

WELCOME



START ZONE RESOURCES NIV



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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: BIRTHDAY GIFT BOX

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Inexpensive birthday gift for each child who has a birthday in the current month, wrapped gift box containing one of the birthday gifts (for the child whose birthday is closest to current date)

OPTIONAL: Continue this pattern for the club year. Offer this same gift to all T&T™ kids during their birthday month.

ACTIVITY:

STEP 1: Hold up the gift box and ask all the kids who have a birthday in the current month to stand. Find out which child has the closest birthday to the date of today's club meeting and ask him or her to come forward to receive the gift. (If no kids have a birthday in the current month, call out the next month. Keep naming months until kids stand.)

STEP 2: Before you hand the gift to the T&T kid, say, "I changed my mind. In order to have this gift, you need to do a chore for me." Name a tedious chore, such as vacuuming or sweeping the floor, wiping all the tables, or washing the windows. Watch the child's face, and ask, "Do you still want the gift, even though you have to work for it and you don't know what it is?"

STEP 3: After the child responds, tell the child you are just joking about the chore and that you will give him or her, as well as the other kids with birthdays in the same month, a gift at the end of T&T that day. Ask these questions:

To the child who came forward:

A. How did you feel when I said you had to work to get the gift? Why did you feel that way?

To all T&T kids:

A. Remember your last birthday or Christmas gift. Did you have to work for that gift? Why not?

B. What is a gift? Is it still a gift if you have to work for it? Why not?

STEP 4: In your own words, say, "A gift is something someone gives us out of kindness or love. They don't expect us to work for the gift or be good enough to have it. They don't expect us to give them something in return."

Today we're going to talk about a gift that God gives us, and it's the best gift of all."

STEP 5: Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: GOOD OR BAD LIST?

WHAT YOU’LL NEED: Bible bookmarked at Genesis 1 and Ephesians 2:8-9, whiteboard with dry erase markers and eraser

LESSON PREP: Start two lists on the board. Title the first list “God’s Good People List” and the second list “In Big Trouble List.”

ACTIVITY:

STEP 1: Since some of your kids may have no church or Bible background, begin by introducing them to God and the Bible. Open your Bible to Genesis 1 and use your own words to share these key concepts:

- A. God was alive before anyone or anything else. God created the whole universe and everything in it, including us. The word *created* means “made from nothing.”
- B. God is good, and everything He made was good. That means that there was nothing wrong with anything He created, including the first two humans He created.
- C. (*Hold up your Bible for this point.*) The Bible is God’s special book. We’ll learn more about the Bible next week, but you need to know that in the Bible God talks to us and tells us about Himself.

STEP 2: Write the names Adam and Eve in the God’s Good People List. Explain that Adam and Eve were the first humans created by God. They were created to be like God in many ways, and they were sinlessly good, at first, meaning they hadn’t sinned. (Help kids understand that sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God. Sin can also be those good things that God wants us to do that we don’t do, like helping someone in need.) But God gave them freedom to make choices for themselves. One day they made a very bad choice! Ask these questions and let the kids respond:

- A. Does anyone know what Adam and Eve chose to do? (See Genesis 3, if needed.)
- B. Was what Adam and Eve did a sin? Why?
- C. What is sin?

STEP 3: Erase Adam and Eve’s names from the first list and move them to the In Big Trouble List. Explain that as soon as Adam and Eve sinned, they got in big trouble with God, so now you are moving their names from the God’s Good People List to the In Big Trouble List. Ask the kids these questions:

- A. Have you ever gotten in big trouble for disobeying your parent, a teacher, or someone else? What happened?
- B. Does anyone know the big trouble that happened to Adam and Eve?

STEP 4: Explain that Adam and Eve had to leave the beautiful garden where God walked and talked with them. They also got the worst punishment that people could ever get: DEATH! Write the word *DEATH* in capital letters above or below the In Big Trouble List. Explain that sin is so serious to God that He said the punishment for sin is death. It’s very sad because Adam and Eve lived for many years, and then they died. Sadder than that, all the people who lived after Adam and Eve died too, because they were related to Adam and Eve and they were sinners too.

Add several random Bible character names to the In Big Trouble List (except Enoch and Elijah who may not have died; see Genesis 5:24 and 2 Kings 2:11).

STEP 5: Point to the God’s Good People List and say that any person on this list would get the reward of LIFE forever with God in heaven. Write the word *LIFE* in capital letters above or below the list. Then explain that since Adam and Eve first sinned, no human has ever been good enough to make the list, because all humans are born as sinners and all humans sin. And that includes us!

Add general name categories like T&T kids and T&T leaders to the In Big Trouble List. Explain that because of our sin, we all deserve death, like Adam and Eve, and there’s nothing we can do to get ourselves out of this punishment.

STEP 6: In your own words, say, “But I have some good news, kids! God still loved Adam and Eve, and all of us who are sinners. He didn’t want us to die and miss out on life forever with Him in heaven, so He gave us a big gift. He made a way to save us from the punishment for our sin!”

Write the name Jesus Christ in the God’s Good People List. Explain that God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, down from

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

heaven to become a man (who was also God). Jesus Christ lived on earth like us, but He never sinned. He is the only person who is good enough to be on this list. He didn't deserve to be punished, but He let people kill Him by nailing Him to a cross. Jesus took the punishment of death FOR us, so that we don't have to be punished for our sin! Then Jesus Christ didn't stay dead. After three days in a tomb, He came alive again. He went back up to heaven, and He's there now.

STEP 7: Open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-9. Tell kids that they will be learning and memorizing words from the Bible in T&T, and the first words to learn are from Ephesians 2:8-9. Read the verses from your Bible, and then read them again slowly in phrases, letting the kids repeat each phrase after you. Write the word *GRACE* in capital letters on the board somewhere. Share these key concepts:

- A. The Bible uses the word *grace* a lot. Grace means giving somebody something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God has shown us a lot of grace! He loves us and gives us kindness and gifts that we don't deserve.
- B. God's most amazing gift to us is Jesus! If you and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and trust that His death was the punishment we deserve for our sin, then we will be saved from that punishment, and we will live forever with Jesus in heaven.
- C. Remember, we said that a gift is something we don't have to work for or be good enough for; someone gives it to us out of kindness and love. We didn't deserve the gift of Jesus; we deserved to be punished for our sin. But because of God's grace, He gave us Jesus so we could be saved.

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 2: GIFT PICTURES

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Sheet of paper for each kid, colored markers or crayons

STEP 1: As you are handing out paper and markers or crayons, tell the kids to think about their favorite birthday or Christmas gifts. Direct kids to each draw a picture on the paper of the best gift they have ever received.

STEP 2: After a few minutes, let several kids share about their pictures. Ask these questions:

- A. Who gave the gift to you?
- B. Did any of you have to work for your gift or be good enough to get it? Why not?
- C. What is a gift? Is it still a gift if you have to work for it? Why not?

STEP 3: Wrap up the discussion by saying in your own words, "A gift is something someone gives us out of kindness or love. They don't expect us to work for the gift or be good enough to have it. They don't expect us to give them something in return. Today we're going to talk about a gift that God gives us, and it's the best gift of all."

STEP 4: Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into God's truth through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: THE GOSPEL – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 2: GOSPEL POWERPOINT

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Gospel PowerPoint® (Resource Bundle), computer, digital projector, screen or bare wall

STEP 1: Present the Gospel PowerPoint. Your kids will hear a clear gospel presentation using engaging visuals and the Gospel Wheel.

STEP 2: After the PowerPoint, open your Bible to Ephesians 2:8-9. Tell kids that they will be learning and memorizing words from the Bible in T&T, and the first words to learn are from Ephesians 2:8-9. Read the verse from your Bible, and then read it again slowly in phrases, letting the kids repeat each phrase after you. Write the word *GRACE* in capital letters on the board somewhere. Share these key concepts:

- A. The Bible uses the word *grace* a lot. Grace means giving somebody something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God has shown us a lot of grace! He loves us and gives us kindness and gifts that we don't deserve.
- B. God's most amazing gift to us is Jesus! If you and I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and trust that His death was the punishment we deserve for our sin, then we will be saved from that punishment and we will live forever with Jesus in heaven.
- C. Remember, we said that a gift is something we don't have to work for or be good enough for; someone gives it to us out of kindness and love. We didn't deserve the gift of Jesus; we deserved to be punished for our sin. But because of God's grace, He gave us Jesus, so we could be saved.

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: NOTE EXCHANGE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Pencils or pens, small sheets of paper, container for notes, Bible

STEP 1: Direct the kids to each write their name and a short note on the paper sharing something about themselves or something they think is very important for another kid to know or remember, such as advice they want to give related to the topic of school, family, friends, sports, T&T club, or their faith. The tone could be funny or serious. Give the kids a few minutes to compose the note.

STEP 2: Tell the kids to fold the note and write From: followed by their name on the blank, folded-over portion. Collect all the notes and place them in a container. Then pass the container around to the leaders and let each leader pull out a note.

STEP 3: Give the leaders a minute to read their notes. Let a few volunteers share the message on their notes.

STEP 4: Explain that sometimes we talk to each other with our mouths, and other times we talk by writing words on a paper. Receiving a note from someone is just as important as what the person says to you out loud, but you might remember the words more if they are written down because you can read them over and over again.

STEP 5: Hold up your Bible and tell kids to think of the Bible as a very long note from God to us. Then share these key concepts:

- A. In the Bible, God tells us who He is and why He created us. He tells us about ourselves and what the punishment is for our sin. He tells us about His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment for our sin so we could live forever with God.
- B. God's words in the Bible are just as important as if He said them out loud and right to our face. We need to listen to them and obey!
- C. We can read His words to us over and over again so we remember them always.

STEP 6: Tell the kids that they will be learning more about God's Word, the Bible, today. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a deeper love for God and His Word through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 1: BIBLE FACTS SCROLLS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Bible bookmarked at 2 Timothy 3:16 and Romans 10:17; Facts for Bible Scrolls sheet (Resource Bundle); scissors; glue stick or tape; seven paper rectangles of the same size (cut from white paper or brown paper bags); chopsticks, craft sticks, or dowels; string or rubber bands; picture of a Bible scroll (Resource Bundle); map of Bible lands in Jesus' time (Resource Bundle)

LEADER PREP: Beforehand, print out the Facts for Bible Scrolls sheet. Cut out each fact. Then make scrolls by cutting out seven paper rectangles of the same size. The rectangles should be large enough to contain a fact. (To add an ancient look to your scrolls, cut the rectangles from the unprinted sides of brown paper bags. Scrunch up the brown paper and smooth it out with your hands or a rolling pin. Repeat this scrunching and smoothing process several times until wrinkles cover much of the paper.) Glue or tape one Bible fact to the center of each rectangle. Then lay a chopstick, craft stick, or dowel along both of the short ends of each rectangle. Tape or glue them in place and let glue dry. Next, roll the paper once or twice around the chopsticks, craft sticks, or dowels so they are covered completely and tape or glue the paper in place and let glue dry. Gently roll the ends of the scroll to the center from both sides and secure with a string or rubber band. Number the scrolls (to correspond to the fact number inside each scroll), hide them around your room, and write a clue for finding each scroll. For example, a clue could be that the scroll is sitting up high or behind something blue. (To save time, you could skip the clues and let the group, or a selected smaller group, search for all the scrolls at once.)

ACTIVITY:

STEP 1: Hold up your Bible and explain that the Bible did not always look like the book it is now. It was first written a long time ago on scrolls. It took many scrolls to contain all the words of the Bible. The scrolls had to be unrolled to read what was written on them.

Hold up the picture of a real Bible scroll. Explain that the paper in the scrolls was not like our paper today. It was either made from animal skins or papyrus plants, which grew by the Nile River in Egypt.

STEP 2: Tell the kids that you have made and hidden little scrolls around the room. Inside each scroll they will find and read one or two facts about the Bible. All these facts will help them see that the Bible is a very special book. There is no other book like the Bible! Give the first clue and choose a kid to find the first scroll. Unroll the scroll and discuss the fact on it. Give the second clue and choose another child to find the second scroll. Unroll the scroll and discuss the fact on it. Continue in this pattern until all the scrolls are found. Here are the facts written on the scrolls, with explanations.

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Explain that the Old Testament starts with God telling us about His creation of the world and the first people, Adam and Eve, who sinned in the garden. In the Old Testament, God speaks of His promise to send a Savior to save people from sin, and we hear true stories of the people who were waiting for the Savior to come. In the New Testament, God tells us of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior, who came to save people from sin. We hear true stories of people whose lives were changed after they trusted Jesus as their Savior. We also learn how we should live our lives each day.
2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
3. Most of the true stories of the Bible take place in or near the land of Israel. Show the map of Bible lands and point out Israel and some of the other surrounding countries. Emphasize that the Bible tells us about real places and real people who really lived. The Bible is not make-believe!
4. God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible. These men lived at different times and in different places. Some were rich; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others had never gone to school. Some of the different jobs the writers had were king, farmer, fisherman, doctor, shepherd, priest, government leader, and many more.
5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

Bibles in more than a thousand different languages!
People all over the world can read the Bible.

7. The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

STEP 3: Open your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16 and read the verse to the kids. Explain that Scripture is another name for the Bible, and ask them to tell you what they think it means that the Bible is *God-breathed*. Let them suggest various ideas.

STEP 4: Explain that *God-breathed* means that all the words of the Bible came from God, but He didn't actually breathe them out like you or I take a breath to speak. And He didn't write them in the way you or I sit down to write a note or a letter. Rather, God chose at least 40 different men to write the Bible. The Holy Spirit of God told those men what He wanted them to write and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. These men didn't all get the message from God at the same time. It took many years for God to give His message to all the men He chose to write it.

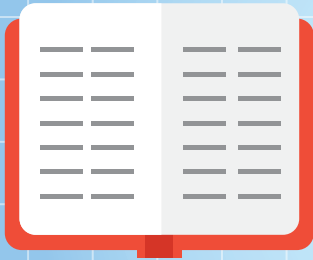
Summarize that the Bible is one big book but it is divided into 66 smaller books, written by many different men. There is no other book that is *God-breathed* like the Bible is! The Bible is a special book.

STEP 5: Open your Bible to Romans 10:17 and read the memory verse aloud once. Then read it again and let the kids recite it with you as you read. Explain that though the Bible has 66 books, there is one BIG message from God in the Bible. The big message of the whole Bible is the good news about our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is *the word of Christ* that Romans 10:17 tells us about. Faith is what happens when we hear and believe in what Jesus Christ did to save us from sin.

Notes:

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 1



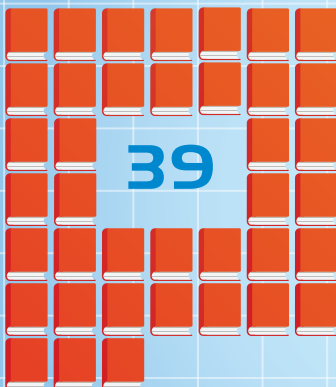
OLD TESTAMENT



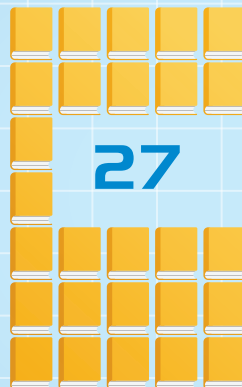
NEW TESTAMENT

The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament.

BIBLE FACT 2



39



27

The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament.

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

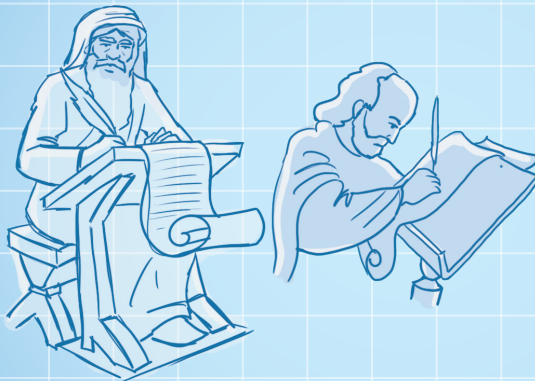
BIBLE FACT 3



All the stories in the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the land of Israel.

BIBLE FACT 4

40
MEN



God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible for Him.

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 5

1,500
YEARS



It took over 1,500 years for the Bible to be written.

BIBLE FACT 6

ישוע

JESUS
(HEBREW)

Ἰησοῦς

JESUS
(GREEK)

ישוע

JESUS
(ARAMAIC)

The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic.

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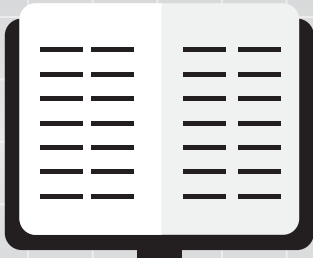
BIBLE FACT 7



The first book ever printed was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 1



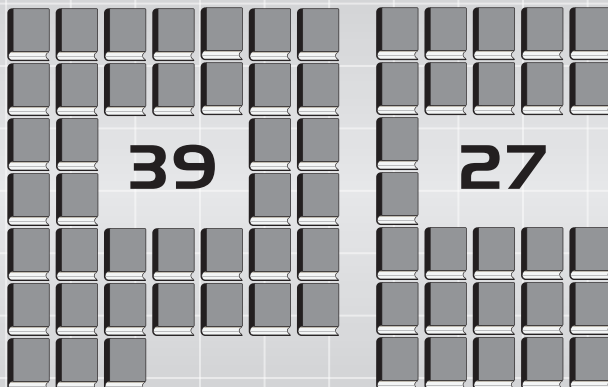
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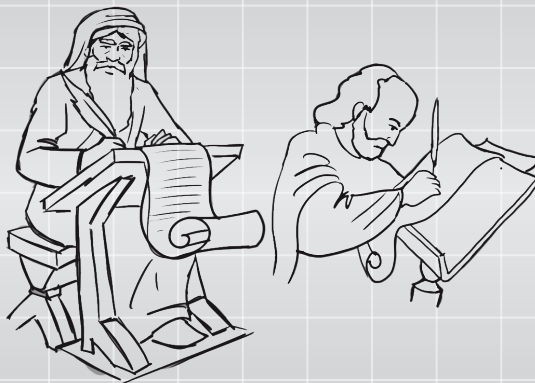
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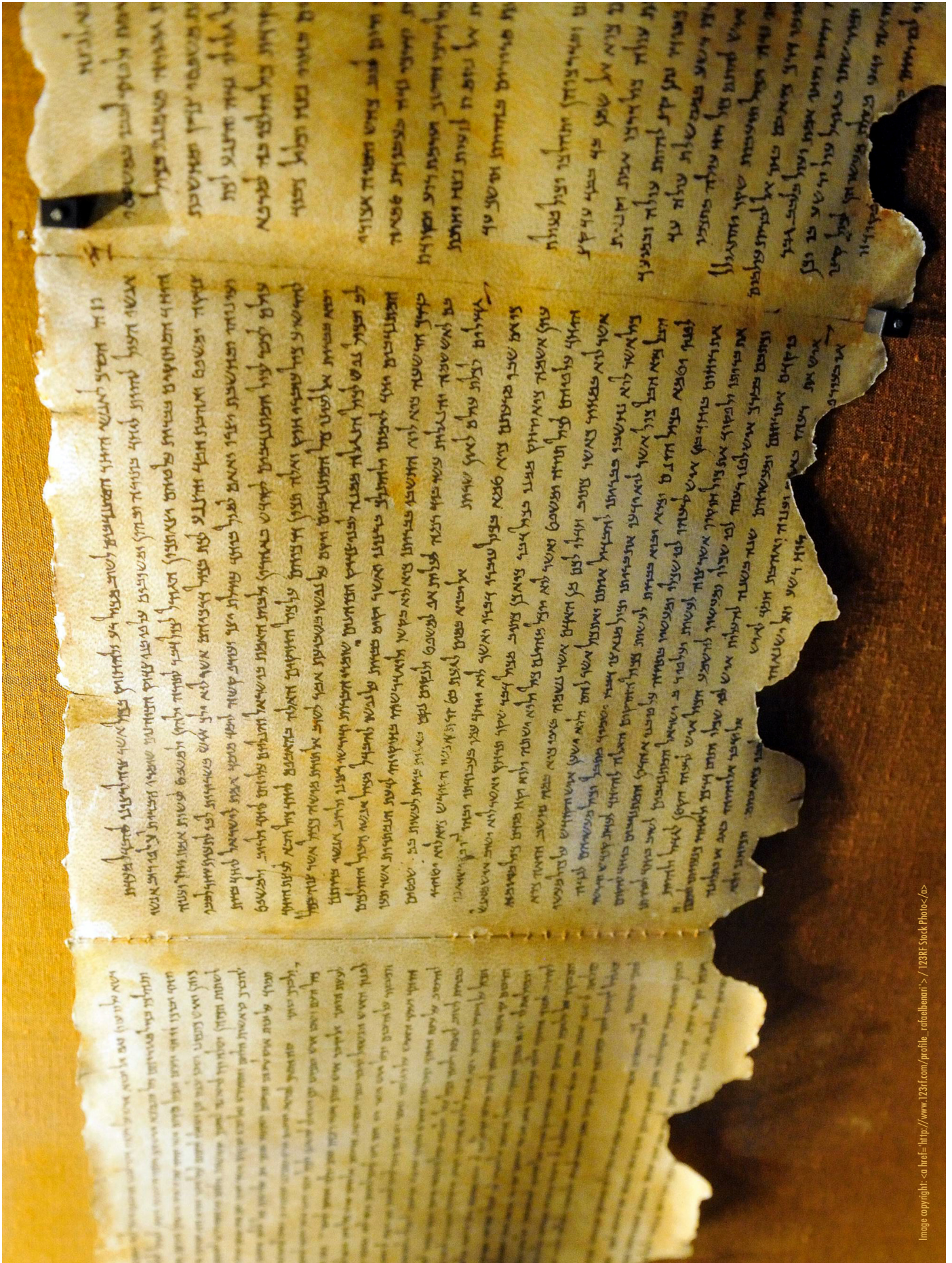


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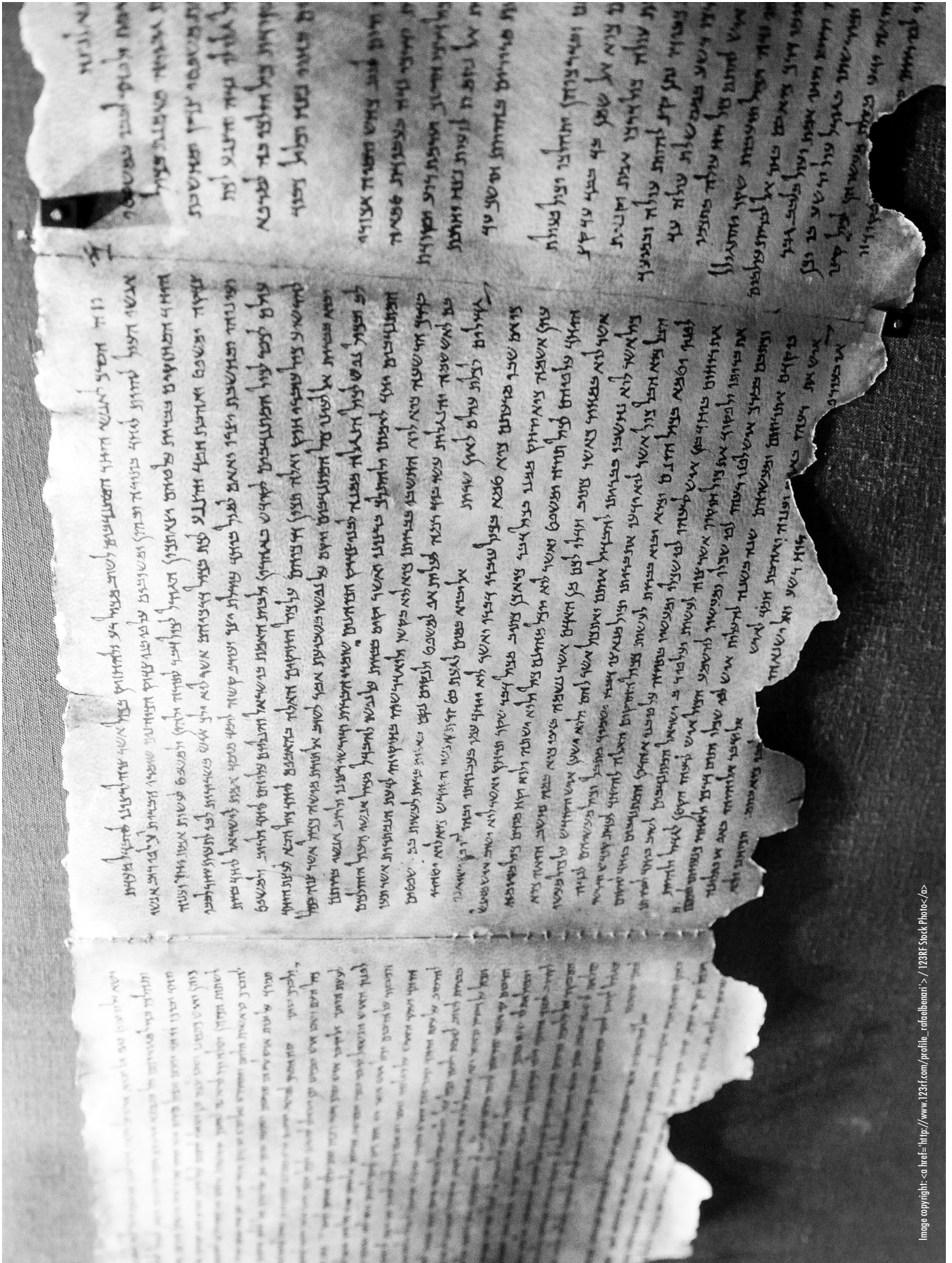


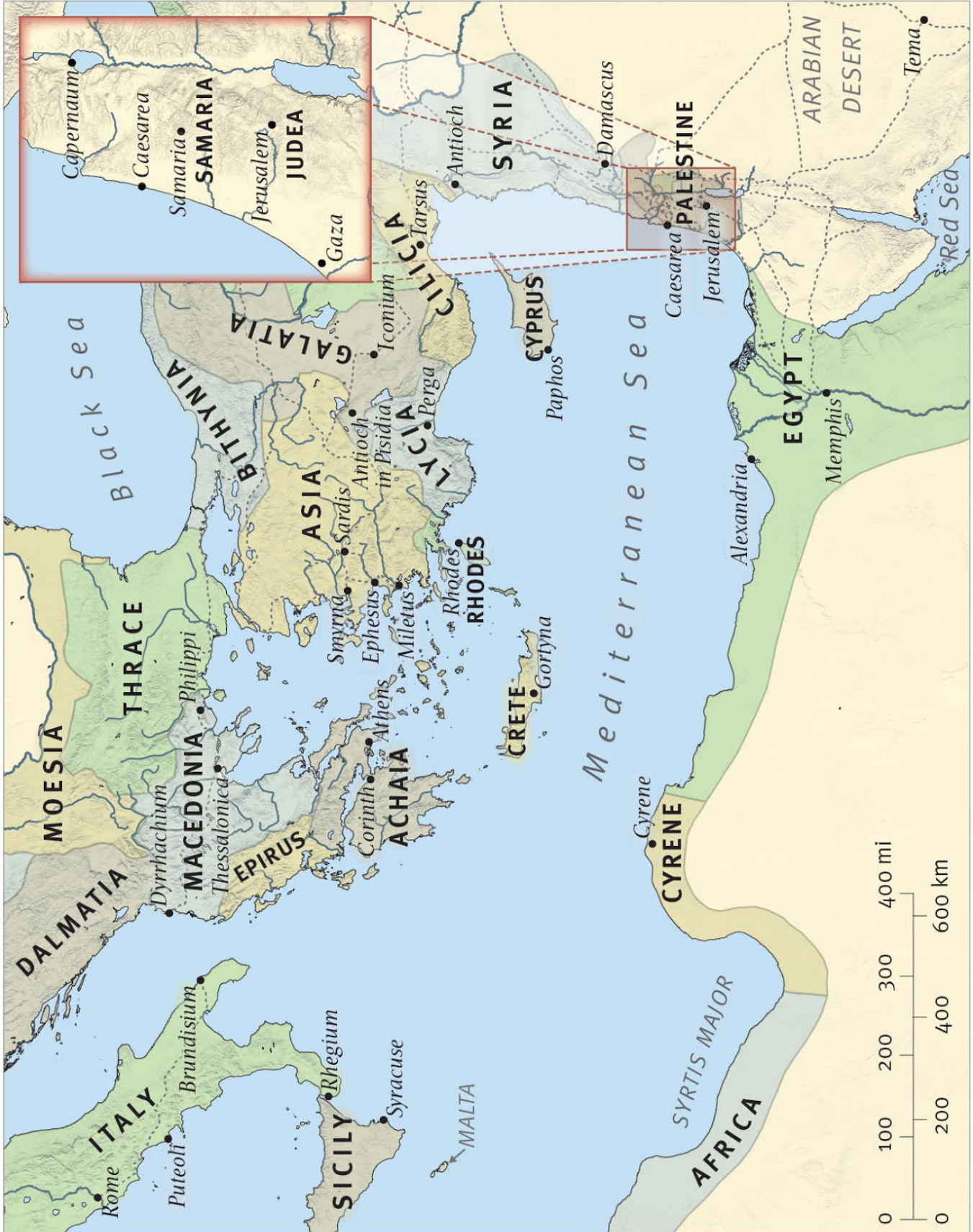
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MAP OF BIBLE LANDS IN JESUS' TIME



NOTE: In addition to the accompanying visuals (following two pages), consider using Google Earth* to access a view of Israel and the surrounding countries. This will also allow you to zoom out and show kids where they are in proximity to these locations.

