



MISSION

AGENTS OF GRACE



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NIV

SECTION

1.1

God Is Our Savior



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Somebody, Help!

Notes:

What You'll Need: Life saving ring or life jacket

PREP: Ask a trusted leader to ad lib a scene in which he or she throws a life ring to a kid that play-acts that he or she is struggling in the water. Alternately, he or she can show a kid how to put on a life jacket and talk about how it can save your life if your boat tips over on the water. Arrange a signal that you will give them to know when they are to begin. Encourage them to make it fun and lighthearted, not frightening.

STEP 1: Give the signal for the leader and kid to begin their safety demonstration. After they have finished, ask the following questions:

- What would you do if a friend or classmate was struggling in the water?
- What skills would be necessary in order for a person to save someone who is struggling in the water?

Guide kids to see the importance of a quick, knowledgeable response to someone who is struggling in the water.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- In order to save someone who is struggling in the water, a person needs to know lifesaving skills and how to rescue someone from the water.
- A person who is struggling in the water is helpless; he or she needs a savior.
- We are helpless to save ourselves from sin. That's why God provided a Savior for us.

STEP 3: 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 our Savior.

SECTION

1.1

God Is Our Savior

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: The Common Link

What You'll Need: Computer, printer
(optional: overhead projector)

PREP: Search the Internet for images of a police officer, a doctor, a firefighter, a lifeguard, and a cross. Print out the images. (Optional: Create a PowerPoint® of the images to show in class. Place the image of the cross last in the PowerPoint.)

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they are going to play a game called The Common Link. Display all the images one at a time EXCEPT the cross. (Optional: Play the prepared PowerPoint, but do not display the image of the cross.) Encourage kids to guess what each thing has in common (i.e., they are all trained to save someone who is in trouble). If kids struggle to come up with the common link, give appropriate clues (e.g., If a person is stuck in a burning building, what would a firefighter do?).

STEP 2: After kids have found the common link, ask the following questions:

- Why are these jobs necessary?
- If you had to choose one of these jobs, which would you pick? Why?
- What could happen if a firefighter, doctor, lifeguard, or police officer did not know how to save someone?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- In an emergency, we rely on people who are trained to save lives.
- Firefighters, doctors, lifeguards, and police officers might be able to save someone's physical life, but they are helpless to save someone from their sins.
- (Display the image of the cross.) God loved us when we were sinners. He knew that we were helpless in our sin and could not save ourselves. That's why He provided a way to save 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 our Savior.

Notes:

SECTION
1.1

God Is Our Savior



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Who We Are/Who God Is

What You'll Need: Bibles, easel, whiteboard or poster, markers

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

PREP: Set up the easel and place the whiteboard or poster on it. On the upper left-hand side of the board or poster, write, "Who We Are." On the upper right-hand side of the board, write, "Who God Is."

Bookmark the following references in three different Bibles: Revelation 4:11, Romans 5:12, Romans 10:9-10.

STEP 1: Distribute the marked Bibles to volunteers who are willing to read aloud. Ask the first volunteer to read Revelation 4:11 aloud.

Share these concepts:

- God is the Creator. He made all things. Because He created everything, He has authority over everything.
- God created man to have a relationship with Him.

Write on the left-hand side of the board, "Created by God." Write on the right-hand side of the board, "The Creator."

STEP 2: Ask the second volunteer to read aloud Romans 5:12.

Share these key concepts:

- Adam and Eve, the first man and woman God created, sinned by disobeying God.
- Because they sinned, all people born after them are sinners.
- God is holy and without sin. Our sin separates us from God.
- No matter how good you try to be, we are all sinners. The punishment for our sin is death.

Write on the left-hand side of the board, "Sinners."

Write on the right-hand side of the board, "Holy."

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Titus 3:4-5. Tell the kids that this week's verse tells us about how God saves those who call on Him.

- God is good and kind. He loved us even when we were sinners.
- God saved us, not because we were good or did good things. He saved us because of His mercy, or His kindness.
- We are saved because Jesus took the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross for us. His blood washes away our guilt and our sin, just like water washes away the dirt on our skin. We are made new in Christ!
- When Jesus becomes our Savior, we are given the Holy Spirit. He is always with us, and He will help us make good choices that please God.

Write on the left-hand side of the board, "Saved."

Write on the right-hand side of the board, "Savior."

Step 4: Have the third volunteer read Romans 10:9-10.

Share these key concepts:

- God's offer of salvation is free to anyone!
- We have to accept His offer to save us. We do so by believing that we are sinners and that Jesus died for our sins and rose again.

Step 5: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION
1.1

God Is Our Savior



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Rejoice in God Our Savior

What You'll Need: Bibles, card stock, markers or colored pencils

PREP: Bookmark four different Bibles with the following references: Romans 5:1, John 14:26, Hebrews 13:5, and 1 John 5:11.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Titus 3:4-5.

- God is good and kind. He loved us even when we were sinners.
- God saved us not because of anything good we have done. He saved us because of His mercy, love, and kindness.
- Our guilt and our sin are washed away, just like water washes away the dirt on our skin. We are made new in Christ!

STEP 2: Explain to kids that once we accept God's offer of salvation, our lives are changed forever. Have kids work in small groups, and give each group one of the bookmarked Bibles, card stock, and markers or colored pencils. Give kids two or three minutes to study their verse, determine the reason we have to rejoice in God, our Savior, and create a poster that encourages us to rejoice in God based on the information in their verse.

STEP 3: Have the first group read Romans 5:1 and share their findings and poster.

Share these key concepts:

- Before we are saved, we are enemies of God because of sin. We cannot have a relationship with Him.
- To be justified means that God forgives ALL our sins. We are no longer separated from Him, and we can have a relationship with Him.
- Because our sins are forgiven, we have peace with God.

STEP 4: Have the second group read John 14:26 and share their findings and poster. Using the verse as a guide, share these key concepts:

- When Jesus becomes our Savior, we are given the Holy Spirit.
- Our memory verse, Titus 3:5, tells us that the Holy Spirit renews us. That means that He helps us change.
- The Holy Spirit helps us understand the Bible, and He helps us make good choices that please God.

STEP 5: Have the third group read Hebrews 13:5 and share their findings and poster.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, He promises to always be with us. We never have to be afraid because we are never alone.
- Even when we do wrong, God won't go away or break His promises to us. He will NEVER leave us or forsake us.

STEP 6: Have the fourth group read 1 John 5:11 and share their findings and their poster.

Share these key concepts:

- After we accept God's offer of salvation, we are promised eternal life.
- One day we will get to live with God forever in heaven, where there is no pain and no sorrow and no death (Revelation 21:4).
- This promise is forever!

STEP 7: Remind the kids that each person needs a Savior.

Share these key concepts:

- No one can ever be good enough to save themselves.
- Going to church or Awana or memorizing verses or reading our Bibles cannot save us.
- Jesus is the ONLY ONE who can save us.

As the Spirit leads, give kids an opportunity to respond. Ask leaders to talk to any kid who wants to learn more.

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

SECTION

1.2

God Is Our Hope



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Complete the Phrase

What You'll Need: Easel with whiteboard or poster, markers

PREP: Set up the easel and whiteboard or poster. Write the following phrase on the board or paper, "I hope . . ."

STEP 1: Direct the kids' attention to the phrase on the board. Encourage them to complete the phrase, "I hope . . ." by writing their responses on the board.

STEP 2: After two minutes, read the responses aloud. Then ask the following questions:

- Who hoped for something small?
- Who hoped for something large?
- What wishes on this list could happen?
- Are there any wishes that are impossible to grant? If so, which ones?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We all hope for something. To hope means to have the expectation that something good will happen in the future.
- We can hope for something, but we may not always get it.
- There is one hope that we can cling to, no matter what, and that is God. God is our hope, and NOTHING can ever take us away from Him or His 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 is our hope.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Our Hope



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Hope on a Rope

What You'll Need: Rope or string, masking tape, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils

PREP: Attach a rope or string to the wall or lectern.

STEP 1: Give each kid a 3 x 5 card, and have them finish the sentence, "I hope . . ." Ask a worker to tape their responses on the rope or string.

STEP 2: After a minute or two, read the responses aloud. Then ask the following questions:

- Who hoped for something small?
- Who hoped for something large?
- What wishes on this list could happen?
- Are there any wishes that are impossible to grant? If so, which ones?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We all hope for something. To hope means to have the expectation that something good will happen in the future.
- We can hope for something, but we may not always get it.
- There is one hope that we can cling to, no matter what, and that is God. God is our hope, and NOTHING can ever take us away from Him or His 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 is our hope.

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Our Hope**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: God Is My Hope**

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

PREP: Write the following references on sticky notes: John 3:16, Exodus 14:14, Isaiah 41:10, and Philippians 4:19.

STEP 1: Ask, "What are some struggles kids your age might face?" Write down their responses on a piece of paper.

After several kids have responded, remind them that we all face discouragement and trials. It is easy for us to become discouraged and to feel hopeless and helpless, but God has a different plan.

STEP 2: Have kids work in small groups, and give each group a sticky note. Give kids three minutes to study their verses and determine the promises that God gives to us. Challenge kids to come up with motions that go along with the promise in their verse.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have each group present their motions for the promise of God found in their verse.

Share these concepts:

- God promises eternal life to those who trust Jesus as their Savior (John 3:16). He forgives our sins, and we will one day live with Him forever in heaven.
- When we face hard times in our lives, we can trust that God will fight for us. All we have to do is trust Him to work things out for good as part of His bigger story (Exodus 14:14, Romans 8:28).
- God is ALWAYS with us. He gives us strength and help in every situation we face. We can be encouraged, knowing that He is our God (Isaiah 41:10).
- God will provide for our needs. We can go to Him in prayer, telling Him everything that is on our hearts. He cares for us, and He will help us (Philippians 4:19).

Step 4: Read the responses from the question in Step 1. Encourage kids to think through how someone facing that problem can trust in God as his or her hope.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Our Hope



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: David's Hope, My Hope

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

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

PREP: Ask several of your leaders to be prepared to give a summary of David facing Goliath (1 Samuel 17) or David fleeing Saul (1 Samuel 24). Bookmark Psalm 33:20-22, Psalm 62:5-6, Psalm 43:5, and Titus 2:13 in your Bible.

STEP 1: Tell kids that David was a man from Bible times who loved God with all his heart and wrote many of the psalms. Explain that David faced many dangerous situations, but God was always with him. Ask the two leaders to briefly summarize the events from 1 Samuel 17 and 1 Samuel 24.

Share these key concepts:

- David faced a giant, even when all the other soldiers of his people cowered in fear. He knew that God was with him and that God would give him the victory (1 Samuel 17).
- King Saul was jealous of David and tried many times to kill him. David and the men who followed him were on the run for many years as Saul pursued them and tried to kill them. Yet David trusted in God and knew that God would protect him. His hope was in God alone (1 Samuel 24).

STEP 2: Give each kid a piece of paper and colored pencils or markers. Encourage kids to draw a picture representing what God is like based on the following verses: Psalm 33:20-22, Psalm 62:5-6, and Psalm 43:5. Read each verse out loud, and give kids thirty seconds to draw before continuing to the next verse.

STEP 3: Ask volunteers to share their drawings.

Share these key concepts:

- God is our help and shield. Even though life won't always be happy, we can hope in Him because He will ALWAYS help us.
- God is our rock, fortress, and salvation. When we are frustrated or discouraged, we can trust in the promise that God NEVER changes. He will help us through every situation we face when we hope in Him.
- Even when we are sad or hurt, we can praise God, knowing that all of His promises will come true. He loves us, and He will work everything out for our good and His glory.

STEP 4: Tell kids that not only can they hope in who God is and what He will do for them, there is one HUGE promise they can look forward to. Read Titus 2:13.

Share these key concepts:

- We have eternal life through Jesus Christ when we trust Him as Savior.
- Jesus is now in heaven, preparing a place for His followers (John 14:1-3).
- Jesus will one day come back for us. What an amazing time that will be, when we get to see Him face to face and live FOREVER with God in heaven!
- That is our hope. That is the promise that will come true, no matter what trials we face, no matter how many hurts we feel. Our God loves us. He is our hope forever.

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

SECTION

1.3

God the Son Is Our Advocate**Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 1: A Letter of Recommendation**

What You'll Need: Envelope, large candy bar or bottle of soda

PREP: Ask your leaders to choose one from among themselves to be "Leader of the Night" for an opening activity.

Ask a pastor, Awana director, or church leader to write a letter of recommendation on behalf of your Awana leader. Encourage the pastor or church leader to include the number of years he or she has served, a bit about his or her personality and spiritual qualities, and why that person deserves the award. Place the letter of recommendation in an envelope.

STEP 1: Announce to the kids that one of the leaders in your group was chosen for a special award of "Leader of the Night." Read the letter of recommendation aloud. Then ask the following questions:

- Why did the (pastor or church leader) write this letter?
- What did we learn about (leader's name) from this letter?
- How did this letter recommend (leader's name) to win our award for "Leader of the Night"?

STEP 2: Award the leader with the candy bar or soda. Then share the following key concepts.

- An advocate is someone who speaks for us and intercedes for us.
- (Pastor or church leader) was an advocate for (leader's name). In this letter, he/she spoke for (leader's name) and helped us understand why he/she deserves the award.
- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, you have an advocate. Our advocate is Jesus Christ. He hasn't written a letter on our behalf, but He DOES speak for and intercede for us regularly before God.

STEP 3: 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 our advocate.

Notes:

SECTION

1.3

God the Son Is Our Advocate*Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)***Option 2: Advocate Needed**

What You'll Need: Gum, paper, markers

PREP: Purchase several varieties of gum.

STEP 1: Give each kid a piece of gum. Ask them to imagine that a law was about to be made that would completely outlaw gum and that they have one opportunity to make a poster to share in front of the judge that shows why they think gum should be allowed. Have kids work individually, in pairs, or in groups, and give them two minutes to make a poster to promote gum.

STEP 2: After two minutes, encourage them to share their posters.

- What arguments did you use to promote gum?
- How might your poster affect the judge's decision?

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- In our activity, you served as an "advocate" for gum. Even though this was an imaginary situation, the role of an advocate is real. An advocate is someone who speaks for or intercedes for someone else.
- An advocate has an opportunity to change someone's opinion of someone or something.
- Jesus Christ is our advocate. He goes before God on our behalf, and through Him we have an opportunity 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 God is our advocate.

Notes:

SECTION

1.3

God the Son Is Our Advocate**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: Courtroom Scene**

What You'll Need: Bibles, chairs, poster board, markers, 3 x 5 cards, whiteboard, dry erase markers

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to Hebrews 4:16. Place a chair in the front of the classroom. Write each of the following words on a separate sheet of poster board: Judge, Advocate, Holy Spirit. Place the first poster board on the empty chair. Give the other two posters to two different leaders. Place another chair off to the side.

STEP 1: Tell kids they are the suspects in the courtroom and that they represent all men and women. Every person is on trial because of sin. (Point to the empty chair in the front of the classroom. Place the "Judge" poster on the chair.) Explain that God is the ultimate judge of all mankind.

Share these concepts:

- Our creator God is holy. That means that He has never sinned and He cannot be around sin (Isaiah 6:3). All sin must be punished (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23).
- Sin entered the world because of the sin of one man (Romans 5:12). Since Adam, all people are born sinners, separated from the holy God (Isaiah 59:2). We cannot be right with Him or be good enough on our own to avoid the punishment we all deserve because of sin (Isaiah 64:6).

STEP 2: Ask the leader holding the Advocate poster to turn around.

Share these key concepts:

- An advocate is someone who speaks or intercedes for someone else. Because of our sin, we needed someone to be our advocate before God on our behalf (1 Timothy 2:5).
- Jesus is God's Son. He is God. He came to earth, lived a perfect life, and died to take the punishment we deserve for our sin (John 3:16).

- Jesus now lives in heaven. When we trust in Him as Savior, our sin and our guilt are washed away. God no longer sees us as sinners. He sees the righteousness, or goodness of Jesus Christ, cover us (Romans 5:1).
- As our advocate, Jesus stands before God and intercedes, or goes between, God and us. He speaks to God on our behalf (1 Timothy 2:5).

STEP 3: Explain to kids that we are free from the punishment of sin and hell because of our advocate. But God gave us even more than our advocate, Jesus Christ. Take the empty chair and put it in the first row with the rest of the kids. Ask the leader with the Holy Spirit sign to sit down in the chair with the kids and hold up the sign so all the kids can see it.

Share these key concepts:

- The Holy Spirit is fully God.
- God sent the Holy Spirit to be a helper, a comforter, and a counselor to always be with believers while we are here on earth (John 14:26).
- The moment we trust in Jesus as our Savior, God the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. His job is to encourage us, to help us, and to teach us what the Bible says (John 14:26).

Step 4: Stand before the "judge" but behind the "advocate." Ask a volunteer to read Hebrews 4:16.

Share these concepts:

- We can go before God in prayer with confidence because our advocate is interceding for us in front of God.
- God promises to give us mercy and grace when we come before Him.

Step 5: Remind kids that if they have trusted Jesus as Savior, they have an advocate who is before God right now. They also have God the Holy Spirit living inside them, ready to encourage and help them anytime they need it.

Give kids an opportunity to go before God in prayer. Encourage them to thank God for the advocate they have in Jesus and to confidently go before God in prayer with something on their hearts.

SECTION

1.3

God the Son Is Our Advocate



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: My Advocate

What You'll Need: Bibles, My Advocate Handout, paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Print out handouts for each child. Bookmark your Bible to Hebrews 4:16.

(Leader's Note: If you are not able to print the handout, you can use blank paper.)

STEP 1: Ask, "When might a person need an advocate?" Discuss situations in which a person might need someone to speak on their behalf (possible situations might include if someone is sick, if someone is mentally incapable of speaking, if someone is on trial, etc.)

Share these key concepts:

- Our creator God is holy. That means that He has never sinned and He cannot be around sin (Isaiah 6:3). All sin must be punished (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23).
- We need an advocate because of our sin. Since Adam and Eve, the very first people, sinned, all people born after them are born sinners (Romans 5:12). Our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2). It creates a wall between God and us that keeps us from the relationship we need most (Isaiah 64:6).
- We deserve death because of our sin (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23).

STEP 2: Give each kid a copy of the My Advocate handout and a pencil or pen. Explain that because of our sin, we need an advocate before God.

Share these concepts:

- An advocate is someone who speaks or intercedes for someone else. Because of our sin, we needed someone to be our advocate before God on our behalf.
- Jesus is God's Son. He is God. He came to

earth, lived a perfect life, and died to take the punishment we deserve for our sin (John 3:16).

- Jesus now lives in heaven. When we trust in Him as Savior, our sin and our guilt are washed away. God no longer sees us as sinners. He sees the righteousness, or goodness of Jesus Christ, covering us (Romans 5:1).
- As our advocate, Jesus stands before God and intercedes, or goes between, God and us. He speaks to God on our behalf (1 Timothy 2:5).

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- The Holy Spirit is fully God.
- God sent the Holy Spirit to be a helper, a comforter, and a counselor to always be with believers while we are here on earth (John 14:26).
- The moment we trust in Jesus as our Savior, God the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. His job is to encourage us, to help us, and to teach us what the Bible says (John 14:26).

STEP 4: Read Hebrews 4:16. Share these key concepts:

- We can go before God in prayer with confidence because our advocate is interceding for us in front of God.
- God promises to give us mercy and grace when we come before Him.
- We don't have to wait for a certain time or place to pray. We can go to God ANYTIME or ANYWHERE. He promises to hear us and answer our prayers based on what He knows is best for us.

STEP 5: Give each kid a copy of the My Advocate handout and a pen or a pencil. Encourage them to finish the sentences.

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



My Advocate Handout

**GOD,
THANK YOU FOR ...**

I REALLY NEED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT ...

I KNOW THAT YOU ALWAYS HEAR ME AND HELP ME SINCE ...

SECTION

1.4

God Is Our Strength



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Strongest Leader Contest

What You'll Need: Chair, books, boxes, tape, small pieces of furniture (optional: weights)

PREP: Acquire a box and place several heavy books inside. Tape the box shut.

Place a chair and other small pieces of furniture in the front of the room, along with the prepared box. (Optional: Place the weights in front of the class.)

Ask two leaders to participate in a "weight lifting" contest. Encourage them to ad lib and engage the kids in the activity.

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that two leaders were chosen to participate in the "Strongest Leader" contest. Encourage the kids to cheer on their leaders. Have the leaders take turns lifting the objects in the front of the classroom. After the leaders have attempted to lift the chosen objects, ask, "Can we really tell which leader was stronger in this activity? Why or Why not?" (Guide kids to see that there was no accurate way to measure their strength.)

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We have to rely on the muscles in our legs and our arms to lift and carry heavy objects. We can train our bodies to become stronger, but no matter how strong we are, there are things that we would never be able to pick up or carry.
- Sometimes things in our life seem too big for us to handle, like when we are hurt by our friends or when we struggle with school or family situations. In these situations, we need to remember God is always with us.
- Our God is stronger than we can ever imagine. He created everything, and He holds the whole universe together. He promises to always be with us, and He will give us strength!

STEP 3: 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 our strength.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Our Strength



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Which Is Stronger?

What You'll Need: Paper towels, water, plastic container, spray bottle, quarters

PREP: Purchase a roll of high-quality paper towels and a roll of generic, low-quality paper towels. Remove the packaging for both rolls. Gather a handful of quarters and a medium-size container.

Fill the spray bottle with water. Place the container, spray bottle, paper towels, and quarters near the front of the room.

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to test the strength of the two different brands of paper towels. Give one volunteer one section of the low-quality paper towels. Have that person hold the paper towel by its edges over the plastic container. Have the second volunteer spray water on the middle of the paper towel five times. Have the third volunteer add quarters to the middle of the paper towel, two at a time, until the paper towel rips from the weight. Have the class keep track of the number of quarters it took to break the towel.

STEP 2: Repeat the process with the second brand of paper towels.

Ask the following questions:

- Which was the stronger roll of paper towels? Why?
- Was this experiment an accurate way to measure the strength of the paper towels? Why or why not?
- What would have happened if we had tried to place a three pound dumbbell on the damp paper towel instead of the quarters?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Just like the water and the weight of the quarters tested the strength of the paper towels, we will have times in our lives when we feel weak because of struggles we face or circumstances that we cannot control.

- But we are not alone. God is our refuge and strength. He is always with us and promises to help us in times of trouble.
- An advocate has an opportunity to change someone's opinion of someone or something.
- Jesus Christ is our advocate. He goes before God on our behalf, and through Him, we have an opportunity 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 God is our strength.

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Our Strength



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God's Strength in My Life

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

PREP: Set up the easel and whiteboard or pad of paper in front of the room. Write the following references on the board or paper:

- Psalm 37:39
- Psalm 28:7
- Habakkuk 3:19
- Psalm 62:7

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 46:1. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

- Our creator God is powerful. He controls the winds and the seas (Psalm 89:9). He holds the universe together (Hebrews 1:3). We cannot imagine how strong our God is (Psalm 147:5)!
- Our powerful God is our refuge and strength. When we face struggles or fear, or when we are tempted to sin, we can trust that God will help us and do what is best for us.
- Our loving God is always with us (Joshua 1:9). If we have trusted Jesus as Savior, we will ALWAYS have God's strength and power to help us through any situation we face.

STEP 2: Assign a verse to each pair of kids, and give each pair a sheet of card stock or a poster. Encourage the kids to read their verse together. Give kids three minutes to create a poster that displays how God's strength is described in their verse.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have kids share their posters.

Share these key concepts:

- God is a stronghold or strength in times of trouble (Psalm 37:39, Psalm 46:1). We can trust Him when life seems out of control.

- God is our shield (Psalm 18:1-2, 28:7). When we are tempted to sin, or when other people hurt us, we can turn to Him. He will protect and defend us when we trust in Him.
- God's strength gives us victory. When we trust in God's strength, we can face anything that comes our way. (Habakkuk 3:19, Philippians 4:13).
- God is our rock. When life seems uncertain and we don't know what will happen, we can trust that God is our rock and our salvation. He does not change, and His promises will ALWAYS come true (Psalm 62:7). We can trust that whatever happens is for our good and God's glory.

Step 4: Repeat Psalm 46:1 again, but encourage kids to change the word "our" to "my." Ask, "How can God be your strength this week?" Encourage kids to claim God's promise to help them through that situation.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Our Strength



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God's Strength on Display

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, music (optional: CD or CD player or computer or smartphone)

PREP: Write each of the following references on a sheet of paper: Exodus 7:14-19, Exodus 14:21-29, Jeremiah 10:12-13. Choose three leaders, and give each leader one of the papers. Choose a favorite song about God's strength and be prepared to sing it with the class. 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: Tell kids that God's strength was on display throughout the Bible. Encourage them to divide into three groups, and assign one of the leaders to each group. Have the leaders read the verses and discuss with their groups how God's strength is on display in each of those verses.

