

Church Time[®]

2s & 3s

Total Bible Learning[®]

**YOUR
COMPLETE
QUARTER'S
CHILDREN'S
CHURCH!**

**Lesson Plans &
Activities**

**Reproducible Student
Activity Sheets**

Sheet Music



UNIT THEMES

Jesus
Is Born

Jesus
Knows All
about Us

How to Use This Packet

Your *Church Time*® packet contains all the curriculum you need to lead your children in heart-changing, Scripture-based worship of the Lord. The following is an overview of *Church Time*®:

Transition (25–30 minutes)

Children who have been in Sunday School for an hour need a break, including a stop at the rest room. After this and a time of warm greeting and free play, have a snack. You may want to have a standard snack from week to week, such as cookies and juice, which can be provided by parents. Or you may want to have a snack that relates to the theme of the lesson. Each *Church Time*® lesson gives ideas for theme-related snacks. Be sure to check with parents for any food allergies your children may have. Then let your children rest (5 to 10 minutes). Children may rest better if a team member “rests” with them.

Preparing Their Hearts (15 minutes)

There is an activity suggestion each week that will help you introduce the Bible Truth and prepare your children for worship.

Worship and Bible Story Time (20 minutes)

Central to your worship time is the Bible story, which is age-appropriate and true to Scripture. To help make the Bible stories “real” to the children, consider illustrating them with the colorful visuals from our 2s & 3s Sunday School *Teaching Resources*. You can share with the Sunday School teacher, or perhaps you’d want to order a resource packet specifically for your classroom. You will also find suggestions for alternate ways of telling the Bible story. Songsheets are provided at the end of this *Church Time*® manual for the songs you will use most often this quarter. The music has more songs than those included on the songsheets. These quarterly MP3s are called *Let’s Sing Motions ’n Music*. Additionally, throughout the lessons and on the songsheets, songs are recommended that can be sung to such familiar tunes as “Farmer in the Dell” and “London Bridge.”

Hands-to-Hearts Arts and Crafts (10–15 minutes)

A follow-on art or craft activity can help reinforce the Bible Truth each week. Specific recommendations appear in the *Church Time*® lesson. What the children do with their hands will help bring the Bible Truth home to their hearts.

Good-bye Time (until parents arrive)

One teacher can meet parents at the door, while the other team members help children gather their Bibles, papers, and other belongings. Should your adult worship service go longer than expected, wouldn’t it be nice to have activities or games for the children when they are finished with their craft? This packet has fun suggestions that reinforce the Bible Truth each week.

M A T E R I A L S I N C L U D E D

☐ **Lesson Plans (pp. 1–26):**

These weekly lesson plans will help you provide your children a full hour of music, activities, and time in God’s Word. Pages are detachable so the lessons can be given to several teachers throughout the quarter.

☐ **Copymasters (pp. 27–39):**

Enrich your learning time with these fun activities, which you may copy for each child. Copymasters also include the memory verse and a family-time suggestion.

☐ **Music (pp. 40–45):**

Songsheets and the MP3s will help you lead your children in worship and give them opportunity to move large muscles as they act out Bible stories to music. Songsheets are reproducible for classroom use only.

ICON KEY:



Teacher Supplied
Resource



Student
Activity



Music



Visual
Teaching Aid



Puppet



Prayer


GOD SENT HIS ANGEL TO MARY AND JOSEPH

LESSON ONE

UNIT 1: JESUS IS BORN

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** This week bring small pieces of angel food cake for the children's snack. Use the snack time as an opportunity to have casual conversation with the children about angels. Remember to ask parents about food allergies or restrictions. **Our story today is about a very special message from an angel sent by God.**

 **Birthday Time:** This quarter celebrate birthdays by teaching the children a “happy birthday” song to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.” Sing the appropriate verse to any children who have had a birthday in the past week.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Luke 1:26-33, 38, 46-47;
Matthew 1:18-25

Bible Truth:

God sent an angel to tell Mary and Joseph about Baby Jesus.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for sending Baby Jesus.

Bible Verse:

Matthew 1:21

Materials Needed:

Snack; construction paper; crayons; paste; glitter; twin sheets or bath towels and yarn; wrapped Christmas gift; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 1, copied for each child; crayons

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.


Happy birthday to [child's name]!
Now you're two,
Now you're two!
Happy birthday to [child's name],
We thank God for you!


Happy birthday to [child's name]!
Now you're three,

Now you're three!
Happy birthday to [child's name],
Praise the Lord with me!

Happy birthday to [child's name]!
Now you're four,
Now you're four!
Happy birthday to [child's name],
Let's praise God some more!

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



 **Little Angels:** Help the children make angels. Hand out construction paper and have each child place a hand on his or her piece of paper, holding the three middle fingers together and spreading out the thumb and pinky. Trace around each child's hand. Draw a head on each angel, and let the children color their angels. Then spread some paste onto each angel and help each child sprinkle glitter to make the angel shiny. **Angels are not people. God created angels as His special messengers.**

 Have the children hold up their angel pictures as they sing the following words to the tune of “Ten Little Indians.” Have one child help you to count off his or her classmates while you sing. Sing the song enough times to count all of the children. Collect the angel pictures before going to the story time area.

One little, two little, three little angels,
Four little, five little, six little angels,
Seven little, eight little, nine little angels,
Ten little angel pictures.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.

  **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Encourage the children to participate by doing the suggested hand gestures and actions.

One day, many years ago, a young woman named Mary was doing what she did every day. It was just a plain, old, ordinary day—until suddenly, before Mary's very eyes, an angel appeared!

Mary was surprised! Can you make a surprised face? (*Make a surprised face for the children to copy.*)

The angel said to Mary, “Greetings, Mary. God is with you.”

Mary didn't understand what the angel meant. Can you make a confused face? (*Make a confused face and shrug shoulders for the children to copy.*)


(*Show one of the children's pictures from Preparing Their Hearts.*) **The angel said to Mary, “Don't be afraid. You are going to have a baby. You will call Him Jesus.”**

This was no longer just a plain, old, ordinary day for Mary! This was the most important message she had ever received. Mary was very happy about this news. Can you make a happy face? (*Make a happy face for the children to copy.*) **She was so happy that she sang a song, praising God.**

Mary was going to marry a man named Joseph. And one night, Joseph was sleeping just like he did every night. Suddenly, in his dream, a beautiful angel appeared!

What do you think the angel told him? Yes, the angel said to him, "Joseph, Mary is going to have a baby. You will call Him Jesus."

So when Joseph woke up, he did exactly what the angel told him to do.

 As an alternative to the story or as a review, have the children act out the story. Choose one child to be the angel, one to be Mary, and one to be Joseph. Have twin size bed sheets to drape over Mary and Joseph or bring towels to tie on their heads. The angel can wear a white sheet. Guide the actors in repeating and acting out the following script with you. Let several children participate if time allows.

Angel to Mary: Hello, Mary! God is with you. *(Mary looks surprised.)*


Angel to Mary: Don't be afraid. You will have a baby. Call Him Jesus.

Mary: Praise the Lord. I am blessed.


(Joseph is sleeping.)


Angel to Joseph: Mary will have a baby. Call Him Jesus. *(Joseph wakes up.)*


Joseph: I will do what God wants.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing "I Love Him" and "I Have a Message for You." **What did Mary do after she heard the angel's message? She sang a song. It was a song of praise to God. Let's sing a song of praise to God as Mary did.** Teach the children the following words of praise to the tune of "Jingle Bells."

**Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,
Wonderful is He.
Mary will have a baby Boy,
And Jesus He will be.**

 **Remembering the Bible Truth: Remember what the angel said to Mary and Joseph? The angel gave Mary and Joseph a very special message.** Have the children hold up their angel pictures and practice repeating what the angel said from Matthew 1:21. Open your Bible to show the children that the angel's message is in God's Word. When the children have said the verse several times as a group, have volunteers give the angel's message individually to another child who pretends to be Mary or Joseph.


 **Life Application:** Have a nicely wrapped Christmas present to show the children. **When someone gives you a Christmas present, what do you say? You tell them, "Thank you," don't you?** Pass the gift to one child and have him say, "Thank you." Have the children pass the gift around the room, until each child has received the gift and said, "Thank you." Take the gift back. **God gave the best gift ever when He sent Jesus to us as a baby. We should thank God for that wonderful gift.**

 Lead the children in singing the following song of thanks to the tune of "London Bridge."


**We thank God for Jesus,
For Jesus, for Jesus.**


**We thank God for Jesus,
Thank You, God.**

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):

 **The Angel Brought Good News:** You will need a copy of Copymaster 1 and crayons for each child. Children can color the angel, Mary, and Joseph. Help the children fold their papers in half to show one picture at a time. As you help, have children retell the Bible story to you from the paper.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Close in prayer, thanking God for Jesus. If you have additional time, use the following activity.


 **Let's Thank God: We thank God for Jesus. What else can we thank God for? We can thank God for many things.** Take the children on a trip around the room. Look out the windows as well. Have each child suggest something to thank God for and then say a thank-You prayer together. **God gives us wonderful gifts. What's the best gift we have from God? JESUS!**

GOD'S SON, BABY JESUS, WAS BORN


LESSON TWO

UNIT 1: JESUS IS BORN

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** This week bring heart-shaped cookies or sandwiches. Talk with the children about who loves them. Remind them that God loves them by saying John 3:16 together. Remember to celebrate birthdays and to ask parents about food allergies or restrictions.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Heart Ornaments:** Help the children make construction paper hearts to hang on a Christmas tree or to decorate your classroom. To make the best heart, fold the paper in half and draw half of a heart before cutting. Allow each child to decorate a heart with crayons. On each child's heart, you may write, "God loves _____ (child's name), and sent His Son." **God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth as a baby because God loves people. God loves you. This heart will remind us of God's love.** Tape a yarn loop onto the back of each heart, so the child may hang his heart on a Christmas tree.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Luke 2:1-7

Bible Truth:

God sent His Son because He loves us.

Life Response Aim:

To be glad that God loves us and sent His Son.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:10



Materials Needed:

Snack, construction paper in various colors, scissors, yarn, crayons, tape, doll wrapped in a cloth, doll bed or manger (optional), figures from *Teaching Resources*, Copymaster 2, stickers, decorative shapes, glue, Christmas music CD or MP3 and player

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):


Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.


  **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Have a doll wrapped in a cloth to show the children.

Joseph and Mary traveled a long way to the city of Bethlehem. When Joseph and Mary got to Bethlehem, they could not find a place to stay. Do you know where they went to stay? (Allow children to answer.) Mary and Joseph went to stay in a stable, where the animals were! What do you think it's like in a stable? (Allow children to answer.) What sort of animal noises might be in the stable? (Allow children to respond. Make some animal noises with them: horse, pig, cow, sheep, etc.)


That night in the stable Mary had a baby, Baby Jesus. Mary took good care of Baby Jesus. (Show children the doll. Hold the doll carefully. Ask children if they would like to hold the doll very carefully.) Mary put Baby Jesus in a manger, which is where the animals' food was kept.


Baby Jesus was a special baby because He was God's Son. God sent His Son to earth because He loves us.


 As an alternative to the story or as a review, help the children create a living manger scene. Ask one girl to be Mary, and let her hold the doll. One boy may be Joseph. They may put the doll in the manger, if you have one. The other children may choose to be animals. They may make animal noises while Mary and Joseph take care of the baby. If desired, cast other children as shepherds.

 **Worship in Song:** Let's sing a song about Jesus coming to earth as a baby. **God sent His Son, Jesus, to earth because God loves us.** Teach the children the following words of praise to the tune of "London Bridge."

God sent Jesus down to earth,
Down to earth,
Down to earth.
God sent Jesus down to earth,
Because God loves me.

 Then sing “Bye-low Baby Jesus,” “His Birthday,” and “Swaddling Clothes Song” from this quarter’s *Let’s Sing Motions ‘n Music*.

 **Remembering the Bible Truth: Our Bible verse tells us why God sent Jesus to earth. Let’s learn that verse together.** Open your Bible to show the children that the verse is in God’s Word. Divide the verse into halves and learn each half separately. Repeat each half many times slowly, then say the entire verse all together. If desired, have the children hold their hearts from “Preparing Their Hearts” while they say the verse. They may hold the hearts up high when they say the word “loves.”

 **Life Application: Do any of you have a baby brother or sister?** (*Allow children to respond.*) **What do new babies do?** (*Allow children to respond.*) **A new baby needs lots of care, but his family loves him. New babies are also a lot of fun.**

Have a new mother in your church bring her baby to the classroom for a few minutes. She may talk about how she takes care of the baby. She should also talk about how much she loves the baby.

Mothers love their new babies. It is exciting when new babies are born! Mary loved Baby Jesus. We should all be happy that Baby Jesus was born. Then do this action rhyme together.

This is Baby Jesus

(*Hold up forefinger.*)

Sleeping in the hay.

(*Lay forefinger in palm of other hand.*)

Wrap Him up with swaddling clothes.

(*Close hand around the forefinger.*)

He’s warm and snug that way.

(*Hug hand.*)

Here’s His mother, Mary,

(*Raise forefinger of closed hand.*)

And this is Joseph, too.


(*Hold up tall finger of the same hand.*)

They’re watching while Jesus sleeps,


So glad He came—aren’t you?


(*Rock hands back and forth.*)

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10–15 MINUTES):

 **Christmas Heart Card:** For this art project, you will need a copy of Copymaster 2 for each child, stickers, decorative shapes, glue, and crayons. Give each child a Christmas heart card to color. Help them fold the card as indicated and place stickers or glue decorative shapes on the inside. Then have team members write each child’s name on the inside of the card. **You can give your Christmas card to someone you love—your mommy or daddy, your grandma or grandpa, your brother or sister. When you give Christmas cards, you show people that you love them. Do you remember how God showed us that He loves us?** (*Allow children to respond.*)

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for Jesus. If you have additional time, play the following game.


 **Musical Christmas Game:** Bring a CD of Christmas music, along with a CD player. Instruct the children to walk around in a circle while the music is playing. As soon as the music stops, they must sit on the floor as quickly as possible. Let each child continue to play until his or her parent arrives.

GOD SENT ANGELS TO THE SHEPHERDS

LESSON THREE

UNIT 1: JESUS IS BORN

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Bring a healthy mixture of dried fruit, cereal, and nuts for today's snack. Also bring picnic blankets on which to serve the snack. Ask children if they like to eat outside. **Today our story is about shepherds. Shepherds work outside, taking care of sheep. Shepherds also eat outside. Let's pretend that we're shepherds eating our snack outside.** Remember to celebrate birthdays and to ask parents about food allergies.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Luke 2:8-20

Bible Truth:

An angel told watchful shepherds when Jesus was born.

Life Response Aim:

To want to share the news of Jesus' birth with others.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:10

Materials Needed:

Snack; picnic blanket(s); pictures of sheep; blankets; towels; yarn; flashlight, if desired; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 3; cardboard tubes; stapler; blue highlighters; glue; cotton

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



Search for Sheep: Before class begins, hide several pictures of sheep around the room. Hide them so that the children will be able to find them easily. **Shepherds must find their sheep when the sheep are lost. Can you find the pictures of sheep that are hidden around our room?** You may need to show children a picture or two to get them started.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have.




Bible Story: Tell the story, using colorful figures from *Teaching Resources*. Tell the story while sitting on the picnic blankets with the children. Instruct the children to make a sheep noise whenever you say the word "sheep."

Out on the hills, the shepherds were watching their sheep. (*Have children make sound.*) **The shepherds made sure that their sheep** (*have children make sound*) **had plenty of food and water.**


One night as the shepherds watched their sheep (*have children make sound*), **a bright light appeared in the sky. The shepherds were afraid. Can you look afraid?** (*Have children imitate an afraid face.*)

The angel told the shepherds, "Don't be afraid. I have come to tell you about Jesus. He is lying in a manger."

