woman. She should carry a load walking slowly.

The other three should act as Christians. As soon as they catch up with the old woman, the Christian child should ask the others this question, "What would you do if you found some one with a heavy load on the way like this woman?"

The others should just look at their friend and continue walking. The Christian friend should stop and help the woman carry her load.

The old woman should say, "Thank you, my grandchild, may God bless you and guide you everyday."

Song: (5 minutes)

Humble Yourself

He will lift you up.
He will lift you up.
Humble yourself before the Lord.
He will lift you up.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

What would you do if you found someone needing help? Allow the children to respond to this question. Listen to this story about what Ellen and Dora did.

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

One afternoon when Ellen and Dora had finished washing dishes, they decided to go and visit their friend Luella. As they were walking down the road, they saw a woman sitting on the grass looking unhappy at the load of wood which was

scattered in all directions in a mud puddle.

"What happened?"

The woman explained, "I slipped in the mud and sprained my ankle. How will I ever get my wood home?"

"Oh, we'll help you," said Ellen cheerfully as the girls started picking up the wood. Before long Dora was carrying the bundle of wood while Ellen helped the woman to her home.

As she opened the door, the woman said, "Welcome to Rahab's house. How can I thank you enough for your help?" She sighed as she sank into a chair. "I want to ask you what makes you so different from the other youths. Some girls passed by just before you came and laughed at me."

Ellen replied, "It is because the Lord Jesus has saved us. We want to do things that are helpful and show our love for Jesus and others."

Application: (5 minutes)

God wants us to be responsible wherever we are, even in our community. God is happy when we do good things for our neighbours. We can be a witness to our neighbours through our good deeds.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus
(three times)

O be careful little hands what you do.

O be careful little feet where you go.

O be careful little feet where you go.

For the Father up above is looking down in love.

O be careful little feet where you go.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Jesus enjoyed visiting with his friends, Lazarus, Martha, and Mary, in Bethany. Many times he and his disciples would come to Jerusalem and would spend time with these friends who lived nearby.

One time when Jesus was visiting, Martha was very busy doing all of the good things that a hostess would do. She was preparing food and taking care of the things in the house. Mary was not helping her sister. When Jesus came, she sat down to listen to what he was saying.

After a while, Martha became disturbed. She was not happy that she was doing all of the work and Mary was not helping.

Martha said to Jesus, "Master, tell my sister to help me. Don't you care that she has left me with all of this work?"

"Martha, Martha," Jesus said, "You are worried and troubled over many things, but just one is needed. Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will not be taken away from her."

The things that Martha was doing were good things, but she was not doing the best thing. She was not listening to Jesus and learning from him.

Everyday we have many choices that we can make. Sometimes it is easy to see the choice between doing something that is right and doing something that is wrong.

It is more difficult to make choices that are between what are good things to do and what is the best thing to do. The best thing to do is what God wants us to do. We can only know what is God's best choice for us by listening to him as we read our Bibles and pray.

Jesus said that Mary made the best choice because he knew that Mary wanted to spend her time with him, listening to his teaching, and just being with him. Those are always worthy choices.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus in the Morning

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning,
Jesus at the noon time,
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down.

- (2) Love Him
- (3) Thank Him
- (4) Serve Him
- (5) Praise Him

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Tell the children to bow their heads and thank God for loving them.

Play a game: (10 minutes)

*How Do I Know What God
Wants Me to Do?*

(Hide a small stone in one hand before you begin.)

Say: Let's play a guessing game. (Hold out both fists.) I have something in one of my hands. Can you guess which one? (Play the game a few times, putting your hands behind your back to hide your movements.)

In this game you guessed which hand I was holding the stone in. Playing a guessing game is fun, but you don't want to use it for making important choices in life. (Open your hands for the children to see the stone.)

God does not play a guessing game with you. Nor does he try to trick you to make a wrong choice. He wants you to know clearly what his plans are for you.

The book of James in the New Testament talks about how we can know what God wants. (Read James 1:5) "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given him."

This verse tells us that if you need to know something you can ask God. He has all wisdom, and he will help you know what to do.

How do you think God gives us wisdom? (Give time for the children to answer.) God speaks to us through the Bible, prayer and other Christians.

The verse also tells us that God is generous to all without finding fault.

So the next time you need to know an answer about what God wants you to do — ask him.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Help the children memorize the Memory Verse by having them repeat phrases of the verse after you.

"Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:42b).

Divide the children into two groups and have them say the phrases to each other. Change phrases, and then have them say the entire verse together.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Revise the lesson asking questions about worthy choices.
2. Talk about the importance of having good Christian friends.
3. Make announcements.
4. Encourage children to bring friends to the next meeting.
5. Sing: *Jesus Loves Me*
Jesus loves me, yes, I know,
For the Bible tells we 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.
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

I AM RESPONSIBLE IN MY COMMUNITY

SCRIPTURE: Acts 1:8

MEMORY VERSE: "But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

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

1. Start witnessing in their community,
2. Live good lives in their community,
3. Behave well in society.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children when you will teach.
2. Study the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: John 15:27, Matthew 28:18-20.
3. Study Acts 1:8.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and to be ready to lead them without the book.
5. Study the lesson and be prepared to teach it 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 are visitors, those who brought a visitor today, and those who had a birthday.

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)
(repeat)
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)!

Game: (10 minutes)

What Would You Do?

Choose four boys and girls. Explain to them what they should do.

Soon the king's daughter came down to the river to bathe. As her servants walked along the river bank, the princess suddenly noticed the basket, and she told one of her servants to get it.

The princess opened the basket and saw the baby boy. He was crying, and the princess felt pity for him. She said, "This is one of the Hebrew babies."

Then Miriam came to where her baby brother and the princess were. She asked the princess, "Shall I go and call a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby for you?"

"Yes, please get someone for me," the princess replied.

Miriam went and got her mother.

The princess told the mother that she would pay her to take the baby and nurse him for her.

Later when he was old enough, his mother took him to the princess at the palace. The princess named the baby Moses because she said that she had drawn him out of the water.

Application:

God had a plan for this Hebrew family. He was going to use the baby Moses to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt into the land that he had promised to the descendants of Abraham.

Miriam was just a little girl, but she was also part of God's plan. She helped her mother save the life of her baby brother, and she helped God to have Moses grow up in the palace of the Egyptians as the son of a princess.

Eventually Moses grew up and led the children of Israel out of Egypt. Miriam also was a leader of the women when they left Egypt.

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.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Have the children pray to God asking him to bless their family and to use them for his purpose. Pray that the children will be responsible in the things that they do to help their family.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Help the children memorize the Memory Verse.

"So then we must always aim at things that bring peace and strengthen one another" (Romans 14:19).

Begin by saying the first word, and then add another word until all of the verse is being said. Be sure to include the reference.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

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

2. Make announcements.

3. Sing: *The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock*

4. Close with prayer.

5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

PRACTICING WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 7:21-27

MEMORY VERSE: "Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice" (James 1:22).

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

1. Realize the importance of putting the Word of God into practice,
2. Know that they can only practice what the Bible says if they take time to study it.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray before you begin.
2. Scriptures to be read: James 1:22-25, James 2:14-17, James 4:17.
3. Study Matthew 7:21-27.
4. Study the lesson so you can teach it without having to read from the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray and commit the lesson to the Lord.
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. 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. Revise last week's lesson and memory verse.

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

Song: (5 minutes)

The B-I-B-L-E

The B-I-B-L-E,
Yes, that's the book for me;
I stand alone on the Word of God;
The B-I-B-L-E.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: Today we shall learn about the importance of putting the Word of God into practice.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Joshua Learns a Lesson

There was once a village called Kumba. The village was built next to a large river. The people of Kumba drew their drinking water from the river. They washed from the river. Others liked swimming in the river.

In the village of Kumba there lived a boy called Joshua. Joshua liked to sit on the banks of the river to watch people swimming in the beautiful river. He would sit for hours watching the swimmers.

"I will swim one day," Joshua used to say. "First, I want to know how other people do it. I want to know more about swimming than anybody else in the village."

"If you want to learn how to swim," his grandfather used to tell him, "then you have to get into the water. Practice what you have learned so far."

Joshua, however, would laugh and say, "Don't worry, Grandpa, I will swim one day. I am still studying how others do it." Joshua's friends used to get into the water and try to swim. Finally, they all learnt how to swim, but Joshua continued to sit on the riverbank to study the different ways in which the people of Kumba swam.

"I will swim one day," Joshua kept on saying. He even composed a song that went like this:

You men of Kumba listen to me.

You boys of Kumba listen to me.

I will swim one day.

I will swim one day.

I know what I am doing.

I will swim one day.

Joshua liked singing the song as he sat on the riverbank, watching the swimmers. While Joshua's friends became very good swimmers, Joshua kept singing his song.

One day Joshua went to the city. His father gave him money to buy anything he liked. Joshua bought a book on swimming.

Joshua went back to the village. He was happy. He showed the book to all his friends and said, "What do

you people know about swimming? I know more than you do. The book I bought tells all that I need to know about swimming. I know more than anybody in this village."

"You don't know how to swim," his friends replied. "You spend all your time watching us instead of swimming."

"Just wait," Joshua said. "I will swim one day."

Joshua did not stop going to the river to watch his friends swimming. At night he studied the book on swimming. He read about the different methods of swimming.

When Joshua finished studying the book, he said, "Now I am the best swimmer in the village. Let me prove it to these fools."

So Joshua went to his friends and said, "Look, I am now ready to swim. I will prove to you that I am the best swimmer in the village."

Joshua and his friends went to the river. Joshua's friends stood on the riverbank to watch. Joshua took off his clothes and jumped into the river.

Joshua tried to swim but failed. He tried to do what he had read, but it did not work. He tried to do what he had seen the swimmers of Kumba do, but he still failed to swim.

"Come on! Come on, Joshua!" his friends shouted as they laughed at him.

Joshua could not believe what was happening. He was sure he was the best swimmer in Kumba. The

"Our soil is sandy," said Simon. "Mr. Bwalya told us that beans and cucumbers grow well in sandy soil."

"We can grow carrots and potatoes as well. They like sandy soil," said Sara.