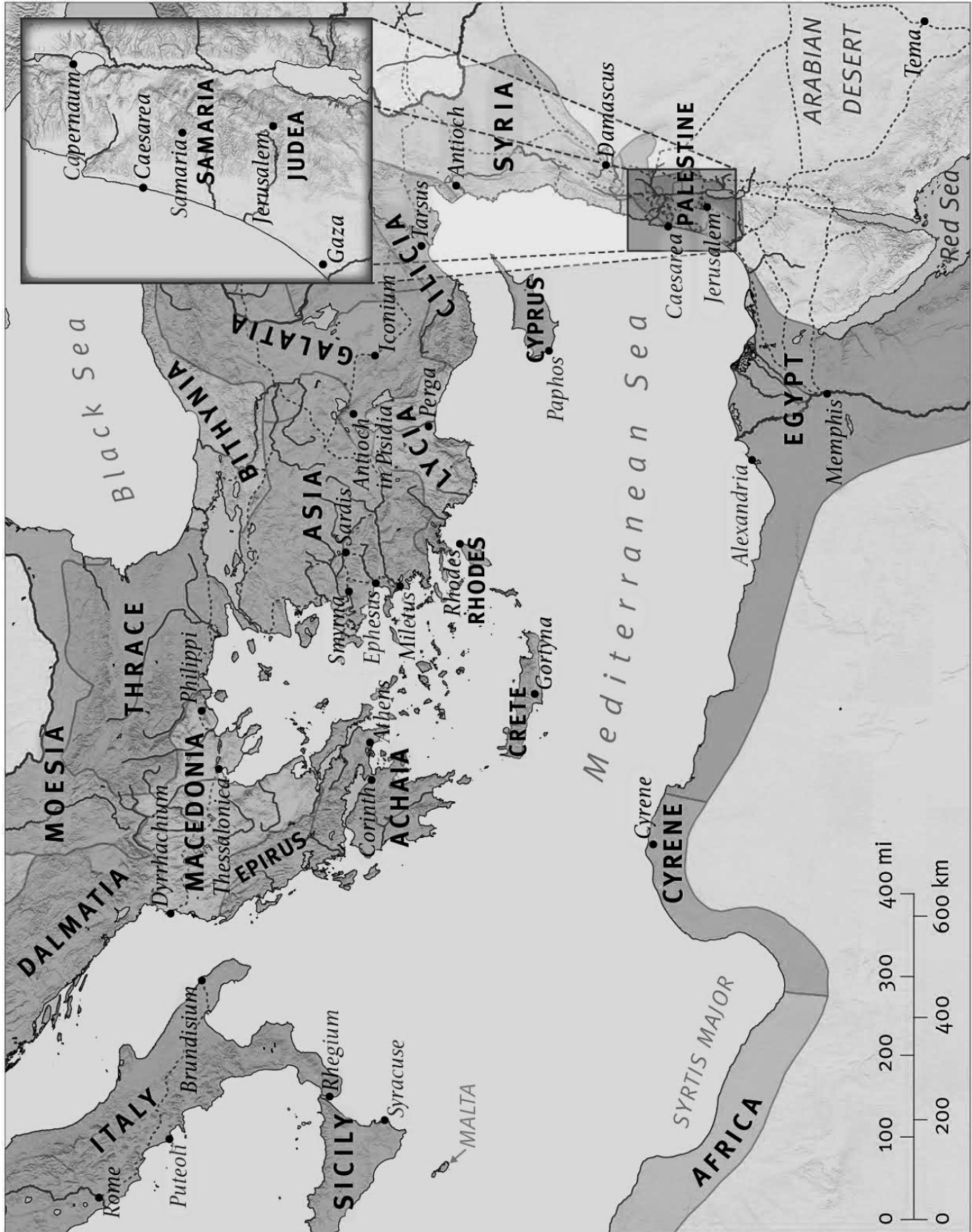
*References to resources not created by Awana are for your information and not necessarily an endorsement of content.



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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – LESSON OPENER (5 MINUTES)

OPTION 2:

LETTER FROM A PASTOR OR AWANA MINISTRY DIRECTOR

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: One-page letter written by your church pastor, Awana ministry director, or another person your kids respect

LEADER PREP: Beforehand, ask your pastor, Awana ministry director or another respected person to write a short letter to your kids sharing a few interesting things about himself or herself (hobbies, family background, details about when they were the kids' age, or when they trusted Christ as Savior). The person should also include some advice or words of encouragement to the kids related to the club year and their faith.

STEP 1: Read the letter to your kids and ask them what they learned about the person from the letter and what words they want to remember from the letter.

STEP 2: Then explain that the person could not be with your club in person today, but these are the words the person wanted to say to us, and his or her written words are just as important as if the person were here to speak the words out loud to us.

Finally, hold up your Bible and tell the kids to think of the Bible as a very long letter from God to us. Share these key concepts:

- A. In the Bible, God tells us who He is and why He created us. He tells us about ourselves and what the punishment is for our sin. He tells us about His Son, Jesus Christ, who took the punishment for our sin so we could live forever with God.
- B. God's words in the Bible are just as important as if He said them out loud and right to our face. We need to listen to them and obey!
- C. We can read His words to us over and over again so we remember them always.

STEP 3: Tell the kids that they will be learning more about God's Word, the Bible, today. Open in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids into a deeper love for God and His Word through the lesson. Transition to main lesson.

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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

START ZONE: BIBLE BASICS – MAIN LESSON (10 MINUTES)

OPTION 2: MOSES INTERVIEW

WHAT YOU’LL NEED: Bible bookmarked to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Romans 10:17, Bible Facts Fill-in-the-Blanks worksheet (Resource Bundle), adult leader to play the role of Moses, optional Moses costume and props (robe, white-haired wig, staff, etc.)

LEADER PREP: Beforehand, choose an adult male leader to pretend to be Moses. For fun, he can wear a robe and white-haired wig and carry a staff.

STEP 1: To start the discussion, open your Bible to 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and read it to the kids. Explain that Scripture is another name for the Bible, and ask them to tell you what they think it means that the Bible is *God-breathed*. Let them suggest various ideas.

STEP 2: After some discussion, explain that *God-breathed* means that all the words of the Bible came from God, but He didn’t actually breathe them out like you or I take a breath to speak. And He didn’t write them in the way you or I sit down to write a note or a letter. Rather, God chose at least 40 different men to write the Bible. God, the Holy Spirit, told those men what He wanted them to write and they wrote down the words exactly the way God wanted them to, without any mistakes or errors. These men didn’t all get the message from God at the same time. It took many years for God to give His message to all the men He chose to write it.

STEP 3: Introduce Moses as a special visitor. Explain that a long, long time ago, Moses wrote the first five books in the Old Testament. Ask Moses to share and explain each of the Bible facts.

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the Old Testament and the New Testament. Explain that the Old Testament starts with God telling us about His creation of the world and the first people, Adam and Eve, who sinned in the garden. In the Old Testament, God speaks of His promise to send a Savior to save people from sin, and we hear true stories of the people who were waiting for the Savior to come. In the New Testament, God tells us of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior, who came to save people from sin. We hear true stories of people whose lives were changed after they trusted Jesus as their Savior. We also learn how we should live our lives each day.

2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
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5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are Bibles in more than a thousand different languages! People all over the world can read the Bible.
7. The first book ever printed was the Bible; and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

Kids can fill in the blanks on their worksheets as they listen carefully.

STEP 4: After Moses finishes his presentation, open your Bible to Romans 10:17 and read the memory verse aloud once. Then read it again and let the kids recite it with you as you read. Explain that though the Bible has 66 books, there is one BIG message from God in the Bible. The big message of the whole Bible is the good news about our Savior, Jesus Christ. This is *the word of Christ* that Romans 10:17 tells us about. Faith is what happens when we hear and believe in what Jesus Christ did to save us from sin.



BIBLE FACTS FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the _____ and the _____.

2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called _____. There are _____ in the Old Testament and _____ in the New Testament.

3. All the stories of the Bible are true, and most take place in or near the land of _____.

4. God used at least _____ different men to write the Bible for Him.

5. It took over _____ for the whole Bible to be written.

6. The Bible was first written in three _____: _____, _____, and _____.

7. The _____ ever _____ was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!



BIBLE FACTS FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS

○ ○ ○

1. The Bible is divided into two large parts, the [] and the [] and the [] [] .

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There are [] [] in the Old Testament and [] [] in the New Testament.

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4. God used at least [] different men to write the Bible for Him.

5. It took over [] [] for the whole Bible to be written.

6. The Bible was first written in three [] :
[] , [] , and [] .

7. The [] [] ever [] was the Bible, and more Bibles have been printed than any other book!

SECTION
1.1

God Is Trustworthy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Trusty Structure

What You'll Need: Tables, gumdrop candy or marshmallows (avoid any allergies in your group), toothpicks, spiral notebook, plastic cup, pitcher, water, paper towels

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Set up one or two tables in the front of the classroom. Place the candy or marshmallows, toothpicks, notebooks, and plastic cup on the table. Fill the pitcher with water and place on the table. Place the paper towels nearby.

STEP 1: Have kids work in groups of two or three. Give each pair or group 20 to 30 toothpicks and 30 to 40 gumdrops or marshmallows. Give groups two minutes to build a structure that will support the weight of a notebook and a plastic cup with water.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have leaders test the structures by placing a notebook on them and then placing a cup on the notebook. For the structures that stand, slowly add water to each cup to test the structure's reliability.

After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What challenges did you face during this activity?
- How would you rate the trustworthiness of your structures?
- Would you trust any of these structures to hold a two liter of your favorite soda? Why or why not?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we discover that something has let us down or is no longer reliable, we sometimes get discouraged or have a hard time wanting to use that item again.
- Things in this world will fall apart or go bad. People will make mistakes and sometimes let us down.

- Only God is completely trustworthy. He deserves our trust and confidence.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is trustworthy.

Notes:

SECTION

1.1

God Is Trustworthy

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Which Would You Trust?

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask each of the following questions and if space allows, consider having children answer the question by going to a side of the room based on their response. For example, left side of the room is "sushi" and right side of the room is "gum."

Would you rather eat sushi 10 days past its expiration date or chew pre-chewed gum found on a New York City subway?

Would you rather drink a tablespoon of pond water or 10-year-old bottle of expired soda?

Would you rather eat sardines every day for one week or always use the same fork, spoon, and knife used by every person in a local restaurant—without being washed?

Would you rather cross an ocean in an inflatable raft or fly across the continent in an airplane that had been in a crash?

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why would it be hard to trust eating, drinking, or traveling in these things?
- Why do these choices gross us out or make us nervous when we think about them?
- What are some reasons we wouldn't trust eating, drinking, or using these items?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we believe something will make us sick or that something is unreliable to use, we cannot trust it. We want to avoid those item at all costs.
- Things in this world will fall apart or go bad, and we have a hard time trusting something that we think could cause us harm or put us in a difficult situation.
- Only God is completely trustworthy. He deserves our trust and confidence.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is trustworthy.

Notes:

SECTION
1.1

God Is Trustworthy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God's Trustworthiness in Dark Times

What You'll Need: Bible

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the class while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ahead of time, ask two leaders to be ready to summarize the following true stories from the Bible, highlighting the fact that God is trustworthy: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3), and David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17).

STEP 1: Divide the kids into two groups (split the room in half). Assign each group to one of the leaders mentioned above. Have that leader briefly share the true story from the Bible of how the individuals in the story trusted God during their difficult times. Then have the kids work together to act out the story.

STEP 2: After three minutes, have each group act out the story in front of the other group. Encourage the other group to try to guess how God was trustworthy in each scenario.

Share these concepts:

- The people in each of these stories faced a scary situation that they had no control over. Their lives were in danger, and there was no other person around them who would help.
- They all chose to trust in God. They believed that no matter what the outcome would be, God was with them. They knew they could trust in Him.
- God proved He is trustworthy. God was with them through their trials, and they all had peace knowing that God would never leave them.

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 9:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- Our memory verse this week reminds us that we must know God in order to put our trust in Him. We must have a relationship with Him by trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

- We have to choose to trust God, even when it isn't easy. Trusting God means that we believe God is completely reliable and worthy of our trust.
- We can take comfort in knowing that God will not forsake, or leave forever, those who seek after Him. That means that if we choose to trust in God and follow Him, He will always be with us.

Step 4: Tell kids that we can praise God for being trustworthy. Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
1.1

God Is Trustworthy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Promises of Trust

What You'll Need: Bibles, blank paper, markers or colored pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Gather four Bibles and bookmark each Bible to one of the following passages: Psalm 18:2, Psalm 46:1, Psalm 62:8, Isaiah 26:4.

STEP 1: Distribute blank paper and markers or colored pencils to each kid. Give kids one minute to write or draw a picture of something in their lives that they are struggling with (e.g., friendships at school, getting along with their siblings or their parents, a sickness in their family). When they are done, have them turn their pages over.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 9:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- Our memory verse this week reminds us that we must know God to put our trust in Him. We must have a relationship with Him by trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
- We should choose to trust God, even when it isn't easy. Trusting God means that we believe God is completely reliable and worthy of our trust.
- We can take comfort in knowing that God will not forsake, or leave forever, those who seek after Him. That means that if we choose to trust in God and follow Him, He will always be with us..

STEP 3: Ask for four volunteers who are comfortable reading out loud. Give each of them one of the bookmarked Bibles. On the back of their paper, encourage kids to create a mural of the descriptions of God that they hear in the following verses. Ask the first kid to read the verse aloud. Then ask the following questions:

- How is God described in this verse? (Be ready to explain any terms they kids may not be familiar with.)
- How does that description of God cause you to want to trust Him?

STEP 4: Continue the activity until each verse has been read. Then ask kids to reveal their murals to one another and explain their drawings.

Share these key concepts:

- These verses show us how powerful and mighty our great God is.
- No matter what situations we may face, we can trust our mighty God to always be with us.
- We can have peace knowing that our God is completely reliable to encourage and strengthen us each day.

STEP 5: Have kids turn their papers back over. Encourage kids to pray quietly, thanking God that He is trustworthy and asking Him to be with them through thier struggle. After several moments, pray and ask God to give each of the kids His promised peace in these situations.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Loving



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Displays of Love

What You'll Need: Laundry basket, clothes, board game or video game or controller, plastic tableware, table, two chairs, trash can, doll

PREP: Ask two leaders to improvise several different scenarios.

Set up a table and two tables in front of the class. Place the props listed above nearby.

STEP 1: Ask the two leaders you have chosen to stand near the table. As time allows, read several of the following scenarios out loud, and give the leaders 30 seconds to improvise the scenarios, using the props provided, as kids who do not display love.

Your mom asks you to take out the trash for the THIRD time.

Your dad reminds you AGAIN to clean your room and put your laundry in the basket.

Your dad interrupts your free time to have you help him with yard work.

Your mom asks you to watch your crying baby cousin for a few minutes.

It's your sister's turn to set the table, but she is busy doing homework, so you have to do it.

STEP 2: After two minutes, ask a few children to repeat two or three scenarios, this time displaying love. Then ask the following questions:

- How did a loving attitude change the perspective of the person in the scenario?
- What are other ways we demonstrate love?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Loving someone else is often displayed as a selfless act on our part.
- There are times when it is hard to show love to someone, especially if we are busy or if they have hurt us or let us down.

- God displayed His love for us in a big way, even when we were broken and helpless and didn't deserve it. He always displays His love for us — it is constant.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is loving.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Loving



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Everyone Loves a Party

What You'll Need: Party supplies and decorations, red construction paper, scissors, tape, markers, snacks, drinks, table, plastic tableware, napkins

PREP: Decorate your classroom with party supplies that represent love (e.g., hearts, red balloons). Prepare simple snacks and drinks.

Make hearts out of red construction paper, cut them out, and lay them on a table with the tape and markers nearby.

STEP 1: Welcome kids to the "Everyone Loves a Party" celebration. As kids enjoy the snacks, ask them to write on a heart something someone did to show them love. After they have written their responses, encourage them to tape the hearts around the room.

STEP 2: After three minutes, read some of the responses.

Then ask the following questions:

- How do these actions display love?
- What are some other ways people demonstrate love?
- Why is it sometimes hard to show someone we love them?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- There are different types of love. We love and care about our friends, but probably not in the same way we love or care about our family.
- There are times when it is hard to love someone, especially if they have hurt us or let us down.
- God's love for us is constant. There will never be a time when He doesn't love us.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is loving.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Loving



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Love in Action

What You'll Need: Bible

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Play a game to help your kids learn about God's limitless, amazing love. Have kids spread out and stand against one wall in the classroom. Open your Bible and read or recite this week's memory verses, Romans 8:38-39, using the following motions for the words:

Death (Make a grotesque face with eyes closed.)

Life (Open eyes wide.)

Angels (Flap arms like wings.)

Rulers (Mimic a crown.)

Things present (Jump in place.)

Things to come (Jump two steps forward.)

Powers (Make a "strong man" motion.)

Height (Try to touch the ceiling.)

Depth (Drop down to the floor.)

Have kids repeat the verses two times with you slowly so that they can learn the actions of the verses.

STEP 2: Call out words from the list above in random order, getting faster and faster each time you say a word or phrase.

STEP 3: After two or three minutes, have kids repeat the verses together with the motions.

Share these key concepts:

- From the beginning, God established a loving, personal relationship with the first man and woman, Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:27-3:8).
- When Adam and Eve sinned, their relationship with God was broken, and sin also breaks our relationship with God (Romans 5:12).
- God's greatest display of love to us was sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and take the punishment for sin in our place (Romans 5:8).

- If we trust in Jesus as Savior, our relationship with God is restored. Nothing can separate us from God's perfect, amazing love (Romans 8:38-39).

Step 4: Give kids an opportunity to talk with a leader if they have questions about fixing their relationship with God.

Step 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Loving



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: No Separation From God's Love

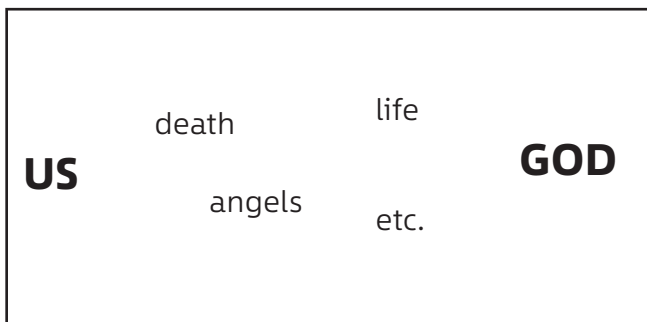
What You'll Need: Bible bookmarked to Romans 5:8, paper, tape, easel, white board or posterboard, markers

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ahead of time, write each of the following words on a piece of paper:

Death, Life, Angels, Rulers, Things Present, Things to Come, Powers, Height, Depth

Write, "Us," and "God," on opposite sides of the whiteboard. Tape the words on the board so that the words are in the middle, as seen below.



STEP 1: Ask: When is it hard to love someone? Record the responses on the board.

Share these key concepts:

- There are times when it is hard to love someone, especially if they have hurt us or let us down.
- Loving someone else is often displayed as a selfless act on our part.

STEP 2: Ask a volunteer to read Romans 5:8.

Share these key concepts:

- From the beginning, God established a loving, personal relationship with the first man and woman, Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:27-3:8).

- When Adam and Eve sinned, their relationship with God was broken, and sin also breaks our relationship with God (Romans 5:12).
- God's greatest display of love to us was sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and take the punishment for sin in our place (Romans 5:8).

Help kids to see that even though we struggle to love others, God loved us even when we were sinners who didn't deserve His love.

STEP 3: Explain that once we receive Jesus as Savior, our relationship with God is restored forever. We are welcomed into His family, and He becomes our Father. His love for us is unending and unconditional.

STEP 4: Open your Bible and read or recite this week's memory verses, Romans 8:38-39. Repeat the verse together, pausing after each word or phrase that describes something that cannot separate us from God's love. As you come to each word or phrase, have a volunteer reference the whiteboard with the words on it and have kids go up and remove the corresponding word.

Share these key concepts:

- God's love for us goes above and beyond our sin. Even when we do things that make it hard for others to love us, God's love is still complete and sure.
- There is Nothing. NOTHING that we could ever do that would stop God from loving us.
- There is nothing or NO ONE who could ever stop God from loving us.
- God's love is guaranteed through Jesus Christ.

STEP 5: Ask two volunteers, leaders or kids, to pray and praise God for His amazing love that He has for us.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
1.3

God Is Faithful



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: I Promise . . .

What You'll Need: Candy

NOTE: If you have children with dietary restrictions in group, consider using a small trinket such as party favor (spinning top, tattoo, pencil, etc.) instead.

PREP: Purchase individually wrapped candy, enough for one piece for each kid.

STEP 1: Tell the kids that you have been nominated as one of the best Awana leaders of the year. Because of your nomination, you promise that . . .

You will give each of them a piece of candy.

You will give each of them an A+ this year in math.

You will give each of them a million dollars.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Which of these promises could I keep?
- Which of these promises would it be impossible for me to keep? Why?
- Do you think you can trust me to keep any of these promises?

STEP 3: Give each kid a piece of candy. Then share these key concepts:

- Some people make promises that they cannot keep.
- Sometimes it's hard to trust others if we are afraid they will not keep their promises they make to us.
- God has made us promises in the Bible, and God will keep EVERY promise that He makes because our God is always faithful.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is faithful.

Notes:

SECTION
1.3

God Is Faithful



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Measure the Distance

What You'll Need: Measuring tools, (e.g., 12-inch ruler, yard stick, measuring tape, etc.), pens or pencils, paper

PREP: Gather various measuring tools. Place them near the front of the room.

STEP 1: Divide the kids into groups of two or three. Give each group a pen or pencil, paper, and a measuring tool. Encourage them to measure the following distances without leaving the room:

- One wall in the classroom to the opposite wall.
- The floor to the ceiling of the classroom.
- The ground to the roof of the building. Kids will have to go outside to do this.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have the pairs or groups share their results. Ask the following questions:

- Which of the measuring tools was easiest to use?
- Which of these measurements were you able to accurately measure?
- Why were some of the measurements difficult or impossible to take?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We can use scientific measurements to measure distance around the room, even from the ground to heights in our atmosphere and beyond. Yet humans are still limited in our understanding of great distances to our galaxy and beyond.
- Just as we cannot begin to understand the distances between us and the farthest galaxies, we will never be able to measure God's faithfulness. Psalm 36:5 says that God's faithfulness reaches to the skies. This is further than we could measure even with scientific measurements.
- Because God is faithful, He will always keep His promises.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is faithful.

Notes:

SECTION
1.3

God Is Faithful



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God's Faithful Promises

What You'll Need: Four Bibles, T&T handbooks, (Optional: CD player, computer or smartphone)

PREP: Gather four Bibles and bookmark each Bible to one of the following references: Genesis 8:20-22, Genesis 9:9-13, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 1 John 1:9. Optional, Choose a favorite song about God's faithfulness and be prepared to sing it with your group.

Optional: Use a CD and CD player to play the song, or download the song and play it through your computer or smartphone.

STEP 1: Ask: What are some promises that a parent might say to their child?

Explain to kids that some promises are easy to keep, but because we are human, we will make mistakes. That means that we cannot always keep the promises that we make.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Deuteronomy 7:9. Repeat the verse slowly, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Because God is God, He will always keep His covenant, or promises, that He makes.
- God will ALWAYS keep His promises and His steadfast love to those who love and obey Him.
- God will faithfully keep His promises for generations and generations.

STEP 3: Explain to kids that God has given us many different promises in the Bible. Ask a volunteer to read Genesis 8:20-22. Encourage kids to identify the promise God made in these verses. (Seasons would continue in their pattern.)

Ask another volunteer to read Genesis 9:9-13. Encourage kids to identify the promise God made in these verses. (God promised to never again flood the whole earth.)

Step 4: Share these key concepts:

- There has never been a world-wide flood since the time of Noah.
- The seasons always continue in their order: spring, summer, fall, and winter. We can plan accordingly based on the seasons.

Step 5: Tell kids that we can trust that God is faithful because of the promises in the Bible that have come true. This means that we can trust God to be faithful to keep the promises that He has made to you and to me.

Have kids turn to section 1.3 in their handbooks. Encourage volunteers to read the following verses: 1 John 1:9 and 1 Corinthians 10:13.

Ask kids to identify the ways that God keeps His promises to us today. (He forgives our sin, He is with us when we are tempted.)

Share these key concepts:

- God is still faithful, even when we make mistakes.
- We can always trust Him, no matter what.
- We show our faithfulness to God when we seek after Him and follow His plan for our lives.

Step 6: Tell kids that we can praise God for being faithful. End the lesson by singing together a song about God's faithfulness (e.g., "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" or "You Are Faithful.").

Step 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
1.3

God Is Faithful



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Snapshots of a Faithful God

What You'll Need: Bibles, blank card stock paper; pens, colored pencils, or markers

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ask several leaders to be ready to share (for up to one minute only) with the kids the following examples of God's faithfulness in the life of Abraham, highlighting God's promises to Abraham: God leading Abraham to a new land (Genesis 12:1-3); God promising Abraham a son (Genesis 15:5-6); God giving Abraham and Sarah a baby when they were old (Genesis 21:1-3). Create three "God Is Faithful" 8.5"x11" card stock pages to use in the group comic strip.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Deuteronomy 7:9. Read the verse again slowly, after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Because God is God, He will always keep His covenant, or His promises, that He makes.
- God will ALWAYS keep His promises, and His steadfast love to those who love and obey Him.
- God will faithfully keep His promises for generations and generations.

STEP 2: Divide the kids into three groups. Give each group a piece of card stock paper, pens or pencils, and colored pencils or markers. Ask the leaders in each group to briefly summarize their verses and highlight God's promises to Abraham in those passages. Encourage the kids in each group to work together to draw snapshots of God's promises to Abraham.

STEP 3: After five minutes, ask the first group (Genesis 12:1-3) to share their snapshots.

Share these key concepts:

- God called Abraham away from his family and his homeland.
- Abraham obeyed God, and God blessed Abraham with great wealth and land.

After the group shares their snapshot, have them post their picture at the front of the room, followed by a "God Is Faithful" card stock page.

STEP 4: Ask the second group (Genesis 15:5-6) to share their snapshots.

Share these key concepts:

- God promised Abraham that many nations would come from Abraham's own children.
- Even though Abraham did not have any children yet, he believed God would keep His promises.

After the group shares their snapshot, have them post their picture at the front of the room, followed by a "God Is Faithful" card stock page.

STEP 5: Ask the third group (Genesis 21:1-3) to share their snapshots.

Share these key concepts:

- Years passed, and Abraham doubted God's Word. Yet even when He disobeyed, God was still faithful to Abraham. When Abraham and Sarah were very, very old, God gave them a son, Isaac.
- From Isaac came the Israelite nation. This nation was God's special nation, and through the generations of this nation, Jesus came.
- God kept His promise to Abraham, even though it took a long, long time.
- When we see that God kept His promises to people in the Bible, we can trust that He will be faithful and keep His promises to us.

After the group shares their snapshot, have them post their picture at the front of the room, followed by the final "God Is Faithful" card stock page.

STEP 6: Follow up with the Lesson Application and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



God Is Faithful



SECTION
1.4

God Is Patient



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Plastic-Wrapped Patience

What You'll Need: Plastic wrap, inexpensive prizes

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Purchase inexpensive prizes (e.g., candy bars, gum, flashlights, carabiners, small container of slime, fast food gift card, Awana shares, etc.). Plan for one or two prizes per kid. Make a ball out of the plastic wrap and prizes. Wad a one-foot piece of plastic wrap into a ball. Lay one of the prizes on the plastic wrap ball and wrap the plastic wrap around the ball and plastic wad several times. Continue adding prizes onto the plastic wrap ball and then adding more plastic wrap until all the prizes have been wrapped tightly inside the plastic wrap. Prepare one plastic wrapped ball for every four to six kids in your club.

STEP 1: Arrange four to six kids in a circle. Show kids the prize balls and share with kids a few of the prizes inside. Give the first kid the ball. At your signal, the kid holding the ball must begin to unwrap the ball to reach a prize. Once the kid reaches a prize, have him or her pass it to the kid to the left.

STEP 2: If kids have not reached all the prizes, stop the activity after two minutes.

Then ask the following questions:

- On a scale from 1-5, with 1 being super impatient and 5 being calm, show by lifting your fingers in the air how you felt while you waited your turn?
- On a scale from 1-5, with 1 being super impatient and 5 being calm, show same as above how you felt when others received a prize you would have liked?
- Why was it hard to be patient in this activity?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We have all faced times when we have had to wait.
- We often struggle with patience, and it is easy for us to become frustrated and even angry if we are kept waiting or if we must wait our turn while we see others having fun.

- Our great God is patient. He is never in a hurry, and He is also never late.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is patient.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Patient



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Draw Your Emoji

What You'll Need: Blank paper, yellow, blue, and black markers or colored pencils

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give each kid a piece of paper. Place markers or colored pencils nearby. Explain that you will read scenarios that kids their age might face. Encourage them to draw an emoji based on what their facial expressions would be in that situation.

Someone gives you a can of your favorite soda.

You and your family wait for 10 minutes in a fast food drive thru, and they STILL get your order wrong.

Your dad is late picking you up from soccer practice.

Your mom made your favorite meal for dinner.

You have no homework over a weekend.

You have a lot of homework over a weekend.

Your batteries in your gaming remote die and you are in the middle of a battle.

You get to spend all day playing games.

Your Internet is slow or drops in the middle of a favorite video.

STEP 2: Ask kids to compare their emojis. Then ask the following questions:

- Which scenarios caused happy emojis?
- Which scenarios caused frustrated or mad emojis?
- Based on your emojis, how do you respond when situations do not go as you planned?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We have all faced times when we have had to wait.
- We often struggle with patience, and it is easy for us to become frustrated and even angry if we are kept waiting or if we must wait our turn while we see others having fun.
- Our great God is patient. He is never in a hurry, and He is also never late.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is patient.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Patient



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Character Roles

What You'll Need: Three kids' storybook Bibles, "Character Study Guide" handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Gather three kid's storybook Bibles that give an accurate account of the story of Jonah.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:9. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God knows everything, and He is not limited to time like we are. In fact, the Bible says that 1,000 years are like a day to God!
- God is loving and faithful. He will always keep His promises, but His timing is not like ours. God is never in a hurry, and He is never late.
- God wants everyone to repent and trust Jesus as Savior. He doesn't want ANYONE to spend eternity in hell, separated from Him forever.
- God gives everyone an opportunity to trust Him as Savior. Every person must choose.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that the Bible gives us a perfect example of God's patience and His desire for people to repent in the book of Jonah.