The shepherds were happy! Can you look happy? (*Have children imitate a happy face.*) **And the shepherds went to see Baby Jesus.**


 As an alternative to the story or as a review, let the children pretend to be sheep and shepherds. Have towels and yarn available to make easy headpieces for the shepherds. The sheep may crawl on hands and knees and make sheep noises. The shepherds should walk around their sheep, taking care of them. After the children have enacted these roles for a few moments, have a teacher play the role of the angel. The angel may shine a flashlight, if desired. Instruct the shepherds to look afraid of the angel. Then the angel should say, **Do not be afraid. I have come to tell you that Jesus is born.** Then the shepherds hurry off to see Baby Jesus. If time allows, have the sheep and shepherds trade places and act out the scene again.


 **Musical Review:** Play "Shepherds Worship Baby Jesus" from this quarter's music, and lead the children in doing the motions indicated by the narration.

 **Worship in Song:** **The angel told the shepherds about Jesus. Let's sing about that.** Teach the children the following words of praise to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

**Shepherds had some sheep
And watched them in the night.
Suddenly, suddenly, suddenly, suddenly
Bright angels, such a sight!**

**"Go to Bethlehem,"
One angel did say.
Thankfully, thankfully, thankfully, thankfully,
God's Son came to save.**


 Then sing "The Shepherds' Song," "Bye-low Baby Jesus," and "Swaddling Clothes Song" from this quarter's music.

 **Remembering the Bible Truth: Our Bible verse tells us why God sent His Son. God sent Jesus because He loves us.** Open your Bible to show the children that the verse is in God's Word. This week you may want to use actions to help the children remember the Bible verse.

Point up for "He."

Cross arms across chest for "loved."

Pretend to rock baby for "His Son."

 **Life Application: The angel told the shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth! We can tell other people about Jesus too.** Have children sit in a circle or a row. If you have many children, make several rows. Tell the children that they can share some good news with the other children. In the ear of the first child whisper, **God loves us**. Then that child will whisper the secret to the next child. Children should continue whispering the good news down the line or around the circle. When that message has been told to each child, you may have the children share this second message: **God sent His Son. You can tell your family and friends that God sent Jesus!** Then try this action rhyme.

The shepherds were excited

(Put hands out, palms up.)

To hear the angel say,

"You'll find the Babe in swaddling clothes

(Rock arms.)

In a manger-bed of hay."

They ran as fast as they could go

(Run in place.)

'Twas as the angel said,

For there were Joseph and Mary—

And God's Son in His manger-bed.

(Pretend to place a baby in bed.)

How glad they were to see Him!

They thanked God for His Son.


(Fold hands.)

Then hurried home to tell the news

That God's own Son had come.

(Walk quickly in place with hands cupped around mouth.)


HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):


 **Shepherds Watch Their Sheep:** Before class cut tissue paper tubes into 1 1/2" and 3" sections and cut out the sheep pattern from Copymaster 3. Distribute the sheep pattern and cardboard tubes to the children. Help them glue or tape the "body" of the sheep onto a 3" tube, folding the head in front and the tail in back.

To make feet, help the children cut a 1 1/2" cardboard tube in half, making two 1 1/2" semi-circles. Then they'll draw hooves on the ends of the semicircles with a black marker or crayon. Then staple a semicircle to the "underside" of the sheep at each end. To make the sheep "wooly," glue on cotton balls.

Have the children use blue highlighter to color the parent section and glue or tape it onto a piece of green paper as a pond in a pasture. **Now each sheep has a nice place to eat grass and drink water.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for Jesus. If you have additional time, use the shepherd crafts to review the story.


 **Story Review:** Have children gather their shepherd crafts together on the floor or table. **All the shepherds were watching their sheep. Then the angel came with a special message.** Have children take turns shining the flashlight on the sheep and repeating the angel's message, "Do not be afraid. Jesus is born."

GOD SENT A STAR TO GUIDE THE WISE MEN

LESSON FOUR

UNIT 1: JESUS IS BORN

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Have star-shaped crackers or cookies for the snack today. **Do you ever look at the stars up in the sky at night? Our snack today reminds us of the stars. Our story is about a very special star that led people to a very special Person.** Remember to celebrate birthdays and to ask parents about food allergies or restrictions.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 2:1-12

Bible Truth:

The Wise Men showed their love to Jesus by giving Him gifts.

Life Response Aim:

To want to give gifts to others because we love Jesus.

Bible Verse:



1 John 4:10

Materials Needed:

Snack, pieces of wrapping paper, small boxes, tape, stick-on bows, flashlight, figures from *Teaching Resources*, cardboard stencils created from Copymaster 4, yarn or ribbon, crayons, tape, Christmas music CD and player



Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

  **Special Gifts:** Give each child a piece of Christmas wrapping paper and a small box. Let the children tape their wrapping paper around their boxes. If a child struggles, you may want to help, but allow children to create their own gifts as much as possible. When each child has wrapped a box, hand out bows to stick on the top.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):


Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.



  **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Have the children hold their gifts while you begin the Bible story.


When Jesus was very small, God sent a message to some Wise Men through a star. The Wise Men saw the star and knew that Jesus had been born. The Wise Men decided to look for the young King. They kept looking until they saw the star over Jesus' home.

When the Wise Men saw Jesus, they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they brought some beautiful presents and laid them at Jesus' feet. Can you bring your gifts to the front of the room, as the Wise Men brought gifts to Jesus? (*Have the children bring their gifts and lay them at the front of the room.*)

We can follow the Wise Men's example and give gifts to people we love at Christmastime. When we do, we can remember the greatest gift of all—the gift of God's Son, Jesus.

 As an alternative to the story, let the children pretend to be Wise Men. Have each child carry the gift he made in "Preparing Their Hearts." Use the flashlight to represent the star. Turn off the lights in the room, and have the children follow the light of the star across the room. Then have them lay their gifts down. Review how the Wise Men gave gifts to Jesus.


  **Musical Review:** Play "Wise Men" from this quarter's music and lead the children in acting out the story to the music.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing "Dear Jesus, I Love You" and "I Love Him" from this quarter's music. **Now let's sing about the Wise Men, who brought gifts to Jesus.** Teach the children the following words to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Wise Men came from far away,
Far away, far away.
Wise Men came from far away
To see where Jesus was.

Wise Men saw the star over,
Star over, star over,
Wise Men saw the star over
The house where Jesus lived.


Wise Men came with pretty gifts,
Pretty gifts, pretty gifts.
Wise Men came with pretty gifts,
Just for little Jesus.

 Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible to show the children that the verse is in God's Word. Repeat the actions you used last week to review the Bible words from 1 John 4:10. After you have repeated the verse with the children several times, quiz them by doing the actions for them and letting them say the Bible words.

Point up for "He."

Cross arms across chest for "loved."

Pretend to rock baby for "His Son."

 **Life Application:** Tell the following contemporary story about a child who gave a gift. If you have a toy train set or picture of one, bring it to show the children as you tell the story.

Andy loved his Thomas the Tank train engine! His auntie and uncle had given it to him for his birthday. He played with Thomas every day. He ran Thomas around and around his track. Over the bridge. Under the tunnel. Andy really liked Thomas the Tank. Perhaps it may have looked like this train set. Show the train or picture you brought.

Christmas was coming. Mommy put up the Christmas tree, and Andy helped her decorate it with lights and ornaments. Thomas the Tank sat on his track and watched.

One day, just before Christmas, Andy's friend Saeed came over to Andy's house to play. Saeed also loved Thomas the Tank. Andy and Saeed played with Thomas all afternoon.

"Thank you for letting me play with Thomas," Saeed told Andy when he went home.

The next week Andy's mom told him, "Saeed's family doesn't have any money for Christmas presents this year." Then she asked Andy, "Would you like to give Saeed a gift?"


"Yes," Andy said.

"What would you like to give to Saeed?" Andy's mother asked.

Andy thought about Saeed. And he thought about Thomas the Tank train engine. That gave Andy an idea.

"I can take the money from my piggy bank to buy Saeed a Thomas the Tank," Andy said. So Andy gave the special gift to his friend.


HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):



 **Wise Men Reminder Mobile:** Give each child a copy of Copymaster 4 to color. Assist children as needed with cutting out the star strip and the gifts. Hole-punch all the Xs as indicated.

Provide brightly colored pieces of yarn or ribbon and help the children tie each of the gifts to the star strip. Tape or staple if necessary. Bend the strip into a circle and tape the ends together (see illustration). Make sure the Parent Tip shows. Attach three lengths of yarn or ribbon to the top to hang the mobile.

Now you can tell someone at home about the star that led the Wise Men to Jesus and about the gifts they gave.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for Jesus. If you have additional time, use the following game to keep children interested until their parents come.


  **Pass the Gift:** Have children sit in a circle. Choose one of the gifts the children wrapped in Preparing Their Hearts. Instruct the children to pass the gift around the circle until the music you're playing stops. When the music stops, let the child holding the gift exchange it for another gift from the gift pile. Play the game again.

GOD SENT HIS ANGEL TO JOSEPH

LESSON FIVE

UNIT 1: JESUS IS BORN

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** This week bring a snack similar to what you might receive on an airplane. Try pretzels or peanuts. If desired, have the children eat their snack with the chairs arranged in rows like those on an airplane. Also serve juice. Remember to check for food allergies. Celebrate any birthdays (see Lesson 1). Talk about flying and taking long trips. **Our story today is about a family that went on a very long trip, but they didn't go on a plane.**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 2:13-23

Bible Truth:

God's angel helped Joseph care for Jesus.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for His loving care.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:10

Materials Needed:

Snack, doll and items to represent household dangers, figures from *Teaching Resources*, Copymaster 5, crayons, yarn, drinking straw

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



Caring for Young Children: Bring in a doll that looks toddler age, as well as some items to represent household dangers. Some possible items are: pots and pans, a toy lawn mower, and a fan. Talk about the danger that these things pose to a toddler. **When your parents are caring for you, they keep you from dangerous things. They don't want you to be hurt because they love you. Joseph didn't want Jesus to be hurt either, so he took Jesus away from the bad man who wanted to hurt Jesus.**

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Take up any offering money the children have brought.



Bible Story: Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*.

Joseph and Mary loved young Jesus very much. They took good care of Him. What do your parents do to take care of you? (Allow children to respond. If necessary, prompt them with answers such as: feed them, give clothes, put to sleep, read to them.)

When Jesus was young, perhaps about your age, a bad king wanted to hurt Him. God sent an angel to Joseph. The angel said to take Jesus away from the danger!

So Joseph and Mary packed up their things. They took Jesus and went on a long trip.

Do you like to go on trips? (Allow children to respond.)

Joseph and Mary took Jesus on a trip and found a safe place to live where the mean king couldn't find them. They took good care of Jesus.

After a while, the angel came to Joseph again. "You can go home," the angel said. "The bad king is gone."

So Joseph and Mary and Jesus took another trip. They went back to their home.

Joseph and Mary took very good care of Jesus. Who takes care of you? (Allow children to respond.) **Are you glad that people take care of you?**



As an alternative to the story or as a review, teach the children the following action rhyme.

This is little Jesus (Hold up thumb on right hand.)

With Joseph and Mary so glad. (Hold up second and third fingers on right hand.)

And this is a king (Hold up thumb on left hand.)

Who is very, very bad. (Shake index finger.)

Then said an angel, (Raise hand and bring it down.)

"Take Jesus and GO (Shout and point out.)

To a faraway place (Point; then run in place.)

Where the king doesn't know." (Shrug shoulders and scratch head.)

This is little Jesus (*Hold up thumb on right hand.*)

With Joseph and Mary so glad. (*Hold up second and third fingers on right hand.*)

And this is a king (*Hold up thumb on left hand.*)


Who is very, very bad. (*Shake index finger.*)

They ran away (*Run in place.*)

And found a place to hide. (*Put hands in front of face.*)

The king couldn't find them, (*Put hand over eyes as if searching.*)

No matter how he tried.


 **Worship in Song: The angel told Joseph how to take care of Jesus. God gives you people to take care of you, too.** Then teach the children the following words to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."


**Run, run, run away,
With Mary and the Boy.
Danger is coming and you cannot stay,
So hurry up and go.**

**Thank You, thank You, Lord,
For my family.
Thankfully, thankfully, thankfully, thankfully,
You gave them all to me.**

Alternative verse for special family situations:


**Thank You, thank You, Lord,
For those who care for me.
Thankfully, thankfully, thankfully, thankfully,
You gave them all to me.**

 Then sing "God's Care" and "Jesus Loves Me" from this quarter's music.

 **Life Application:** Invite a couple of caregivers from your congregation—parent, grandparent, teacher, medical person, public safety officer, etc.—to class. Caregivers in uniform would be of particular interest to your children. Have each caregiver share how he or she cares for children. Encourage casual interaction with the children.


 **Let's thank God for these people and how they care for us. God uses these people to care for us.**

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):

 **God Is Always with Me:** Hand out Copymaster 5. Let the children color the pictures. Run a piece of yarn through a plastic drinking straw and tie the ends together to make a hanger. Tape the hanger to the back of the picture. Talk about where they can hang the picture to remember that God is with them everywhere.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for His care. If you have additional time, use the following activity.


 **Hide and Seek:** Play a simple game of Hide and Seek. Close your eyes, count slowly to 10, and let the children hide around the room. When you've found all of the children, remind them that, even though you had to look for them, God knew where they were all the time. **God is always with us.** Play until parents arrive.

WE THANK GOD FOR JESUS

LESSON SIX

UNIT 1: JESUS IS BORN

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Bring birthday cupcakes for today's snack and have a post-Christmas birthday celebration for Jesus. Also celebrate children's birthdays. As always, be aware of food allergies.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Review of Lessons 1–5

Bible Truth:

God sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for sending His Son to be our Saviour.

Bible Verse:


1 John 4:10

Materials Needed:

Snack; copy of Copymaster 6, colored and cut apart; figures from *Teaching Resources*; envelopes for each child; crayons; scissors; construction paper; paste.


Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Christmas Matching Game:** Ahead of time, make one copy of Copymaster 6 and color and cut apart the pictures. To help younger children, color the background of matching pictures—Baby Jesus and the manger, shepherd and sheep, Wise Men and star, Mary and Joseph and angel—with matching colors. To prepare your class for this review lesson, use the matching cards as a game. Ask the children to whom Mary and Joseph would be matched, and show them the other cards. Help them to choose the angel. Do the same with the other pictures. **We have heard the wonderful story of Jesus' birth. Are you glad that God sent Jesus? I am too!**

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Use the questions to help children recall the details of the story.

Today we are going to remember the whole story of Baby Jesus being born. Let's see if you remember the story.

Do you remember who came to see Mary and Joseph to tell them that Mary was going to have a baby? (Allow children to respond.) Yes, it was an angel. What did the angel say? (Allow children to respond.) The angel said, "Mary will have a baby."

Before Baby Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph went on a long trip to the town called Bethlehem. Do you remember where they stayed in Bethlehem? (Allow children to respond.) Yes, they stayed in a stable.


Where did Mary put Baby Jesus when He was born? (Allow children to respond.) She put Baby Jesus into a manger so He would have a soft, warm place to sleep.

When Baby Jesus was born, some people were out watching the sheep. Who were they? (Allow children to respond.) Yes, they were shepherds. What did they see in the sky? (Allow children to respond.) That's right, they saw a bright angel in the sky who said, "Don't be afraid. Jesus is born. You can go see Him." Then many more angels came to praise God.