Simon and Sara decided to make the garden at the back of the house because the soil there had less sand in it. They decided to plant okra, cucumbers, cabbage, and pumpkins.

In a few months the garden was doing well. Mr. and Mrs. Phiri were happy with what their children were able to do.

Song: (5 minutes)

All Day Long

All day long I've been with Jesus.

It has been a glorious day.

I've just moved up one step higher,

And I'm walking on the King's highway.

Won't you come and walk with Jesus?

It will be a glorious day.

You can leave your sin and sorrow.

You can walk upon the King's highway.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Miriam was a young Hebrew girl who was living with her family in Egypt. Many years before the children of Israel had come down to Egypt during a famine. Joseph was the second in command to the Pharaoh of Egypt, and he had arranged for his father and his brothers and their families to live in the land of Goshen.

During the four hundred years after that time, the children of Israel had grown to be very large in number. The new kings of Egypt feared having such a large group of foreigners living among them, and they had made all of the Hebrews into slaves. The Hebrews had to work very hard to make bricks for all of the building that the Egyptians did.

God had a plan for the children of Israel; and no matter what the Egyptians did, the children of Israel continued to increase in number.

Finally the Egyptians came up with a plan to kill all of the Hebrew baby boys, but the women who were helping to deliver the babies did not cooperate with the Egyptians. God blessed those women.

Finally the Egyptian king told all of his people to take the Hebrew baby boys and throw them in the Nile River.

During this time a Hebrew woman gave birth to a baby boy. She saw that he was a beautiful child, and she hid him from the Egyptians while he was a very small baby. When he was three months old and she could not hide him any longer, she took a basket made of reeds and covered it with tar to make it so that water couldn't get in it.

She put her baby in the basket and took it to the river where she left it in the tall grass. She told her little girl named Miriam to stay and watch to see what would happen.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.
The foolish man built his house upon the sand.
And the rains came tumbling down.
The rain came down, and the floods came up.
The rain came down, and the floods came up.
The rain came down, and the floods came up;
And the house on the sand fell flat.

Drama: (10 minutes)

Mr. Lazy: Each time Mr. Lazy is given something to do his answer is, "I am feeling tired at this time, I will do it after I have rested."

Miss Excuses: Each time Miss Excuses is asked to do something she always has a good reason for not doing it. She says, "Excuse me, I am doing my homework. I am busy washing. I can not go to church with you."

Mr. Ready: Mr. Ready is always ready to help. He says, "I will do whatever needs to be done."

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Let's hear a story about a brother and a sister who helped their family when they moved to a new place.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Mr. Phiri had a new job in town. When he and his family moved into town, they moved into a newly constructed house.

Mrs. Phiri and the two children, Sara and Simon, liked the house very much; but the garden had not been started. It was just bush. At the back of the house there were weeds, tall grass, and a lot of broken concrete that the builders left behind. At the front there were many small bushes and bare earth. There were no paths, no fence, no flowers and no vegetables.

There's a lot of work to do here," said Mr. Phiri. "Simon and Sara, you will have to help us to make a garden. It's a big job, a job for all the family. You see, vegetables are very expensive at these town markets, so we need to grow our own here. I've decided to give the job to you. Do you think you can do it?"

"We learned about making a garden at school last week," said Sara. "We learned about good and bad soil, when to plant different vegetables, and how to look after them."

"Yes," said Simon, "this is a chance to show you what we've learned. Let's start this afternoon, Sara," he said.

"Good," said Mr. Phiri. "I hope we'll plant the first seeds before the rains finish."

In the afternoon Simon and Sara went to look at the garden. "Let's look at the soil first to find out what it's like," said Sara.

They went to different parts of the garden and picked up handfuls of soil.

more his friends mocked him, the more he tried.

Joshua, however, still failed to swim. He just kept splashing in the water. He became tired and began to drown.

"Come on, Joshua! Swim, Joshua, swim!" his friends shouted.

Joshua was afraid. The smile that had been on his face when he jumped into the river disappeared. He knew that his life was in danger. He could not save himself.

"Ple-e-ase!" he cried. He was waving his hands.

Two of the bigger boys quickly jumped into the water and swam to where Joshua was. They held him and swam to the bank of the river.

"I was foolish," Joshua said to his friends as he sat resting on the riverbank. "Please forgive me for the bad things I said about you. Now I want you to teach me how to swim."

Summary: (5 minutes)

There is a saying that practice makes perfect. It is foolish for anyone to expect to become good at anything without putting what he knows into practice.

Joshua was foolish because he did not realize that he could only be a good swimmer if he practiced swimming. Reading about swimming was not enough. Watching swimmers was not enough. In the same way, you need to act on the Word of God. Reading it is not enough. Watching how other Christians live is not enough.

Joshua asked for forgiveness from his friends because he had said bad things to his friends.

Song: (5 minutes)

The Wise Man Built His House

The wise man build his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock, and the rain came tumbling down.

The rain came down and the flood came up. (3 times)

And the house on the rock stood firm.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand, and the rain came tumbling down.

The rain came down and the flood came up. (3 times)

And the house on the sand fell flat.

So build your life on the Lord Jesus Christ. (3 times)

And your house on the Rock will stand.

Bible teaching (15 minutes)

In Matthew 7:21-29, we learn about the importance of putting the Word of God into practice. The

Scripture teaches us that a wise person puts the Word of God into practice and that a person who does not put the Word of God into practice is foolish.

If we do what the Bible says, we are like the wise man who built his house on rock. If we do not do what the Bible says, we are like the foolish man who built his house on sand.

When the rains came and the wind blew, the house built on rock stood, but the house on sand fell.

If we want to enter the Kingdom of God, we must obey the Bible. The Bible says we must repent in order to enter the Kingdom of God. We must be born again (John 3:3).

If we do not repent, we will not enter the Kingdom of God. It is not enough to know what it means to repent. We must stop doing what is wrong.

Application: (5 minutes)

We need to ask God for forgiveness of our sins. We also need to be willing to forgive others when they have done something against us or someone we love.

In the Lord's Prayer Jesus said that our sins will be forgiven in the same way that we forgive others. Studying the Bible will not save you. Going to church will not save you. This does not mean it is wrong for you to study the Bible or that it is wrong to go to church. Going to church and studying the Bible will have real meaning when we repent.

Song: (5 minutes)

Search Me, O God

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
Try me, O Lord, and know my thoughts, I pray;
See if there be some wicked way in me,
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children if there is any one that they need to forgive. Pray that they will be forgiving. Ask the children if they need to ask for God's forgiveness for things that they have done wrong.

Help them pray for God's forgiveness. Ask if they need to ask others to forgive them for what they have done. Pray that they will have the courage to ask for forgiveness for wrongs that they have done against others.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

"Do not deceive yourselves / by just listening to his word; / instead, put it into practice" (James 1:22).

Say several times with the children. Then divide the children into three groups and let them say their parts until they know it well. Then change parts. Practice until they are able to say it from memory.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Close with prayer.
3. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 45

I AM RESPONSIBLE IN MY FAMILY

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 2:1-10

MEMORY VERSE: "So then we must always aim at things that bring peace and strengthen one another" (Romans 14:19).

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

1. Know that working together as a family makes God happy,
2. Know that working together brings unity and peace in the family.
3. Know that each family member can learn from each other as they work together.
4. Know that God has a purpose for each family.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray that God will give you wisdom as you teach the children and that he will prepare their hearts to listen to the lesson.
2. Study the Scriptures for the lesson: Exodus 2:1-10.
3. Study the lesson so that you can teach it without the book.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson into God's hands.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew

both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men." (Luke 5:52).

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

4. Say the club commitment: (Put 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 the visitors as well as those who have been absent. Recognize those who have had birthdays.

Song: (5 minutes)

The Wise Man Built His House Upon the Rock

The wise man built his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock, and the rain came tumbling down.

The rain came down, and the floods came up.

The rain came down, and the floods came up.

The rain came down, and the floods came up;

And the house on the rock stood firm.

The foolish man built his house upon the sand.

He was also eager to share what he had learned with other people.

Even today it is important to work hard in school and apply the things that you are learning to your life every day. You may have an opportunity to share the things that you have learned with others.

At school Jesus was learning about the Scriptures in the Old Testament, how to read, and how to do arithmetic. He used this knowledge to help his father with the work of building and later to provide for his mother and the younger children when Joseph died.

You also need to learn the things that will help you as you grow older to work well. The main thing is to learn the things that will help you to be pleasing to God and to others.

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)

Ask the children to pray that they will grow to be like Jesus every day

in the time that they are at school. Ask God to help them to do well in their lessons and to strive to be good helpers at school.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Help the children memorize the Memory Verse

"...God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose" (Philippians 2:13).

Use a ball or a bean bag to toss from one child to another. Each time the ball is tossed the person who catches it says the next word in the verse. Play the game until everyone can say the verse well. Be sure that all of the children have a chance to catch the ball.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

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

2. Sing:

Here on earth people walk in night;
With no lamp to guide, they are dead in sin;
I know the Lord who can give them light,
I live, yet not I, but Christ within.

They are watching you,
Marking all you do,
Hearing the things you say.
Let them see the Saviour as He shines in you.
Let His power control you everyday.

3. Close with prayer.

4. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

LONELINESS

SCRIPTURE: 1 Kings 18-19:18, Psalm 23, Luke 15:4-7

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need. He lets me rest in fields of green grass and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water. He gives me new strength. He guides me in the right paths as he has promised.

Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for you are with me. Your shepherd's rod and your staff protect me" (Psalm 23:1-4).

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

1. Accept that they are not alone because God is with them,
2. Understand that even if man fails you, God is with you forever,
3. Recognize the presence of God in their daily lives.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children whom you will teach.
2. Read the background Scriptures of the lesson: Psalm 121, 1 Kings 18-19:18, Luke 15:4-7.
3. Study Psalm 23 and be prepared to teach the song.
4. Prepare for the drama (Luke 15:4-7) and to tell the story without reading it.

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 commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognize visitors and children who have had birthdays.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

No, Never Alone

No, never alone. No never alone;
He promised never to leave me,
Never to leave me along.
(repeat 3 lines above)
Never to leave me alone.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Have you ever felt lonely? Have you ever been afraid because you were alone? At times all people feel alone and frightened.