Divide kids into three groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a kids' Bible storybook, and assign to them one of the following "characters" in the book of Jonah:

Jonah

The Sailors

The People of Nineveh

Pass out the Character Study page to each kid. Give the groups five minutes to study their character's role in the story and to determine how God was patient toward them and desired for them to repent and follow Him using the study page. As groups work, walk around the room, sharing these key concepts:

- Jonah was a prophet of God, called to deliver God's message to others.

- The people of Nineveh were wicked enemies of God's people. They were vicious and cruel.
- Jonah chose to disobey God and fled to a place far away from Nineveh.
- God spared the lives of the sailors, and they ended up worshipping the true God.
- God spared Noah's life by sending a great fish to rescue him from drowning.
- The people of Nineveh repented of their sins.
- God was patient with Noah, even when he pouted that the people of Nineveh repented.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have each group present their character roles.

Share these key concepts:

- God is patient to each of us. He desires for you and me to repent from our sins and trust Jesus as Savior (2 Peter 3:9).
- One day the time for us to repent will be over, and it will be too late (2 Corinthians 6:2).
- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, God wants you to share the good news with others who have not yet repented (Acts 1:8).

Step 4: Give kids an opportunity to talk with a leader if they want to learn more about trusting Jesus as their Savior. Encourage the rest to think of one person with whom they can share the good news this week. Have children write this name on a slip of paper and either put in child's book/Bible or hang on the wall in the classroom.

Step 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION

1.4

God Is Patient



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Patient Words

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, blank paper, pens or pencils, sticky notes

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:9. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God knows everything, and He is not limited to time like we are. In fact, the Bible says that 1,000 years are like a day to God!
- God is loving and faithful. He will always keep His promises, but His timing is not like ours. God is never in a hurry, and He is never late.
- God wants everyone to repent and trust Jesus as Savior. He doesn't want ANYONE to spend eternity in hell, separated from Him forever.
- God gives everyone an opportunity to trust Him as Savior. Every person must choose.

STEP 2: Have kids turn to section 1.4 in their handbooks. Have kids work in pairs or groups of three, and assign each group to study one of the following verses in their handbooks: Nehemiah 9:17, Exodus 34:6, 2 Corinthians 6:2, 1 Timothy 2:3-4.

Choose a spokesperson from each group and give him or her a pen or a pencil. Ask the spokesperson to write down key words from their verse that describe God's patience to us.

STEP 3: After two minutes, have each pair or group present their findings to the entire group.

Share these key concepts:

- God is patiently waiting for people to accept Jesus as Savior. God desires that everyone should repent from sin and trust Jesus as Savior, but He knows that not everyone will do so (2 Peter 3:9).
- God is patiently waiting for the right time for Jesus to come back for us. Jesus promised His disciples that He would one day come again and that we who

accept Him as Savior would go to heaven forever (John 14:1-3). We can trust that His timing is perfect. He is never early, and He is never late (2 Peter 3:8-9).

- God is always ready to forgive us when we sin (Nehemiah 9:17). Even after we trust Jesus as Savior, we will still sin. Yet God is patient with us, and He is ready to forgive us (1 John 1:9).
- God is patiently working in us to make us more like Jesus. God will continue His work in us until we are complete in Him (Philippians 1:6).
- God patiently gives us time to share the good news with others (Acts 1:8).

STEP 4: Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader if they have questions about accepting Jesus as Savior. Encourage the rest of the kids to think about how God is patient in their lives.

Give each kid a sticky note and a pen or a pencil. Encourage them to write one way God is patient in their lives. Encourage them to stick the note somewhere in their rooms and to praise God for being patient in their lives when they see the notes.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Character Study

Who:

A large, empty equilateral triangle with a black outline, intended for writing the name of the character being studied.

Role:

A large, empty regular hexagon with a black outline, intended for writing the role of the character.

How was God patient toward them?:

A large, empty rectangle with a black outline, intended for writing a response to the question about God's patience.

Did they turn to God?:

A large, empty circle with a black outline, intended for writing a response to the question about whether the character turned to God.

SECTION

1.5

God Is Always at Work



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Always Open

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids brainstorm different occupations or services that are always available to help people (e.g., hospitals, police officers, firefighters, military personnel.).

STEP 2: After one minute, ask the following questions:

- What would it be like if one of these services closed down in our town?
- What problems might we face if all of these services shut down permanently?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The individuals who work in these fields are willing to work all hours of the day or night to help us and keep us safe.
- We often take for granted that these services are available whenever we need them.
- God is also working all the time in our lives. No matter what situation we may go through, God is always with us and He is always working to fulfill His plans for us.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is always at work in our lives.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Always at Work



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Always Working

What You'll Need: Optional: Doctor, nurse, CNA, or medical technician volunteer

PREP: Ask a leader to complete the following activity during class.

Optional: Ask a doctor, nurse, CNA, or medical technician to come to your class to help with the opening activity.

STEP 1: Take a leader's resting pulse and announce the result to the kids. Optional: Ask the visiting medical person to take the leader's pulse.

STEP 2: Ask the leader to jog in place for 60 seconds. Encourage the kids to count aloud with you. After 60 seconds, take the leader's pulse again (or ask the visiting medical person to do so). Share the result with the class.

Ask the following questions:

- Why was (leader's name) pulse faster the second time?
- How did the movement affect his or her pulse?
- What do you think will happen to (leader's name) pulse after he or she rests for a bit?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Our hearts are always at work in our bodies to keep us healthy.
- We do not have to think about our heart beating or tell it to continue to beat; God has designed that to always work on its own.
- Just like (leader's name) heart was always at work during times of rest and times of hard work, God is always at work in our lives, during both good times and hard times, to help us learn to be more like Jesus.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God is always at work.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Always at Work



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God's Work in Joseph's life

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, graph paper, red pen, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 8:28, together with the kids. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We can be confident that God has a plan for those who love Him and have trusted Jesus as Savior.
- God is always at work, and He is working all things in our life for His good.
- God is loving and faithful. We can trust that God will use even the hard things in our life to help make us more like Jesus.

STEP 2: Explain to the kids that the story of Joseph helps us understand this verse. Have kids turn to section 1.5 in their handbooks. Encourage kids to work in groups of two or three. Give each kid a sheet of graph paper and a pen or a pencil.

Encourage kids to graph the key events in Joseph's life like a timeline. Do the first two together with the kids as you share the following key concepts:

- Joseph was his dad's favored son (Genesis 37:3-4). (Draw a red dot near the upper left hand corner of a piece of graph paper; hold it up for the kids to see).
- Joseph dreamed about his brothers, which made them angry (Genesis 37:5-11). (Draw a red dot near the lower left hand corner of the graph paper to the right of the first graph point; hold it up for the kids to see.)

STEP 3: Using their handbooks as a guide, encourage the other pairs or groups to complete their graph timelines together. Ask leaders to walk among the kids, offering counsel when needed. After four minutes, ask kids to compare their graphs with each other.

Then ask the following questions:

- If you were Joseph, how would you have been tempted to respond in these situations?
- What would your attitude have been like?
- Step 4: Share these key concepts:

- Joseph chose to trust that God had a plan for his life.
- Joseph did not respond in anger to the unfair situations in his life. In Potiphar's house, prison, and Pharaoh's government, Joseph was trusted and put in places of respect and authority.
- Joseph even reminded his brothers that God used their evil actions in his life to bring about something good (Genesis 50:20).

Step 5: Tell kids to look at their graphs again. Remind them that like Joseph, they will face ups and downs in their lives, but God is always with them, working out every situation for their good

Step 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Always at Work



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God's Good Plan

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, marker, tape, sticky notes, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: On a sheet of paper, write in large letters each of the following expressions: "Fantastic!" "So-so" "That really stinks!" Tape the expressions on a wall or wall-mounted whiteboard in the room, placing "Fantastic!" near the top, "So-so" in the middle, and "That really stinks!" near the bottom.

STEP 1: Give each kid four sticky notes and tell them to write two great things and two bad things that might happen to kids their age.

STEP 2: After one minute, have leaders collect the sticky notes. Read each sticky note out loud, and have kids rate where it should be placed on the wall.

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 8:28, together with the kids. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We can be confident that God has a plan for those who love Him and have trusted Jesus as Savior.
- God is always at work, and He is working all things in our life for His good.
- God is loving and faithful. We can trust that God will use even the hard things in our life to help make us more like Jesus.

STEP 4: Give each kid a sticky note. Encourage them to write one touch situation they are going through, along with today's date.

Share these key concepts:

- God is loving, faithful and patient. He wants all people to accept Jesus as Savior (2 Peter 3:8, 9).
- God has a good plan for those who have trusted Jesus as Savior (Jeremiah 29:11). He promises to keep working in our lives until that plan is complete (Philippians 1:6).

- Life is hard, and we will face difficult times in our lives. But even in those times, we can trust that God is with us (Isaiah 41:10).
- God is always at work in our lives. He will work even the bad things out for our good and use them to make us more like Jesus (Romans 8:28-29).

STEP 5: Encourage them to place that note in their Bible or handbook. Challenge them to determine to trust that God is at work in their lives and to ask God to help them be more like Jesus each time they see that sticky note.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Self-Portraits

What You'll Need: Blank paper, pens, pencils, markers, or colored pencils

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give each kid a blank sheet of paper. Place pens, pencils, markers, or colored pencils nearby. Give kids three minutes to create a self-portrait. Encourage them to include characteristics that are unique to them (e.g., hairstyle, eye color, facial features, glasses.)

STEP 2: After three minutes, ask several volunteers to share their portraits.

Ask the following questions:

- What characteristics in this portrait are uniquely you?
- Why do our individual characteristics or personalities help others know us better?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Each of us have unique characteristics in our looks and personalities that set us apart from other people.
- These characteristics can help others identify you as "you." And as they get to know you better, they will appreciate these characteristics more.
- Over the past five sections you have learned five characteristics of God, helping you identify who He is and giving you an opportunity to know Him more.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand these important truths they have learned about God.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Personality Profiles

What You'll Need: Blank paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give each kid a blank sheet of paper and a pen or pencil. Encourage them to ask the person sitting to their left, "What are four things you know about me?" (Remind all kids to offer kind words of encouragement.) After one minute, have the kids switch roles.

STEP 2: Ask several volunteers to share their personality profiles.

Ask the following questions:

- How well did your friend identify your personality when they answered this questions? (Allow for responses.)
- What challenges did each of you face in knowing what each other are REALLY like?
- Why do our individual characteristics or personalities help others know us better?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Each of us have unique characteristics in our looks and personalities that set us apart from other people.
- These characteristics can help others identify you as "you." And as they get to know you better, they will appreciate these characteristics more.
- Over the past five sections you have learned five characteristics of God, helping you identify who He is and giving you an opportunity to know Him more.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand these important truths they have learned about God.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God Is . . . Panel Praises

What You'll Need: Panel Praises handout, computer, printer, chairs

PREP: Ask five adults from your church or club to be on a panel. Assign each of the panel members one of the following topics: God is trustworthy, loving, faithful, patient, or always at work. Give each one a copy of the Panel Praises handout. Encourage them to be ready to share with the kids a personal circumstance in which God worked in this area of their lives.

Set up five chairs in the front of the room.

STEP 1: Have the panel members sit in front of the class. Introduce each guest, and ask each one to share his or her personal circumstances.

STEP 2: After the panel members have presented their personal circumstances, share the following key concepts:

- God is trustworthy and faithful. God always keeps His promises, and we can trust that no matter what situations we may face, we can know that God will never forsake us. We can trust that because of His steadfast love, He will always be there for us when we need Him (Psalm 9:10, Deuteronomy 7:9).
- God loves everyone and demonstrated that love by sending Jesus to take the punishment for sin. When we trust Him as Savior, God promises that nothing will separate us from His everlasting love (Romans 8:38-39).
- God is patient. He does all things in His perfect time. He desires for everyone to repent, and He patiently waits for people to trust Jesus as Savior (2 Peter 3:9).
- God is always at work. We can be sure that whatever we go through, no matter how difficult, our God will always work everything out for our good (Romans 8:28).

STEP 3: Have kids divide into pairs or groups. Ask a guest to join each group. Encourage kids and guests to pray and praise God for His amazing work in their lives.

Step 4: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God Is . . . in My Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, blank sheets of paper, T&T handbooks, pens or pencils (Optional: CD and CD player, smartphone, or tablet)

PREP: Optional: Choose several favorite worship songs to play during this activity

STEP 1: Remind kids that over the past five lessons they have learned characteristics of who God is. Have kids divide into groups of two or three, and give them two minutes to discuss their favorite thing they have learned about God throughout this unit.

STEP 2: Distribute blank sheets of paper and pens or pencils to each kid. Give kids four minutes to review their handbooks and reflect on ways that God is trustworthy, loving, faithful, patient, and always at work in their lives. Encourage them to write or draw their reflections.

STEP 3: After kids have finished, briefly highlight the following key concepts from this unit:

- God is trustworthy and faithful. God always keeps His promises, and we can trust that no matter what situations we may face, we can know that God will never forsake us. We can trust that because of His steadfast love, He will always be there for us when we need Him (Psalm 9:10, Deuteronomy 7:9).
- God loves everyone and demonstrated that love by sending Jesus to take the punishment for sin. When we trust Him as Savior, God promises that nothing will separate us from His everlasting love (Romans 8:38-39).
- God is patient. He does all things in His perfect time. He desires for everyone to repent, and He patiently waits for people to trust Jesus as Savior (2 Peter 3:9).
- God is always at work. We can be sure that whatever we go through, no matter how difficult, our God will always work everything out for our good (Romans 8:28).

STEP 4: Encourage kids to pray quietly, thanking God for who He is in each of our lives.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Panel Praises

Use the following highlights from the T&T sections to help you prepare a testimony of praise for your assigned topic.

GOD IS TRUSTWORTHY.

God loves us so much that He made a way for us to have a right relationship with Him. When we trust in Him as Savior, He promises to always be with us. We can trust God's promises that He will never leave us and that He is our shield and our refuge. When we trust in God and His word, we are safe and we will have peace, no matter what struggles we may face.

GOD IS LOVING.

God loves everyone, but sin broke man's relationship with God (Romans 5:12). God's greatest demonstration of love was sending Jesus to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin and fix our relationship with God (Romans 5:8). When we trust Jesus as Savior, nothing can ever separate us from God's great, amazing love (Romans 8:38-39).

GOD IS FAITHFUL.

He keeps His promises and continues to love us, no matter what (Romans 8:38-39). He will always do what He says He will do (Deuteronomy 7:9). God has a plan for each person who trusts Jesus as Savior (Jeremiah 29:11). God will be faithful when we are tempted (1 Corinthians 10:13). He will continue to forgive us and help us in troubled times (1 John 1:9). He will complete the work that He has begun in our lives (Philippians 1:6).

GOD IS PATIENT.

He desires that all people should repent from sin and follow Him (2 Peter 3:9). God has a plan for each person who has trusted Jesus as Savior. He is patiently working out the details of that plan, and we can trust God's perfect timing in our lives (Jeremiah 29:11, 2 Peter 3:8).

GOD IS ALWAYS AT WORK.

God desires for all people to be saved (2 Peter 3:9). When we accept Jesus as Savior, our relationship with God is fixed (Romans 5:1). God has a good plan for each of us to make us more like His Son, Jesus (Jeremiah 29:11). God loves us, and we can trust His plan for us. No matter what we go through, good and bad, God will use it to help us be more like Jesus. God is always at work for our good (Romans 8:28).

SECTION
2.1

The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Tools of a Rescuer

What You'll Need: Whiteboard or poster board, easel, markers

PREP: Set up the whiteboard or poster board in the front of the room.

STEP 1: Ask, "What does it mean to rescue someone? In what types of job or career does a person train to rescue someone?"

Write kids' responses on the board (e.g., firefighter, police officer, lifeguard, doctor, EMT, etc.).

STEP 2: Ask, "What type of tools do they need for their jobs?" Write kids' responses on the board.

After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What sacrifices might these workers face?
- In what circumstances might these individuals need to save someone?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- A rescue worker would never ask for payment from someone who needed to be rescued.
- The job of a rescue worker is to save someone in grave danger.
- God offers a free gift of grace to rescue all of us from sin.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the explanation of God's grace.

Notes:

SECTION
2.1

The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Rescue Scenario

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP 1: Nothing

STEP 1: Divide kids into groups of three or four. Assign a leader to each group. Give groups two minutes to come up with a short skit in which a rescue worker is needed. If kids are stuck, encourage them to think of a time they needed to be rescued.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have each group share their rescue scenario.

Then ask the following questions:

- What tools would these rescue workers need?
- What are common types of rescue workers?
- What does it mean to rescue someone?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- A rescue worker would never ask for payment from someone who needed to be rescued.
- The job of a rescue worker is to save someone in grave danger.
- God offers a free gift of grace to rescue all of us from sin.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the explanation of God's grace.

Notes:

SECTION
2.1

The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Before and After Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, T&T handbooks

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Gather three sheets of paper. Write one of the following words or phrases on each of the blank sheets: "Before," "But God," "After."

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 1:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God does not save a person from sin because he or she is a good person or does good things for God and others.
- God saves someone because of His own purpose and His grace.
- God had a plan before the beginning of time to offer us His amazing grace through Jesus.

STEP 2: Have kids turn to section 2.1 in their handbooks. Divide kids into two groups: the Before group and the After group. Give each group their prepared sheet of paper, and assign a leader to each group. Encourage kids in the Before group to open their Bibles to Ephesians 2:1-3 and the After group to open their Bibles to Ephesians 2:4-6. Distribute paper and pens or pencils to each group.

Give groups five minutes to read their verses and to discuss together what we were like before or after God's grace in our lives. Encourage kids to take notes on their papers.

After five minutes, ask the first group to share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Before we accept Jesus as Savior, we were dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1). We were under the control of Satan and lived for ourselves (Ephesians 2:2-3). We were sinners, separated from God, on our way to hell.

- There was nothing we could do on our own to save ourselves. Without God's grace, we cannot be saved or be in a relationship with God.
- Step 3: Read Ephesians 2:4. Hold up the "But God" sign.
- Share these key concepts:
- God loved us, even when we were sinners (Romans 5:8). He showed His love for us by sending Jesus, His perfect son, to die on the cross to take the payment for our sin.
- God showed us mercy. We deserved death and separation from God forever because of our sin (Romans 6:23). God showed us mercy by not giving us the death we deserved, but instead showed us grace by giving us something good that we did not deserve: eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Step 4: Explain to kids that when we accept Jesus as Savior by God's grace, our lives are completely changed. Ask the "After" group to share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- God offers everyone grace through Jesus. Because Jesus was perfect, He is the only one who could take our payment for sin.
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are saved through grace. We are made alive through Jesus. Our sins are forgiven, and our punishment for sin has been paid. We have a right relationship with God now, and He has a perfect plan for us. We can even look forward to living forever in heaven with God. This is grace!

STEP 5: Explain to kids that this grace can change their lives as well. Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader about salvation. Ask kids to pray silently, thanking God for the gift of grace.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
2.1
The Bible Is The Explanation of God's Grace

Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
Option 2: Grace in Paul's Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, Grace in Paul's Life Handout
 (Optional: Bible times male costume)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print out a copy of Grace in Paul's Life Handout. Ask a male leader to portray the apostle Paul by presenting the monologue on the handout. Give him the handout ahead of time, and ask him to read through the piece several times. Optional: The leader may choose to wear a Bible times costume during the reading.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 1:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God does not save a person from sin because he or she is a good person or does good things for God and others.
- God saves someone because of His own purpose and His grace.
- God had a plan before time to offer us His amazing grace through Jesus.

STEP 2: Tell kids that Paul is an example of God's amazing grace. Ask the leader to share the monologue.

STEP 3: Ask, "What was Paul like before God's grace?"

Share these key concepts:

- Before God's grace, Saul thought he was a good person.
- He refused to believe the truth that Jesus was the true son of God.
- Because of his sin, Saul ended up hurting those who had accepted Jesus as Savior.

STEP 4: Share with kids that God loved Saul, even though he was a sinner and was against God. Ask, "What was Paul like after God's grace?"

Share these key concepts:

- When Paul recognized the truth that Jesus is God's Son and accepted Jesus as Savior, Paul was a different person.
- God gave Paul the gift of salvation, forgave Paul of all his sins, and restored His relationship with Paul.
- God's grace changed Paul. After he accepted Jesus as Savior, Paul shared the good news of God's grace to others. He followed God completely, and everything Paul did was for God's glory.
- God used Paul to write many books of the New Testament. Many of the books of the Bible that Paul wrote teach us the truths of God's great grace.

STEP 5: Explain to kids that this grace can change their lives as well.

Share these key concepts:

- God offers everyone grace through Jesus. Because Jesus was perfect, He is the only one who could be the payment for our sin.
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are saved through grace (Ephesians 2:8-9). We are made alive through Jesus. Our sins are forgiven, and our punishment for sin has been paid (Romans 5:1).
- We have a right relationship with God now, and He has a perfect plan for us (Philippians 1:6). We can even look forward to living forever in heaven with God (John 14:1-3). This is grace!

STEP 6: Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader about salvation. Ask kids to pray silently, thanking God for the gift of grace.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



Grace in Paul's Life Handout

Present this monologue to the kids during the main lesson time.

Optional: Wear a Bible times costume as you present the monologue.

I'm Paul . . . well, at least that's what I go by now. I used to be known as Saul, but my life has changed completely since then.

When I was known as Saul, I thought I was on top of the world. I was an important religious leader. I was well-known and in good standing with many people. I believed and worshiped God, but I thought that those who believed Jesus is God's Son were wrong. I did my very best to destroy those who felt that way, because I was SURE that my view of God was the right one.

But I was wrong.

One day, while I was on my way to arrest some of Jesus' followers, I was stopped on the road by a great light. I couldn't see anything, and I was terrified. Then, I heard a voice, asking why I was persecuting Jesus.

All of a sudden, the bright light went away, but I was left blind. I made my way to Damascus, where a man took me in and told me more about who Jesus really is.

I realized that it didn't matter to God that I was a good person, or even that I believed in Him. The truth is I'm a sinner, and I realized that because God is perfect and cannot be around sin, I could never be right with God on my own. There is nothing I could ever do on my own to be better than my sins.

But God already knew that. He knew that I deserved death and hell.

But He still loved me. He loved me, even though I was willing to murder people who believed differently than I did. He loved me so much that He gave me something that I didn't deserve. He gave me grace.

God sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to earth. Since Jesus never sinned, He was the ONLY one who could die on the cross to take my punishment for sin. God's grace was my gift of salvation, made possible by Jesus.

No one deserves God's grace, especially me. Yet God offers His grace to EVERYONE as a free gift.

Because of God's grace, my life was changed, and my greatest desire was to teach others about God's great grace. I traveled many miles to share the message of God's free gift to others, and I wrote many books in the New Testament that share the good news of God's great grace.

How about you? Do you know that God wants to offer you that same grace? Please talk to a leader tonight to learn more about how you can receive God's amazing grace.

SECTION
2.2

The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: What a Character!

What You'll Need: Coin

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Divide the kids into two teams. Flip a coin to see which team goes first. Give the team who wins the coin toss 30 seconds to discuss the name of a character from a favorite book or movie. After 30 seconds, select a spokesperson to call out the character's name. Give the other team 10 seconds to come up with the book or movie the character stars in. Continue the game as time allows, alternating the activity for the teams as you play.

STEP 2: After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What makes a character stick out in a book or movie?
- Why are characters necessary in a story?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Every good book has an important character, one that the whole story is written about.
- Each story has a beginning, but it also has an ending that the writer has planned out ahead of time. Key characters in a story continue through the beginning to the end.
- The Bible is God's story, and God is the main character. He is there in the beginning, and He is there in the end.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God shared His story with us.

Notes:

SECTION
2.2

The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Tell a Story

What You'll Need: Paper, marker

PREP: Write on a sheet of paper, "To Be Continued."

STEP 1: Have kids sit in a circle. Give a kid in the circle the prepared paper. Ask that kid to think of a popular kid's story or movie that the other kids would be familiar with and whisper it to you. Once you approve of the story or movie, have that kid start telling part of what happened in the beginning of the story. After several seconds shout, "Next!" The kid telling the story passes the paper to the kid on his or her right, who continues telling the story where the previous kid left off. If that kid is not familiar with the story or movie, he or she can say, "pass," and pass the sign to the person on his or her right. Continue the activity until the storyline has been shared. As time allows, continue the activity with another story or movie.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Who was the main character in the story or movie?
- How did the story begin?
- How did the story end?
- What details would you have added if you were telling the story?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Every good story has an important character, one that the whole story is written about.
- Each story has a beginning, but it also has an ending that the writer has planned out ahead of time. Key characters in a story continue through the beginning to the end.
- The Bible is God's story, and God is the main character. He is there in the beginning, and He is there in the end.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God shared His story with us.

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God's Story

What You'll Need: Bible, children's storybook Bibles, T&T handbooks, paper, pens or pencils or colored pencils

PREP: Gather several children's storybook Bibles and place them around the room.

STEP 1: Remind kids that the Bible is God's story. All of the true stories in the Bible point us to God. Distribute a sheet of paper and a pencil or pen to each kid. (Kids may choose to work in groups of two or three to complete the activity.) Encourage kids to flip through past sections of their T&T handbooks or the children's storybook Bibles and search for their favorite true stories in the Bible. Give them three minutes to illustrate their favorite story.

STEP 2: After three minutes, have kids take turns revealing their drawings. After each kid has shared his or her drawing, ask these questions:

- How did this story point to God?
- What can we learn about God through this story?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God is the main character in His story. He is in the very beginning (Genesis 1:1).
- Every story in the Bible is true because it is part of God's story. In every story from Genesis to Revelation we learn truths about who God is and what His plan is for us.
- God knew that we would sin and need a rescuer to save us from sin (Genesis 3:15). God's plan from the very beginning was for Jesus, His Son, to come to earth and die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are a part of God's Story. God has a plan for each one of us, and He will work everything in our lives for our good (Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28).
- God's story has an exciting ending for those who trust Jesus as Savior. One day, Jesus will come back for us, and we will get to spend forever with God in heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). What an amazing ending to God's awesome story!

Step 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 3:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- After Adam and Eve sinned, God had a plan to send Jesus, His only Son, to the earth to pay the price for sin. This was always God's plan to save us from sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- God did not send Jesus to earth to condemn, or make the world guilty because of sin.
- God sent Jesus to the earth as a way for us to be able to be in a right relationship with God.

STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- God's story helps us understand who He is and who we are.
- God's story helps us understand how God wants us to look at the world.
- We need to study God's Word each day.

Share with kids your Bible study plan. Ask another leader to do the same. Ask kids if any of them would like to share their personal Bible study plan.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
2.2

The Bible Is God's Story Shared With Us



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God's Story Timeline

What You'll Need: Bibles, whiteboard or pad of paper, easel, markers, children's storybook Bibles, T&T handbooks, roll of butcher or parchment paper, scissors, masking tape or sticky tac, pens or pencils, sticky notes

PREP: Cut a two-foot section of butcher or parchment paper. Write at the top of the paper, "God's Story Timeline." Draw a line down the middle of the paper. On the left-hand side, write vertically "Genesis." On the right-hand side of the page, write vertically, "Revelation." Hang the prepared paper on the wall in the classroom. Place several children's storybook Bibles around the room.

STEP 1: Ask, "What are some of your favorite characters or stories from the Bible?" Write the responses on the whiteboard.

STEP 2: After one minute, divide the kids into small groups and assign a leader to each group. Divide the characters on the whiteboard equally among the groups. Give each group several sticky notes and pens or pencils.

Have a kid in each group record each of their character's names on sticky notes. Then, encourage the kids and the leaders in each group to work together to discover where in God's Story Timeline these characters fit. They may use their Bibles, handbooks, or the children's storybook Bibles as a guide.

When they are finished, have a kid place the sticky note on the God's Story Timeline.

After groups have finished, look over the timeline, making sure the characters are in their biblical order. Adjust as necessary.

Share these key concepts:

- God is the main character in His story. He is in the very beginning (Genesis 1:1).
- Every story in the Bible is true because it is part of God's Story. In every story from Genesis to Revelation, we learn truths about who God is and what His plan is for us.

- God knew that we would sin and need a rescuer to save us from sin (Genesis 3:15). God's plan from the very beginning was for Jesus, His Son, to come to earth and die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are a part of God's story. God has a plan for each one of us, and He will work everything in our lives for our good (Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28).
- God's story has an exciting ending for those who trust Jesus as Savior. One day, Jesus will come back for us, and we will get to spend forever with God in heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18). What an amazing ending to God's awesome story!

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 3:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

On the appropriate spot on the timeline, draw a cross and write the word "Jesus" vertically above the cross.

Share these concepts:

- After Adam and Eve sinned, God had a plan to send Jesus, His only Son, to the earth to pay the price for sin. This was ALWAYS God's plan to save us from sin (2 Timothy 1:9).
- God did not send Jesus to earth to condemn, or make the world guilty because of sin.
- God sent Jesus to the earth as a way for us to be able to be in a right relationship with God.

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- God's story helps us understand who He is and who we are.
- God's story helps us understand how God wants us to look at the world.
- We need to study God's Word each day.

Share with kids your Bible study plan. Ask another leader to do the same. Allow any children who would like to share their own Bible study plan.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
2.3

The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Cards for All Occasions

What You'll Need: Greeting cards

PREP: Purchase several inexpensive cards for various occasions (e.g., birthday, sympathy, funny, new baby, anniversary, just because).

STEP 1: Choose a card from your selection and read only part of the card aloud and ask these questions: "When would someone send this card to someone? Whom might they send it to?"

