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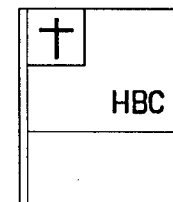
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THE HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

YOUTH PROGRAMME

TEACHER'S BOOK



Jill Branyon

THE HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB - YOUTH PROGRAMME

TEACHERS BOOK

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INTRODUCTION

Holiday Bible Club is a one week programme for children and youth. It involves Bible study, lessons about life, memory verses and much more.

As the teacher for youth, you have an important job. You should be sure to pray for them and to prepare yourself well each day. There are three lessons per day, activities, memory work, songs and games. This book is a guide to help you. Pray that God will guide you and give you understanding as you prepare to teach.

My desire is that students will come to know Jesus as Saviour and Lord and will want to become more like him in their daily lives. I also pray that teachers will grow in their understanding of Scripture and in their faithfulness to Christ.

May God bless you as you work with youth in the Holiday Bible Club.

Jill B. Branyon, Editor

BIBLE DRILLS

Bible drills are another way of helping youth learn to use the Bible. To do this activity each youth must have a Bible to use. Students stand at attention with Bibles at their left sides. The teacher says, "Attention!" Then the teacher says, "Draw swords" At this command the students bring their Bibles up in front of them, and lay them in their left palms. The teacher quotes a verse to find. For example: "Romans 12:5; Romans 12:5." The Scripture is said twice, but the students do not begin to find the Scripture until the teacher says, "**CHARGE!**" At the sound of the command to charge each student finds the Scripture, and the first to do so steps forward. At the signal from the teacher the student reads the verse, and the teacher checks to see if he found the right one.

Bible drills are a good activity to help youth learn to use their Bibles better.

Try it during your Holiday Bible Club and even during regular youth meetings and Sunday School.

BIBLE CONTESTS

In many areas the Holiday Bible Club has had Bible Contests. The youth are required to learn certain things about the Bible, and when one succeeds he is rewarded with a prize which is usually a New Testament or a portion of Scripture.

The following requirements are suggested for memory work:

●Books of New Testament and Old Testament:

●Some verses:

John 1:1
John 1:34
John 3:16
John 5:24
John 20:31

●Some Salvation verses:

John 3:16
Romans 3:23
Romans 6:23
John 14:6
John 1:12
Revelation 3:20

The youth learn the verses throughout the week during their lessons and say them to the teacher from memory. It is suggested that during the Sunday service some memory work be given to show the church what the youth have been learning. It is a real encouragement to the other church members to see that their youth are learning the Bible. Please try to have a contest in your Holiday Bible Club.

3. The Books of Poetry (5)

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

4. The Major Prophets (5)

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

5. The Minor Prophets (12)

Hosea	Jonah	Zephaniah
Joel	Micah	Haggai
Amos	Nahum	Zechariah
Obadiah	Habakkuk	Malachi

The New Testament is divided into five types of books.

1. The Four Gospels (4)

Matthew Luke
Mark John

2. The Book of Church History (1)

Acts of the Apostles

3. Paul's Letters (13)

Romans	Ephesians	1 & 2 Timothy
1 Corinthians	Philippians	Titus
2 Corinthians	Colossians	Philemon
Galatians	1 & 2 Thessalonians	

4. General Letters (8)

Hebrews	1 & 2 Peter	Jude
James	1, 2 & 3 John	

5. The Book of Prophecy (1): Revelation

DAY 1: LESSON 1

WHO IS JESUS?

SCRIPTURE: John 1:1-18

MEMORY VERSE: "Before the world was created, the Word already existed; he was with God, and he was the same as God" (John 1:1).

AIM: The student should learn that Jesus: (1) existed from the very beginning of time. (2) is God, (3) is the one and only Son of God and (4) is called Word, light and life.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

Who wrote these verses we have read? (John) What do we know about John? (John was one of the twelve disciples. He is called the beloved disciple. He knew Jesus very well. He also wrote the three letters called 1 John, 2 John, 3 John and the book of prophecy called Revelation.) Who was John writing about in these verses? (Jesus)

In reading John's account, notice when he repeats an idea. In the language which John used (Greek), when something is important it is repeated. For example: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The last phrase is the most emphasized.

Pay attention throughout the passage for ideas which are repeated.

TEACHING THE LESSON: Tell the students to read verses 1-5 aloud together.

Have them name at least three ways we know Jesus is God's Son. (Word, life, light, creator, in the beginning God)

Say: "The images John uses tell us Jesus is the true Son of God. Read verse one again. What does this verse say about Jesus?" (He was in the beginning, and he is God.)

Read verse 3. Ask: "What part did Jesus play in the beginning of time?" (Jesus was creator.)

Read verse 4. Ask: "How did Jesus relate to men?" (He is life and light.)

Read Verses 6-8. Ask: "What role does John the Baptist play in the coming of Jesus?" (He told people to prepare for the coming of Jesus.)

Read verse 9. Ask: "What does Jesus want to do for man?" (He wants to be his true light.)

Read verse 10. Ask: "How did man respond to Jesus?" (They did not recognize him.) "Why?" (because of sin and spiritual blindness)

Read verses 12-13. Ask: "What promise does Jesus give those who believe him?" (They become children of God.)

Read verse 14. Ask: "What did Jesus become?" (flesh-man) "Why?" (to show us God's glory) "Is there any other person like Jesus?" (No. He is the only Son.) "Where did he come from?" (the Father, God)

Read verse 18. Ask: "What is Jesus called again in this verse?" (the only Son)

Read verse 17. Ask: "What did we receive from Moses?" (the Law) "What do we receive from Jesus?" (grace and truth)

ACTIVITIES

1. Say the memory verse.
2. What does this verse say about Jesus?
3. What does verse 12 promise?
4. Name four ways John described Jesus to us?
5. Have the students make a picture representing the ways John described Jesus.

DAY 1: LESSON 2

HOW CAN I KNOW I AM SAVED?

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 2:4, 3:9, 3:14, 4:2, 4:15, 5:10-13.

MEMORY VERSE: "I am writing this to you so that you may know that you have eternal life — you that believe in the Son of God" (1 John 5:13).

AIM: The student should be able to give three tests for knowing he is saved.

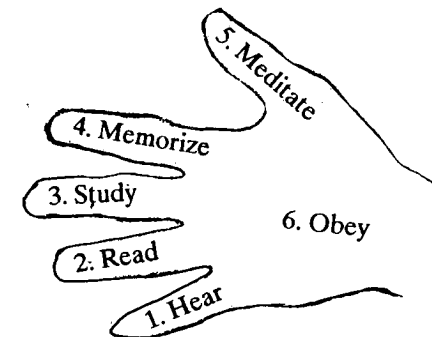
PREPARING TO TEACH:

Ask yourself this question: "If I died today, do I know for sure that I would go to heaven?" When asked this question many people cannot give an answer. Some say we cannot know the answer. Others say they do not know. Can we know we are going to heaven? What does the Bible say? The First Letter of John 5:13 says this: "I am writing this to you so that you may know that you have eternal life — you

Memory Work - Learning to use the Bible.