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

Elijah was a great prophet of God in Israel. He was not afraid to stand up before the king and give him a message from God even though the message was against the king.

One time Elijah called all of the people of Israel to meet him on Mount Carmel. He also called the prophets of the false god, Baal. Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Baal to a contest while all of the people were watching.

Elijah said that he would build an altar and the prophets of Baal would build an altar. He said that the god that came down and burned the sacrifice on the altar would be the true God. All of the people agreed with the test and that they would worship the true God.

The prophets of Baal danced wildly, cut themselves, and called out to Baal to get him to come and destroy the sacrifice with fire; but, of course, he could not because there was no such god.

As soon as Elijah prayed, God sent fire from heaven that consumed the sacrifice and licked up all the water that Elijah had poured on the altar. It was a mighty victory for God.

This victory made Queen Jezebel so angry that she said that she was going to kill Elijah, and Elijah ran away into the wilderness.

While he was in a cave hiding, God came and softly spoke to Elijah. He asked Elijah, "What are you doing here hiding in this cave?"

Elijah answered God, "Lord God Almighty, I have always served you—you alone, But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and

killed all your prophets. I am the only one left—and they are trying to kill me."

Elijah was feeling very frightened and lonely, but God told Elijah what he wanted Elijah to do and what he was going to do.

Then God said to Elijah, "I have 7,000 people in Israel who are loyal to me and have not bowed to worship Baal."

Sometimes we may feel afraid and lonely, but God knows where we are and is ready to help us.

Application: (5 minutes)

In times of loneliness and fear, remember the Lord is with you always. God helps us make wise decisions. That quiet voice in you which stops you from doing the wrong thing is God's. "The Lord will guard you; he is by your side to protect you. The sun will not hurt you during the day, nor the moon during the night. The Lord will protect you from all danger; he will keep you safe. He will protect you as you come and go now and forever" (Psalm 121:5-8).

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Behold I Stand

Behold, behold I stand at the door and knock, knock.

Behold, behold I stand at the door and knock, knock.

If anybody hears my voice, (three)

Open and I will come in.

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,
Let it shine, let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine.

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

When Jesus was a young boy, he went to school at the synagogue in Nazareth, his home town. Jesus was a very good student. He listened well to what the teacher taught and thought about the things that he learned. We know these things about Jesus because of what happened when he went to visit the Temple in Jerusalem with his parents when he was twelve years old.

All Jewish males from the time that they were twelve years old were required to make the trip to Jerusalem to worship at the temple at the time of the Passover Festival every year.

All of the people traveled in groups for safety from robbers along the way. Jesus and his family went up to Jerusalem with a large group of people from Nazareth and the area of Galilee.

It was a very happy time. All of the people enjoyed being together and worshipping together in the temple.

The Scribes and the Pharisees would hold classes on the temple steps. Everyone liked to talk about the Scriptures of the Law.

Jesus enjoyed these talks very much. In fact when it was time to return to Nazareth, he was so much involved in listening and answering the questions that were asked him that he didn't even think about going back home.

Mary and Joseph traveled for a whole day on the way home. That night when it was time to make camp, Jesus did not come to their fire to eat. They began searching for him among their family and all of the other people, but no one had seen Jesus all day.

Mary and Joseph quickly returned to Jerusalem and searched for Jesus for three days. On the third day they went to the Temple and found Jesus sitting with the Jewish teachers. He was listening to them and asking questions. All the people who heard him were amazed at his intelligent answers.

When Mary asked him why he had worried them so much, he replied that he had to be in his Father's house.

Jesus went back home to Nazareth and was obedient to his parents.

Application: (5 minutes)

Jesus was able to answer the questions because he had used his time learning and trying to apply the things that he had learned in the synagogue.

Game: (10 minutes)

Fishing Game

Divide the children into two groups. Call out a Scripture that you have written on the card. Let as many children as you have poles fish to catch that Scripture. Each child can catch one fish. Exchange the poles until a child catches the right fish. The child who catches the right fish scores a point for his side.

Let the child read the verse that is on the fish.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute)

Today we are going to learn about being a responsible person at school. Listen to this story about how a school boy was a very responsible person.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Mulenga was a pupil at one of the schools in Lusaka. He was a class prefect of a grade 7B class. Mulenga was hardworking and always wanted to do something for the school.

One day as Mulenga was seated in his classroom doing his homework, he looked around and saw that the classroom was looking very untidy. The walls were dirty and peeling off. The floor was also cracked; so that even with the polish, it still was looking bad.

Mulenga thought something could be done to make the class, which was their learning environment, look pleasant and clean.

Mulenga talked to his classmates about the untidy classroom they were

learning in. He suggested to the other pupils that they should put their heads together and see the best way they could improve their classroom.

Mulenga and his friends agreed that they should paint the walls both inside and outside their classroom. They also agreed for each one to give some money so that they could buy a bag of cement and mend the cracks on the floor.

When they shared the idea with the teacher, they were told that the school had enough paint for them to use to paint their classroom.

One Saturday morning Mulenga and his friends came and painted their classroom and mended the floor. The classroom looked clean and tidy, and everyone admired it.

The work that Mulenga and his classmates did was appreciated by all the teachers. The head teacher commended them and gave them a prize in the presence of the whole school. Mulenga was recognized for leading the others in doing a good thing. He showed good leadership and a sense of responsibility.

Application:

When we do good things at school, God will see it and reward us in his own way. We can be a witness of God in our school by the helpful things that we do. If we see things that need to be corrected, we need to point those out and work to make a good correction.

Drama: (15 minutes)

The Lost Sheep

Jesus told stories that we call parables to illustrate spiritual truths. Some of these parables were about sheep and their shepherd.

One of these stories illustrates how the good shepherd will search for the lost sheep. (Luke 15:4-7)

(One child will act as a shepherd. The other children will act as sheep and villagers. One of the sheep will wander off. The shepherd moves from one village to another looking for his one sheep. He asks some people in the villages, but no one has seen the one sheep.

The shepherd sits down on the bank of a river. As he tries to drink some water, the shepherd finds his sheep sleeping near the riverbank. He carries it happily to the other flock..)

This play teaches us about the great love of God. He leaves his flock of ninety-nine sheep and follows one that was lost. We are God's sheep, and he is our shepherd. He protects us from evil and leads us to eternal life.

Song: (5 minutes)

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear -
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.

Bible teaching (10 minutes)

In the Old Testament there are stories about people who took care of sheep. David was a shepherd when he was a young boy. He wrote Psalm 23 to describe his relationship with God. He said that God was his shepherd. God took care of him the way that a good shepherd takes care of his sheep.

In times of loneliness and fear, remember the Lord is your shepherd and he protects you day and night. "I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life, and your house will be my home as long as I live" (Psalms 23:6).

God is our good shepherd who looks after us and keeps us always. He cares for you and me.

Application: (5 minutes)

Whenever you are at home alone, you may feel afraid. Fear seems worse at night when there is darkness. If you are travelling on foot during the night, your own shadow can become frightening. You walk fast as if somebody is trying to catch up with you, and yet it is only a shadow.

When fear comes, close your eyes and pray. Sing praises to God to remind you that he is always with you.

When you are lonely, remember the assurance that God has given you that he is with never leave you. Keep yourself busy reading your Bible and studying and saying any memory

verses you have learnt. Sing quietly and pray. Ask God to help you feel his presence with you.

God is with us all the time. Our friends will come and go, but he is always there. When Jesus is with us, there is no need to feel lonely and afraid. He guides us in everything we do. He loves and cares for us. Nothing can separate us from God's love if we are trusting him.

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 Friend 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.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask children to close their eyes and pray. Ask God to protect us from fear and loneliness, to make us aware

of his presence in our lives and to guide us in all that we think, do, or say to others.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Slowly Read Psalm 23 to the children. Ask them to close their eyes and see the pictures that the Psalm makes in their minds.

Then teach the song:

The Lord Is My Shepherd

The Lord's my Shepherd,
I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green;
He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.
My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake.
Yea, though I walk in death's dark
vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me, and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.
My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me,
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Encourage children to bring more friends next week.
3. Close in prayer.
4. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

I AM RESPONSIBLE AT SCHOOL

SCRIPTURE: Philippians 2:13-16,
Luke 2:41-47

MEMORY VERSE: "...God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose" (Philippians 2:13).

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

1. Know that working together with others at school is important,
2. Know that responsibility at school involves being a good student by doing your lessons well and providing leadership in the classroom.

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: Philippians 2:13-16, Luke 2:41-47.
3. Know the club song, verse, and commitment before starting the lesson. Know the lesson well enough to teach without using the book.
5. Make fishing rods of a stick and a string which has a hook shaped from a paper clip. Make small cards in the shape of a fish and write Scriptures that have verses about responsibility on them. Attach paper clips to each fish. Stand the cards in a carton box

so that the children can hook them and fish them out.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson into God's hands.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men." (Luke 5:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment: (Put 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, those who brought the visitors, and those who have had birthdays.

Song: (5 minutes)

Here on earth people walk in
night;
With no lamp to guide, they are
dead in sin;
I know the Lord who can give
them light,
I live, yet not I, but Christ within.

They are watching you,
Marking all you do,
Hearing the things you say.
Let them see the Saviour as He
shines in you.
Let His power control you
everyday.

Pupils: One group should play the role of pupils who were doing their homework and committed to their studies. The other group should play the role of pupils who were not serious with their studies and came from homes of careless parents.

Climax:

The two groups sit for examinations

Result:

The pupils who were assisted by their parents pass, but the irresponsible group fails.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Jesus is a Wonderful Saviour

Jesus is a wonderful Saviour,

He will carry you through.

Jesus is a wonderful Saviour,

He will carry you through.

When the battle is done,

and the victory is won.

Our Lord will carry you through.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the memory verse by having the children repeat the phrases after you:

“Let your father and mother be proud of you; / give your mother that happiness” (Proverbs 23:25).

Divide the children into two groups:

Group 1: “Let your father and mother be proud of you;

Group 2: give your mother that happiness”

All: Proverbs 23:25

(Then put the verse into a familiar tune and sing it together with the children.).