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What would happen if you got the cards mixed up and gave a sympathy card to someone on their birthday?
- When was the last time you received a card or a letter?
- What makes receiving a card or letter so special?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- People send cards or letters to those who mean the most to them.
- Reading a card or letter helps us get to know the sender.
- God wrote us a letter so that we can get to know Him better. His letter to us is God's Word, the Bible.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wrote a letter to us.

Notes:

SECTION
2.3

The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Mixed-Up Message

What You'll Need: Mixed-Up Message Handout, pen or pencil

PREP: Print out one copy of the Mixed-Up Message Handout.

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to give you an answer for each blank in the letter. Once you have all the blanks filled, read the letter out loud.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How would a person respond if they received a letter like this?
- What is the purpose of sending a letter or a card?
- On what occasions might you send a letter or card?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- People send cards or letters to those who mean the most to them.
- Reading a card or letter helps us get to know the sender.
- God wrote us a letter so that we can get to know Him better. His letter to us is God's Word, the Bible.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wrote a letter to us.

Notes:



Mixed-Up Message Handout

Ask volunteers to fill in the blanks below. After all the blanks have been filled in, read the letter out loud.

Dear _____,
(famous cartoon character)

I heard from _____ that you were not feeling well and that you have missed
(former president)

_____ days of school. I hope you feel better soon
(number)

because we are going to _____ on a field trip on
(country)

Friday, and we need your help defeating the _____ in the
(professional sports team)

_____ game on Saturday.
(outdoor activity)

Sincerely,

(favorite superhero)

PS: Here is a _____ gift card to _____ from all of us.
(amount of money) (favorite restaurant)



SECTION
2.3

The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Letter of God's Love

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Letter of God's Love Handout, scissors, pens or pencils, envelopes

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Make copies of the Letter of God's Love Handout and cut sections apart. Prepare one section per kid.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 John 4:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God showed His love to us by sending Jesus to earth to die on the cross for our sin.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we experience God's great love for us.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that one way we learn more about God's love is through the Bible, His letter to us.

Ask kids to think of someone to whom they would like to share the truth of God's love. Give each kid a copy of the Letter of God's Love Handout. Using their Bibles and T&T handbooks, have kids work together to fill in the blanks of the Letter of God's love.

STEP 3: After several minutes, give each kid an envelope and encourage them to place their letter inside and deliver it this week.

Share these key concepts:

- In the Bible, God tells us who He is and reveals to us His plan for mankind (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).
- God tells us how much He loves us in the Bible. He also showed us His love by sending Jesus, His Son, to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:9).
- God knows what is best for us, and His letter teaches us how to grow to be more like Jesus (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

- When we read and study God's Word, we learn more about God and how He wants us to live. When we follow His plan, we grow closer to Him (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).

Step 4: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Letter of God's Love Handout

Hi, _____.

I am learning about God's amazing love. I want you to know about it too.

God showed His love for us by sending Jesus to die for us, even when we were _____ (Romans 5:8).

Because of God's great love for us, we have the opportunity to be called the _____ of _____ if we accept Jesus as Savior (1 John 3:1).

And the greatest thing is that God's steadfast love _____ (Psalm 136:26).

Want to learn more about God's love for you? Read the book that contains the story of His love for all of us: The Bible. I hope you do!

Sincerely,



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NAME: _____



Letter of God's Love Handout

Hi, _____.

I am learning about God's amazing love. I want you to know about it too.

God showed His love for us by sending Jesus to die for us, even when we were _____ (Romans 5:8).

Because of God's great love for us, we have the opportunity to be called the _____ of _____ if we accept Jesus as Savior (1 John 3:1).

And the greatest thing is that God's steadfast love _____ (Psalm 136:26).

Want to learn more about God's love for you? Read the book that contains the story of His love for all of us: The Bible. I hope you do!

Sincerely,



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NAME: _____

SECTION
2.3

The Bible Is God's Love Letter to You



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Descriptions of God's Love

What You'll Need: Bibles, whiteboard or pad of paper, easel, markers, paper, pens or pencils, bookmarks or sticky notes

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Set up an easel and whiteboard or paper in the front of the room. Write the following verses on the board: Zephaniah 3:17, Ephesians 2:4-5, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 1 John 3:1.

STEP 1: Divide kids into groups and assign two or three verses to each group. Encourage them to look up their verses and then draw pictures displaying God's love based on the verses. Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil or pen to each kid.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have kids share their pictures with one another.

Share these key concepts:

- In the Bible, God tells us who He is and reveals to us His plan for mankind (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).
- God tells us how much He loves us in the Bible. He also showed us His love by sending Jesus, His Son, to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:9).

STEP 3: Write the following reference on the board 1 John 4:9-10. Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 John 4:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God showed His love to us by sending Jesus to earth to die on the cross for our sin.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we experience God's great love for us.

STEP 4: Read 1 John 4:10. Then on the board, draw a cross. Explain that the word *propitiation* means "payment." Share with kids that the greatest way God showed His love for us was to send Jesus to die on the cross for our sin.

STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- The Bible is God's way for us to get to know God.
- When we read and study God's Word, we learn more about God and how He wants us to live. When we follow His plan, we grow closer to Him (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105).
- God's Word shows us how we should live, because God wants what is best for us and He wants us to experience it.

STEP 6: Tell kids the best way to understand God's love is to read and study the Bible. Encourage kids to pick a time each day (suggest in the morning before school or in the evening before bed) and to choose a book of the Bible to read, such as James or Proverbs. Encourage kids to find those books in their Bible, and give kids bookmarks or sticky notes so they can mark where the books are located.

Encourage kids to study several verses each day and ask God to show them what He wants them to learn from those verses.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
2.4

The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Recipe for Lunch

What You'll Need: Table, bread, peanut butter, jelly, plastic knife, paper plate and napkin

PREP: Set up a table in front of the room. Place the supplies listed above on the table.

STEP 1: Instruct kids to give you instructions on how to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Call on volunteers to give you step-by-step directions. Be sure to follow each instruction literally (e.g., if one instructs you to put the bread on the plate, place the whole, unopened loaf on the plate).

STEP 2: Continue to follow instructions literally for two minutes, then ask the following questions:

- Why are instructions important?
- Why do we need clear and complete instructions?
- What would happen if we didn't have instructions for recipes? Homework?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- Instructions are necessary if we want to achieve the expected outcome.
- Instructions show us what we are to do.
- God gives us instructions in the Bible. The greatest instruction is how to love God.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God instructs us to love Him.

Notes:

SECTION
2.4

The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Missing Instructions

What You'll Need: Small Lego® kit, table

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Place a table in front of the room. Scatter the Legos on the table.

STEP 1: Choose three volunteers, and ask them to work together to build the kit, using only the picture of the completed set as a guide. Give them three minutes to complete the activity, and encourage the other kids to call out encouraging words and constructive advice.

STEP 2: After three minutes, ask the following questions:

- Why are instructions important?
- Why do we need clear and complete instructions?
- What would happen if we didn't have instructions for recipes? Projects? homework?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Instructions are necessary if we want to achieve the expected outcome.
- Instructions show us what we are to do.
- God gives us instructions in the Bible. The greatest instruction is how to love God.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God instructs us to love Him.

Notes:

SECTION
2.4

The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Loving God with All I Am

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, marker, tape

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write each of the following words on a sheet of paper: all, heart, soul, mind, strength. Tape each of the following sheets of paper on a wall in the room: heart, soul, mind, strength (keep the sign with the word *all* with you). Clear the space so kids will have room to complete the activity.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- God loves us and gave us the Bible to help us learn about Him.
- Its words are true (John 17:17), perfect (Psalm 19:7), and unchanging (Numbers 23:19).
- As we learn truths about God, we learn to appreciate Him more (Ephesians 1:16-19).

STEP 2: : Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 12:30. Repeat the verse, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us instructions on how He wants us to live our lives.
- The most important command God gave to you is to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30).

STEP 3: Play a game with the kids to help them learn their verse. Stand in the middle of the area and call out one of the ways that we are to love God (e.g., heart, soul, mind, strength). Tell kids to quickly stand by the sign on the wall of the word you called out. Continue the activity, calling out the words faster and faster.

Step 4: After one or two minutes, hold up the sign with the word *All*. Have kids sit on the floor next to you.

Share these key concepts:

- Loving God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength means that we love God with all of who we are.

- Loving God with all of who we are is a choice we must make.
- Loving God like He wants us to takes effort.
- The more we study God's Word and learn more about how awesome He is, the more we will want to love Him (Philippians 1:9).

STEP 5: Ask several volunteers to share a truth about God they have learned in Awana this year (e.g., God is loving, patient, faithful). Pray and thank God for those truths that were shared. Ask God to help you and the kids learn to love Him because He is worthy of our love.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
2.4

The Bible Is God's Instruction to Love Him



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God's Greatest Instruction

What You'll Need: Bible, T&T handbooks, paper, pens or pencils, Loving God with All of Me Handout

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Make copies of the Loving God with All of Me Handout, one copy for every kid.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- God loves us and gave us the Bible to help us learn about Him.
- Its words are true (John 17:17), perfect (Psalm 19:7), and unchanging (Numbers 23:19).
- As we learn truths about God, we learn to appreciate Him more (Ephesians 1:16-19).

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 12:30. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us instructions on how He wants us to live our lives.
- The most important command God gave to you is to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30).

STEP 3: Give each kid a handout and a pen or pencil. Encourage them to use their handbooks to help them draw or write about a truth of God they have learned so far this year.

STEP 4: After two minutes, have one or two volunteers share what they wrote or drew. Read Philippians 1:9 and share these key concepts:

- The more we study God's Word and learn more about how awesome He is, the more we will want to love Him (Philippians 1:9).
- Loving God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength means that we love God with ALL of who we are.
- Loving God with all of who we are is a choice we must make.
- We can love God if we remember that He loves us.

STEP 5: Have kids mark on the graph how they are doing in loving God with all they are. Remind kids that the first step to loving God with all of who they are is admitting they are a sinner and trusting Jesus as their Savior. Ask: "What is one thing you can do this week to help you learn more about God so that you can learn to love Him more?" Encourage them to write or draw their answer under the graph.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Loving God With All of Me Handout

1. What is one truth about God that you have learned so far this year?

2. You can love God if you remember that He loves you! Check off the boxes of where is the hardest places to remember to love God!

Home	School
With Friends	When I'm Alone
When I'm Sad	When I'm Having Fun

3. You can only love God if you know Him! What can you do this week to help you learn more about God?

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Silent Expectations

What You'll Need: Smartphone or timer, T&T handbooks

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Explain to your students that you expect them to be completely silent for 30 seconds. Begin the timer, and see how well the kids followed the expectation. If the kids did well, set a higher expectation of 60 seconds and repeat the activity. If your kids did not fulfill the expectation, try again.

STEP 2: After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- What is an expectation? (If kids do not know the answer, encourage them to look it up in section 2.5 of their handbooks.)
- What are some common expectations a grown-up might have for someone like you?
- What would a kid be like if no one set expectations for them?
- Who are other people in authority who have expectations for you?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- Those in authority have a goal, they expect us to achieve or rules they expect us to follow.
- It is up to us to learn and choose to follow those expectations.
- God has expectations for His followers. They are found in the Bible.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God told us His expectations in the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Common Expectations

What You'll Need: Whiteboard, or poster board, markers, easel, T&T handbooks

PREP: Set up an easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the classroom. Place markers nearby.

STEP 1: Have kids look up the definition of expectation in section 2.5 of their handbooks. Then ask them to identify expectations that grown-ups have for them and write them on the whiteboard or poster board. Be sure to have them consider their expectations at school, home, church, athletic activities, etc.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What would happen if you chose to ignore one of these expectations?
- Why are expectations important?
- What would it be like if no one had expectations for other people?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Those in authority over us have goals they expect us to achieve or rules they expect us to follow.
- It is up to us to learn to follow those expectations.
- God has expectations for His followers. They are found in the Bible.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God told us His expectations in the Bible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.5

The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Great Expectations

What You'll Need: Bibles, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, paper, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Set up an easel and whiteboard or pad of paper at the front of the room. Write the following on the board or paper: Make your bed, finish your homework before playing, completing your chores.

STEP 1: Explain that parents have expectations for their kids. Ask kids to rate the parental expectations on the board from 1 to 3.

STEP 2: Remind kids that our creator God has expectations for all of us. Have kids review their memory verse from section 1.4, 2 Peter 3:9.

Share these concepts:

- God wants each of us to become a follower of God.
- We must admit we are a sinner
- We must accept Jesus as our Savior.

STEP 3: After we have accepted Jesus as Savior, God has expectations for each of us as His followers. He told us His expectations in the Bible.

Give a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil to each kid. Divide kids into four groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give one of the following passages to each group: 1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 2:21-25, 2 Timothy 2:15, 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Step 4: Encourage kids to study the passages and their answers in section 2.5 of their handbooks. Then have them determine three ways a kid like them could strive to follow those expectations.

STEP 5: After three minutes, have each group share their ideas.

Share these key concepts:

- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God (1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 2:21-25).
- God's Word contains everything we need so that we will be thoroughly equipped to successfully follow God's expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- If we desire to follow God's expectations, we must study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15)

Step 6: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 25:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- This psalm is a prayer by David.
- David trusted God completely, and He desired to follow God with his whole heart.
- David asked God to help him understand what God expected him to do.

Encourage kids to think about their own hearts. Ask, "When you're in a tough situation, how can you remember to follow God's expectations?"

Step 7: Ask kids to look back through their handbooks and circle one expectation that they learned about that they need to work on.

Step 8: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Is God's Expectations Told to Us



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Fulfilling God's Expectations

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Fulfilling God's Expectations Handout, yellow and green stickers

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Purchase inexpensive yellow and green stickers.

Print copies of the Fulfilling God's Expectations Handout, one copy per kid. Bookmark Bibles to the following references: 1 Peter 1:16 and Romans 12:1-2.

STEP 1: Have kids review their memory verse from section 1.4. Ask, "What does God desire for all people?" (To accept Jesus as Savior.) Remind them that this is the first step in fulfilling God's expectations for their lives.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that God has expectations for His followers. Have a volunteer read 1 Peter 1:16 to identify the first expectation.

Ask, "Why does God want us to be holy?"

Share these key concepts:

- God is holy. That means that God is perfect and without sin.
- God knows that we are not perfect and that we still sin.
- God wants us to desire to be holy like He is and to turn from sin (2 Timothy 2:21-25).

Ask kids to fill in the blanks on the first section of the handout. Then have volunteers share their answers.

STEP 3: Have a volunteer read Romans 12:1-2.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants us to be willing to sacrifice what we want to do so that we follow what He wants us to do.
- God want our lives to be set apart for Him.
- Ask kids to fill in the blanks on the second section of the handout. Then have volunteers share their answers.

STEP 4: AShare these key concepts:

- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God (1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 2:21-25).
- God's Word contains everything we need so that we will be thoroughly equipped to successfully follow God's expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- If we desire to follow God's expectations, we must study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15).

STEP 5: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 25:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- David trusted God completely, and He desired to follow God with his whole heart.
- David asked God to help him understand what God expected him to do.

Ask kids to fill in the blanks on the third section of the handout. Then have volunteers share their answers.

STEP 6: Have kids turn to section 2.5 in their handbooks. Ask kids to evaluate how they are doing in their expectations. Encourage them to place a green sticker on the expectations they are trying to follow each day or a yellow sticker by the expectations they need to work on. Encourage kids to think about their own hearts. Ask, "Do you desire to follow God's expectations?"

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Fulfilling God's Expectations Handout



Situation: A friend wants you to share your answers with them while you are taking a test. What do you do?

A kid who wants to be holy will _____ at school.

A kid who wants to be holy will not _____ at school.

Situation: You are really frustrated with your brother and you want to call him a bad word you have heard before.

A kid who wants to be set apart will _____.

A kid who want to be set apart for God will not _____.

Situation: You have a big decision and you don't know what to do. Your leader suggests that you pray about your decision.

A kid who wants to follow God's expectations will _____.

A kid who wants to follow God's expectations will not _____.



SECTION
2.6

The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Leader Transformations

What You'll Need: Scarves, hair accessories, hats, gloves, makeup, makeup remover wipes, table, two or three chairs
(Optional: Camera or smartphone)

PREP: Ask two or three adults to take part in a makeover transformation.

Optional: Take their before picture.

Place the table and chairs in front of the room, making sure the chairs face away from the kids. Lay the makeover supplies on the table.

STEP 1: Divide kids into two or three groups. Assign one of the leaders to each group and have the leaders sit on the chairs in front of the room. Give groups two minutes to "transform" their leader using the materials provided.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have the groups return to their seats. One by one, have the leaders stand and turn around to reveal their transformations. (Optional: Show the before pictures to the kids before you reveal their transformations.)

After you have completed the activity, ask the following questions:

- Which leader showed the greatest transformation? Why?
- What changed the most about the leader's transformation?
- How long do you think this transformation will last?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- The leaders looked different after their makeovers, but the makeovers are only short-term transformations.
- A true transformation is long-lasting and takes time and effort.
- God wants to transform your life so that you are more like Jesus. He uses His Word, the Bible, to transform you into what He wants you to be.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants to transform our lives.

Notes:

SECTION
2.6

The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Scientific Transformations

What You'll Need: Vinegar, baking soda, measuring spoons, measuring cups, glass baking dish, Skittles, dinner plate, warm water, tables, disposable cleaning wipes, paper towels

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Set up two tables in front of the room and place the supplies on the tables. On one table, place the glass baking dish and add two tablespoons of baking soda in the middle of the dish. Place a ½ cup measuring cup and vinegar nearby.

On the other table, place the Skittles on a pattern around the rim of the dinner plate. Place a ½ cup measuring cup nearby.

STEP 1: Assign each kid to a table and assign leaders to each table. Ask the leader at the first table to help a kid pour the vinegar into the ½ cup measuring cup. Ask the leader at the second table to help a kid get a ½ cup of warm water from the sink.

STEP 2: Once the vinegar is poured and the warm water is at the table, count to three and have the kids pour the liquids into their dishes onto their table and watch the reactions.

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- What change took place after the vinegar was poured over the baking soda?
- Was there an immediate change in the Skittles after the warm water was poured over them?
- Why do you think the results of the vinegar and baking soda were immediate? (There was a chemical reaction between the two ingredients.)
- What do you think will happen over time with the Skittles and the water? (The water will cause the colors on the skittles to bleed.)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- In both experiments, a change took place. One change was immediate and quick. The other change will take time to complete.
- If you have accepted Jesus as Savior, God has begun a change in you!
- God wants to transform your life so that you are more like Jesus. He uses His Word, the Bible, to transform you into what He wants you to be, and often this happens over time.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants to transform our lives.

Notes:

SECTION
2.6

The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Before and After

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, marker, sticky notes

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write each of the following words on a sheet of paper: "Before", "After." Write each of the following references on a sticky note: Psalm 119:11, Psalm 56:3, Psalm 119:165. Give each sign to a leader.

STEP 1: Ask the leader to hold up the Before sign.

Share these key concepts:

- Before we accepted Jesus as Savior, we were dead in our sins (Ephesians 2:1). Our sins separated us from God (Isaiah 59:2).
- There was nothing we could do on our own to make us right with God (Romans 3:23).

STEP 2: Ask the leader to hold up the After sign.

Share these key concepts:

- When we accepted Jesus as Savior, we became a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- God forgives our sins, and our relationship with Him is restored (1 John 1:9).

STEP 3: Explain to kids that we are not done changing after we accept Jesus as Savior. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 12:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants our lives to be transformed.
- We are transformed when we renew our minds.
- We are renewed by the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

Step 4: Explain to kids that the Bible is our tool of transformation.

Divide kids into three groups, and give each group a prepared sticky note. Encourage the group to work together to study the verse and to determine how the Bible will help us be transformed.

STEP 5: After three minutes, have kids share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- When we study and memorize God's Word, we will know what He expects of us. Following His expectations helps us avoid sin (Psalm 119:11).
- We can rely on God's Word when we are afraid (Psalm 56:3).
- When we love God's Word, we will have peace (Psalm 119:165).

STEP 6: Read or recite Romans 12:2 again. Remind kids that we will be able to know God's will for us when we allow His Word to transform our lives.

Share these key concepts:

- God uses His Word to transform our lives.
- Our job is to study the Bible and allow it to control our lives and the decisions we make.

STEP 7: Give each kid two sticky notes. Encourage leaders to help the kids find Colossians 3:17 and Romans 12:2 in their Bibles and mark these locations. Encourage the kids to read these verses each day and to ask God to help them apply these tools of transformation to their lives.

STEP 8: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
2.6

The Bible Is God's Tool to Transform Us



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Transformation Tool

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Transformation Tool handout, pens or pencils, Bible bookmarks or tab stickers

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this in a fun more visible way, such as rearranging large posters at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Make copies of the Transformation Tool Handout, one copy per kid.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- Before salvation, our sins separated us from God (Isaiah 59:2).
- When we admitted we were sinners and trusted Jesus as Savior, we became a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)!

STEP 2: Explain to kids that we are not done changing after we accept Jesus as Savior. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 12:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase to help them learn the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants our lives to be transformed.
- We are transformed when we renew our minds.
- We are renewed by the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

STEP 3: Encourage kids to work in pairs or groups to complete the top half of the worksheet together. After two minutes, have kids share their answers.

Share these key concepts:

- When we study and memorize God's Word, we will know what He expects of us. Following His expectations helps us avoid sin (Psalm 119:11).
- God's Word transforms our minds so that we recognize truth from error (John 8:31-32).
- God's Word helps transform us from being afraid to being at peace (Psalm 119:165, Psalm 56:3-5).

STEP 4: Direct kids' attention to the bottom half of the handout. Remind kids that it is up to each one of them to study God's Word and apply it so that their lives will be like Jesus. Encourage them to fill in the bottom part of their handout. Give them an example from your own life to help them get started.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide

Notes:



Transformation Tool Handout

Look up the verses below and draw a line from the reference to the statement that matches it.

Verses

Psalm 119:9-11

Psalm 56:3-4

Psalm 119:165

John 8:31-32

References

God's Word helps me recognize the truth.

God's Word helps me avoid sin.

God's Word helps me have peace.

God's Word helps me to not be afraid.

Fill in the blanks.

I need God's tool of transformation to help me _____.

I will read my Bible _____ this week.



SECTION
2.7

The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: News Worth Sharing

What You'll Need: Treats, paper products

PREP: Purchase special treats for your group (being careful to avoid any allergies), along with the necessary paper products.

STEP 1: Tell one kid in the room that you have brought a special treat to share with the kids. Encourage them to share about the treat with others, and observe the reactions of the kids.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Who heard that they were getting a special treat tonight?
- How did you respond to the news?
- Did you share the news with anyone? Why or why not?

Step 3: Distribute the treats to the kids.

Share these key concepts:

- We like to hear good news.
- It's fun to get to share news with someone who has not heard and watch how they respond.
- God gave us wonderful news in His Word, the Bible. He wants us to share His amazing news with others.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God's good news is for the world.

Notes:

SECTION
2.7

The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Share the News

What You'll Need: Notepads, pens or pencils

PREP: Purchase inexpensive notepads (one per kid or one notepad to be passed around the group).

STEP 1: Give each kid a notepad and pen or pencil. Write on the first notepad the following phrase: Ice Cream Sundae. Show the phrase to the first kid, and have him or her draw it on the next page. After thirty seconds, the kid who drew the picture should show only the picture to the next kid. That kid should then guess what the picture is, write down his or her guess on the next page, and then shows it to the next kid. That kid reads the guess, turns the page, and then draws that picture on the next page. Continue until the last kid, and ask him or her to share what they drew or guessed. Compare it to the original phrase.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- In what two ways did the news spread?
- Was it the same message from the beginning to the end?
- How did the message change?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God gave His followers good news to share.
- This news reveals God's love to all people.
- We need to be sure to know God's good news and share it clearly to those near us and then to those far away.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God's good news is for the world.

Notes:

SECTION
2.7

The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Important Message

What You'll Need: Bibles, scissors, string or yarn, yellow, black, red, white, and green beads, snack ZipLoc® bags, picture of missionary (optional: smartphone or tablet)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Make Good News kits by cutting a 12-inch piece of string, tie a knot about 2/3 of the way down the string and placing it in a bag, along with a yellow, black, red, white, and green bead. Make one kit for each kid.

Choose a missionary that your church supports. Be ready to show his or her picture to your kids.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- God's good news is that He loved us even while we were sinners. He sent Jesus to earth to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (John 3:16, Romans 5:8).
- God desires for all to hear the good news of the gospel (2 Peter 3:9, John 3:16).

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Matthew 28:19-20. Repeat the verses again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His followers to go and make disciples.
- Making disciples means sharing the good news that Jesus came to earth, died on the cross to take the punishment for sin, and then rose again.
- If people accepted Jesus as Savior, Jesus' followers were supposed to baptize the new followers, and then continue to teach them from God's Word how God wanted them to live.
- Jesus promised that He would be with all of His followers as they shared the good news.

STEP 3: Tell kids that if they have accepted Jesus as Savior, they have the same job as Jesus' disciples. Distribute a Good News kit to each kid. Instruct kids to

place beads on the string in the following order: Yellow, black, red, white, green. Share the following concepts:

- The yellow bead reminds us of heaven, where God lives (Psalm 11:4). God is holy (1 Samuel 2:2). That means He has never sinned. There is no sin in heaven (Revelation 21:27).
- The dark bead reminds us that we are sinners. We have all sinned (Romans 3:23). Our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2). We deserve to be separated from God forever in hell because of our sin (Romans 6:23).
- The red beads reminds us that God loves us, even when we were sinners (Romans 5:8). He sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to take the punishment for sin by dying on the cross (John 3:16).
- The white bead reminds us that if we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10). Our sins are forgiven, and our relationship with God is restored.
- The green bead reminds us that after we accept Jesus as Savior, we need to tell other people the good news of God's love for us (Matthew 28:19-20).

STEP 4: After kids have put their beads on the string in order, tell them to tie the end of the string. Encourage them to tie the string on their backpack, coat, or around their wrist. Encourage them to use the beads to share the good news of Jesus with their friends and family.

STEP 5: Remind kids that Jesus told His followers to share the gospel with people around the world. Hold up a prayer card of a missionary your church supports (Optional: Display the missionary's picture on your smartphone or tablet.) Explain to kids that some missionaries share the good news with people far away.

Ask, "How can we help spread the good news to people who live far away?" (Possible answers: pray for people around the world, donate money to help, pray for missionaries.)

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
2.7

The Bible Is God's Good News to the World



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: The Very Best News

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky note tabs, highlighters

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: You will need four sticky tabs and one highlighter for each kid.

STEP 1: Ask, "When was the first time you heard the good news that God loves you and Jesus died for your sin?" (Answers will vary).

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Matthew 28:19-20. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His followers to go and make disciples.
- Making disciples means sharing the good news that Jesus came to earth, died on the cross to take the punishment for sin, and then rose again.
- If people accepted Jesus as Savior, Jesus' followers were supposed to baptize the new followers, and then continue to teach them from God's Word how God wanted them to live.
- Jesus promised that He would be with them as they shared the good news.

STEP 3: Explain to kids that God wants us to share the good news too! Give every kid four sticky note tabs, a highlighter, and a pen or pencil. Ask leaders to walk around the room, helping kids as needed.

Encourage kids to number their sticky note tabs 1 to 4. Have kids turn to Romans 3:23 and place the first sticky note tab at the top of the page. Encourage them to highlight the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Have kids turn to Romans 6:23, highlight the verse, and place the second sticky note tab at the top of the page. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- We are sinners. We have all sinned (Romans 3:23). Our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2).
- We deserve to be separated from God forever in hell because of our sin (Romans 6:23).

STEP 4: Have kids turn to Romans 5:8 and place the third sticky note tab at the top of the page. Encourage them to highlight the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- God loves us, even when we were sinners (Romans 5:8).
- He sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to take the punishment for sin by dying on the cross (John 3:16).

STEP 5: Have kids turn to Romans 10:9-10 and place the fourth sticky note tab at the top of the page in their Bibles. Encourage them to highlight the verse in their Bibles. Ask a volunteer to read the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- If we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are promised a home in heaven forever with God (John 14:1-3).

STEP 6: Encourage kids to turn to their neighbor and practice sharing the good news of these verses with one another. Encourage the leaders to walk among the kids, offering encouragement and counsel as needed. Ask kids to practice reading these verses every day this week.

STEP 7: Encourage kids to ask God to help them think of someone with whom they can share the good news this week. Then follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION

2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: List of Expectations

What You'll Need: Whiteboard or pad of paper, easel, markers

PREP: Set up an easel in the front of the room and place the whiteboard or pad of paper on the easel. Set markers nearby.

STEP 1: Ask, "What are expectations that your teachers or parents have for you?" Write answers on the board.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why is it important to know what is expected of you?
- What would happen if you did not understand the expectations of a teacher?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- God's Word explains God's amazing grace to us and gives instructions and expectations for us to live by.
- When we read and study His Word, we will understand how to live the life God wants us to live, and our lives are transformed to make us more like Jesus.
- As our lives continue to change, we desire for others to know the good news in God's Word, and we willingly share it with others.

Step 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying God's Word and allowing it to change our lives.

Notes:

SECTION

2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Verse Pop

What You'll Need: Balloons, T&T handbooks, paper, marker, scissors

PREP: On a sheet of paper, write each memory verse reference from this unit in small letters and then cut them apart. Place one reference in each balloon. Blow up and tie the balloons.

STEP 1: Give a balloon to each individual or pair of kids. At your signal, have the kids pop their balloons, read the reference, and then say the verse to one of the leaders. If kids do not know the verse from memory, encourage them to look them up in their Bibles or handbooks.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What do the verses in this unit teach us about God's Word?
- Which verse means a lot to you? Why?
- How can you apply these verses to your life?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The verses from this unit show us the importance of God's Word.
- God's Word explains God's amazing grace to us and gives instructions and expectations for us to live by.
- When we read and study His Word, we will understand how to live the life God wants us to live, and our lives are transformed to make us more like Jesus. We will then desire for others to know the good news in God's Word, and we willingly share it with others

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of studying God's Word and allowing it to change our lives.