STEP 2: After three minutes, have the group with the Exodus 7:14-19 passage share their information.

Share these key concepts:

- God called Moses to lead His people, the Israelites, out of slavery.
- Pharaoh did not want to let the Israelites go. God sent 10 plagues to show the Egyptians that He is the one true God.
- God's strength was on display when He turned water into blood and sent frogs, lice, flies, and disease on the animals. He caused painful boils to infect people and animals. He sent hail and locusts to destroy crops and food. He sent darkness and death to the firstborn. These 10 plagues displayed God's amazing strength and proved God's awesome power.

STEP 3: Have the group with the Exodus 14:21-29 passage share their information.

Share these key concepts:

- After God sent the 10 plagues, Pharaoh allowed God's people to leave. However, he soon grew angry and chased after them.
- God's people were stuck. Pharaoh's army was coming after them, but in front of them was the Red Sea!
- God demonstrated His mighty power by parting the Red Sea. His people could walk across on dry land, and God destroyed the Egyptian army who tried to follow after them.

STEP 4: Have the group with the Jeremiah 10:12-13 passage share their information.

Share these key concepts:

- God created the heavens and earth, just by speaking (Genesis 1:1).
- He created the whole universe and knows every part of it.
- The wind and the waves are in His control.
- All of nature shows God's amazing strength on display.

STEP 5: Explain to kids that the all-mighty, awesome God displays His strength in everything we see in creation. Yet this powerful God loves us and chooses to display His strength to us in our lives. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 46:1. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Our creator God is powerful. He holds the universe together. We cannot imagine how strong our God is!
- Our powerful God is our refuge and strength. When we face struggles, when we are tempted to sin, or when we face danger, we can trust that God will help us and do what is best for us.
- Our loving God is always with us. If we have trusted Jesus as Savior, we will ALWAYS have God's strength and power to help us through any situation we face.

STEP 6: Ask kids to share common troubles that kids their age might face (e.g., bullying, parents fighting, controlling their tempers, etc.). Explain to them that God wants to be THEIR refuge and strength.

Share these key concepts:

- God is our strength when we are weak. We can turn to Him whenever we need help (2 Corinthians 12:9, Proverbs 18:10).
- God promises that He will give us strength to do the right thing (Philippians 4:13).

STEP 7: Tell kids that we can praise God for being our strength. End the lesson by singing together a song about God's strength (e.g., "Blessed Be Your Name," "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord," "You Are My All in All," etc.)

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

SECTION

1.5

God Is Our Peace*Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)***Option 1: Peaceful Mood**

What You'll Need: Drum or cymbals (optional: pan and spoon)

PREP: Ask a leader to prepare to lead the kids in relaxed breathing exercises and stretches. Have another leader be ready to play the drum or clang the cymbals at the right time. (Optional: If you do not have a drum or cymbals, use a pan and a metal spoon.)

STEP 1: Ask the leader to lead the class in relaxed breathing and stretching exercises. Talk about how when we are relaxed we feel peaceful and at rest. Then talk about the fact that sometimes things happen that can disturb or interrupt our peace. Give some examples of that in your life. Tell them that something is about to happen that is going to disturb or interrupt their peace. Ask them to listen carefully and raise their hand when they hear it.

Have another leader off to the side hit the drum or cymbals. Share these key concepts:

- No one enjoys it when our peace is disturbed or we feel frightened. It brings a sense of frustration and stress.
- Many people search for peace, trying new ideas or searching for things that bring temporary peace.
- No matter how hard we try to seek peace in this world, there will always be circumstances beyond our control that disrupt our peace.
- True, lasting peace starts with a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. God's peace will bring joy and comfort in any situation we might face.

STEP 2: 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 our peace.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Our Peace*Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)***Option 2: Peaceful or Stressful****Notes:**

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Point to one wall in the room and tell kids that side of the room is peaceful. Point to the opposite wall and tell kids that side of the room is stressful.

Tell kids to run to the side of the room that best describes the following situations:

- Playing with kittens or puppies
- Holding a screaming baby
- Drawing or reading
- Forgetting to do your homework
- Riding a scary roller coaster
- Listening to your favorite music
- Fighting with your brother or sister
- Hanging out with your friends

STEP 2: Ask, "What makes certain situations stressful?"

Share these key concepts:

- No one enjoys chaos. It brings a sense of frustration and stress.
- Many people search for peace, trying new ideas or searching for personal enjoyment.
- No matter how hard we try to seek peace in this world, there will always be circumstances beyond our control that threaten to disrupt our peace.
- True, lasting peace starts with a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. God's peace will bring joy and comfort in any situation we might face.

STEP 3: 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 our peace.

SECTION

1.5

God Is Our Peace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Steps to Peace

What You'll Need: Bibles, Steps for Peace handout, pens or pencils

(Leader's Note: You can use sheets of blank paper instead if you are not able to print the handout.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 16:33. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Only through Jesus Christ can we have peace with God (Romans 5:1).
- Christ reminded His disciples that they would have difficulties and troubles happen to them.
- Even though they would face struggles and discouragement, they could still have joy in knowing that Jesus would be with them. Our relationship with Him brings us peace.

STEP 2: Give each kid a copy of the Steps for Peace worksheet from the resource bundle. Divide kids into four groups, and assign one of the steps to each group. Give groups three minutes to read their verses and identify a step for peace.

Listed below are the verses on the handout:

- Romans 5:1 (We have peace when we trust in Jesus as Savior.)
- Psalm 119:165 (We have peace when we love God's Word.)
- Philippians 4:4 (We have peace when we rejoice.)
- Philippians 4:6 (We have peace when we pray instead of worrying.)
- Philippians 4:8 (We have peace when we focus our thoughts on good things.)

STEP 3: After three minutes, have the groups read their verses and share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

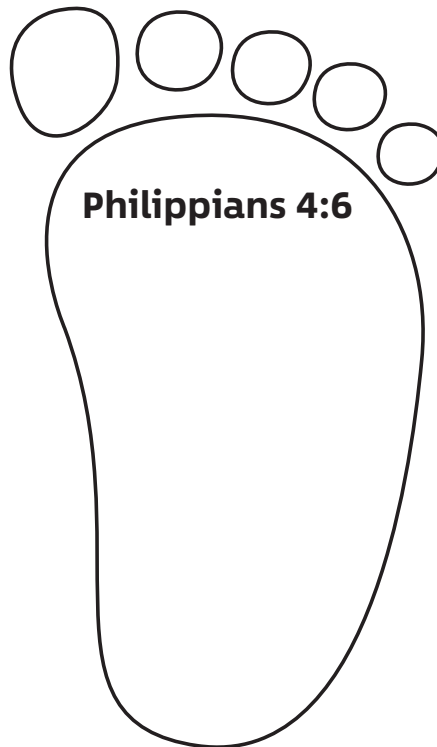
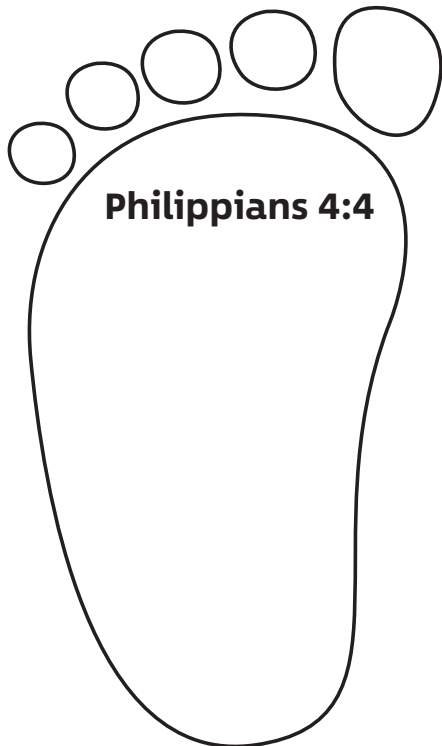
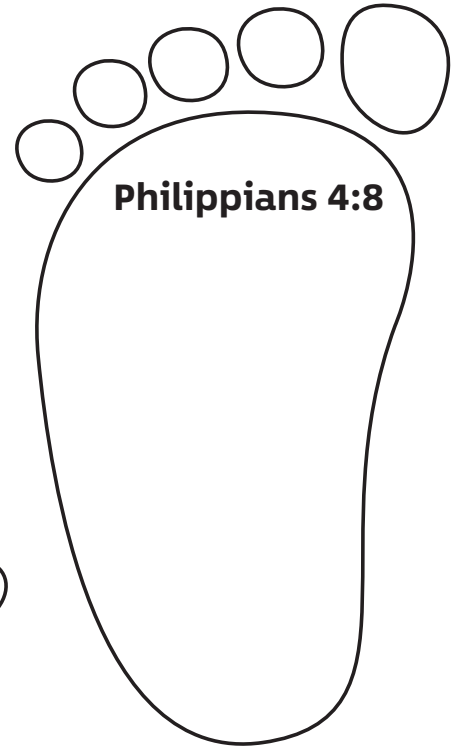
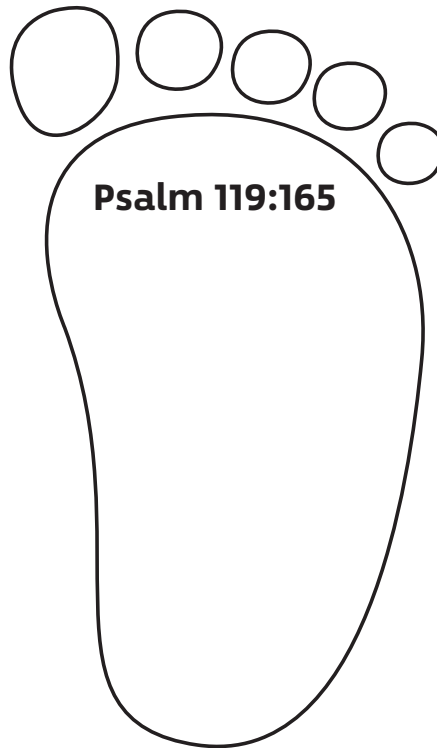
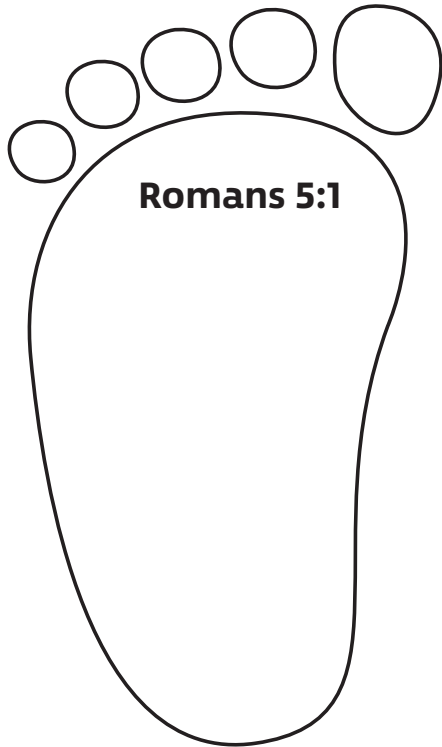
- Peace with God begins with Jesus Christ. We were once enemies with God, but when we trust Jesus as our Savior we are reconciled, or made at peace, with God (Romans 5:1).
- Peace comes from studying God's Word (Psalm 119:165).
- Peace comes when we rejoice in the Lord and remain calm in difficult circumstances (Philippians 4:4-5).
- Peace comes when we do not worry. When we are struggling with a situation, it is hard to not focus on our struggle or spend our time trying to figure out how we can get through it. God's Word is clear: We need to cast our cares on God and not be anxious or focused on those problems (1 Peter 5:7, Philippians 4:6).
- Peace comes when we pray. When we take our concerns to God, we can do so with an attitude of thanksgiving, knowing that God will work out all things for our good (Philippians 4:6, Romans 8:28).
- Peace comes when we focus our thinking on things that honor God. When we think on things that are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, and commendable, we please God.

Step 4: Ask, "Is there an area in which you need God's peace?" Encourage kids to examine their lives and identify an area in which they need God's peace. Encourage them to take a moment to review the steps to peace and to identify one step that they will commit to following this week in order to seek God's peace.

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



Steps for Peace



SECTION

1.5

God Is Our Peace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Steps to Peace

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

PREP: Set up the easel and whiteboard or paper. Write the word "PEACE" vertically on the board. Bookmark the following verses in a Bible: Romans 5:1, Psalm 119:165, 1 Thessalonians 5:22, Philippians 4:8-9, Romans 14:19.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 16:33. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Only through Jesus Christ can we have peace with God (Romans 5:1).
- Christ reminded His disciples that they would have difficulties and troubles in this world.
- Even though they would face struggles and discouragement, they could still have joy in knowing that Jesus would be with them. Our relationship with Him brings us peace.

STEP 2: Remind kids that God's Word gives us a pattern to peace. Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen or pencil. Have a volunteer read Romans 5:1.

Write on the board the acrostic for P: Peace comes through Christ.

Share these key concepts:

- Peace with God begins with Jesus Christ. We were once enemies with God, but when we trust Jesus as Savior we are reconciled, or made at peace, with God (Romans 5:10).
- We are made right through a relationship with Jesus Christ. All our sin and guilt have been completely removed. God does not see our sin; He sees us as innocent and righteous in Christ (Romans 5:1, Romans 5:9).
- We can rejoice even in difficult times, knowing that no matter what we may face, our relationship with God will not be broken (Romans 8:38-39).

STEP 3: Have a volunteer read Psalm 119:165.

Write on the board the acrostic for E: Enjoy God's Word.

- A. God's Word brings peace (Proverbs 3:1,2).
- B. When we develop a love for God's Word, we are at peace and make good decisions (Psalm 119:165).

STEP 4: Have a volunteer read 1 Thessalonians 5:22.

Write on the board the acrostic for A: Avoid evil.

Share these key concepts:

- Satan wants to discourage us and keep us from doing what God wants us to do (1 Peter 5:8).
- We must be on our guard for temptations that will cause us to sin (1 Peter 5:8).

STEP 5: Have a volunteer read Philippians 4:8-9.

Write on the board the acrostic for C: Control your thoughts.

Share these key concepts:

- We must focus our thinking on things that honor God.
- When we think on things that are true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, and commendable, we please God.

STEP 6: Have a volunteer read Romans 14:19.

Write on the board the acrostic for E: Exist in peace with others. Share these key concepts.

- It is not always easy to get along with others. We have different ideas and different likes and dislikes.
- The key to pursuing peace with others is putting their interests in front of your own (Philippians 2:3-4).
- When we seek to humbly put others first and glorify God, we are even able to have peace with our enemies (Proverbs 16:7).

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

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Roll of the Dice

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, dice, T&T handbooks

PREP: Set up an easel and whiteboard or pad of paper in front of the room. Collect dice, one die per two to four kids. Write the following lesson and corresponding numbers on the board or pad of paper:

- 1 — God is our Savior
- 2 — God is our hope
- 3 — God is our advocate
- 4 — God is our strength
- 5 — God is our peace
- 6 — Wild

STEP 1: Have kids work in groups of two to four. Tell a kid in each group to roll the dice and to share one fact from the lesson that corresponds with the number on the dice. If they get a wild card, have them share a favorite truth from any of the lessons. Encourage kids to use their handbooks as needed.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Throughout this unit we have studied key truths about God.
- Knowing these key truths helps us understand how He personally works in our lives.

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 remembering the character traits of God.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: True Statements

What You'll Need: Squishy ball

STEP 1: Have kids stand in a circle. Stand in the middle with a squishy ball. Tell kids that you will randomly toss a ball to one of them. They need to catch the ball and immediately share a true statement (e.g., it is raining outside, my name is _____, I play the piano, etc.) and then toss it back to you. Continue the activity as time allows.

STEP 2: Ask, "How do we know all these statements are true?"

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Throughout this unit, we have learned key statements about God.
- God is our Savior, hope, advocate, strength, and peace. We can trust in these truths of who God is, no matter what happens 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 remembering these true character traits of God.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: If ... Then ...**

What You'll Need: Bibles, butcher paper or a roll of craft paper, scissors, tape, markers

PREP: Cut a 4-foot section of butcher or craft paper. Write on the top left-hand corner, "If God is my Savior, hope, advocate, strength, and peace, THEN ..." Tape it to a wall in the classroom or lay it across a table. Place markers nearby.

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to briefly highlight key truths from the five lessons in this unit. Use the following key concepts as a guide:

- God loved us even when we were sinners, and He provided a way to save us (Romans 5:8). When we accept God's offer of salvation through Jesus' death, our sins are forgiven, we are made new in Christ, and the Holy Spirit lives in us to help us make good choices (1 John 1:7, 2 Corinthians 5:17, John 14:26).
- God is our hope. He promises to protect, guide, and save us (Psalm 62:5-6, Psalm 33:20-22). He offers us joy and peace when we hope in Him. Even when we face trials and discouragement, we can abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit in us (Romans 15:13).
- Jesus, who is fully God, goes before God on our behalf (1 John 2:1). Our sins are forgiven through Christ, and God sees our righteousness through Jesus (Romans 5:1). We can pray about anything, anytime and be confident that God hears our prayers because Jesus is our advocate. (Hebrews 4:15-16).
- The all-powerful God promises to always be with us (Isaiah 41:10). No matter what struggles we face, we can trust in Him (Psalm 56:3). He is bigger and stronger than anything we will ever face (Psalm 147:5).
- We will face trials and difficult circumstances, but we can rejoice, knowing that Jesus had victory over sin, death, and the struggles of the world (John 16:33). We can experience God's peace in difficult times when we are thankful and trust that God is always in control (Philippians 4:4-7).

STEP 2: Direct kids' attention to the paper on the wall. Encourage kids to complete the thought by writing or drawing a picture that explains how they will apply these truths to their lives (e.g., I will choose to trust in Him even in hard times, etc.) Challenge each kid to write several statements or draw several pictures of how they will apply these truths to their lives.

STEP 3: Ask several volunteers to share their favorite verses they have learned from this unit. Then encourage kids to rejoice by thanking God that He is their Savior, hope, advocate, strength, and peace.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Unit Reflection

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

PREP: hand out blank sheets of paper, one copy per kid. Optional: Choose several favorite worship songs to play during the activity.

(Leader's Note: If you are not able to print the handout, you can use blank paper.)

STEP 1: Remind kids that over the past five lessons they have learned a lot about who God is and how much God loves and cares for them. Encourage them to spend the next few minutes reflecting on what they have learned about God and themselves.

Distribute blank sheets of paper, along with pens or pencils. Give kids four or five minutes to complete their reflections. Encourage them to use their handbooks to either write out or draw pictures to answer the responses in each section.

Optional: Play favorite worship songs while the kids journal.

STEP 2: After kids have finished, briefly highlight the following key concepts from this unit.

- God loved us even when we were sinners, and He provided a way to save us (Romans 5:8). When we accept God's offer of salvation through Jesus' death, our sins are forgiven, we are made new in Christ, and the Holy Spirit lives in us to help us make good choices (1 John 1:7, 2 Corinthians 5:17, John 14:26).
- God is our hope. He promises to protect, guide, and save us (Psalm 62:5-6, Psalm 33:20-22). He offers us joy and peace when we hope in Him. Even when we face trials and discouragement, we can abound in hope through the power of the Holy Spirit in us (Romans 15:13).

- Jesus, who is fully God, goes before God on our behalf (1 John 2:1). Our sins are forgiven through Christ, and God sees our righteousness through Jesus (Romans 5:1). We can pray about anything, anytime and be confident that God hears our prayers because Jesus is our advocate. (Hebrews 4:15-16).
- The all-powerful God promises to always be with us (Isaiah 41:10). No matter what struggles we face, we can trust in Him (Psalm 56:3). He is bigger and stronger than anything we will ever face (Psalm 147:5).
- We will face trials and difficult circumstances, but we can rejoice, knowing that Jesus had victory over sin, death, and the struggles of the world (John 16:33). We can experience God's peace in difficult times when we are thankful and trust that God is always in control (Philippians 4:4-7).

STEP 3: Encourage kids to pray quietly, thanking God for who He is and how he helps and encourages them.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.1

The Bible Is God's Revelation



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: What's Wrapped Up?

What You'll Need: Bible, boxes, wrapping paper, tape, ball, calendar or magazine (optional: computer and printer, smartphone, or tablet)

PREP: Choose a picture of nature from a calendar or a magazine. Optional: Search the Internet for a nature scene. Print out the image or be prepared to show it during class.

Gather two boxes, one smaller than the other. Place the smaller box inside the larger, and then wrap the larger box with wrapping paper. Wrap a ball in wrapping paper. Make sure to maintain the shape of the ball.

STEP 1: Display the wrapped box. Encourage kids to come and touch or shake the box.

Ask, "What do you think is inside?"

Display the wrapped ball. Choose two volunteers to come and examine the wrapped gift.

Ask the following questions:

- Can you identify this gift? Why or why not?
- Even if you are correct, what specific details (e.g., color, type, use, etc.) of this wrapped item can you give us? Why or why not?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We know that the first box contains SOMETHING because we can hear the item move around inside.
- We know that the second package is a ball. We can tell what it is by the shape, weight, and feel of the gift. Even though we recognize that it IS a ball, we do not know specific details about the ball without opening it.

STEP 3: Hold up the nature picture and the wrapped box.

Share the following key concepts:

- Just like we can recognize that this is a present, people can see nature and recognize that there is a God.

- Nature reveals that there is a creator Who made everything we see and still holds it all together.

STEP 4: Hold up your Bible and the wrapped ball.

- Even though we KNOW this is a ball, we do not know the details without unwrapping it.
- Even though we KNOW there is a God by viewing all He created, we don't know details about Him.
- God gave us His Word, the Bible, to reveal to us the details of who He is and what He has done for us. When we "unwrap" God's Word and study it, we know more about Him and how we can have a relationship with Him.

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 has revealed Himself in both creation and through His Word.

Notes:

SECTION
2.1

The Bible Is God's Revelation



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: What's Inside?

What You'll Need: Cookie jar or container, prepackaged cookies (optional: homemade cookies)

PREP 1: Place store-bought or homemade cookies inside the cookie jar or container. Place the package of cookies in front of the classroom.

STEP 1: Hold up the cookie jar or container of cookies. Tell kids that there are cookies inside.

Ask, "What kind of cookies are inside this container?"

STEP 2: Pass around the package of cookies. Have the kids examine the package and eat one of the cookies. Then ask the following questions:

- What kind of cookies are these?
- What do you know about these cookies?
- How do you know these details about these cookies?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We know the cookie jar contains cookies, but we don't know all the details about the cookies.
- In the same way, we can look at the world around us and KNOW that there is a Creator who made all things. We know that He is powerful, but we don't know very many details about Him.
- We confidently know some things about the packaged cookies because we have studied the package, and we have tasted them.
- God gave us His Word, the Bible, to reveal who He is and what He came to do. When we read God's Word, we learn about Him and we learn how to have 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 that God has revealed Himself in both creation and through His Word.

Notes:

SECTION 2.1

The Bible Is God's Revelation



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God Revealed to You

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, card stock, pens or pencils, markers or colored pencils

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 1:20. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- God has revealed Himself to us through nature. Since the moment God spoke and made our world, creation points to God as our Creator and the One who loves us.
- Creation shows us God's power. It helps people see that there is a God. Creation is clear evidence that all things are created by a great God.

STEP 2: Give kids a sheet of card stock and place pens, pencils, markers, and colored pencils nearby. Encourage kids to draw a picture that shows how they see God in nature.

STEP 3: After three minutes, ask volunteers to present their pictures and explain how they see God revealed in nature.

Step 4: Explain to kids that nature reveals that there is a God. God also gave us the Bible, which reveals what He is like and shows us how we can have a relationship with Him. Explain that in Unit 1 they studied who God is. Have kids flip through the Unit 1 pages in their handbooks, and ask volunteers to share what they learned about God from that unit.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible contains God's words to us. The Holy Spirit helped men write down the exact words that God wanted them to write (2 Peter 1:20-21).
- The Bible reveals everything we need to know about God and the free gift of salvation He offers to us (2 Peter 3:9).
- Encourage the kids to write on the bottom of their pictures one thing that they have learned about God from the Bible.

STEP 5: Tell kids that when we choose to accept God's free gift of salvation, God gives us a job to do. We need to continue to learn more about who God is. We also need to share with others the truths about God that are revealed in the Bible.

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

Notes:

SECTION
2.1

The Bible Is God's Revelation



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God Revealed to You

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

STEP 1: Ask kids to raise their hands if they have ever seen any of the following:

- The Grand Canyon
- An ocean
- A mountain
- A newborn baby

Share these concepts:

- We see amazing beauty and power when we visit places like the Grand Canyon or the ocean. The Bible says that God has held the oceans in His hand and that He holds the depths of the earth and the mountain peaks (Isaiah 40:12, Psalm 95:4).
- We witness perfect design when we observe a newborn baby. The Bible says that God forms us when we are growing inside our moms. We are wonderfully made (Psalm 139:13,14).