If someone wants to read a map, he should know how to read maps. The Bible also requires that we have some knowledge about it as we study it.

The Youth should learn that the Bible is divided into two parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament has 39 books, and the New Testament has 27 books. The Bible is a collection of books of different types. God is the author, but he used different men to write it. The Bible is a library. It is a special collection of books because God inspired the writings by each author. This is God's Word. God speaks to us through his Word; and we should read, study, memorize and meditate on the Word of God every day so we can grow in grace and truth. (See the hand illustration below.) In order to handle God's Word properly we need to know how to get a good grip on it so we will not loose the truth God gives us. There are six steps to putting God's Word to work in your life.



The Old Testament is divided into five types of books:

1. Books of the Law (5)
2. The Books of History (12)

Genesis	Joshua	2 Kings
Exodus	Judges	1 Chronicles
Leviticus	Ruth	2 Chronicles
Numbers	1 Samuel	Ezra
Deuteronomy	2 Samuel	Nehemiah
	1 Kings	Esther

DAY 5: LESSON 3 FOLLOW-UP, PART TWO

MATERIALS NEEDED: One "Welcome to God's Family" tract for each youth

PREPARING THE LESSON:

Continue to learn the steps in the follow-up. Make a poster showing the 5 steps.

- (1) Spiritual Birth (2) God's Word (3) Prayer
- (4) The Church - Be baptized (5) Share your faith.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Read the whole tract together aloud.

Stress Point 4: Encourage the youth to help their new Christian friends to join a church and be baptized. The new Christian needs to be loved and helped to grow. He will not be perfect. He will make mistakes. Be committed to love him and help him grow. Pray for him everyday and have other church members to pray also.

Stress Point 5: Share your faith. One sure sign of a sincere faith and trust in Christ is the readiness to tell others. Christ's love is so wonderful that you can hardly hold it in. Encourage the new Christian to share his new faith with his family and friends. Tell him to tell someone on the very first day that he has received Jesus as his Saviour and Lord. Sharing your faith helps you to become a stronger Christian. Have you been faithful to share your faith with others? If you want to be a victorious Christian it is necessary to obey Christ. Jesus healed the man who had demons, and he said "Go back home to your family and tell them what the Lord has done for you."

ACTIVITIES:

1. Review the Steps to Growth.
2. Read the tract to each other
3. Plan to read the tract to a new Christian. Fill below. I read the tract,

"Welcome to God's Family" to: (Name) _____

4. Thank God that you can help someone receive Jesus and the new life he promises. You can now help the new Christian **grow** in his faith.

that believe in the Son of God." The Bible says we can know for sure that we will go to heaven when we die. This is what it means to be saved. It is to know you will go to heaven when you die. In fact, the book of 1 John gives three kinds of tests for knowing we are saved. These tests are: first, the action tests; second, the beliefs tests and third, the witness test.

First we shall look at the action tests. The apostle John says if we are saved we are going to live in a different way from those who are not saved. The First Letter of John 2:4 says we will obey his commandments if we are saved. At least we will want to obey them. Yes, sometimes we will fail, but we will know it, and it will hurt us.

Chapter 3:9 tells us the second action test. It says we will not continue to practise sin if we are saved. We will not do the old sins we used to do. People will see that our lives are changed.

The third action test is in chapter 3:14. It says if we are saved we will love other Christians. We will have friends who are Christians, and we will care about them. So there are three action tests to know if we are saved. They are the obedience test, the sin test and the love test. If we are saved we will pass all these tests.

The apostle John also says if we are saved we will be able to pass the beliefs tests. There will be certain things we believe. The First Letter of John 4:2 says we will believe that Christ came in the flesh, he was a real person and he lived among us as a man.

Chapter 4:15 says we will believe that Jesus was the Son of God, that he was not only man but also God. Jesus did not have an earthly father. His Father was God.

Chapter 5:1 gives us the third beliefs test. If we are saved we will believe that Jesus is the Saviour, the Christ. We will believe that he died on the cross for our sins, he was buried and resurrected by the power of God and today he lives in heaven waiting to receive us there to be with him. So there are three beliefs tests, (1) that Jesus came in the flesh, (2) he was the Son of God and (3) he is our Saviour.

But there is a third test to know we are saved. It is really the most important test. Some people can live like Christians and even say they believe as Christians, but the Bible says if we are really saved we will have a witness inside us who tells us we are saved. The First Letter of John 5:10-12 tell us this. Verse 10 says those who are saved will have a witness inside them, and verse 11 tells us what that witness is: that "...God has given us eternal life...." That is why people can give a testimony that they are saved. This is how people can say they know they will go to heaven when they die.

They have God's witness, the Holy Spirit, inside them who tells them this. In fact, the Bible seems to say that a person who cannot say he is saved is probably not saved.

Now we can ask the question again: "If you died today, do you know for sure that you would go to heaven?" The Bible says if we are saved we can say yes.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Ask the students this question: "If you died today, do you know you would go to heaven?" Let them respond, but do not comment on their responses at this time.

Explain that knowing you are going to heaven when you die is what it means to be saved. Then introduce the lesson by saying: "Today we are going to learn how we can know we are saved. The Bible says we can know for sure we are saved, and if we are saved we will know it. Let's turn in our Bibles to 1 John 5:13."

Read this verse together. Then ask: "What does this verse tell us?" Let the students respond. Then help them to understand by saying: "It tells us we can know we have eternal life. That's what it means to be saved, isn't it?"

Explain that the apostle John says he has written this book to help us know we are saved. Say: "Today we are going to learn three ways we can test ourselves so we can know for sure we are saved. When we are finished today you should be able to tell these three tests for knowing you are saved."

Say: "The first test we have is called an action test, and it is found in three verses. Let us read them together. Someone find 1 John 2:4, another 1 John 3:9, and the last 1 John 3:14." Read each verse and help the students to discover there three action tests: obedience, sin and love.

Then ask this question: "What is the first way we can tell we are saved?" Listen to their responses, and then help them understand by saying: "The first test, the action test, says if we are saved we will not live the way we did before."

Say, "The second test is the beliefs test. If we are saved we will believe certain things. Let us look at three Scripture verses to see what we will believe. Someone find 1 John 4:2, someone else 4:15 and another 5:1." Read the verses one at a time and help the students understand the three beliefs: (1) Jesus came in the flesh, (2) he is the Son of God and (3) he is the Saviour.