Notes:

SECTION 2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option Pair and Share

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks (optional: CD or CD player or computer or smartphone)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Choose a favorite song about God's Word and be prepared to sing it with the class.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- God saves us, not because of anything we have done, but because of His plan and grace (Romans 5:8). God's undeserved grace and free gift to us is eternal life through Jesus. God continues to lavish us with grace in our lives, and through His grace we will spend eternity with Him in heaven someday (John 14:1-3).
- God's story helps us understand who God is, who we are, and how He wants us to live. From the beginning, the Bible reveals God's plan to save us from sin and reminds us that Jesus will come back and take us to heaven someday (1 Thessalonian 4:16-18). We should read God's awesome story each day to learn more about our amazing God!
- The Bible is God's letter written to us. It tells us things about God we could never know without it. The Bible shows us how much God loves us, and it gives us everything we need to live a life that pleases God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). This letter from God will help us know God more and become more like Him (2 Timothy 2:15, Psalm 119:105).
- The Bible instructs us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Loving God with all of who we are is the most important commandment (Matthew 22:37-38). It is the most important choice we can make.
- God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God, and the Bible contains everything we need to know so that we can follow God's

expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Our job is to study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15).

- The Bible transforms our lives. When God's Word dwells in our hearts, we begin to think and act differently toward others around us. Our desires change, and we want everything we think and do to be done for Jesus (Colossians 3:16-17).
- God's Word contains the good news of the gospel. God can use our story of how God has worked in our lives to share the gospel with others (Matthew 28:19-20). We should start sharing the good news close to home, and then do what we can to take it into all the world (Acts 1:8).

STEP 2: Have kids work in groups of two or three to review what they have learned this unit. Encourage them to look through Sections 2.1 through 2.7 and take turns sharing with each other key truths that they have learned. Encourage leaders to walk among kids, making sure they are staying on task.

STEP 3: Tell kids that we can praise and worship God for giving us the Bible. End the lesson by singing together a song about God's Word (e.g., "Ancient Words," "Speak, Oh, Lord," "Your Word is Alive," "Thy Word.")

STEP 4: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God's Story Report

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T Handbooks, God's Story Report Handout, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of the God's Story Report Handout, one per kid.

STEP 1: Share these key concepts:

- God saves us, not because of anything we have done, but because of His plan and grace (Romans 5:8). God's undeserved grace and free gift to us is eternal life through Jesus. God continues to lavish us with grace in our lives, and through His grace we will spend eternity with Him in heaven someday (John 14:1-3).
- God's story helps us understand who God is, who we are, and how He wants us to live. From the beginning, the Bible reveals God's plan to save us from sin and reminds us that Jesus will come back and take us to heaven someday (1 Thessalonian 4:16-18). We should read God's awesome story each day to learn more about our amazing God!
- The Bible is God's letter, written to us. It tells us things about God we could never know without it. The Bible shows us how much God loves us, and it give us everything we need to live a life that pleases God (2 Timothy 3:16-17). This love letter from God will help us know God more and become more like Him (2 Timothy 2:15; Psalm 119:105).
- The Bible instructs us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Loving God with all of who we are is the most important commandment (Matthew 22:37-38). It is the most important choice we can make.
- God wants you to live a holy, obedient life that is set apart for God, and the Bible contains everything we need to know so that we can follow God's expectations (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Our job is to study the Bible and apply the truths to our lives (Psalm 25:4, 2 Timothy 2:15).

- The Bible transforms our lives. When God's Word dwells in our hearts, we begin to think and act differently toward others around us. Our desires change, and we want everything we think and do to be done for Jesus (Colossians 3:16-17).
- God's Word contains the good news of the gospel. God can use our story of how God has worked in our lives to share the gospel with others (Matthew 28:19-20). We should start sharing the good news close to home, and then do what we can to take it into all the world (Acts 1:8).

STEP 2: Give a copy of the God's Story Report Handout and a pen or pencil to each kid. Encourage kids to look back through Sections 2.1 through 2.7 of their handbooks as they complete the handouts.

STEP 3: After four minutes, have volunteers share their thoughts from their handouts.

Share these key concepts:

- God's powerful Word shows us who God is and how He wants us to live.
- God wants us to study His Word so that we will know His amazing plans for us.

STEP 4: Encourage kids to pray silently, thanking God for His Word

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



God's Story Report Handout

Write or draw your answers in each blank.

1. God's Word teaches me ...

2. God's story transforms me when I ...

3. God's story instructs me to ...

4. God's story shows me that God expects me to ...

5. I will ...



NAME: _____

SECTION
3.1

Jesus Reigns



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Meeting With a Famous Person

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask the kids, "What famous person would you like to meet?"

STEP 2: After several kids have responded, ask the following questions:

- Why would you want to meet that famous person?
- What questions would you ask that person?
- How do you think that person would want to be treated?

Step 3: After kids answer the questions, share these key concepts:

- It is normal to feel excited at the opportunity to meet someone famous.
- Often people look forward to events or opportunities to see or meet a famous person they admire.
- Jesus' followers were amazed by all the miracles that Jesus did. They treated Him as if He were their king.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus is King.

Notes:

SECTION
3.1 | **Jesus Reigns**



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: President for a Day

What You'll Need: 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils

PREP: Purchase 3 x 5 cards.

STEP 1: Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or pencil. Without writing their names on the cards, have kids write down three rules they would make if they were president (or king) of a country for a day.

STEP 2: After kids have finished, read the answers. Then ask the following questions:

- How would you feel if you got to meet a president or king?
- What questions would you ask that person?
- What would you want to tell that person?

STEP 3: After kids answer the questions, share these concepts:

- It is normal to feel excited at the opportunity to meet a ruler or someone famous.
- Often people look forward to events or opportunities to see or meet a famous person they admire.
- Jesus' followers were amazed by all the miracles that Jesus did. They treated Him as if He were their king.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus is King.

Notes:

SECTION 3.1 | Jesus Reigns



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Live on the Scene

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, blank paper, pens or pencils (optional: microphone)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to each of the following references: Luke 19:29-34, Luke 19:35-36, Luke 19:37-38.

STEP 1: Divide kids into two or three groups and assign one kid in each group to be the news reporter. Give each group a bookmarked Bible, and encourage them to turn to Section 3.1 of their handbooks. Give kids five minutes to prepare to act out a live news scene of their section of the triumphal entry.

STEP 2: After five minutes, have the first two groups present their scenes. Optional: Allow the news reporter in each group to use the microphone as a prop.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is fully God because He is God's Son (1 John 4:10). God gave Jesus power over everything (Daniel 7:14).
- During the triumphal entry, Jesus rode a donkey that had never been ridden. His followers worshiped Him as royalty, laying their coats down for Him to walk on.
- They believed Jesus was the king to save them from the Romans (Luke 19:31-38).

STEP 3: Ask the third group to present their news. Then read or recite this week's memory verse, Luke 19:38. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The people wanted Jesus to be their king and rule over them. They did not understand that Jesus came to earth to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (Romans 4:25).
- They rejoiced and blessed Him as their King!

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- God desires for all people to be saved.
- If you admit you are a sinner and accept Jesus as Savior, Jesus will be king of your heart (Colossians 1:13). He deserves our worship as King (Hebrews 12:28).

STEP 5: Ask, "How would your life be different if Jesus were King of your life?" Encourage kids to respond by turning to a neighbor to share OR using one word to answer.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION
3.1

Jesus Reigns



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Jesus Is King

What You'll Need: Bibles, whiteboard or poster board, easel, markers, T&T handbooks, music (Optional: CD and CD player or computer or smartphone; choose a song that focuses on Jesus as King. See suggestions in Step 5)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to the following references: Daniel 7:14 and Psalm 24:8-10. Set up the easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the room. Place the markers nearby.

Optional: Use a CD and CD player to play the song, or download the song and play it through your computer or smartphone.

STEP 1: Write on the board, "Jesus was prophesied as a king." Explain to kids that before Jesus was even born, Jesus was referred to as a king. Ask a volunteer to read Daniel 7:14 aloud,

Share these key concepts:

- Daniel was written approximately 550 years before Jesus was born.
- Daniel prophesied that Jesus would be given dominion, glory, and a kingdom.
- He said that Jesus' kingdom would last forever and would never be destroyed.

STEP 2: Write on the board, "Jesus was praised as a king." Read or recite this week's memory verse, Luke 19:38. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- During the triumphal entry, Jesus rode a donkey that had never been ridden. His followers worshiped Him as royalty, laying their coats down for Him to walk on. They believed Jesus was the king to save them from the Romans (Luke 19:31-38).
- The people wanted Jesus to be their king and rule over them.

- They did not understand that Jesus came to earth to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (Romans 4:25).
- They rejoiced and blessed Him as their King!

STEP 3: Write on the board, "Jesus is the everlasting king." Ask several volunteers to read Psalm 24:8-10 aloud.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is the everlasting King.
- Jesus is the King of glory.
- Jesus is strong and mighty.

STEP 4: Write on the board, "Jesus deserves our worship as King." Remind kids that if they have accepted Jesus as Savior, Jesus is the King of their lives.

Share these key concepts:

- God desires for all people to be saved.
- If you admit you are a sinner and accept Jesus as Savior, Jesus will be king of your heart (Colossians 1:13). He deserves our worship as King (Hebrews 12:28).

STEP 5: Tell kids they can worship Jesus as their king. End the lesson by singing together a song about Jesus as King (e.g., "Amazing Love," "Lead Me to Calvary," or "King Jesus,").

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



SECTION 3.2 | Jesus Serves

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Grossest Thing Ever

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ask two leaders to share an appropriate but true gross story with the kids.

STEP 1: Ask the two leaders to share their stories. Note the kids' responses.

STEP 2: After the leaders share their stories, ask the following questions:

- What would you have done if this had happened to you?
- How do you respond when you see or hear about something gross?
- Why do some things seem gross to us and not to others?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- We all know of gross jobs that must be done, like cleaning the toilets or taking out the trash.
- In Bible times, a person's feet were very dirty because they walked on roads that were dusty and dirty from animal waste. One of the worst chores a servant had to do was wash someone's feet.
- Jesus loved His disciples so much that He was willing to do the gross chore of washing their feet.

Step 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus served others.

Notes:



SECTION 3.2 | Jesus Serves

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Dirty Jobs

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers

PREP: Set up an easel in the front of the room and place the whiteboard or pad of paper on it. Place markers nearby.

STEP 1: Ask, "What grown-up jobs seem dirty or gross to you?" (Answers might include being a farmer, a trash collector, working at a zoo, taking care of babies, being a nurse or doctor.) Write their responses on the board.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why do these jobs seem gross to you?
- Why are these jobs necessary?
- What would happen if there was no one to do those jobs?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Certain jobs might seem gross or dirty to us but someone must do them.
- In Bible times, a person's feet were very dirty because they walked on roads that were dusty and dirty from animal waste. One of the worst jobs a person had to do was wash someone's feet.
- Jesus loved His disciples so much that He was willing to do the gross job of washing their feet.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus served others.

Notes:



SECTION 3.2 | Jesus Serves

Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Serving Like Jesus

What You'll Need: Bible, T&T handbooks, pens or pencils, cleaning supplies

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Find out a simple chore your T&T kids could do as a service to the church (i.e., wipe down chairs, pick up trash, wipe down handles, nursery toys, etc.). Gather necessary cleaning supplies (e.g., small trash bags, cleaning wipes, etc.).

STEP 1: Highlight the events of John 13:1-15 to the kids. Give each kid a pen or a pencil, and encourage the kids to follow along in the section 3.2 of their handbooks.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus willingly washed the stinky, dirty feet of His disciples (John 13:4-5).
- Jesus saw a need that His disciples had, and He served them, even though it was not something that was fun to do (John 13:13-15).
- Jesus was motivated to serve the disciples because He loved them and wanted to show His love (John 13:1).

STEP 2: Explain to kids that you are going to do a service project. Divide kids into groups of two or three and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a service project to complete around the church, and give them the items needed for the job.

STEP 3: After kids have finished their service projects, share the following concepts:

- Jesus wants us to follow His example and serve others (Philippians 2:1-11).
- We don't have to wash someone's feet, but we should be willing to selflessly do something that will help someone else.
- When we choose to serve someone, it requires sacrifice on our parts. What are some things you may have to sacrifice or give up when serving others? (time, wants, energy, choices)

- Serving someone shows that we love them and are willing to put their needs before our own.
- If you have accepted Jesus as Savior, you can love and serve Jesus by loving and serving others.

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 10:45. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is God. Even when Jesus came to live on earth, He was still God. He deserved worship and praise.
- Jesus was sometimes called the Son of Man. When He lived on earth, He had a body like ours; He had feelings, He felt pain, He had to eat and sleep just like we do. He experienced everything that we experience.
- As God, Jesus deserved others to worship and serve Him. Instead, Jesus came and humbly served others.
- Jesus served us by giving His very life in place of our own to pay the price for our freedom from sin.

STEP 5: Encourage kids to think of one way they can serve someone this week. Ask kids to write the name of that person in their T&T handbooks.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION 3.2 | Jesus Serves



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Servant Scenario

What You'll Need: Bibles, waterproof shoe or sandal, water, clear, plastic tub, large towel, paper towels, paper, markers or colored pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Take a waterproof shoe or sandal and rub it in dirt and mud. Set a clear, plastic tub in the front of the room and fill it with water. Place the dirty shoe next to it. Drape a towel over the tub and the shoe.

Bookmark two Bibles to John 13:1-4 and John 13:5-15.

STEP 1: Have a volunteer read John 13:1-4.

Share the following key concepts:

- Jesus is fully God. He knew that He had to die to take the punishment for our sin.
- Jesus knew that it was almost time for Him to die on the cross. He wanted to show His disciples how much He loved them.

STEP 2: Reveal the tub and the dirty shoe.

Ask the following questions:

- What would happen to your hands or your clothes if you had to clean this shoe?
- Would someone want to do this job all the time for a lot of people? Why or why not?
- What do you think the roads were like in Bible times?" (Dirty, sandy, filled with animal waste, etc.)

STEP 3: Clean the shoe by dipping it in the water and moving it around. Use your hand to wipe away some of the dirt. Make sure the kids can see your hands in the process.

Have volunteer read John 13:5-15 while the teacher cleans the shoe.

As you are working, share these key concepts:

- It isn't fun to wash dirty shoes or feet. It is a gross job.
- In Bible times, only the lowest servants washed feet.

- Jesus willingly washed the stinky, dirty feet of His disciples (John 13:12).
- Jesus saw a need that His disciples had, and He served them, even though it was not something that was fun to do (John 13:12-15).
- Jesus was motivated to serve the disciples. He loved them and wanted to show His love (John 13:1).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 10:45. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

STEP 5: Distribute blank paper and colored markers and pencils to each kid. Give kids two minutes to think of one way they could serve others like Jesus. Encourage them to write or draw one way they could serve someone they love this week.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus wants us to follow His example and serve others (Philippians 2:1-11).
- We don't have to wash someone's feet, but we should be willing to selflessly do something that will help someone else.
- When we choose to serve someone, it requires sacrifice on our parts. We must give up our time and energy to do something that we might not want to do.
- Serving someone shows that we love them and are willing to put their needs before our own.
- If you have accepted Jesus as Savior, you can love and serve Jesus by loving and serving others.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



SECTION 3.3 | Jesus Prays

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Topics of Conversation

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers

PREP: Set up the easel and whiteboard or pad of paper in the front of the room. Make three columns on the board or paper. Write at the top of first column, "Parents." Write at the top of the second column, "Friends." Write at the top of the third column, "Teachers."

STEP 1: Ask kids to share what they talk about with the individuals on the board. Record their answers under the appropriate column.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- What makes you trust your parents, friends, or favorite teachers?
- How do you feel when you share your feelings with someone you trust?
- How do these people respond when you share personal details of your life?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- It's wonderful to have someone we can talk to about our feelings, about what is good and bad in our lives.
- We can go to God about everything in our lives.
- Jesus is the perfect example of praying. Jesus prayed often, and He knew that God would do what was best.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus prayed about everything in His life.

Notes:

SECTION

3.3 | Jesus Prays



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Survey Says

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Survey kids to find out which of the following three people they talk to the most: Parents, friends, or teachers. Have them raise their hands for only one answer of who they talk to most, and as they do, you can count the votes and report the winner.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes you trust your parents, friends, or favorite teachers?
- How do you feel when you share your feelings with someone you trust?
- How do these people respond when you share personal details of your life?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It's wonderful to have someone we can talk to about our feelings, and about what is good and bad in our lives.
- We can go to God about everything in our lives.
- Jesus is the perfect example of praying. Jesus prayed often, and He knew that God would do what was best.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus prayed about everything in His life.

Notes:

SECTION 3.3 | Jesus Prays



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Jesus' Example of Prayer

What You'll Need: Bibles, "I Can Go to God with Anything" 4x6 cards (one set of four cards for each group)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to the following references: Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 6:12, Luke 22:40-42, John 6:38.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that the Bible contains many examples of how Jesus prayed. Have several kids read the passages marked in your Bible.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- While Jesus lived on earth as a man, He prayed often to talk to God. He also taught His disciples how to pray (Matthew 6:9-13).
- Jesus knew that it was important to spend time praying about everything He did so He would know what God wanted Him to do (Luke 6:12, John 6:38).
- Jesus knew that it was almost time for Him to die on the cross for our sin (Matthew 26:36-39). He knew it would be hard, but He also knew that God's plan was best. He followed God's will completely (Luke 22:41-42)

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Luke 22:41-42. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Because He was fully God, Jesus knew that He had to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sin.
- Because He was fully man, Jesus did not want to go through the horrible pain He would face.
- Jesus used prayer to say exactly what He was feeling.
- Jesus wanted God's will more than His own desires.
- God did not change the situation that Jesus had to face; instead, God did what was best for us.

STEP 4: Remind kids that we can follow Jesus' example and go to God with anything that is on our hearts. Give kids each a "I Can Go to God with Anything" card.

Share these key concepts that are on their cards:

- God gave Jesus the strength to face what God asked Him to do (Luke 22:43).
- God will always be there to listen to us when we pray (1 John 5:14).
- God may not change the situation that we are facing, but He will always do what is best for us (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:8-9).
- God will give us the strength to face whatever He asks us to do (Isaiah 41:10).

STEP 5: Remind kids that it is important to talk to God often. Share briefly about your personal time of prayer, and encourage kids to find a time of the day when they can talk to God. Then ask them to think of one thing that they need to talk to God about.

Give kids one minute to talk to God silently about this area in their lives.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION 3.3 | Jesus Prays



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Pray Like Jesus

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky notes, T&T handbooks, paper, markers or colored pencils, notebooks

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Purchase inexpensive, small notebooks, one per kid. Write each of the following references on separate sticky notes: Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 6:12, Luke 22:40-42.

STEP 1: Have kids work in pairs or small groups. Give each pair a sticky note and a sheet of paper. Place markers or colored pencils nearby. Have leaders help kids find the reference in their Bibles.

Encourage kids to look up their verses and work together to draw a mural that shows the time and place where Jesus prayed.

STEP 2: After kids have completed their drawings, encourage them to share with the rest of the groups.

Share these key concepts:

- While Jesus lived on earth as a man, He prayed often to talk to God. He also taught His disciples how to pray (Matthew 6:9-13).
- Jesus knew that it was important to spend time praying about everything He did (Luke 6:12).
- Jesus knew that it was almost time for Him to die on the cross for our sin (Matthew 26:36-39). He talked to God about what He was feeling (Luke 22:40-44).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Luke 22:41-42. Repeat the verses a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Because He was fully God, Jesus knew that He had to die on the cross to take the punishment for our sin.
- Because He was fully man, Jesus did not want to go through the horrible pain He would face.
- Jesus told God exactly what He was feeling.
- Jesus wanted God's will more than His own desires.

- God did not change the situation that Jesus had to face; instead, God did what was best for us.
- Step 4: Remind kids that God wants them to pray about everything going on in their lives.
- Share these key concepts:
- God gave Jesus the strength to face what God asked Him to do (Luke 22:43).
- God will always be there to listen to us when we pray (1 John 5:14).
- God may not change the situation that we are facing, but He will always do what is best for us (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:8-9).
- God will give us the strength to face whatever He asks us to do (Isaiah 41:10).

STEP 5: Give each kid a journal. Encourage kids to record several things that they would like to talk to God about. In the time remaining, give the kids an opportunity to pray about what they have written. Encourage them to take their journals home and to choose a specific time each day when they will talk to God.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

Pray Like Jesus



I Can Go to God with Anything.

- God gave Jesus the strength to face what God asked Him to do (Luke 22:43).
- God will always be there to listen to us when we pray (1 John 5:14).
- God may not change the situation that we are facing, but He will always do what is best for us (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:8-9).
- God will give us the strength to face whatever He asks us to do (Isaiah 41:10).

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Pray Like Jesus



I Can Go to God with Anything.

- God gave Jesus the strength to face what God asked Him to do (Luke 22:43).
- God will always be there to listen to us when we pray (1 John 5:14).
- God may not change the situation that we are facing, but He will always do what is best for us (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:8-9).
- God will give us the strength to face whatever He asks us to do (Isaiah 41:10).

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Pray Like Jesus



I Can Go to God with Anything.

- God gave Jesus the strength to face what God asked Him to do (Luke 22:43).
- God will always be there to listen to us when we pray (1 John 5:14).
- God may not change the situation that we are facing, but He will always do what is best for us (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:8-9).
- God will give us the strength to face whatever He asks us to do (Isaiah 41:10).

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Pray Like Jesus



I Can Go to God with Anything.

- God gave Jesus the strength to face what God asked Him to do (Luke 22:43).
- God will always be there to listen to us when we pray (1 John 5:14).
- God may not change the situation that we are facing, but He will always do what is best for us (Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:8-9).
- God will give us the strength to face whatever He asks us to do (Isaiah 41:10).

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SECTION 3.4 | Jesus Sacrifices

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: My Favorite Thing

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to share about the most favorite thing that they own.

STEP 2: After several kids have answered, ask the following questions:

- How would you feel if you were asked to give that to someone else?
- How do you think someone would respond if you gave it to them?
- What would be the hardest thing about giving away something that means a lot to you?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It's never easy to give up something or to do something for someone else.
- Giving something someone else is one way to show you love them.
- In today's lesson, we will learn that Jesus loved us so much that He sacrificed His very life for you and for me.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus sacrificed His life for you and me.

Notes:



SECTION 3.4 | Jesus Sacrifices

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Life Savers

What You'll Need: Computer, printer

PREP: Search online for images of military personnel, police officers, firefighters, and others who are willing to put their lives on the line. Print out images. Be prepared to show them during the activity.

STEP 1: Display the images to the class. Ask, "What do these people all have in common?" Guide kids to understand that they are all willing to put their lives on the line for someone else.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How would you feel if one of these people risked their life to save you?
- Could you ever pay them back? Why or why not?
- What would you do to offer your thanks to them?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- These individuals are willing to sacrifice, or give up their very lives because it is part of their job.
- Jesus willingly gave up His very life for you and for me.
- Because Jesus sacrificed His life, we have a way to be right with God.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus sacrificed His life for you and me.

Notes:



SECTION 3.4 | Jesus Sacrifices

Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Jesus' Great Sacrifice

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3x5 card, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to 1 John 3:16.

STEP 1: Review the definition of "sacrifice" with kids. Assign one of the following verses to each individual, pair, or group of kids: Luke 22:63, Luke 23:1-3, Luke 23:21, Luke 23:33-34, Luke 23:46. Ask kids to study their verses and be ready to share what Jesus went through when He died on the cross. Have leaders walk among kids, offering help as needed.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have kids share their findings in the order of verses listed above.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus suffered great pain and humiliation on the cross (Luke 22-23).
- Jesus knew that God's plan was for Him to die and take the punishment for our sin (John 3:16). He knew that this was the only way that we could have a right relationship with God (Hebrews 10:12).
- Jesus loves us more than we can ever imagine. He chose to sacrifice His life and die in our place so that we could be saved from sin (Hebrews 10:14).

STEP 3: Remind kids that when we remember Jesus' great sacrifice for us, we should respond by loving Him and giving our lives to follow Him. Ask a volunteer to read 1 John 3:16 and give him or her the bookmarked Bible.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus loves us more than we can ever imagine.
- He chose to sacrifice His life and die in our place so that we could be saved from sin (Hebrews 10:14).
- Because of His sacrifice for us, we need to be willing to sacrifice for others.
- This verse does not mean that everyone needs to die for someone else; you just need to love them in a big way, just like God loves you.

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 5:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus sacrificed His life by dying on the cross to pay the price for sin.
- No one forced Jesus to die. He willingly offered His life because He knew it was a part of God's plan.
- We should follow Christ's example and love others like Jesus loved us.
- We imitate Jesus by sacrificially loving others.
- This verse does not mean that everyone needs to die for someone else; you just need to love them, just like God loves you.

STEP 5: Have kids think of someone in their lives who needs someone to love them. Encourage them to write that person's name down on a 3x5 card.

Ask kids to think of one way they can show Christ's love to that person and then write or draw it on the back of the card.

Pray and ask God to help you and the kids learn to love others sacrificially like Jesus.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

3.4 | Jesus Sacrifices



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Symbols of Sacrifice

What You'll Need: Bibles, rock, nails, vinegar, glass jars, small, plastic tubs or baskets, T&T Handbooks
(Optional: Image of a cross, CD or CD player or computer or smartphone; song focusing on Jesus' love or sacrifice for us on the cross. See Step 3 for suggestions.)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ask several leaders to be ready to share the events of Christ's death on the cross. Make copies of this lesson and give one to each of the volunteer leaders. Ask them to be prepared to lead Step 1 with a group of kids.

Optional: Use a CD and CD player to play the song, or download the song and play it through your computer or smartphone.

Gather the supplies listed above. (Optional: print out image per basket or tub.) Pour vinegar in glass jars. Place each of the items listed above in a small, plastic tub or basket. Make enough tubs or baskets so that groups of three or four kids will each have one.

STEP 1: Divide kids into groups of three or four and assign a leader to each group. Give each leader one of the prepared baskets. Encourage kids to turn to Section 3.4 and follow along with the leaders.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus suffered many things when He was arrested.
- Jesus was mocked and beaten with a whip made of leather with pieces of rock tied to it (Luke 22:63). (Encourage kids to pass around the rock while you read the verse.)
- Jesus was nailed to a cross between two criminals (Luke 22:32-33). (Encourage kids to pass around the nail while you read the verse.)
- The soldiers tried to give Jesus a sour drink while He was on the cross (Luke 23:36). (Carefully remove the lid from the jar and allow kids to smell the vinegar while you read the verse.)
- Jesus sacrificed His life for us. We can never begin to understand His love.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 5:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus sacrificed His life by dying on the cross to pay the price for sin.
- No one forced Jesus to die. He willingly offered His life because He knew it was a part of God's plan.
- We should follow Christ's example and love others like Jesus loved us.
- We imitate Jesus by sacrificially loving others.
- This verse does NOT mean that everyone needs to die for someone else; you just need to love them, just like God loves you.

STEP 3: Ask kids to think about what Jesus did for them. Encourage them to read through the prayer they wrote in Section 3.4 of their handbook or to write a prayer at this time. Then ask them to think of how they can love others with a love like Jesus has for them.

Optional: While the kids are praying, play a song about Jesus' love or His sacrifice on the cross for us (e.g., "Thank You for the Cross," "Jesus, Thank You," "Glorious Day.")

STEP 4: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

3.5 | Jesus Lives Again



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: That's Incredible!

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ask a leader or a guest to share an incredible but true story that happened to them.

STEP 1: Ask the leader or guest to share their story with the group.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes this story seem incredible or hard to believe?
- What proof do we have that the story really happened?
- How do you respond when you hear a story that seems incredible or hard to believe?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes people experience true events that seem incredible. We know these stories to be true because there were eyewitnesses that saw the event take place.
- We often want to share these stories with others.
- In today's lesson, we will study an amazing, incredible event that offers hope and joy to everyone who believes.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus lives again.

Notes:

SECTION
3.5

Jesus Lives Again



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Eyewitness Account

What You'll Need: Bible, T&T handbooks, copy of the Eyewitness Account handout (Optional: Female Bible costume)

PREP: Print out one copy of the Eyewitness Account Handout. Ask a female leader to portray Mary Magdalene in the Eyewitness Account narrative. Give her a copy of the handout, and ask her to read through it several times to familiarize herself with the script.

Optional: Ask her to wear a Bible costume during the presentation.

STEP 1: Briefly review with kids Section 3.4 Jesus Sacrifices. Encourage kids to use their handbooks to help them review key points of Jesus' crucifixion.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus suffered greatly on our behalf.
- Jesus knew it was God's plan for Him to die to take the punishment for our sin.
- Jesus chose to die on the cross because of His love for us (Ephesians 5:2).

STEP 3: : Read or recite this week's memory verse, Matthew 28:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus had told His followers He would rise from the dead (Matthew 16:21).
- An angel proclaimed to the women visiting the tomb that Jesus' body was no longer in the tomb.
- The angel encouraged the women to see the empty tomb so they would know that Jesus is alive.

STEP 4: Tell kids that many people witnessed seeing Jesus after He arose from the grave. Introduce the eyewitness, Mary Magdalene, and ask her to share her account.

STEP 5: After the presentation, highlight the events of the resurrection.

Share these key concepts:

- After Jesus' death, His body was buried in a tomb and sealed with a stone (Matthew 27:57-61).
- Three days after His death, two women went to visit the tomb.
- There was a great earthquake, the stone was rolled away.
- An angel announced His resurrection to two women (Matthew 28:1-8).

STEP 6: Remind kids that Jesus' resurrection is amazing news for us. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

STEP 7: The good news that Jesus is alive still needs to be shared today. Ask kids to think of one person who needs to hear the hope that Jesus died and rose again. Encourage them to pray silently for God to give them the courage to share this good news with that person.

STEP 8: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

3.5 | Jesus Lives Again



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: That's Good News!