STEP 2: Explain that our memory verse this week explains how everything God created teaches us something about God. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 1:20. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- God has revealed Himself to us through nature. Since the moment God spoke and made our world, creation points to God as our Creator and the One who loves us.
- Creation shows us God's power. It helps people see that there is a God. Creation is clear evidence that all things are created by a great God.

STEP 3: Remind kids that even though all of nature shows that there is a God, we needed something else to help us understand who He is and how we could have a relationship with Him. That's why God gave us His very words, the Bible.

Encourage kids to flip back through that unit and identify two things that stood out to them about who God is. Then give kids one minute to share those truths with the person sitting next to them.

Share the following key concepts:

- The Bible reveals everything we need to know about God and the free gift of salvation He offers to us (2 Peter 3:9).
- The Bible reveals the mystery of who God is. This mystery is available for all people of every nation so that they too can come to know God as their Savior (Romans 16:25-27).

STEP 4: Remind kids that there is so much that the Bible reveals to us about God. Encourage them to commit to being life-long learners of God's Word. Challenge your students to think of one way in which they will continue to get to know God this week. Encourage them to record their answers on a sticky note and to place it on the front page of the next lesson in their handbook.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Is God's Inspired Word



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Exactly As Written

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

PREP: Write the following sentence on two 3 x 5 cards: "The brown dog happily ran through the park." Tape one of the cards face-down on the wall in the front of the classroom.

(Leader's Note: Larger classes can break up into smaller groups for this activity.)

STEP 1: Explain to the groups that you have written on the 3 x 5 card a sentence about a dog running. Challenge them to see who can come up with a sentence that comes closest to matching the sentence you wrote on the card.

Divide the kids into two groups, and give each group a pen or pencil and a sheet of paper. Ask both groups to work together to write a sentence about a dog that ran.

STEP 2: Without the first group noticing, read the sentence on the 3 x 5 card to the second group. Have them copy the sentence exactly as you say it.

STEP 3: Ask the first group to read their sentence aloud, and then ask the second group to read their sentence. Take the card off the wall and have a volunteer read the original sentence.

Ask the following questions.

- How did the first group's sentence compare to the original?
- How did the second group's sentence compare to the original?
- Which group's sentence came closest to the original sentence? Why?
- What benefit did the second group have?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- The second group had a huge advantage in the activity because they were given the very words that the writer intended them to write.

- This activity helps us understand how we got the very words of God that are in the Bible. The Holy Spirit, who is God, gave the writers who wrote the Bible the exact words God wanted them to write.
- We can trust that every word in the Bible is true because they are the inspired words of God.
- Because the Bible is inspired by God, it is useful for each one of us.

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 the Bible is the inspired Word of God.

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Is God's Inspired Word



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Inspire Me!

What You'll Need: Artwork, paper, pens or pencils (optional: tablet or smartphone)

PREP: Find a piece of artwork to show to the class. It could be an image from a book or an actual print hanging in your home. Optional: Print out an image of a famous painting or drawing or be prepared to show one to the class.

STEP 1: Display the artwork. Distribute paper and pens or pencils, and give kids two minutes to draw an exact replica to the original piece.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have volunteers show their drawings.

Ask the following questions:

- In what ways is the picture you drew like the original?
- In what ways is the picture you drew different from the original?
- What do you think was the inspiration for this artwork?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The artist of this piece was inspired to create this art. That means that he or she had a desire to make this beautiful work of art. The original artist was inspired and communicated it as a result of who he or she was. The Holy Spirit was the original artist in communicating the Bible. He inspired and communicated God's Word to us as a result of who He is.
- Long ago, God inspired writers to write the Bible, but He didn't just give them a desire to write. The Holy Spirit, who is God, gave the writers the exact words that He wanted them to write.
- The Bible contains the very words of God. We know that they are true and that they are powerful because they are from our Creator God.

- We have this gift of God's Word given to us. When we read and study it, our lives will be changed forever!

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 the Bible is the inspired Word of God.

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Is God's Inspired Word



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Names of God's Word

What You'll Need: Bibles, pens or pencils, easel, whiteboard or poster board, markers, sticky note

PREP: Set up an easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the classroom. Write the following words at the top of the board: "The Bible" and "Us."

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verses, 2 Timothy 3:16,17. Repeat the verse again slowly, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- God's Word is profitable, or useful for each one of us. It is useful for teaching us who God is and how we can have a relationship with Him.
- The Bible is useful for correcting us. That means that the Bible shows us when we have done something wrong. The Bible helps understand what sin is and what it looks like to do the right thing.
- The Bible is useful for correcting our thinking. When we study God's word, we learn how to think differently and how to love others the way God loves them.
- The Bible helps to show us the right way to live. When we study God's Word, we will learn how we can become more like Jesus, and we see how we can live our lives to glorify Him.

STEP 2: Tell kids that the longest chapter in the Bible focuses on how important God's Word is for us. Have kids divide into pairs or groups of three. Assign one of the following verses to each group: Psalm 119:52, Psalm 119:28, Psalm 119:72, Psalm 119:93, Psalm 119:171.

Have them read their verses and then write on their papers the names given for the Bible and how the Bible helps us.

STEP 3: After two minutes, have pairs or groups read their verse and share their findings. Record their information on the poster board or whiteboard under the proper heading.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is called many different things: precepts, commandments, laws, rules, or statutes. All of these words are other ways of referring to the Bible (Psalm 119:52, Psalm 119:66, Psalm 119:72, Psalm 119:93, Psalm 119:171).
- God's Word encourages us and gives us strength when we are sad or face difficult circumstances (Psalm 119:28, Psalm 119:52, Psalm 119:72).
- God's Word keeps us pure and helps us not sin (Psalm 119:9, Psalm 119:11).
- God's Word gives us understanding and guides us (Psalm 119:105, Psalm 119:130).

Step 4: Give each kid a sticky note. Encourage them to study the lists on the board and to write their own verse of praise, expressing to God what the Bible means to them.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Is God's Inspired Word



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Inspired, True, and Profitable

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

PREP: Before class, write each of the following words and references on a sheet of paper: Inspired (2 Peter 1:21), True (John 17:17), Profitable (2 Timothy 3:16,17).

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verses, 2 Timothy 3:16,17. Repeat the verses again slowly, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- God's Word is profitable, or useful, for each one of us. It is useful for teaching us who God is and how we can have a relationship with Him.
- The Bible is useful for correcting us. That means that the Bible shows us when we have done something wrong. The Bible helps us understand what sin is and what it looks like to do the right thing.
- The Bible is useful for correcting our thinking. When we study God's Word, we learn how to think differently and how to love others the way God loves them.
- The Bible helps to show us the right way to live. When we study God's Word, we will learn how we can become more like Jesus, and we see how we can live our lives to glorify Him.

STEP 2: Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen or pencil. Divide kids into three groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a prepared sheet of paper, and give groups four minutes to read their verse and discuss together how God's Word is inspired, true, or profitable.

STEP 3: After four minutes, have groups share their responses.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible was written by at least 40 different people over a period of 1,500 years!

- The Holy Spirit, who is God, inspired these men to write the exact words that God wanted them to write.
- Every word that is in the Bible is inspired by God (2 Peter 1:21, 2 Timothy 3:16)!

STEP 4: Read Psalm 119:171. Explain to kids that the Bible is the greatest treasure we have. As we begin to recognize Scripture as a gift, we will desire to study it. And through the help of the Holy Spirit, our lives will change so we are more like Christ.

Give each kid a sticky note. Encourage them to study the lists on the board and to write their own verse of praise, expressing to God what the Bible means to them.

When the kids are done, encourage them to stick it in the front cover of their Bible as a reminder to read their Bible and do what it says.

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

Notes:

SECTION

2.3

The Bible Lights Our Path



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Pictionary in the Dark

What You'll Need: Paper, pen or pencil, easels, whiteboards or pads of paper, markers

PREP: Set up two easels with a whiteboard or pad of paper on each one. Come up with 10 easy clues for Pictionary (e.g., cat, dog, house, etc.). Ask a leader to be ready to turn off the lights at the beginning of the activity.

STEP 1: Divide kids into two teams. Explain to the kids that they will play a game of Pictionary and sometime in the middle of the game the lights will go off but they are to keep on playing. Ask the first kid from each team to come to the boards.

As soon as the kids pick up the markers, signal to the leader to turn the lights off. Encourage the kids at the board to continue drawing in the dark, and encourage the kids on their teams to guess.

STEP 2: After one minute, have the leader turn the lights back on and have those who are drawing return to their seats. Ask volunteers to guess the drawings on the board.

Ask the following questions:

- How did you feel when the lights went out?
- Why was it hard to play Pictionary in the dark?
- What hindrances did the darkness give to the people drawing? To the people guessing?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- This game is difficult to play in the darkness because the ones guessing cannot see or understand what the other person is drawing.
- When a person who doesn't know Christ as Savior tries to read the Bible, it is like trying to play Pictionary in the dark. They cannot understand the truth.
- The Holy Spirit is like a light. He illumines, or sheds light, on God's Word and helps the believer understand and live out the truths of Scripture.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand how the Holy Spirit illumines Scripture.

Notes:

SECTION
2.3

The Bible Lights Our Path



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Foreign Speaker

What You'll Need: Special guests

PREP: Ask a person who fluently speaks a foreign language to come and read his or her favorite verse to the class. Ask another person who speaks that language to come as well to translate.

STEP 1: Introduce the guest and explain that this person will be teaching the class a new verse. After the visitor says the verse, ask volunteers to repeat the verse, using the same words as the guest.

Ask the kids the following questions:

- In what language did the guest read?
- How well did you understand that language?
- What difficulty caused you to not understand?

STEP 2: Have the visitor translate the verse that was read.

Share these key concepts:

- Just like we cannot understand a language we have not learned, we cannot understand the truths of Scripture without the Holy Spirit's help.
- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, the Holy Spirit is given to us. He illuminates, or sheds light on, the Bible when we read it.
- With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can understand the exciting truths of God's Word!

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand how the Holy Spirit illumines Scripture for us.

Notes:

SECTION 2.3

The Bible Lights Our Path



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Light of the Spirit

What You'll Need: Bibles, flashlights

PREP: Purchase inexpensive flashlights at a dollar store, one per kid.

STEP 1: Turn off the lights. Ask a volunteer to read John 14:26 aloud. After the volunteer tries to read in the dark, offer him or her a flashlight to read the verse.

Share the following concepts:

- Just like it's impossible to read in the darkness, it's impossible for us to truly understand God's Word without the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit, who is God, lives inside each person who trusts Jesus as Savior.
- The Holy Spirit is like a light. His role is to illuminate, or shine a light on the truths of God's Word. As we read the Bible, the Holy Spirit shines His light on the truth and helps us see what it means.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 14:26. Repeat the verse, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- Jesus promised His followers that God would send a Helper.
- When we read God's Word, or listen to when it is taught to us, the Holy Spirit teaches us what God wants us to know about who He is and what He came to do.
- The Holy Spirit helps us remember the words of the gospel. He will bring to our minds verses from the Bible to encourage us, to convict us, and to draw us closer to God.

STEP 3: Divide kids into three groups. Assign each group one of the following passages: Isaiah 41:10, Ephesians 4:26, Psalm 46:1. Assign a leader to each group. Have the groups study their verses and determine how that verse could encourage, convict, or comfort.

Step 4: After two minutes, have a volunteer from each group read their group's verse aloud and determine if that verse encourages, convicts, or comforts us.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word contains a treasure of verses that encourage us when we are struggling.
- God's Word contains truths that teach us the right way to live. When we do wrong, the Holy Spirit will use the truths of Scripture to show us our sin.
- The Bible can encourage us when we are discouraged or facing a trial. These promises of God are true, and they can encourage us to trust in God through our problems.

STEP 5: Remind kids that God's amazing, powerful Word is a gift. When they determine to read and study it, the Holy Spirit will shine His light through God's Word and help them apply it to every area of their lives.

Give each kid a flashlight. Explain that it is to remind them that the Holy Spirit sheds light on God's Word to help them understand and remember it. Encourage them to place their flashlights somewhere where they will see them first thing in the morning to remind them to spend time in God's Word that day.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.3

The Bible Lights Our Path



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Shine on Us

What You'll Need: Bibles, Shine on Us handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Bookmark kids' Bibles to the following verses: 1 Corinthians 2:9-13, Ephesians 1:16-18, Psalm 119:34. Print out copies of the Shine on Us handout, one per kid.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 14:26. Repeat the verse, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus promised His followers that God would send a Helper.
- When we read God's Word, or listen to when it is taught to us, the Holy Spirit teaches us what God wants us to know about who He is and what He came to do.
- The Holy Spirit helps us remember the words of the gospel. He will bring to our minds verses from the Bible to encourage us, to convict us, and to draw us closer to God.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that it is hard for us to understand that the Holy Spirit is sent from God and that He is God! The Holy Spirit plays a huge role in our lives after we are saved. Distribute copies of the Shine on Us handouts and pens or pencils to each kid.

Ask a volunteer from the first group to read 1 Corinthians 2:9-13. Direct the kids' attention to that section of their handout.

Share these key concepts:

- God has an amazing plan for those of us who have trusted Jesus as our Savior.
- God reveals that plan to us through the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit searches the depths of God. He knows and comprehends the thoughts of God because He IS God!
- When we read God's Word, the Holy Spirit helps us understand all that God wants us to know about who He is and the plan He has for us.

Have kids fill in the blanks under this section: The Holy Spirit searches everything.

STEP 3: Ask a volunteer from the second group to read Ephesians 1:16-18. Direct kids' attention to that section of their handout.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul prayed that God would give them the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. In other words, Paul asked that the Holy Spirit would give these believers wisdom from God's Word and reveal the truths that God wanted them to learn about God.
- Paul also prayed that their hearts would be enlightened. In other words, Paul wanted these believers to not only have the wisdom and understanding of the truths of God's Word, he wanted them to apply it to their lives!
- As the Holy Spirit helped these believers understand the truths of God's Word, and as these believers applied these truths to their lives, they began to understand the hope that they had in Jesus Christ.

Have kids fill in the blanks under this section: The Holy Spirit gives wisdom.

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer from the last group to read Psalm 119:34. Direct kids' attention to that section of their handout.

Share these key concepts:

- The Holy Spirit helps us understand, obey, and meditate on God's Word (Psalm 119:27, 125).
- As the Holy Spirit illumines the truths of Scripture and helps us understand it, we respond by living it out!
- As we live out the truths that the Spirit teaches us from God's Word, our lives are changed. We make good choices that please God.

Have kids fill in the blanks under this section: The Holy Spirit gives understanding.

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of one area in which they need the Holy Spirit to help them as they study God's Word. Then, on the back of their papers, ask them to write a prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to illumine God's Word so that they can understand and apply it in their lives.

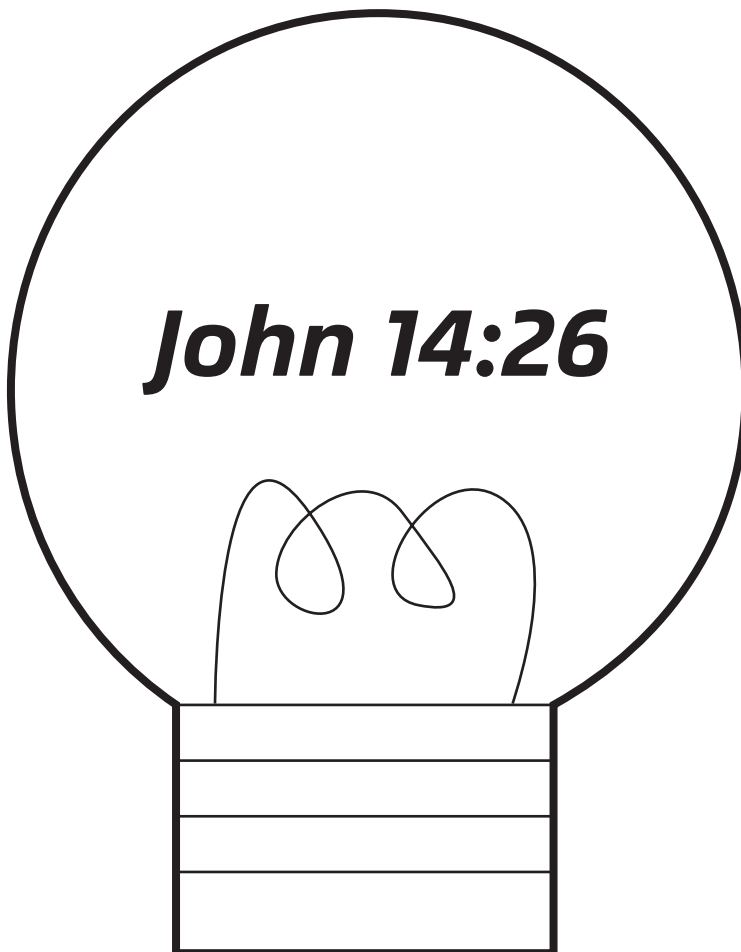
STEP 6: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Shine on Us



Psalm 119:34
The Holy Spirit

John 14:26



1 Corinthians 2:9-13
The Holy Spirit

Ephesians 1:16-18:
The Holy Spirit

SECTION 2.4

The Bible Is True and Useful



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Which Is True?

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Ask two leaders to write down three true but unusual facts about themselves (e.g., I hate pizza; I have skydived; I have been to Africa, etc.) and one untrue statement.

STEP 1: Have the first leader read the four statements he or she wrote before class. Have the kids vote for the one statement they believe is not true. Repeat the activity with the second leader. Then have each leader share which of his or her statements was untrue.

Ask the following questions:

- Why was it hard to recognize the true statement?
- How could you tell for sure if the statements were true or false?
- Were you surprised to find out which of the statements were true? Why or why not?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

Sometimes it's hard to know if someone is telling the truth.

In a world where it is hard to separate the truth from the lies, it is good to know that we have one thing we can ALWAYS trust to be true: God's Word.

God is truth, and His words are truth. We can be confident that the Bible is true and that it contains no errors.

Step 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible is inerrant and infallible.

Notes:

SECTION 2.4

The Bible Is True and Useful



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Find the Error

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

PREP: Set up an easel with a whiteboard or pad of paper in the front of the room. Write three different problems on the board:

- An addition problem with the wrong answer
- A sentence with two or three spelling mistakes
- A Bible verse from unit 2 with several wrong words

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to correct the mistakes on the board.

Ask the following questions:

- How do you feel if you get a math paper back and you missed several of the problems?
- Why are some words hard to spell correctly?
- Why is it sometimes hard to remember Bible verses correctly?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We are human. We make lots of mistakes.
- God is perfect. He never makes a mistake, and He cannot lie.
- Since God is perfect and true, we can trust that His words, the Bible, are perfect and true.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible is inerrant and infallible.

Notes:

SECTION

2.4

The Bible Is True and Useful



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Key Statements

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

PREP: Gather three Bibles, and bookmark each Bible to one of the following references: Isaiah 41:10, Ephesians 4:32, 1 John 4:7.

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

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 12:6. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's words are pure. Because God is perfect and cannot lie, God's words are true and perfect.
- Silver contains a lot of impurities and has to be purified by melting it down. The more times silver is melted, the purer it is.
- In the Bible, the number seven signals perfection. When the writer of Psalm 12 said that the silver was purified seven times, it means that God's Word is perfect and pure.
- God's Word never needed to be purified; it was pure because it came from God. This verse compares God's Word with a valuable, pure treasure.

STEP 2: Tell kids that because God's Word is true and perfect, it is without any faults or mistakes.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is infallible, or inerrant. That means that it is incapable of being wrong.
- Because God's Word is never wrong, we can trust it. It is perfect and eternal. God's words are still as important today as they were thousands of years ago.
- Since the Bible is perfect, true and unchanging, we can confidently trust in God's promises.

STEP 3: Divide kids into three groups, and assign a leader to each group. Distribute paper and pens or pencils to each group. Give each leader one of the bookmarked Bibles, and have leaders work with their groups to develop a key statement about God's Word based on their verse.

Step 4: After three minutes, have each group present their key statements.

Remind them that these promises in God's unchanging, perfect Word are just as much for them as they were for the very first believers who read them. Encourage them to commit to reading a chapter of God's Word every day this week, such as Proverbs or Psalms.

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

Notes:

SECTION

2.4

The Bible Is True and Useful



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Case Studies

What You'll Need: Bibles, Case Studies handout, scissors

PREP: Print a copy of the Case Studies handout. Cut the sections apart.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 12:6. Repeat the verse again, pausing after each phrase. Use the following concepts to explain the meaning of the verse.

- God's words are pure. Because God is perfect and cannot lie, God's words are true.
- Silver contains a lot of impurities and has to be purified by melting it down. The more times silver is melted, the purer it is.
- In the Bible, the number seven signals perfection. When the writer of Psalm 12 said that the silver was purified seven times, it means that God's Word is perfect and pure.
- God's Word never needed to be purified; it was pure because it came from God. This verse compares God's Word with a valuable, pure treasure.

STEP 2: Tell kids that because God's Word is true and perfect, it is without any faults or mistakes.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is infallible, or inerrant. That means that it is incapable of being wrong.
- Because God's Word is never wrong, we can trust it. It is perfect and eternal. God's words are still as important today as they were thousands of years ago.

STEP 3: Explain to kids that since the Bible is perfect, true and unchanging, we can confidently trust in God's promises and apply them to our lives.

Divide kids into three groups. Give each group a case study. Give groups four minutes to read through their case studies and their verses and to answer the questions on their case studies. Ask leaders to walk among groups, offering help as needed.

STEP 4: After four minutes, ask each group to share their case studies and their answers to the questions.

STEP 5: After all the groups have shared their case studies, ask kids to think of a situation they are facing. Remind them that these promises in God's unchanging, perfect Word are just as much for them as they were for the very first believers who read them. Challenge them to choose a verse from their handbook or today's lesson. Encourage them to read it every day this week and ask the Holy Spirit to help them apply this truth to their lives.

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

Close the lesson in prayer, thanking God for His perfect, pure, and unchanging Word.

Notes:



Case Studies

Case Study One:

Read the case study and the verse that goes with it. Then answer the questions as a group.

Sarah really struggles with being afraid and worried. She wants to trust God to take care of her, but then she thinks about all the bad things that could happen to her.

Read Philippians 4:6-7.

1. What does this verse teach us about God?
2. What does this verse tell us to do?
3. How can Sarah apply this verse to her situation?

Case Study One:

Read the case study and the verse that goes with it. Then answer the questions as a group.

Sarah really struggles with being afraid and worried. She wants to trust God to take care of her, but then she thinks about all the bad things that could happen to her.

Read Philippians 4:6-7.

1. What does this verse teach us about God?
2. What does this verse tell us to do?
3. How can Sarah apply this verse to her situation?

Case Study One:

Read the case study and the verse that goes with it. Then answer the questions as a group.

Sarah really struggles with being afraid and worried. She wants to trust God to take care of her, but then she thinks about all the bad things that could happen to her.

Read Philippians 4:6-7.

1. What does this verse teach us about God?
2. What does this verse tell us to do?
3. How can Sarah apply this verse to her situation?

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Is the Standard



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Measurement Requirements

What You'll Need: Images of measurement requirements (optional: smartphone or tablet)

PREP: Search the Internet for images of measurement requirements at amusement parks or play places (e.g., weight limit signs height requirement charts, etc.). Print out or be prepared to show them during class. Optional: Use your smartphone or tablet to show kids images of measurement requirements.

STEP 1: Show images to the class.

Ask the following questions:

- Where might you see some of these signs?
- Why are they necessary?
- How do people make the standards for height or weight requirements?

STEP 2: Share the following key concepts:

- There are standards for everything from food, to medicine, to furniture. Standards help us know for sure that the products we buy are what they are supposed to be.
- All the books of the Bible have at least three standards in common. These standards for God's Word give us confidence that each one of the 66 books work together to make the completed Bible.

Step 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that all 66 books of the Bible work together to form the complete Word of God.

Notes:

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Is the Standard



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Three Standards

What You'll Need: Candy bars, napkins, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers

PREP: Buy three different types of mini candy bars. Purchase enough so that each of your kids can sample all three kinds. Set up an easel in the front of the classroom. Place a whiteboard or pad of paper on the easel.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they have been tasked to develop three standards that every candy bar must meet.

STEP 2: Encourage them to try the three different types of candy bars. Then ask them to work together to think of qualities each candy bar must have, (e.g., a candy bar needs to be sweet, it needs to contain some type of chocolate, etc.) Write their ideas on the board or pad of paper, and have them pick their three favorite standards for candy bars.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- In this activity, you came up with some standards that you believe all candy bars should have. While this activity is just for fun, standards are important!
- There are standards for everything from food, to medicine, to furniture. Standards help us know for sure that the products we buy are what they are supposed to be.
- All the books of the Bible have at least three standards in common. These standards for God's Word give us confidence that each one of the 66 books work together to make the completed Bible what it is supposed 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 all 66 books of the Bible form the complete Word of God.