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell you one thing they have learned in today’s lesson.

2. Encourage them to bring their friends the following week.

3. Encourage them to recite the memory verse to their parents and sing to their parents the songs they have learned.

4. Sing: *Be Glorified*

In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In my home, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;

In my home, Lord, be glorified today.

4. Make the announcements.

5. Close with prayer.

6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 35

COURAGE IN FACING CHALLENGES

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Samuel 17:31-54

MEMORY VERSE: “I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me” (Philippians 4:13).

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

1. Stand firm in their faith,
2. Be bold when facing challenges in life.

1. TEACHER’S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.

2. Study the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: 1 Samuel 17:31-54, Philippians 4:13, 1 Thessalonians 2:2, Acts 5:27-42.

3. Study Ephesians 6:10-18.

4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to teach 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)

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, you soldiers of the cross.

Lift high your royal banner, it shall not suffer loss.

From victory unto victory His army shall He lead

Till every foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (5 minutes)

Have a tall boy and a very small boy to stand in front and ask:

1. Is there any difference between these two boys? (Yes)

2. What is the difference? (One is big and the other is small. Children might discover other differences).

3. If the boys fought who would be beaten? (The small boy).

4. Why? (Because the big boy is larger than the small boy).

That is the way that we would normally think about a fight between a large boy and a small boy.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

David was a young boy who kept the sheep for his family. His older brothers were with the king's army, facing a big enemy, when David's father asked him to go to the battlefield and take supplies to his brothers.

When David found his brothers, he discovered that all of the king's army was afraid of Goliath, a huge giant that was taunting them.

David was amazed that no one had the courage to fight Goliath since he was shouting insults about Jehovah God.

When David said that he would fight Goliath, the king doubted at first. Then he tried to put his large armour on David. David removed the armour and took his own weapon of five stones and a catapult to face Goliath.

When Goliath saw David, Goliath laughed and mocked the small boy who had only a stone and a catapult.

What Goliath did not know was that David had God to help him defeat Goliath. Goliath thought the boy was making fun of him, but David told Goliath "You are coming against me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I came against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the Israelite armies which you have defied. This very day the Lord will put you in my power; I will defeat you and cut off your head..." (1 Samuel 17:45-46).

David killed Goliath with a stone that hit him right in his forehead, and all his army ran away. The courage David had in God to face Goliath made him defeat the big man. God fought for David.

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Have the children say the sentences after you:

I promise to believe God all my life.

I promise to serve God without fear.

I believe God is going to help me.

Song: (5 minutes)

Only A Boy Named David

Only a boy named David,

Only a little sling,

Only a boy named David,

Only a rippling brook,

Only a boy named David,

Only five little stones he took.

And one little stone went in the sling and the sling went round and round,

And one little stone went in the sling and the sling went round and round,

And round and round and round and round and round and round and round,

And one little stone went up in the air.

And the giant came tumbling down.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

We are soldiers in the army of God. Our commander is Jesus Christ.

David knew the bear was much bigger and stronger than he was, so he prayed to God for help.

God gave him the strength he needed to kill the bear. Then David picked up the frightened lamb and carried him back to his mother.

David always showed that he was responsible in the work that he did when he was a young boy. He trusted God and depended upon him for help to do his work well.

Jesus told a story about two brothers. When the father asked the brothers to do some work that day, the first brother said that he didn't want to do the work. Later he changed his mind and went and did the work.

The second brother said that he would go do the work, but he got busy doing other things and didn't go.

Jesus asked the question: Which one of the brothers did what the father wanted?

Which one of the brothers do you want to be? Do you want to be the brother that was really responsible?

Game: (15 minutes)

One child chooses a task or chore that is done at home without telling others what he has chosen. In front of the other children, he or she shows through actions what is done in this task. The child must not use any words to describe the action.

The first child to name the task takes the next turn.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Teach the children the following prayer: "Lord, help me to be a responsible child and be a responsible person when I grow up. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen." (Say the phrases and let the children say them after you. Then say the prayer with your eyes closed. Finally let the children say the prayer on their own.)

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Thank you, Jesus

Thank you, Jesus, Amen.

Lord, I love you, Amen.

Lord, I praise you, Amen.

(The song should be sung with actions on each phrase)

Drama: (10 minutes)

Divide the children into groups:
One group to act as teachers.
One group to act as responsible parents.
One group to act as irresponsible parents.
One group to act as pupils.

Responsible parents: When children arrive home, they receive them warmly and look into their books in the evening to know the performance of their children.

Irresponsible parents: They show a lack of care about the performance of their children and do not even check in the books of their children. They do not even encourage their children to do their homework.

Mofya's mother loved and trusted him very much. She had so much trust in him that whenever she was not home, she let Mofya look after his baby sister, Mary.

At first, Mofya thought that looking after babies was the responsibility of his sister.

One day Mofya's mother went to the market and left baby Mary with big brother Mofya.

Mofya's friends came to pick him up so that they could go play football. Mofya could not go with them because he had the responsibility of taking care of Mary.

Mofya enjoyed taking care of his little sister and playing with her. He also liked to play football with his friends.

He came to realize that looking after babies was not only for girls, but that boys could also help out. He wanted to help his family by taking care of his little sister when his mother needed him to do that.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Have Your Own Way, Lord,

Have your own way, Lord,

Have your own way.

You are the potter;

I am the clay.

Teach me your way, Lord,

Teach me your way.

You are the potter;

I am the clay.

Activity: (5 minutes)

Let the children jump three times and then say the following words while pointing at themselves:

"The Lord wants me, me, me, me to be responsible.

Responsible at home, responsible at school.

Responsible everywhere."

Then let them point at each other and say:

"The Lord wants you to be responsible everyday and everywhere."

All: "Responsibility is our motto!"

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

Would you like to hear a story of a herd boy who was very brave? This little boy wasn't much older than you when he was left all alone to watch after his father's sheep. Sheep were important to people in David's time. Little David helped his father by taking care of the sheep for him.

David took the sheep to places where they could find green grass and water. He would also carry along his harp. While the sheep were eating grass, David would make beautiful music on his harp. He was always alert to what was happening with the sheep.

One day David was resting under the shade of a tree. He heard one of the baby sheep crying. He ran to see about it and found that a big black bear was trying to take the baby sheep for his breakfast. Young

We have our weapons to fight the war against the evil of this world. We are fighting against all wicked spiritual forces.

Therefore, it is very important to put on the whole armour of God. "Finally, build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. Put on all the armour that God gives you, so that you will be able to stand up against the Devil's evil tricks." (Ephesians 6:10-11).

Now that the war is on, let's be ready. "So stand ready with truth as a belt tight round your waist, with righteousness as your breastplate, and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace. 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. And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you.

"Do all this in prayer, asking for God's help. Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up; pray always for all God's people." (Ephesians 6:14-18)

Paul is preparing us to fight the good fight with the whole armour of God. If we stand firm in God's armour, we will conquer all our problems that could lead us astray and far from God.

There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God. If we stand equipped in him, we will not fear death, hunger, disease, poverty, hardship or any kind of suffering.

Paul wrote, "No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! For I am certain that nothing can separate us from his love, neither death nor life, ... neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below - there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:37-39).

Application: (5 minutes)

God wants you to face all challenges in your life with courage. He wants you to believe he is with you all the time. Will you believe God's presence and victory in your daily challenges?

God gives the courage to tell the Good News that comes from him.

Even if people try to discourage Christians from spreading the word, God continues to give courage and strength to faithful Christians.

When Peter and other disciples, were arrested and brought before the high priest, they were beaten and warned never to speak about Jesus again. But they were happy that they were suffering for the name of Jesus. They told those who arrested them, "We must obey God, not men" (Acts 5:29). These disciples were faced with a challenge, but they had all the courage to succeed. They continued preaching the Good News of Jesus. Are we willing to

have the courage to be faithful witnesses for Jesus?

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Only Believe

Only believe, only believe,
All things are possible only believe.
Only believe, only believe,
All things are possible only believe.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and ask God to help them to be courageous in facing challenges in life.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by having the children repeat phrases after you; "I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me" (Philippians 4:13).

5. CLOSING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell one thing they learned in the lesson.
2. Challenge the children to have courage in facing challenges in life.
3. Make announcements.
4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
5. Sing a song:

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.

6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 43

I AM RESPONSIBLE AT HOME

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 21:28-31

MEMORY VERSE: "Let your father and mother be proud of you; give your mother that happiness" (Proverbs 23:25).

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

1. Understand what responsibility is,
2. Know that responsibility goes with growth.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children whom you will teach.
2. Study the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: Ephesians 6:1-3, Matthew 21:28-31, 1 Samuel 17:34-37.
3. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to teach them without a book.
4. Learn the stories and be prepared to tell them in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson into God's hands.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining

favour with God and men." (Luke 5:52).

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

4. Say the club commitment: (Put 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 the visitors as well as those who have been absent. Recognize those who have had birthdays.

Song: (5 minutes)

(use familiar tune to the children)

I am a responsible person,
God created me so.
My hands for work.
My legs for work.
God created me so.
My energy for work.
My time for work.
God created me so.
I am proud to be responsible.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

Mofya was twelve years old. In his family there were three boys and two girls. Mofya was a good boy who enjoyed being home and helping his mother with the chores around the home.

put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!"

Then the second servant gave his master the two thousand he had earned. The master praised his servant in the same way he had the first servant. He, too, was invited to share in the master's happiness.

The third servant did not have anything to give his master. He just gave him excuses. The servant said, "Master, I knew you were a hard man, and I was afraid. So I hid your money, but here is the one thousand coins you gave me."

The master was angry. He said, "You are a bad, lazy servant. You should have put the money in the bank where it would have received interest. I will take the money away from you and give it to the one who has ten thousand coins."

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask God to help the children to use their talents and abilities wisely. Help them to take advantage of their opportunities so they can be responsible people.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Give of Your Best to the Master
Give of your best to the Master;
Give Him first place in your heart;
Give Him first place in your service,
Consecrate every part.
Give, and to you shall be given;
God His beloved Son gave;

Gratefully seeking to serve Him,
Give Him the best that you have.

Chorus:

Give of your best to the Master;
Give of the strength of your youth;
Clad in salvation's full armour,
Join in the battle for truth.