Some other people came to see Jesus later on. They brought Him gifts. Do you remember who they were? (Allow children to respond.) The Wise Men brought Jesus gifts. How did they know where Jesus was? What did they see in the sky? (Allow children to respond.) Yes, they saw the bright star that God had sent.

Then Mary and Joseph had to go on another trip. Who wanted to hurt Jesus? (Allow children to respond.) The bad king was going to find Jesus and hurt Him. So Joseph took Mary and Jesus away to hide in a safe place.

We can be so happy that God sent Jesus to be born. God took care of Jesus. God sent Jesus because He loves us.

 **Worship Baby Jesus** and **"Wise Men"** from this quarter cover Lessons 1–4. If possible and desired, have simple pieces of cloth (or towels) and yarn available to tie on each character's head for a costume.



Worship in Song: Sing some Christmas songs from this quarter's music, such as "Bye-low, Baby Jesus," "The Shepherds' Song," and "The Swaddling Clothes Song." Close with this song to the tune of "London Bridge."

**God sent Jesus down to earth,
Down to earth,
Down to earth.
God sent Jesus down to earth,
Because He loves us.**



Remembering the Bible Truth: Do you remember the Bible words that tell us what God did? Let's say them together again. Use the actions to review the Bible verse again. After you have repeated the verse with the children several times, quiz them by doing the actions for them and letting them fill in the actions.



Life Application: Have an extended Worship in Song time by singing some of the praise songs you've used during the past five weeks. Repeat the following and any other songs that your children have enjoyed.

To the tune of "Ten Little Indians":

**One little, two little, three little angels,
Four little, five little, six little angels,
Seven little, eight little, nine little angels,
Ten little angels give praise.**

To the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat":

**Shepherds had some sheep
And watched them in the night.
Suddenly, suddenly, suddenly, suddenly,
Bright angels, such a sight!**

To the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb":

**Wise Men came from far away,
Far away,
Far away.
Wise Men came from far away
To see where Jesus was.**



Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for sending Jesus and for taking care of Him.

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):



Christmas Story Pictures: For this project, you will need a copy of Copymaster 6 for each child and crayons to color the pictures. **We are very glad for the best gift of all—Jesus, God's own Son!**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



Close in prayer and, if there is additional time, try this activity:



Christmas Story Review Cube: Before class, glue the three pairs of matching pictures from Copymaster 6 to three sides of a box. Draw a musical note on the other three sides.

Gather the children in a circle and let a child roll the box toward the center of the circle. If the top side of the box shows a matching set of pictures, have a volunteer tell something about that Bible story. Help as needed. **Why did the Wise Men follow the star? What was the wonderful news the angel had for Mary and Joseph?**




If the top side shows a musical note, sing a Christmas song that is familiar to your children. If time permits, let every child have a turn rolling the cube.

JESUS KNOWS WHEN WE ARE SICK

LESSON SEVEN

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Bring fruit for today's snack. Banana halves, grapes, and apple slices are all good options. Talk to the children about good food. **Do you like fruit? What foods do you like to eat when you are sick? God gives us good food to keep us strong and healthy.** Remember to celebrate birthdays and to ask parents about food allergies or restrictions.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

John 4:46-54

Bible Truth:

Jesus cares when we are sick.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for helping us when we are sick.

Bible Verse:


Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack; pillowcase full of items children like to have when they are sick; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 7; crayons; health care items such as tissues, toothbrush and toothpaste, washcloth and soap, self-adhesive bandages; ribbon; O-shaped cereal; dolls and stuffed animals

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Mystery Bag:** Fill a pillowcase with several items that a child might want when he or she is ill. Some ideas are: a stuffed toy, a book, a blanket, fruit or other good food, a cup or glass, (fake) flowers. Bring the full pillowcase to your class. **This pillowcase is full of things that you might want when you are sick in bed. Can you guess some of the things that are inside?** Have a child reach in and feel an item. See if the child can guess what it is. Take out each item and show the children. **When you don't feel good, who takes care of you?** Let children name their caregivers. **Did you know that Jesus also cares when you are sick?**

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*.

One day a man came up to Jesus. The man had a son who was very sick. When you feel sick, how does your face look? Can you make a sick face? Make a sad face that children can copy.

The man knew that only Jesus could heal his son. So He began to beg Jesus, "My son is sick. Come and make him better." Can you say that with me? Lead children in repeating, "Come and make him better."

Jesus told the man, "You can go home. Your son is better already." Lead children in repeating, "Your son is better already."


The man believed that Jesus had made his son better, so he went home. As the man was going home, people came and told him, "Your son is better!" Lead children in repeating, "Your son is better."



The man asked the people, "When did he get better?"


And the people said, "At one o'clock."

The man knew that he had seen Jesus at one o'clock and that Jesus had made his son better.

 **We can be thankful to Jesus for making the son better and for caring for us when we're sick.** Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving.

 As an alternative to the story, use Copymaster 7. Have a copy of Copymaster 7 for each child and crayons. As children color each scene from the story, read the caption that goes with the scene.


  **Musical Review:** For a fun, active review, play "The Nobleman's Son" from this quarter's music and lead the children in doing motions to go along with it.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing "God's Care" and "I Have a Message for You" from this quarter's music. **Now let's sing about the people who care for us when we're sick. Jesus also cares for us when we're sick.** Sing the following song to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." If children have other caregivers, sing the song and insert those people's names into the final line.


When I don't feel very well,
Very well,
Very well,
When I don't feel very well,
Mommy cares for me.

When I don't feel very well,
Very well,
Very well,
When I don't feel very well,
Daddy cares for me.

When I don't feel very well,
Very well,
Very well,
When I don't feel very well,
Jesus cares for me.


 **Remembering the Bible Truth: The Bible tells us that God helps us in many ways. We are going to learn a Bible verse by singing it.** Teach the Bible verse by singing it to the tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" as follows:

Oh yes, "The Lord is my Helper."
Oh yes, "The Lord is my Helper."
Oh yes, "The Lord is my Helper."
So says Hebrews thirteen, six.

 **Life Application:** Bring several health care items from home to discuss with the children. Some ideas are: tissues, toothbrush and toothpaste, washcloth and soap, and self-adhesive bandages. Be sure not to bring anything that would be potentially harmful to children. Hold up each item.

What do you do with this? Demonstrate how to use each item, and let some children pretend to use some of the items, if desired. **God takes care of us. And He gives us parents and other people who take care of us. When we don't feel good, our parents will take care of us, and God will help us, too.** Consider giving each child a decorative bandage at the end of the activity.


HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):

 **Cereal Necklace:** For this art project, you will need plenty of O-shaped cereal and a piece of ribbon for each child. Tie a piece of cereal toward one end of each child's ribbon, leaving room to tie the ribbon ends together later. Show children how to thread the ribbon through the "Os." Then let each child thread as many "Os" onto his or her necklace as desired. Some children may use only a few; others may use quite a lot.

Cereal is a good snack to eat. Do you like (name the brand of cereal you're using) **? We are making a healthful snack that you can take home with you. You can even wear it around your neck.** When everyone is done threading cereal, tie together the two ends of the ribbon and help the children put on their necklaces.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for taking care of us when we are sick. If children have sick family members, be sure to pray for them. Then try this activity until parents arrive.


 **Taking Care of Baby:** Provide several dolls and stuffed animals for the children to take care of. Guide the children in using the items from "Life Application Time"—tissues, toothbrush, washcloth and soap, self-adhesive bandages—to take care of the dolls and stuffed animals.

JESUS KNOWS WHEN WE ARE AFRAID


LESSON EIGHT

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** For today's snack, cut oranges into quarters, leaving the peel on the orange. Give each child an orange quarter, and tell him to save his orange peel to make a boat. You may have to help some children by cutting the orange from the peel. Be sure to have napkins ready. Also remember to celebrate birthdays and ask parents about food allergies.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Storm Sounds:** Talk about storms. Let your children talk about any fears they have regarding storms. **Have you ever heard a loud storm with lightning and thunder? Was it scary? What did it sound like?**

Work with the children to create a storm-sounds choir. Have some children make a sound like the wind blowing. Other children can clap their hands like crashing thunder. Other children can tap their fingers on a floor or table to sound like rain hitting a roof. Instruct the students to make their storm noises at the same time and to stop when you say, "Be still." Practice this a few times until all the children stop at nearly the same time.

In our story today, Jesus made a real storm stop by saying, "Be still."

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

Bible Truth:

Jesus knows when we are afraid.

Life Response Aim:

To be happy that Jesus is with us when we are afraid.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6


Materials Needed:

Snack; children's instruments, if desired; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 8; crayons; construction paper; scissors; tape; toothpicks; pool or dishpan with water and plastic tablecloth; large rug

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the Let's Sing Motions 'n Music or both.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Use the sounds from the "Preparing Their Hearts" activity. Instruct children to make their storm sounds again when you tell them to and to stop when Jesus says, "Be still."

One day Jesus and His disciples got into a boat. They started out into the water. But soon a big storm came. The wind blew. Have children blow like the wind. **The rain came down.** Have children tap on the floor or table like the rain. **And the thunder crashed.** Have children clap like the thunder.

The storm got much worse. And the disciples were afraid.



Jesus, however, was asleep. He wasn't afraid at all.

The disciples went to Jesus and woke Him up. "Save us from the bad storm!" they cried.

Jesus got up and faced the storm. Have the class make storm sounds. **He told the storm, "Be still!"** Children stop immediately.

Immediately the storm stopped. The wind stopped blowing. The rain stopped falling. And the thunder stopped crashing.

The disciples were so surprised! "Who is this Man?" they asked. "The winds and the water obey Him!" But they learned that God will take care of them when they are afraid.

  As an alternative to the story or as a review, play "The Storm" from this quarter's music and have the children pantomime the story as you narrate the highlights.

Jesus and the disciples got into the boat.


As Jesus slept in the back, a storm began to blow.

The boat rocked and rocked and rocked.

As the storm grew worse, Jesus' friends became more and more afraid.


Continue rocking and looking fearful until the narrator says, **And then Jesus said, "Peace, be still."**

Jesus' friends learned how wonderful He is. Only God's Son could do such a wonderful thing.


 **Worship in Song:** Sing “I Love Him” and “On the Deep Blue Sea” from this quarter’s music. **Now let’s sing another song about Jesus calming the storm. Jesus had the power to make the storm stop. Only Jesus could do that! The people were afraid of the storm, but they didn’t need to be.** Sing the following words to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

Row, row, row your boat
Through the wind and waves.
Whenever the storm is raging ‘round you,
Do not be afraid.

Jesus is always there
Through the wind and waves.
Whenever the storm is raging ‘round you,
Do not be afraid.


 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** Repeat the Bible verse song from last week to the tune of “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow” (see below). **The Bible tells us that the Lord will help us in many ways. He made the storm stop. And He can care for us too.** Give each child a copy of Copymaster 8 and have them color the picture. Review the Bible verse as they color. Then help them fold the picture to show before and after Jesus stilled the storm.

Oh yes, “The Lord is my Helper.”
Oh yes, “The Lord is my Helper.”
Oh yes, “The Lord is my Helper.”
So says Hebrews thirteen, six.

 **Life Application:** Talk with the children about their fears and God’s ability to care for them. **When are you afraid? What do you do when you’re afraid?** Allow children to respond. **When you are afraid, you might call your mommy or daddy. They can help us when we are afraid. They can give us a hug and talk to us. When we are afraid, we can also talk to God, who sent His Son, Jesus. Jesus loves us and wants to help us when we are afraid. Remember from our Bible story that Jesus even made the storm stop! Mommy and Daddy can’t do that.**

 **When we are afraid, we should pray. Let’s pray now.** Lead the children in a prayer for help when they are afraid of something.


HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):


 **Orange Peel Boats:** Ahead of time, cut some pieces of construction paper into paper sails for orange peel boats. Each child will need his or her orange peel section from “Snack Time,” half a straw, a small piece of clay, and one of the paper sails. Let each child color a sail. Then help the children tape their sails to the straw and stick the other end of the straw into the clay. Then they stick the clay on the orange peel, making a boat.

If possible, also have a kiddie pool or a dishpan half-filled with water and set on the floor in the middle of a plastic tablecloth. Let a few children at a time put their boats on the water. Children may blow into the sails of their boats to move them across the water. If they blow too hard, the boat may tip over. That’s the danger of a storm.

Talk with the children about boats. **Have any of you ever been on a boat? Did you have fun? When storms come, boats are in danger. Jesus’ disciples were afraid of the storm when they were on the boat. They cried to Jesus, and Jesus stopped the storm.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for helping us when we are scared. If you have additional time, use the following activity.

 **Island Tag:** Place a large rug on the floor in the middle of the room. **For this game, we will pretend that the rug is the land. Can everyone stand on the land? What do you do on land?** Have children jump, walk, and run. **The rug is in the middle of the sea—an island—and the rest of the floor is the water. Can everyone go into the water? What do you do in the water?** Have children pretend to swim. Show them how to move their arms like they are swimming.


Play a game of tag, with you being “it.” When the children step off the rug, you may chase them. However, rather than actually catching children, chase them back to the island. For this game, the rug should not slide or roll up, lest the children slip or trip. If there is a problem with this, it may be safer to tape off a section of the floor as the “island.”

JESUS KNOWS WHEN WE NEED HELP



LESSON NINE

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** For today's snack bring fish-shaped crackers. Talk to the children about what sort of things they would find in the sea. Remember to celebrate birthdays and ask parents about food allergies.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

  **Helping Hands:** Before snack time, mess up the classroom. Put toys and other items on the floor. When all the children have arrived and had their snack, draw their attention to the messy room. **This room is a mess. We need to clean it up. Will you help me? It is good to help each other. I'm glad I have you here to help me.** Have children help you clean the room. Sing "Happy Hands and Feet Can Help" as they work.

Thank you for helping me clean the room! You are good helpers. Can you tell me who helps you? Allow children to respond. **Your mommy and daddy** (and other caregivers as appropriate) **help you. Do you know that Jesus helps you too? Our story will show us how Jesus helps people.**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

Bible Truth:

Jesus knows when we need help.

Life Response Aim:

To want to ask Jesus for help when we need it.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6



Materials Needed:

Snack, figures from *Teaching Resources*, Copymaster 9, string, tape, crayons, blind-folds

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing* *Motions 'n Music* or both.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.

  **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using the colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. As indicated, use questions to involve the children in telling today's story by having them answer your questions.

Do you remember the story from last week? Jesus went somewhere with His disciples. Do you remember where they went? Yes, they went on a boat. What happened when Jesus and His disciples were on the boat? That's right, a bad storm came up. What does a storm sound like? Let children make the storm sounds again.



How did the disciples feel during that storm? They were very afraid. They needed help!

What was Jesus doing during the storm? He was sleeping!

And what did the disciples do? They woke Jesus up, and they cried, "Help! Save us!" Can you say that? Lead children in crying, "Help! Save us!"

Jesus woke up and said to the storm, "Be still!" What happened? The storm stopped right away!

When His disciples needed help, Jesus helped them! The disciples were so thankful. Jesus will also help us today when we need help. He loves us and wants to help us.

  As an alternative to the story or as a review, again play "The Storm" from this quarter's music and have the children pantomime the story as you narrate the highlights.

Jesus and the disciples got into the boat.


As Jesus slept in the back, a storm began to blow.

The boat rocked and rocked and rocked.

As the storm grew worse, Jesus' friends became more and more afraid.

Continue rocking and looking fearful until the narrator says, **And then Jesus said, "Peace, be still."**

Jesus' friends learned how wonderful He is. When they asked for help, He gave it to them.