Notes:

SECTION 2.5

The Bible Is the Standard



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Standard of Measurement

What You'll Need: Bibles, Standard of Measurement handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Print out copies of the Standard of Measurement handout, one copy per kid.

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

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase. Then use the following key concepts to help explain the meaning of the verse.

The book of 2 Peter warns us of false teachers who want to pull believers away from the truth.

To protect us from believing false teachers, Peter reminds us to remember what the prophets and the apostles wrote in the Bible.

Prophets were people who heard, understood, and shared messages from God. The writers of the Old Testament were often called prophets. Apostles were sent by Jesus to spread the gospel and lead the church. The writers of the New Testament were called apostles.

We want to learn the truths and life stories of the Old Testament and the truths and life stories that Jesus and others teach us in the New Testament.

This verse emphasizes the importance of the Old Testament and the New Testament, showing us that they are both part of the Word of God.

STEP 2: Distribute copies of the Standard for Measurement handout to each kid, along with a pen or a pencil. Have kids fill in the blanks as you share the following key concepts:

- The 66 books of the Bible were recognized by the early church leaders as being inspired by God.
- The word "canon" means a measuring tool. The early church developed a measurement standard that the books of the Bible had to meet for them to be a part of the Bible.

- The first standard was that all the books in the Bible had to be written by a prophet, an apostle, or someone closely associated with them. (Repeat this sentence as needed so kids can fill in the blanks.)
- The second standard was that all the books of the Bible agree with each other and none of them say another book is wrong. (Repeat this sentence as needed so kids can fill in the blanks.)
- The third standard was that all the books of the Bible had writers who were led by the Holy Spirit when they wrote their books in the Bible. (Repeat this sentence as needed so kids can fill in the blanks.)

STEP 3: Remind kids that each of the 66 books of the Bible were written for us.

Share the following key concepts:

- Both the writers of the Old Testament and the New Testament were chosen by God and inspired by the Spirit to write God's Word (2 Peter 1:21).
- Each part of God's Word has lessons for us to learn, and it is important for us to study all of God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Step 4: The Bible fits together perfectly, and each book fits the measurement standard for God's Word. We can be confident that this book is God's Word. Nothing else should be added to it, and nothing should be taken away.

Ask, "Knowing that this whole book is ours from God, what should we do?"

Encourage kids to start studying God's Word by reading one chapter of the Bible each day this week. Tell them that a good place to start is in the book of Proverbs. Explain that because Proverbs has 31 chapters, they can begin reading on the chapter of tomorrow's date. (For instance, if tomorrow were the 22nd of the month, then they would read Proverbs 22.)

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



Standard of Measurement Handout

The 66 books of the Bible were recognized by the early church leaders as being inspired by God.

The word “canon” means a measuring tool. The early church developed a measurement standard that the books of the Bible had to meet for them to be a part of the Bible.

The first standard was that all the books in the Bible had to be written by a _____, an _____, or someone closely associated with them.

The second standard was that all the books of the Bible _____ with each other and _____ of them say another book is _____.

The third standard was that all the books of the Bible had _____ who were led by the _____ when they wrote their books in the Bible.

SECTION 2.5

The Bible Is the Standard



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Match Up!

What You'll Need: Bibles, puzzle, paper, black, permanent marker (optional: computer, printer)

PREP: Purchase a puzzle with an intricate picture on the front of the box. Copy or print out the following references, one reference per sheet of paper:

Matthew 22:37	Deuteronomy 6:5
Romans 3:10-12	Deuteronomy 10:17
Romans 10:13	Joel 2:32
Romans 10:15	Nahum 1:5
1 Corinthians 2:9	Isaiah 64:4

(Leader's Note: This activity may get loud. Larger classes may separate into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- The book of 2 Peter warns us of false teachers who want to pull believers away from the truth.
- To protect us from believing false teachers, Peter reminds us to remember what the prophets and the apostles wrote in the Bible.
- Prophets were people who heard, understood, and shared messages from God. The writers of the Old Testament were often called prophets. Apostles were sent by Jesus to spread the gospel and lead the church. The writers of the New Testament were called apostles.

We want to learn the truths and life stories of the Old Testament and the truths and life stories that Jesus and others teach us in the New Testament.

- This verse emphasizes the importance of the Old Testament and the New Testament, showing us that they are both part of the Word of God.

STEP 2: Hold up the puzzle. Explain to kids that God's Word fits together like a puzzle.

Share these key concepts:

- As we study God's Word, we will find that key truths are repeated often throughout the whole Bible, like God is the Creator (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 100:3, Colossians 1:16). In examples like this, we see patterns of God's truth throughout the Bible, showing us that God's Word is perfect and complete.
- Many times, Jesus and the writers of the New Testament quoted verses from the Old Testament. These verses worked together, just like puzzle pieces to prove that all of Scripture is the inspired Word of God.

STEP 3: Divide kids into groups of two or three. Give each pair or group one sheet of paper. Instruct them to look up the verse written on their paper and to find the group with the verse that matches what their verse says by reading their verse out loud and listening for another group to read a verse that matches their own. Have leaders available for crowd control and to help groups match up correctly.

STEP 4: After each group has found its match, collect the papers and have kids return to their seats.

Remind kids that each of the 66 books of the Bible were written for us. Every book in God's Word has lessons for us to learn.

STEP 5: Encourage kids to start studying God's Word by reading one chapter of the Bible each day this week. Tell them that a good place to start is in the book of Proverbs. Explain that because Proverbs has 31 chapters, they can begin reading on the chapter of tomorrow's date. (For instance, if tomorrow were the 22nd of the month, then they would read Proverbs 22.)

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

SECTION 2.6

The Bible Is Trustworthy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Ruler for the Day

What You'll Need: Whiteboard and dry erase markers

STEP 1: Tell kids to imagine that they have been awarded the role of ruler for the day. Their first job is to come up with rules for your home or school. Have kids brainstorm four rules for home and for church.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why did you choose those rules?
- What consequences would you give for people who did not follow those rules?
- What problems might you have when your friends or family members hear the new rules?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- While it sounds like fun to be the one to make up the rules, being in charge is not always easy.
- There will always be people who do not agree with the rules you make or who do not understand why you made them. Some may not follow the rules you set up.
- There will be people who do not agree with the Bible or believe that it is the true Word of God. But God's Word contains all the answers we need for life. His Word shows us how to live as He created us to be.

Step 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible is the authority over everything in their lives.

Notes:

SECTION 2.6

The Bible Is Trustworthy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Who's in Charge Here?

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ask two leaders to pretend to be in charge of the opening activity. Ask one of them to be rigid and strict, like a lieutenant. Ask the second one to be goofy and laid back. Ask both the leaders to simultaneously try to get the kids to play Simon Says with them.

STEP 1: Signal to the chosen leaders to begin the activity.

STEP 2: After about two minutes, ask the following questions:

- How did you feel when both leaders tried to be in charge?
- How did you decide which leader to follow?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- There will always be people who try to take charge and be the leader. That's why it is important for us to know who to follow.
- The book of 2 Peter warns us about false teachers who try to pull us from the truth of God's Word by claiming that what they say is right.
- We need to know God's Word and accept it as our ultimate authority. The Bible has all the answers we need. We can depend on it to guide our life.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand that the Bible is the trustworthy guide for everything in their lives.

Notes:

SECTION 2.6

The Bible Is Trustworthy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Key Phrases

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

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- Peter used the book of 2 Peter to warn believers of false teachers. In our memory verse, Peter assured that he didn't use cleverly devised myths, or false stories or fables, about Jesus Christ or His life on earth.
- Peter was an actual eyewitness of Jesus Christ. He knew Jesus is the Son of God because He saw all that Christ had done. All of Christ's miracles prove that He is the Son of God (John 20:31).

STEP 2: Tell the kids that many people today try to deny God's Word. If we are to stand firm, we must recognize and defend God's Word as trustworthy.

- We need to remember what we have learned from the Bible (2 Timothy 3:14).
- We must reject false teaching and avoid worthless things (Psalm 119:37, 1 Timothy 4:7).
- We need to turn to the Bible for answers (Psalm 119:104).

STEP 3: Remind kids that because the Bible is trustworthy, it can tell us how we are to live. Divide kids into three groups, and give each kid a pen or a pencil. Assign one of the following verses to each group: Micah 6:8, Proverbs 3:5-6, Romans 12:1-2. Give groups two minutes to read their verses and to write down key phrases that tell us what God wants believers to do.

Step 4: After two minutes, have groups present their findings. Then share these key concepts:

- When we recognize the Bible as trustworthy, we will turn to it for the answers we need for every part of our life (Psalm 119:37).
- If we believe that God's Word is trustworthy, we will search it for answers to our questions.

- If we believe that God's Word is trustworthy, we will confidently depend on the truths of God's Word.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.6

The Bible Is Trustworthy



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Trustworthy Q and A

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, scissors, pens or pencils, basket, chairs, smartphone or tablet

PREP: Cut paper into strips. Set up a half circle of chairs in the front of the room, one chair per leader (include yourself).

Ask leaders to participate as a panel guide. Encourage them to use their Bibles, smartphones, or tablets to search for references during this activity.

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

(Leader's Note: If no one has an immediate answer for a kid during this activity, tell them the truth. However, make sure to search out an answer for them and share with the group at the next club.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Peter 3:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- Peter used the book of 2 Peter to warn believers of false teachers. In our memory verse, Peter assured that he didn't use "cleverly devised myths," or false stories or fables, about Jesus Christ or His life on earth.
- Peter was an actual eyewitness of Jesus Christ. He knew Jesus is the Son of God because He saw all that Christ had done. All of Christ's miracles prove that He is the Son of God (John 20:31).

STEP 2: Tell the kids that many people today try to deny God's Word. If we are to stand firm, we must recognize that God's Word is trustworthy.

- We need to remember what we have learned from the Bible (2 Timothy 3:14).
- We must reject false teaching and avoid worthless things (Psalm 119:37, 1 Timothy 4:7).
- We need to turn to the Bible for answers (Psalm 119:104).

STEP 3: Explain to kids that if we believe God's Word is trustworthy, we will turn to God's Word when we struggle with situations in our lives.

Give each kid a strip of paper and a pencil, and have them write a struggle that kids their age might face. (Suggestions include being bullied, obeying parents, playing too many video games, focusing on school work, getting along with friends, losing their tempers, being an example to other kids at school, etc.). After one minute, have them put their papers in the basket.

Give them two minutes to read their assigned verse and write the struggle we might face and the answer we could find in the Bible.

Ask leaders to sit in the chairs in front of the room. Ask a volunteer to choose a strip of paper from the basket and read it aloud. Have one of the leaders share a truth or a verse from God's Word that would help a kid in that situation. Continue the activity for three minutes or until all the struggles have been mentioned.

STEP 4: Share the following key concepts:

- When we recognize the Bible as trustworthy, we will turn to it for the answers we need for every part of our life (Psalm 119:37).
- If we believe that God's Word is trustworthy, we will search it for answers to our questions.
- If we believe that God's Word is trustworthy, we will confidently depend on the truth of God's Word.

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

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Helpful to Correct



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Correction Officers

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.

STEP 1: Ask kids to name authority figures in their lives. Write their answers on the board. (Suggestions include police officers, parents, teachers, Awana leaders, caregivers, etc.)

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why is that person able to tell you what to do?
- How would you respond if you were in trouble with those people?
- What consequences might you face if you were to get in trouble with these people? (Guide kids to understand that they would most likely face a different consequence if they disobeyed each of those individuals.)

Step 3: If it is not written on the board yet, add the word "God."

Share these key concepts:

- Because these people are authorities in our lives, they have the right to make sure we obey the rules and give us consequences if we break those rules.
- If we have trusted Jesus as Savior, then God and His Word is our authority. That means that we agree to obey whatever God says in His Word.
- God will use the authority of His word to correct us when we sin. God will use the Bible to help correct our attitudes and behaviors that need to change and give us the strength to choose a better way the next time we are tempted.

Step 3: 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 Word corrects us when we do wrong.

Notes:

SECTION
2.7

The Bible Is Helpful to Correct



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Consequences That Fit the Crime

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils.

PREP: Write each of the following situations on a piece of paper: Arguing with your siblings, disobeying Mom or Dad, sneaking extra video game/electronics time, not doing your homework, lying to your parents, purposely hurting another person with your words or behavior.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that you have written crimes (or things that you do wrong) that might be common to kids your age. Give each pair or group of kids one of the crimes and a pen or a pencil. Give each pair or group one minute to come up with a consequence to fit that crime.

STEP 2: Have each group present its crime and consequence.

Ask the following questions:

- Was it hard to come up with a suitable consequence for that crime?
- Why is it important that the consequence fit the crime?
- What is the purpose for a consequence to a crime or a sin?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- Authorities in our lives have the responsibility to teach us right from wrong. When we do wrong, we deserve consequences or punishment. They are given to help us make better choices in the future.
- God has given us the Bible, which teaches us right from wrong.
- His Word can correct us when we sin, and it can also teach us how to avoid sin.

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 Word corrects us when we do wrong.

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Helpful to Correct



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Correction from God's Word

What You'll Need: Bibles, Correction from God's Word handout, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Print copies of the Correction from God's Word handout. Set up the room with four different stations. Place a Bible at each station, highlighted to the following verses:

- Station 1: Romans 10:9-10
- Station 2: 1 Corinthians 2:10-12
- Station 3: 1 John 1:7
- Station 4: Hebrews 4:12

Assign a leader to each station. Ask the leaders to read the verses at each station and guide the kids with their handouts.

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

STEP 1: Divide kids into pairs or groups of three. Give each kid a copy of the handout and a pen or pencil. Assign a station to each group. After two minutes, have kids travel to the station on their right. Continue until kids have visited every station.

STEP 2: Tell the kids that many people today try to deny God's Word. If we want to stay faithful to God, we must recognize that God's Word is trustworthy.

- We need to remember what we have learned from the Bible (2 Timothy 3:14).
- We must reject false teachings and avoid worthless things (Psalm 119:37, 1 Timothy 4:7).
- We need to turn to the Bible for answers (Psalm 119:104).

STEP 3: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Correction from God's Word

Station 1: Salvation

God's Word helps us understand that we need to be saved.

Have you trusted Jesus as your Savior?

Station 2: Knowledge

God's Word helps us learn to make good choices that please God.

What was one good choice you made this week to please God?

Station 3: Sin

God's Word helps us recognize when we have sinned.

Draw a picture about a time when you sinned in the past two weeks.

Station 4: Correction

God's Word shows us the truth of our hearts and our attitudes. He uses His word to correct our attitudes and thinking so that we can avoid sin.

How can God's Word can help you avoid sin?

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Helpful to Correct



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Example of Correction

What You'll Need: Bibles, Example of Correction handout (optional: Bible times costume)

PREP: Print a copy of the Example of Correction handout. Ask a leader or guest to portray Ezra. Give him a copy of the Example of Correction handout. Optional: Ask him to dress in a costume as he presents the narrative.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Hebrews 4:12. Share the following key concepts:

- The Bible contains the very words of God to you and me. It is powerful and can change our lives.
- God uses the Bible to help you understand what is really going on in your heart. It will help you understand why you do the things you do.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that there are many examples of how God has corrected people with the truths of His Word. Ask the leader or special guest to present the narrative of Ezra.

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- The people of Israel were returning to their land and had not heard God's word in a long time. Ezra decided to read from God's Word so they knew what they needed to do.
- As the people of Israel listened to God's Word, they began to cry and realize that they were sinning and not living the way God called them to. They chose to let God's Word correct their lives, and God used it to bring them into a restored relationship with Him.

STEP 4: Remind kids that just as God corrected the people of Israel, God can use His Word to correct them if they are willing to let Him change their hearts and behavior.

Ask kids to turn to this week's lesson in their handbooks and to read through their memory verse silently. Encourage them to pray silently, asking God to help them see a sin in their hearts that they need to change.

Challenge kids to determine to study God's Word so they can learn how to avoid that sin in their lives.

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

Notes:



Example of Correction

I am Ezra, one of the priests of God's people, Israel. Our people have been living in exile in Babylon and are just now returning to Israel.

They have been helping Nehemiah rebuild the wall around Jerusalem. When the Babylonians came and conquered our land, they tore down the walls and burned the gates to the city.

The people of Israel have worked very hard to rebuild the walls of the city to provide safety and protection.

But just as important as rebuilding the city is the need that Israel has to rebuild their relationship with God.

So I set up a time and place for the people to gather together

and listen as I read God's Word.

We read from the law of the Lord; and we took time to help people understand the meaning of the law.

As the people listened, they began to cry because they realized that they were doing wrong things and breaking God's law. They were sorry for their sins.

As the people let God's Word correct them and repented of their sin, they were filled with joy. They celebrated their return to God with a big celebration of food and drink that went on for seven days. They committed to following God's way and began to walk in obedience to God.

SECTION 2.8 | *The Bible Review*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: The Missing Pieces

What You'll Need: Puzzle

PREP: Purchase a 100-piece puzzle and put it together before class. Remove eight or nine pieces, and hide them around the room.

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

STEP 1: Ask kids to name authority figures in their lives. Write their answers on the board. (Suggestions include police officers, parents, teachers, Awana leaders, caregivers, etc.)

STEP 2: Share the following key concepts:

- All the pieces of the puzzle are necessary to complete the picture, and each piece is equally important!
- The Bible contains the big picture of who God is and what He came to do. The Holy Spirit inspired each of the 66 books, and each book meets the same standards to be included as part of the Bible.
- When we recognize the authority of God's Word, we can apply its truth to our lives and allow the Holy Spirit to help us change based on what we study in Scripture.

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 God's Word.

Notes:

SECTION

2.8

The Bible Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Made to Work Together

Notes:

What You'll Need: Lego sets

PREP: Purchase or borrow two small Lego® sets. Place them on a table in the front of the classroom.

(Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Direct kids' attention to the Lego sets. Give one kid the instruction manual and another kid the box. Give kids three minutes to work together to put the Lego sets together.

STEP 2: After three minutes, have kids stop their work if they are not finished. Then ask the following questions:

- Why do the pieces stay together?
- Why is it important to follow the directions?
- What is (or would be) the finished outcome for their set?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Lego pieces are designed to work with other pieces to form one big object. Each set contains specific directions to complete the picture as the maker intended it to be built.
- When the directions are followed, the Lego set matches the image on the box.
- God gave us His inspired Word, the Bible. All 66 books work together to form the big picture of who God is and what He has planned for us. The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's Word and apply it to our lives. When we follow the truth of God's Word, our lives are changed, and we become the person God created us 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 of God's Word.

SECTION 2.8 | *The Bible Review*



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: 3-2-1

What You'll Need: Bible, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, T&T handbooks

PREP: Set up an easel with a whiteboard or pad of paper. Place it in the front of the room. Write on the board or pad of paper the following list:

- 3 Truths that stuck out to you
- 2 Questions you had while we were studying this unit
- 1 Way you will apply these lessons to your life

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to quote the following memory verses from the unit:

- Romans 1:20
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- John 14:26
- Psalm 12:6
- 2 Peter 3:2
- 2 Peter 1:16
- Hebrews 4:12

STEP 2: Direct kids' attention to the list on the board. Have kids turn to the person on their left and share their responses. Encourage kids to use their handbooks as a guide.

Share the following key concepts:

- Nature reveals that there is a creator God, and no one could ever deny this truth (Romans 1:20). The Bible reveals details of who God is and what He has done for us. We can never know all there is to know about God, but we can commit to being a life-long studier of the Bible so we can tell others about the almighty God (2 Timothy 3:14-17).
- The Holy Spirit told the writers of the Bible exactly what to write (2 Peter 1:21). The Bible

contains God's inspired words, so when we read the Bible, we are reading the very words of God. His Word is alive and powerful, and it will change our lives by showing us truths about God, convicting us of sin, and challenging us to live differently (Hebrews 4:12, 2 Timothy 3:16-17).

- God gave us the Holy Spirit to help us understand the truths in the Bible. He will give us the desire to learn more about God through His Word, and He will help us remember the truths that we learn about God (John 16:14).
- God's Word is truth because God is truth (John 17:17). The Bible is true and contains no mistakes (Proverbs 30:5, Psalm 18:30). Its truth will stand forever (Isaiah 40:8). We can trust in God's unchanging truth and apply it to every situation we face (1 Peter 1:25).
- God has preserved His complete and perfect Word (Isaiah 40:8, 1 Peter 1:25). Each of the writers were either a prophet, an apostle, or someone closely associated with them. All of the books agree with one another and work together to tell who God is and what He came to do.
- God's Word is powerful and active, and it is practical and applicable to our lives today (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It contains all the answers we need for every situation we face (Psalm 19:7-10). Our job is to study it, apply it, and then share the truth of it with others (Psalm 119:11, 1 Peter 3:15).
- God's Word is alive and active (Hebrews 4:12). The Holy Spirit can use God's Word to show us what's really going on deep inside our hearts. He helps us see where we have sinned and how to correct our behavior (John 16:8). The more we study Scripture the more, the more we learn to make good choices that please God (2 Corinthians 3:18, Ephesians 2:10).

STEP 3: Remind kids that God's Word reveals God's amazing plan for each of their lives. Encourage kids to commit to being life-long learners of God's Word.

STEP 3: Follow Up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

SECTION 2.8 | The Bible Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Swat It!

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky notes, Swat It handout, clean flyswatters

PREP: Purchase two clean flyswatters. Print out the Swat It handout. Write the titles of the unit activities and the unit memory verse references on sticky notes. Place the sticky notes on a wall or a door in the room.

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

STEP 1: Divide the class into two teams. Have the first kid from each team stand in front of the sticky notes, and give each of them a flyswatter. Explain that you will read a verse or a statement from the Swat It handout, which contains key truths or verses from the lessons in the unit. As soon as they know the lesson or verse reference, they need to swat the correct sticky note.

Continue the activity until all kids have had a chance to participate.

STEP 2: Remind kids that God's Word reveals God's amazing plan for each of their lives. Encourage kids to commit to being life-long learners of God's Word.

STEP 3: Follow Up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Swat It

DIRECTIONS: *Leaders, use these statements during the Swat It activity. The answers are in parentheses.*

That you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles.
(2 Peter 3:2; Canonization)

God's Word convicts us when we sin and shows us how we can correct our behavior so we can be more like Jesus.
(Correction)

The Holy Spirit told the writers of the books of the Bible exactly what to write.
(Inspiration)

The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.
(Psalm 12:6; Inerrancy/Infallibility)

The Bible is our authority for life. All the answers we will ever need are found in God's Word.
(Authority)

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.
(John 14:26; Illumination)

Each of the 66 books of the Bible meet the standards for being a part of the Bible.
(Canonization)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
(2 Timothy 3:16-17; Inspiration)

God revealed Himself through creation and through the Bible. No one has an excuse to not know that there is a God.
(Revelation)

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
(Hebrews 4:12; Correction)

The Holy Spirit helps us understand the Bible by "shining His light" on the verses we read so that we can understand their truths and apply them to our lives.
(Illumination)

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. (2 Peter 1:16; Authority)

For His invisible attributes, namely, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.
(Romans 1:20; Revelation)

The Bible is pure and true, without error. We can trust in the unchanging, true Word of God.
(Inerrancy/Infallibility)

SECTION

3.1

I Am the Bread of Life**Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 1: Famous Symbols**

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

PREP: Optional: Search online for images of common symbols, acronyms, or emojis your kids would know (e.g., peace sign, men/women restroom signs, stop sign, etc.). Print.

STEP 1: Draw or display several common symbols or emojis your kids would recognize (e.g., &, +, =, -, \$). Ask kids to identify the symbols or emojis.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions.

- Why do we use these symbols?
- How do you know what they stand for?
- How do you use them to communicate with others?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- We often use symbols or emojis to help us understand a concept or an idea.
- Many of the symbols that we use help people know what to do or where to go. For instance, math symbols help us know exactly what steps to take to solve a problem.
- When Jesus lived on earth, He compared Himself to symbols or common objects to help people understand who He was and what He came to do. In today's lesson, you will learn that Jesus is the Bread of Life, and He offers eternal life to you!

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 the Bread of Life.

Notes:

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3.1

I Am the Bread of Life



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Bread and Water

What You'll Need: Bread, pitcher, water, paper cups, napkins, knife

PREP: Purchase several different types or styles of bread. Cut bread into bite-size portions. Fill a pitcher with water.

(Leader's Note: Consider purchasing an international style of bread, such as pita bread or naan, as well as gluten free bread for those with allergies.)