4. MEMORY VERSE: (10 minutes)

Divide the children into three groups. Ask the children to repeat the phrases of the Memory Verse after you. Then allow the children to say it by themselves. Finally make up a tune to fit the words and sing it.

Group 1: Well done!

Group 2: You good and faithful servant.

Group 3: You have been faithful.

Group 1: In managing small amounts.

Group 2: So I will put you.

Group 3: In charge of large amounts.

Group 1: Come on in.

Group 2: And share my happiness.

Group 3: Matthew 25:23

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Thank the children for coming.

2. Challenge the children to act responsibly at home this week.

3. Revise the lesson.

4. Make announcements.

5. Sing again: *Give of Your Best to the Master*

6. Close in prayer.

7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 36

PERSEVERANCE

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30, Hebrews 12:1-11

MEMORY VERSE: "Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end" (Hebrews 12:2a).

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

1. Realize that God through Jesus conquered everything evil,
2. Appreciate the reward that is ahead of us.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the pupils you will teach.
2. Study the following Scriptures as background for the lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30, 2 Timothy 4:6-8.
3. Study Hebrews 12:1-11.
4. Be able to teach the stories without the book. Prepare for the drama.
5. Make cards with the individual words of the memory verse on them to use for the Memory Work.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray to commit 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.*

4. Say the club commitment: (with hands on 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 birthdays during the week and those who are visitors, including those who have brought visitors.

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

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a Bible story: (15 minutes)

One day when David was still a shepherd boy at his father's home, he was summoned from the fields to come and see the great prophet Samuel.

Samuel had been sent by God to the home of Jesse to anoint the

next king of Israel. Samuel had seen all of Jesse's sons, but God had not indicated that any of them were to be anointed. When Samuel asked if there were any more sons, Jesse sent for David.

God chose David to be anointed as the king, but David was still very young. Eventually David was called to King Saul's court to play the harp for the king to soothe him when he was not feeling well.

When David grew up, he became a great warrior; and Saul became very jealous of David because he knew that God had chosen him to be the next king.

Eventually David had to flee from the court and hide in the wilderness of Judea. David and his men were hunted by Saul and his warriors as if they were criminals.

One time Saul slept in a cave where David was hiding. David could have killed Saul and declared himself to be king, but he refused to harm God's anointed king.

David fled from Saul for fifteen years before Saul and his son Jonathan were killed in a battle with the Philistines, and David became king.

David persevered in his trust that God would eventually make him king. It was many years from the time that he was anointed by Samuel until the time he actually became king.

Because David believed God and kept trusting God to make him king, God made him the greatest king that

Israel ever had. He extended the boundaries of the kingdom, and everyone recognized what a great king that the people of Israel had.

Song: (5 minutes)

All Day Long

All day long I've been with Jesus.
It has been a glorious day.
I've just moved up one step higher,
And I'm walking on the King's highway.
Won't you come and walk with Jesus?
It will be a glorious day.
You can leave your sin and sorrow.
You can walk upon the King's highway.

Drama: (15 minutes)

(Matthew 15:21-28, Mark 7:24-30)

One time Jesus left his own country and went with his disciples to the north so that he could get some rest. His reputation as a healer had become so well-known that a Gentile woman with a troubled daughter came to him and asked Jesus to heal her daughter from an evil spirit.

Let's watch this story to see how the woman's persistence led to her receiving the healing that she wanted for her daughter.

(Choose ahead of time someone to act the parts of Jesus and the woman. Other children can be the disciples and the crowd.)

Woman: (falling on her knees at the

to go to the city of Nineveh and prophesy that God was going to destroy the city in forty days if the people did not repent.

Jonah did not want to go to Nineveh because those people were enemies of his country. He did not want the people to repent and be spared. Instead of going to Nineveh he got on a boat to go to Spain, which was in the opposite direction from Nineveh.

God caused a great storm, and the ship was in danger of sinking. Jonah was asleep in the bottom of the boat.

When Jonah realized what was happening, he took responsibility for the danger that the ship was in because he was running away from what God wanted him to do. He told the sailors to throw him overboard. Reluctantly the sailor did what Jonah said, and the storm stopped immediately.

Meanwhile Jonah had been swallowed by a big fish that God had prepared. Jonah was inside the fish for three days. Then he prayed to God and said that he would be a responsible person again and do what God had told him to do.

Just as Jonah thought they would do, when Nineveh heard the message from God, the people repented. They took responsibility for their sins and changed their wicked ways. God forgave them, and their city was spared.

Application: (10 minutes)

God gave you talents and abilities. If you do what God tells you to use the gifts he has given you, you will be given bigger responsibilities. If you make excuses and do not use your gifts wisely, God may take away the talents and abilities he gave you.

Jesus told the story about a rich man who had three servants. The man was leaving on a long trip to a far country. Before he left, he gave his servants instructions for while he was away.

He gave the first servant five thousand gold coins. He gave the second servant two thousand gold coins, and he gave the third servant one thousand gold coins. Then the man left.

The first servant invested his money, and he earned another five thousand coins. The second servant did the same thing and earned another two thousand gold coins. The third servant did not act responsibly. He dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

When the master came back, he called in his servants to see what they had done with his money. The first servant proudly gave his master the five thousand coins he had earned. The master was very pleased. He said, "Well done, you are a good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in managing small amounts of money, so I will

their children in and gave them different jobs to do.

With a smile on his face, Mr. Hanani called the first born and said to him, "John, from today you will be responsible for watering the garden every morning. Is that clear?" He emphasized.

"Yes, Dad," John answered without hesitation.

Then the father instructed Andrew, the second born, to water the garden in the evening. The fourteen-year-old boy simply accepted the responsibility and ran back into his bedroom.

The mother told their third born. "Mary, from today you will be cleaning dishes to help your mother, eh!" Mary excitedly hugged her mother and exclaimed, "Thank you, Mummy, for the responsibility. I will definitely do it!"

Their last born, Anna, shrugged her shoulders and said, "Mummy, how about me. What will I be doing to help?"

The mother lifted her up and said, "Because you are only four, I will ask you to be sure that you put your things away every day." Anna kissed her mother on the cheek and laughed.

The first few days all the children carried out their responsibilities faithfully. But after the first week, John, the first born, always pretended not to be feeling well.

Andrew, the second born, continued with his gardening faithfully, working even harder than the parents expected because he had to make up for what his older brother didn't do. Mary tried hard to clean the dishes everyday as she agreed, and Anna remembered with help to put her things away every night.

Two days before Christmas the parents went into town to buy gifts for their children. Do you think that all of the children received gifts that were equal in value? Did John deserve a gift of the same value that Andrew received? What do you think the parents should do?

Song: (5 minutes)

I Love Thee

I love Thee, I love Thee, I love
Thee, my Lord;
I love Thee, my Saviour, I love
Thee, my God;
I love Thee, I love Thee, and that
Thou dost know;
But how much I love Thee, my
actions will show.

Bible teaching: (10 minutes)

Jonah was a prophet of God who lived in the Northern Kingdom of Israel after the time of David. Jonah was a very responsible prophet, and God had a job for Jonah to do.

One day God spoke to Jonah and told him that he wanted Jonah

feet of Jesus) Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David, my daughter is tortured by a spirit. I beg you to heal her and cast this demon out of her.

(Jesus says nothing, and looks away.)

Disciples: Tell her to go away. She is bothering us with all of her begging.

Jesus: I was sent only to help God's lost sheep, the people of Israel.

Woman: (Kneels down again and pleads) Lord, help me.

Jesus: First, I should feed the children—my own family, the Jews. It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.

Woman: That's true, Lord, but even the dogs under the table eat the children's leftovers.

Jesus: Good answer, dear woman. Your faith is great. Because of that answer, go back home where you will find that the demon has gone out of your daughter.

(Woman exits hurriedly.)

The Bible tells us that the woman's daughter was instantly healed. She returned home to find her daughter lying quietly on the bed.

Even though Jesus ignored the woman and then told her that he was first to go to the Jews, she persisted because she knew he was the only answer to her problem.

Jesus tested her faith; but when he used the word for a pet under the table, she knew that he was sympathetic to her situation. Jesus always wants to help us with whatever needs that we have. We need to be persistent in taking all of our needs to him in prayer.

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.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

The Apostle Paul encourages us to run with determination the race that lies before us. We should not look left or right, but fix our eyes on Jesus on whom our faith depends. Jesus did not give up because of the cross, but he persevered because of the joy that was waiting for him. He endured the suffering, and now he is seated at the right hand of God's throne.

We also should run the full distance and keep the faith because there is a prize of victory waiting for us and all those who will be found righteous. In Jesus we have full victory because there is no suffering that can separate us from the love of God.

In all our situations in life we should pray for guidance from God. We should accept him as our personal Saviour. We should repent and confess all our sins to him. God is so good because he answers prayers, and he will never fail us.

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.

Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel? No!
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)

Teach the children a short prayer.
"God, I am a sinner, forgive me.
Accept me as your child. Live in me
and guide me all the days of my life.
Amen." Do it several times. Children
close their eyes and pray silently. Then
pray together.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Give the cards of the Memory
Verse to seven children and let them
hold them up in front of the other
children.

"Let us keep our eyes fixed on
Jesus on whom our faith depends
from beginning to end" (Hebrews
12:2a).

Have the children read the cards
through several times. Then have
the child holding the last card sit
down. Go through the verse and
each time have another child sit
down until all the children are
sitting down and everyone can say
the verse without the cards.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Encourage children to bring a friend next week.
3. Sing a song

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

4. Say a closing prayer: Thank God for guiding the Friends of Jesus club meeting. Ask God to protect each one as we go to our various homes.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 42

I AM RESPONSIBLE TO GOD

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:14-30,
Jonah chapters 1- 4

MEMORY VERSE: "Well done,
you good and faithful servant!"
said his master. 'You have been
faithful in managing small
amounts, so I will put you in
charge of large amounts. Come on
in and share my
happiness!'" (Matthew 25:23).