Then ask the question, "If we are saved, we will believe three things about Jesus. What are these three beliefs?"

Say: "The last test is the witness test. The Bible says if we are saved we will have the Holy Spirit inside us to tell us we are saved. Someone read 1 John 5:10." Let the person read, then ask this question: "What does this verse tell us?" Let students

"3. Becoming **one flesh** is the physical union of two people through sex. One flesh is very real when a child is born from this union, because a child is 50% of his mother and 50% of his father." Ask: "What is the place of children in God's plan?" Write a C in the centre of the triangle. "What if there is no child or children - do you still have a marriage?" (Yes) Ask: "Would a man put away his best friend because she had no child? No, if he would do that, then he married only for children and not because he loved his wife as his best friend. According to Jesus, this man who puts away his wife for lack of a child is sinning." (Matthew 19:6)

ACTIVITIES:

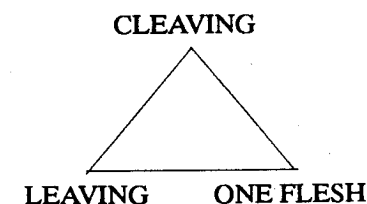
1. Here is a list of words that are all part of marriage. Arrange them in the correct order according to the plan God has given us.

Words: love, sex, friendship, marriage, faithfulness.

(Correct Order: friendship - love - faithfulness - marriage - sex.)

Print each word on a sheet of paper and give to five students to hold them up. Allow them to arrange themselves in front of all the students.

2. Draw the triangle that shows God's plan for marriage. Label each corner according to Genesis 2:24



a. Where do you think a couple should begin the marriage? (cleaving - love and faithfulness)

b. What should be next (leaving - wedding)

c. What should be last? (one flesh - sex)

3. Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-15. Why does the Bible say a Christian should not marry someone who is not a Christian? (True union in spirit and fellowship is not possible.)

6. God planned for a man and woman to be united in spirit, mind and heart. They should stay together through all problems. (verse 24)

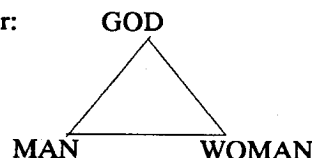
7. God planned for a man and woman to become one body in a sexual union. (verse 24)

In the New Testament, Jesus quoted Genesis 2:24 as part of his teaching about marriage in Matthew 19:3-6. He said in verse 6 that when two people marry nothing must separate them. God does not allow divorce. Marriage is for a lifetime. That is why you must choose carefully whom you will marry. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-15, we are told that Christians must marry only other Christians. That is for a very good reason. How can we have close fellowship with an unbeliever? (verse 14)

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Ask: "Why did God create woman? (Genesis 2:18, so man would not be alone; so he would have a friend and helper)."

Draw a triangle on the chalk board or paper:



"It is God's plan for a husband and wife to be best friends. Marriage is a friendship, not an ordinary friendship, but the strongest of all. God planned it that way because he knows what will make us happy."

Draw another triangle on the board or paper:

This is the picture of marriage shown in Genesis 2:24.



"1. Leaving is pictured in the wedding. It is a public announcement that the bride and groom are no longer children. They are adults starting a new home and family. They leave their parents emotionally and are now putting each other first in their lives.

"2. Cleaving to each other means being unified in purpose and commitment. It means being best friends and working together as one. It is the closest and strongest friendship possible. Is this kind of cleaving possible in polygamy? (No)

respond, then help them understand by telling them: "The verse says the one who believes has a witness inside him. The witness is the Holy Spirit who comes to live inside all who are saved. What does this witness tell us? Let us look at the next verse. Can someone read verse 11?" Let him read the verse then ask this question: "What does the witness tell us?" Let the students respond, then say: "The witness tells us we have eternal life. That's what it means to be saved, isn't it? So the witness, the Holy Spirit, tells us we are saved."

Ask this question: "What is the third test to know we are saved?" Let the students respond, then say: "It is the witness test. The Holy Spirit tells us if we are saved."

Say, "We have talked about three tests to help us know we are saved. What were they?" Let the students try to remember them, then summarize by saying: "The three tests are the actions test, the beliefs test and the witness test. Now let us do some fun things to see if we understand."

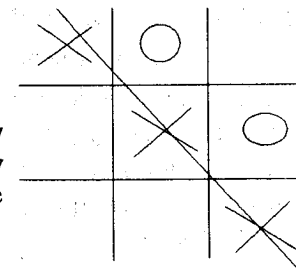
ACTIVITIES:

Play a Tic Tac Toe game of questions and answers to see if students remember and understand. Divide the class into two groups of nearly equal numbers. One good way is to put boys on one team and girls on the other. Each team will be given a question, and they will try to decide the answer together. The team leader will give the answer. If the answer is correct, the team will be allowed to put an X in a block of the Tic Tac Toe. The team will choose which block they want. If the answer is not correct, the question will go to the other team. If they answer correctly they can put an O in a block. If they cannot answer, the teacher gives the answer and then gives another question to the other team. The first team to give an answer which gives three X's or three O's in a straight line is the winner.

Use the following questions for the game:

1. Can you know if you will go to heaven when you die?
2. What are the three kinds of tests to tell if you are saved?
3. What does it mean to be saved?
4. What are the three action tests?
5. What are the three beliefs tests?
6. What is the witness test?

Complete the activities by learning the memory verse for the day. Say it all together, and then allow every person to say it individually. The Tic Tac Toe game can also be played as a part of this activity.



DAY 1: LESSON 3 BE CHRIST'S WITNESS

SCRIPTURE: Mark 5:1-20

MEMORY VERSE: "But Jesus would not let him. Instead, he told him, 'Go back home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how kind he has been to you'" (Mark 5:19).

AIM: The youth will learn what a witness is and that they must share their faith with others.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

The Scripture we are studying is about a man who had many problems. He was possessed by evil spirits and was mad. When he met Jesus all that changed. This was a man who appeared to be hopeless, but Jesus was able to save him and heal him. The word, Mob, (Other Bible translations use the word, Legion.) used in verse 9, means many. It is used to talk about a large group of Roman soldiers. The spirits were many, they were ready to do evil and they were powerful.

In verses 14-17, the herdsmen went to tell the townspeople what had happened. The people came and saw the man clothed and in his right mind. They did not rejoice at this good news. No, they begged Jesus to leave. They cared more for the pigs they lost than for the man who had been healed.

But in verse 18, the man who had been healed had a different response. He wanted to follow Jesus, but Jesus told him to go home and tell his friends.

That is what we mean when we give a testimony. It is to tell your friend what the Lord has done for you.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Read these verses aloud together. Discuss the events as they happen.