What You'll Need: Newspaper, smartphone or tablet

PREP: Search a local newspaper or online to find a "good news" story. Be prepared to share the story with your kids.

Optional: Print out the online article.

STEP 1: Read the story to the class.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes this good news?
- How do we know the story is true? (Guide kids to understand that we can believe the story is true because of the eyewitnesses who saw it.)
- Why is it fun to share good news?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Good news is fun to hear and fun to share.
- People enjoy hearing good news because it makes them happy.
- There is good news that gives hope and joy to everyone who hears and believes.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus lives again.

Notes:

Eye Witness Account Handout



1. JESUS DIED FOR OUR SINS.

2. HIS BODY WAS BURIED AND SEALED IN A TOMB.

3. DAY 1

4. DAY 2

5. DAY 3 — TWO WOMEN WENT TO VISIT THE TOMB.

7. THE STONE WAS ROLLED AWAY.

8. AN ANGEL TOLD THE TWO WOMEN THAT JESUS HAD RISEN!

6. THERE WAS AN EARTHQUAKE!

NAME: _____



Eyewitness Account

Be prepared to present this account with the kids during large group. (Optional: You may wear a Female Bible costume, if desired.)

Have you ever had an incredible day? A day when something amazing happens to you that changes your life forever? I did. Let me share it with you.

That morning, I was at one of the lowest times in life. Just two days before, I witnessed the death of a dear friend.

This friend was Jesus. My life changed the moment I believed that He was the Son of God. He performed many miracles. He healed the sick and made the blind see. Yet, He had many enemies, people who did not believe He was God's Son.

These enemies arrested Him. They beat Him and mocked Him. They sentenced Him to death. He was hung on a cross. Yet, even as I watched Him suffer, I heard Him ask God to forgive those who were hurting Him. I have never known anyone else who loved others like He did.

After He died, I was one of the ones who took His body from the cross. Because it was almost evening when He died, we quickly placed His body in a new tomb. There was no question that He was dead; a soldier even pierced His side to make sure. The tomb was sealed with a heavy stone, and Roman soldiers were ordered to guard the tomb to make sure His body was not taken.

For two days, I was broken. I wondered, "How could Jesus be dead?" Those days passed in a blur to me.

However, on the morning of the third day, I went with my friend Mary to the tomb. We wanted to take spices for Jesus' body since we had to quickly place His lifeless body in the tomb the evening He died.

Imagine our fear as the ground under our feet began to shake. As we approached the tomb, we could not believe our eyes. An angel had rolled away the stone, and he sat upon it! The soldiers who were guarding the tomb, lay motionless on the ground.

The angel spoke to Mary and me. He knew we were looking for Jesus, but he told us to not be afraid. "He is not here," the angel proclaimed. "He is risen!" The angels told us to look into the tomb where His body had been. It was gone!

"Go," he said, "and tell the other disciples."

Mary and I ran with both fear and joy to find Jesus' followers and announce to them the incredible news: Jesus lives again!

SECTION
3.5

Jesus Lives Again



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Character Sketch

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, paper, markers or color pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to turn to Matthew 28:1-8. Have leaders assist as needed. Then read Matthew 28:1-8 aloud and ask kids to follow along with you.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus chose to die on the cross because of His love for us (Ephesians 5:2).
- After Jesus' death, His body was buried in a tomb and sealed with a stone (Matthew 27:57-61).
- Three days after His death, Mary and Mary Magdalene went to visit the tomb (Matthew 28:1).
- There was a great earthquake, and an angel came down from heaven, rolled the stone away, and sat on it (Matthew 28: 2-5).
- The angel announced Jesus' resurrection to two women (Matthew 28:6).
- After Mary and Mary Magdalene saw the empty tomb, they did as the angel instructed and ran to tell the disciples the amazing news. Jesus is alive (Matthew 28:7-8)!

STEP 2: Give each kid a piece of paper and a marker or colored pencil. Assign each kid one of the following characters: a soldier, Mary or Mary Magdalene, or a disciple. Ask kids to sketch their character from the narrative. Encourage them to use their handbooks and Bibles as a guide.

STEP 3: After two minutes, have the kids reveal their sketches. Then ask the following questions:

- What do you think your character felt that day?
- How did your character respond to the news of Jesus' resurrection?

STEP 4: Remind kids that many, many people saw Jesus after His resurrection. Because there were so many eyewitnesses, we can believe and trust the truth of God's Word: Jesus is alive!

Ask, "How does knowing Jesus is alive today make you feel?"

STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus' resurrection offers us hope. Because Jesus came alive again, we know that He is God!
- If we have accepted Jesus as Savior, we have hope that we will also live forever like Jesus.
- One day Jesus will raise those who know Him from the dead (1 Thessalonians 4:13-16).
- We will go to heaven to be with God forever (1 Thessalonians 4:17-18).
- We can find comfort and hope that because Jesus lives again, we will one day live forever with Him.
- Just as the women shared the great news of His resurrection with the disciples, we, too, should share the amazing story of the hope we have in Jesus' resurrection with others (1 Peter 3:15).

STEP6: Encourage kids to think of one person they know who needs to hear the good news that Jesus died and rose from the grave. Challenge kids to share the good news with that person this week.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



SECTION 3.6 | *Jesus Restores*

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Oops!

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids or leaders to share a time when they accidentally broke something that did not belong to them.

STEP 2: After several volunteers have shared, ask the following questions:

- How did you feel when you broke that item?
- What did you do to try to make things right?
- How did the person that owned the item respond?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We all make mistakes and sometimes break things or say something that hurts those we care about the most.
- We feel bad when we break something or when we do something that hurts those we love.
- Peter said hurtful things about Jesus, but Jesus restored their relationship.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus restores those who sin or fail.

Notes:



SECTION 3.6 | *Jesus Restores*

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Broken Things

What You'll Need: Two matching plates, hammer, ZipLoc® bag

PREP: Purchase two inexpensive, breakable plates. Place one inside a bag and carefully break it with a hammer.

STEP 1: Display the whole plate and the broken plate inside the bag. Explain that at one time, these plates were a perfect pair.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What do you think happened to the plate in the bag?
- Is there any way to go back and make this plate completely whole again?
- What could I do to try to repair the plate?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Just like this plate was broken, we all make mistakes and say hurtful things that break the hearts of those we care about the most.
- We feel bad when we know we have hurt those we love.
- Peter said hurtful things about Jesus, but Jesus restored their relationship. He can do this for us too!

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus restores those who sin or fail.

Notes:

SECTION

3.6 | *Jesus Restores*

Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Before and After Restoration

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, marker, masking tape, sticky notes, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write each of the following words in large letters on sheets of paper: "Peter's Denial," "Peter's Restoration," and "Peter's Boldness." Tape the pieces of paper to a wall in the room.

Write the following references on a sticky note: Matthew 26:33-35, Matthew 26:69-75, John 21:15-19, and Acts 4:1-4, 18-21.

STEP 1: Divide kids into four groups and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a sticky note with a reference on it, and give each kid a sticky note and a pen or pencil.

Encourage groups to study their passage and Section 3.6 section of their handbooks together and be prepared to summarize the setting surrounded Peter's denial, restoration, or boldness. Ask each kid to write one word on the sticky note that describes Peter's attitude in that passage.

STEP 2: After three minutes, have the kids who were a part of the Matthew 26:33-35 group present their findings and place their sticky notes under the "Peter's Denial" sign on the wall.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus told His disciples that He would soon die and that they would scatter like sheep (Matthew 26:1, 31).
- Peter proclaimed His loyalty to Jesus, but Jesus told Peter that he would deny Jesus three times before the rooster crowed (Matthew 26:33-35).

STEP 3: Have the kids who were a part of the Matthew 26:69-75 group present their findings and place their sticky notes under the "Peter's Denial" sign on the wall.

Share these key concepts:

- The night Jesus was arrested, under the fear of arrest and death, Peter denied knowing and associating with Jesus not once, but three times (Matthew 26:69-74).
- After Peter heard the rooster crow, he remembered what Jesus had said. He left, *weeping bitterly* (Matthew 26:69-75).

STEP 4: Have the kids who were a part of the John 21:15-19 group present their findings and place their sticky notes under the "Peter's Restoration" sign on the wall.

Share these key concepts:

- After His resurrection, Jesus talked to Peter. He asked Peter three times if Peter loved Him, and told Peter to share the good news and take care of His followers (John 21:15-17).
- Jesus wanted Peter to know the importance of serving Him. Jesus wanted Peter to realize how important it was for Peter to be strong for Jesus.
- Jesus restored the relationship between them. Jesus not only forgave Peter, but also encouraged Peter to continue to love and serve Him, no matter what might happen (John 21:18-19).

STEP 5: Have the kids who were a part of the Acts 4:1-4 group present their findings and place their sticky notes under the "Peter's boldness" sign on the wall.

Share these key concepts:

- Peter and John healed a lame man and were not afraid to share the good news of Jesus to the crowds around them.
- Peter faced many times in his life when he was persecuted for following Jesus, but he never backed down. He continued to boldly share the good news of Jesus to everyone.

STEP 6: Direct kids' attention to the sticky notes on the wall. Compare how Peter's attitude changed after Jesus restored him.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus wants to restore you.
- The first step is to accept Jesus as Savior (Romans 10:9-10).

(Continued on the next page.)



SECTION
3.6 | Jesus Restores

Main Lesson Activity Continued (10 Minutes)

- If we have accepted Jesus as Savior, we are always saved, but we will still sin.
- God is faithful to forgive us when we sin (1 John 1:9), and He will restore us and continue to use us for His glory (1 Peter 5:10).

STEP 7: Read or recite this week’s memory verse 1 Peter 5:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We may face suffering for sharing with others that we are followers of Jesus.
- God will give us grace when others make fun of us or bully us for believing in Jesus.
- God will give us boldness to share our testimony with others.
- God will restore us and give us strength.

STEP 8: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION 3.6 | Jesus Restores



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Boldly Restored

What You'll Need: Bibles, easel, whiteboard or poster board, markers

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write the following question on the board: "Why is it sometimes hard to share with friends that you are a follower of Jesus?"

Bookmark your Bible to Acts 3:1-9.

STEP 1: Briefly highlight the events of Peter's denial.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus told His disciples that He would soon die and that they would scatter like sheep (Matthew 26:1, 31).
- Peter proclaimed His loyalty to Jesus, but Jesus told Peter that he would deny Jesus three times before the rooster crowed (Matthew 26:33-35).
- The night Jesus was arrested, under the fear of arrest and death, Peter denied knowing and associating with Jesus not once, but three times (Matthew 26:69-74).
- After Peter heard the rooster crow, he remembered what Jesus had said. He left, *weeping bitterly* (Matthew 26:69-75).

STEP 2: Remind kids that we may face times in our lives when it is hard to share that we follow Jesus. Direct kids' attention to the question on the board. Encourage kids to discuss the question together in pairs or groups of 3. Have leaders walk among kids, making sure they are staying on track.

After one minute, ask kids to share their thoughts. Write their answers on the board.

Share these key concepts:

- It is sometimes hard to let friends or family know that we follow Jesus.
- There might be times when it seems easier to pretend that we don't know or follow Jesus.
- God wants us to be willing to boldly share that we follow Him.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- After Jesus' resurrection, Jesus talked to Peter. He asked Peter three times if Peter loved Him, and then He told Peter to "feed My sheep" (John 21:15-17).
- Jesus wanted Peter to know the importance of serving Him. Jesus wanted Peter to realize how important it was for Peter to be strong for Jesus.
- Jesus restored the relationship between them. Jesus not only forgave Peter, but also encouraged Peter to continue to love and serve Him, no matter what might happen (John 21:18-19).

STEP 4: Remind kids that after Jesus restored Peter, God gave him boldness to tell others that he was a follower of Jesus.

STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- Peter was no longer afraid to be known as a follower of Jesus. He boldly shared the good news with others.
- Later, religious leaders confronted Peter and John and told them to stop sharing the news of Jesus (Acts 4:1-21).
- Peter and John were not afraid. God gave them power and strength to continue to tell others about Jesus, no matter what suffering they might face.

STEP 6: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Peter 5:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We may face suffering for sharing with others that we are followers of Jesus.
- God will give us grace when others make fun of us or bully us for believing in Jesus.
- God will give us boldness to share our testimony.
- God will forgive and restore us when we fail, and give us strength to keep following Him.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
3.7 | **Jesus Gives**



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: That's Powerful!

What You'll Need: Optional: computer, smartphone or tablet

PREP: Optional: Search the Internet for an image of a dung beetle. Print out the image. Optional: Be prepared to show the image in class on your smartphone or tablet.

STEP 1: Ask, "What is the strongest animal on the planet?" Give the kids a few moments to guess, then share the answer: a dung beetle.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why is it surprising that such a small animal is that powerful?
- What other things in nature are powerful?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Most people would be surprised to know that a dung beetle is so powerful that it can pull over 1,000 times its own weight.
- Even though we may not be powerful to lift heavy items, Jesus gives us a different kind of power.
- Jesus promises power through the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus gives us power through the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses.

Notes:

SECTION
3.7 | **Jesus Gives**



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Full of Power

What You'll Need: Full of Power Handout, handheld exercise equipment

PREP: Print out two copies of the Full of Power Handout, and ask two leaders to act out the skit during class.

Set up exercise equipment in front of the room.

STEP 1: Have the leaders present the skit.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What type of power was (leader's name) looking for?
- Why do people often seek strength or power?
- What are the benefits of strength and power?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- There are many different types of power, physical strength, a position of leadership over someone, etc.
- Jesus gives us a different kind of power.
- Jesus promises us power through the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus gives us power through the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses.

Notes:

Full of Power Handout



LEADER ONE: (noticing Leader Two): What are you doing?

LEADER TWO: (out of breath): Exercising.

LEADER ONE: Right now?!

LEADER TWO: (continuing to exercise): Yes, right now.

LEADER ONE: Why?

LEADER TWO: (stops exercising to take a breath): Because today's lesson is on getting power. (Starts exercising again.) I need lots of power, so I'm getting a head start.

LEADER ONE: Wait, I think you are thinking of a different type of power.

LEADER TWO: (flexing muscles): What do you think? Looks full of power, huh?

LEADER ONE: Well, your muscles might be powerful, but Jesus gives us a way different power. Why don't you take a break to find out more?

LEADER ONE and LEADER TWO EXIT

SECTION 3.7 | Jesus Gives



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Boldness to Share

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Ask, "Why is it challenging for kids your age to tell friends or family about Jesus?"

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus commands us to share God's good news with others.
- Fear often keeps us from obeying that command.

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Acts 1:8. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus promised His followers that they would receive power.
- He promised them that the Holy Spirit would come and live inside of them so that He would always be with them.
- He told them that they would be "witnesses," or people that would boldly share the good news with others, no matter what may happen to them.
- Jesus commanded them to start witnessing to those who lived near them and then to take the good news to people all over the world.

STEP 4: Remind kids that if they know Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in them too!

Ask a volunteer to read Ephesians 1:13.

Have volunteers read the following two verses (1 Corinthians 3:16 and John 14:26) and ask the group to listen closely to what is written about the Holy Spirit in these verses.

- The Holy Spirit is God's presence always with us (1 Corinthians 3:16).
- The Holy Spirit gives us the words to say if we are nervous or confused when we share the good news with others (John 14:26).

- We can rely on the Holy Spirit to help us when we tell someone about God's love.

STEP 5: Encourage kids to turn to turn to Section 3.7 and follow along as you review the good news of the gospel.

Share these key concepts:

- God's good news is that He loved us even while we were sinners. He sent Jesus to earth to die on the cross to take the punishment for sin (John 3:16, Romans 5:8).
- If we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10).
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we are promised a home in heaven forever with God (John 14:1-3).

STEP 6: Give kids each a pen or pencil. At the bottom of the last page of Section 3.7, ask them to write the name of one person to whom they are nervous about sharing the gospel with. Ask a leader to meet with a group of three or four kids and pray for them, asking that the Holy Spirit would give them power and the right words to say as they share the good news of God's love.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION 3.7 | Jesus Gives



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Examples of Boldness

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky notes, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write on a sticky note one of the following characters and references: Philip (Acts 8:26-31, 35), Paul (Acts 28:15-16, 28-31), Peter (Acts 3:1-9), Paul and Silas (Acts 16:19-31).

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Acts 1:8. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus promised His followers that they would receive power.
- He promised them that the Holy Spirit would come and live inside of them so that He would always be with them.
- He told them that they would be "witnesses," or people that would boldly share the good news with others, no matter what may happen to them.
- Jesus commanded them to start witnessing to those who lived near them and then to take the good news to people all over the world.

STEP 2: Divide kids into groups of two or three. Give each group a sticky note. Encourage kids to study their verses and determine how the Holy Spirit helped the people in the verses share the gospel in unusual situations.

STEP 3: When the kids have finished, ask each group to share their good news scenarios.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus gave Philip power to share the gospel with a complete stranger (Acts 8:26-31, 35).
- The Holy Spirit gave Peter the boldness to share the gospel with a lame man, shortly after Jesus went back to heaven (Acts 3:1-9).
- The Holy Spirit was with Paul and Silas, even when they were beaten for telling others the truth about Jesus. They were later miraculously released from

prison, and the prison guard and his family accepted Jesus as Savior (Acts 16:19-31).

- The Holy Spirit gave Paul boldness to share the gospel with everyone he could (Acts 28:15-16, 28-31).

STEP 4: Ask, "What would be the hardest place for you to share the good news of God's love?"

Share these key concepts:

- The Holy Spirit empowered these men to share the gospel, even when it was hard and they faced people who threatened to hurt them for telling others about Jesus.
- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in you too (1 Corinthians 3:16)!
- He will give you the strength to share the good news of God's love with others, even in the hardest places.

STEP 5: Give kids an opportunity to pray silently, and ask the Holy Spirit to give them boldness to share the gospel, even in hard situations.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

3.8

Jesus Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Photo Fun

What You'll Need: Personal family photos

STEP 1: Choose several family photos from key events in your life (e.g., birthdays, family vacations, a new baby born into the family). Arrange the photos on a table in front of the room.

STEP 2: Encourage kids to look through the photos. Note any comments that they may make.

STEP 3: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why do you think these photos are important to me?
- What do you think these photos represent?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- These photos are memories of key events that took place in my life. These memories remind me of how much I love my family.
- Over the last unit, we have studied key events that took place in the life of Jesus.
- As we remember these key events, we are reminded of who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids realize the importance of understanding who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

Notes:

SECTION

3.8

Jesus Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Favorite Memory

What You'll Need: Paper, markers or colored pencils

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give each kid a sheet of paper. Place markers or colored pencils nearby.

Ask kids to draw a picture of their favorite memory.

STEP 2: After a few moments, have kids reveal their pictures.

Ask the following questions:

- Why do certain events stick out to us?
- How do we feel when we remember those special memories?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- These memories remind us of either people or events that were special to us.
- Over the last unit, we have studied key events that took place in the life of Jesus.
- As we remember these key events, we are reminded of who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids realize the importance of understanding who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

Notes:



SECTION

3.8

Jesus Review

Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Theme and Verse Review

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Theme and Verse Review Handout, scissors, 3x5 cards, pens or pencils, tape

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print a copy of the Theme and Verse Review Handout and cut the sections apart.

STEP 1: Give each kid a section from the Theme and Verse Review Handout. Give kids three minutes to find the partner in the room who has the coordinating verse or theme.

(Leader's Note: If you have a smaller class, encourage your leaders to participate, or give several kids two themes or two verses.)

Once kids have correctly matched the themes and references together, give each of them a 3x5 card and a pen or pencil. Encourage them to study their section of the handbook and to each write on their card one thing they have learned from that section.

STEP 2: When kids are finished, share these key concepts:

- During the triumphal entry, Jesus rode into a town on a donkey, as His followers laid their garments out before Him and praised Him as King (Luke 19:31-38). Jesus didn't come to earth to be a king over a country; He came to be King over our lives (Colossians 1:13).
- Jesus willingly washed the disciples' feet and talked to God about everything in His life (John 13:1-15, Luke 6:12, Luke 22:39-44). We can follow Jesus' example by lovingly serving others and praying about everything in our lives, knowing that God will always hear us and do what is best for us (Mark 10:45, Philippians 4:6-7).
- Jesus showed His love by dying on the cross to take the punishment for our sin (Romans 5:8). However, Jesus rose again three days later (Matthew 28:6). We can praise and thank God for Jesus' death and resurrection because it offers a way for us to have a right relationship with God (1 Corinthians 15:1-14).
- Peter denied Christ, hours before His crucifixion (Matthew 26:69-75). Jesus forgave and restored

Peter, which gave Peter the strength to tell others the good news (John 21:15-17, Acts 4). We can take comfort knowing that God will forgive, restore, and strengthen us when we make mistakes in our lives (1 Peter 5:10).

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He promised His followers that they would receive power through the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). If we have accepted Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives inside of us, and we have His power to boldly share the good news with others (John 14:26, Acts 1:8).
- Jesus deserves our praise, and we can show are praise and honor by praying, serving others, and trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses.

STEP 3: Ask kids to think over who Jesus is and what He has done for them. Tell them to turn to section 3.8 in their handbooks and look over the questions from the review unit. Encourage them to pray and ask God to help them follow through with the commitments that they made.

STEP 4: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Theme and Verse Review Handout

Jesus is fully God, and when we accept Jesus as Savior, He is King of our lives.

Luke 19:38

Saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

Jesus demonstrated His love by humbly serving the disciples. We follow His example when we look for ways to serve those around us.

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many.

Jesus prayed openly to God about everything He was thinking and feeling. God wants us to pray about everything in our lives.

Luke 22:41-42

And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed. Saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from Me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."

Jesus loved us so much that He willingly sacrificed His life so that we could be right with God.

Ephesians 5:2

And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Jesus' resurrection offers the hope of eternal life to all who accept Him as Savior.

Matthew 28:6

He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay.

Jesus restores, forgives, and strengthens those who seek a restored relationship with Him.

1 Peter 5:10

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Jesus gives us power through the Holy Spirit to share the good news of God's love with others.

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

SECTION

3.8 | *Jesus Review*

Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Snapshots of Jesus

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Snapshots of Jesus Handout, personal photograph, paper, colored pencils or markers (Optional: CD and CD player or computer or smartphone; choose a song that focuses on what Jesus has done for us. See suggestions in Step 3.)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room on large paper while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Make copies of the Snapshots of Jesus Handout, one copy per kid.

Optional: Use a CD and CD player to play the song, or download the song and play it through your computer or smartphone.

STEP 1: Show kids a favorite photograph of you or your family. Explain that people often call pictures "snapshots."

Share these key concepts:

- Snapshots capture one specific moment in someone's life.
- We can look back at the pictures to help us remember what a person was like.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that throughout this unit they have studied key "snapshots" in Jesus' life.

Share these key concepts:

- During the triumphal entry, Jesus rode into a town on a donkey, as His followers laid their garments out before Him and praised Him as King (Luke 19:31-38). Jesus didn't come to earth to be a king over a country; He came to be King over our lives (Colossians 1:13).
- Jesus willingly washed the disciples' feet and talked to God about everything in His life (John 13:1-15, Luke 6:12, Luke 22:39-44). We can follow Jesus' example by lovingly serving others and praying about everything in our lives, knowing that God will always hear us and do what is best for us (Mark 10:45, Philippians 4:6-7).

- Jesus showed His love by dying on the cross to take the punishment for our sin (Romans 5:8). However, Jesus rose again three days later (Matthew 28:6). We can praise and thank God for Jesus' death and resurrection because it offers a way for us to have a right relationship with God (1 Corinthians 15:1-14).
- Peter denied Christ, hours before His crucifixion (Matthew 26:69-75). Jesus forgave and restored Peter, which gave Peter the strength to tell others the good news (Jon 21:15-17, Acts 4). We can take comfort knowing that God will forgive, restore, and strengthen us when we make mistakes in our lives (1 Peter 5:10).
- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He promised His followers that they would receive power through the Holy Spirit to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). If we have accepted Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives inside of us, and we have His power to boldly share the good news with others (John 14:26, Acts 1:8).

STEP 3: Give kids a copy of the Snapshots of Jesus Handout. Place colored pens or markers nearby.

Encourage kids to open their handbooks to Unit 3 and look back over the sections from that unit and draw snapshots of the various moments in Christ's life.

Optional: While the kids are drawing their images, play a song that focuses on what Jesus has done for us (e.g., "Cornerstone," "Man of Sorrows," "Glorious Day").

STEP 4: If time allows, ask volunteers to share their favorite snapshots of Jesus' life and why they are special to them. Then close in prayer, asking God to help them remember who Jesus is and what He has done for us.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Snapshot of Jesus Handout



Draw a "snapshot" of this moment in Jesus' life.

Jesus Reigns	Jesus Serves
Jesus Prays	Jesus Sacrifices
Jesus Lives Again	Jesus Restores

Jesus Gives

SECTION
4.1

Discovery of Love



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Easy to Love

What You'll Need: Sticky notes, pens or pencils

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give each kid a sticky note. Ask them to write the name of a family member whom they think is easy to love.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why do you think that person is easy to love?
- What could you do this week to show that person you love them?
- How do you think that person would respond to your act of love?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Some people seem easy to love because they are kind and loving. It is natural for us to want to love them in return.
- When people are mean or treat us poorly, it is hard to want to love them.
- God wants us to love others—no matter who they are or how they treat us—like we love ourselves.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants us to discover love.

Notes:

SECTION
4.1

Discovery of Love



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: My Neighbors

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give each kid a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil. Ask them to write the name of at least one of their neighbors or to draw a picture of that person.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How many of your neighbors do you know by name?
- How well do you know these neighbors?
- When was the last time you spoke to them?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We often think of a neighbor as someone who lives near us.
- The Bible says that a "neighbor" is any person we have contact with.
- God wants us to discover how to love the people we come into contact with—even those we do not know well, or those who are hard to love.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants us to discover love.

Notes:

SECTION
4.1

Discovery of Love



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Journey to Love

What You'll Need: Bibles, Journey to Love Handout, copy of printed directions to a restaurant or store

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Search online for directions to a restaurant or store near your church. Print out a copy of the map and directions.

STEP 1: Show kids the printed copy of the directions. Explain to kids that maps and directions give us step-by-step instructions on how to get to our destination. Pass out the Journey to Love Handout, one to each kid.

Share these key concepts:

- If you have accepted Jesus as Savior, God wants to transform your life so that you are more like Jesus (Romans 12:2).
- We are on a journey to discover how we can be more like Jesus, and God's Word is our map.

Step 2: Ask a volunteer to read 1 John 4:7-8.

Share these key concepts:

- The first step to becoming like Jesus is discovering God's amazing love.
- God doesn't just love people; God IS love!

Encourage kids to fill in the first direction of their handouts: God is love.

STEP 3: Ask a volunteer to read or quote John 3:16.

Share these key concepts:

- God loves everyone.
- God demonstrated His love in a big way by sending Jesus to die on the cross to pay the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8).

Encourage kids to fill in the second direction of their handout: God loves us.

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Galatians 5:14. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- God's commands can be summed up into one word: love.
- A "neighbor" is anyone we come into contact with.
- God wants us to love others with the same kind of love as we have for ourselves.

Encourage kids to fill in the last direction of their handouts: We love others.

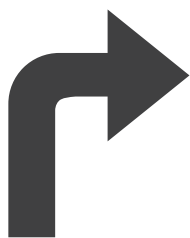
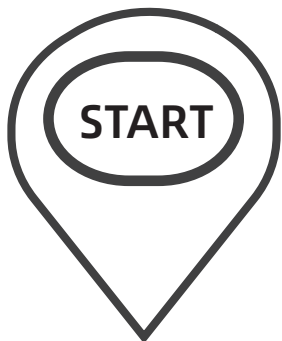
STEP 5: Explain to kids that just as they need to follow the directions on a map step by step, if we are to discover God's love, we need to follow these directions, step by step. Encourage kids to pray silently, asking God to help them recognize God's love and then learn to love others.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

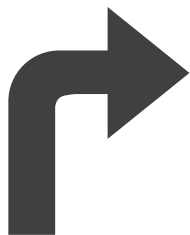
Notes:



Journey to Love Handout



Step 1: 1 John 4:7-8



Step 2: John 3:16



Step 3: Galatians 5:14

SECTION
4.1

Discovery of Love



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Discover God's Love

What You'll Need: Bibles, scissors, blank paper, pens or pencils, Discover God's Love Handout, T&T Handbooks

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print out a copy of the Discover God's Love Handout and cut out each heart.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Galatians 5:14. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's commands can be summed up into one word: love.
- God wants us to love others with the same kind of love as we have for ourselves.
- The Holy Spirit helps us to love others, even when we don't feel like we love them.

STEP 2: Tell kids that Paul wrote a whole chapter in the Bible that explains what real love looks like. Encourage kids to work in groups of two or three. Ask them to look up 1 Corinthians 13 in their Bibles and turn to Section 4.1 in their handbooks. Give each group one or two hearts and ask them to think of a creative way to present that type of love to the rest of the groups (e.g., they could present a short skit, draw pictures, give a scenario of someone displaying that kind of love).

Ask leaders to walk among the kids, offering help as needed.

STEP 3: After four minutes, ask each group to share their discovery of love.

Share these concepts:

- The first step to becoming like Jesus is discovering God's amazing love.
- God doesn't just love people; God IS love!
- God demonstrated His love by sending Jesus to die on the cross to pay the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8).