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

1. Learn that they are responsible to God for their abilities and talents,
2. Know God is pleased when they use their opportunities wisely,
3. Want to accept responsibility with joy.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION:

1. Pray for yourself as you prepare and for the children you will teach.
2. Study the Scriptures: Jonah chapters 1- 4, Matthew 25:14-30.
3. Study the teaching stories and be prepared to teach them in your own words.
4. Learn Matthew 25:23.
5. Read the lessons that are coming up about being responsible.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Begin with prayer. Commit the lesson into God's hands.
2. Say the club verse: "Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favour with God and men." (Luke 5:52).
3. Sing the club song: *Jesus Grew in Wisdom*.
4. Say the club commitment: (Put 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. Recognizé those who are visitors, those who brought the visitors, and those who have had birthdays.

Sing: (5 minutes)

Take My Life

Take my life, and let it be,
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
All I am and have are Thine,
They shall be no longer mine,
They shall be no longer mine.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON:

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

Mr. and Mrs. Hanani had four children; two boys and two girls. Every year during Christmas the parents gave gifts to their children. The size of the gift showed how responsible they had been at home.

A few weeks before Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Hanani called each of

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Tell the children to bow their heads and thank God for being part of the body of Christ (a church).

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Divide the children into groups of four. Ask them to practice the memory verse together.

"This is what I mean, my brothers. When you meet for worship, one person has a hymn, another a teaching, another a revelation from God, another a message in strange tongues, and still another the explanation of what is said. Everything must be of help to the church" (1 Corinthians 14:26).

Have each group of children quote the Scripture for the other groups when they are finished memorising it.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Find out from the children if they know their spiritual gifts. If they don't know, help them by telling them the spiritual gifts you have seen in them.

2. Help the children to know how to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Help them know how important it is. Help them to know that nothing will save them if they don't accept Jesus as their personal Saviour (John 1:12).

3. Make announcements.

4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.

5. Sing a song:

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,

Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,

Keep me burning 'till the break of day.

Sing hosanna, Sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings.

Sing hosanna, Sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King.

6. Close with a prayer.

7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 37

CHALLENGE TO GOOD STEWARDSHIP

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 6:9-21,
Matthew 6:24-34

MEMORY VERSE: "I ask that your minds may be opened to see his light, so that you will know what is the hope to which he has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings he promises his people..." (Ephesians 1:18).

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

1. Know that after they become Christians, all of life is to be lived as a good steward,
2. Know that good stewardship means how they submit to God's authority in the way they use their time, talents, and money and plan their future.

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: Matthew 6:9-21, Matthew 6:24-34.
3. Study Luke 10:30-37.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and commitment and be ready to teach the lesson without the book.

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.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

He is Lord

He is Lord,
He is Lord,
He is risen from the grave and he is Lord.
Every knee shall bow
Every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson:

Every day we face challenges in the way we live our lives. God has a plan for how we are to live our lives. All of the good things of life come from God. God wants us to use these things wisely. He wants us to use the things that we have, our

time and our abilities to honour him. If we do, we are good stewards. We are to stand firm in our faith in God.

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

George Muller was a Christian who lived in England many years ago. Many people of that time had stopped believing that God would provide for his children. Even people in the churches were not living their lives by praying and trusting God. The people were not good stewards.

George was concerned that people were not trusting God, and he was also concerned about the many orphans in England at that time.

George prayed, and God told him what to do. God told George to open a home for the orphans. George was to show his trust in God by depending only on God to supply the needs for the orphans. George never asked anyone for money or help. George never told anyone except God what was needed.

God promised to provide for all of the needs of the home. When God provided, everyone would know that God had done it; and he would receive all the praise.

One day there was no food in the home—not even a small amount—for the meal for 120 children. The plates were put on the table, and everyone sat down. George prayed, thanking God for what he was going to provide for them to eat.

At the end of the prayer, there was a knock at the door. A farmer asked if they could use some milk and other things. In all the years that

George provided for orphans, he only prayed to God for help; and God always sent someone to help.

When George died at the age of 93, God had used him to build four homes for orphans that cared for 2,000 children at a time. When he died, George's possessions amounted to only eight hundred dollars, but he had distributed more than eight million dollars that he had received in answer to prayer. George was a good steward of the life, abilities, and money that God provided.

Application:

Read Matthew 6:24-34. Explain that God will give us the things we need and he will also give us happiness if we follow him.

Sing a 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.

Game: (15 minutes)

Bible Telescope

Say: In the New Testament we read about people who were asked to put God first. Let us play the Bible Telescope game to find who these people were and how they responded.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

1 Corinthians 12:27 says, "All of you are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it."

The Bible does not say adults only are part of the body of Christ, but it says each one of you who is a Christian is part of it.

Jesus is very pleased with every gift that is given to him. He is happy with what everyone does in church because we are all part of Christ's body. A church is like a body that has many parts. A head is big and has its own work to do. An eye is small, but it has work of its own to do that cannot be done by any other part. All the parts bring happiness to the body.

Every spiritual gift is to be used to build the church. Those with the gift of teaching can be used in Bible study groups and Sunday School or in a Christian school classroom.

Those with the gift of administration can be used to help with church finance, building of buildings, and taking care of personnel needs.

Those with gifts of preaching and evangelism can be used to win persons to Christ as well as strengthening the disciples in their Christian lives.

Those with gifts of helping and serving can use their gifts to do practical things such as cooking a meal for someone in need or taking someone to a doctor's appointment.

One who has the gift of encouragement can help those who are discouraged or need to be aided in having a closer walk with Christ.

Every spiritual gift is useful and needed. People come together as a body of believers, the church, to aid and help each other by using their spiritual gifts.

Jesus loves children. Jesus is very happy when you are singing, when you pray, and when you are in church because you are very important to him.

There are different spiritual gifts, but they all bring glory to the work of God. Learn to praise and love God with your spiritual gifts. Do to one another what God would like you to do.

Application: (5 minutes)

God wants you to grow like Jesus, who pleased God even when he was young. Help anyone in church, boys, girls, or even adults. Be helpful at church as well as at home. Try your best to please Jesus in all that you do. Jesus loves you, and he died for you.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

We are building up the temple by
singing to the Lord,
Building up the temple of the
Lord.

Come on, boys, let us worship,
Girls, let us praise him,
Worshipping with the Lord.

time. Some help by sweeping, some will help by cleaning the house, some help by washing the clothes, some will cook for the sick one, and others will pray for the sick. All are different kinds of help, but all are helpful to the sick person.

Tell a story: (5 minutes)

There was a boy and his sister who lived with their parents on a farm. There was much work to do on the farm. The parents did the work, and the children helped their parents. They brought in firewood, milked the cows, cleaned the yard, drew the water, and helped in cleaning the house and cooking.

One day when they were playing, they saw an old woman who could not do her work and who was very lonely. They greeted the woman politely and went to help her. By the time they left, the old woman was laughing. They visited the old woman nearly everyday. They not only helped the old woman, but they did very good things for many people, which made them be known and loved by many people.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Why were the children good to their parents? (Because they loved their parents).
2. Is it good to help other people? (Yes, it is good to help people, especially old people.)
3. Do you help your parents and old people? If you don't, why not begin?

Summary: (5 minutes)

It is good to do good things for people. Jesus grew in body and in wisdom; he gained favour with God and men. He helped his father Joseph, who was a carpenter; and he helped many people because he loved his Father in heaven. The children in the story, young as they were, did what they could to help. Happiness came at the farm because their role was a blessing to their parents and also to other people they were helping.

Whatever you do or work in your houses, or in church, or for other people is a blessing to your parents, your church, the people surrounding you and to yourselves. Be proud of your part in the role you have in church.

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Tell the children to stand and say together:

1. We are building the church by praying together.
2. We are building the church by worshipping together.
3. We are building the church by singing together.

Song: (5 minutes)

Take My Life

Take my life, and let it be,
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
All I am and have are Thine,
They shall be no longer mine,
They shall be no longer mine.

Roll the paper into a tube. Have the children look through the tube to discover who you see. The children may ask only twenty questions. The questions may only have a yes or no answer.

The first person is Mary, the mother of Jesus. When the children have guessed her name, read aloud Luke 1:26-38. Explain that when Mary was asked to be the mother of Jesus, she said yes. Jesus grew up as her son, and Mary was blessed to be his mother.

The second person in the game is Peter. When the children have guessed his name, read Matthew 4:18-22. Explain that Peter left his fishing and gave up his fishing career when Jesus called him. He followed Jesus for three years and learnt about the Kingdom of God. After Jesus died and was raised to life, Peter led the disciples in telling everyone about Jesus. God used Peter to do many great things, and Peter was blessed by his work.

The third person is the rich young man. When the children have guessed who he is, read Matthew 19:16-24. Explain that the young man was asked to follow Jesus by giving all he had to the poor. He said no because he loved his money. The man had many things but was not happy because he did not put God first.

Application: (5 minutes)

Peter and Mary did not have much money like the rich young man

had. However, they were blessed by God because they followed him and put him first in their lives.

Jesus also taught us God will bring prosperity to those who follow him. He was not talking about having many things, but of the riches of knowing God and doing his will.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Love Thee

I love Thee, I love Thee, I love
Thee, my Lord.
I love Thee, my Saviour, I love
Thee, my God;
I love Thee, I love Thee, and that
Thou dost know;
But how much I love Thee, my
actions will show.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

One day when he was teaching, Jesus told a story about a man that we call the Good Samaritan. The Jews and the Samaritans did not like each other. Samaria was between Jerusalem and Galilee. Jews would go around Samaria by crossing over the Jordan River twice to get where they were going.

Jesus said that a certain man was traveling on the road from Jerusalem down to Jericho when thieves attacked him. They took everything he had and beat him.

This man was a Jew. Soon a priest came by and then a Levite. These were religious men going to the temple in Jerusalem. They ignored the man.

Then later a man from Samaria came by. He saw the wounded man and began to help him. He bound up the wounds and took the man to a place where he could stay until he recovered.

The man from Samaria paid for the man's lodging and told the inn keeper that he would pay any other bills when he returned.

This was a very surprising story to the Jews who were listening to Jesus. They had the idea that everything they had was theirs and they wanted to keep it.

The Samaritan believed that what he had could be used by someone else, if he needed it. The Samaritan was a good steward of what God had given him. He was a good neighbour.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

The Wise Man Built His House

The wise man build his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock.