 **Worship in Song:** Do you remember our song about Jesus calming a storm? Jesus had the power to make the storm stop. Sing "On the Deep Blue Sea." When Jesus' disciples needed help in the storm, Jesus helped them. Sing to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."


Row, row, row your boat
Through the wind and waves.
Whenever the storm is raging 'round you,

Do not be afraid.

Row, row, row your boat
Through the wind and waves.
You can ask Jesus to help when you need
Him,
'Cause He's the One who saves.

Remembering the Bible Truth: You know a Bible verse that tells you that the Lord will help you. Do you know **WHEN** God will help you? Allow children to respond. **God helps you when you are sick or afraid, or anytime you need help.** Review the Bible verse with this choral reading.

Teacher: **When I am sick,**
Children and Team Members: **The Lord is my Helper.**
Teacher: **When I am afraid,**
Children and Team Members: **The Lord is my Helper.**
Teacher: **When I need help,**
Children and Team Members: **The Lord is my Helper.**

 **Life Application:** Show a completed copy of Copymaster 9 to use when telling the story.
Abigail was having a birthday! She was three years old. Mommy and Daddy had a birthday party for her. Some of her friends came to the party. They had fun playing with Abigail's toys.

After they had eaten the birthday cake, Daddy brought in Abigail's birthday present. It was a brand-new, shiny, red tricycle. It had three wheels and a loud horn! Abigail loved her new trike!

After her party, Abigail asked Daddy, "May I please ride my trike outside?"

"Ok, Abby. Let's go outside," Daddy said. "But you have to stay on the sidewalk right next to the house. Stay where I can see you."

Abby and Daddy took the trike outside. Abby started down the sidewalk, peddling her trike as fast as she could. Daddy watched.

"That's good, Abby!" he said.

Then Daddy went into the garage. Abby rode back down the sidewalk. Then she saw their long driveway! It was a hill. She could go really fast down that hill. So she headed for the driveway. As she rode down the hill, the trike went faster and faster. Soon it was going so fast that Abigail could not keep her feet on the peddles. She couldn't stop! She rode faster and faster—until the driveway ended; then the trike came to a stop. Abby turned around, but she couldn't ride up that hill.

She was afraid, and she started to cry. Then Abby remembered something. She knew that God would help her. She didn't cry anymore.

Just then she heard Daddy calling her name. "Abby! Where are you? Abby?"


Abby tried to call back to Daddy, but her voice wasn't very loud. Then she saw her horn. She beeped that horn as hard as she could.

Immediately, Daddy came running! "Abby! Are you okay?"


"Yes, Daddy. God helped me not be afraid," Abby told him.


So Dad pushed Abby back up the driveway. Abby knew that next time she would listen to Dad and stay on the sidewalk.

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):

 **Abigail and the Bike Picture:** You will need crayons and a copy of Copymaster 9 for each child. Before class, color and put together a copy of Copymaster 9, as an example for the students. Cut lengths of string to go between the Xs. Also cut off the strip with Abigail and Dad. As the children color their pictures and the strips, review the story. Ask children when they have needed God's help. Guide their responses. As children finish coloring the picture, help them tape the ends of the string to the Xs. Now fold over the strip and tape the ends together. The children can show Abigail going down the driveway; then turn the strip over and show Dad and Abigail going back up the driveway.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Close in prayer, thanking God for helping us. If you have additional time, use the following activity.


 **Helping Partners:** Ask volunteers to be blindfolded. Pair each blindfolded child with a child who is not blindfolded. Have each seeing child help the blindfolded child walk around the room. **When you are blindfolded, your friend can help you to walk around the room.**

JESUS KNOWS WHERE WE ARE

LESSON TEN

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** For today's snack, bring foods that grow on trees. Apple slices and fig cookies are good ideas. Explain to the children that apples and figs grow on trees. Ask them what other food grows on trees. **Our Bible story today is about a man who climbed a tree.** Remember to celebrate birthdays and check with parents about children's dietary restrictions.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Luke 19:1-6

Bible Truth:

Jesus knows where we are all the time.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for loving and caring for us all the time.

Bible Verse:


Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack; Zacchaeus puppet;
potted tree; figures from
Teaching Resources;
Copymaster 10; crayons;
Optional: yarn, scraps of cloth,
small round stickers, sand,
Bible figure stickers

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Hide and Seek:** Play a simple version of hide and seek. Have a teacher be "it." The teacher should count to 10 while children hide in the room. You may want to create some hiding places beforehand by bringing in some big boxes or moving some furniture. Children will likely not be hidden very well, but take your time in finding them. Talk to them as you are seeking. **Where is everyone? I need to find the children. I wonder where _____ is?** Mention them by name. When you have found each child, play again, as time and interest permit.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*.

The Bible tells us about a man named Zacchaeus. Can you say his name with me? Have children say "Zacchaeus." **Zacchaeus was a very rich man. He had lots of money. BUT he stole some of his money from other people. Zacchaeus was also a very short man.**

One day Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to his town. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but when he went to the place where Jesus was, Zacchaeus couldn't see anything. The crowd was too big, and Zacchaeus was too short.

Zacchaeus looked around and had a great idea. He would climb a tree! And that's exactly what he did.


Zacchaeus climbed into a sycamore tree where he could see above the heads of all the people.

Soon Jesus came walking by that tree. Jesus looked up into the tree and saw Zacchaeus there. Jesus knew Zacchaeus was in the tree, and Jesus wanted to help Zacchaeus.

"Come down from the tree, Zacchaeus!" Jesus said. "I'm going to your house today."

What do you think Zacchaeus did? Allow children to respond. **Yes! He came down from that tree right away and took Jesus to his house.**

Jesus knew Zacchaeus was in the tree because Jesus knows where we are all the time! Even when we are lost and don't know where we are, Jesus always knows where we are, and He is with us. Aren't you glad?

 As an alternative for telling the story, use a puppet and a potted tree to retell the story. Introduce the children to your puppet named Zacchaeus. Explain that he was very small. Hold puppet up to the children to show how short he was. Remind children that Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he could not see over the crowds. Have a couple of children stand at the front and show how the puppet could not see over them.

Then describe how Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus. Demonstrate with the puppet how Zacchaeus may have climbed the tree to see over the crowd. Review how Jesus knew that Zacchaeus was in the tree. Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down. Have a child ask the Zacchaeus puppet to come down from the tree. When you have finished the story, you may want to let the children play with the puppet and retell the story themselves.



Musical Review: Play “Zacchaeus” from this quarter’s music and lead the children in acting out the story to music. The narration will indicate what actions you will lead the children in doing.



Worship in Song: Sing “Jesus Knows,” “Somebody Sees Me,” and “My Best Friend” from this quarter’s music CD. **Now let’s sing a song about Zacchaeus climbing the tree to see Jesus.** Sing the following song to the tune of “Happy Birthday to You.” Teach the actions, as well, if desired.

Zacchaeus was so small; *(Hold hand close to ground to indicate small.)*

The crowd was so tall. *(Hold hand high to indicate tall.)*

He climbed into a tree, *(Move hands as if climbing.)*

So he could see it all. *(Hold hand above eyes as if looking around.)*

When Jesus came that way, *(Walk two fingers along your other arm.)*

He looked up to say, *(Hold hand above eyes and look upward.)*

“Zacchaeus, please come down. *(Point finger upward.)*

I’ll go with you today.”



Remembering the Bible Truth: Review the Bible words from Hebrews 13:6 by repeating the verse and leaving out a word. Indicate for the children to fill in the missing word by cupping your hand behind your ear.

The Lord is my ____.

The ____ is my helper.



Life Application: Take the children on a walk around the church. Instruct children to be very quiet and stay together. If you have a rope, have each child hang on to the rope. At different places in the church, stop and ask the children, **Does Jesus know where we are now?** Lead the children in answering, Yes! You can also ask the children questions, such as, **If we get into the car and drive home, does Jesus know where we are?** Or, **If we go to a friend’s house, does Jesus know where we are?**

Finish the walk by bringing children back to your classroom. **Jesus knows where we are all the time. Is there any place we can go where Jesus can’t find us? No!**

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10–15 MINUTES):



Colored Mural: For this art project, you will need a copy of Copymaster 10 for each child. Have children color the pictures of the park, bedroom, play area pool of balls, and church classroom. Help children glue or tape pieces of yarn onto the park picture over the swing chains and a little sand where the children are running. Help them glue a piece of cloth on the bedroom picture over the blanket. Then they can put round stickers on the picture of the pool of balls. And help them put a cross or Bible-figure sticker on the Bible page.

When you’re at a park, does Jesus know where you are? When you’re in bed, does Jesus know where you are? When you go to an indoor play area, does Jesus know where you are? When you are here at church, does Jesus know where you are? Yes, Jesus always knows where you are.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for knowing where we are all the time. If you have additional time, use the following activity.




Find Zacchaeus: Have the children close their eyes for a few seconds, while you hide the Zacchaeus puppet somewhere in the room. Let children find the puppet. Keep playing until parents arrive.

JESUS KNOWS WHAT WE DO

LESSON ELEVEN

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Today bring a snack that looks like coins. Small cookies and crackers are two options. Talk with the children about money. Explain that it is wrong to take other people's money. **When we steal from someone, we are doing what God's Word tells us not to do** (Ex. 20:15). **That's called sin.** Remember to celebrate birthdays and to ask parents about food allergies.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Luke 19:1-6

Bible Truth:

Jesus knows what we do all the time.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for helping us do what is right.

Bible Verse:


Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack, play money, stool, figures from *Teaching Resources*, Copymaster 11, crayons or markers

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* or both.


PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Follow Directions:** Play a simple version of "Simon Says." Have all of the children stand where they can see you. Instruct them to watch you carefully and to do what you tell them. Explain that they must follow your directions carefully because you will be giving new instructions each time. Start slowly, giving instructions such as stomp your feet, pat your head, touch your nose, clap your hands, jump in place, turn in circles, shake someone's hand. As the children get the idea, give instructions more quickly.

This was a game about following directions and doing what you are supposed to do. Today we are going to hear more about Zacchaeus. He did some bad things before he met Jesus. But after Zacchaeus met Jesus, he loved and obeyed Him.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offerings.

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Before telling the story, give each child play money to hold. Let the children know that they will be giving the play money back later in the story.

Remember Zacchaeus from last week? What do you remember about him? Allow children to respond. **He was a short man who wanted to see Jesus. So he climbed up in a tree. Jesus walked by Zacchaeus and told him, "Please come down. I'm going to your house today."**

Now we are going to learn more about Zacchaeus. Do you remember that Zacchaeus had lots of money? Well, Zacchaeus got some of


that money because he stole it from other people. That was a very bad thing to do. It's wrong to take things that don't belong to you.

Jesus knew that Zacchaeus had taken people's money. Jesus knows everything we do. When Zacchaeus came down from the tree and met Jesus, Zacchaeus knew that he needed to give the people's money back.

Zacchaeus said, "Jesus, I will give half of my money and things to the poor people. And I will give back all of the money I stole and more."

Can you give back the money you have? We don't always like to give back money, do we? But when we have other people's money, that is the right thing to do. Collect the play money from the children.

Jesus was pleased when Zacchaeus trusted Him and gave back the money. Jesus is pleased when we trust and love Him. Then we can obey and do what is right.

 As an alternative, act out the story briefly. Give a child playing Zacchaeus some play money to hold and help him stand on a stool or chair. Have another child play the role of Jesus. The child playing Jesus should tell Zacchaeus, **Come down. I'm going to your house.** When "Zacchaeus" comes down, he will say, **I will give back the money.** Review the story in this fashion several times, giving several children opportunities to be involved.



Musical Review: Play “Zacchaeus” again from this quarter’s music and lead the children in reviewing the story to music.



Worship in Song: Sing “Somebody Sees Me” and “Jesus Knows” from this quarter’s music. **Now let’s sing another song about Zacchaeus. When Jesus met Zacchaeus, Jesus helped Zacchaeus do the right thing and give back the money he stole.** Sing the following two verses to the tune of “Happy Birthday to You.” If desired, also repeat the two verses from last week.

**Zacchaeus was so bad;
He stole what he had.
But when he trusted Jesus,
His heart was made glad.**

**When Jesus sees me,
I want Him to be
Pleased with what I do,
So I will trust in Him too.**



Remembering the Bible Truth: Repeat the Bible verse with the children several times. Then play a game with them to review it. You will say the first word, and they’ll say the next. Switch so they start the next time.



Life Application: Lead children in a short talk about obedience and doing right. Use questions like the following. Allow children to respond to each question.

Do you like to play nicely with others? Is it always easy to play nicely together? Should you argue or fight when you play with others? Does Jesus know when you don’t play nicely together? Who can you ask to help you to be nice to others?

Do you like to go to bed when Mommy and Daddy say so? Why should you go to bed when Mommy and Daddy say so? Does Jesus see you when you don’t go to bed nicely? Who can you ask to help you obey and go to bed nicely?

Do you like to eat all of your food at dinner? Why should you eat all of your food at dinner?

Though twos and threes don’t yet completely understand their need for salvation, you will still want to begin building the foundation for when they will. This means that, though we do want to teach that it is important to obey Jesus, we do not want to give the impression that our attempts at obedience make our relationship right with Him. We must be saved by grace through faith in Him (Eph. 2:8-9). **It’s important to obey Jesus, and the first thing we must do to obey Him is to trust Him to save us from our sins. Only then can we obey Him in all the other ways that we should.**

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):



Helping Hands: For this art project, you will need a copy of Copymaster 11 for each child. Have the children place their hands over the hearts on the page. Help them trace their hands on the paper. Then allow children to color their hands and the hearts. **You can use your hands to help people. Helping others is one way to show Jesus that we love Him.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for helping us do what is right. If you have additional time, use the following activity.



Zacchaeus’s Money Bag: Let a child pretend to be Zacchaeus returning the money he had stolen. Give “Zacchaeus” a paper lunch sack with play money in it. “Zacchaeus” will give money to the other children until the sack is empty. Then gather up the money and let another child be “Zacchaeus.”




Help One Another: With adult supervision, lead children in helping each other get ready to go home. First of all, encourage the children to help each other clean the room. Then they may help each other find coats, mittens, boots, and papers. Be sure to thank each helper, and encourage children to thank one another.

JESUS TELLS US GOD CARES FOR US

LESSON TWELVE

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Bring popcorn or bread for today's snack. Ask children if they have ever fed the birds popcorn or bread. **Sometimes we feed birds. But who feeds the birds every day? God does. God also makes sure that we have the food that we need to eat.** Be sure to celebrate birthdays and check with parents about food allergies.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Mark 6:30-44; John 6:1-13

Bible Truth:

Jesus fed many people.

Life Response Aim:

To give thanks at mealtimes.

Bible Verse:



Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack, blanket, picnic basket or box filled with picnic items, lunch sack stuffed with paper, figures from *Teaching Resources*, Copymaster 12, scissors, crayons, tape, flower stickers

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing* *Motions 'n Music* or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

  **Dress Up:** Bring a variety of hats, mittens and gloves, scarves, jackets, etc. Put the clothes in a pile. Help each child put on some dress-up clothes. **These clothes keep us warm when it gets cold outside. Mommy and Daddy buy us clothes and help us get dressed. But the Bible tells us that God is really the One who makes sure that we have the clothes and the food that we need. Let's see what God tells us in the Bible.** If desired, have children remove the dress-up clothing before beginning the Bible story.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.

  **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*.

One day Jesus stood on a mountain and talked to the people who were with Him. He told them not to worry about their food or their clothes.

Jesus told the people to think about the birds that fly up in the sky. Do you like to watch the birds? Where do you see birds? (Allow the children to respond.) Sometimes we feed the birds too, don't we?