From verses 1-5, describe the demoniac when we first meet him in the Scripture.

From verses 6-10, tell how the demons responded to Jesus? (They bowed down and cried out his name.) Jesus has power over all spirits, and they knew he did.

Ask: "What was the name of the spirits?" (Mob) "What does mob or legion mean?" (Many. They were powerful and prepared to do evil.)

and faith Jesus requires of us, to give him our lives completely. We must let him have control. We must allow him to change us and make us the kind of persons he desires us to be. Can you make that commitment just now? Can you say, 'Wherever you lead I'll go?'"

Ask the youth to make a public commitment. Ask if there is anyone who wishes to receive Jesus as Saviour. Is there anyone who needs to be baptized to show his faith? Ask if there is anyone who is making a deeper commitment to Christ to follow him wherever he leads?

Close in prayer. Use the extra time to prepare for the Sunday service.

DAY 5: LESSON 2 WHAT IS CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE?

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:18-24; Matthew 19:3-6; 2 Corinthians 6:14-15.

MEMORY VERSE: "And God said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and unite with his wife, and the two will become one'" (Matthew 19:5).

AIM: The youth will understand God's plan for marriage.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

Think about people you know who are married. Do they seem to be happy? Do you see many problems and unhappiness? Do you know a wife who is beaten or abused? Do you know a husband who gets no help from his wife? Do you know a man who has two wives? What does God think about these marriages?

In Genesis 2:18-24, we see that God is the one who started marriage. Since he is the creator of marriage, it is his plan we must follow if we want a good marriage. What is his plan? In Genesis, we learn several things about his plan:

1. God created one woman for one man. (verse 18)
2. God created woman so man would not be alone. (verse 18)
3. God created woman to be man's helper and friend. (verse 18)
4. God planned for a man to think of his wife as part of his own body. (verse 23)
5. God planned for a man to leave his family when he is married. His wife becomes more important to him than his other family.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

John the disciple was telling us what happened after Jesus had resurrected from the dead. He told how Jesus came to Thomas so he would believe. Notice the response of Thomas when he saw Jesus. Not everyone has seen Jesus the way Thomas did. We see Jesus as he lives in others. For this reason, our example must be good so others will see Jesus in our lives. John tells us he has written this account so we will also believe and have life. Take time at the end of the lesson to go over the plan of salvation in the "New Life" booklet and allow students to respond to Jesus.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Ask: "In verse 26, why is it amazing that Jesus came and stood among them? (The doors were closed.)

"In verse 27, what did Jesus say to Thomas? (believe)

"In verse 28, how did Thomas respond? (my Lord and my God) What does this announcement mean? (This is a strong statement and reveals Thomas' commitment to Jesus Christ.) Have you come to this conclusion in your own thinking? Do you accept Jesus as your Saviour and Lord?

"In verse 29, what did Jesus say that applies to us in this room? (Happy are those who have not seen me and yet believe in me.)

"In verse 31, what is the purpose of John's writings? (John wanted us to believe that Jesus is the Christ just as Thomas did.) Have you accepted Jesus as your Saviour? Have you committed your life to him as Lord?"

ACTIVITIES:

Say: "All of these lessons are showing us exactly who Jesus is and what he has done for us, but the choice is for each person to make alone. You can accept Jesus as Saviour and Lord or reject him and go your own way.

"What has been your choice?

"Have you decided to receive Jesus as Lord in faith?

"What is faith? What is believing? What is trust?"

Ask for a volunteer. Have the person face away from you and tell him this is a test of faith. Ask the person, "Do you trust me? Have you known me to tell you a lie? Then fall back into my arms, and I will catch you. Can you trust me to do that?" See if the student will fall back. Say: "This is a measure of trust. That is the belief

Ask: "In verses 11-13, what did Jesus command the spirits to do?" (enter the pigs) "What happened to the pigs?" (They drowned.)

Ask: "In verses 14-17, what did the herdsmen do?" (They went to the town to tell the people.) "It was a good story. How did the townspeople respond?" (They were afraid and asked Jesus to leave.)

Ask: "In verses 18-20, how did the healed man act?" (He wanted to go with Jesus.) "What did Jesus tell him?" (Go and tell your friends.)

ACTIVITY:

1. Say the memory verse.

2. Share something God has done for you this month.

3. Suppose you were present at a bus accident and the police told you to come to court as a witness. What would you tell the judge? Would it be good to tell what you read in the newspaper? How does being a witness in a court compare to being a witness for Jesus?

4. What did Jesus tell the healed man to do?

5. Name two friends you could tell about Jesus. Pray and ask God to help you tell them about Jesus. Write their names here _____

DAY 2: LESSON 1 WHY DID JESUS COME?

SCRIPTURE: John 1:24-34

MEMORY VERSE: "I have seen it," said John, "and I tell you that he is the Son of God" (John 1:34).

AIM: The student will learn that Jesus is the Lamb of God. He came to take away sin. John the Baptist fulfilled the prophecy about Jesus. Baptism marked the beginning of the ministry of Jesus. Jesus is the Son of God.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

John the Baptist came to prepare the way for Christ. The religious leaders of the time were very worried about his teaching. They kept asking him, "Are you the Messiah?" John answered in verse 23 that he was not. This verse is a direct prophecy from Isaiah 40:3.

Jesus began his ministry of preaching, teaching and healing by being baptized by John. John gives a testimony that Jesus is God's Son in verses 29, 33 and 34.

In the earlier verses studied yesterday, we learned that Jesus is the only Son of God. Today John the Baptist confirms that Jesus is the Son of God.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Say: "Today, we will learn more about Jesus, but let us review what we learned yesterday. In yesterday's lesson we learned that Jesus is: Word, Creator, Light, Truth, Grace, the only Son of God and he was in the beginning. What was the promise of verse 12? Can you say John 1:1?"

"Today, we will meet John the Baptist. Tell me what you know about John the Baptist? He told about the coming of Jesus, he baptized people and preached that they should repent of sin. He lived in the wilderness and ate honey and locusts. The Pharisees were worried about his teaching. They asked him if he was the Messiah. He baptized Jesus and said Jesus was the Son of God.

"So we see in verse 29 that Jesus came to John. John was doing his usual work of preaching repentance and baptizing. What did John say about Jesus? What did John call him? What did Jesus come to do?" (John said Jesus was the Lamb of God who had come to take away the sins of the world.)

Continue: "In verse 32, how did John know Jesus was the Lamb of God?" (The Holy Spirit revealed it to him. Then the Spirit descended like a dove upon Jesus when he was baptized.)

Ask: "In verse 33, what does John tell us about Jesus?" (He told us Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit.) "This was the first time they had heard this. No one can give the Holy Spirit except God."