STEP 1: Encourage kids to sample the different types of bread and drink a glass of water.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why is bread a common food?
- How long would this bread and this cup of water fill you up?
- Why would you need to eat or drink again after this snack?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Bread and water are common foods in most cultures around the world. Bread is often a common symbol to represent being satisfied and nourished.
- When Jesus lived on earth, He compared Himself to symbols or common objects to help people understand who He was and what He came to do. In today's lesson, you will learn that Jesus calls Himself the Bread of Life.
- Even though Jesus wasn't literally a loaf of bread, this picture helps us understand that He is the one who satisfies and nourishes our souls!

STEP 3: 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 the Bread of Life.

Notes:

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3.1

I Am the Bread of Life



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: The Bread of Life

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

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's verse, John 6:35.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is God's Son. He came to earth, lived a perfect life without ever sinning or doing anything wrong. Then He died to take the punishment for our sin (1 Corinthians 15:3,4).
- While Jesus lived on earth, He often used pictures or symbols to help people understand that He is God's Son and that He offers eternal life to those who trust Him as Savior (John 20:31).
- In John 6, Jesus fed 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. However, the people still did not understand that Jesus is God. The next day, the people followed Him and wanted more food. But Jesus wanted them to understand that He wants to give us something better than just food. He came to satisfy and nourish our souls.
- Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." Jesus didn't mean that He was literally bread; instead, He offers us life forever with Him in heaven.

STEP 2: Give each kid a piece of paper. Place crayons, colored pencils, or markers nearby. Encourage kids to fold their paper in half. On the first half of their paper, have kids draw a symbol to represent that Jesus is the Bread of Life.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- In the second part of our memory verse, Jesus promised that those who believed in Him would never hunger or thirst. That doesn't mean that they would never be hungry or thirsty again. But it does mean that if we trust Jesus as Savior, we will one day live in heaven, where no one will long for anything because God will completely satisfy them. They will never be hungry or thirsty again (Revelation 7:16-17).

- Those who trust in Jesus as Savior have the promise of eternal life. Jesus promises to always be with us here on earth (Hebrews 13:5). And one day, we will live with Him forever in heaven, where we will never be hungry or thirsty for anything again (Revelation 7:16-17).

STEP 4: On the second half of their papers, have kids draw a symbol to represent the truth that those who trust Jesus as Savior have the promise of eternal life in heaven with Him.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

I Am the Bread of Life**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 2: Who, What, Why?**

What You'll Need: Bibles for kids, paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Make three copies of this activity.

STEP 1: Have leaders give each kid in their groups paper and a pen or pencil.

STEP 2: Assign a leader to each group, and give him or her a copy of the activity. Give groups four minutes to read through their passages and answer the following questions:

- Who were the people in the passage?
- What did they want or need?
- Why did they want or need it?

Have the leader of the first group share with the group the following summary of Exodus 16:1-5:

- The Israelites were God's chosen people. God had delivered them from slavery and was leading them as free people into the land He had promised them.
- The people were hungry. They grumbled and complained, wishing for the food they had in Egypt but forgetting the terrible struggles of slavery.
- Moses, their leader, cried out to God, and God sent a special bread from heaven called manna.
- The children of Israel were not to forget how God provided this bread for them while they were traveling to the land He had promised them.

Have the leader of the second group share with the group the following summary of John 6:5-14:

- Crowds of people followed Jesus, but they did not understand who He was. They were excited to hear His teaching and to watch Him perform miracles.
- The people were hungry. Jesus' disciples found five loaves and two small fish among the

crowds, enough to feed only one person. Jesus performed a miracle and fed over 5,000 people with that small amount of food!

- The people were amazed, but they didn't understand that Jesus is God's Son and that He came to earth to die and take the punishment for their sin.

Have the third leader share with the group the following summary of John 6:31-35:

- Many of the 5,000 people whom Jesus fed came to Him again the next day, wanting to see more miracles. Jesus reminded them that their descendants ate manna from heaven while they were in the wilderness.
- Jesus told them that He is the bread of heaven, sent from God. Jesus didn't mean that He was a loaf of bread; He was giving the people a picture to help them understand who He was.
- Jesus did not come to give the people food; He came to offer them eternal life. Anyone who trusts Jesus as their Savior will have eternal life. That relationship will nourish them each day.

STEP 3: Have a spokesperson from each group share their group's answers.

Share these key concepts:

- In each of these scenarios, the people were hungry.
- God provided bread for the people of Israel in the Old Testament.
- God provides Jesus, the Bread of Life to EVERYONE! If we trust in Him as Savior, we are promised eternal life in heaven!

Give kids an opportunity to respond if they have never accepted Jesus as their Savior. Remind kids who have trusted Jesus that one day they will live forever in heaven, where they will never be hungry or thirsty (Revelation 7:16-17).

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

SECTION

3.2

I Am the Light of the World**Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 1:**

What You'll Need: Chairs, tables, or small items of furniture); candle, lighter, bright flashlight (optional: black garbage bags, masking tape)

PREP: Create a simple maze in one section of the classroom using chairs, tables, or other small items of furniture. Place the candle and lighter near the front of the room. Optional: If your classroom is not completely dark without the lights, then hang garbage bags to cover the windows or doors so that it is completely dark.

STEP 1: Ask a leader to turn off the lights. Light the candle and explain to students that you have a maze set up in the corner of the room. Ask, "Would you feel confident to follow me through the maze if we only have this candle for our light? Why or why not?"

Guide kids to see that it is dangerous to have such a small source of light to lead everyone through a maze.

STEP 2: Turn on the flashlight. Ask a volunteer to follow you through the maze, using the flashlight. Ask, "What is the difference between the candle and the flashlight?"

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- Light is vital for our lives.
- We often don't realize how much we need the light until we experience darkness.
- Jesus taught an important lesson about Himself by using the symbol of light. He is the Light of the World, and this light can change every life who chooses to believe in Him. Jesus helps us see that we need a relationship 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 is the Light of the World.

Notes:

SECTION

3.2

I Am the Light of the World**Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 2: Cooking by Candlelight**

What You'll Need: Flour, sugar, salt, butter, measuring cups, eggs, bowls, baking soda, vanilla, spoons, candles, lighter

PREP: Ask a leader to pretend to be a master chef. Explain that the lights will be off, and he or she will have two minutes to pretend to bake by candlelight. Encourage the leader to admit the struggle of not seeing the ingredients well (e.g., mistake the sugar for flour, add extra of the ingredients, etc.).

Before class, light several candles. Give one to a leader near the door, and place one on a table in the front of the classroom along with the items listed above. Make sure the lights are off as kids enter the room.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that the lights will be off for a few minutes. Have a leader holding the candle help them to their seats. Introduce the chef, and explain that he or she will be cooking by candlelight for them.

STEP 2: After two minutes, thank the chef and then ask the following questions:

- How do you think these cookies would turn out?
- What was the biggest struggle the chef faced?
- Why is the proper light important in cooking?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Light is vital for our lives.
- We often don't realize how much we need light until we experience darkness.
- Jesus taught an important lesson about Himself by using the symbol of light. He is the Light of the World, and this light can change every life who chooses to believe in Him. Jesus helps us see that we need a relationship 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 is the Light of the World.

Notes:

SECTION 3.2

I Am the Light of the World



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Light/Darkness

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards

PREP: Write the following references on 3 x 5 cards: John 3:19-20, Proverbs 4:19, 1 John 1:6. Label the 3 x 5 card "Darkness."

Write the following references on another 3 x 5 card: 1 John 1:7, Ephesians 5:8-10. Label the 3 x 5 card "Light."

Bookmark a Bible to Ephesians 5:8.

STEP 1: Read or recite together this week's memory verse, John 8:12.

Share these key concepts:

- Every person is born a sinner. Because of our sin, we do wrong things that can lead us to a place where we feel sad and lonely.
- Jesus is the Light of the World. He came to offer salvation to everyone who believes in Him. When we trust Him as Savior, our sins are forgiven. The Holy Spirit comes to live in us. With the Holy Spirit in our lives, we can shine the light of Jesus to everyone around us.

STEP 2: Divide the class into two groups and assign two leaders to each group. Give the first group the "Darkness" card. Give the second group the "Light" card. Encourage the kids to work together to study the verses on their cards and describe the person who walks in either darkness or light.

Choose a spokesperson from each group and give them paper and pens or pencils. Ask each spokesperson to record the group's findings on paper.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have the first group present its findings.

Share these key concepts:

- As sinners, we are born into spiritual darkness. That spiritual darkness means that we sin and do wrong things.

- People who live in darkness do not understand that they live in darkness. They do not realize that they are sinners in need of a Savior. They continue on in their sin, just like a person in the dark continues to stumble.
- Those who live in spiritual darkness do not understand that they do not have God's truth in their lives.

STEP 4: Have the second group present its findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is the Light of the World. When we see the light of Jesus, we begin to see and understand the darkness of sin. We recognize our need to follow Jesus, the Light.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, our sins are forgiven. We are free from the darkness of sin! The Holy Spirit comes to give us guidance so that we can be a light to others.

STEP 5: Ask a volunteer to read Ephesians 5:8.

Share the following key concepts:

- Through the help of the Holy Spirit, our lives will change. He helps us understand the Bible, and He helps us make good choices that please God.
- Others will see the change in our lives, and we will have opportunities to share the gospel with them.
- As we share the gospel, the light of Christ shines through us to others; we are letting our lights shine!

STEP 6: Ask, "How can we walk as children of the light?"

Remind kids that the Holy Spirit who lives inside us helps us understand the Bible. We will learn how we are supposed to live, and we will make choices that please God. As we learn more about how God wants us to live, our light will grow brighter, and we will want to share this light with others.

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

SECTION

3.2

I Am the Light of the World**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 2: A Light Like Christ****What You'll Need:** Bibles

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to the following verses: Ephesians 5:8, 1 John 1:5-6, Matthew 5:14-16.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 8:12, together. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Every person is born a sinner. Because of our sin, we do wrong things that can lead us to a place where we feel sad and lonely.
- Jesus is the Light of the World. God loved us, even though we were His enemies. He sent Jesus, His Son, to die and take the punishment for our sin. Jesus offers the light of salvation to all who trust in Him as Savior.
- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. He helps us understand the Bible and know how to make decisions that please God. As we learn and grow, we can shine the light of Jesus to the world around us.

STEP 2: Ask volunteers to read the following verses: Ephesians 5:8, 1 John 1:5-6, Matthew 5:14-16.

Share these key concepts:

- When we follow Jesus by trusting Him as Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. He helps us understand the Bible and know how to make decisions that please God. The light of Christ shines in us!
- When we have the light of Christ living in us, we have the strength and power to choose to not sin. We can do what God wants us to do, walking as a child of light. The things we say and do and the way we behave can all shine the light of Jesus.
- When our light shines brightly before others,

they will see the good works that we do for Christ. They will recognize that we are different. And as we share the gospel with them, they too will learn that Jesus is the Light of the World!

STEP 3: Ask, "How can we let the light of Jesus shine in our lives in the following areas: home, school, a sports team, church?"

Have kids turn to the person on their left. Assign pairs to brainstorm examples of how Jesus can shine in their lives in one of the areas above.

After thirty seconds, have kids share their ideas.

Remind kids that the Holy Spirit who lives inside us gives us the power and courage to let our lights shine. As we learn more about how God wants us to live, our light will grow brighter, and we will want to share this light with others.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.3

I Am the Door**Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 1: Where's the Door?****Notes:**

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

STEP 1: Divide the kids into two or three groups. Give each group a pen or pencil and a piece of paper. Assign a leader to each group.

STEP 2: Ask each group leader to assign a writer for their group to record the group's answers. Explain to the groups that they will have two minutes to brainstorm together to write down as many possibilities as they can think of to answer the following statement:

Name a type of door.

Step 3: After three minutes, listen to the group responses, and then share these key concepts:

- Doors come in all different shapes, sizes, and materials). However, their purpose is all the same: a door allows you to enter a space and have access to what is inside.
- When Jesus lived on earth, He sometimes used everyday items to help people understand who He was and what He came to do. In John 10, Jesus compared Himself to a door or a gate that allowed you to enter the sheep pen.
- The shepherd in Bible times actually was the door or the gate. He would sleep across the entrance so that no sheep would escape and become lost. The only way in or out was through the shepherd himself, who acted as the door or gate.
- Just like a door allows us to enter a room and have access to what's inside, it is only through Jesus, our door or gate, that we can enter heaven and have access to a relationship 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 is the door.

SECTION 3.3 | *I Am the Door*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: What's Missing?

What You'll Need: Animal cage or kennel (any kind or size)

PREP: Borrow an animal cage or kennel. Optional: Search online for images of pets or farm animals in cages or pens (e.g., in a zoo, on a farm, etc.).

STEP 1: Display the cage or kennel. Encourage the kids to share what animal might live in such a cage or kennel.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What is the purpose of the door on this cage?
- What might happen if the door was not latched correctly or if the door came off?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Animal pens need secure doors to protect the animals inside.
- The shepherd in Bible times actually was the door or the gate. He would sleep across the entrance so that no sheep would escape and become lost. The only way in or out was through the shepherd himself, who acted as the door or gate.
- Jesus compared Himself to a door of a sheepfold. In order for us to have a right relationship with God, we must enter in through Jesus, the door.

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 the door.

Notes:

SECTION

3.3

I Am the Door**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: The Door**

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky notes, markers

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to Romans 3:23, Romans 5:8, Acts 16:31

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's verse, John 10:7. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase. Share these key concepts:

- The shepherd in Bible times actually was the door or the gate to the sheep pen. He would sleep across the entrance so that no sheep would escape and become lost. The only way in or out was through the shepherd himself, who acted as the door or gate.
- Jesus meant that just as a door is the only way to get into the sheepfold, Jesus is the only way we can be right with God.

STEP 2: Give each kid several sticky notes and a marker. Ask a volunteer to read or recite Romans 3:23. Ask a volunteer to share what this verse means.

Share these concepts:

- Every person sins.
- A sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God.
- Even one sin is enough to separate us from God and cause us to become lost from our relationship with Him (Isaiah 59:2).

Encourage kids to write on a sticky note, "I am a sinner" and place it on the door to the classroom.

STEP 3: Ask a leader to read Romans 5:8.

Share these key concepts:

- God loved us, even though we were lost because of our sin. Jesus came to be the good Shepherd and bring us back into a relationship with God.
- He sent Jesus to die on the cross and take the punishment of our sins. He became the door or gate for us to enter into the safety of a relationship with God.

Have kids write "Jesus died to become the door I need" on another sticky note and place it over their former sticky note on the door.

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer to read Acts 16:31.

Share these concepts:

- We cannot be right with God by going to church or Awana or doing good things.
- Jesus is the only door we can go through for us to be right with God.
- All we have to do to be right with God is believe in Jesus as our Savior. When we ask Jesus to forgive our sins, we can walk into a new relationship with God.

Have kids write "Jesus is the door to a relationship with God" on a sticky note and place it on the door of the classroom.

STEP 5: Encourage kids to look at their sticky notes on the door. Remind them that each person has to make the choice to believe in Jesus as their Savior. As the Spirit leads, give the kids an opportunity to talk to a leader about salvation.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.3

I Am the Door**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 2: The Door to Jesus**

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's verse, John 10:7. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase. Share these key concepts:

- The shepherd in Bible times actually was the door or the gate to the sheep pen. He would sleep across the entrance so that no sheep would escape and become lost. The only way in or out was through the shepherd himself, who acted as the door or gate.
- Jesus meant that just as a door is the only way to get into the sheepfold, Jesus is the only way we can be right with God.

STEP 2: Direct your kids' attention to the Silver Extra Credit Section on page 142 where there is an opportunity to draw a picture of the rectangle and a door to use as a drawing to share the gospel with a friend. Point out that this activity is a great way to share the gospel with a friend.

Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes it is hard to know how to share the gospel with others.
- Having a plan and rehearsing that plan with others will help you know how to tell others about Jesus.

STEP 3: Give kids a piece of paper and a pen or pencil. Have them form groups of two or three. Using their handbooks as a guide, encourage them to practice explaining that Jesus, the door, is the only way to be right with God. Have leaders walk among the groups, giving help and counsel as necessary.

Share these key concepts:

- Every person sins.
- A sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God.

- Even one sin is enough to separate us from God and cause us to become lost from our relationship with Him (Isaiah 59:2).
- God loved us, even though we lost our relationship with Him because of our sin.
- He created a door by sending Jesus to die on the cross and take the punishment of our sins.
- We cannot be right with God by going to church or Awana or doing good things.
- Jesus is the only way for us to be right with God.
- All we have to do is believe in Jesus as our Savior. When we do so, God forgives all our sins, and we have a right relationship with Him.

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as our Savior and let Him be our door to a relationship with God, the Holy Spirit is given to us.
- The Holy Spirit is always with us. He can give us courage to share the gospel with our friends, and He will help us know what to say when we tell others about Jesus.

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

Notes:

SECTION
3.4

I Am the Good Shepherd



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: A New Pet!

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to imagine they were going tomorrow to buy a new puppy. Ask, "What supplies would I need to buy to be ready for my new puppy?" (Suggested responses: food, dishes, leash and collar, a kennel, etc.)

Ask, "What responsibilities would you have with the new puppy?" (Suggested responses: feeding him, taking him outside, housetraining him, taking him to the vet, etc.)

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Owning a pet is a huge responsibility. We have to feed and care for the animal, and make sure they are safe and loved.
- In Bible times, a shepherd was a person who cared for sheep. It was the shepherd's responsibility to make sure the sheep were safe and that they had food and water. The sheep knew their shepherd and followed him.
- Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He knows those who follow Him, and He loves and cares for His sheep.

STEP 3: 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 the Good Shepherd.

Notes:

SECTION
3.4

I Am the Good Shepherd



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Special Visitor

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ask a leader or a friend to bring in their small pet (e.g., hamster, guinea pig, amphibian) and cage to visit your classroom. Ask him or her if it is okay for the kids to look at or touch the pet.

STEP 1: Introduce your special visitor and his or her pet. Ask the owner to give the kids instructions as they view the pet. With the owner's permission, allow kids to come up in small groups for a closer look at the animal.

STEP 2: Encourage kids and leaders to ask the owner what it is like to have that pet. Below are some suggested questions:

- How often do you have to give it food or water?
- How often do you have to clean the cage?
- What does it eat?
- Why did you choose this pet?
- How long have you had this pet?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Owning a pet is a huge responsibility. We have to feed and care for the animal and make sure they are safe and loved.
- In Bible times, a shepherd was a person who cared for sheep. It was the shepherd's responsibility to make sure the sheep were safe and that they had food and water. The sheep knew their shepherd and followed him.
- Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He knows those who follow Him, and He loves and cares for His sheep.

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 the Good Shepherd.

Notes:

SECTION

3.4

I Am the Good Shepherd**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: Jesus, Our Shepherd**

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

PREP: Search online for an image of a sheep. Print it out. Record one of the following references on a piece of paper:

- Psalm 23:1, 2
- Psalm 23:3
- Psalm 23:4
- Psalm 23:5
- John 10:27-28
- John 10:10-13

STEP 1: Display an image of a sheep.

Share these key concepts:

- Sheep were an important animal during Bible times. They were used for food, but they were also used by the Jewish people to be forgiven for their sins.
- Sheep have no real defense to protect themselves from danger. They relied on a shepherd to meet their needs.
- A shepherd had to care for the sheep and meet all of their needs. Because the sheep had many predators, the shepherd had to always be on guard to protect the sheep.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's verse, John 10:14. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus often used symbols or compared Himself to something else to help people understand who He was and what He came to do.
- Jesus compared Himself to a shepherd and compared His followers to sheep. As our shepherd, Jesus cares for us in many of the same ways that shepherds cared for their sheep.

STEP 3: Have kids break into pairs or groups. Give each group a prepared sticky note. Encourage groups to study their passages and to record what the Good Shepherd did for the sheep in that passage.

STEP 4: After four minutes, have each group present their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leads His sheep. He directs their paths and has good plans for their lives (Jeremiah 29:11, Proverbs 3:5-6).
- The Good Shepherd protects us from our enemies (2 Thessalonians 3:3).
- The Good Shepherd meets our needs. Jesus knows when we struggle, and He provides for us in every way (Philippians 4:19).
- The Good Shepherd will always be with us. Jesus promises to never leave us or forsake us (Isaiah 41:10, Hebrews 13:5)
- The Good Shepherd promises us eternal life (John 10:28).

STEP 5: Explain to kids that Jesus only knows the "sheep" that belong to Him. We must choose to follow Him by trusting Him as our Savior in order to become one of His sheep. As the Spirit leads, give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader about how Jesus can become their Good Shepherd.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.4

I Am the Good Shepherd**Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 2: My Shepherd**

What You'll Need: Bibles, My Shepherd handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Print out copies of the My Shepherd handout.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's verse, John 10:14. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus often used symbols or compared Himself to something else to help people understand who He was and what He came to do.
- Jesus compared Himself to a shepherd and compared His followers to sheep. As our shepherd, Jesus cares for us in many of the same ways that shepherds cared for their sheep.

STEP 2: Distribute copies of the My Shepherd handout to each kid, along with a pen or a pencil. Encourage them to work together to look up the verses and record below each reference what the Good Shepherd does for His sheep. Ask leaders to walk among the kids, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After four minutes, ask volunteers to share their findings from Psalm 23:2-4 and Philippians 4:19. Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, He becomes our shepherd (John 10:27-28).
- Jesus leads us and meets our needs (Philippians 4:19).
- We can trust in Him to provide for us because He loves us.

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer to present his or her findings from 2 Thessalonians 3:3. Share these concepts:

- Jesus is a faithful Shepherd who gives us strength.

- As our Shepherd, Jesus always guards and protects us from enemies and evil.

STEP 5: Ask a volunteer to share his or her findings from John 10:27-28. Share these key concepts.

- Those who follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, know His voice and follow Him. He gives them eternal life.
- Nothing, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, can ever take us away from our Shepherd after we hear His voice and choose to follow Him.
- Jesus will ALWAYS be with us here on earth, and we can look forward to one day living with Him forever in heaven.

STEP 6: Ask kids to look over their handout and to choose one thing that they want to thank the Good Shepherd for or to ask the Good Shepherd about. Give them a few moments to pray silently.

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

Notes:



My Shepherd Handout

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Study the verses below and write or draw a picture to show how the Good Shepherd cares for His Sheep.

1. Psalm 23:2-4

2. Philippians 4:19

3. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

4. John 10:27-28

SECTION 3.5

I Am the Resurrection and the Life



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Life and Death

What You'll Need: A healthy houseplant, a dead houseplant

PREP: Locate two different houseplants, one that is healthy and one that is dead or dying. Optional: Print out images of a healthy plant and a dead or dying plant.

STEP 1: Show the healthy houseplant to kids. Then display the dead houseplant.

Ask the following questions:

- What are the differences between these two plants?
- What can you do to keep this houseplant healthy?
- If we watered the healthy houseplant and made sure it received the right amount of water, could this plant live forever?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Because Adam and Eve sinned, things on the earth will eventually fall apart. All living things, like plants, animals, and people will eventually die.
- Jesus came to earth to save us from the curse of sin and death. Jesus conquered death when He rose from the grave. We can trust in Him for eternal life, or life forever with God in heaven!

STEP 3: 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 the resurrection and the life.

Notes:

SECTION 3.5

I Am the Resurrection and the Life



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Sad Face

What You'll Need: Paper, marker

(Leader's Note: Be sensitive to any kids in your class who may be facing a difficult time in their lives.)

STEP 1: Draw a sad face on the paper. Briefly share with the class a time when you faced sadness. Explain how you felt and how you handled the situation. Make sure to remind them that God was with you, even in your sadness.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Because of Adam and Eve's sin, we all experience sadness, pain, and death.
- When Jesus lived on earth, He experienced sadness and death. A good friend had died, and the man's sisters were sad. Jesus was also sad and wept for His friend.
- Jesus told the sisters, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). Jesus raised their brother, Lazarus, from the dead, proving that He has power over death.

STEP 3: 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 the resurrection and the life.

Notes:

SECTION 3.5

I Am the Resurrection and the Life



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Mary's Story

What You'll Need: Bibles, Mary's Story handout (optional: Bible times costume)

PREP: Ask a female leader or a special guest to pretend to be Mary, Lazarus' sister. Give them a copy of the Mary's Story handout. Optional: Ask her to wear a Bible times costume as she presents the dialogue.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's verse, John 11:25. Read through the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Because Jesus is God, He has the power to overcome death and offer life.
- Jesus promises eternal life to those who believe in Him and trust Him as Savior.

STEP 2: Explain to the kids that Jesus said this verse to some of His closest friends when they were facing a great hardship in their lives. Introduce "Mary" to the class, and ask her to share her story.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, their sin affected all of us. We are born sinners, and every person will eventually die because death is a result of sin (Romans 5:12).
- There is nothing we can ever do on our own to get rid of our sin. But God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to earth to get rid of our sin. Jesus is the only One who has ever lived a perfect life. He is the only One who can save us from the penalty of sin and death. He conquered sin and death when He rose from the grave (2 Timothy 1:10, Revelation 21:4).
- Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Jesus raised Lazarus from the grave. And later, He also rose from the grave. Jesus is alive in heaven, and He offers the promise of eternal life to everyone who trusts Him as their Savior (John 3:15, Revelation 21:1-5).