But most of the time the birds get their food without our help. God feeds the birds. God takes care of the birds because He made them.

Jesus told the people that God would take care of them too. God loved them, and God loves us. God will give us the food that we need. We don't need to worry.


Jesus also told the people to think about the flowers in the fields. Do you like flowers? Where do you see flowers? (Allow children to respond.) God made the flowers so beautiful. He gave them pretty petals and leaves as "clothes" to wear. God takes care of the flowers because He created them.

Jesus told the people that God would give them the clothes that they needed. God cares for us more than He cares for flowers, so we do not have to worry about clothes.

Aren't you glad that God takes care of you? We should thank Him for His loving care.

  As an alternative to the story or as a review, bring in picture books containing birds and flowers. Let the children interact with the books. Ask children to point out different birds or flowers to you. Or bring in a real bird and real flowers and let the children watch the real bird and study the flowers. Talk with them about how God created these things. Explain how God takes care of what He made.

God gives the birds food and the flowers pretty petals and leaves. Do you think He will give us food and clothes to wear? Yes, He will.


 **Worship in Song:** Sing "God's Care" and "Jesus Loves Me" from this quarter. Then sing the following words to the tune of "The Wheels of the Bus Go 'Round and 'Round."

**Everybody, look at the birds in the sky,
The birds in the sky, the birds in the sky.
Everybody, look at the birds in the sky.
God feeds them.**

**Everybody, look at the flowers in the field,
The flowers in the field, the flowers in the field.
Everybody, look at the flowers in the field.
God clothes them.**

**Everybody, look at the people right here,
The people right here, the people right here.
Everybody, look at the people right here.
God knows us.**

**I love God, and He takes care of me,
He takes care of me, He takes care of me.
I love God, and He takes care of me
Every day.**

 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** To review the Bible verse, show the children pictures cut from magazines or catalogs of clothes, food, and houses. Explain briefly that God gives these things to us. Repeat the Bible verse several times with the children. Then instruct them to answer your questions by saying the Bible verse.

Teacher: **Who makes sure you have clothes to wear?**


Children: **The Lord is my Helper.**

Teacher: **Who makes sure you have a house to live in?**


Children: **The Lord is my Helper.**

Teacher: **Who makes sure you have food to eat?**

Children: **The Lord is my Helper.**


 **Life Application:** Let's plant seeds. God cares for us even more than He cares for the plants. Help children "plant" cress seeds. Give each child a paper towel to dip into a pail of water. Help the children ring out the paper towels so they are quite damp but not dripping. Fold the paper towels into fours and lay them on plates or trays. Give each child several seeds to lay on top of a damp paper towel. Be sure to label each paper towel with the child's name. The towels must be kept damp and in a sunny window. They should grow quite quickly. Be sure to have them available to the children in coming weeks.


HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):

 **Booklet—God's Wonderful Care:** For this art project, you will need a copy of Copymaster 12 for each child, crayons, tape, glue, and aluminum foil or a picture of each child. To save time, prior to class you may want to fold the booklets where indicated. Let children color their booklets. Glue a piece of foil as a mirror or the child's picture on the last page of the booklet. Then read the booklet together.

Because God cares for the birds, and because God cares for the flowers, I know that God cares for me! Point out the "mirrors" or children's pictures. **God cares for us very much—much more than the birds and flowers. He loves us so much that He sent His only Son to save us from our sins.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer, thanking God for caring for us by giving us food and clothing. If you have additional time, use the following activity.

 **Outdoor Clothes Game:** Have each child put one of his or her items of outdoor clothing (e.g., jacket, mittens, boots) into a pile. Be sure that items are labeled well or are distinct enough so they won't get mixed up. Send one or two children at a time to the pile to find their items. See how quickly they can find their clothing items and put them on. Help children, if necessary. After all the children have found their clothing, remind them that God provides clothing for us.


 For more "outdoor" fun, play "Autumn Leaves or Snowflakes" from this quarter's music and let the children pretend to be falling snowflakes.

JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US


LESSON THIRTEEN

UNIT 2: JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT US

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** For today's snack, create a platter of favorite snacks from this unit. Remind children of the significance of each snack as well. Be sure to celebrate birthdays and to ask parents about food allergies.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Helping the Sick:** Have a volunteer come to the front to put his or her arm in a sling. Talk with the children about being sick or hurt. **Do you remember our Bible story about the boy who was sick? What happened? The boy's father went to Jesus to ask for help. What did Jesus do for the sick boy? Jesus made the sick boy better.** Have the child explain how it feels to have the bandage on his arm. If other children want to try the bandage, consider letting them do so.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Review of Lessons 7–12.

Bible Truth:

Jesus lives today and knows we need His help.

Life Response Aim:

To want to ask Jesus for help when we need Him.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6


Materials Needed:

Snack; cloth made into slings; poster board; paste; old magazines or catalogs; tissue and self-adhesive bandages; pictures of boats and storms; pictures of money and trees; item of clothes and food; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 13; construction paper; glue; crayons; Optional: clear, self-adhesive plastic

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs are found on the songsheets at the end of this manual or the *Let's Sing* *Motions 'n Music* or both.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Let the children participate by answering your questions.


In the past weeks we have heard stories about Jesus, who is our Helper. Can you remember the stories?


Our first story was about a boy who was sick. His father was very worried about him, so he went to see Jesus. What did the man ask Jesus? The man asked Jesus to make his son better. And Jesus did! We know that Jesus cares when we are sick too.

The next story was about Jesus and His disciples on a boat. What happened on the boat? A bad storm came up. What did it sound like? Yes! And the disciples were very afraid. They woke Jesus and told Him that they were afraid. What did Jesus do? Jesus said to the storm, "Be still." And the storm stopped. Jesus takes care of us when we are afraid and need help.

Our next story was about Zacchaeus. What do you remember about Zacchaeus? Zacchaeus was a little man who wanted to see Jesus. He climbed up into a tree, so he could see Jesus walking by him. When Jesus was standing under the tree, what happened? Jesus knew where Zacchaeus was, and He told Zacchaeus to come down. When Zacchaeus came down, he told Jesus that he would pay back all of the money that wasn't his. Jesus knows what we do and where we are.

And our last story was about birds and flowers. How does God take care of birds and flowers? God gives the birds food and the flowers beautiful clothes. God takes care of us as well.

 **Let's thank God for taking care of us. Let's thank Jesus for helping us.** Pray with the children.

 As an alternative to the story or as a review, help the children make a mural of this unit's stories. Bring in old magazines or catalogs. Have the children look for pictures that remind them of being sick. While they are looking, ask the children questions to review that Bible story. If children do not know the answer, retell the story. **Do you remember our Bible story about the sick boy? What did Jesus do for the the boy?** Help children rip out the pictures and paste them to a piece of poster board to create a collage.

Next ask the children to find pictures of water and boats. **Do you remember the story about Jesus and His disciples in the boat? What happened? How did the disciples feel in the storm? What did Jesus do?** Help children rip out those pictures and paste them to another piece of poster board to make another collage.

Then find pictures of trees, money, and men. Review the story of Zacchaeus by asking the following questions. **Do you remember the story of Zacchaeus? What did he do? What did Jesus do?** Paste the pictures to a third piece of poster board. Finally, have the children find pictures of birds, flowers, clothes, and food. Ask questions such as the following. **How does God care for the birds and flowers? How does He care for us?** Paste these pictures to a fourth piece of construction paper. Hang all four collages on a wall.



Worship in Song: Sing some of the children's favorite songs from this quarter's music, as well as one or two of the following songs from this unit to review with the children today.

To the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

When I don't feel very well,

Very well, very well.

When I don't feel very well,

Mommy (Daddy, other caregivers, and Jesus) **cares for me.**

To the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

Row, row, row your boat

Through the wind and waves.

Whenever the storm is raging 'round you,

Do not be afraid.

Row, row, row your boat

Through the wind and waves.

You can ask Jesus to help when you need

Him,

'Cause He's the one who saves.

To the tune of "Happy Birthday to You."

Zacchaeus was so small; *(Hold hand close to ground to indicate small.)*

The crowd was so tall. *(Hold hand high to indicate tall.)*

He climbed into a tree, *(Move hands as if climbing.)*

So he could see it all. *(Hold hand above eyes as if looking around.)*

When Jesus came that way, *(Walk two fingers along your other arm.)*

He looked up to say, *(Hold hand above eyes and look upward.)*

"Zacchaeus, please come down. *(Point finger upward.)*

I'll go with you today."

To the tune of "The Wheels of the Bus Go 'Round and 'Round."

I love God and He takes care of me,

He takes care of me,

He takes care of me.

I love God and He takes care of me

Every day.



Remembering the Bible Truth: Let's review our Bible verse once more. This verse reminds us of God's care. Review the verse with the method(s) that worked best with your children.



Life Application: Use this Life Application time to pray with the children regarding what they have learned. Encourage any children who are ready to do so to pray themselves. Use pictures or actual items to prompt their prayers. For example, hold up a box of tissues and a box of bandages. Pray with the children, thanking God for caring for us when we are sick. Then hold up pictures of a storm and a boat. Pray with the children, thanking God for caring for us when we are afraid and need help. Hold up some money and a picture of a tree. Thank God for knowing where we are and knowing what we are doing all the time. Finally, hold up some food and clothing. Pray, thanking God for providing food and clothes.

HANDS-TO-HEARTS ARTS AND CRAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):



Place Mat for Remembering: For this "Place Mat for Remembering" art project, you will need a copy of Copymaster 13 for each child, construction paper, glue, and crayons. To save classtime, cut apart the squares with the pictures, title, and song in advance. Let children color and glue the pictures in a collage on a piece of construction paper. See the copymaster for an example. For strength and durability, consider covering each place mat with clear, self-adhesive plastic.

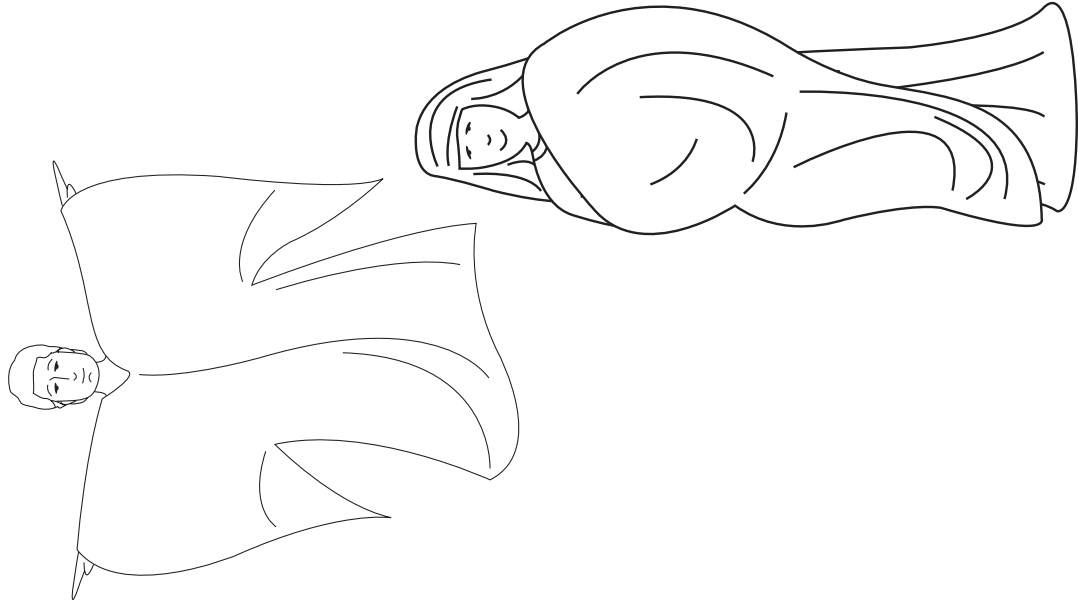
GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

If you have additional time, use the following activity.

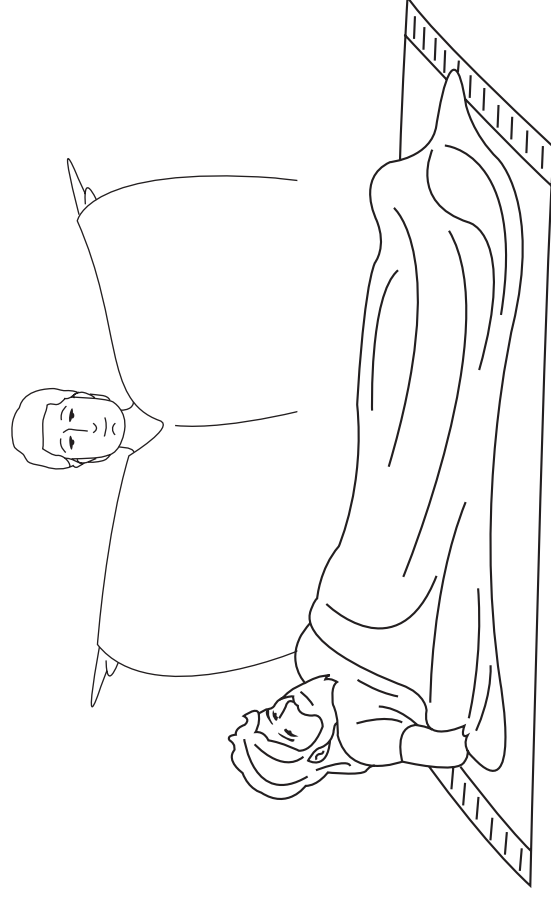


Musical Review: Play any or all of the following from this quarter's music to review the stories to music: "The Nobleman's Son," "The Storm," and "Zacchaeus."

The Angel Brought Good News



Dear Parent: Have your child tell you whom the angel is talking to and what wonderful news he brought.



*"Thou shalt call his
name JESUS."
(Matthew 1:21)*

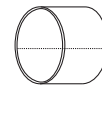
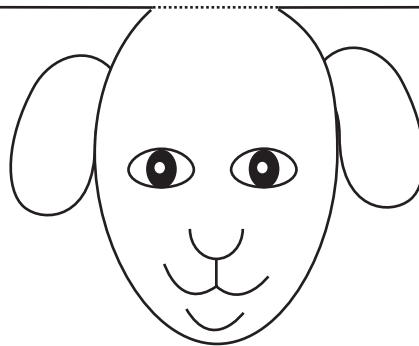
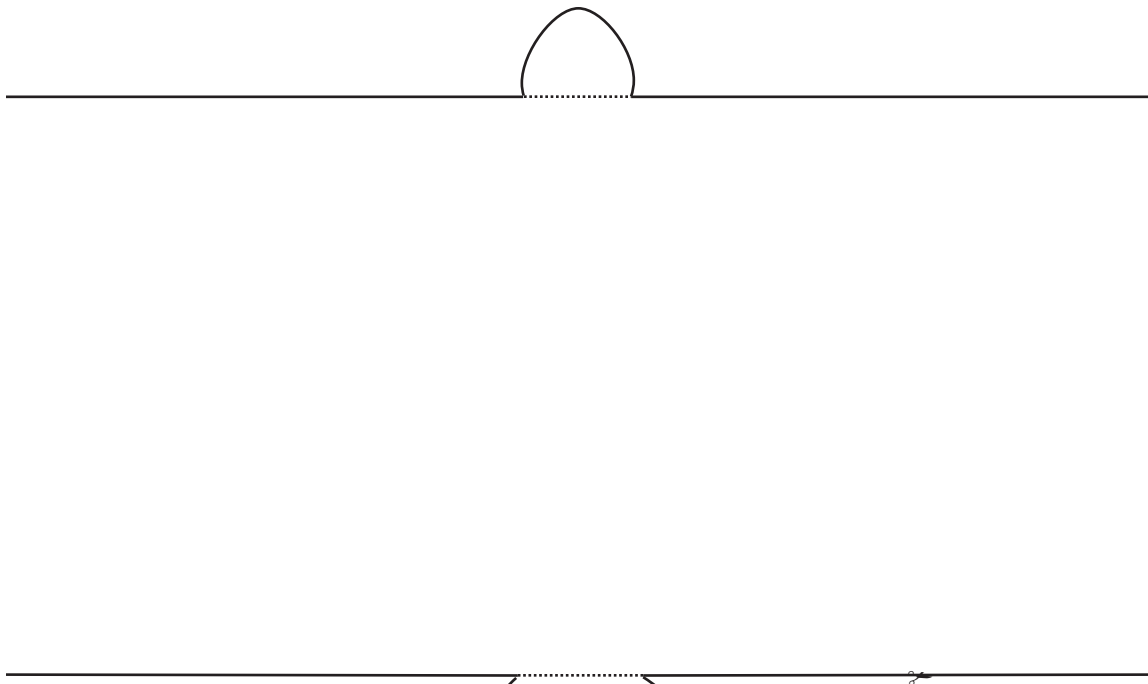
*"He loved us, and
sent his Son."
(1 John 4:10)*

GOOD

LOVES

YOU

Dear Parent: God loves you and your child. Take time to talk about the many ways God has shown His love to your family.