The wise man built his house upon the rock, and the rain came tumbling down.

The rain came down and the flood came up.

The rain came down and the flood came up.

The rain came down and the flood came up,

And the house on the rock stood firm.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to bow their heads and ask God to help them to be good stewards of their time, abilities, money and life.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the Memory Verse by using the game of throwing bean bags. Teach the verse to the children:

"I ask that your minds may be opened to see his light, so that you will know what is the hope to which he has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings he promises his people..." (Ephesians 1:18).

Then throw a small bag filled with beans or throw a ball to a child who will say the first word. They in turn will throw the bag to another child who will say the second word. Continue until the verse and reference have been said. Repeat the verse several times.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children to tell one thing they liked about the lesson.
2. Challenge the children to have courage in facing challenges in life.
3. Make announcements.
4. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
5. Sing a song: *I Love Thee*
6. Close with prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 41

THE GIFTS ARE FOR BUILDING THE CHURCH

SCRIPTURES: 1 Corinthians 14:26, Romans 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:10

MEMORY VERSE: "This is what I mean, my brothers. When you meet for worship, one person has a hymn, another a teaching, another a revelation from God, another a message in strange tongues, and still another the explanation of what is said. Everything must be of help to the church" (1 Corinthians 14:26).

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

1. Know that they have a great role to play in the church though they are young,
2. Know that their contribution in church is valuable in the eyes of God.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray that the children will know and understand you well.
2. Read the Scriptures to help you understand the lesson very well. Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:14, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:10.
3. Learn 1 Corinthians 14:26.
4. Memorize the song, verse, and club

commitment and be ready to teach them without the book.

5. Study the lesson and be prepared to teach it in your own words.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray for yourself and the children to understand the lesson.
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: (Let them put their hands over their hearts.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and men."
5. Recognise those who had birthdays, the visitors, and those who brought visitors.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

We are building up the temple by singing to the Lord,
Building up the temple of the Lord.

Come on, boys, let us worship,
Girls, let us praise him,
Worshipping with the Lord.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Drama: (10 minutes)

Let one child pretend to be sick and others will visit him one at a

by taking them food, cleaning their house, or raking the leaves or yard.

The gift of administration is to take care of financial matters and plan things. The gift of giving is to earn money and then give it for the use of the body of Christ. The gift of encouragement is to build others up by what you say to them. There is also the gift of showing mercy.

Any one of these gifts is not more important than the others, but each can be used to build the body of Christ.

Application: (5 minutes)

It is the plan of God that you work for him and use your gift well. Use your spiritual gift and know that God gave it to you for a purpose, and that purpose is to build Christ's body, the church.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

God Is So Good to Me

Jesus is so good to me,
Jesus is so good.
He gave me a mouth to sing for him.
He gave me hands to clap for him.
He gave me legs to walk for him.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to thank God for giving each Christian a spiritual gift.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Help the children to memorize the Memory Verse: "It was he who gave

some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists and some to be pastors and teachers" (Ephesians 4:11).

Then divide the children into groups so that each group can say one of the gifts.

Leader or Group 1: It was he who gave

Group 2: some to be apostles

Group 3: some to be prophets.

Group 4: some to be evangelists

Group 5: some to be pastors

Group 6: and teachers

Group 7: Ephesians 4:11

Allow children to say the verse individually.

5. CLOSING TIME: (15 minutes)

1. Make announcements.
2. Encourage the children to bring a friend next week.
3. Sing a song:

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
Keep me burning 'till the break of day.

Sing hosanna, Sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings.

Sing hosanna, Sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King.

4. Close with prayer.
5. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

BEING POOR

SCRIPTURE: James 2:1-7, Luke 14:7-14

MEMORY VERSE: "Better to be poor and honest, than rich and dishonest" (Proverbs 28:6).

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

1. Realize that all people have value to God,
2. Have respect for all people, even those who are poor,
3. Know that being poor is not a sin.

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: Matthew 5:3, 2 Corinthians 8:9, Proverbs 28:6, Luke 14:7-14, Psalm 14:4-6.
3. Study James 2:1-7.
4. Make sure you know the club song, verse, and commitment.
5. Know the lesson well enough to teach without using the book.

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. 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)

We've a Story to Tell

We've a story to tell to the nations
That shall turn their hearts to the light.

A story of truth and mercy, A story of peace and light.

A story of peace and light.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,

And the dawning to noon day bright

And Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth.

The Kingdom of peace and light.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Introduce the lesson: (1 minute)

Today we are going to hear three stories about being poor. What do you think about poverty? Are

people poor because God is not blessing them? Are they poor because they have sinned?

Tell a story: (5 minutes)

There was once a very religious woman who lived alone in a beautiful, small house near the river. The woman did good to people, and the people loved her. She loved God with all of her heart. She always wanted to do her best to please God.

One day she prayed to God, "God, you have been so good to me. Why don't you come to my house for dinner?"

"I will come on Saturday in the afternoon," God said. The woman went home and prepared to host God. She cleaned the house and decorated it. She made all kinds of delicious dishes. When she was ready, she waited for God to come.

Early in the afternoon, she saw a very dirty man wearing rags at her gate. She went to him, and said, "Go. Go away. I am expecting a very important person." The poor man went away.

He came again twice that afternoon, and every time the woman sent him away. To her disappointment, God did not come even though she waited all afternoon.

The next day she went to pray. "I waited for you, but you did not come," she said to God.

God said to her, "I came three times, and every time you sent me away."

"But, you did not come. The only person who came three times was a poor man, a beggar."

"I was that poor beggar," God said.

Song: (5 minutes)

We Thank You, God
(# 12 in the Friends of Jesus Song Book)

We thank you, O God.
We thank you, thank you, God.
We thank you, thank you, God.
There is none like you.

Tell a story: (10 minutes)

Here is another story that tells about the struggles that people who are poor face. Do you know of someone who living with the difficulties that this story describes? What might you do to help?

Brenda lived in a township of a small city. She was the second born. Her older sister Nina was sixteen years old, and her younger brother Peter was only eight.

Because their parents had passed away, Nina looked after Brenda and Peter. Nina had not finished school so she earned an income for the family by selling vegetables alongside the road. The money was not enough for the three of them since Brenda and Peter still needed to go to school.

Brenda's friends at school would come to visit her dressed in the latest fashions, and they never had any problems paying their

church. For example, one group can say preachers, another can say evangelists, others can say teachers and leaders, etc.

Object lesson: (5 minutes)

Give each child the different things you have collected (stones, leaves, etc.) and tell them that each person has a different spiritual gift. None has a gift that is less important than the others. Tell them that the things they have in their hands were given to man by God, so none of them is less important. It is the same with spiritual gifts. God will not expect any excuse for not using our spiritual gifts.

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

God has given us all works
Some are preachers,
Some do heal,
I am a prophet, what are you?
Do your work. We'll please the Lord.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

(Open your Bible to Ephesians 4:11-12.)

In Ephesians 4:11-12 the Bible says it is God who gave some to be preachers, some to be pastors, some to be spiritual leaders in the church of God, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors and teachers, and some to be prophets.

An evangelist is one who is gifted to proclaim the message that

God loves everyone so much that Jesus came to die so that those who believe in him might be saved.

Pastors are gifted to lead, guide, and set an example for other Christians. A teacher is one who understands the most difficult things of God and is able to explain them so that others will understand. A prophet is one who speaks or communicates a message authoritatively from the Holy Spirit.

These are all spiritual gifts, and there are also others. They are all given by God in order to prepare God's people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

Spiritual gifts are not given primarily to benefit the individual but to benefit the church, the body of Christ. We must appreciate all the work that is done in the church because God gave it to help the church grow. You must also use the gift God has given you.

When we listen to those who are using their spiritual gifts to help us, we are able to grow and mature and become more like Christ would have us be.

We need to use the spiritual gift God has given us to help others to grow and mature and become more like Christ as we share with them what Christ has taught us through his Word.

Some other spiritual gifts are helping and serving others, perhaps

another a pen or pencil. Tell each child to tell his or her friends the gift and why it was given to her or him. The Bible is given to read in the Word of God. The hymn book is given to praise God in singing. The paper is given in order to write Memory Verses. The pen or pencil is given to write God's word.

Tell a Bible story: (5 minutes)

(Open your Bible to Luke 19:11-27.)

Jesus told a story about a king who had servants. One day as he was preparing to leave for a far off country because he had work to do there, he called his servants and gave them money.

"Put this money to work until I come back," he said.

When he was away, some servants worked very hard and multiplied the money they had been given. When the king came back, those who had multiplied the money were praised.

But one of the servants had not multiplied the money. The king was very annoyed with this servant. He told the servant that he was a lazy and bad servant. He took the money from him and gave it to the one who had worked very hard.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Why did the king give money to his servants? (The king wanted to make a profit.)

2. What do you think made some servants work very hard? (Because they wanted to please their king.)

3. Did the last man please the king? Why? (No, he did not. He did nothing with his money.)

Summary: (5 minutes)

If the king had not given money to his servants, his business would have stopped; and the king would have found no profit at all. The king was very happy with the good, faithful servants; and he was very angry with the bad, unfaithful servant.

To be good and faithful is to do your work well even if your boss, teacher, or parents are not there.

When Jesus was here on earth, he worked very hard. He preached to people, he showed mercy to people, and he healed many people. He did not expect others to do good things for him, but he worked very hard for others.

Now he is in heaven, but he said he will come back one day. He has promised to save and pay well those he will find good and faithful to him. Work hard for others and for Jesus. Use the gift God has given you well.

Stand up activity: (5 minutes)

Divide the children into four groups (according to the number you have). Let each group say what spiritual gifts they have seen in the

school fees. Brenda felt sad because she did not have all of the things that the other girls had.

One day when Brenda was walking home from school, she met a man named Steve. Steve worked for a bank and drove a fancy car. He was able to support his family, and he told Brenda that he would give her money to buy things that she wanted. He promised to help her family with school fees and other needs.

Brenda was happy because she wanted all of the things that Steve promised. She wanted enough food to eat all of the time, and she wanted an end to all of the suffering that she and Nina and Peter were experiencing.