STEP 4: Remind kids that although death is still part of our lives now, if we know Jesus as our Savior, we will experience eternal life. When we die, we will go from death to immediate eternal life with Him. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus promised that He will one day come for those who have trusted Him as Savior.
- Those who are alive will meet Jesus in the sky.
- Jesus will take us to live with Him forever.

Whenever we are sad or know someone who is sad because of death, we can comfort one another with the promise that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. If we trust Him as Savior, we have the promise of eternal life forever in heaven.

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

Notes:



Mary's Story Handout

Mary enters the room and looks around for a moment, as if surprised. Then she begins to speak:

Today was one of the hardest — and the happiest — days of my entire life. My brother Lazarus had been very sick. We tried everything, but he only got worse. Finally, we called for our dear friend, Jesus, the Messiah. We knew that Jesus could heal him and make him well again.

We waited and waited. But Jesus didn't come in time. Lazarus died.

We prepared his body for burial by wrapping it in cloths. Martha, my sister, and I were heartbroken. How could Lazarus be gone? Why didn't Jesus come in time?

Finally, Jesus and His followers came. Martha went to meet Him, and then told me He was asking for me.

At first, I was angry when I saw Him. "Why didn't You come earlier?" I cried. "If only You had been here, You could have healed him, and Lazarus would still be alive."

Jesus simply asked me where his body was. He began to weep along with me.

(pause)

I watched as Jesus walked toward the cave where my brother's body lay. The entrance was covered with a huge rock. "Take away the stone," Jesus commanded.

Martha reminded Jesus that Lazarus had been dead for four days and that his body would smell.

As I watched, I saw Jesus begin to pray. He thanked God for always hearing Him and said that He was praying that those around Him would believe that the Father sent Him to earth."

And then, suddenly, Jesus called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

I couldn't believe my eyes! Lazarus, who had been dead, came out of the tomb. He was still covered in burial cloths, but Jesus told us to quickly unwrap them! As soon as we did, I saw with my very own eyes that Jesus was more than a good man or a teacher or a prophet. He is the Son of God!

Jesus conquered death. He really is the resurrection and the life!

SECTION 3.5

I Am the Resurrection and the Life



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Resurrection and Life

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or poster, markers (Optional: microphone)

PREP: Set up the easel and whiteboard or poster in the front of the classroom.

STEP 1: Write on the board "Jesus is ..." Have kids work in pairs or groups, and give each group some paper and pens or pencils. Assign one of the following passages to each pair or group:

- John 11: 17-25
- John 11: 38-43
- John 20:11-18
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18.

Tell pairs or groups to pretend they are Bible times reporters. They need to prepare a news brief based on their passages of Scripture.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- When Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, their sin affected all of us. We are born sinners, and every person will experience death because death is a result of sin (Romans 5:12).
- There is nothing we could ever do on our own to get rid of our sin. But God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to earth. He is the only person who ever lived a perfect life. He took the punishment for our sin when He died on the cross (1 Peter 2:24).

STEP 3: Have the first two pairs or groups share their news reports. Optional: Give kids a microphone to share the reports.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus was good friends with Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He did not immediately come and heal him.
- By the time Jesus arrived, Lazarus had been dead for four days. Martha was heartbroken that her brother had died.

- Jesus went to the tomb where Lazarus' body lay. He cried because His friends were experiencing the reality of death and sin.
- Jesus called out for Lazarus to come out of the tomb. Lazarus came out, still wrapped in the cloths they had used to bury him.
- Jesus showed that He has victory over death when He raised Lazarus from the dead.

STEP 4: Have the third group present their news report. Optional: Give kids a microphone to share the reports.

Share these key concepts:

- After Jesus died on the cross, His body was placed in a tomb.
- Three days later, when Mary Magdalene went to the tomb, she saw that the stone had been rolled away. Confused and surprised, at first she thought someone had taken Jesus' body.
- Finally she realized that Jesus really is alive! He had risen from the dead!

STEP 5: Write on the board, "The resurrection." Remind kids that Jesus not only raised Lazarus from the dead, He Himself had victory over death. Jesus is alive today and lives in heaven.

STEP 6: Have the last group share their news report. Optional: Give kids a microphone to share the reports.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus promised that He will one day come for those who have trusted Him as Savior.
- Those who are alive will meet Jesus in the sky.
- Jesus will take us to live with Him forever.
- Whenever we are sad or know someone who is sad because of death, we can comfort one another with the promise that Jesus is the resurrection and the life. If we trust Him as Savior, we have the promise of eternal life forever in heaven.

STEP 7: Read through this week's memory verse, John 11:25. Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

SECTION 3.6

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Which Way?

Notes:

What You'll Need: Pens or pencils, highlighter

PREP: Search online for a map (such as Google Maps) that shows your Awana location and a nearby local restaurant or store. Print and make copies for you and each kid in class. On your map, highlight the best and quickest route.

STEP 1: Give each kid a copy of the map and a pen or pencil. Encourage them to work together with a friend to find at least three different routes from your current location to a specific restaurant or store.

STEP 2: After kids have finished, have them hold up their routes.

Ask the following questions:

- Which route is the closest?
- Which is the farthest?
- How many other routes did you find?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- There are many different routes we could take to get to (location's name) from here. (Show kids your map). However, there is one route that is the best route.
- Some people think there are many different routes, or ways, to get to heaven (e.g., doing good things, being a good person, going to church, etc.).
- Jesus told the disciples that there is only one way to get to heaven. Jesus is THE way, THE truth, and THE life. No one can get to heaven except through 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 that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

SECTION
3.6
I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)
Option 2: My Way Home

What You'll Need: Paper, pencils

STEP 1: Give each kid a paper and a pen or pencil. Encourage them to draw a map or write out directions from their current location to their home.

STEP 2: After two minutes, ask two volunteers to share their maps or directions with the class.

Ask the following questions:

- How confident are you that these are good directions?
- Do you think a person who has never been to our city before could find your house based on your map or directions?
- What was the hardest part about drawing or writing these directions?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- You probably know the way to your house from here, but someone who doesn't know where you live might have a hard time finding your house based on your directions.
- There might be several different ways you could get to your house from here, but there is only ONE WAY for you to get to heaven — that is through Jesus Christ. He is the way, the truth, and the life. No one could ever get to heaven without 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 that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Way, Truth, and Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, posters, art supplies, pens or pencils

PREP: Gather various art supplies (glue, pipe cleaners, stickers, construction paper, scissors, etc.). Bookmark three kids' Bibles to the following passages: Acts 4:12, 1 John 5:20, 1 John 5:11-12.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's verse, John 14:6.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus told His disciples that He would soon return to heaven and prepare a place for them.
- He also promised them that He would come again and take them to heaven with Him.
- Thomas did not understand how they could get to heaven. Jesus shared with them the truths of John 14:6. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

STEP 2: Divide the kids into three groups, and assign one of the following passages and titles to each group:

- The Way (Acts 4:12)
- The Truth (1 John 5:20)
- The Life (1 John 5:11-12)

Give each group a bookmarked Bible, and give groups three minutes to study their verses and then creatively present how Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. (For example, kids may choose to make a poster, create an acrostic, or come up with a catchy phrase.) Have leaders walk among the groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 3: Have groups present their posters.

Share these key concepts:

- Our sin keeps us from a relationship with God (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23). But Jesus took our punishment for sin by dying on the cross. He

defeated death when He rose again. The ONLY way we can be right with God is to trust Jesus as Savior (1 Peter 2:24, 1 Corinthians 15:57, John 14:6).

- Everything He says is true, and everything He does is true and just. He is full of grace and truth (John 1:14, John 17:17). Jesus is the truth.
- Jesus is life. He is the only way to live forever with God in heaven (1 John 5:13, 20).

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Map to Heaven

What You'll Need: Bibles; The Way, The Truth, and The Life handout; pens or pencils

PREP: Print out copies of the The Way, The Truth, and The Life handout, one copy per kid.

STEP 1: Summarize John 14:1-5.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus knew that He was going to die on the cross very soon. He also knew that the disciples would be confused and scared.
- He encouraged His disciples by telling them that He was going to heaven, but He promised to return one day to take believers to be with Him.
- His disciples were confused. They didn't know where heaven was, and they didn't know how they would get there.

STEP 2: Read or recite together this week's memory verse, John 14:6. Read the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase. Explain that this verse helps give us the directions to heaven. Give each kid a copy of the handout, and have them locate the "Start Here" spot on the map.

Share these key concepts:

- Many people believe there are many ways to get to heaven. Some people think they can be good enough or go to church enough or pray enough so that they will one day get to heaven. Other people think that everyone just goes to heaven when they die. Those ideas are not what God's Word says is true.
- Heaven is a happy and beautiful place because there is no sin allowed in heaven. All of us have sinned (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23). We are separated from God (Isaiah 59:2), and there is nothing we can do on our own to get to heaven (Ephesians 2:8-9). Our own sin keeps us out of heaven.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- In order to make a way for us to go to heaven, Jesus died to take away our sins. He defeated death when He rose again (1 Peter 2:24, 1 Corinthians 15:57).
- The ONLY way we can be right with God is to trust Jesus as our Savior (John 14:6). This means that our sins have been removed and when we die we are able to go to heaven and spend eternity in a beautiful and happy place without any sin, sadness, pain, or death.

Instruct kids to draw paths on their handout to "Jesus paid the punishment for our sin" and then to "Jesus is the only way to heaven."

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is fully God. He never sinned (John 1:1, 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- Everything He says is truth, and everything He does is true and just. He is full of grace and truth (John 1:14; John 17:17).
- We can trust that everything Jesus says will come true (1 Corinthians 1:9).

Have kids draw a path to the "Jesus is truth" statement on the map.

STEP 5: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is life. He is the only way to live forever with God in heaven (1 John 5:13, 20).
- Jesus also gives us abundant life here on earth (John 10:10).
- We can look forward to the promise of eternal life forever with Him in heaven (1 John 2:25).

Have kids connect the path to "Jesus offers eternal life."

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



The Way, the Truth, and the Life Handout

Connect the statements to find the only path to get to heaven.

A handout template for a mission activity. It features a large, irregularly shaped border. Inside the border, in the top left corner, is a circular compass rose with a triangle pointing upwards. To the right of the compass rose is a 4x4 grid. The grid contains five statements in italics: 'Jesus paid the punishment for our sin.' (top right), 'We are sinners.' (middle left), 'Jesus is truth.' (middle right), 'Jesus is the only way to heaven.' (bottom left), and 'Jesus offers us eternal life' (bottom right). The grid is intended for students to connect these statements to find the only path to heaven.

		<i>Jesus paid the punishment for our sin.</i>	
<i>We are sinners.</i>			<i>Jesus is truth.</i>
<i>Jesus is the only way to heaven.</i>			
		<i>Jesus offers us eternal life</i>	

SECTION

3.7

I Am the True Vine**Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)****Option 1: Vine Produce****Notes:**

What You'll Need: Fruits or vegetables grown on a vine, knife, napkins, fake vine or real vine (optional: images of a vine)

PREP: Before class, purchase several different types of fruits or vegetables that grow on vines (e.g., watermelon, melons, tomatoes, squash, pumpkin, grapes, kiwi, green beans, peas, cucumbers, or passion fruit). Wash and cut the fruits or vegetables. Optional: Search online for images of a vine; print out to show kids.

Set out the prepared fruits and vegetables. Place napkins nearby.

STEP 1: Encourage kids to sample the fruits and vegetables. While kids are eating, ask them to try to figure out what all the fruits and vegetables have in common. (*They all grow in vines.*)

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Many fruits and vegetables grow on vines. Vines are plants that grow with stems or branches. The vine is the source for nutrients and growth.
- The nutrients travel from the vine to the branch so that the branch bears fruit.
- Jesus said, "I am the vine." Those who trust Him as their Savior are filled with His strength, and He helps them grow. They are like branches attached to the vine, Jesus, who bear fruit.

STEP 3: 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 the true vine.

SECTION 3.7 | *I Am the True Vine*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Vine Study

What You'll Need: Silk vine or real vine, pruning shears, table and table cloth

PREP: Set up a table and tablecloth. Place the vine and shears on the table. Optional: Print out an image of a vine.

STEP 1: Ask a volunteer to identify what type of plant is displayed.

Share the following key concepts:

- The vine itself is the main part of the plant. Through the vine flows nutrients that the plant needs to survive.
- The branches are outgrowths of the vine itself. They often look like the vine.
- The nutrients of the vine flow through the branches. When the branch is healthy, it will bear fruit.

Use the pruning shears to cut off one or two branches.

Share the following key concepts:

- Often there will be a branch that doesn't grow like it should. It may have a disease, or it may not get enough nutrients.
- Branches that don't bear fruit need to be removed from the vine so that they don't waste the nutrients that could go to fruit-bearing branches.
- Jesus compared Himself to a vine and those who trust Him as Savior to branches. He is the One who nourishes us and gives us the ability to grow and bear fruit!

STEP 2: 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 the true vine.

Notes:

SECTION
3.7

I Am the True Vine



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Vine Graphs

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, 3 x 5 cards, paper, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, colored pencils

PREP: Set up an easel in the front of the room, and place a whiteboard or pad of paper on the easel. Write the following headings on the board or paper: God's Role, Jesus' Role, My Role. Leave space under each heading for kids to write their responses. Write the following titles and references on 3 x 5 cards.

- God's Role: John 15:1-2,8
- Jesus' Role: John 15:1-6
- My Role: John 15:3-6, Galatians 5:22-23

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 15:5. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase. Share the following key concepts.

- In Bible times, vineyards were common to see along the roads in the countryside. Fruits and vegetables, including grapes, grew on these vines. Because people relied on these plants for food, they knew how important it was for the plants to be healthy.
- Jesus compared Himself to the vine and His followers to the branches. He wanted to teach us how important it was to follow and stay close to Him.

STEP 2: Give each kid paper, a pen or pencil, and colored pencils. Divide the class into three groups. Assign a role to each group and give each group one of the 3 x 5 cards. Give groups three minutes to read their verses and develop a chart that represents the role of God, Jesus, or believers in their verses. After three minutes, have the first group share their graphs that represent Jesus' role as the vine.

- Just as the vine gives life to the branches that are attached and growing from the vine, Jesus Christ offers abundant life to all those who follow Him (Ephesians 2:4-5).

- We are a new creation in Him, and He dwells in us (2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 8:10).

STEP 3: Have the second group share their graphs that represent God's role from the verses they studied.

Share the following key concepts:

- God is the vinedresser (John 15:1). A vinedresser's job was to make sure that all the branches were healthy and producing good fruit.
- If the branches were dead, the vinedresser would remove them (John 15:2). Those who do not have a relationship with Him are not connected to Jesus, the true vine. He wants those branches to connect to Him as well.
- A vinedresser prunes a plant, or cuts off parts of it that are sick or not producing, to keep it healthy and help it grow more fruit. God has a purpose and a plan for those of us who have trusted Jesus as Savior. God will "prune" our lives and remove things from our lives that keep us from growing to be more like Him. He will continue to work in our lives until we get to heaven (John 15:2-6, Ephesians 2:10, Philippians 1:6).

STEP 4: Have the final group present their graphs that represent the branch's role from John 15.

Share the following key concepts:

- A branch that is alive and healthy is connected to the vine.
- When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we are made alive in Him and the Holy Spirit is given to us (1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 2:4-5).
- Our role as a branch is to abide in Christ. When we accept Jesus as Savior, we become connected to Him. When we study God's Word, the Holy Spirit helps us make good choices that please God. Those "good choices" are like fruit.
- Others will see the good fruit in our lives, and they will see that we love Jesus (John 15:4-5 Galatians 5:22-23).

STEP 4: Give kids a minute to examine their hearts. Then follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

SECTION
3.7

I Am the True Vine



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Fruit-Bearing Vines

What You'll Need: Card stock, markers or colored pencils, whiteboard and dry erase markers

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 15:2. Repeat the verse, pausing after each phrase.

Share the following key concepts:

- In Bible times, vineyards were common along the roads in the countryside. Fruits and vegetables, including grapes, grew on these vines. Because people relied on these plants for food, they knew how important it was for the plants to be healthy.
- Jesus compared Himself to the vine and His followers to the branches. He wanted to teach us how important it was to follow and stay close to Him.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that those who trust Jesus as Savior are the branches.

Share the following key concepts:

- When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we are made alive in Him and the Holy Spirit is given to us (1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 2:4-5).
- We are connected to the vine, and our role as a branch is to abide in Christ. We are permanently connected to Him.

STEP 3: Give each kid a sheet of card stock and markers or colored pencils. Encourage them to draw a vine and a branch. Read Galatians 5:22-23.

Share the following key concepts:

- When we abide in Christ, our lives will change (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- When we study God's Word, the Holy Spirit helps us make good choices that please God (Ephesians 2:10).

- As we grow in Christ, our lives will change. We will automatically bear fruit in our actions and our attitudes. Others will see the good fruit in our lives, and they will see that we love Jesus (John 15:4-5 Galatians 5:22-23).

STEP 4: Ask, "What does it look like for kids your age to bear fruit?" Encourage kids to add "fruit" to their branches and write in the fruit a specific way they could bear fruit in their lives (e.g., "I can show love to my parents", "I will be patient with my little brother," etc.).

Give kids a minute to examine their hearts. Encourage them to pray silently, asking God to help them abide in Christ so that they can bear His fruit.

Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION 3.8 | *I Am ... Review*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Symbol Fun

What You'll Need: Sticky notes, pens or markers

STEP 1: Give each kid a sticky note and a pen or a marker. Give kids 30 seconds to draw a common symbol on their sticky note without letting anyone else see. (Suggestions include an emoji, a math symbol, a famous logo, etc.) Encourage kids to stick the symbol on the back of a friend. Make sure that each kid has a symbol on his or her back.

STEP 2: Give kids two minutes to ask questions to try to figure out the symbol on his or her back. NOTE: Kids must ask at least two questions before they can guess their symbols.

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- Symbols are used to communicate an idea. They are used in advertising, social media, education, and even literature!
- In Bible times, Jesus was often misunderstood as being a good teacher or a prophet. Many people did not understand who He really was.
- Jesus often used symbols or pictures to help people understand who He really was and what He came to do. This unit covered seven symbols of who Jesus is. When we think of these symbols, we will remember who Jesus is and how much He loves us.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand that Jesus is the Bread of Life; the light; the door; the Good Shepherd; the resurrection and the life; the way, the truth, and the life; and the true vine.

Notes:

SECTION 3.8 | I Am ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Guess What?!

What You'll Need: 3 x 5 cards, legal size pads of paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Write each of the following words on a 3 x 5 card: Horse, Dinosaur.

STEP 1: Have kids form two even teams (a leader can play to make the teams even). Give the first person on each team a pad of paper, a pen or pencil, and one of the 3 x 5 cards. Tell the first kid not to let anyone else see the card.

Give the first person in line 10 seconds to draw the picture without saying anything. After 10 seconds, have the second person in line flip the picture over so it cannot be seen and write their guess as to what the picture is on the next page. After 10 seconds, have the third person in line flip the page and draw a picture of the word the second person had written on their paper.

Continue the activity, having the kids alternate drawing a picture or guessing what the person in front of them drew. Remind kids to continue to flip the pages over as soon as they read the word or guess the drawing.

STEP 2: After the note pad has made its way through the group, show the results of the activity and see if the guesses and the drawings match what the original person was supposed to draw.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It is easy for a picture to be misunderstood as something else.
- In Bible times, Jesus was often misunderstood as being a good teacher or a prophet. Many people did not understand who He really was.
- Jesus often used symbols or pictures to help people understand who He really was and what He came to do. This unit covered seven symbols of who Jesus is. When we think of these symbols, we will remember who Jesus is and how much He loves us.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand that Jesus is the Bread of Life; the light; the door; the Good Shepherd; the resurrection and the life; the way, the truth, and the life; and the true vine.

Notes:

SECTION 3.8 | I Am ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Symbol Building

What You'll Need: I Am ... handout, scissors, T&T handbooks, Play-Doh®, building blocks or Legos, pads of paper, markers

PREP: Gather four containers of Play Doh, four sets of building blocks or Legos, four pads of paper, four markers. Print four copies of the I Am ... handout, and cut the sections apart.

Set up four stations around the room and place a container of Play-Doh, a set of building blocks or Legos, a pad of paper, and markers in each station. Place one set of the I Am ... cards at each station.

(Leader's Note: If you cannot print the handout, use paper.)

STEP 1: Divide kids into four groups. Assign a leader to each group. Have each leader show a kid in their group a card from the handout. Give that kid 30 seconds to construct or draw the symbol or picture that Jesus used to show people who He was. Have the other kids guess the symbol. Continue until all kids have had a chance to participate.

STEP 2: Share the following key concepts:

- Jesus offers us eternal life (John 3:16). When we trust Him as our Savior, we have the promise that we will spend forever with Jesus in heaven, where we will never get hungry or thirsty (Revelation 7:16-17).
- Jesus offers us eternal life (1 John 1:7). When we follow Him, His light dwells in us and changes our lives (John 8:12). Others will see Christ's light in us and choose to follow Him too (Matthew 5:16).
- The Good Shepherd willingly died for us (John 10:11). When we trust Jesus as Savior, we belong to Him (John 10:27-28). He loves, leads, protects, cares for, and offers eternal life for those in His flock (John 10:14, Philipians 4:19).

- Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, and died to take the punishment for our sin. He is the only way we can enter into a right relationship with God (John 10:7, John 14:6).
- Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and conquered death forever when He rose from the dead (John 11:38-43, Mark 16). If we trust in Jesus as Savior, we too are promised victory over death and eternal life with Him in heaven (John 3:15, Revelation 21:1-5).
- Jesus is the only way we can be right with God (John 14:6). He is truth, and we are guaranteed eternal life when we trust Him as Savior (John 1:14, Ephesians 2:5-6).
- Jesus is like a vine, who offers us eternal life. When we trust Him as Savior, we are connected to Him, like branches (John 15:5). When we abide in Him and desire to grow by reading the Bible and praying, our lives will bear fruit, and those around us will see God's love in our lives. They too will come to know Jesus, the true vine (John 15:4-5 Galatians 5:22-23).

STEP 3: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



I Am ...

Jesus is the Bread of Life.

Jesus is the Light of the World.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Jesus is the door.

**Jesus is the resurrection
and the life.**

**Jesus is the way, the
truth, and the life.**

Jesus is the true vine.

SECTION 3.8 | I Am ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Kids as Teachers

What You'll Need: Bibles, I Am ... handout, T&T handbooks, scissors, pens or pencils, paper

PREP: Print out copies of the I Am ... handout. Cut apart each section.

(Leader's Note: If you cannot print the handout, use paper.)

STEP 1: Have kids work in pairs or small groups, and give each group a section from the handout, paper, and a pen or pencil. Give groups two minutes to review their unit lesson and prepare to give a 30-second summary of their unit lesson. Encourage one person from each group to take notes.

STEP 2: Walk around the room, offering assistance as needed. Use the following key concepts to help groups if they get stuck.

- Jesus offers us eternal life (John 3:16). When we trust Him as Savior, we have the promise that we will spend forever with Jesus in heaven, where we will never get hungry or thirsty (Revelation 7:16-17).
- Jesus offers us eternal life (1 John 1:7). When we follow Him, His light dwells in us and changes our lives (John 8:12). Others will see Christ's light in us and choose to follow Him too (Matthew 5:16).
- The Good Shepherd gave His life to save us (John 10:11). When we trust Jesus as Savior, we belong to Him (John 10:27-28). He loves, leads, protects, cares for, and offers eternal life for those in His flock (John 10:14, Philippians 4:19).
- Jesus came to earth, lived a perfect life, and died to take the punishment for sin. He is the only way we can enter into a right relationship with God (John 10:7, John 14:6).
- Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and conquered death forever when He rose from the dead (John 11:38-43, Mark 16). If we trust in Jesus as Savior, we too are promised victory

over death and eternal life with Him in heaven (John 3:15, Revelation 21:1-5).

- Jesus is the only way we can be right with God (John 14:6). He is truth, and we are guaranteed eternal life when we trust Him as Savior (John 1:14, Ephesians 2:5-6).
- Jesus is like a vine, who offers us eternal life. When we trust Him as Savior, we are connected to Him, like branches (John 15:5). When we abide in Him and desire to grow by reading the Bible and praying, our lives will bear fruit, and those around us will see God's love in our lives. They too will come to know Jesus, the true vine (John 15:4-5 Galatians 5:22-23).

STEP 3: Have groups teach their summaries.