1



2



3

*"He loved us, and sent his Son."
(1 John 4:10)*

Dear Parent: As Christmas approaches, talk with your child about some of your family's holiday traditions. Let your child help as much as he or she is able in getting ready for the holiday.

X

Dear Parent: Help your child hang this mobile somewhere in your house. Let your child tell you about the Wise Men's journey to find Jesus.

X

*"He loved us,
and sent
his Son."
(1 John 4:10)*

X

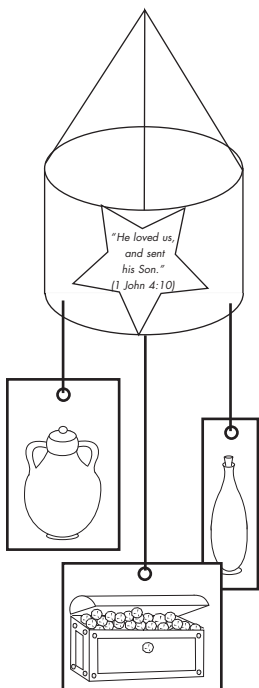
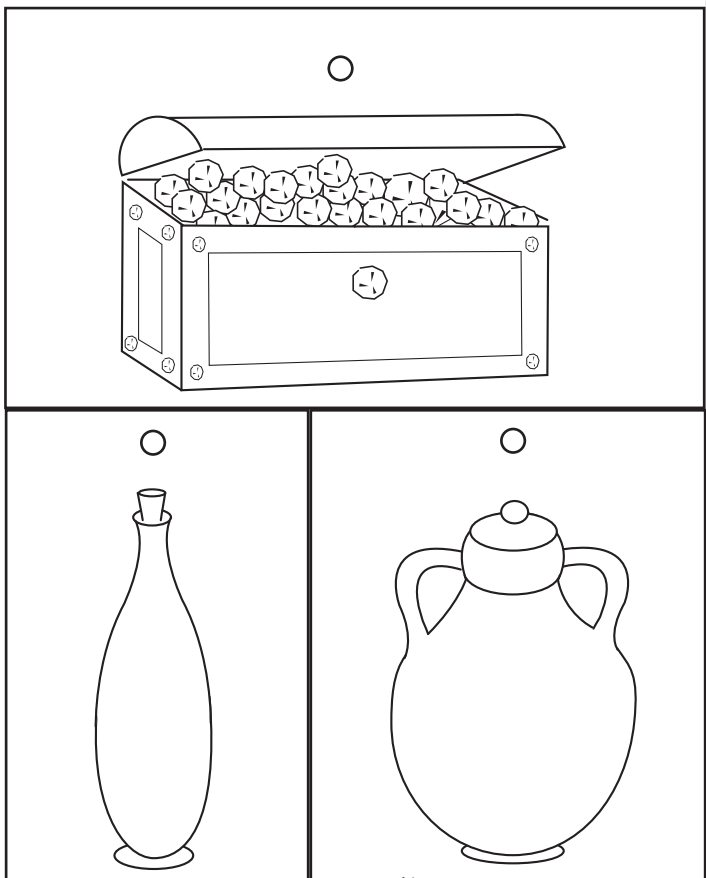
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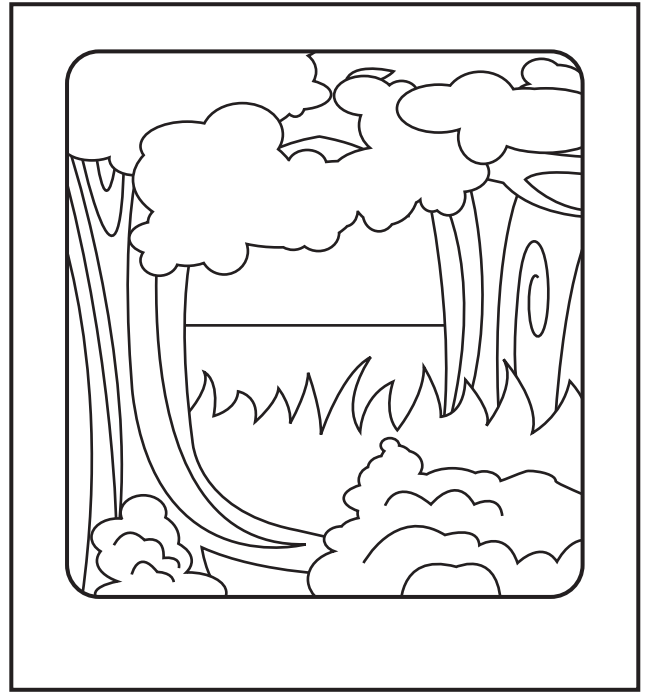
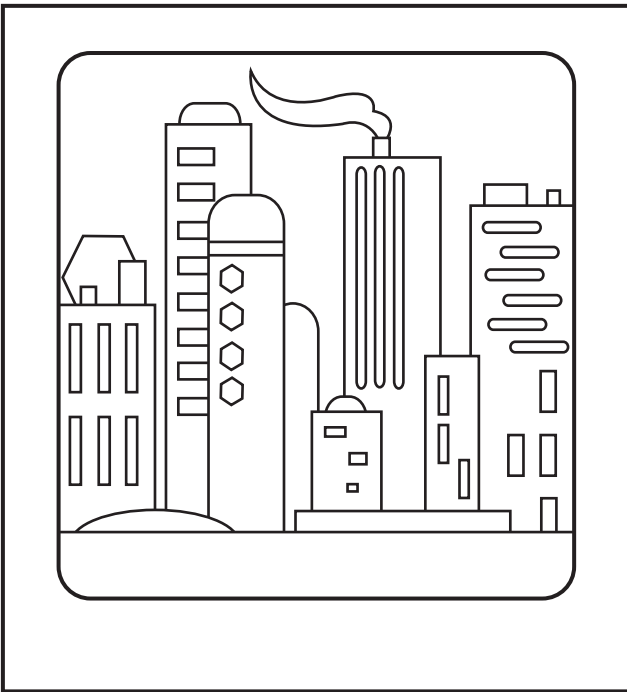
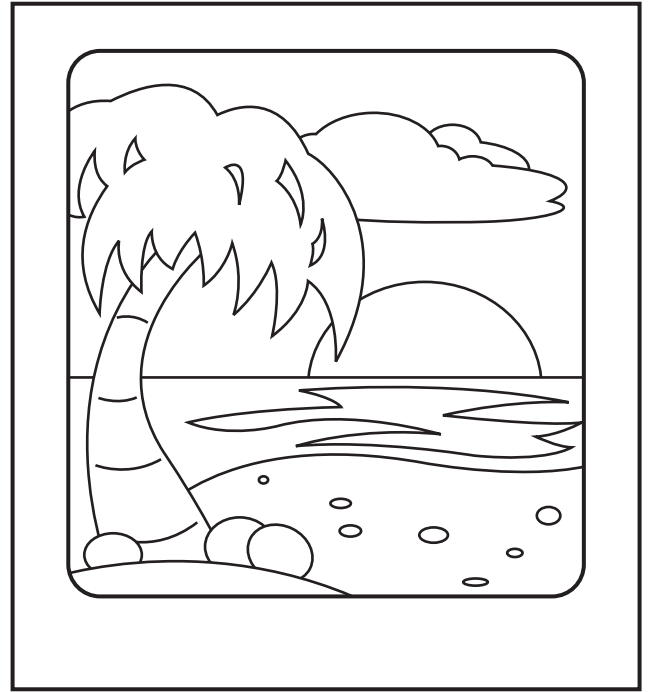
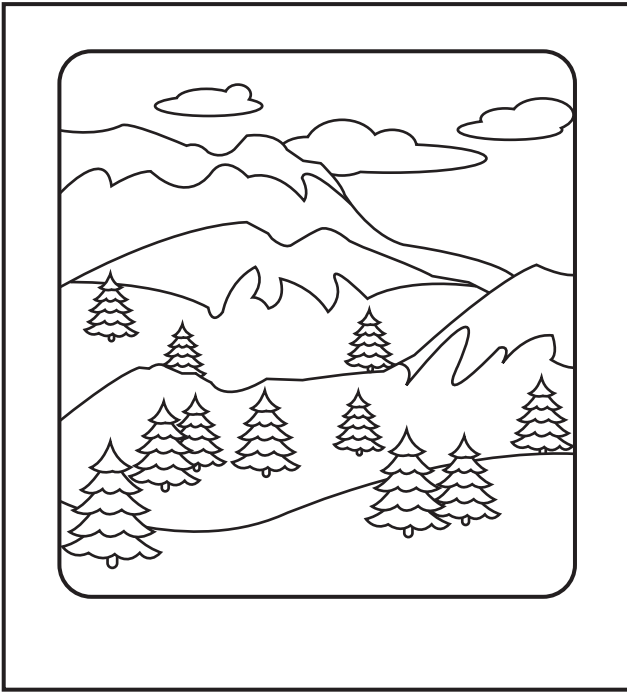
X

X

cut

cut apart

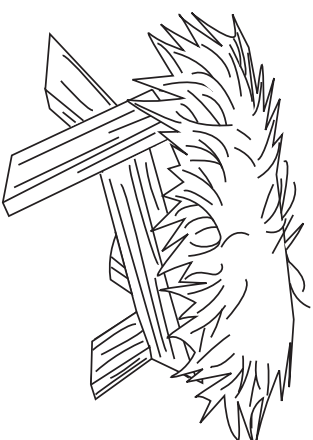
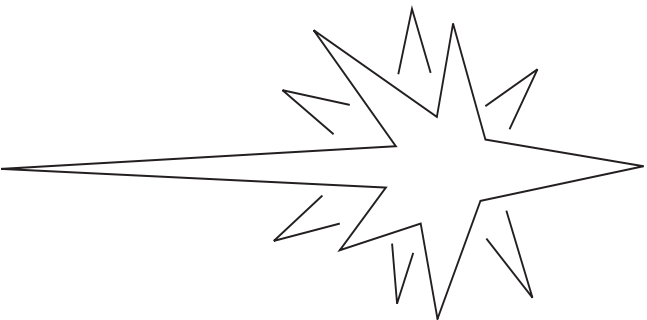
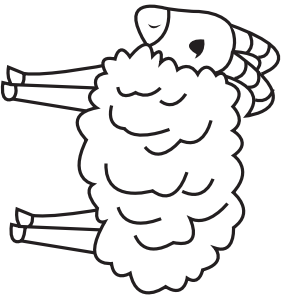
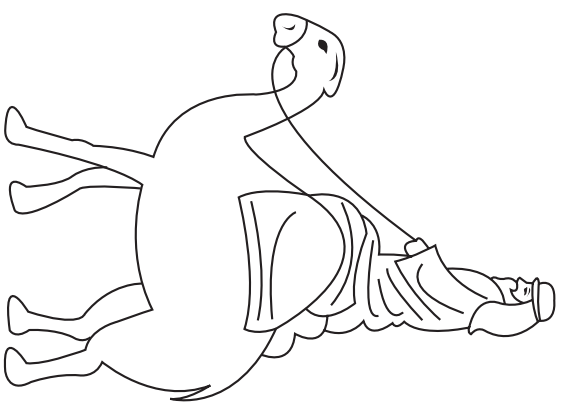
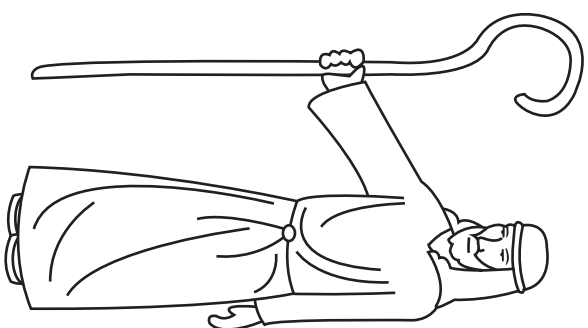
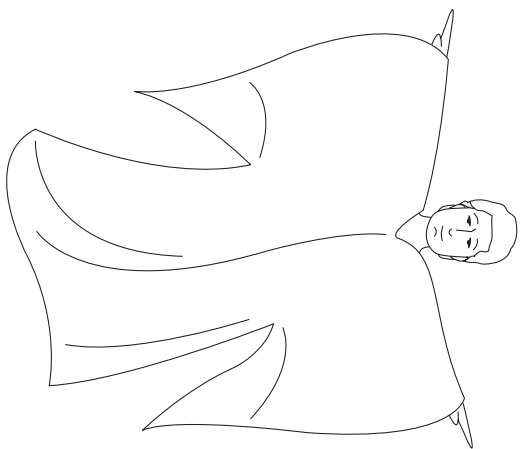
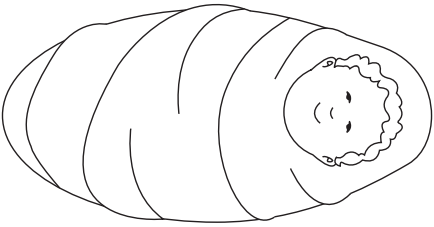




Dear Parent: Your child learned about how God cared for Jesus as a child. If you have family vacation photos of places that resemble any of the above pictures, show them to your child and talk about God's care there. Hang this promise poster in your home to remind your family of God's care for you.

*"He loved us,
and sent
his Son."
(1 John 4:10)*

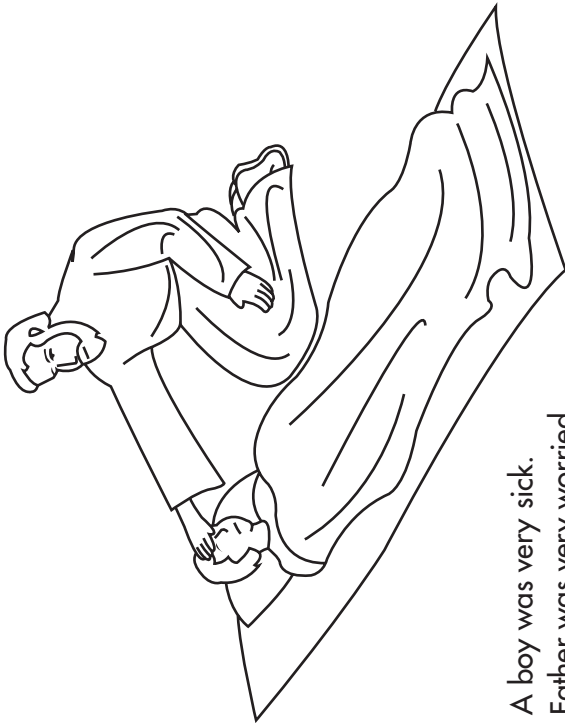
*"He loved us,
and sent his Son."
(1 John 4:10)*



Dear Parent: Though Christmas is past, it is never too late to remember the greatest Gift of all time—God's Son. Let your child tell you the Christmas story with these pictures.