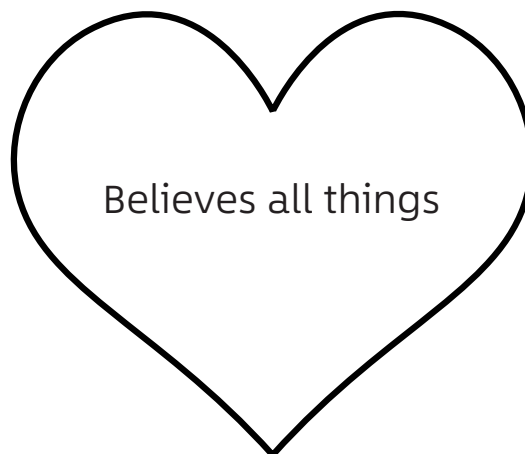
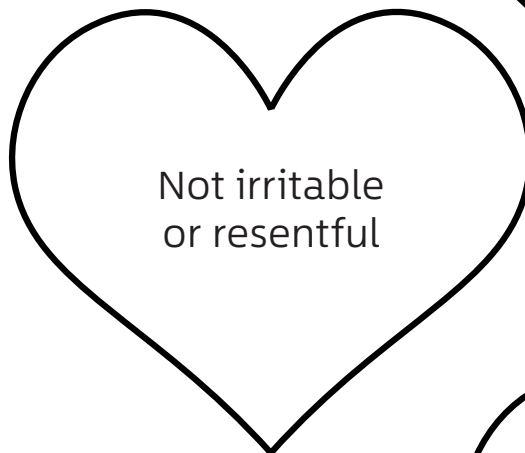
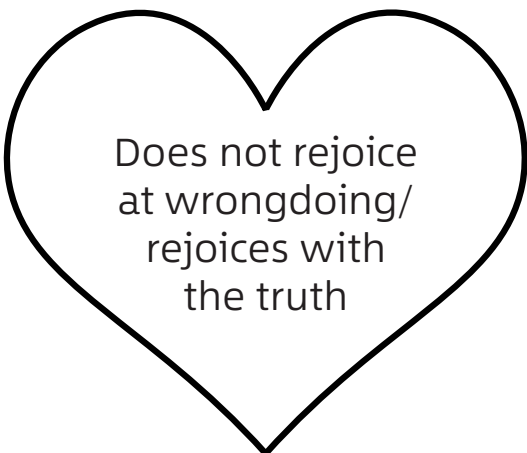
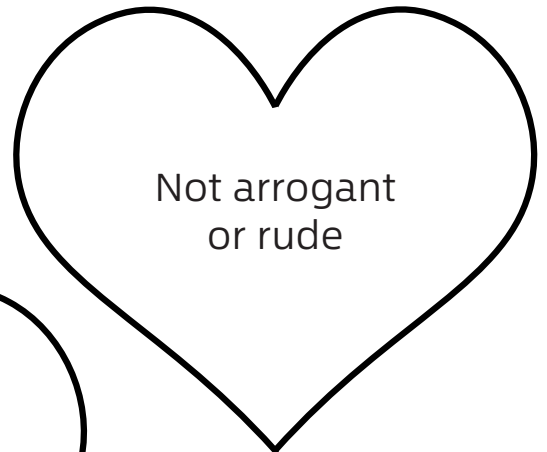
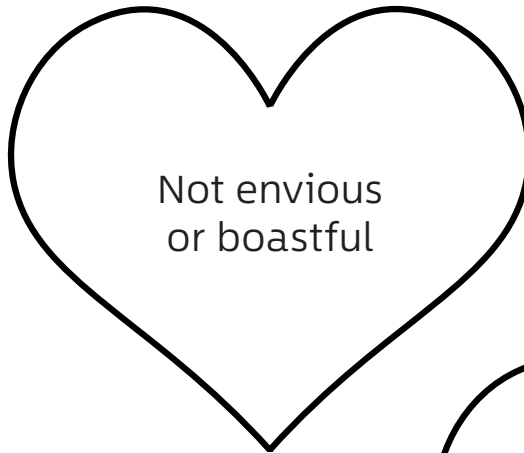
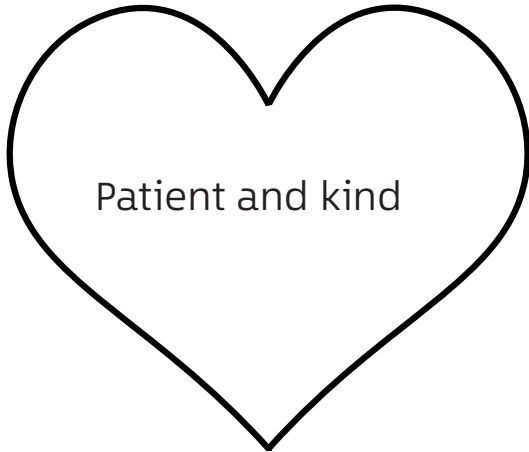
STEP 4: Remind kids that God not only wants us to discover love, He wants us to live it out in our lives and love others—everyone we come into contact with!

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of one person whom they have a hard time loving. Encourage them to think back over the descriptions of love they learned and choose one way in which they will seek to love that person. Challenge them to write their choice and person's name in their handbook or on a piece of paper to keep with them this week.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

Discover God's Love Handout



SECTION

4.2

Discovery of Joy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Joyous Occasions

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to think of a time when they were full of joy (e.g., a birthday, family celebration, vacation, the birth of a sibling). Encourage volunteers to share their memories.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- What about that memory made you happy?
- How do you feel when you think about that memory now?
- Do you still feel that same happiness today that you felt then? Why or why not?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We can remember moments in our lives that brought us happiness.
- Feelings of happiness can come and go, because happiness is based on what is going on in our lives.
- Joy is different from happiness that is based on our lives. God wants us to discover true joy that comes from a relationship with Him.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering joy.

Notes:

SECTION

4.2

Discovery of Joy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Spark of Joy

What You'll Need: Computer and printer or smartphone and tablet

PREP: Search online or in books or magazines for images that spark feelings of happiness (e.g., puppies, baby animals, funny images, yummy desserts).

Optional: Search for a video of animals or babies that sparks feelings of happiness. Be prepared to show it to the kids

STEP 1: Display the images that spark happiness. (Optional: Show the video that sparks feelings of happiness.)

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How do you feel when you look at these pictures (or watch this video)?
- Why do these pictures (or video) make you feel that way?
- Do you feel this way all the time? Why or why not?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We can all remember moments in our lives that brought us happiness.
- Feelings of happiness can come and go, because happiness is based on what is going on in our lives.
- Joy is different from happiness that is based on our lives. God wants us to discover true joy that comes from a relationship with Him.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering joy.

Notes:

SECTION

4.2

Discovery of Joy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Scenes of Joy

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, markers or colored pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may choose to have only a few kids do this at the front of the room while others watch, or have the kids divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they will work together to create their own comic scenes from Acts 3:1-9. Divide kids into three groups, and give each group several sheets of paper. Place pens or pencils, markers or colored pencils nearby. Have all kids turn to Section 4.2 in their handbooks and Acts 3 in their Bibles. Have leaders help kids find the verses in their Bibles.

Assign each group one of the following sections: Acts 3:1-3, Acts 3:4-6, Acts 3:7-10. Give groups four minutes to work together to create comic-style images of the scenes that take place in their verses.

STEP 2: After four minutes, ask the first group to present their comic scenes from Acts 3:1-3.

Share these key concepts:

- The lame man had little reason to be joyful.
- In Bible times, a man who was lame, or couldn't walk, would not be able to work. He would have been completely dependent on others.
- The gate called Beautiful was a common entrance to the temple, and many people would pass by the gate every day. Asking for alms was his way of begging people for money

STEP 3: Ask the second group to present their comic scenes from Acts 3:4-6.

Share these key concepts:

- Peter and John were bold witnesses for Jesus Christ. They had the power of the Holy Spirit who lived in them.
- They did not have money to give to the man, but they did have something better: they had the good news of Jesus Christ to share.
- Through the power of the Holy Spirit, they were able to heal the lame man in Jesus' name.

STEP 4: Ask the third group to present their comic scenes from Acts 3:7-10.

Share these key concepts:

- The lame man realized God's love and healing power. He was thankful for what God had done for him.
- His life was changed forever. He would now be able to hold a job and be a part of his society.
- He also had the hope and joy from Jesus Christ that he could share with others.
- The people who saw the healed man were amazed that he had been healed.

STEP 5: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 16:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we have the promise of abundant life.
- When we study God's Word and draw close to Him, we can be full of joy, even when tough things are going on in our lives.
- When we grow in our relationship with God, we will experience God's blessings of peace and contentment and hope.
- We also have the hope that we get to spend eternity with God in heaven (John 3:16).

STEP 6: Ask kids to think about their own lives. Have they discovered God's joy? Remind them that they can choose joy, no matter what their circumstances are like.

Ask kids to pray silently and ask God to help them know Him better so their lives reflect the joy that comes from Him.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION

4.2

Discovery of Joy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Discovering God's Joy

What You'll Need: Bibles, Directions to Joy Handout, pens or pencils.

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of the Directions to Joy Handout, one copy per kid. Bookmark Bibles to the following references: Psalm 51:10-12, Psalm 5:11, John 15:10-11.

STEP 1: : Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 16:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word shows us how we can have eternal life by accepting Jesus as Savior.
- When we accept Jesus as Savior, we have the promise of abundant life.
- When we study God's Word and draw close to Him, we will be full of joy, no matter what may be going on in our lives.
- When we grow in our relationship with God, we will experience God's blessings of peace and contentment and hope.
- We also have the hope that we get to spend eternity with God in heaven (John 3:16).

STEP 2: Explain to kids that God's Word is our map to help us discover how to have joy in our lives. Give each kid a copy of the Directions to Joy Handout and a pen or pencil.

Ask a volunteer to read Psalm 51:10-12.

Share these key concepts:

- If we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10).
- Even after we accept Jesus as Savior, we still sin. We are still saved, but our sin keeps us from being close to God, and we do not have God's joy in our lives when we are struggling with sin.
- When we ask God to forgive our sin, He restores His joy in our lives.

STEP 3: : Ask a volunteer to read Psalm 5:11.

Share these key concepts:

- Trusting God means that we know that He is good and that He has a good plan for our lives.
- Even when we are going through hard times, we can know that God will work in those situations to bring about good in our lives and help us grow closer to Him.
- When we trust God, He gives us joy.

Have kids find the Psalm 5:11 location on their handouts and write the word "trust" next to it.

Ask a volunteer to read Psalm 51:10-12.

Share these key concepts:

- If we admit we are sinners and believe that Jesus died and rose again to take the punishment for our sin, we will be saved (Romans 10:9-10).
- Even after we accept Jesus as Savior, we still sin. We are still saved, but our sin keeps us from being close to God, and we do not have God's joy in our lives when we are struggling with sin.
- When we ask God to forgive our sin, He restores His joy in our lives.

Have kids find the Psalm 51:10-12 location on their handouts and write the word "forgiveness" next to it.

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer to read John 15:10-11.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word gives us instructions on how God wants us to live our lives.
- When we keep His commandments, or instructions, we will grow closer in our relationship with Him, and our lives will be transformed to be more like Jesus.
- We will then discover that our lives are full of His joy.

Have kids find the John 15:10-11 location on their handouts and write the word "obedience" next to it.

STEP 5: Have kids look over their handouts.

(Continued on the next page.)

SECTION
4.2 | **Discovery of Joy**



Main Lesson Activity Continued (10 Minutes)

Ask the following questions:

- Where are you on your journey to discover God's joy?
- Do you need to ask God to forgive you for a sin that you are struggling with?
- Do you need to trust God in a struggle you are facing?
- Do you need to obey God's Word better?

Encourage kids to circle the location that best describes where they are on their journey to discovering joy.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

Directions to Joy Handout



Where I am

Psalm 51:10-12

Psalm 5:11

John 15:10-11

God's Joy



SECTION
4.3

Discovery of Peace and Patience



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: How Would You Respond?

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Read each of the following statements. After each statement is read, ask a volunteer to share how he or she would respond.

You ordered a cheeseburger with ketchup only. It arrives with everything—tomatoes, pickles, onions, mustard, lettuce, and mayo.

You have a lot of homework. Your bus is running late. You have a game at 6:00 p.m.

Your mom and dad are going out, which means your older sister is in charge for the evening.

STEP 2: After several volunteers have answered the questions, ask the following questions:

- How do you feel when you face unexpected obstacles in your life?
- When you are stressed out or you have a lot going on, how does it affect your relationship with your family?
- When life is crazy, how does it affect your relationship with God?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We will all face obstacles or unexpected events in our lives.
- We have a choice in how we respond when things do not go as planned.
- God wants us to discover His peace and patience to help us during difficult times.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering peace and patience.

Notes:

SECTION
4.3

Discovery of Peace and Patience



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Patience and Peace for Every Day

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Patience and Peace for Every Day Handout, scissors, paper, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print one copy of the handout. Cut apart each section.

STEP 1: Remind kids that God wants us to discover His patience.

Share these key concepts:

- Patience is the ability to endure delay, trouble, or suffering without complaining.
- God allows us to go through tough times to produce patience in our lives. And that patience builds our character so that we become more like Christ, which offers us hope (Romans 5:3-5).
- As we learn to respond to life's frustrations with patience, we will then discover God's peace.

STEP 2: Have kids work in groups of two or three. Give each group one or two scenarios. Ask a volunteer in each group to read aloud their scenario. Have groups work together to determine how a kid their age could respond to the scenario with patience.

After one minute, have each group share their scenario and response.

STEP 3: Explain to kids that once we develop patience, we can discover God's peace.

Share these key concepts:

- We discover God's peace when we trust God in hard situations. God is trustworthy and faithful. He has a good plan for us, and He will work out even the bad times in our lives for our good (Romans 8:28).
- When we pray about the struggles we face, we are able to focus on God and His goodness instead of our problems. As we do so, God's peace guards our hearts (Philippians 4:6).

- Right thinking keeps our minds from dwelling on our problems.
- We choose what we think about, and God wants us to think about the truth that we find in His Word. (Philippians 4:8).
- The more we know God's Word, the more we will discover God's perfect peace.

STEP 4: Have the groups read through their scenarios again and discuss how a kid their age could discover God's peace in that situation.

After two minutes, encourage kids to share their answers.

STEP 5: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Thessalonians 3:16. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- God is the God of peace.
- If we are to have His peace, we need to first have a relationship with Him by accepting Jesus as Savior.
- God is always with us (Isaiah 41:10). His peace is available to us all the time.

STEP 6: Remind kids that when they choose to focus on God and the truths of the Bible, they will discover patience and peace. Ask kids to look over Section 4.3 in their handbooks and to think about an area in their lives in which they need more peace or patience. Encourage kids to pray silently, asking God to help them discover His patience and peace.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Patience and Peace for Every Day Handout



Your little brother is having a meltdown because He can't get past the next level in a game that you think is easy.

Your grandpa is in the hospital and has to have a big surgery.

Your dad got a new job in a different city and you might have to move.

You have been waiting in the doctor's office for over an hour.

SECTION 4.3

Discovery of Peace and Patience



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Unusual Phobias

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or poster board, markers, sticky notes, pens or pencils

PREP: Write the following phobias on the board:

Iatrophobia.

Aerophobia

Entomophobia

Nyctophobia

Arachibutyrophobia

STEP 1: Direct kids' attention to the phobias on the board. Explain that a "phobia" is a specific type of fear that some people have. Give each kid several sticky notes and a pen or pencil. Ask them to try to guess what one or two of the phobias are. After kids have written their guesses, have them stick them next to the phobia.

Read several of their guesses aloud, then give them the correct answers listed below.

Iatrophobia — Fear of doctors

Aerophobia — Fear of flying

Entomophobia — Fear of insects

Nyctophobia — Fear of darkness

Arachibutyrophobia — Fear of Peanut butter sticking to the roof of your mouth

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What are some common fears people might have?
- How might kids your age respond when they are afraid of something?
- What could a person do to overcome a certain fear?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We all experience worry and fear in our lives.
- We have a choice in how we respond when we are afraid or when things do not go as planned.

- Worry and fear are the opposite of patience and peace. God wants us to discover His peace and patience to help us during difficult times.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering peace and patience.

Notes:

SECTION
4.3

Discovery of Peace and Patience



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Discovering Patience and Peace

What You'll Need: Bibles, easels, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, paper, pens or pencils, large sticky notes

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Set up an easel in the front of the room and place the whiteboard or paper on it. Write on one side, "Peace is" Write on the other side, "Peace is not"

Bookmark Bibles to the following references: Psalm 37:7, Philippians 4:6-7, John 14:27.

STEP 1: Divide kids into three groups and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a bookmarked Bible, two sticky notes, and a pen or a pencil. Encourage each group to study their verses and Section 4.3 in their handbooks and then write a short phrase on each sticky note that identifies what peace is and what peace is not, based on this verse. When groups are finished, have them place their sticky notes under the correct column.

STEP 2: Ask a volunteer from the group who studied Psalm 37:7 to read the verse and reveal their sticky notes on the whiteboard or paper.

Share these key concepts:

- Patience is being still before the Lord. That means that we will patiently trust that He has a plan for our lives, and that He is working out everything—all the good and the bad things—in our lives for our good (Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28).
- Patience is not focusing on or being jealous of someone whose life seems to be going great.

STEP 3: Ask a volunteer from the group who studied Philippians 4:6-7 to read the verses and reveal their sticky notes on the whiteboard or paper.

Share these key concepts:

- Patience is not being anxious about anything.
- Patience is praying about everything and remembering to thank God.

- When we choose to pray instead of worry about our problems, God's peace will guard our hearts and our minds, no matter what is going on in our lives.

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer from the group who studied John 14:27 to read this verse and reveal their sticky notes on the whiteboard or paper.

Share these key concepts:

- Peace is not choosing to worry or fear.
- Peace is knowing that God is with us and that He gives us His peace.

STEP 5: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Thessalonians 3:16. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God Himself is the God of peace.
- If we are to have His peace, we need to first have a relationship with Him by accepting Jesus as Savior.
- God is always with us (Isaiah 41:10). His peace is available to us all the time.

STEP 6: Remind kids that when they choose to focus on God and the truths of the Bible, they will discover patience and peace. Ask kids to look over Section 4.3 in their handbooks and to think about an area in their life in which they need more peace or patience. Encourage kids to pray silently, asking God to help them discover His patience and peace.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
4.4

Discovery of Kindness and Goodness



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Random Act of Kindness

What You'll Need: Video, smartphone or tablet
(Optional: Computer and projector)

PREP: Search online for act of kindness videos. Prepare to show one or two in class on your smartphone or tablet.

Optional: Show the video on your computer or projector.

STEP 1: Display the videos for the kids.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- How did that person display kindness in this video?
- How did the other person in the video respond to the kindness?
- How would you feel if someone was kind to you?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Showing kindness to someone else requires someone going out of their way for someone else.
- A person who does something kind for someone else shows they love others and put other people's needs in front of their own.
- God created us to do good works. We do good works for God when we are kind and good to others.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering kindness and goodness.

Notes:

SECTION
4.4

Discovery of Kindness and Goodness



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Kind Act

What You'll Need: volunteer

PREP: Ask a leader or a person from your church to share a time when someone showed them kindness.

STEP 1: Introduce the speaker to the kids. Ask the speaker to share a time when someone showed them kindness.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How would you feel if someone displayed kindness like that to you?
- When did someone show kindness to you?
- When someone is kind to you, how does that make you want to treat others?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Showing kindness to someone else requires someone going out of their way for someone else.
- A person who does something kind for someone else shows they love others and put the other person's need in front of their own.
- God created us to do good works. We do good works for God when we are kind and good to others.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering kindness and goodness.

Notes:

SECTION 4.4

Discovery of Kindness and Goodness



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Examples of Kindness

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, sticky notes, pens or pencils, whiteboard or poster

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write each of the following names and references on a separate sticky note: Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-4, 1 Samuel 20, 1 Samuel 23:16); the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35); and Faithful Friends (Mark 2:2-12).

Ask three leaders to each be prepared to summarize examples of kindness and goodness from the Bible. Make three copies of this activity and give a copy to each of the three leaders. Assign one of the examples of kindness to each leader.

STEP 1: Write on the whiteboard, "A person who shows kindness will" Take the first three responses and write them on the whiteboard.

Share these key concepts:

- There are many different ways to show kindness and goodness to someone else.
- The Bible gives examples of people who showed kindness to others.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 2:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We are God's created masterpiece.
- God created us to do good works. Some of those works are to be kind and to do good.
- God has a plan to work in us and through us. When we study His Word and seek to glorify Him, we will discover the good works that God wants us to do.

STEP 3: Divide kids into three groups and assign the prepared leaders to the appropriate group. Give each group a sticky note with their example of kindness, and ask the leader in each group to summarize their example.

Jonathan:

- Jonathan showed David kindness by helping David escape from Saul.
- Jonathan willingly gave up his right to be the future king because he realized that David was God's choice to be king.
- Later in life, when David was discouraged, Jonathan risked his own life to visit with David. His words offered David encouragement and hope.

The Good Samaritan:

- The Good Samaritan was a story that Jesus told to show a truth.
- Samaritans and Jews were known to not like each other.
- A Jewish man was beaten, robbed, and left for dead.
- Two religious people passed by him without helping.
- The Samaritan, a person the Jewish man would have considered to be an enemy, was the one who stopped to help. The Samaritan cared for the injured man, took him to shelter, and paid for someone to care for him until he was well.

The Faithful Friends:

- Four men wanted Jesus to heal their friend who couldn't walk. They decided to take the friend to the house where Jesus was teaching.
- The place was packed. There was no way to get the injured man inside to speak to Jesus.
- The friends carefully carried the lame man to the top of the building, tore an opening in the roof, and then lowered the lame man through the roof so that Jesus could heal him.
- Because of the friends' kindness, Jesus forgave the man's sins and healed him.

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- Being kind and doing good is sometimes hard, and it takes effort and sacrifice on our part.

(Continued on the next page.)

SECTION
4.4

Discovery of Kindness and Goodness



Main Lesson Activity Continued (10 Minutes)

- To be truly kind and good, we need to love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We are also to love others as ourselves. Practicing kindness and goodness only happens when we have this kind of love (Luke 10:27).
- As we study God's Word and choose to follow God's plan for us, we will begin to see opportunities in our lives to show kindness and goodness (Galatians 6:10).

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of someone in their lives to whom they need to show kindness or goodness. Encourage them to write the name of that person next to their memory verse in Section 4.4 in their handbook.

Challenge the kids to ask God for an opportunity to show that person kindness or goodness this week.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION 4.4

Discovery of Kindness and Goodness



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Kindness on Display

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky notes, gift bags, small gift items stationery and envelopes, or blank greeting card, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Choose four or five elderly people from the church or other individuals who are sick or in the hospital. Write each of their names on a sticky note.

Purchase a gift bag for each person you chose, along with small items to place in the gift bags (e.g., wrapped candy, chapstick, personal tissue packets). Purchase stationery and envelopes or blank greeting cards, one for each individual.

STEP 1: Remind kids that God wants them to discover kindness and goodness.

Share these key concepts:

- We are God's workmanship. He created us to do good works that bring Him glory (Ephesians 2:10). God is at work in us and through us to do these good works (Philippians 2:13).
- We are to love God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We are also to love others as ourselves. Practicing kindness and goodness only happens when we have this kind of love (Luke 10:27).
- God's Word gives us examples of people who showed kindness and goodness to others: Jonathan (1 Samuel 18:1-4, 1 Samuel 20, 1 Samuel 23:16); the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35); and faithful friends of a lame man (Mark 2:2-12).

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 2:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We are God's created masterpiece.
- God created us to do good works. Some of those works are to be kind and to do good.
- God has a plan to work in us and through us. When we study His Word and seek to glorify Him, we will discover the good works that God wants us to do.

STEP 3: Explain to kids that they are going to practice showing kindness and doing good to others. Divide kids into groups of two or three. Give each group a prepared sticky note, a pen or a pencil, stationery or card, a gift bag, and some of the purchased gift items.

Ask each group to prepare a gift bag for the person who is listed on their sticky note. Briefly explain to each group the situation of their person (e.g., their person is in the hospital, sick, in a nursing home).

Ask each group to write a note in the card or on the stationery, and then sign the card or letter.

STEP 4: After groups have finished, share these key concepts:

- Being kind and doing good is sometimes hard, and it takes effort and sacrifice on our part. But God will give us the strength to choose to be kind and to do good.
- As we study God's Word and choose to follow God's plan for us, we will begin to see opportunities in our lives to show kindness and goodness (Galatians 6:10).

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

4.5

Discovery of Faithfulness



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Following Directions

What You'll Need: Following Directions Handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Print copies of the Following Directions Handout. Make one copy for each kid.

STEP 1: Pass out a copy of the Following Directions Handout to each kid FACEDOWN. Give each kid a pen or a pencil. Announce to kids that they have two minutes to complete the page. Tell them that those who complete the activity correctly will be named the coolest kids in the room.

STEP 2: Observe the kids as they complete the activity. After they are finished, recognize those who followed the directions thoroughly.

Ask the following questions:

- Who followed the directions completely?
- Why are following directions necessary?
- Why do some people have a hard time following directions?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We are on a journey to a life filled with God's grace, and God is our leader.
- The Bible gives us directions on how He wants us to live our lives.
- Each of us has to choose to faithfully follow God's directions in the Bible so we know how God wants us to live.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants us to be faithful.

Notes:

Following Directions Handout



Directions: Read all the questions and then complete the assignment.

1. Write your name at the top of this page.
2. Underline all the capital letters on this sheet.
3. Stand up, turn around twice.
4. Sit down and clap your hands three times.
5. Find a person in the room who likes chicken nuggets instead of hamburgers. Write his or her name here: _____.
6. Find a leader who drinks coffee every day. Write his or her name here: _____.
7. Draw a heart on someone else's sheet.
8. Wave your hands in the air for 10 seconds.
9. Give someone a fist bump.
10. Complete only the first question. When you are done, turn your paper in and sit quietly.



SECTION

4.5

Discovery of Faithfulness



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Blindfold Faith

What You'll Need: Blindfold, ice cream and toppings, scoop, towel, plastic bowls, plastic silverware, napkins, table, chair, plastic tablecloth

PREP: Place a table and chair in front of the classroom. Put the ice cream, toppings, plastic tableware, napkins, and the towel nearby.

STEP 1: Ask for three volunteers. Blindfold one volunteer and spin him or her around twice. Assign the second volunteer to be the leader and give instructions, but he or she cannot use his or her hands. Ask the third volunteer to sit in the chair and drape the towel over his or her lap. He or she cannot use his or her hands. Instruct the three volunteers to follow directions and work together to make an ice cream sundae and feed it to the person sitting in the chair.

STEP 2: After two minutes, ask the following questions:

- What challenges did each volunteer face?
- What did (blindfolded kid's name) have to do in order to successfully fulfill the activity?
- Why is it important to have a leader who gives clear instructions for you to follow?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We are on a journey to a life filled with God's grace, and God is our leader.
- We may not be able to see what is ahead of us, and sometimes things seem weird, but the Bible gives us directions on how He wants us to live our lives.
- Each of us has to choose to faithfully follow God's directions in the Bible so we know how God wants us to live.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that God wants us to be faithful.

Notes:

SECTION
4.5

Discovery of Faithfulness



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: A Faithful King

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, paper, pens or pencils, 3x5 cards

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ask four leaders to read through 2 Chronicles 34 to be familiar with the story of Josiah.

Write each of the following phrases and references on a 3x5 card:

Follow God's commands (2 Chronicles 34:3-4)

Trust God (2 Chronicles 34:1-2)

Study God's Word (2 Chronicles 34:14, 21)

Choose to be faithful (2 Chronicles 34:31-33)

STEP 1: Remind kids that God wants us to be faithful.

Share these key concepts:

- The first step in discovering faithfulness is to have a relationship with Him. If we have accepted Jesus as Savior, we need to obey His commands in His Word (Deuteronomy 11:1).
- God gave us His Word, the Bible, to teach us everything we need to have a relationship with Him and to grow to be more like Him. It is our responsibility to read and study God's Word so we can know God more (2 Timothy 2:15).
- God has a plan for each of us, and He will be faithful to complete His plan for us (Philippians 1:6). We can trust that God will do what is best for us and will work out even the bad things that happen for our good (Romans 8:28).
- Being faithful is a daily choice between following God or doing what we want to do. The more we get to know Him, the easier it will be to follow Him (Psalm 119:105).

STEP 2: Divide kids into four groups and assign one of the four leaders to each group. Give each group a 3x5 card, and ask leaders to give a summary of King Josiah from 2 Chronicles 34.

Then encourage the groups to study their verses and determine how Josiah followed God's commands,

trusted God, studied God's Word, and chose to be faithful. Give each kid a sheet of paper and a pen or a pencil. Encourage them to take notes or to draw pictures about Josiah's faithfulness.

After five minutes, have groups share their findings

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Josiah became king when he was eight years old. He was determined to trust God like King David, one of his ancestors (2 Chronicles 34:1-2).
- God had commanded His people to not worship any other gods (Exodus 20:3). Josiah followed God's commands and tore down the idols that the people in his country had been worshipping (2 Chronicles 34:3-4).
- When Josiah's men cleaned the temple so the people could worship God, they discovered parts of the Bible. Josiah studied them and realized that the people needed to know God's Word. He read God's Word out loud to them (2 Chronicles 34:14-30).
- King Josiah stood in front of his people and promised to faithfully follow God (2 Chronicles 34:31-33).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Colossians 1:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us everything we need to live a life that pleases God.
- Our goal should be to live our lives in a way that brings glory to God.
- We please God when we seek to bring glory to Him.
- When we are faithful to follow these steps, we will discover the right kind of attitude and we will do good works because we are growing in our knowledge and relationship with God.

STEP 5: Remind kids that God wants them to discover how to be faithful to Him, just like King Josiah.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION
4.5

Discovery of Faithfulness



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Being Faithful in My Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, Being Faithful in My Life Handout, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of the Being Faithful in My Life Handout, one copy per kid. Set up an easel in the front of the room and place whiteboard or pad of paper on the easel. Place markers nearby.

STEP 1: Give each kid a copy of the handout and a pen or a pencil. Remind kids that each of them have different roles, or areas in our lives, in which they have responsibilities. Encourage them to brainstorm their roles, and write their responses on the board (e.g., child of God, son or daughter, musician, athlete, student, boy scout).

Encourage kids to write their roles under the ovals on their handout.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Colossians 1:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us everything we need to live a life that pleases God.
- Our goal should be to live our lives in a way that brings glory to God.
- We please God when we seek to bring glory to Him.
- When we are faithful to follow these steps, we will discover the right kind of attitude and we will do good works because we are growing in our knowledge and relationship with God.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God gave us His Word, the Bible, to teach us everything we need to have a relationship with God and to grow to be more like Him. It is our responsibility to read and study God's Word so we can know God more (2 Timothy 2:15).
- God has a plan for each of us, and He will be faithful to complete His plan for us (Philippians 1:6). We can trust that God will do what is best for us and will

work out even the bad things that happen for our good (Romans 8:28).

- Being faithful is a daily choice between following God or doing what we want to do. The more we get to know Him, the easier it will be to follow Him (Psalm 119:105).
- Remind kids that God gave us examples of people in the Bible who were faithful to God in their roles.

STEP 4: Ask kids to write under each of their roles specific ways in which they can faithfully follow God in that role. Ask leaders to walk around the room, offering help as needed.

When kids have finished, ask them to draw lines to connect any ideas that match.

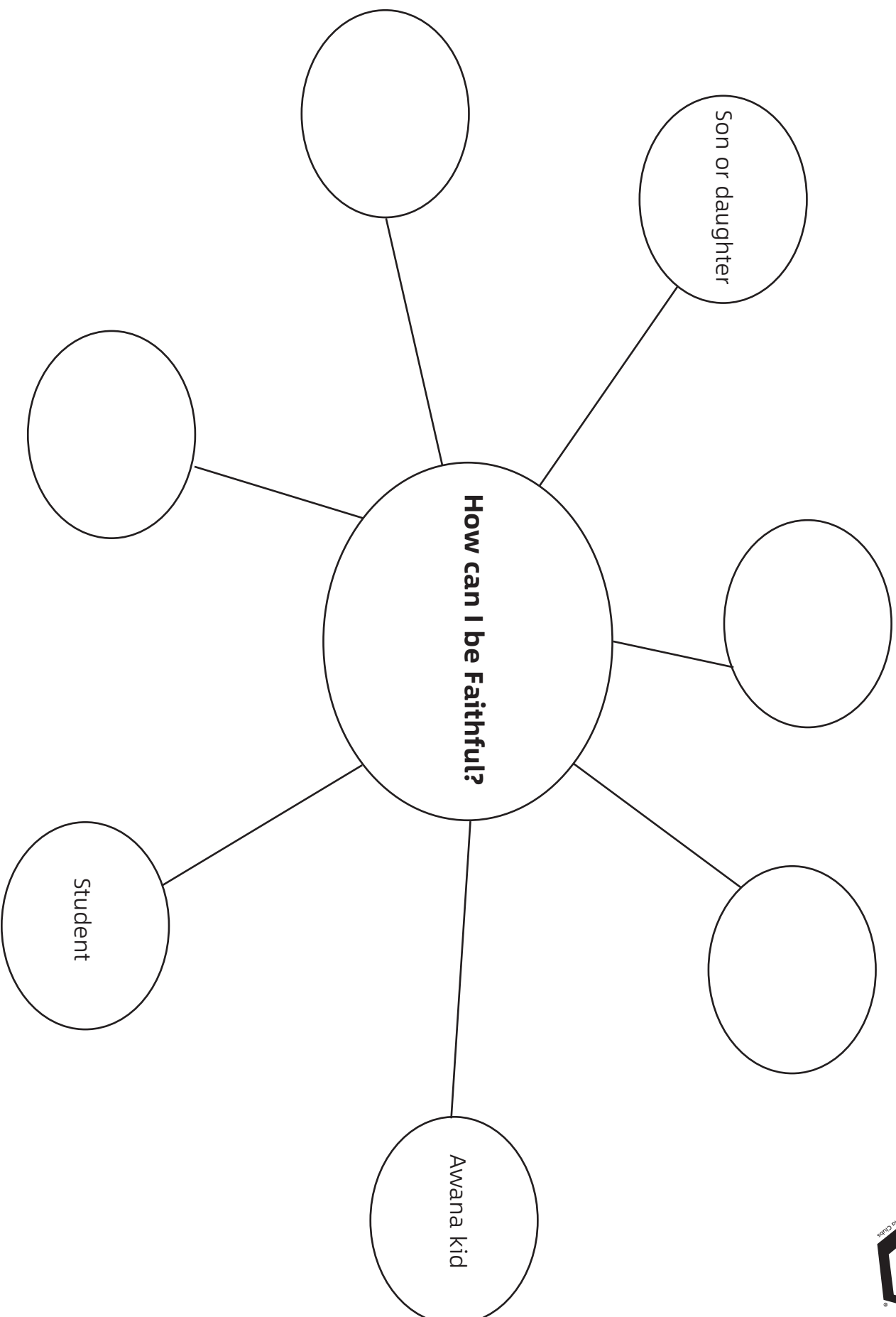
STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- God has given you many different opportunities to faithfully follow God in your life.
- Being faithful to God is a daily choice we must make.
- Being faithful to God does not just happen when you are at church or at Awana. God wants you to faithfully follow Him in everything you do.

STEP 6: Have kids look over their handouts again. Encourage them to circle one area in which they need to work on faithfully following God.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Being Faithful in My Life Handout



NAME: _____

SECTION
4.6

Discovery of Gentleness and Self-Control



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Gentle Guest

What You'll Need: Photos of infant or pet
(Optional: Guest speaker with a baby or pet)

PREP: Find pictures online of an infant or baby animal.

Optional: Ask a parent of a young infant or an owner of a new puppy to visit your club and be ready to share the importance of being gentle and having self-control when caring for a baby or pet.

STEP 1: Explain that sometimes we need to be extra gentle. Show pictures of the infant or baby animal and ask kids to share what they know about how to treat them.

Optional: Introduce your guests and ask them to share the importance of gentleness in their role as a parent or a pet owner. Give kids the opportunity to ask your guests questions about the care of their baby or pet.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why is gentleness important when working with small children or animals?
- When are other times in our lives when we need to be gentle?
- How do you feel when you are gentle with someone or something?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Gentleness is strength under control. Having a gentle attitude allows us to treat others with kindness and love.
- Self-control is restraining sinful passions and desires. We practice self-control when we are willing to put aside our own desires and put God's desires or another person's needs before our own.
- God's Word teaches us how to have gentleness and self-control.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering gentleness and self-control.

Notes:

SECTION
4.6

Discovery of Gentleness and Self-Control



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: What Would You Do?

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Give kids the following scenario:

Imagine you have not eaten in five days. Someone puts your favorite food in front of you, but he or she tells you that if you can sit in front of the delicious food for four hours without touching it, you can have anything you want for every meal for the rest of the week. But if you eat it right away, it's the only meal that you get to eat for the next five days!

Ask, "What would you do?" Allow several kids to respond.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why would it be difficult to wait to eat for four hours?
- What would be the benefits of waiting to eat?
- How would you feel if you chose to wait to eat and had to sit there for four hours?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It is easy to become impatient and pursue something that sounds good in the present instead of waiting for something better in the future.
- Practicing self-control is never easy. It often requires us to let go of something that seems good to us and wait for something better.
- God's Word teaches us how to have gentleness and self-control.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering gentleness and self-control.

SECTION
4.6

Discovery of Gentleness and Self-Control



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Proverbs for Gentleness and Self-Control

What You'll Need: Bibles, Proverbs for Gentleness and Self-Control Handout, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of the Proverbs for Gentleness and Self-Control Handout, one copy per kid. Bookmark Bibles to the following references: Proverbs 25:28, Proverbs 29:11, Proverbs 16:32, Proverbs 17:14, Proverbs 15:1.

STEP 1: Ask, "When might a kid your age lose their temper?"

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Many of us might struggle with losing our temper. It shows a lack of gentleness or self-control when we lose it our temper.
- It is easy for us to lose our temper when we become frustrated or when things do not go our way.

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Timothy 6:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We need to flee things that would tempt us to sin.
- We should pursue righteousness or godliness so that we become more like Jesus.
- We should pursue faith and steadfastness so that we grow deeper in our relationship with God and hold firmly to what we believe.
- We should pursue love so that we can love God with all of who we are and can love others above ourselves.
- We should pursue gentleness so that we can treat others as they lovingly deserve to be treated.

STEP 4: Explain that God's Word shows us the importance of discovering gentleness and self-control in our lives. Give each kid a copy of the handout and a pen or a pencil. Have kids work in pairs or groups, and assign each pair or group one of the Proverbs on the handout. Encourage pairs or groups to study their Proverb together and then draw or write a situation in which they could use this verse in their lives.

STEP 5: After four minutes, have a volunteer from each pair or group read their proverb and share what he or she wrote or drew.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants us to pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, and gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11).
- A gentle person does not allow people to treat him or her poorly; instead, that person chooses a humble and gentle attitude that does not seek revenge when treated poorly (Matthew 5:43-44).
- Having self-control means denying what our sinful nature may want to do. Instead, we choose to put God's desires or another person's needs before our own (Luke 10:27).
- One of the benefits of gentleness and self-control is the unity and peace we have with other followers of Jesus. When we choose to be gentle and self-controlled, we are an example and an encouragement to those around us (Ephesians 4:1-3).

STEP 6: Remind kids that God's Word and God's grace will help them discover gentleness and self-control in their lives. Encourage kids to take the handout home and complete it during the week.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



Proverbs for Gentleness and Self-Control Handout

Study your assigned Proverb together and then draw or write a situation in which you could use this verse in your life.

Proverbs 25:28	Proverbs 29:11	Proverbs 16:32
Proverbs 17:14	Proverbs 15:1	

I can use this when...

SECTION
4.6

Discovery of Gentleness and Self-Control



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Examples of Gentleness and Self-Control

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, highlighters

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ask two leaders to study one of the following passages: 1 Samuel 24:1-14 or Daniel 1. Ask them to be ready to give a short summary of each of these passages during the lesson

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Timothy 6:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We need to flee things that would tempt us to sin.
- We should pursue righteousness or godliness so that we become more like Jesus.
- We should pursue faith and steadfastness so that we grow deeper in our relationship with God and hold firmly to what we believe.
- We should pursue love so that we can love God with all of who we are and can love others above ourselves.
- We should pursue gentleness so that we can treat others as they lovingly deserve to be treated.

STEP 2: Divide the kids into two groups and assign one of the leaders who studied the passages to each group. Ask the leaders to summarize the story with their groups and then help their groups act out the passage.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have the first group act out David's self-control (1 Samuel 24:1-14.)

Share these key concepts:

- Because Saul had disobeyed God, God would not allow anyone from Saul's family to be king.
- God had revealed that David would be the next king.
- Saul at one time cared deeply for David. David played the harp to calm Saul's spirit, David was friends with Saul's son.

- Saul was jealous of David's success and the way the people praised him.
- Saul tried often to kill David.
- David had several opportunities for revenge, but he chose to be gentle and self-controlled and spared Saul's life.

STEP 4: Ask the second group to act out Daniel and his friend's self-control (Daniel 1).

Share these key concepts:

- Daniel and his friends were teenagers when they were taken from their home and forced to live in Babylon.
- The Babylonian leaders wanted Daniel and the other Israelite boys to become trained in the ways of their kingdom. These boys were given wonderful food and were able to live in luxurious surroundings, but their lifestyle was much different than what they grew up with.
- The Babylonian king wanted these young men to forget their old ways and to turn from worshiping the one true God.
- They were offered food that they knew was against what God wanted them to eat.
- The temptation was strong to enjoy the luxury and the good food, but Daniel and his friends chose self-control.
- They were gentle and respectful in their response, but they asked to eat only vegetables and to drink water for 10 days.
- After the 10 days, they were stronger and healthier than the other youth.
- God honored their self-control and their willingness to do what God wanted them to do instead of following what would have been easy.

STEP 5: God wants us to discover self-control and gentleness in our lives.

Share these key concepts:

- A gentle person does not allow people to treat him or her poorly; instead, that person chooses a humble and gentle attitude that does not seek revenge when treated poorly (Matthew 5:43-44).

(Continued on the next page.)

SECTION
4.6

Discovery of Gentleness and Self-Control



Main Lesson Activity Continued (10 Minutes)

- Having self-control means denying what our sinful nature may want to do. Instead, we choose to put God's desires or another person's needs before our own (Luke 10:27).
- One of the benefits of gentleness and self-control is the unity and peace we have with other followers of Jesus. When we choose to be gentle and self-controlled, we are an example and an encouragement to those around us (Ephesian 4:1-3).

STEP 6: Ask kids to think of one area in their lives in which they struggle with gentleness or self-control. Have them turn to Section 4.6 in their handbooks and to find one verse that they can study to help them learn gentleness and self-control. Encourage them to highlight that verse.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Discovery of Grace



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Fruit Sampler

What You'll Need: Fruit, knife, trays, plastic silverware, napkins, and plates

PREP: Purchase a variety of fruit. Look for different kinds of fruit your kids may not have tried. Wash and prep the fruit to serve on trays during club. Keep in mind that there might be food allergies, so make sure to keep fruit separate.

STEP 1: Encourage kids to try an assortment of fruit.

STEP 2: After they have tried some of the fruit, ask the following questions:

- What are your favorite types of fruit?
- What were some fruits that were new to you?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Fruit is a byproduct of extra growth in the life of a fruit tree or plant.
- A healthy fruit tree or plant that is growing will automatically produce fruit.
- As we grow in grace in our Christian life, we will automatically produce fruit from the Holy Spirit in our lives.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering God's grace in our lives.

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Discovery of Grace



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Sniff Test

What You'll Need: Vinegar, glass jar or bottle with lid, glass containers with lids, cookies, pizza, cotton ball, perfume, blindfold, tablecloth

PREP: Place vinegar in a glass jar or bottle and close it tightly. Spray a cotton ball with perfume. Place several cookies, a slice of pizza, and the prepared cotton ball in separate glass containers with lids.

Place all the items on a table in front of the room. Cover with a large towel or tablecloth.

STEP 1: Ask for a volunteer who is willing to take a sniff test. Blindfold the volunteer and have him or her stand near the table. One by one, remove the lids of the containers or jar and see if the person can guess the contents inside. As time allows, pass around the containers and let the other kids smell the contents.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Did any of these scents remind you of something? If so, what?
- How did you feel when you smelled the vinegar? How did you feel when you smelled the cookie or the pizza?
- What was your favorite scent?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Our sense of smell is closely linked with our memory and emotions.
- A scent can easily trigger a memory or an emotion that we experienced long ago.
- Our lives are like a fragrance. Our attitudes or our actions give off an impression to other people. That's why it's important to make sure we display godly actions and attitudes.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering God's grace in our lives.

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Discovery of Grace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Journey to God's Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, Journey to God's Grace Handout, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of the Journey to God's Grace Handout, one copy per kid.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Galatians 5:22-23. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- As we discover God's grace and live out His grace in our lives, we will produce godly actions and attitudes.
- The Bible calls those attitudes "fruit."
- This fruit is produced as the Holy Spirit continues to work in our lives.
- The fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in our lives is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Instead of trying to follow a list of rules or laws in our Christian lives, we should strive to grow in our relationship with God so that we produce this fruit in our lives.

STEP 2: Have kids work in pairs or groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give each pair or group a section of the Journey to God's Grace Handout to complete together, and encourage them to use their Bibles and handbooks as a guide. Ask leaders to offer help as needed.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have each pair or group present their answers. Encourage the kids to fill in their handouts as each group presents their information.

Share the following concepts:

- God's grace allows us to produce these attitudes in our lives. We are saved through God's grace in our lives (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- God's grace continues in our lives as we seek to know Jesus better and to be like Him (2 Peter 3:18).

- We can learn how to live out God's grace by spending time with Christians who display God's grace in how they live and act (Romans 1:8-12).
- God has a plan for our lives, and as we study and learn to appreciate God's Word, we will know this plan and be blessed with His abounding grace (Philippians 1:6, Ephesians 3:20-21).
- As we discover and grow in God's grace, we will grow spiritually (2 Peter 3:18).
- As we grow spiritually, we will produce spiritual fruit (Galatians 5:22-23).

STEP 4: Ask kids to look over their handout and to circle one step in which they need to work on. Then encourage them to pray silently, thanking God for His amazing, great grace.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Journey to God's Grace Handout

Step One: Accept Jesus as Savior (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Why is this the first step to discovering God's grace?

Step 2: Grow closer to Jesus (2 Peter 3:18).

What was Jesus like when He lived on earth? (Hint: Look through Unit 3 of your handbook!)

How can a kid your age learn more about Jesus?

Step Three: Study God's Word .

God's Word helps us know God's _____ for your life (Jeremiah 29:11).

God's Word helps us know God's _____ for our lives (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Step Four: Hang out with other Christians.

Read Romans 1:11-12. Why did Paul want to see his Christian friends?



SECTION

4.7

Discovery of Grace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Growing in Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, 3x5 cards, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark the following references in a Bible: 2 Peter 3:18, Philippians 1:6, Romans 1:11-12.

STEP 1: Ask, "How does a fruit tree know how to produce fruit?" (Guide kids to see that a healthy, growing fruit tree will automatically produce fruit as a result of its growth.)

STEP 2: : Read or recite this week's memory verse, Galatians 5:22-23. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- As we discover God's grace and live out His grace in our lives, we will produce godly actions and attitudes.
- The Bible calls those attitudes "fruit."
- This fruit is the results of us growing in our relationship with God.
- The fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in our lives is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- Instead of trying to follow a list of rules or laws in our Christian lives, we should strive to grow in God's grace so that we produce this fruit in our lives.

STEP 3: Ask a volunteer to read 2 Peter 3:18.

Share these key concepts:

- The first step to growing in God's grace is to know Jesus.
- We receive God's grace when we accept Jesus as Savior (Ephesians 2:8-9) and realize how much He loves us.
- God's grace continues in our lives as we grow closer to Jesus. The more we know Him and His love for us, the more our lives will change so that we are like Him and love other people with His love (2 Corinthians 3:18).

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer to read Philippians 1:6.

Share these key concepts:

- As we study God's Word, we will learn who Jesus is and how His love changes us.
- We will learn God's plan for us, and we can be confident in His work in our lives (Philippians 1:6).

STEP 5: Ask a volunteer to read Romans 1:11-12.

Share these key concepts:

- We grow in God's grace when we develop relationships with other Christians.
- We are strengthened and encouraged when we are around other Christians with godly attitudes.
- As we grow in our relationship with God and other believers, God's love shows up in our lives, and we will produce godly results. He will do amazing things through you as you continue to let the world discover God's grace in your life.

STEP 6: Give each kid a 3x5 card and a pen or pencil. Have kids look back through their T&T handbook from Section 4.7 and think about their own life. Encourage them to think of one thing they can do to continue to grow in God's grace. Ask them to write on their sticky note one thing they can do to continue to grow in God's grace. Encourage them to stick their note in Section 4.7 of their handbook.

STEP 7: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION

4.8

Discovery of... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Farthest from Home

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask, "What is the farthest you have ever traveled from home?" Use the kids' responses to determine who has traveled the farthest out of the whole group.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- What is your favorite part about traveling?
- Where is your favorite place to travel?
- Do you enjoy traveling? Why or why not?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We are on a journey in our relationship with God.
- The Bible is our map for our journey, and the Holy Spirit is our guide.
- As we grow more like Jesus, our lives will produce spiritual fruit as evidence that we are growing in grace.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering how we can be more like Jesus Christ through God's grace.

Notes:

SECTION

4.8

Discovery of... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Perfect Destination

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers

PREP: Set up an easel in the front of the room and place the whiteboard or pad of paper on it.

Write on the board or paper: I want to travel to . . .

STEP 1: Encourage kids to take turns writing their answers to the question on the whiteboard or pad of paper.

STEP 2: After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- Why did you pick this location?
- What is the coolest place you have visited?
- What is your favorite part about traveling?

STEP 3: S: Share these key concepts:

- We are on a spiritual journey to become more like Jesus.
- The Bible is our map for our journey, and the Holy Spirit is our guide.
- As we grow more like Jesus, our lives will produce spiritual fruit as evidence that we are growing in grace.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of discovering how we can be more like Jesus Christ through God's grace.

Notes:

SECTION

4.8

Discovery of... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Network of Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles; Network of Grace Handout, ball of yarn or twine, whiteboard or poster

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print a copy of the Network of Grace Handout. Choose questions to ask during the review activity, or come up with your own. (NOTE: The answers to each question are in parentheses in red text.)

Set up chairs in a circle. Write the following words on the whiteboard: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control.

STEP 1: Give kids one minute to review Unit 4 from their T&T handbook.

STEP 2: After a minute, have kids sit in a circle so that they can see the board in front of the class.

Have a leader help one kid tie the end of the yarn or twine around his or her finger and hold the twine.

Then asks one of the questions from the handout and ask the kid to answer. Give the kid one or two clues, if they are needed. After the kid has answered correctly, have him or her pass the yarn or twine to a different kid, who then wraps the yarn around one of his or her finger and answer the question.

Continue the activity, using the following key concepts as needed to help kids understand a question.

Key concepts:

- When God's love and grace is lived out in our lives, others will see it and they will want to discover God's great love for themselves (Matthew 5:16, John 14:15-16).
- When we trust God, ask God to forgive our sin, and keep His commandments, our lives will be transformed to be more like Jesus. Then we will experience His joy (John 15:10-11).
- Struggles produce patience in our lives, and we pray to God about the struggles we face, we are able to focus on Him and His goodness instead of our problems. His peace guards our hearts and helps us discover God's perfect peace

(Philippians 4:8).

- God created us to do good works that bring Him glory (Ephesians 2:10). As we study God's Word and choose to follow God's plan for us, we will begin to see opportunities in our lives to show kindness and goodness (Galatians 6:10).
- Being faithful is a daily choice to follow God or to do what we want to do. The more we get to know and trust Him, the easier it will be to faithfully follow Him (Psalm 119:105).
- A gentle, self-controlled person chooses a humble and gentle attitude that puts God's desires or another person's needs before his or her own (Luke 10:27).
- We are saved through grace, and God's grace continues in our lives as we seek to know Jesus better and to be like Him by studying God's Word (2 Peter 3:18). We can learn how to live out God's grace by spending time with Christians who display God's grace in how they live and act (Romans 1:8-12).

STEP 3: After seven minutes, point out the intricate web they have made that connects them to one another.

Share these key concepts:

- Your job as a Christian is not to work hard in their own strength to produce a specific fruit. Your job is to grow in your relationship with God.
- When you do so, your life will automatically have with these godly attitudes.
- As you live out your godly attitudes. Your actions will "connect" you with other people.
- God's love and grace will shine through you and He will use you to shine His light to other people.
- They will see these good works in your life, and God will get the glory.

STEP 4: Ask kids to let go of the yarn or twine and then pray silently, asking God to help them to continue to grow in grace by growing closer to Jesus.

STEP 5: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.



Network of Grace

Give an example of a kid your age showing patience.

Answers will vary.

How are we supposed to love God?

With our hearts, souls, minds, and strength; with all of who we are.

How are we supposed to love others?

We are to love them like we love ourselves; we are to put their needs before our own.

How is joy different from a feeling of happiness?

Joy DOES NOT depend on our circumstances; it is based on our relationship with God. Happiness IS based on our present experiences or on the circumstances around us at that time.

Fill in the blank in the following verse:

Psalm 16:11 — *You make known to me the path of life: in Your presence there is fullness of JOY; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

Name someone from the Bible who displayed kindness.

Jonathan, Good Samaritan, four friends who brought their lame friend to Jesus, Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 2:10 says that God created us to do GOOD WORKS.

How could someone your age demonstrate faithfulness in his or her life?

By having a relationship with God, by studying God's Word and praying, by trusting in God, by choosing to follow God.

Give a situation in which a kid your age shows self-control:

Answers may vary.

Name one way you can you grow in grace.

Studying God's Word, growing closer to Jesus, seeking out relationships with other believers.



SECTION

4.8

Discovery of... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Spiritual Fruit Reflections

What You'll Need: Bibles, Spiritual Fruit Reflection Handout, handbooks, pens or pencils, markers or colored pencils (Optional: CD and CD player or computer or smartphone; song that focuses on God's grace in their lives. See Step 3 for suggestions.)

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Remind kids that as we grow in grace, our lives will display godly attitudes through the help of the Holy Spirit, these attitudes are known as the fruits of the Spirit.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- When God's love and grace is lived out in our lives, others will see it and they will want to discover God's great love for themselves (Matthew 5:16, John 14:15-16).
- When we trust God, ask God to forgive our sin, and keep His commandments, our lives will be transformed to be more like Jesus. Then we will experience His joy (John 15:10-11).
- Struggles produce patience in our lives, and we pray to God about the struggles we face, we are able to focus on Him and His goodness instead of our problems. His peace guards our hearts and helps us discover God's perfect peace (Philippians 4:8).
- God created us to do good works that bring Him glory (Ephesians 2:10). As we study God's Word and choose to follow God's plan for us, we will begin to see opportunities in our lives to show kindness and goodness (Galatians 6:10).
- Being faithful is a daily choice to follow God or to do what we want to do. The more we get to know and trust Him, the easier it will be to faithfully follow Him (Psalm 119:105).
- A gentle, self-controlled person chooses a humble and gentle attitude that puts God's desires or another person's needs before his or her own (Luke 10:27).

- We are saved through grace, and God's grace continues in our lives as we seek to know Jesus better and to be like Him by studying God's Word (2 Peter 3:18). We can learn how to live out God's grace by spending time with Christians who display God's grace in how they live and act (Romans 1:8-12).

STEP 3: Pass out a copy of the Personal Reflection handout and a pen or pencil to each kid. Place markers and colored pencils nearby. Give kids five minutes to complete the handout. Encourage kids to use their Bibles or their handouts as they work.

Optional: While the kids are working on their reflections, play a song that focuses on God's grace in their lives, (e.g., "Flawless," "I Will Trust in You," "Surrender," "I Surrender All," etc.).

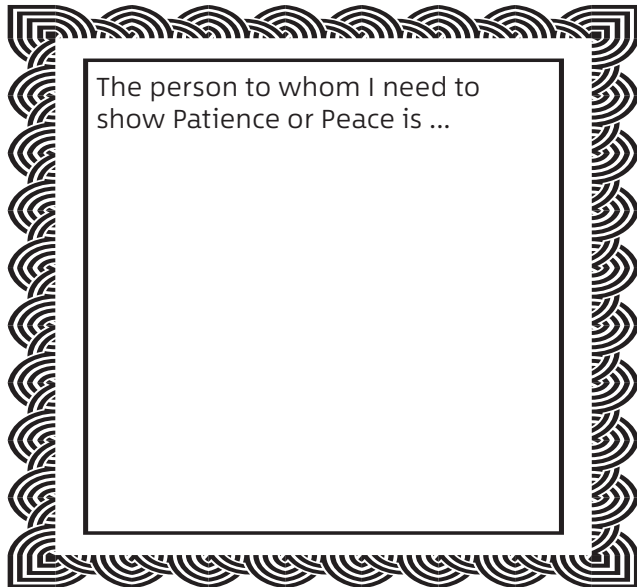
STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- Your job as a Christian is not to work hard in their own strength to produce a specific result. Your job is to grow in your relationship with God.
- When you do so, your life will automatically result in these godly attitudes.
- As you live out your godly attitudes your actions will "connect" you with other people.
- God's grace and love will show through you to other people.
- They will see these good works in your life, and think about God's greatness.

STEP 5: Ask kids to pray silently, asking God to help them to continue to grow in grace by growing closer to Jesus.

STEP 6: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

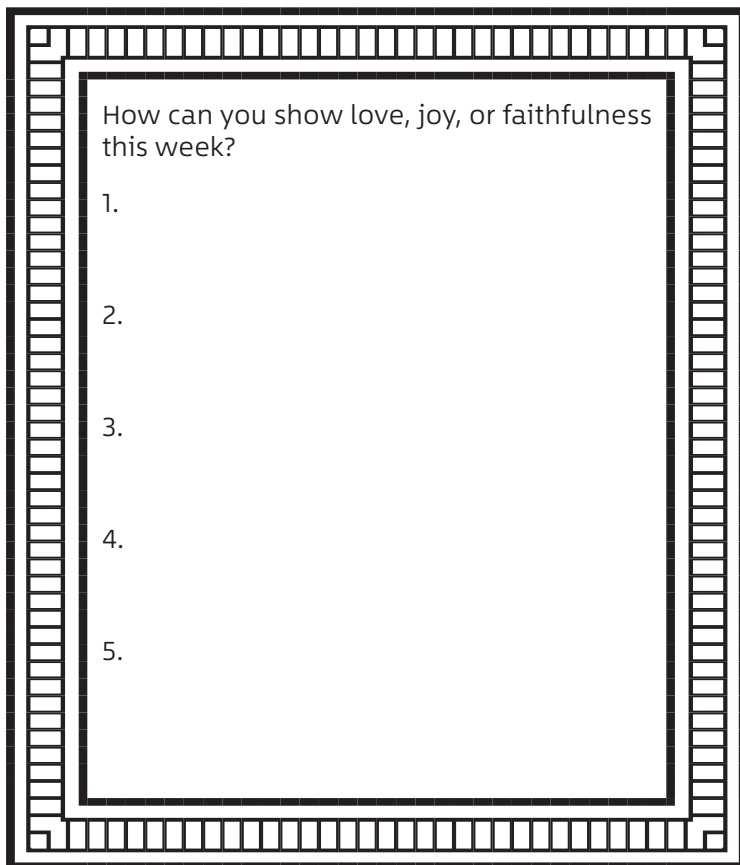
Spiritual Fruit Reflection Handout

A decorative border with a repeating geometric pattern of interlocking lines.

The person to whom I need to show Patience or Peace is ...

A simple double-line rectangular border.

One way I can show Kindness and Gentleness is to ...

A border consisting of a grid of small squares.

How can you show love, joy, or faithfulness this week?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

A complex geometric border with interlocking lines forming a lattice-like pattern.

I need to show gentleness and self-control because ...

What is one thing you will do to help you grow in grace so that your life produces these fruits?