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

Notes:

SECTION

4.1

Agents of Courage



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Phobias

What You'll Need: Bible, pen or pencil, easel with whiteboard or pad of paper, markers (optional: poster and markers)

PREP: Set up your easel with paper and markers, and write several of the following phobias, but do not write the definitions in parentheses.

- Acrophobia (fear of heights)
- Agrizoophobia (fear of wild animals)
- Ambulophobia (fear of walking)
- Climacophobia (fear of stairs or climbing)
- Decidophobia (fear of making decisions)
- Geliophobia (fear of laughter)
- Hydrophobia (fear of water)
- Lachanophobia (fear of vegetables)
- Motorphobia (fear of automobiles)
- Octophobia (fear of the figure 8)
- Triskaidekaphobia (fear of the number 13)
- Zemmiphobia (fear of the great mole rat)

STEP 1: Ask a volunteer to define the word "phobia." Explain that a "phobia" is a fear of something. Direct kids' attention to the phobias listed on the board, and encourage them to guess what each phobia means.

STEP 2: After several guesses, share the definitions of the phobias listed on the board. Then ask, "Why do you think people have certain phobias?"

Share these key concepts:

- Every person is afraid of something.

- We all have different fears. One of you might be afraid of bugs. Someone else might be afraid of heights.
- God promises to always be with us. We can be agents of courage and overcome our fear when we trust in Him. Fear doesn't have to be something we always experience.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand that we can be agents of courage.

Notes:

SECTION

4.1

Agents of Courage



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Character Courage

What You'll Need: Paper, colored pencils or markers

STEP 1: Give each kid a piece of paper, and place colored pencils or markers nearby. Ask kids to draw their favorite cartoon, movie, literary or Bible character who shows courage in difficult times.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have kids share their work. Then ask, "How did that character show courage?"

Share these key concepts:

- Every person is afraid of something. And while cartoons or TV shows often portray humor in a character's fear, fear is a very real thing.
- We all have different fears. One of you might be afraid of bugs. Someone else might be afraid of heights.
- God promises to always be with us. We can be agents of courage and overcome our fear when we trust in Him. Fear doesn't have to be something we always experience.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- If you have trusted Jesus as your Savior, God has promised to give you courage as well.
- When you face scary situations or discouragement, know that God is always with you!
- You can trust the promises of God's Word.
- Ask God to give you courage, and He will faithfully help you face your fears and become an agent of courage!

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand that we can be agents of courage.

Notes:

SECTION
4.1

Agents of Courage



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Courageous Joshua

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

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

Share these key concepts:

- God commanded Joshua to lead His people, the Israelites, into the land that God had promised them.
- God knew that Joshua and the Israelites would face many scary situations. That's why God told Joshua to be strong and courageous instead of being discouraged or afraid.
- God gave Joshua a promise to strengthen him: the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua and the Israelites would never face their enemies alone. God was with them each step of their journey, and God was faithful to give them courage and strength.

Step 2: Divide kids into three groups. Assign a leader and one of the following references to each group: Exodus 17:8-17, Joshua 3:10-17, Joshua 10:6-15.

Give each group five minutes to read their verses and create a storyboard of the action in the verses.

Walk among the groups, offering help as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, ask groups to show their storyboards. Then ask the following questions:

- How did he show courage?
- How did Joshua reveal that He trusted God?

STEP 4: Remind kids that even though Joshua faced scary situations, he chose to believe the promise that God was with them and that God would lead His people to their promised land. Ask them to think of a situation in their life right now where they need God to give them courage.

Share these key concepts:

- If you have trusted Jesus as your Savior, God has promised to give you courage as well.
- When you face scary situations or discouragement, know that God is always with you!
- You can trust the promises of God's Word.

STEP 5: Remind kids that God gave us many promises in the Bible to encourage us when we are afraid. Encourage them to look through this week's lesson in their handbooks and to choose a verse from the lesson that will help them have courage.

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

Notes:

SECTION

4.1

Agents of Courage



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Agent of Courage

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

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

Share these key concepts:

- God commanded Joshua to lead His people, the Israelites, into the land that God had promised them.
- God knew that Joshua and the Israelites would face many scary situations. That's why God told Joshua to be strong and courageous instead of being discouraged or afraid.
- God gave Joshua a promise to strengthen him: the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua and the Israelites would never face their enemies alone. God was with them each step of their journey, and God was faithful to give them courage and strength.

STEP 2: Give each kid a piece of paper and a Bible. Place colored pencils or markers nearby. Tell kids that one of Jesus' disciples shows us what courage looks like. Encourage kids to read Matthew 14:22-33 together with one or two other kids. Then encourage them to work together to draw at least two scenes of Peter's demonstration of courage.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have volunteers share their depictions.

Share these key concepts.

- Peter was a fisherman. He was used to storms and waves. He would have worked hard with the other disciples to fight their way to the shore.
- The disciples were frightened when they saw Jesus, thinking He was a ghost. Imagine how surprised they were to see their Master WALKING ON THE WATER in the storm!

- When Peter found out it was Jesus, Peter bravely asked Jesus to call him out of the boat and onto the stormy sea.
- As Peter courageously walked toward Jesus, the circumstances of the waves and the wind discouraged him and caused him to be afraid. He lost his courage and began to sink.
- He immediately cried out to Jesus, who lifted him back up, and they journeyed back to the boat.
- While Peter did become discouraged, he cried out to Jesus, and Jesus immediately reached out to him and gave him the strength and courage he needed.

STEP 4: Remind kids that God gave us many promises in the Bible to encourage us when we are afraid. Encourage them to look through this week's lesson in their handbooks and to choose a verse from the lesson that will help them have courage.

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

STEP 6: End the lesson by praying that God will help the kids trust in the promises of God's Word so that they can become agents of courage.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | *Agents of Humility*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Puffed Up With Pride

What You'll Need: Balloons

STEP 1: Give each kid and leader a balloon. Have the kids and leaders blow them up as big as they can and then let the balloons go.

Ask the following questions:

- What happened when you blew air into the balloons?
- What happened when you let them go?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- This is what our lives are like when we are filled with pride.
- Pride is thinking we are better than others and that we deserve what we want or need more than anyone else. Pride means that we always put ourselves first because we are the most important.
- When we have pride in our hearts, we are puffed up. Just like the balloon stretched out when filled with air, we "stretch out" our wants and desires, not thinking about the thoughts and feelings of others.
- God wants us to let go of the pride in our lives. We become agents of humility when we submit to His plans for our lives, when we look out not only for our own needs but also to the needs of others. Our lives need to be defined by thinking of what others need and making their needs a priority to us.

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 becoming an agent of humility.

Notes:

SECTION
4.2

Agents of Humility



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Kindness Counts

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or poster, markers

PREP: Set up the easel in the front of the room. Write the following words: Family, Friends, Neighbors.

STEP 1: Have kids brainstorm an act of kindness they could do for a friend, family member, or neighbor. Write their answers on the board. If kids get stuck, throw out the following suggestions: helping with yard work, taking out the garbage, doing someone else's chores for the day, etc.

Ask, "Do you think it would be easier to do something kind to a neighbor, someone at school, or someone in your family? Why?"

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes it is hard to do kind things for others, especially when we have to give up our time or money.
- Being willing to put others' needs or desires in front of our own is humility.
- God wants us to become agents of humility. We do so when we submit to God's plan for our lives and willingly put the desires of others before our own.

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 becoming an agent of humility.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2

Agents of Humility



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Point to Self or Point to God?

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

PREP: Write on a piece of paper, "Pointing to self." On another piece of paper, write, "Pointing to God." Tape both pieces of paper to the wall in the front of the room.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Philippians 2:3. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Humility begins with our hearts. To be humble, we need to check our motives to make sure that our actions are not based only on what we want or on what we want others to think about us.
- Next, we need to humbly recognize the needs of others. When we see them as more important than ourselves, it doesn't mean that we put ourselves down or think that everyone else is better than us. Instead, we willingly sacrifice what we want to show our love for them.
- This verse contrasts a prideful person, one who focuses on selfish glory and self-promotion, to a humble person who considers the interests of others more important than his or her own.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We can never really be humble until we trust Jesus as our Savior. To be saved, we must be humble and admit that we are helpless sinners and cannot save ourselves (Romans 3:23, Micah 6:8).
- Humility and pride are opposites. Pride is thinking of yourself as more important than others. Humility is submitting to God and putting the interest of others before your own (Philippians 2:3-4, James 4:6-7).

STEP 3: Ask, "What does it look like if our actions or our attitudes point to self?" Have kids write

a response on a sticky note and then post it under the "Pointing to Self" sign. (Answers might include selfishness, pride, bragging, etc.)

Share these key concepts:

- Pride is thinking of yourself as more important than someone else.
- A proud person is selfish, and they often face downfall because of their pride (Proverbs 16:18).
- God hates pride, and He opposes a proud person (Proverbs 6:16-17, James 4:6).

STEP 4: Give each kid a sticky note and a pen or pencil. Ask, "What does it look like if our actions or our attitudes point to God?" Have kids write a response on a sticky note and then post it under the "Pointing to God" sign. If kids get stuck, throw out one of the following suggestions: showing kindness, sacrificing one's time or money, etc.

Share these key concepts:

- True humility comes from following Jesus' example. Jesus put our interests before His own when He took the punishment we deserved (Philippians 2:7-8).
- God gives grace to those who are willing to set aside their selfishness and choose to obey God (1 Peter 5:5-7).
- It isn't always easy to put others first, but God promises that His grace will be enough (2 Corinthians 12:9).
- When we are agents of humility, God is able to work in us to show His love to others (Ephesians 4:1-3).

STEP 5: Ask kids to write on a sticky note one way that they can humbly point to God with an attitude of humility. Challenge them to place that sticky note on their Bibles to remind them to look for ways they can be an agent of humility this week.

STEP 6: Continue the discussion by sharing anything else from the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

SECTION 4.2

Agents of Humility



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Pride or Humility?

What You'll Need: Bibles, poster board, sharpie, tape

PREP: Write on one poster board, "Pride." Write on a second poster board, "Humility." Tape the two posters on opposite walls in the classroom.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that their memory verse teaches us how to be humble. Read or recite this week's memory verse, Philippians 2:3. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Humility begins with our hearts. To be humble, we need to check our motives to make sure that our actions are not based on what we want or on what we want others to think about us.
- Next, we need to humbly recognize the needs of others. When we see them as more important than ourselves, it doesn't mean that we put ourselves down or think that everyone else is better than us. Instead, we willingly sacrifice what we want to show our love for them.
- This verse contrasts a prideful person, one who focuses on selfish glory and self-promotion, to a humble person who puts the interests of others before his or her own.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We can never really be humble until we trust Jesus as our Savior. To be saved, we must be humble and admit that we are helpless sinners and cannot save ourselves (Romans 3:23, Micah 6:8).
- Humility and pride are opposites. Pride is thinking of yourself as more important than others. Humility is submitting to God and putting the interest of others before your own (Philippians 2:3-4, James 4:6-7).

STEP 3: Stand under the "Pride" poster and share these key concepts:

- A proud person is selfish, and they often face downfall because of their pride (Proverbs 16:18).

- God hates pride, and He opposes a proud person (Proverbs 6:16-17, James 4:6).

STEP 4: Stand under the "Humility" poster and share these key concepts:

- True humility comes from following Jesus' example. Jesus put our interests before His own when He took the punishment we deserved (Philippians 2:7-8).
- God gives grace to those who are willing to set aside their selfishness and choose to obey God (1 Peter 5:5-7).

STEP 5: Tell kids that you are going to read some scenarios common to kids their age. Ask them to stand under the "Pride" poster if the scenario describes a proud person or to stand under the "Humility" poster if the scenario describes a humble person.

- Bragging about being the best player on the soccer team because you want to feel good.
- Going to a friend's house to help her with math when you would rather play video games.
- Letting your little sister pick a movie for the two of you to watch when you want to watch something else.
- Talking back to your mom or dad when they ask you to do something.
- Bullying someone at school so you feel more strong and powerful than they are.
- Refusing to admit you were wrong to your friend even when you know that you are wrong.

Volunteering to help with dinner instead of watching TV.

STEP 6: Share these key concepts:

- It isn't always easy to put others first, but God promises that His grace will be enough. His strength is lived out in our lives when we are willing to focus on putting others first (2 Corinthians 12:9).
- When we are agents of humility, God is able to work in us to show His love to others (Ephesians 4:1-3).

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

SECTION 4.3 | Agents of Wisdom



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: One Wish

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen or a pencil, and have them write down one wish they have.

STEP 2: After thirty seconds, have kids share their wishes. Ask, "Why did you wish for those things?"

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The Bible says that God went to King Solomon, a king of Israel, and told Solomon that He would grant him one request (2 Chronicles 1:7).
- Solomon could have asked for wealth, power, or a great kingdom. Instead, he humbly asked God for wisdom because he knew that he needed God's wisdom to become a great king (2 Chronicles 1:10).
- God granted Solomon great wisdom. In fact, Solomon wrote the book of Proverbs, often known as the "wisdom book" in the Bible (2 Chronicles 1:11-12).
- God wants to grant you wisdom, and He promises to do so if we ask Him for wisdom and try to live in the wise ways that He has set up.

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 we can become agents of godly wisdom.

Notes:

SECTION 4.3 | *Agents of Wisdom*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Wise Sayings

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Explain to kids that many people are familiar with wise sayings that help us in our daily lives. Read the following examples:

- Greet people with a firm handshake.
- Don't stare.
- Be kind and respectful to everyone.
- Always say "please" and "thank you."
- You never get a second chance to make a first impression.

STEP 2: Ask, "What makes this statement wise?"

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It is not enough to hear about these wise sayings. In order for them to benefit our lives, we have to live them out.
- While it is important to practice these wise sayings, there is a far greater source of wisdom that we can apply to our lives.
- God gave us His Word, the Bible, which contains all the answers we will ever need. Not only that, but God also promises to give us wisdom, which is taking what we know and using it to make good choices, if we ask Him for it.

STEP 2: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of asking God for wisdom and applying it to our lives.

Notes:

SECTION

4.3

Agents of Wisdom



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Wanted: A Wise Person

What You'll Need: Bibles, Wanted: A Wise Person handout, pens or pencils, T&T handbooks

PREP: Print out copies of the Wanted: A Wise Person handout.

(Leader's Note: Use blank sheets of paper if you can't print the handout.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, James 1:5. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Wisdom is different from knowledge. Wisdom is learning how to apply what we learn so that we can make good choices.
- God promises to generously give us wisdom.
- If we have trusted Jesus as our Savior and then ask God for wisdom, God will ALWAYS answer that request.

STEP 2: Give each kid a copy of the Wanted: A Wise Person handout and a pen or pencil. Have kids work in pairs or groups of three, and assign one or two of the verses at the bottom of the handout to each pair or group. Give kids three minutes to create their wanted poster based on their verse. Encourage them to fill in the descriptions from other groups.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have each group present their wanted posters.

Share these key concepts:

- The first step to understanding God's wisdom is trusting Jesus as our Savior. When we are saved, the Holy Spirit, who is God, guides us (1 Corinthians 3:16). The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's Word and encourages us to make right choices that please God (1 Corinthians 2:10-13).

- Second, we need to be searching for God's wisdom as if it were a great treasure. Psalm 19 says that God's Word should be desired more than fine gold (Psalm 19:10). When we seek after God's wisdom, He promises to give us not just a little, but A LOT of wisdom (James 1:5).
- Third, we need to humbly ask for God's wisdom in every area of our lives. Asking for God's wisdom means that we have to rely on God and His strength and not on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- Finally, we must trust that God will give us wisdom if we ask for it, and then we must apply His knowledge to our lives (James 1:5). Whether we need wisdom to know how to handle an unkind kid at school or how to love a pesty little brother or sister at home, God promises to generously give us His wisdom so that we can make good choices that will please Him and allow others to see His light in our life.

STEP 4: Have kids think of a situation at home or at school in which they need wisdom. Direct their attention to their handouts and handbooks. Encourage them to choose one verse from either their handouts or their handbooks that will help them display wisdom in a specific situation. Encourage kids to read through that verse each day as they seek God's wisdom to help them.

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

Notes:



WANTED

A Wise Person

Description from Proverbs 17:27-28 _____

Description from Proverbs 24:7 _____

Description from Proverbs 10:14 _____

Description from Proverbs 29:11 _____

Description from Proverbs 13:1 _____



SECTION

4.3

Agents of Wisdom



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Responding With Wisdom

What You'll Need: Bibles

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, James 1:5. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Wisdom is different from knowledge. Wisdom is learning how to apply what we learn so that we can make good choices.
- God promises to generously give us wisdom.
- If we have trusted Jesus as our Savior and then ask God for wisdom, God will ALWAYS answer that request.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- The first step to understanding God and His wisdom is trusting Jesus as Savior. When we are saved, the Holy Spirit, who is God, guides us (1 Corinthians 3:16). The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's Word and encourages us to make right choices that please God (1 Corinthians 2:10-13).
- Second, we need to be searching for God's wisdom as if it were a great treasure. Psalm 19 says that God's Word should be desired more than fine gold (Psalm 19:10). When we seek after God's wisdom, He promises to give us not just a little, but A LOT of wisdom (James 1:5).
- Third, we need to humbly ask for God's wisdom in every area of our lives. Asking for God's wisdom means that we have to rely on God's strength and not on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-6).
- Finally, we must trust that God will give us wisdom if we ask for it and then we must apply His knowledge to our lives (James 1:5). Whether we need wisdom to know how to handle an unkind kid at school or how to love a pesty little brother or sister at home, God promises to generously give us wisdom so that we can make good choices that will please Him and allow others to see His light in our life.

STEP 3: Ask for two volunteers to stand in front of the room. Read one of the following scenarios, and ask the first volunteer how a person might respond foolishly. Then ask the second volunteer how a person might respond wisely. Continue the activity with other volunteers.

- You are playing a video game. Your mom asks you to stop what you are doing and take out the trash.
- Your little brother is bothering you, and he will not stop. You have tried EVERYTHING.
- Your dad does not want you to hang around one of your friends from school, but that person has invited you over for the afternoon to check out their new gaming system.
- Your sister borrowed your headphones, again, without asking.

STEP 4: Remind kids that they can seek God's wisdom for every situation they face. Give each kid a sticky note and a pen or a pencil. Ask them to write on the note a current situation they are facing in which they need God's wisdom. Encourage them to look through their handbooks and write on the sticky note the reference of a verse that will help them have wisdom in that situation.

STEP 5: Follow up with the Lesson Application

Notes:

SECTION 4.4 | *Agents of Obedience*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Common Rules for Kids

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids brainstorm common rules that most kids have to follow either at home, church, or school. Ask, "Why do we have rules to follow?"

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- You have rules you are expected to follow at home, school, church, and everywhere you go. Rules are there to help keep us safe and protect us.
- Grown-ups have rules to follow too. We need to obey the policies at church, the rules for driving, and the laws of our state and national government.
- God gave us rules in His Word. We are agents of obedience when we follow them.

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 obeying God and those in authority over us.

Notes:

SECTION 4.4 | Agents of Obedience



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Panel Questions

What You'll Need: Paper, pen or pencil, basket.

PREP: Write the following questions on paper:

- What is a common rule at your house?
- What rule was hardest for you to obey as a kid?
- Will you share a time when you broke a rule when you were our age?

Cut the questions apart and place them in a small basket.

STEP 1: Ask three or four leaders to sit in the front of the room to answer questions as the panel. Choose a volunteer to come and choose a question to read aloud. Have one or two panel members answer each question.

STEP 2: Continue the activity as time permits or until you run out of questions.

Share these key concepts:

- You have rules you are expected to follow at home, school, church, and everywhere you go. Rules are there to help keep us safe, and protect us.
- Grown-ups have rules to follow too. We need to obey the policies at church, the rules for driving, and the laws of our state and national government.
- God gave us rules in His Word. We are agents of obedience when we follow them.

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 obeying God and those in authority over us.

Notes:

SECTION

4.4

Agents of Obedience



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Corner Conversations

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

PREP: Make four copies of the lesson. Assign steps 1-4 to different leaders, and ask them to be prepared to guide the activity in each step.

Set up the room with four teaching stations, one in each corner (for example, place chairs in a semi-circle in each corner). Tell the four leaders ahead of time to pick a station and remain in that station for the entire lesson.

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs can divide kids into smaller groups; smaller clubs can choose to do two or three of the steps in the activity.)

STEP 1: Give each kid paper and a pen or pencil. Divide kids into four groups, and assign a corner for each group. Explain that groups will have two minutes in each corner to discuss how they can be agents of obedience.

Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 14:15. Repeat the verse a second time. Have the girls say the first phrase with you, and have the boys say the second phrase with you.

Share these key concepts:

- God gave us commands, or rules, in the Bible.
- If we truly love God, we will keep His commands.
- The word "keep" means to hold on to something. In other words, we need to hold on to obeying God and make it a priority in our lives.

STEP 2: Ask, "Who are people God has placed in your life that you need to obey?" (Possible answers might include parents or caregivers, police officers, teachers, pastors, etc.)

Read Hebrews 13:17. Share these key concepts:

- God has placed people in authority over us (Hebrews 13:17).

- They have the responsibility to protect us, help us, and keep us safe.

Ask kids to write down a name of an authority figure they need to work on obeying. At the signal, have the group move to the next corner of the room.

STEP 3: Ask, "Why is it sometimes hard to obey?" (Possible answers might include: they don't want to stop what they are doing to obey, it takes too long to do what they are asked, they feel it's not fair, etc.)

Share these concepts:

- We all disobey God when we sin, and the consequence for our disobedience is ultimately death (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23). But Jesus, God's Son, took our punishment when He died on the cross for our sin (1 Peter 2:24). When we trust Jesus as our Savior, God forgives our disobedience, and we get to have a relationship with Him (Ephesians 1:7).
- God has placed people over us in our lives, and He wants us to obey the good things they ask us to do. We must have an attitude of humility and respect for those in authority over us (Hebrews 13:17).

Have kids write about or draw a picture of why it's sometimes hard for a kid their age to obey.

Encourage kids to ask God to give them an obedient attitude as well.

STEP 4: Ask, "How could a kid your age be an agent of obedience at home? at Awana? at school?"

Tell kids to write down where they struggle most to obey. Then ask them to circle or mark a verse from this week's lesson in their handbooks that will encourage them to have an obedient attitude this next week.

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

SECTION 4.4 | Agents of Obedience



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: The Big Picture

What You'll Need: Bibles, kids' puzzles, permanent markers

PREP: Purchase inexpensive children's puzzles (10-25 pieces each). Make sure each kid in T&T will have one piece.

(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups for this activity.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 14:15. Repeat the verse a second time. Have the girls say the first phrase with you, and have the boys say the second phrase with you.

Share these key concepts:

- God gave us commands, or rules, in the Bible.
- If we truly love God, we will keep His commands.
- The word "keep" means that we watch over them carefully. In other words, we need to take obeying God seriously and make it a priority in our lives.

STEP 2: Give each kid a puzzle piece. Tell kids to look only at their puzzle piece. Ask, "What is the big picture of this puzzle?" Guide kids to see that they may have an idea of the image of the puzzle from one piece, but they really need to put all the pieces together to get the big picture.

Share these key concepts:

- Just like each of you is holding just one piece of a big picture, we often we look at obedience as a one-time event. For instance, we need to obey our mom when she tells us to empty the garbage. We need to obey our teacher when she asks us to stop talking during class.
- Obedience isn't just one action; it's the attitude we have towards God. It's realizing that God has the big-picture plan for your life. But to find out what that plan is for your life, you need to be willing to put aside what you want to do and obey God.

STEP 3: Ask those kids with a verse written on their puzzle pieces to read their verses aloud.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word gives us commands to follow. His laws are for our good. When we obey the rules in God's Word, we are happy and blessed (Psalm 1:1).
- God has placed people over us in our lives, and He wants us to obey the good things they ask us to do. We must have an attitude of humility and respect for those in authority over us (Hebrews 13:17).
- When we obey, we show God that we love and honor Him. Others will see our example of obedience, and they will know that we love and honor God (John 14:15, Matthew 5:16).

STEP 4: Have kids work together to put the puzzle together. Remind them that, as they learn to obey, they will make good choices that please God. God will continue to lead them in His big-picture plan for their lives as they become agents of obedience.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.5 | *Agents of Honor*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Signs of Honor

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard or poster board, markers

PREP: Set up an easel in front of the room. Put the whiteboard or poster board on the easel. Write the following list on the board:

- Pledging to the flag
- Standing during the national anthem of your country
- Calling adults "Mr. _____" or "Mrs. _____"
- Bowing/curtsying to royalty

STEP 1: Direct kids' attention to the list on the board. Ask, "What do all of these actions have in common?" Guide kids to see that they are all signs of respect or honor.