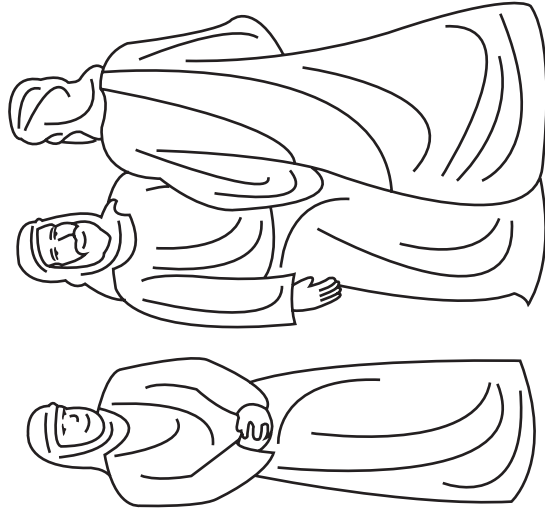


1



A boy was very sick.
Father was very worried.

3



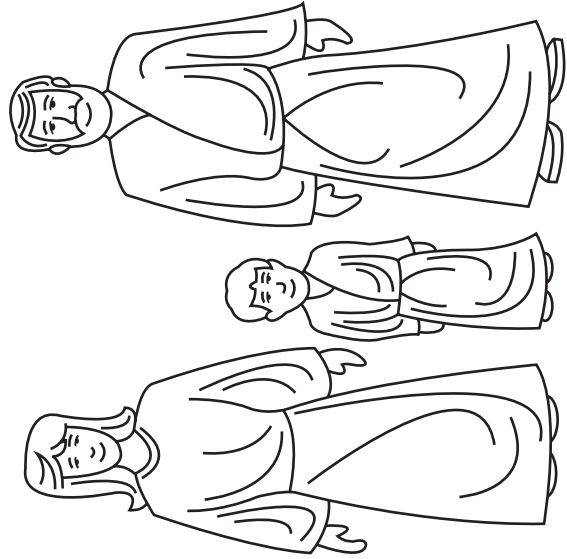
Father's helpers said the boy was better.
Father knew that Jesus had made the boy better, just when
Jesus said that he was.

2



Father asked Jesus for help.
Jesus said that the boy was better now.

4



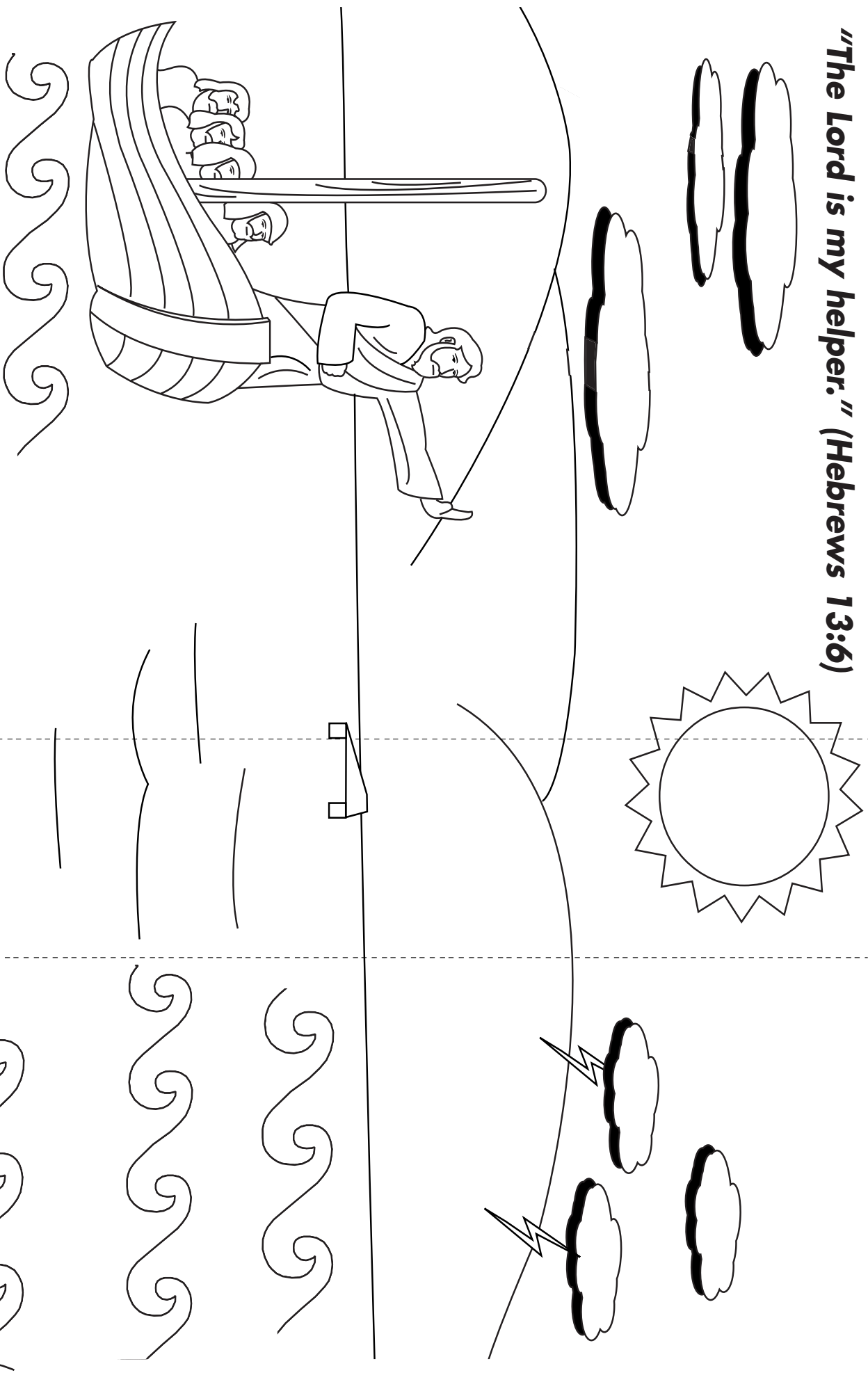
Everyone in Father's house believed in Jesus. They were
happy that Father had gone to Jesus for help.

"The Lord is my helper."

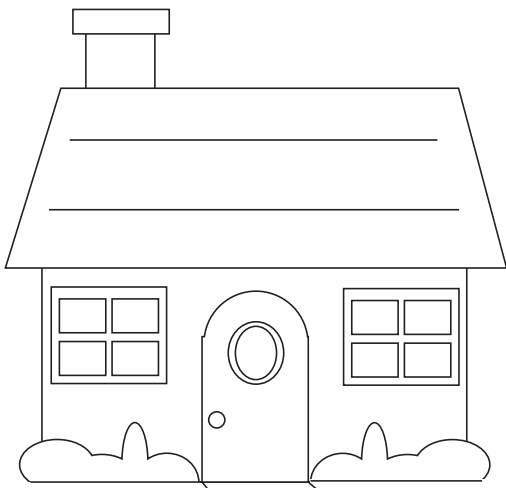
(Hebrews 13:6)

Dear Parent: Help your child review today's Bible story from John 4:46-54. If someone you know is ill, consider making a get-well card with your child and mailing or delivering it, if possible. Talk about other ways that we can be helpers for sick people, such as praying, making meals, running errands, etc.

"The Lord is my helper." (Hebrews 13:6)



Dear Parent: Childhood fears are common. Everything just seems so big. Remind your child that there's nothing too big for Jesus to handle. He can handle the storms of life every bit as easily as He handled the storm in Galilee.



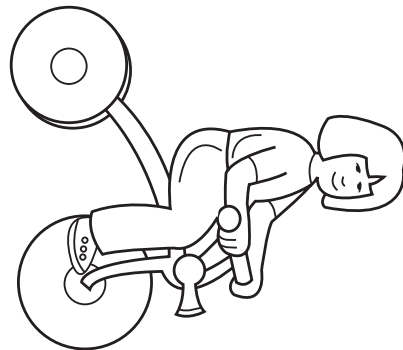
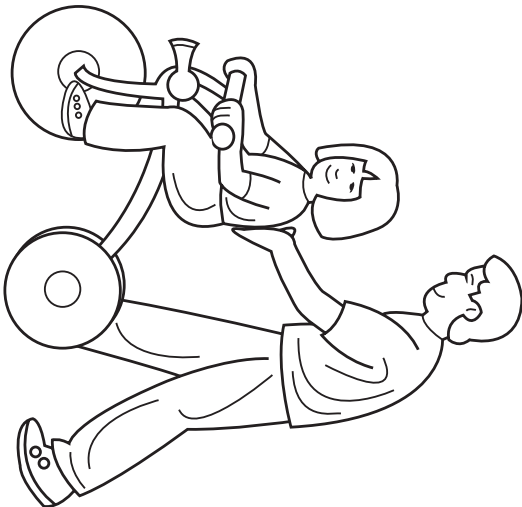
Dear Parent: Have your child tell you the story of how Abigail became afraid when she went down the driveway all by herself. She remembered that God cares for her, so she stopped being afraid as she waited for Dad to come and get her. Remind your child that . . .

X *"The Lord is my helper."*
(Hebrews 13:6)

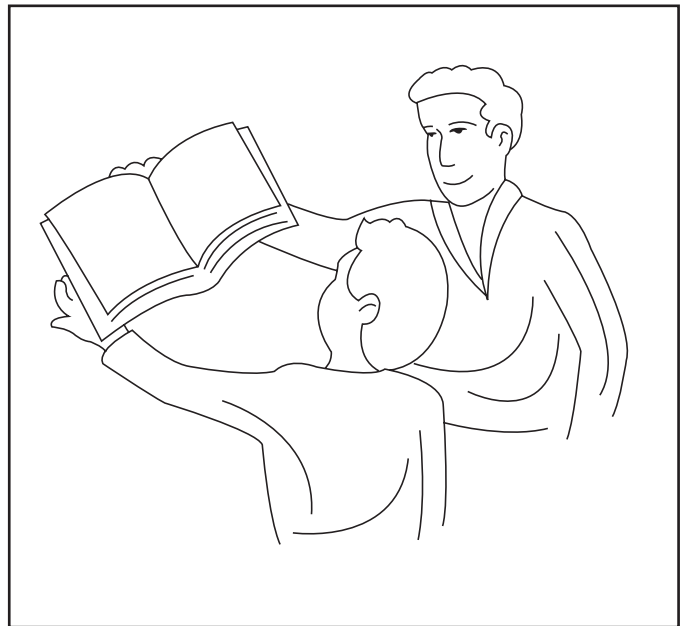
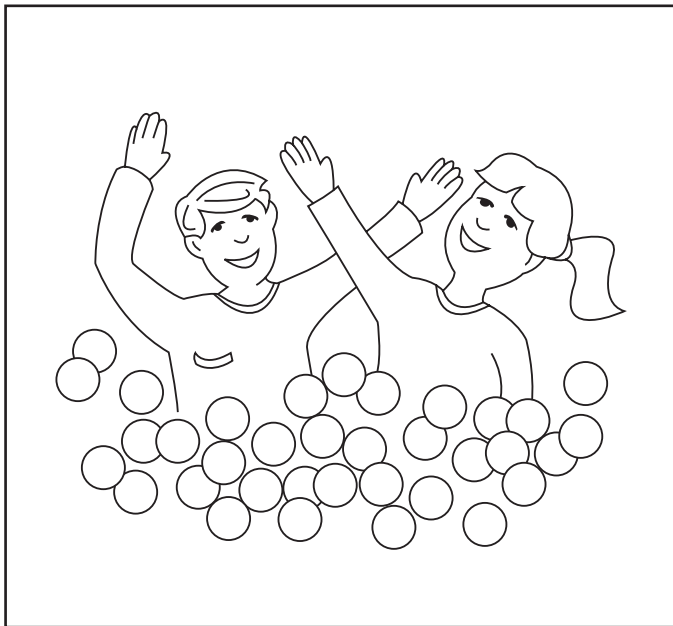
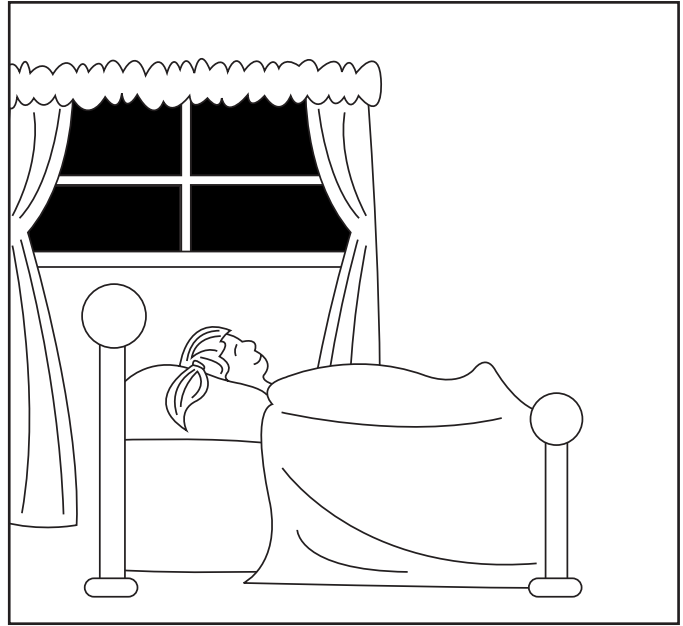
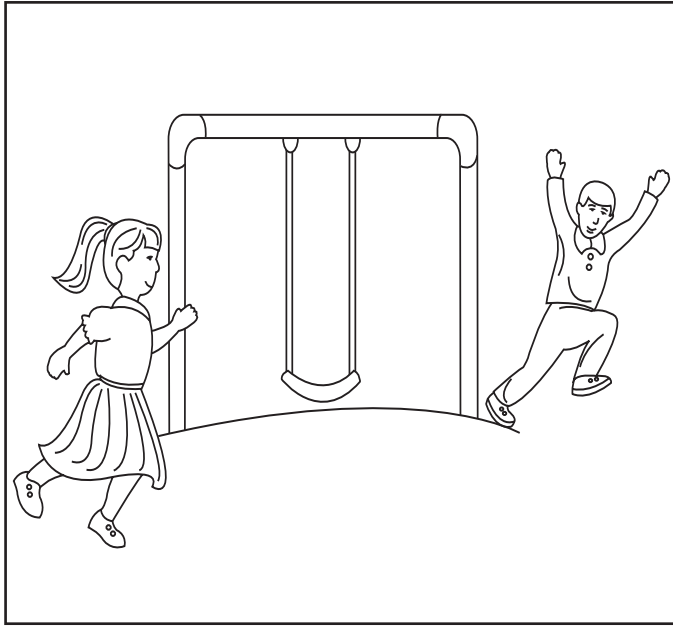
X

cut

Fold



Jesus Knows Where We Are

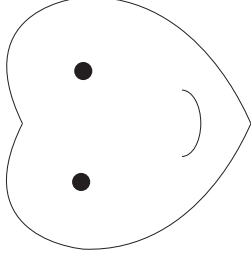
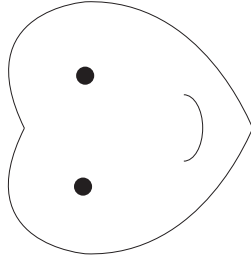


"The Lord is my helper."
(Hebrews 13:6)

Dear Parent: If you have binoculars or a telescope, let your child have a peek to see how much closer things appear. Tell your child that we need help from binoculars or telescopes to see faraway things, but Jesus doesn't need that kind of help. Nothing is too far away for Him to see. He can see and help us anywhere we are.