Brenda's sister Nina was against the idea. She said it could be dangerous to get involved with a man at her age and that they could manage on the money she earned from selling vegetables.

"Brenda, don't waste your life on someone you don't know very well, and besides he is so much older than you. What future is he going to give you? He could even be a married man."

Brenda knew that Steve was married. She thought about what Nina had advised. Brenda remembered that Nina always prayed and asked God to help them.

What decision do you think that Brenda should make?

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 I'm a child of His care,
For His Word teaches me that His
love reaches me everywhere.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

One Sunday morning in a small church in a village, two men came after the church was full and all the seats were taken up by people. One of the late men was well-dressed and he was given a seat, but the other man who was dressed in dirty clothes was told to sit on the floor.

When the missionary saw this man sitting on the ground, he gave his seat to the poor man and sat on the floor himself. All those that saw what happened were surprised.

In the Bible in James 2:1-7 we read the same example when we read, "Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes and a poor man in shabby clothes comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes, and say 'Here is a good seat for you'; but say to the poor man, 'You stand there' or 'Sit on the floor by my seat,' have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?"

Drama: (10 minutes)

Act out the story of the woman who wanted God to visit her at her home. One girl can act as a Christian woman and a boy can be a poor man who visited the woman. A boy or girl can do the voice for God.

Application: (5 minutes)

Sometimes when people see the poor, they look down on them and disregard and mistreat them. Some seem to have nothing to do with them because they will never get anything from them.

Jesus loves the poor. In the Bible the poor are often shown to be happier than the rich because it is easier for the poor to have an attitude of dependence on God. Jesus was poor, and yet he was rich in Spirit. When we show kindness to those who are poor, we are showing kindness to God, also.

Perhaps your family does not have enough money to meet your daily needs. It is important to remember that God loves you and that he wants to provide for you. Pray each day for your daily needs just as it tells us to do in the Lord's prayer. Then thank God for all of his blessings to you.

Song: (5 minutes)

We Pray All Day
(#25 in the Friends of Jesus Song Book)

We pray in the morning, when it is early, in the afternoon and in the evening.

Oh, dear Lord Jesus, watch your children, keep them safe, and please help them, too.

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Have the children bow their heads and pray, thanking God for caring for them. Pray asking God to provide for the poor each day.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Teach the verse using the game, Crossing the River. Write the words of the verse on pieces of paper. Let the children stand in a line and one at a time walk across the river by stepping on the pieces of paper on the floor and calling out the words as they step on them.

Put the words on the chalkboard. Say the verse together: "Better to be poor and honest, than rich and dishonest" (Proverbs 28:6).

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Revise the example of the right attitude toward the poor in James 2:1-4.
2. Revise the good attitude of children towards the poor.
3. Sing *We've a Story to Tell* again.
4. Make announcements.
5. Encourage the children to bring friends to the next club meeting.
6. Close in prayer.
7. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE GOD GIVEN

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, Ephesians 4:11-12, Luke 19:11-27

MEMORY VERSE: "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers" (Ephesians 4:11).

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

1. Know that spiritual gifts are given by the Spirit of God,
2. Understand and know how to use their spiritual gifts and not to misuse spiritual gifts.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray and ask God to guide you as you teach this lesson.
2. Pray for the children you are teaching that they will understand about spiritual gifts.
3. Study these Scriptures to help you understand more about the lesson: Ephesians 4:11-12, Luke 19:11-27, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.
4. Study the lesson and be prepared to teach it in your own words.
5. Collect flowers, leaves, stones and other kinds of natural things you can find.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you.
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: (Let the children put their hands over their hearts.) "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 birthdays, those who are visitors, and those who have brought visitors.

Song: (5 minutes)

I Will Make You Fishers of Men
I will make you fishers of men,
fishers of men, fishers of men;
I will make you fishers of men
If you follow me,
If you follow me, If you follow me;
I will make you fishers of men
If you follow Me.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Object lesson: (5 minutes)

Select four children in the group. Give one a Bible, another a hymn book, another a paper and

gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God."

Paul wrote the Christians in Rome that no one should think highly of himself. In Christ, we who are many form one body, which is the body of Christ. We all have different gifts. Everyone should use his gift fully and cheerfully.

Application: (5 minutes)

If you are a Christian, God gave you your spiritual gifts for a reason. He doesn't expect you to have a gift like the one your friend has. Ask God to show you how to use your gift or gifts fully. You are an important child of God. Won't you use your gift to serve him?

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

God says, "You must serve,"

I will serve.

He says, "You must heal,"

I will heal.

He says, "You must teach my people, encourage them, lead them,

And I will bless you always."

Prayer: (5 minutes)

Ask the children to pray and ask God to show them their spiritual gifts.

4. MEMORY WORK (10 minutes)

Let the children repeat after you the Memory Verse, "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, / but the same Spirit gives them" (1 Corinthians 12:4).

Divide the children into groups and have them say the two phrases to each other until they know the verse.

5. CLOSING TIME (15 minutes)

1. Ask the children if they know their spiritual gifts.
2. Encourage those who don't know to continue praying about it.
3. Make announcements.
4. Sing a song:
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.
5. Close with prayer.
6. Say the Friends of Jesus cheer.

Lesson 39

WHAT ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:4-31, Romans 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:12

MEMORY VERSE: "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them" (1 Corinthians 12:4).

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

1. Understand the different gifts of the Spirit,
2. Identify the spiritual gift that is close to what they enjoy or would like to do in church,
3. Appreciate all spiritual gifts as coming from God and that all are equally important.

1. TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. Pray for yourself and the children whom you will teach.
2. Study the following Scriptures: Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-31, Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:12.
3. Prepare the teaching story so that you can tell it in your own words.
5. Make cue cards about the spiritual gifts. Write on the cards: prophecy, healing, faith, wisdom, speaking in tongues, etc.

2. BEGINNING TIME (10 minutes)

1. Start with prayer, committing the lesson 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: (Let the children put their hands over their hearts.) "Because Jesus is my example, I commit myself to grow in wisdom, in body and in favour with God and man."
5. Recognize those who had a birthday in the past week, visitors, and those who have come with a visitor.

Sing a song (5 minutes)

Use the tune of *Jesus Loves Me*
God has given us all works
Some are preachers
Some do heal
I am a prophet, what are you?
Do you work well; please the Lord.

3. TEACHING THE LESSON

Tell a story: (15 minutes)

In a certain city people wouldn't work together because everyone thought that they were too clever to mix with the others. Those who knew how to hunt kept all the knowledge to themselves.

Those who knew how to fish did the same thing. Even those who knew where to find food and herbs for healing would not tell the others about this. This led to many problems in the city.

The people hated each other and could not trust anyone. Many of them starved to death; others died from diseases that could have easily been healed.

These problems worried their king very much. The king's advisers told him to consult the wise ant. The king went to see the wise ant and took presents to give to him.

The king told the wise ant what was happening in his city. After he had finished telling his sad story, the wise ant said "Don't worry, dear king, it is a simple problem. I will help you."

The king was happy to hear this. "The problem with your people," said the wise ant, "is that your people don't want to work together. You will never be happy in your city unless each one shares his knowledge with everyone else. The fishers should tell everyone how to fish. The farmers, doctors, and carpenters should teach others how to be like they are. Everyone should work to please and help everyone else."

The king thanked the wise ant and went back to the city. He called everyone and ordered them to do as the wise ant had said. The people obeyed him and in a few weeks

everyone in the city was happy. Everyone loved everyone else, and the king was very happy about the change.

Questions: (5 minutes)

1. Why wouldn't the people work together? (They thought they were too clever to mix with the others. But they were all selfish.)
2. What happened because of this? (People hated each other.)
3. What did the king do about this? (He went for help and advice.)
4. What did the wise ant say? (He told them to help and work together.)
5. What did this do to the people? (They were happy again.)

Summary: (5 minutes)

The people in the city died of hunger and diseases because no one was willing to help each other. This caused hatred and great unhappiness in the city. Happiness came to the people after they learned to share and help each other.

Do you sometimes feel that you should keep what you know to yourself? What about in church? What do you think God wants you to do in order to make the work of God in the church easier? Do you think he is happy when you don't do this? Are you willing to do what God wants you to do in the church? (Allow the children to answer these questions.)

Sing a song: (5 minutes)

Give Of Your Best to the Master

Give of your best to the Master;
Give Him first place in your heart;
Give Him first place in your service,
Consecrate every part.
Give, and to you shall be given;
God His beloved Son gave;
Gratefully seeking to serve Him,
Give Him the best that you have.

Chorus:

Give of your best to the Master;
Give of the strength of your youth;
Clad in salvation's full armour,
Join in the battle for truth.

Object lesson: (10 minutes)

Distribute among the children the cue cards. Explain each of the spiritual gifts or works and with the help of the children tell them how important each is in the church. Also explain that the church needs all of these gifts. None is more important than the other.

Bible teaching: (15 minutes)

From the Scriptures that tell about spiritual gifts, we know the importance that God places on spiritual gifts. We, too, should take great care in learning about and using our spiritual gifts to God's glory.

Spiritual gifts are of great practical value and benefit to the church, and so the believer should understand all he can about how to use his spiritual gifts. The Bible tells us how to use our gifts.

Knowing one's spiritual gifts will enable a person to find a place of ministry in the local church, determine the most important things he/she should be doing, and help a person know what God's will is for his/her life.

(Open the Bible to 1 Corinthians 12:4-11.)

God gives each Christian at least one spiritual gift for the good of the body of God. Some people are meant to be prophets, others are to heal, others to speak in tongues, others to interpret those tongues. "But it is one and the same Spirit who does all of this, as he wishes, he gives a different gift to each person" (1 Corinthians 12:11).

The Bible compares how the human body works to the body of Christ, the church. Each part of the body depends on the other parts for its work. If the body were just a head, think of how it would move, eat, or wash. If it were just a leg or hand, how would it live? The body needs each part to live. It needs the toes, the fingers, the nails, the head, the eyes and the ears to function. No part is too small or too big to help.

Ephesians 4:11-12 says that God made some to be pastors, some teachers, some to be evangelists, in order to prepare God's people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

1 Peter 4:10. says, "Each one as a good manager of God's different