Say: "Verse 34 is the memory verse. What does it say about Jesus?"

ACTIVITY:

Say: "Yesterday we learned that Jesus is God. He has power, and he has the Holy Spirit. He created. He existed from the beginning of time. Today we learned that he came to earth as man.

preference, then you should try to go with him. Make sure the church teaches from the Bible.

Keep meeting with your friend and involve him in other activities with Christian friends and at church. Encourage your friend to share his faith with others and to involve them in activities at church as well. Be careful to be patient.

Your new Christian friend may commit some serious sins. He is only a baby. Babies make messes sometimes.

Love him and help him know the difference between right and wrong. It takes a long time for us to grow up. Be patient. If he has truly committed his life to Christ, he will grow.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Read the whole booklet aloud together
2. Practise reading it to each other.
3. Take the booklet home, and read it to your family.
4. Why is follow-up so important?
5. Name a friend with whom you can share this booklet.

Write the name here _____

DAY 5: LESSON 1 HOW CAN I BE SAVED?

SCRIPTURE: John 20:26-31

MEMORY VERSE: "But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life" (John 20:31).

AIM: The student should learn what is necessary to receive Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Ask the students which is better, to have ten babies who are unable to live beyond five years of age, or to have only one child who grows to be an adult, marries and has children of his own.

The same thing is true of spiritual babies. Many Christians have been so busy helping babies be born in Christ that very little has been done to help them to grow. Birth is only the beginning. It takes only a few minutes. But growth takes the rest of life, physically and spiritually, and it is important to get started in the right way.

Read the "Welcome to God's Family" tract aloud together.

Stress point 1: Spiritual Birth. Read all the Scriptures from the Bible. How can we know for sure that we have eternal life? We know because we have repented of our sin and put our faith in Jesus Christ.

When a person accepts Jesus, we write his name in the Birth Certificate as a reminder to him that he has made that commitment to Christ once and for all time. When he is tempted to doubt, he can read that salvation is a commitment made once in a lifetime, just like his physical birth can only happen once.

Stress point 2: God's Word: If possible give your friend a Bible or see that he has one. If not at least try to get a Gospel of John or a Gospel of Mark so he can begin to know about his new Saviour. Maybe your pastor can help you. Ask your friend to give ten minutes a day to reading the Bible. He should write down what he has learned and any questions he may have about what he has read. It is difficult for a new Christian to understand everything he reads in the Bible. Maybe you can help him understand the verses he is reading. Take time and be patient. If you cannot answer his question, ask your pastor.

Stress Point 3: Prayer: Please help your friend to understand that prayer is simply talking to God. He does not need special written prayers. He can talk to God at any time, in any place, about anything. Your friend should also learn how to listen to God in his heart and to listen to him as he reads the Bible. God wants to talk to us.

Note: If your friend makes a personal commitment to Jesus Christ while reading the New Life booklet, be sure to make an appointment to meet him again the next day or in two days. Take the "Welcome to God's Family" tract and share with him the way to grow in faith. Don't allow him to remain without a personal interest from you. Invite your friend to go to church with you. If he has another church

1. Say: "Give three reasons Jesus came to earth as man."

- a. To take away the sins of the world
- b. Baptize with the Holy Spirit
- c. To be the sacrificial lamb of God

Continue: "Yesterday, we saw Jesus as powerful Creator and God. Today we realize that he came to earth to die. He is called the Lamb of God.

2. "What was the purpose of the sacrificial lamb?"

- a. To be sacrificed for the sins of the people
- b. The blood of the sacrificial lamb was sprinkled on the altar to pay for the sins of the people.

3. Discuss baptism: Ask: "What did baptism mean for Jesus?" (It was a public demonstration that he would begin his ministry.) "Why are we baptized?" (It is a public demonstration that we have accepted Jesus as our Saviour. We have died to sin. We show in baptism that we are being buried with Jesus and resurrected to live with him. He is the only means of our salvation.)

4. "Does baptism save you?" (No. It is the outward sign of our inward faith in Jesus alone as Saviour.) "Why should we be baptized?" (First, to show others that we have accepted Christ as our Saviour. Secondly, Jesus commanded us to be baptized and we want to obey him. It shows that a change has taken place in us. We are now following Jesus.)

5. Have the students draw a picture of the baptism of Jesus.

DAY 2: LESSON 2

HOW CAN I TELL RIGHT FROM WRONG?

SCRIPTURES: 2 Timothy 3:16; Proverbs 16:2; Matthew 28:18-20; John 13:34

MEMORY VERSE: "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living" (2 Timothy 3:16).

AIM: The student should be able to give the four questions which must be answered to determine the difference between right and wrong.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

If someone asked you if it was right or wrong to drink wine, what would you say? The Bible says that Jesus drank wine and that he never sinned. But today we believe it is wrong. In today's lesson we are going to learn how to decide if something is right or wrong. We will learn four questions which we can ask in every situation to help us decide if it is right or wrong to do something.

Of course our basic source is the Bible. It says in 2 Timothy 3:16, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living." This says the Bible has the answers to all our questions about right and wrong if we know how to use it to find the answers. Many times the Bible tells us the right answer directly. We know it is wrong to steal because the Bible says in Exodus 20:15, "Do not steal." However, the Bible does not answer directly all of our questions. That is why we must ask the other three questions to help us know the teaching of the Bible in these cases.

We must always start with what the Bible says about a question of right and wrong. The question we must bring to the Bible is, "Does the Bible say it is right?" Those things which are clearly forbidden by the whole Bible are clearly wrong. But as you read the Old Testament you must remember that there are several kinds of law contained in it. There is governmental law, Old Testament religious law and moral law. The governmental law is no longer applicable since our government has its own laws, and the New Testament says we must obey our government. The Old Testament religious laws have to be replaced by the New Testament. However, the moral laws, basically contained in the Ten Commandments and other related Scriptures, are still applicable for us today. Jesus came not to replace the laws but to fulfil them. In many cases he showed that the real law is of the heart. So to answer the question of what the Bible says, we must be sure to examine all the Scriptures, the Old Testament moral law and the New Testament.

To make sure we have understood the whole Bible correctly, we must ask some other questions to know the right answers about right and wrong. The second question concerns our motives, or the reason we want to do a certain thing. Proverbs 16:2 says God judges our motives or our inner reasons for doing something. Jesus says in Matthew 5:8 that we should have a pure heart. The question on motives is this, "If I do this are my motives pure?" If you cannot give a yes answer to this question, it is wrong.

The third question concerns our witness to others. Matthew 28:18-20 gives us Jesus' last command, to tell others how they can be saved. Romans 14:21 says we

- "1. Death to your friendship with God.
- "2. Death of your self-respect
- "3. Death of your body by sexual diseases
- "4. Death of innocent babies from abortion or poor care
- "5. Death of your dreams of marriage and family

"God wants you to choose purity. When you choose purity, you will receive all you desire when you are married."

ACTIVITY:

Here are some questions asked by high school students. How would you answer them according to the Bible?

1. My girlfriend and I love each other and are ready for marriage. Is it all right to have sex before marriage?
2. If you have sex with a girl before marriage, have you sinned?
3. Is it bad to spend a night with a boy even if you don't have sex?
4. I am sorry to say I have already committed fornication. (sex with someone before marriage) What can I do now? (See 1 John 1:9 and John 8:10-11.)

DAY 4: LESSON 3 FOLLOW-UP, PART ONE

SCRIPTURES: Read and understand the Scriptures in the booklet. It is not necessary to memorize them at this time

MATERIALS NEEDED: One "Welcome to God's Family" tract for each student

AIM: The students will see the necessity of growth after spiritual birth.

PREPARING THE LESSON:

Read "Welcome to God's Family" several times. Begin to learn the points. If possible, read the booklet to a friend who is a new Christian.

Verse 6 says a Christian should never wrong another sexually and will be punished if he does.

Verse 7 reminds us that God calls us to live in holiness, not in sexual sins.

Verse 8 says that, if you don't agree with this teaching, you are disagreeing with God.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Tell these stories to the youth:

"Once there was a girl named Ruth. When she was 15 years old, she became involved with a young man who persuaded her to have sex with him. She became pregnant and had a baby girl. Of course, she had to drop out of school, and the boy couldn't marry her. Now she has no education, no job and no help to raise her child.

"There was also a girl named Leah, who did very well in high school and went on to the university. There she met a young man who was very interested in her. They became good friends and after some time decided they wanted to get married. After graduation, he went to her parents and made all the arrangements. After they were happily married for a year, they had a baby girl. The child was a blessing from God."

Ask: "Now which girl followed the Lord's way? Which girl do you think was happier?"

Say: "When we follow God's way, we are always happier. We avoid many problems and troubles. God intends for sex to be used only in marriage. It causes many problems otherwise."

Say: "Look at 1 Corinthians 6:18-20. What is the main reason we should run away from sexual immorality? Isn't it because our bodies are the place where the Holy Spirit lives? When we participate in sexual sin, the Holy Spirit is present. How do you think this sin makes him feel? When we belong to God, we cannot use our bodies for sin. If we want God to be present in our lives, we need to keep our lives and our bodies pure and clean. While following God's plan, we also avoid many problems."

Ask: "What does God want you to do? The answer is found in 1 Thessalonians 4:3. He wants you to be free from sexual sin because the wages of sin is death". (Read Romans 6:23.)

Ask: "Can you think of ways the wages of sexual sin is death?"

must not do anything to cause our brother to stumble. Then we must answer this question yes for something to be right, "If I do this will it help my Christian witness?"

The last question we must answer concerns our love for ourselves and others. Jesus said in John 13:34 that we should love our brothers as he loved us. He even said in Matthew 5:44 that we should love our enemies. God tells us what this love really means in 1 Corinthians 13. He says this kind of love is unselfish. It means doing what is best for all concerned. Then we must ask ourselves this question, "If I do this, will it show love for everybody including myself?" For it to be right we must be able to answer yes to this question.

For something to be right, we must have four yes answers. Yes, it is right according to the Bible. Yes, I have pure motives in doing this. Yes, it will help my Christian witness. Yes, I am showing love in this action. If we can say yes to all of these questions, then it is right.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Ask: "Have you ever wondered if something is right or wrong?" Wait for the student's response, then say: "We all have. How can we tell if something is right or wrong? That is what we are going to learn today."

Ask: "What do you think is our basic source for deciding what is right or wrong?" Let them respond. Then say: "Our basic source is the Bible. Turn in your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16 and let us read it together. Who would like to read it for us?" Let the person read it. Explain that the Bible says it is the source for "...instruction for right living," which means telling us what is right and wrong

Then explain: "There are four questions we must ask to know for sure what the Bible teaches about a question." Explain the four questions and write them on a paper or chalk board for all to see:

1. Does the Bible say it is right?
2. If I do this, are my motives pure? (Explain what motives are.)
3. If I do this, will it help my Christian witness?
4. If I do this, will it show love for everybody including myself?

Say: "If something is right, we must get four yes answers to these four questions. Let's try a simple example. Is it right or wrong to cheat on an exam? What is the answer to the first question? The Bible doesn't say directly, does it? If cheating is stealing it would say no, it is not right to cheat. What about the second question, are your motives pure? No, you are lazy and trying to get something without doing the work. Does it show a good witness? No, Christians do not cheat.

Does it show love? No, especially not for yourself. So this is clearly wrong since we got four no's for the answers. Even if we got only one no it would be wrong."

ACTIVITIES:

Revise the questions from the chalk board then erase them. Have the students hold up four fingers. Relate each question to one finger. Then ask the students to give the question which goes with each finger. Do this until the students have learned the four questions.

Let the students try to answer the question, "Is it right or wrong to drink wine or beer?" In answer to this question, the Bible condemns drunkenness, but not drinking beer or wine directly. The other three questions give the answer. The motives for drinking are almost always bad. It is a bad witness because in many countries today, Christians are not expected to drink. It never shows love for anyone, since it is bad for your body and can cause addiction. Lead them to see that three out of the four questions are clearly no. For us today, it is wrong.

Go over the memory verse until all are able to quote it. Finish with a revision of the four questions by saying, "Can we tell if something is right or wrong? What four questions must we ask?"

Summarize by saying, "The Bible is our guide to right or wrong. These four questions will help us know what the Bible teaches."

DAY 2: LESSON 3
NEW LIFE, PART ONE

SCRIPTURES: John 3:16; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; John 14:6

AIM: The youth will learn how to share the gospel with others.

MATERIALS NEEDED: One New Life booklet for each youth

PREPARING THE LESSON:

Study the New Life booklet and memorize the Scripture along with the youth. Read the booklet to a friend who does not know Jesus.

DAY 4: LESSON 2
WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT CHRISTIAN PURITY

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 18-20, 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8.

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

AIM: The youth will decide to keep their bodies pure.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

Think about the problems caused by sexual sins or sexual impurity. Do you know a school girl who became pregnant and now has a baby she cannot care for? Do you know a school boy who has a sexually transmitted disease (STD)? Do you know some old person who must care for his grandchild who has no known father? Have you read about AIDS and the many people who are dying from it? None of these things would happen if people obeyed God's laws about sexual purity.

Study the Scripture:

1. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:9-10 tells us that people who practise immorality (sexual sins) will not go to heaven.

2. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 that our bodies do not belong to us.

Verse 18 tells us to run away from immorality. All kinds of immorality affect the body. Some of the results of sexual immorality are sexual diseases, AIDS and untimely pregnancy.

Verse 19 reminds us that when a person is saved, the Holy Spirit moves into his body, which becomes his temple. Our bodies contain God's presence just like the temple in Jerusalem did in Old Testament days. God lives in us. Our bodies no longer belong to us but to God.

Verse 20 reminds us that God bought us for a high price — the blood of his only Son, Jesus. Therefore, we must use our bodies to glorify or honour God.

3. Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 what God wants us to do.

Verse 3 says God wants us to be holy. This means we must be different or special. We must be completely free from sexual sin.

Verses 4-5 say that men are to treat their wives in an honourable way.

PREPARING THE LESSON:

At the time of these verses Pharisees were seeking to kill Jesus. He had healed a man on the sabbath and had called God his own Father. To the Jews these were unforgivable sins. The Jews had their own picture of the Messiah who would come as a mighty warrior and would free the Jews and set up a mighty kingdom. They refused to believe Jesus because he did not fit their imaginations of the Messiah. Isaiah spoke of the Messiah as suffering and dying. They did not understand the Scriptures that told of Jesus. God gives understanding only to those who love him and obey him.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Ask: "In verse 24, what happens to the one who believes Jesus is sent from God? (He is not judged, but passed from death to life.)"

"In verse 26, what has the Father given the Son? (life) What two titles did Jesus call himself? (See verses 25 and 27. Son of God and Son of Man.)"

"In verse 29, Jesus spoke of two resurrections. What are they? The resurrection of judgement for those who practise evil and the resurrection of life to those who practise righteousness. Jesus then proved he was God's Son by showing witnesses to himself. In a court of law, if two witnesses agreed then it was considered true. See how many witnesses Jesus had?"

"In verses 33, 36, 37 and 39, Jesus' witnesses are John the Baptist, his own works (Remember what Nicodemus said in chapter 3.), God's own voice (at the baptism) and the Scripture. The Pharisees should have known Jesus was the Messiah from his works and Scripture, but they were blind in their own sin."

"In the closing verses, Jesus condemned the Pharisees for two reasons. What are they? See verses 43, 46 and 47. (They did not receive him. They did not believe Jesus or the Scriptures.)"

ACTIVITIES:

1. Quote the memory verse.
2. What promises does this verse give those who believe Jesus is God's Son.
3. Why did the Pharisees fail to realize Jesus is God's Son?
4. List four witnesses Jesus used to prove that he is God's Son.
5. Draw a picture showing ways you can be a witness to Jesus. (Examples: helping the sick, attending church, telling others about Jesus, being baptized)

TEACHING THE LESSON: Have the students read the entire booklet aloud together. Go through it slowly page by page.

Focus on point 1: God wants everyone to have new life. Youth should realize that God wants them, their families and their friends to have new life. Go over point 1 three times. Ask if anyone could do point 1 from memory.

Focus on point 2: Why doesn't everyone have new life? Sin separates. Sin separates man from God. Sin separates man from man, friend from friend, parents from child. Do you get the picture? **SIN SEPARATES!** Read the Scriptures for today's lesson three times, and discuss the picture. Can anyone say these verses from memory?

Focus on point 3: Jesus is the Way. Read carefully the first part. Jesus is the only way. Jesus died for the sins of all people. Read this section three times. Can anyone say it from memory. What is different about the picture now?

ACTIVITY:

1. Read the whole booklet aloud.
2. Practise reading the booklet to each other pretending that one is lost and one is saved.
3. Say any verses you have learned to the teacher.
4. Take the booklet home and memorize the Scriptures.
5. Name a friend with whom you would like to share the New Life. Write his name here: _____

Points from New Life booklet

1. God's Love (God loves you. He wants you to have a New Life. Read John 3:16.)
2. Sin Separates (Not everyone has this New Life because sin separates man from God. Read Romans 3:23 and Romans 6:23.)
3. Jesus is the Way (Jesus is the only way for a man to find God. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of all people. Because of Jesus, you are able to go to God and receive New Life. Read John 14:6.)

DAY 3: LESSON 1 WHAT DID JESUS SAY?

SCRIPTURE: John 3:1-21. Students should read the entire passage aloud.

MEMORY VERSE: "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).

AIM: The students should learn that Jesus called himself the Son of God, planned to be lifted up on the cross as the serpent was and knew that he was the Saviour.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

In John 1:1-18, we heard the testimony of John the Disciple and in John 1:24-34, the testimony of John the Baptist. Today we are going to read what Jesus said about himself. Read John 3:1-21 several times and make a list of all the things Jesus said about himself.

In verse 14, Jesus gave us the picture of the serpent being lifted up in the wilderness. Read Numbers 21:4-9 and become familiar with the story of the serpent on a pole. This is the symbol of Jesus on the cross.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Say: "Nicodemus was a Pharisee, but he knew Jesus was from God. He came to Jesus at night to question him. Why do you think he came at night?"

"In John 3:3, what did Jesus say you must do in order to see the kingdom of God? (be born again

"In verse 5, what did Jesus say? (You must be born of water and the Spirit.) For Nicodemus to be baptized with water meant he had to take a public stand for Christ. Remember that he had come to Jesus at night. This water of baptism does not save you, but it is necessary to make a public commitment to Christ. Baptism is very important because it shows others and reminds us of our commitment. To be born of the Spirit is the key, because anyone who receives Jesus receives his Spirit. It takes both parts, the inward fullness of the Spirit and the outward sign of baptism, to obey Jesus completely.

"In verses 7-8, Jesus said you cannot see the Holy Spirit any more than you can see the wind. How do you know there is a wind? (You can feel it, and you can see

ACTIVITIES:

1. Read the booklet together aloud.
2. Practise reading the booklet to each other.
3. Tell the teacher any verses you have learned.
4. Have two students do a drama of reading the booklet to a lost friend.
5. Take the booklet and read it to your friend. Fill below.

I read the New Life booklet to _____ on _____ date.

Final Points in NEW LIFE:

4. **RECEIVE JESUS** (You can have this New Life if you repent of your sin and receive Jesus as your Saviour and Lord. Read John 1:12.)

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, I need you. I am thankful that you died for my sins. I invite you to come into my life as Lord and Saviour. Thank you for forgiving my sins. You take complete control of my life. Make me the kind of person you want me to be. Amen.

DAY 4: LESSON 1 JESUS IS THE MESSIAH

SCRIPTURE: John 5:24-34

MEMORY VERSE: "I am telling you the truth: whoever hears my words and believes in him who sent me has eternal life. He will not be judged, but has already passed from death to life" (John 5:24).

AIM: The students should learn that Jesus has authority, teaches about resurrection and says John the Baptist, God the Father, his works and Scripture bear witness that he is the Son of God.

e. Sin is evil and destroys us, so we should be quick to confess our sins to God. (T)

5. **Prayer time:** If you have any sins which you have not confessed, follow the five steps and confess them to God in your heart right now as you pray. Don't forget to thank God for his forgiveness and cleansing.

DAY 3: LESSON 3 NEW LIFE, PART TWO

SCRIPTURES: John 1:12; Revelation 3:20

MATERIAL NEEDED: New Life Booklet for each youth.

PREPARING THE LESSON:

Continue to memorize the booklet along with the students. If you have shared the booklet with a friend, tell your class what happened. Make posters of each point to tape on the walls of the classroom.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Have the youth read the booklet aloud together.

Focus on point 4: Receive Jesus. Please note the two parts to this: 1) Repent of sin and 2) Receive Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Read this section three times. Who can say it from memory? (All reading should be aloud and together).

Focus on the verse Revelation 3:20. Review this verse, and have students act it out. Who opens the door? (You do.) Look at the two pictures. Have the youth select the one that represents them. This is a time of decision. Exactly which one are you?

Focus on the prayer: Have students read the prayer aloud. Please note the two parts here. Jesus is the Saviour. He died for our sins, he forgives sin but Jesus is also Lord. He must have complete control, and we must be willing to be changed.

it move the trees.) The same is true of the Holy Spirit. When a person has the Holy Spirit, he will know it, and others will see the results.

"In verse 11, Jesus began to use the word, we. To whom was he referring? (Jesus was referring to himself and the Holy Spirit.) What did Jesus say to Nicodemus in the last part of the verse? (He said he was not willing to accept his message.) In what other verse did you read the word, receive? (verse 12)

"In verse 13, what did Jesus say about himself? (1) He came from heaven. (2) He is the Son of Man.

"In verse 14, what picture did Jesus give? (the serpent in the wilderness) Do you remember this story? (Numbers 21:4-9) What does it represent concerning Jesus?

"What word appears in verses 15, 16 and 18? (believe) What does it mean to believe? (to have faith, trust and acceptance as well as belief)

"In verse 15, how does one receive eternal life? (believe in Jesus)

"In verse 17, why did Jesus come? (to save the world)

"In verse 19, how did men respond to the light? (They loved darkness.)

"In verse 20, why would someone hate the light? (because of evil deeds)

ACTIVITIES:

1. Say the memory verse.

2. What did Jesus say about himself? (He is Son of God who takes away the sins of the world, and he came from heaven.)

3. What did Jesus tell us about the Holy Spirit? (The Holy Spirit is like the wind. You must be born of the Holy Spirit. He and the Holy Spirit are one.)

4. Make a poster showing a person who loves light and a person who loves darkness. Ask: "Which person represents you? Are you someone who hides your deeds, or do you enjoy showing your work in the open? Which one do you want to be?"

5. Close using 1 John 1:8-10 as a guide for prayer, and discuss what a person should do when he sins. A Christian does not desire to sin, and when he sins he feels he must confess. A Christian who tries to hide his sin will surely fall. Take your sins to Jesus.

Give this illustration: "When a parent is training a small child to do the right thing and that child fails, he often tries to hide. It is a natural desire to hide, but hiding doesn't solve anything. Remember that Adam and Eve tried to hide in the

garden after their sin. God found them anyway. What should we do when we sin? (Wait for answers.) Go to Jesus right then and confess.”

DAY 3: LESSON 2

HOW TO DEAL WITH SIN

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 1:5-10

MEMORY VERSE: “But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing” (1 John 1:9).

AIM: The youth will learn what to do when they sin in order to remain in Christ.

PREPARING TO TEACH:

Our lesson today is on sin. In Romans 3:23, we are reminded that everyone sins. If everyone sins, what is the difference between a Christian and a non-Christian? The difference is desire. The Christian does not want to sin. The Christian wants to please God, but he fails at times. He commits acts of sin. To the non-Christian, it makes no difference. Some evil people even plan sin, such as robberies and murder.

Sin is a very serious thing. Jesus died to defeat sin. It should not be thought of as a weakness. It is like a spoilt potato, if you don't remove it, all the other potatoes will also be ruined.

What should you do when you sin? There are several ideas about what to do. The most natural response is to hide the sin. Even small children try to hide when they have disobeyed. Another way is to pretend that you haven't sinned at all. This is the response of a proud and rebellious person. The best thing you can do is practise the teaching of 1 John 1:9.

TEACHING THE LESSON:

Have the youth read all verses aloud together.

Ask: “In verse 5, what is the message? (God is light.)

“In verse 6, who is a liar? (the one who says he is a Christian but lives in darkness - doing evil)

“In verse 7, how should the Christian desire to live? (to walk in the light) What is the result of walking in the light? (fellowship and being cleansed from sin. The best way to be clean is to never get dirty. That is not always possible, so when you get dirty you simply go and wash.) Is it possible to clean a house in the dark? (No. When it is dark you cannot see the dirt. If you continue to sin, you cannot see your sin, because sin deceives us. Sin blinds us. If a Christian desires to please God he will want to remove sin from his life by confession.)

“In verse 8, how can we deceive ourselves? (by saying we have no sin) Do Christians sin? (Yes.) Do Christians desire to sin? (No.)

“In verse 9, what should a Christian do when he sins? (Confess sin.) What does it mean to confess? (Confession is to agree with God that what you have done is sin and wrong and you desire to change. Confession is the first part of repentance. The second part is turning around and changing.)

“In verse 10, can you say you have not sinned? (No. A Christian must always remember that he is a sinner saved by grace. We did not deserve our salvation. It is a free gift from God. We must remain humble and realize our true nature is to sin, but in the New Life we have the Spirit of God to help us please God.) Obey that Spirit and not the flesh.”

ACTIVITY:

1. Say the memory verse.
2. Here are some steps in dealing with sin:
 - a. Face it. Don't try to hide it.
 - b. Confess it. Agree with God that it is wrong.
 - c. Repent. Turn away from it.
 - d. Accept God's forgiveness and cleansing.
 - e. Move forward in your Christian life and leave the sin behind.
3. Can you tell someone the steps to dealing with sin?
4. Answer these true or false statements based on your lesson today.
 - a. One should feel very sorry for sin and go without eating for three days in order to receive God's forgiveness. (F)
 - b. If one sins, he is no longer saved. (F)
 - c. Confession means agreeing with God that he sin is wrong. (T)
 - d. Repentance means I can sin anytime I like if I repent afterwards. (F)