See My Helping Hands

"The Lord is my helper."
(Hebrews 13:6)



Dear Parent: Today your child heard how Zacchaeus chose to do what was right (Luke 19:1-6). We should also be kind to others and do what is right. Let your child help you through the week. Look for ways to help others and get your child involved in your kindness.

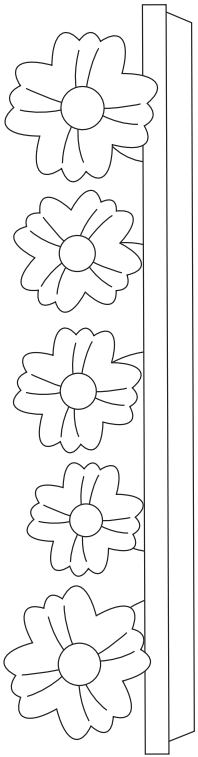
I know that God cares for me.

Tape
photo
or foil
here.

Dear Parent: If there isn't one already, consider putting a wallet picture of your child here. Read this booklet often to your child. It will help your child personalize the Bible Truth that "The Lord is my helper" (Hebrews 13:6).

Fold

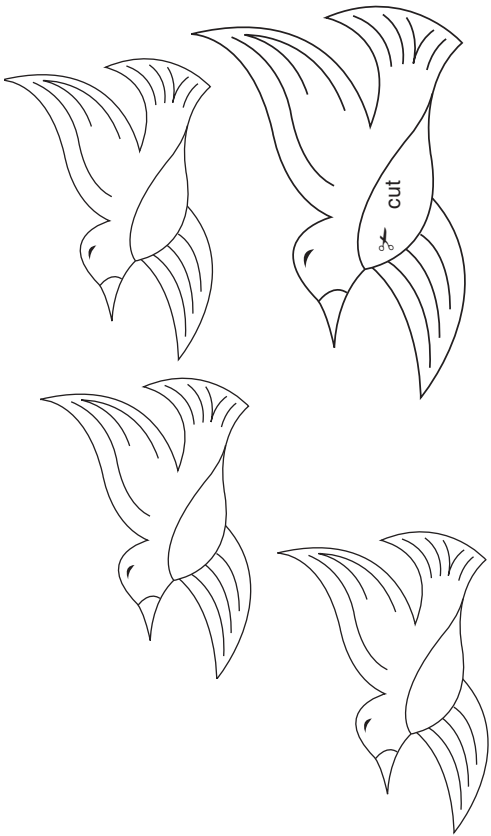
and because God cares for the flowers,



Tape here

God's Wonderful CARE!

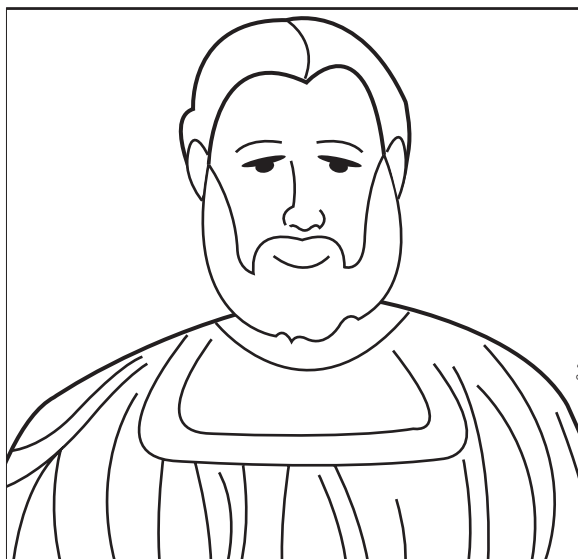
Because God cares for the birds,



Fold

Tape here

Jesus Knows All about Us



"The Lord is my helper."

(Hebrews 13:6)

A Song for Home

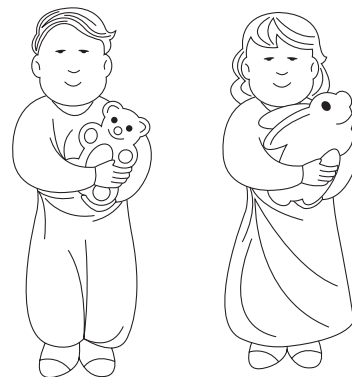
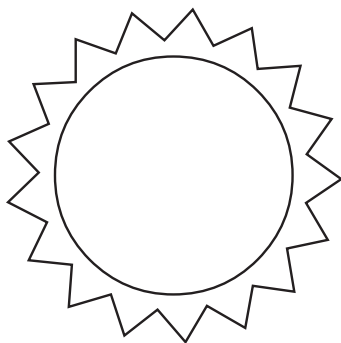
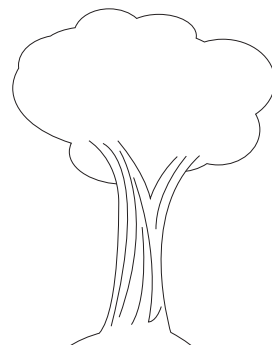
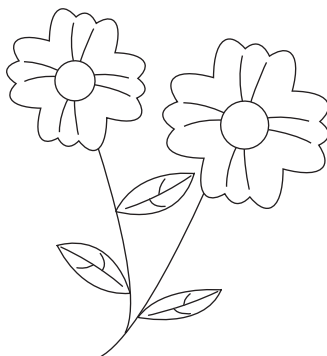
Jesus Knows Each Boy and Girl

(Tune: "London Bridge")

Jesus knows each boy and girl,
Boy and girl, boy and girl.

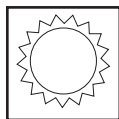
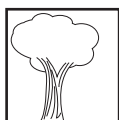
Jesus knows each boy and girl.
He knows (your child's name).

Then: Jesus loves each....



cut apart

Jesus Knows All About Us



The Shepherd's Song

F Bb

1. The shep - herds loved dear Je - sus,¹ They left their sleep - ing
 2. The shep - herds loved dear Je - sus,¹ They prayed to God and
 3. The wise men loved dear Je - sus,¹ They fol - lowed God's bright
 4. The wise men loved dear Je - sus,¹ They brought to Him rich

F C⁷ F Bb F/C C⁷ F

sheep,² And hur - ried to the man - ger³ Where Je - sus was a - sleep.⁴
 said,⁵ † "Thank You, God, for Je - sus⁵ † In His man - ger bed."⁴
 star.⁶ It led them to our Best Friend. They trav - eled from a - far.
 gifts, And thanked the Heav - en - ly Fa - ther,⁵ † For His spe - cial Gift.

1. Pretend to cradle baby in arms.
2. Begin to walk fingers up arm.
3. Walk fingers faster.

4. Pillow head on hands.
5. Fold hands in prayer.
6. Walk pointing to "star."

The Swaddling Clothes Song

RUTH C. REID

RUTH M. HINDS

G D⁷ G D⁷

Round and round and round and round, Ma - ry wrapped the swad - dling clothes.

G Am D G C G/D D⁷ G

Round and round and round and round, Wrapped her Babe from head to toes.

His Birthday

L. L.

LOIS LE BAR

D A⁷ D

Je - sus had a birth - day On Christ - mas, on Christ - mas,

D A⁷ D

Je - sus had a birth - day On Christ - mas Day.

I Love Him

L. W.

LILLIAN WALDECKER

Not too fast

E \flat **B \flat** **E \flat**

1. Je - sus¹ is a Friend² to me,³ Friend² to me,³ Friend² to me,³
 2. Je - sus¹ watch-es⁴ o - ver me,³ o - ver⁴ me,³ o - ver⁴ me,³
 3. Je - sus¹ hears me⁵ when I pray,⁶ when I pray,⁶ when I pray,⁶

B \flat ⁷ **E \flat**

I³ love Him¹ for lov - ing² me, I³ will tell Him¹ so.
 I³ love Him¹ for watch - ing me,⁴ I³ will tell Him¹ so.
 I³ love Him¹ for hear - ing me,⁵ I³ will tell Him¹ so.

Spoken—Head Bowed—Hands Folded

I⁶ love You, Jesus, for loving me.
 I⁶ love You, Jesus, for watching me.
 I⁶ love You, Jesus, for hearing me.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Point upward | 3. Point to self | 5. Cup hand behind ear |
| 2. Cross arms, hands on shoulders | 4. Shade hand over eyes | 6. Fold hands |

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Bye-low, Baby Jesus

M. H. F.

MARIE H. FROST

F **F** **F** **C⁷**

Once an an - gel told a se - cret, told a se - cret long a - go
 Je - sus came to us from hea - ven as a Ba - by long a - go

C⁷ **C⁷** **C⁷** **F**

Told how God would send us Je - sus, God's own Son who loves us so.
 Ma - ry held Him close and rocked Him, God's own Son who loves us so.

CHORUS

F **B \flat** **F** **C⁷** **F**

Bye - low, Ba - by Je - sus, Bye - low, Ba - by Je - sus,

F⁷ **B \flat** **F** **C⁷** **F/C** **C⁷** **F**

Bye - low, Ba - by Je - sus, Hap - py Christ - mas time.

Animals Get up in the Morning

UNKNOWN



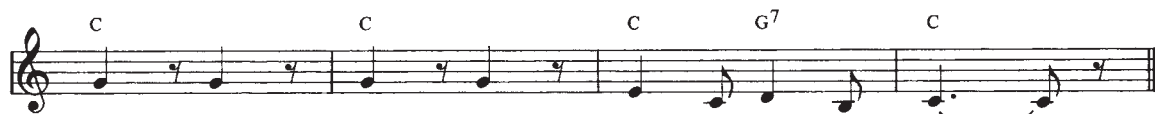
When cows get up in the morn - ing, They al - ways say, "Good - day."_____



When cows get up in the morn - ing, They al - ways say, "Good - day."_____



"Moo, moo, moo, moo," That is what they say, they say.



"Moo, moo, moo, moo," That is what they say._____

Also, Horses - "Neigh, neigh"
Sheep - "Baa, baa"
Pigs - "Oink, oink"

Cats - "Meow, meow"
Dogs - "Bow-wow, bow-wow"
Ducks - "Quack, quack" etc.
Kids - "Hi, hi"

On the Deep Blue Sea

L. W.

LILLIAN WALDECKER



1. Je - sus	and His	friends	went	sail - ing	on the	sea, ¹
2. Je - sus	was so	tired	He	res - ted	qui - et - ly, ²	
3. All	at once	the	winds	blew	strong up - on	the sea ³
4. Then	the	wa - ters	splashed	up	high so	an - gri - ly ⁴
5. Je - sus'	friends	a -	woke	Him,	"Help us,	will You please!" ⁵
6. Je - sus	said,	"Be	qui -	et,"	to the	wind and sea ⁶
7. Then	the	winds	blew	gent - ly,	gent - ly	as could be. ⁷



Sail - ing,	sail - ing,	On the	deep	blue	sea.
Res - ted,	res - ted,	On the	deep	blue	sea.
Blow - ing,	blow - ing,	On the	deep	blue	sea.
Splash - ing,	splash - ing,	On the	deep	blue	sea.
"Help us,	Help us,"	On the	deep	blue	sea.
"Qui - et,	Qui - et,"	On the	deep	blue	sea.
Gent - ly,	gent - ly,	On the	deep	blue	sea.

1. Cross arms in front of you and rock back and forth.
2. Rest head on folded hands.
3. With arms straight up in the air, sway back and forth firmly.
4. Make pyramids in front of you (right-left-left-right) with jerking motions.
5. Pretend to shake one awake. Then cup hands to call for help.
The first "Help us," may be spoken for emphasis.
6. Put finger to lips as if saying (Shhh). Soften voice on this verse.
7. Raise arms again and sway arms and body gently. Sing softly on the last line.

Dear Jesus, I Love You

M. L.

MARY LE BAR

Not too fast

Dear Je - sus, I love You, I love You, I do; Dear
Je - sus, I'm sing - ing, I'm sing - ing, to You.

The musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of F major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. Chords F, C7, and Dm are indicated above the staff.

God's Care

M. L.

MARY LE BAR

1. When I go rid - ing a - long, a - long,)
2. When I go walk - ing a - long, a - long,) God takes care of
3. When I am play - ing at home, at home,)
4. When I go vis - it - ing far a - way,)

me, — God takes care of me, — God takes care of me. —

The musical notation is in 6/8 time, key of F major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. Chords F, C, Am, Gm, and C7 are indicated above the staff.

My Best Friend

A. V. B.

A. VIVIENNE BLOMQUIST

My best Friend is Je - sus, He loves you, He loves me;
My best Friend is Je - sus, He loves you and me.

The musical notation is in 4/4 time, key of F major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. Chords F, Bb, and C7 are indicated above the staff.

Jesus Knows

M. A. B.

MARY A. BARBOUR

Je - sus knows just where I am, Je - sus loves me too! —

Je - sus knows me by my name, And ev - 'ry-thing I do. —

I Have a Message for You

M. A. B.

MARY A. BARBOUR

I have a mes-sage for you. — Je - sus loves you! Je - sus loves you!

I have a mes - sage for you. — Je - sus loves you! —

Somebody Sees Me

Some-bod - y sees me when I play; Some-bod - y loves me

all the day. It's Je - sus, yes, it's Je - sus!

Somebody sees me when I share;
Somebody hears me 'way up there. (*point up*)
It's Jesus, yes, it's Jesus!

Somebody hears me when I sing;
Somebody knows just everything!
It's Jesus, yes, it's Jesus!

Somebody sees me when I play;
Somebody hears me when I pray.
It's Jesus, yes, it's Jesus!

When I am helping, He sees me;
And He's as pleased as He can be.
He's Jesus, yes, He's Jesus!

Jesus Loves Me

ANNA L. WARNER
Stanza 3 by HELEN E. SIML

WM. B. BRADBURY

C G C F C

1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so;
2. Je - sus loves me! He who died, Heav - en's gate to o - pen wide;
3. Je - sus loves me! He loves you! He wants us to love Him too.

C G C F C C/G G⁷ C

Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; They are weak, but He is strong.
He will take a - way my sin, Let His lit - tle child come in.
Je - sus knows us and He cares; He is glad to hear our prayers.

REFRAIN
C F C C/G G

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

C F C/G Am C/G G⁷ C

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

JESUS SEES ME
(Can be sung to above tune.)

Jesus sees me when I sleep.
Jesus sees me when I play.
Jesus sees me all the time.
And He cares for me each day.

Church Time®

ENGAGE YOUR
CHILDREN'S
HEARTS WITH
GOD'S LOVE
AND TRUTH.

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Preparing Their Hearts helps children begin thinking about the lesson's Bible Truth.

Worship and Story Time relates the Bible story, then guides children to review the memory verse and take part in a life application activity.

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Good-bye Time provides fun activities when Mom, Dad, or the service is late.

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Packet Components

- The 2s & 3s Packet (#4018) contains:
Leader's Guide
Let's Sing Motions 'n Music CD
- The 4s & 5s Packet (#4028) contains:
Leader's Guide
Let's Sing Motions 'n Music CD



2&3 2s & 3s
Church Time
Packet
No. 4018