Ask the following questions:

- What does it mean to show honor to someone?
- What are other ways people might show honor or respect? (E.g., saying "yes ma'am" or "yes sir", calling people by their titles, etc.)
- Why is it important to show respect and honor?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We honor someone when we respect them and put their preferences before our own.
- People show honor or respect in many ways, such as doing kind things for someone, helping someone out without being asked, etc.
- Jesus gave us an example of showing honor when He washed the disciples' feet. We follow His example when we love and respect 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 being agents of honor.

Notes:

SECTION 4.5 | *Agents of Honor*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Just Because

What You'll Need: Paper plates, napkins, cups, treats, drinks, table

PREP: Purchase paper plates, napkins, treats (such as candy, cookies, or ice cream sandwiches), and drinks. Set them up on a table in the classroom.

STEP 1: Welcome kids, and announce that you wanted to do something to show them you love them. Encourage them to enjoy some refreshments.

STEP 2: After they have enjoyed a treat, ask the following questions:

- How did you feel when you saw the treats?
- What are some other ways we as leaders could have shown you we love you kids?
- Why do you think it's important to show others that you care?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We show others we care about them when we honor and respect them.
- We honor someone when we respect them and put their preferences before our own.
- Jesus gave us an example of showing honor when He washed the disciples' feet. We follow His example when we love and respect 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 being agents of honor.

Notes:

SECTION 4.5 | Agents of Honor



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Honoring Words

What You'll Need: Bibles, stationery, pens or pencils, envelopes, mailing envelope, postage, (optional: smartphone or tablet, picture of an Awana missionary or another missionary your church supports)

PREP: Purchase generic stationery. Choose an Awana missionary or a missionary your church supports, and make sure to locate his or her name and address. Optional: Be prepared to show kids a picture of the missionary.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 12:10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each sentence. Share the following key concepts:

- God wants us to love and honor others genuinely, not because of something they have done for us.
- We are to honor others with the same type of love we would have for our family.
- God wants us to actively look for ways to encourage others and show them how much we love and respect them.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that they are going to show honor to a missionary by writing them an encouraging note.

Distribute stationery, envelopes, and pens or pencils. Give kids several minutes to write a simple note that would encourage the missionary. If kids are unsure what to write, give the following suggestions:

- Tell them you are praying for them.
- Share your favorite Bible verse or what you are learning in Awana.
- Remind them that God loves them.
- After three minutes, have kids put the cards in their envelopes. Collect them and mail them.

Optional: Instead of having your kids write cards, use your smartphone or tablet to video kids sharing their first names and a favorite verse or an encouraging word. Send the video by email or post it on social media for the missionary.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is our example of showing honor to others. He willingly took the job of a servant and washed the disciples' feet to teach us that we should love others so much that we are willing to do whatever is needed, even washing their feet (John 13:3-5).
- We show honor to others when we humbly put their needs before our own (Philippians 2:1-4).
- Showing honor isn't always easy because our sin nature makes us selfish and self-centered. However, God will give us His strength to make right choices to honor and love others (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.5 | Agents of Honor



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Honoring Others

What You'll Need: Bible, easel, whiteboard or pad of paper, markers, small gift bags, wrapped candy or gum, 3 x 5 cards, T&T handbooks, stickers

PREP: Purchase gift bags and wrapped candy or gum. Set up the easel with the whiteboard or pad of paper in front of the classroom.

STEP 1: Read this week's memory verse, Romans 12:10. Have the girls stand and recite the verse with you. Then have the boys stand and recite the verse with you.

Share these key concepts:

- God wants us to love and honor others genuinely, not because of something they have done for us.
- We are to honor others with the same type of love we would have for our family.
- God wants us to actively look for ways to encourage others and show them how much we love and respect them.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is our example of showing honor to others. He willingly took the job of a servant and washed the disciples' feet to teach us that we should love others so much that we are willing to do whatever is needed, even washing their feet (John 13:3-5).
- We show honor to others when we humbly put their needs before our own (Philippians 2:1-4).
- Showing honor isn't always easy because our sin nature makes us selfish and self-centered. However, God will give us His strength to make right choices to honor and love others (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

STEP 3: Have kids think of people to whom they can show honor. Write their responses on the board or pad of paper.

Have kids choose two people listed on the board. Distribute two 3 x 5 cards to each kid, along with a pen or pencil. Give kids two minutes to write an encouraging note to that person. Tell kids they can flip through their T&T handbooks and write on the 3 x 5 card a favorite verse to share with that person.

Explain to kids that they are showing honor and respect to others when they go out of their way to do something kind for them.

Direct kids' attention to the gift bags and candy. Encourage them to fill two bags with candy or gum and add stickers to the bags. Have them place their notes inside the bags.

STEP 4: Encourage kids to deliver their bags to those two people this week.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | *Agents of Hope*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: I Hope . . .

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

PREP: Set up an easel in the front of the room. Write on the paper "I hope . . ."

STEP 1: Encourage kids to finish the sentence that is written on the board.

Ask the following questions:

- Which of these responses have a chance of happening? (Encourage kids to identify things that could possibly come true, and then cross out ones that are impossible to come true.)
- What does it mean to hope in something?
- What happens when we really hope for something, but things do not turn out like we had hoped?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We often hope that things will happen or turn out the way we want.
- Things do not always turn out the way we hope they will.
- When we hope in Christ, we can know that He is always with us even when things do not turn out the way we hoped they would.

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 being agents of hope.

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | *Agents of Hope*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Very Bad Day

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Have kids turn to a neighbor and compare and share a recent bad day. If they can't think of a personal experience, then have them compare and share a similar scene from a favorite movie, cartoon, or book.

Ask, "What emotions might a person feel during a bad day?"

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We often hope that things will happen or turn out the way we want.
- Things do not always turn out the way we hope they will.
- When we hope in Christ, we can know that He is always with us even when things do not turn out the way we hoped they would.

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 being agents of hope.

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | Agents of Hope



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Joseph's Hope

What You'll Need: Bibles, butcher or craft paper, pens or pencils, colored pencils or markers, tape

PREP: Make three copies of this lesson activity. Give a copy to three leaders, and assign a section to each leader. Encourage the leaders to read through their section of the lesson and be prepared to give an overview of that part of Joseph's life.

(Leader's Note: If you have a smaller class, you can combine "Joseph thrown into prison" and "Joseph became a leader" into one group.)

STEP 1: Divide kids into four groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a section of butcher paper, pens or pencils, and colored pencils or markers.

Group One Leader: Take one minute to share the following key concepts with your group:

- Joseph was the second youngest of twelve brothers.
- His older brothers were jealous because Joseph's father favored Joseph over them.
- His older brothers threw him into a pit. Some wanted to kill him, but they decided instead to sell him into slavery.

Explain to your group that they have three minutes to draw a mural depicting Joseph's discouraging situation. Interact with the kids in your group as they work, highlighting key events in Joseph's life.

Group Two Leader: Share the following key concepts with your group:

- Joseph was a slave to Potiphar, who was a palace guard. Potiphar trusted Joseph with all the household business.
- Potiphar's wife tried to get Joseph to do the wrong thing, but he refused.
- Potiphar's wife lied to her husband, and Joseph was thrown into prison.

Explain to your group that they have three minutes to draw a mural depicting Joseph's discouraging situation. Interact with the kids in your group as they work, highlighting key events in Joseph's life.

Group Three Leader: Share the following key concepts with your group:

- While Joseph was in prison, he earned the trust of the guards. Soon Joseph was in charge of all the prisoners.
- God blessed Joseph in prison and made him the supervisor over all the prisoners.
- Joseph interpreted dreams of two of the prisoners, and one of them was returned to his position in the palace as Pharaoh's cupbearer.
- When Pharaoh had a strange dream and requested an interpreter of dreams, the cupbearer remembered Joseph.
- Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream, and Pharaoh made Joseph second in command of all Egypt.

Explain to your group that they have three minutes to draw a mural depicting Joseph's discouraging situation. Interact with the kids in your group as they work, highlighting key events in Joseph's life.

Group Four Leader: Share the following key concepts with your group:

- Joseph's brothers suffered under the severe famine in the land and came to Egypt to buy grain.
- Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him.
- After Joseph was certain that they were sorry for what they had done to him, he revealed who he was to them.
- His whole family moved to Egypt, and Joseph was able to save them all. Joseph was reunited with his father.

Explain to your group that they have three minutes to draw a mural depicting Joseph's discouraging situation. Interact with the kids in your group as they work, highlighting key events in Joseph's life.

(Continued on the next page.)

SECTION 4.6 | *Agents of Hope*



Main Lesson Activity Continued (10 Minutes)

STEP 2: Ask each group to present its mural and briefly highlight the discouraging situation from Joseph's life. Then read Genesis 50:18-20 and share the following concepts:

- After their father died, Joseph's brothers were afraid that Joseph would try to get back at them for selling him into slavery.
- They wept before him, willing to be his servants.
- Joseph acknowledged that what they had meant for evil, God had used for good.

STEP 3: Remind kids that if anyone had a reason to be discouraged, it was Joseph. But instead of focusing on his situation, Joseph chose to hope that God caused his goodness and kindness to change the evil that happened and turn it to good and that it would be part of God's bigger story.

Explain to kids that Joseph was able to hope in God because he trusted Him. True hope can only come when we trust God to work things for our good.

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 43:5. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase and having one of the groups repeat a phrase after you.

Share these key concepts:

- The psalmist struggled with discouragement, but he went to God with his deep sadness.
- He knew that only God could help him trust Him and give him the strength to praise Him.
- He recognized and praised God for all He had done for him. He realized that he could trust God to be all he needed.

STEP 5: Remind kids that God is always at work in our story to turn it to good as part of His bigger story, just like He did for Joseph. Encourage them to look through their handbooks and circle one verse that reminds them to hope as they wait to see what God will do.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | Agents of Hope



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God Is My Hope

What You'll Need: Bibles, card stock, basket, T&T handbooks, colored pens or markers

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 43:5. Read the verse again, pausing after each phrase and encouraging kids to repeat the phrase after you. Then use the following concepts to help kids understand the meaning of the verse:

- The psalmist struggled with discouragement, but he went to God with his deep sadness.
- He knew that only God could help him trust Him and give him the strength to praise Him.
- He recognized and praised God for all He had done for him. He realized that he could trust God to be all he needed.

STEP 2: Have kids write on scratch paper a scenario in which a kid their age might face discouragement. Examples might include: being bullied at school, finding out their family has to move, learning that a loved one has cancer, etc. After one minute, collect their scenarios in the basket.

STEP 3: Choose a situation and read it aloud.

Ask the following questions:

- How might someone facing this situation feel?
- How could a person in this situation put their hope in God?

Encourage kids to look at their lesson in the handbook from this past week and to identify a verse that could help a kid in that situation or to share a verse that comes to mind. Ask volunteers to share their verses.

STEP 4: Repeat the activity as time allows.

Share these key concepts:

- True hope begins when we trust Jesus as Savior. When we are saved, we have a right relationship with God, and we have peace and hope in Him (Romans 5:1-5).

- God has a plan for our lives. We are His workmanship, and He will complete the good work that He started in us (Ephesians 2:10, Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 8:28).
- God is always working for our good. There is never an accident with God, and nothing takes Him by surprise. He will work out every situation in our lives for good and His glory (Romans 8:28).
- When we are discouraged, we can remind ourselves to trust God. We can trust in the promises of His Word, and we can praise God for who He is and for what He is going to accomplish in us. When our focus is on Him, our hearts will reflect an attitude of hope.

STEP 5: Ask kids to look back through their handbook lessons and identify one verse that can help them be an agent of hope in a situation that they are facing. Then challenge them to put their hope and confidence in God and trust in Him through that situation.

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

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Agents of Grace



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: A Maze of Grace

What You'll Need: Painter's tape, paper plates, paper cups, candy bars, blindfolds

PREP: Tape off an 8'x8' square on the floor of your classroom. Scatter paper plates, candy bars, and paper cups throughout the space.

STEP 1: Choose four volunteers. Blindfold two of them and place each one at opposite corners of the maze. Instruct the other two volunteers to stand at opposite corners beside them. Invite the other kids to stand along the sides of the maze.

STEP 2: Give volunteers two minutes to try to get their teammates through the maze and pick up as many candy bars as they can without touching any of the landmines, going outside the taped area, or touching another person. Tell kids on the sidelines they must remain silent through the activity.

STEP 3: After two minutes (or earlier if a blindfolded kid steps on a landmine, steps outside the taped area, or touches another person), call the kids back to their seats.

Ask the following questions:

- To the blindfolded kids: Why was it hard to rely on one person to lead you through the maze?
- To the guides: What difficulties did you face during your part in the activity?
- To the kids on the sidelines: How did it feel to watch and not be involved in the activity?

STEP 4: Share these concepts:

- Our lives can be like a maze. We have no idea what could happen in a day's time.
- Because God is gracious, He wants to be the guide in our lives, and He has a truly good plan for our lives.
- God's grace is available to EVERYONE; no one has to "watch from the sidelines." Each of us has an opportunity to be an agent of grace.

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

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Agents of Grace



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: I Am What I Am

What You'll Need: Sticky notes, paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Write in large letters on a piece of paper, "I am . . ."

STEP 1: Give each kid several sticky notes and a pen or a pencil. Hold up the paper, and ask kids to think of how they can complete the sentence based on who they are. To help kids understand the concept, write on your sticky note, "I am an Awana leader." Write on another sticky note, "I am a brother (or sister)." Stick each note to your body.

STEP 2: Give kids two minutes to complete the activity. Walk among kids, making sure that they have filled out more than one sticky note.

After two minutes, have volunteers share their top two sticky notes.

Ask the following questions:

- How do these sticky notes help identify who you are?
- What are other things that identify who you are (e.g., a soccer uniform, a backpack, etc.)?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- You can finish the "I am" statements in many different ways, yet each of those statements will reflect who you are.
- Paul gave God all the credit for who he was. He recognized that he was who he was by the grace of God. God's grace in him had transformed his life.
- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, then God's grace will transform your life. You too can be an agent of grace and say, "By the grace of God, I am what I am."

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 God's grace in our lives.

Notes:

SECTION 4.7 | Agents of Grace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Grace Evaluation

What You'll Need: Bibles, Grace Evaluation handout, pens or pencils, T&T handbooks

PREP: Print copies of the Grace Evaluation handout.

(Leader's Note: Use blank sheets of paper if you can't print the handout.)

STEP 1: Give each kid a copy of the Grace Evaluation handout and a pencil or a pen. Encourage them to complete the handout, using their handbooks and the Bible verses from this week's lesson as a guide. Assure them that no one will collect or read their papers.

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Corinthians 15:10. Repeat the verse again slowly, pausing after each phrase. Have girls and boys take turns repeating each phrase after you to help them remember the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul's life was transformed by God's grace. He recognized that it was only through God's grace that he was the person he was.
- God's grace was not in vain, or without purpose. God had a purpose and a plan for Paul's life.
- Paul's goal was to share the gospel of grace to others, and he worked hard towards that goal.
- Yet even though Paul strived to glorify God in all he did, he knew that it was only through God's grace that he was able to do great things for God.

STEP 3: Share the concepts about agents of grace from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Grace Evaluation

God's grace in my life.			
I'm saved through God's grace.			
I'm growing in God's grace.			
I'm trusting in God's grace for strength.			
I'm sharing the gospel of grace with others.			
I'm glorifying God by serving others through His grace.			

SECTION

4.7

Agents of Grace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Before and After by Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, tape, sticky notes, 3 x 5 cards

PREP: Make two paper signs, one that reads "Before" and one that reads "After." Tape the signs on a wall or on the board in the classroom.

Write the following references on sticky notes:

- Acts 8:1-3
- Acts 9:1-2
- Philippians 3:6
- Acts 9:3-9,17
- Acts 9:19-22
- Philippians 3:7-8

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Corinthians 15:10. Repeat the verse again slowly, pausing after each phrase. Have girls and boys take turns repeating each phrase after you to help them remember the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul's life was transformed by God's grace. He recognized that it was only through God's grace that he was the person he was.
- God's grace was not in vain, or without purpose. God had a purpose and a plan for Paul's life.
- Paul's goal was to share the gospel of grace to others, and he worked hard toward that goal.
- Yet even though Paul strived to glorify God in all he did, he knew that it was only through God's grace that he was able to do great things for God.

STEP 2: Tell kids that because of God's grace, Paul's life before grace was radically different from Paul's life after God's grace. Explain that they are going to study some verses that describe Paul's life "before" grace and "after" grace. Give each individual, pair, or group of kids a sticky note, paper, and pens or pencils. Give kids three minutes to read their verses and summarize the event in Paul's life.

Have leaders walk around the room, offering help as needed.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have groups share the events in the following order: Acts 8:1-3, Acts 9:1-2, Philippians 3:6. Have kids tape the summaries under the "Before" sign.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul, who was also known as Saul, was a Pharisee. He was a religious leader of his day and followed the law blamelessly (Philippians 3:5-6).
- He did not believe that Jesus was the Messiah, or God's Son, and he thought that Jesus' followers were spreading a false religion.
- Paul wanted to get rid of anyone who believed in Jesus. He hunted for those who believed in Jesus and threw them into prison.

STEP 4: Have the rest of the groups present their summaries of events in the following order: Acts 9:3-9,17; Acts 9:19-22; Philippians 3:7-8. Have kids tape the summaries under the "After" sign.

Share these concepts:

- On the way to persecute more believers, Paul was blinded by a bright light. Jesus called to Paul, proclaiming that Paul was persecuting Him (Acts 9:3-4).
- Paul realized that Jesus is God's Son. He soon trusted in Jesus as his Savior and was baptized (Acts 9:17-19).

(Continued on the next page.)

SECTION 4.7 | Agents of Grace



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

- Paul spent time with the other believers and soon began to preach the truth that Jesus Christ is the only way to be right with God (Acts 9:19-22). People could hardly believe the transformation in his life because of God's grace!
- Paul became a great missionary. He wrote 13 books in the New Testament, helped start many churches, and trained other young men to serve Jesus. Even though Paul's "after" grace testimony is amazing, Paul said that he counted all his accomplishments as nothing. His greatest goal and accomplishment in life was knowing Jesus Christ (Philippians 3:7-8).

STEP 5: Point to the "Before" and "After" signs on the wall. Ask, "Where are you in this transformation of grace?"

Remind kids that if they have trusted in Jesus as their Savior, they are agents of grace. God has an amazing plan for the rest of their lives, and His grace will strengthen, protect, encourage, and help them.

STEP 6: Give kids a 3 x 5 card. Encourage them to write a prayer, thanking God for His grace.

STEP 7: Share the concepts about agents of grace from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:

SECTION
4.8

Agents of Grace ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Agent Photo Props

What You'll Need: Sunglasses; photo props; camera, smartphone, or tablet

PREP: Set up a photo booth in the corner of the room. Place photo props (e.g., sunglasses, boas, fake mustaches, hats, etc.) next to the photo booth. Ask several leaders to take pictures of kids with cameras or their smartphones.

(Leader's Note: Large clubs can divide into smaller groups to complete this activity.)

STEP 1: Encourage groups of kids to use the props to get their pictures taken together.

(Leader's Note: At the end of club, collect all the pictures, and print them out to give at the next club meeting.)

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- While it is fun to take pictures with crazy disguises, it wouldn't be so fun to wear a disguise every day.
- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we work on His behalf by representing Him to others. We become His agents and represent Him.
- As agents of Jesus Christ, we cannot disguise our mission; we need to represent Jesus Christ openly so others can see who He is and how He can change their 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 being agents of Jesus Christ.

Notes:

SECTION
4.8

Agents of Grace ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Agent Code Names

What You'll Need: Nametags, sharpies

STEP 1: Give each kid a nametag and a sharpie. Tell kids that they need to come up with a code name using the following method.

The first word of their name is the color of their shirt. The second name is the last food they ate (e.g., gray pizza).

STEP 2: Encourage kids to write down their code names on their nametags and wear them throughout the day.

Ask, "What is the role of a secret agent?"

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- A secret agent works undercover on behalf of someone else and is often known by another name.
- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we work on His behalf by representing Him to others.
- As agents of Jesus Christ, we cannot hide who we are; we need to represent Jesus Christ openly so others can see who He is and how He can change their 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 being agents of Jesus Christ.

Notes:

SECTION 4.8

Agents of Grace ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Mission Possible

What You'll Need: Bibles, Mission Possible handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Print out the Mission Possible handouts, one per kid.

(Leader's Note: If you cannot print the handout, use paper.)

STEP 1: Explain to kids that an agent is someone who acts on behalf of another. Remind kids that if they have trusted Jesus as Savior, they are His agents. Encourage them to complete the handout by choosing missions as agents of Jesus Christ.

Share the following key concepts:

- Agents of courage know that God is always with them and that the Holy Spirit lives in them and gives them strength (John 14:16). They have courage as they focus on the truths of God's Word, knowing that He will work all things out for their good and His glory (Romans 8:28).
- Agents of humility follow Jesus' perfect example of humility. He died on the cross to take the punishment they deserved (Philippians 2:5-8). They follow His example of humility when they listen to His Spirit and put the interest of others before their own (Philippians 2:3-4, James 4:6-7).
- Agents of wisdom understand God's Word and make right choices that please God (1 Corinthians 2:10-13). They will desire to read and understand the Bible (Psalm 119:97, Psalm 119:103). They will humbly seek after God's wisdom so they can make good choices that please Him (Proverbs 2:6, James 1:5).
- Agents of obedience obey the rules in God's Word, and they are happy and blessed (Psalm 1:1). They show God they love Him by humbly respecting and quickly obeying those who lead them (John 14:15, Hebrews 13:17).

- Agents of honor follow Christ's example (John 13:3-5). They esteem and honor other people (Philippians 2:1-4). As they treat others this way, people will see a difference in the followers of Jesus (John 13:35).
- Agents of hope focus on God and the truth of His Word, the Bible (Psalm 43:5). They realize that God has a plan for their lives (Philippians 4:6). They have confidence that God will work out every situation they face for their good and so that He will be glorified (Romans 8:28).
- Agents of grace have accepted God's gracious gift of salvation. They continue to grow in God's grace by studying God's Word and relying on His strength (2 Peter 3:18, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10). They live out God's grace by serving others and sharing the gospel of grace (1 Peter 4:10-11, Acts 20:24).

STEP 2: After kids have completed their handouts, have volunteers share their ideas.

STEP 3: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes:



Mission Possible

Agent _____:

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to act on behalf of Jesus Christ this next week. First, pick your targets (who or how you will serve), then determine how you will perform each of the following services this week.

Follow out this service secretly. DO NOT blow your cover.

Agent of Courage _____

Agent of Humility _____

Agent of Wisdom _____

Agent of Obedience _____

Agent of Honor _____

Agent of Hope _____

Agent of Grace _____



SECTION 4.8

Agents of Grace ... Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Agents of...

What You'll Need: Bibles

STEP 1: Ask volunteers to quote the following memory verses from Unit 4. Use a T&T handbook or Large Group Leader's Guide to assist as needed.

- Joshua 1:9
- Philippians 2:3
- James 1:5
- John 14:15
- Romans 12:10
- Psalm 43:5
- 1 Corinthians 15:10

STEP 2: Share the following key concepts:

- **Joshua 1:9** - Agents of courage know that God is always with them and that the Holy Spirit lives in them and gives them strength (John 14:16). They have courage as they focus on the truths of God's Word, knowing that He will work all things out for their good and His glory (Romans 8:28).
- **Philippians 2:3** - Agents of humility follow Jesus' perfect example of humility. He died on the cross to take the punishment they deserved (Philippians 2:5-8). They follow His example of humility when they listen to His Spirit and put the interest of others before their own (Philippians 2:3-4, James 4:6-7).
- **James 1:5** - Agents of wisdom understand God's Word and make right choices that please God (1 Corinthians 2:10-13). They will desire to read and understand the Bible (Psalm 119:97, Psalm 119:103). They will humbly seek after God's wisdom so they can make good choices that please Him (Proverbs 2:6, James 1:5).
- **John 14:15** - Agents of obedience obey the rules in God's Word, and they are happy and blessed (Psalm 1:1). They show God they love Him by humbly respecting and quickly obeying those who lead them (John 14:15, Hebrews 13:17).

- **Romans 12:10** - Agents of honor follow Christ's example (John 13:3-5). They esteem and honor other people (Philippians 2:1-4). As they treat others this way, people will see a difference in the followers of Jesus (John 13:35).
- **Psalm 43:5** - Agents of hope focus on God and the truth of His Word, the Bible (Psalm 43:5). They realize that God has a plan for their lives (Philippians 4:6). They have confidence that God will work out every situation they face for their good and so that He will be glorified (Romans 8:28).
- **1 Corinthians 15:10** - Agents of grace have accepted God's gracious gift of salvation. They continue to grow in God's grace by studying God's Word and relying on His strength (2 Peter 3:18, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10). They live out God's grace by serving others and sharing the gospel of grace (1 Peter 4:10-11, Acts 20:24).

STEP 3: Follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

Notes: