

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

**We are Glad
for Jesus**

**We are Glad
for Our Saviour**

**We are Glad
for God's
Good Gifts**



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 restroom. 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 students may have.* Then let them rest (five to ten 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 story “real” to the children, consider illustrating with the colorful visuals from our 2s & 3s Sunday School *Teaching Resources*. You can share with the Sunday School teacher, or perhaps you will want to order a resource packet 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-up 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, won’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

JESUS MAKES A LAME MAN WALK

LESSON ONE

UNIT 1: WE ARE GLAD FOR JESUS

Lesson 1

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):



Snack Time: Serve healthy, but tasty snacks to introduce today's lesson. **God gives us good food to care for the wonderful bodies He has given us. Let's thank God for our good food.** *Be sure to check with parents regarding their children's food allergies or other dietary restrictions.* You'll also want to recognize your children's birthdays each week, as described in the Hands-to-Hearts time.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



Action "Coin" or "Cube": Before class, cut a large circle from cardboard. Glue a picture on each side that shows people (children if possible) engaged in some type of physical activity, such as running, jumping, skipping, etc. Have your children form a large circle, give one of the children the "coin," and have him or her toss it. **Thank you, [Sally]. Our coin says we should hop with both legs together. [Sally], how many times should we hop? Five times? Okay, let's use the wonderful bodies God has given us to hop five times.** For variety, you may want to use a small, cubed box and put an action picture on each of the six sides.



When finished with the activity, sing "I Have a Message for You," as you lead the children to the story area.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26

Bible Truth:

Jesus healed the lame man.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for Jesus and our wonderful bodies.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snacks; action "coin" or "cube"; figures from *Teaching Resources*; mattress pad or towel; Copymaster 1 (copy for each student), crayons, glue sticks, or tape; birthday flowers, instant-photo camera, and flowerpot

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):



Bible Story: Tell the story, using Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Have a mattress pad or towel to demonstrate what a bed-mat may have looked like.

Long ago, when Jesus lived on our earth, the beds were mats, something like our sleeping bags. The bed-mats weren't very thick. *[Show the rolled mat you brought.]*

When it was daytime, the bed-mats were rolled like this or folded and put on a shelf.

At nighttime, people unrolled (or unfolded) their bed-mats just as we do our sleeping bags when we are camping.

[Unroll pad or towel.] **People slept on the floor. People who wanted to move or visit a friend could easily carry their own beds. All they had to do was roll them up like this and carry them on their shoulders or under their arms.** *[Demonstrate.]*

Would you like to sleep on the floor on a bed like this all the time? The Bible tells us about a poor lame man who had to stay in bed all the time. This poor lame man could not use his legs to walk.

One day Jesus came to this man's town. As soon as people heard Jesus was there, they hurried to the house where He was. There were

crowds and crowds of people inside the house and crowds and crowds of people outside the house. And Jesus was telling them all about His Father, God, in heaven.

The lame man wanted to hear Jesus too. But how could he? He was so weak that he couldn't get up. He couldn't walk to where Jesus was. But the lame man had four good friends. They probably said to each other, "Let's carry our friend on his bed to see and hear Jesus!" And that's what they did! They each picked up a corner of their friend's bed-mat, and off they went.

But when they got to the house where Jesus was, there were so many people inside that they could not get the lame man in to see Him. What were they going to do?

Then they had an idea. They took their friend right up onto the roof of the house. First, they laid his bed-mat down. Then they made a big hole in the roof. Next, they tied ropes to the corners of his bedmat. Then they let the man down, down through the hole in the roof—right down to where Jesus was.

How surprised the people were! Jesus knew those men loved their lame friend very much to go to so much trouble to get him there. Jesus knew also that the lame man needed to be made well.

So He said, "Get up, take up your bed, and go home."

And right away the man jumped up!

He took up his bed and went home.

How happy he was. How thankful he was to Jesus for healing him! How glad he was to have strong legs again. He kept praising and thanking God for the wonderful thing Jesus had done.

All the people were surprised. They praised God too. They said, "We have never seen anyone do anything so wonderful!" No one but Jesus could make the lame man walk. Jesus is the Son of God.



As a review or an action alternative, play "The Sick Man Forgiven and Healed" from this quarter's music CD and lead the children in doing the actions suggested by the narration.



Worship in Song: Sing "O Give Thanks," "Jesus Loves Me" (MP3 only), and the second verse of "How Can Jesus Know All Things?" which says, "How can Jesus do all things? . . . Because He is the Son of God."



Remembering the Bible Truth: Now help your children learn today's Bible words from 1 John 4:15. Have the children review the Bible words a few times and then lie down. **The sick man's friends brought him to Jesus. Jesus could help the man because Jesus is the Son of God.** Now have the children stand. **When Jesus said the sick man should get up and walk, the man did because Jesus is the Son of God.**



Life Application: To reinforce both the Bible Truth and the Life Response Aim, sing this song to the tune of "London Bridge."

Jesus said, "Arise and walk,
Rise and walk, rise and walk."
Jesus said, "Arise and walk."
And the man did!

Jesus gave me my body,
My body, my body.
Jesus gave me my body.
Thank You, Jesus!

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



Jesus Healed the Lame Man: You will need copies of Copymaster 1, crayons, and glue sticks or tape. Before class, cut the strip with the lame man/healed man figures from the rest of the page. Give each child both pieces of the picture and some crayons to color each piece. Then help the children fold and glue or tape the strip together so the figure of the lame man is on one side and the figure of the healed man is on the other. Now the children can glue the folded strip as indicated on the picture with Jesus.

The sick man's friends brought him to Jesus. When Jesus healed him, the man could walk. Fold the strip as indicated to show the man standing and facing Jesus. **Oh, how happy the man must have been when Jesus helped him walk.** Let the children retell the story with their projects. If you'd like, fold the parent section to the back and glue or tape in place.



Birthday Flower Garden: For this quarter's birthday celebrations, plant a birthday flower garden. If you have an instant snapshot camera, consider taking a close-up photo of the birthday child to glue on a construction-paper flower. If you don't have a camera, write the birthday child's name on the flower. Glue the flower to a large craft stick and let the child "plant" his or her birthday flower in a pot, planter, or some other container with dirt in it. Don't forget to pray for the birthday child.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



You will want to take the opportunity to close in prayer with your children before they leave. If you have additional time, try this activity:




Our Wonderful Bodies: Build a safe obstacle course of tables and chairs for the children to climb over and under, as you remind them often of the wonderful bodies God gave them. Team members can assist any children who may have physical limitations.

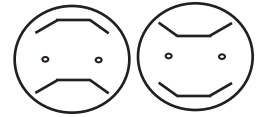
JESUS MAKES SICK MEN WELL

LESSON TWO

UNIT 1: WE ARE GLAD FOR JESUS


TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve fruit juice and crackers and cheese, making sad/happy face designs on the crackers with the cheese spread (see samples). *Be aware of any food allergies, especially milk related.* Have children turn their crackers to the sad face. **Our Bible story is about 10 very sad men. Now turn your cracker around. When they met Jesus, they were very happy. Let's tell the Lord we're happy to be here and thank Him for our snack.**



Sample crackers

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Get-Well Cards:** Have available enough circles and strips from construction paper for each child to make two or three “balloons.” Give each child a half sheet of brightly colored construction paper and “balloon” pieces. Help each child glue the piece to the half sheet to make a get-well card. **Do you know someone who is sick? I'm sure that you will make that person happy with your get-well card.**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Luke 17:12-19

Bible Truth:

Jesus healed the lepers.

Life Response Aim:

To want to thank God for caring for us.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snack; construction paper for get-well cards, glue; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 2 (copy for each student), 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.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

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

A long time ago, people sometimes became so sick that no one could help them. These sick people had to stay away from their families and other people who were not sick. They could not eat or sleep in the same houses with well people. They could not even get close enough to well people to walk with them or talk to them. Our Bible story is about some of these very sick people.

One day, when Jesus was walking along, He saw these very sick men far away from everyone else. Jesus could see that there were [count on your fingers] 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 sick men. Oh, what sad faces they had! They were very sick. They were so sick that they couldn't even stand up straight. [Wobble your fingers.] The sick men were not allowed to come near any well person, not even Jesus. But they knew that Jesus could help them. So they called as loudly as they could, “Jesus, Jesus, please help us!”

Jesus called back, “Go show yourselves to the priests.” And the men started off. As they walked along, they suddenly were all well again!

Oh, how happy the ten men were. Their faces weren't sad anymore. Because Jesus is the Son of God, He was able to do what no doctor could do. He healed all these sick men just by talking to them.


Off they hurried. All the men could think of was to get home and tell their families the good news that they were well now and they could live together again. They even forgot to thank Jesus—[speak in a

sad, hushed voice]—for taking away their sickness and making them well.

Jesus watched quietly as the men ran off without saying, “Thank You.”


But wait! One man remembered. [Hold up one finger.] One man hurried back to Jesus to thank Him. He fell right down at Jesus' feet. He said, “Thank You, thank You, thank You,” over and over again to Jesus for making him well.

How many sick men did Jesus heal? Hold up both your hands, and we'll count your fingers. And how many said thank You to Jesus? Just one. [Hold up one finger.] That's right. Just one went back to Jesus and said thank You. It's sad that the other men didn't say thank You too.

 As a shorter alternative to the story or as a review, teach the children this song to the tune of “Ten Little Indians.”


One very, two very, three very sick men,
Four very, five very, six very sick men,
Seven very, eight very, nine very sick men,
Ten men made well by Jesus.

One very, two very, three very glad men,
Four very, five very, six very glad men,
Seven very, eight very, nine very glad men,
Ten, but just one said, "Thank You!"

 **Worship in Song:** Sing "O Give Thanks," "My Best Friend," "I Love Him," and the second verse of "How Can Jesus Know All Things?" which says, "How can Jesus do all things? . . . Because He is the Son of God."

 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** To review the Bible words from 1 John 4:15, sing them to the tune of "London Bridge."


Jesus is the Son of God,
Son of God, Son of God.
Jesus is the Son of God.
And we love Him.

 **Let's tell Jesus why we love Him.** Help the children think of reasons we love Jesus, such as He loves us; He takes care of us; He gives us good things; and He saves us from our sin. Though young children may not fully understand their need for salvation, it is never too early for you to start telling them. In so doing, you're building the foundation for the time they are able to accept Christ as Saviour. Then lead the children in telling Jesus of their love for Him.

 **Life Application:** To reinforce the Life Response Aim of thanking God for His loving care, lead your children in this action rhyme.

God cares for you, and God cares for me. (*Point to others, then to self.*)
That makes us happy as can be! (*Point to your huge smile and nod.*)
We can thank God for His loving care, (*Point up, then to heart.*)
By telling people about Jesus everywhere. (*Extend arms wide.*)


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



 **God's Care:** For this activity you'll need copies of Copymaster 2 and crayons. Let the children color the picture; then talk to them about what each child in the picture would need from the pictures on the other side of the page. Have them draw lines connecting each picture.

The first little boy fell down and skinned his knee. What would he need to help him feel better? That's right, a bandage. Can you draw a line from the bandage to the little boy? Help as needed and continue in like manner with the other two pictures. **God gives us wonderful people to help us when we're sick, such as mommies and daddies and doctors and nurses.**

 **Let's thank God for taking care of us when we are sick or hurt, and also when we are well.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Be sure to close in prayer with your children. If you have additional time after getting the children's belongings ready to go home, try this activity.

  **God Gives Us Doctors and Nurses:** Set up an area to use as a doctor's office and have the children pretend to be patients. Ask them what is wrong with them, giving suggestions as appropriate. You and your team members will use toy medical supplies as part of this fun pretending activity. As you have the children open wide and say "Ah," use a toy stethoscope to check heart rates, etc., talk about how God gives us doctors and nurses to help us when we're sick or hurt.


When a child's parents come, say, **Okay, (Danny), you're all better now, it's time to go home.**

JESUS LOVES LITTLE CHILDREN

LESSON THREE

UNIT 1: WE ARE GLAD FOR JESUS

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Give each child a piece of bread that has been cut into the shape of a child with a gingerbread man cookie cutter. Have plastic knives and a variety of fruit spreads available for your children to put on their bread children, *keeping in mind any food restrictions your children may have*. As the children put on the fruit spreads and eat their snacks, take the opportunity to talk about the special people called children, whom Jesus loves very, very much.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Mark 10:13-16

Bible Truth:

Jesus had the children come to Him.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for loving me.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:19

Materials Needed:

Snack; mirror; figures from *Teaching Resources*;
Copymaster 3 (copy for each student), crayons, glue sticks, aluminum foil, macrame cord (optional)

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):



Let's See Someone Whom Jesus Knows and Loves:

Use a mirror as part of your conversation. First give everyone a chance to look in the mirror.

Would everyone like to see someone very, very special in my mirror? There, now you can see what you look like. Did you know that Jesus knows what you look like? Yes, He does, and He knows your name too. He loves you, and He is thinking about you right now. Jesus knows everything about you. Isn't that wonderful?



How does Jesus know everything about us? Let's sing a song that tells us how He knows everything. Sing "How Can Jesus Know All Things?" That's right, Jesus knows all things because He is the Son of God. Now we'll sing another song on our way to the story rug. This song tells us about a special message. Sing "I Have a Message for You."

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):



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

Long ago some boys and girls heard a very, very special message. They heard that Jesus was coming to where they lived. They were probably so excited about this message that they could hardly wait for Jesus.

The mothers and fathers also heard that Jesus was coming to where they lived. How happy and excited many of the mothers and

fathers must have been! Now their children could see Jesus. They wanted Jesus to see their children and hold them in His arms and love them.

So parents got their children ready, and together many families left home to see Jesus.

But when the mothers and fathers and children came to the place where Jesus was, some men would not let the children get to Jesus. The men put up their hands [*put up your hands*] and told the families to go away so they would not bother Jesus.

The mothers and fathers and children weren't glad anymore. No, they were very sad [*look sad*]. Now their children couldn't see Jesus. And oh, how the children wanted to see Jesus!


Jesus heard what those men said. He saw the sad faces of the fathers and mothers and children. Jesus really wanted the children to come to Him. So Jesus said to the men, "Let those children come to Me. Don't stop them. I love children."

Right away the mothers and fathers took their babies and boys and girls, and they all hurried to Jesus. And what did Jesus do? He held the children and loved them and blessed them.



As a review or an action alternative, try this clapping story. Have the children sit and lead them in alternately clapping their hands and laps. They won't be able to do this well, but they enjoy trying as you say the story in rhythm to your own claps.

Hur-RAY, hur-RAY, the NEWS went 'ROUND,
 "Je-SUS is COM-ing TO our TOWN!"
 "We'll SEE Je-SUS," par-ENTS did SAY.
 "So COME, child-REN, we're ON our WAY."
 Then TO Je-SUS they TRIED to GO,
 But THEY could NOT when MEN said, "NO!"
 "You LET them COME," the LORD did SAY,
 And MAN-y CHILD-ren CAME that DAY.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing "Jesus Loves Me" (in the quarterly music only), "My Best Friend," and "I Love Him." Then sing this song to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." If you have two other helpers, consider singing one part of the song each. Having several teachers sing this will be delightful to your children.


**Moms, dads, boys, and girls,
 All heard Jesus' name.
 Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
 To the Lord they came.**

**No, no, not today,
 You must go away.
 Sadly, sadly, sadly, sadly,
 Families turned away.**


**"Let the children come,"
 They heard Jesus say.
 Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
 Children came to stay.**



 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** Lead the children in saying the Bible words from 1 John 4:19 several times. Then softly sing these words to the tune of "Jesus Loves Me."

**Yes, we love Jesus.
 Yes, we love Jesus.
 Yes, we love Jesus,
 Because He first loved us.**


 **Life Application:** Be sure to receive the children's offerings each week. Then take time to pray for your children by name, thanking Jesus for loving each one of them.


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

 **Jesus Loves Me!** For this activity, you'll need copies of Copymaster 3; pieces of aluminum foil, already cut to fit inside the frame on the copymaster; crayons; glue sticks; and macrame cord, already cut to go around the frame (optional). Have the children color the picture of Jesus and the frame. Then have them apply glue inside the frame and place the aluminum foil, dull side down. If you'd like, the children can also glue macrame cord around the frame to make it more decorative.

  **Who does Jesus love? Look in your "mirror." That's right, He loves each of you!** Sing "Jesus Loves Me." **Let's thank the Lord for His love.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 Take time to close in prayer, thanking God for His only Son. Have one team member meet parents at the door, while the other team members help children gather their Bibles, papers, and any other belongings. If you have additional time, you might want to try this activity:


 **"Hands That Obey":** Your children will love the activity music on this quarter's music. A fun way for them to help clean up after class would be to play "Hands That Obey." The first time through, simply lead them in pantomiming the actions suggested by the narration. Then play the music again, only this time have the children do some real cleanup activities. **Okay, this time we'll listen to our music, and you'll help me . . .** pick up papers, put away crayons, place Bibles on the shelf, etc.

JESUS LIKES CHILDREN'S PRAISE

LESSON FOUR

UNIT 2: WE ARE GLAD FOR OUR SAVIOUR

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve each child a half of a croissant and some of their favorite spreads to go on the croissant, *knowing what your children are able to eat*. Before the children put the spread on the croissants, lead them in this activity. **Long ago, people would blow trumpets to let everyone know when a king was coming. Can you pick up a half of your croissant roll to use as a pretend trumpet?** Lead the children in "blowing trumpets." **Our story today is about the greatest King of all coming to a big city. Do you know who that King is?**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 21:6-17

Bible Truth:

Jesus entered Jerusalem to the praise and adoration of children.

Life Response Aim:

To want to please Jesus by singing to Him.

Bible Verse:

Psalms 30:4

Materials Needed:

Snacks; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 4 (copy for each student), crayons, yarn, tape, glue, sand (optional), palm leaves (optional)

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

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



Praise Music: Introduce today's story by singing "Hosanna, Hosanna!" once or twice to familiarize your children with it. Lead them in doing the motions indicated on the songsheet, page 43. Then have the children follow you to the story area as music continues to play.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):



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

One beautiful spring day Jesus said to His friends, "I'm going to ride on a young donkey to God's house. Go tell that man over there that I need his donkey."

Right away Jesus' friends went to get the donkey.

They began to take the donkey.

The man said, "Why are you taking my donkey?"

Jesus' friends said, "The Lord needs him." Then the man was glad to let his donkey go. The friends took the young donkey to Jesus.

They put their coats on the donkey's back to make a soft pillow for Jesus to ride on.

They lifted Jesus up onto the donkey, and off He rode—trot, trot, trot! His friends walked along beside Him.

The wind was softly blowing the leaves of the palm trees. Birds were sweetly singing, Cheeree, cheeree. And pretty flowers were blooming.

Many people were glad to see Jesus. Fathers and mothers were glad to see Him. They were so glad they took off their coats and threw them on the road to make a soft carpet for Jesus to ride on.

They cut down palm branches and spread them on the ground in front of Him.

Boys and girls were happy to see Jesus.

"There's Jesus!" they cried. "There's our best Friend, Jesus!" They ran to Jesus. They sang happy songs to Him. They waved their branches.



Sing chorus of "Hosanna, Hosanna!"


On and on they all went, right up to God's house. Some people there could not see Jesus or the beautiful springtime. They were blind. But Jesus made their blind eyes see! Some people could not walk on the pretty grass carpet. So Jesus made their lame feet walk! How happy they were! They went around telling everyone how Jesus had made them well.

Again the children sang to Jesus. On and on they sang.


Then some angry men came to Jesus and said, "Do You hear what these noisy children are singing? Make them stop!"

But Jesus smiled and looked at the happy boys and girls. Then He said, "I like to hear the children singing." Wasn't that a nice thing for Jesus to say?

 As an action alternative or review of the Bible Story, play “Palm Sunday” from this quarter’s *Let’s Sing Motions ‘n Music* and lead the children in doing the motions indicated by the narration.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing “Hosanna! Praise the King,” “My Best Friend,” and “I Love Him.”

 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** To teach this week’s Bible words from Psalm 30:4, use these hand motions: cup your hands around your mouth to indicate singing; then point up to indicate that we sing to the Lord.

 **Life Application:** Use this action rhyme to reinforce both the Bible Truth and the Life Response Aim. Have a team member narrate as you lead the children in doing the actions.

Little children were walking along one day,

(Walk in place.)

When they heard that Jesus was coming their way.

(Cup hands behind ears.)

They could hear the donkey’s trot, trot, trot,

(Slap your knees.)

But they couldn’t see well, though they stretched a lot.

(With hand shading eyes, stretch to see.)

People were laying their coats on the ground,

(Pretend to do so.)

Singing and waving the palm leaves they found.

(Wave.)

It was hard for the children, who were so small,

(Duck down.)

To peek through the crowd of grown-ups so tall.

(Peek around.)

So they ran ahead of the singing crowd,

(Run in place.)

And sang “Hosanna” to Jesus right out loud.

(Cup hands to mouth.)


It’s good to sing to Jesus. We can sing too.

(Point to self, then to class.)

I like to sing songs to Jesus, don’t you?

(Point up and nod happily.)

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



 **Children Praise Jesus:** You’ll need copies of Copymaster 4, crayons, yarn, tape, glue, sand (optional) and palm leaves (optional). Prepare the copymasters beforehand by cutting off the strip with Jesus on the donkey and folding back the song and memory verse (tape into place). During class, let the children color the strip and the main picture. For added fun, consider letting the children put glue on the road and sprinkle sand on the glue. Be sure to have a container for the excess sand. You might also want to have palm leaves available for children to glue on their pictures. Then tape a piece of yarn across the page on the “Xs.” Fold the strip with Jesus on the donkey over the yarn and tape the ends.

 **As Jesus rode along, the people sang praises to Him. Let’s sing some of the words that they sang.**

 Take the opportunity to introduce this week’s Song to Sing at Home on the back of the copymaster (tune: “Three Blind Mice”).

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 If you have additional time, after prayer and gathering belongings together, you might try this activity:

  **Action Music:** Consider closing out your session by playing “Palm Sunday” from the music again. Your children will love acting out Bible stories to music.

JESUS LIVES AGAIN

LESSON FIVE

UNIT 2: WE ARE GLAD FOR OUR SAVIOUR

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):



Snack Time: Serve a round snack, such as a cookie or cracker, and fruit juice. *Be sure to check with parents about food allergies.* **On the first Easter Sunday, some ladies went to the tomb where Jesus had been buried. They thought they would find Jesus buried there, but when they got to the tomb, the stone that covered it had been rolled away. Jesus is alive!** Have children roll their snack on their hand, imitating the stone being rolled away. Then pray, thanking God for your food and for Jesus being alive.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



Handprint Easter Lilies: Trace each child's hand (fingers spread) on a half sheet of paper. Cut out the hand tracing and curl each finger around a pencil. Wrap the base of the hand tracing around a 6" piece of green chenille wire for the stem and tape securely in place. Give each child his or her lily.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 28:1-10

Bible Truth:

Jesus rose from the dead.

Life Response Aim:

To be thankful that Jesus is alive.

Bible Verse:

Revelation 1:18

Materials Needed:

Snacks; paper, 6" green chenille wire, tape; figures from *Teaching Resources*; bed sheet; Copymaster 5 (copy for each student), crayons, glue sticks, construction paper; musical instruments

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.

Who made your hands? Yes, God did! See the pretty lily flower your hand makes. We made these pretty paper lilies, but who made real lilies? Yes, God did. Easter lilies remind us of the life God gave us when He made us, and the life He gives us when we believe in His Son, Jesus. And why do we celebrate Easter? Because Jesus is alive!



Sing "Easter Day" on the way to the story area. Collect the lilies until class is over.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):



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

It was Sunday morning. Birds were waking and singing happy good-morning songs, Cheeree, cheeree! Flowers made the air smell sweet with their lovely perfume. Squirrels were frisking merrily. They all seemed so glad to be alive on that spring morning.

Even though the flowers and the birds and the squirrels were glad, Jesus' friends were not glad.

They were very sad. Their dear Friend, Jesus, was dead. Jesus could not see them. Jesus could not hear them. Jesus could not walk with them or talk with them. Jesus was not alive—Jesus was dead. Slowly and sadly Jesus' friends walked to the beautiful garden where Jesus was buried. When they got there, they noticed that the big stone that covered the doorway of the tomb was rolled away! Someone had opened the tomb where Jesus had been buried.

And there, sitting on the stone, they saw a beautiful angel from heaven. The angel looked bright and shining! Jesus' friends were afraid of him.

But the angel said, "Don't be afraid. Jesus is not here. He is alive! Come in and see where His body was." The women peeked in. Jesus was not there at all. He had come to life again!

"Jesus is alive! Jesus is alive!" they said as they ran to tell the happy news to Jesus' other friends.

But on the way they saw Someone. It was Jesus. And He was alive! They ran to Him and loved Him. How happy they were to see Jesus. They were so happy that they must have wanted to sing to the Lord. Perhaps they wanted to sing, "Jesus is alive, the angels say. Be glad, be glad this wonderful day."

Why did Jesus have to die? He died because God sent Him to pay for our sins. Boys and girls and moms and dads have all done bad things. Jesus could have let us take the punishment ourselves. But He loved us and died for us. He took our punishment. If we trust Jesus as our Saviour, we know that one day we will be with Him in heaven. We should thank Jesus for His goodness. We know He loves us and paid for our sin because He lives again.



As an alternative or a review of the Bible story, lead the children in this action rhyme. You'll want to familiarize yourself with the actions so you can lead your children easily.

"Jesus is dead," His sad friends said, before that first Easter day.

(Shake head sadly.)

So they placed Him in a tomb to stay (so they thought),

Three days before Easter day.

(Close cupped hands together slowly.)

One day passed, then two, and nothing happened.

(Shake head sadly.)

But when three days passed, something exciting happened!

(Suggest suspense by your voice, and smile expectantly.)

Jesus lived again! Some of His friends saw Him alive

On that first wonderful Easter day!

(Clasp hands enthusiastically together with joy.)

Now He lives in heaven, and we're glad He's alive

On this happy Easter day!

(Nod and point to your happy smile.)



Worship in Song: Sing "Easter Day," "Spring Is Here! It's Easter Day," and "I Love Him." **Jesus loves to hear little children sing to Him. And we want to pray to the Lord too. We are so glad Jesus is alive today because we love Him. Let's bow our heads and tell Jesus how much we love Him.**



Remembering the Bible Truth: Say the Bible words from Revelation 1:18 a few times together; then to help the children understand that this is Jesus speaking, ask, "What did Jesus say?" Team members will help the children respond with the Bible words. **Aren't you glad that Jesus is alive? I am too!**



Life Application: Try this activity to help the children grasp the truth of the empty tomb and that Jesus is alive. Use an old sheet to hang over a table, to make a cave "tomb." Play is one way for preschoolers to learn. In pretending, your twos and threes will remember Bible story facts far better than just by hearing them. They'll actually experience the story in their vivid imaginations.

Cover a small table with the sheet. Leave one end open to create a "cave tomb." Let two children volunteer to be Jesus' friends who come to the tomb. You take the part of the angel and repeat those reassuring words that Jesus was not there, but is alive. Then the two volunteers can rush to tell the others that wonderful news.

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



The Empty Tomb: You'll need copies of Copymaster 5, crayons, glue sticks, and small pieces of colored construction paper (various colors). Let the children glue pieces of colored construction paper on the flowers. If you have a hole punch, the round, punched-out pieces would make good flower petals. As the glue is drying, let the children color the rest of the picture. Once the glue has dried, help the children fold the page as indicated to show the sealed tomb. Have them hold their folded pictures as you talk to them.

What a sad time for Jesus' friends when they put Him in the tomb and the big stone was rolled in front of it. Now open your pictures. Help as needed. But what a wonderful morning it was when His friends learned that Jesus was not in the tomb. He is alive!

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



Be sure to close in prayer. While you are waiting for parents, try this fun activity:



Easter Day Parade: Give the children hand-held musical instruments to play as they march around and sing this song to the tune "Deep and Wide."

Thank You, God. Thank You, God.

Thank You, God, for this Easter day.

Thank You, God. Thank You, God.


Thank You, God, that Jesus is alive!

JESUS GOES HOME TO HEAVEN



LESSON SIX

UNIT 2: WE ARE GLAD FOR OUR SAVIOUR

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Give the children a snack of fruit cocktail and large marshmallows. *Don't forget to check with parents about allergies. I think clouds sometimes look like marshmallows. Our Bible story today is about a very special Person who went up, up in the sky until He disappeared behind the clouds. I wonder who He is.*

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

  **A Mural of the "Heavens":** Provide your children with nature pictures of the sky, outer space—moon, planets, stars, galaxies, etc.—birds, kites, planes, satellites, and other things associated with sky or space. **See all the wonderful things that are in our sky. Do you see clouds in the daytime? Have you seen the moon and the stars at night? Please help me put the pictures on our bulletin board.**

As the children work with the pictures, mention that Jesus' home in heaven is even higher than these. **One day Jesus is coming back to take everyone who loves Him home to live with Him in heaven forever. What a wonderful time that will be!**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 28:16-20;
John 14:1-6; Acts 1:8-11

Bible Truth:

Jesus lives today in heaven.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God because Jesus cares for us today.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:19

Materials Needed:

Snack; pictures of the sky, outer space, and things that travel in each; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 6 (copy for each student), crayons, cotton balls, glue sticks, colored markers or construction paper

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.

 When finished, sing "I Have a Message for You" as you lead the children to the story area.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

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

Let's begin by talking about our homes. How do you feel when you are visiting someone and it's time for you to go home? Yes, (Ann), sometimes we're glad. Home is a good place to be, isn't it? But sometimes we're sad. We don't like to leave Grandma or Grandpa. Or we don't like to leave our friends. That really makes us sad. But still, we love our homes, don't we?

One day, Jesus and His friends were climbing up a mountain. Up, up, up they went.

Soon they reached the top.

It was time for Jesus to go back to His home in heaven. The disciples were probably going to miss their Friend, Jesus, very much. But Jesus had told them earlier that He was going to prepare a place for them, so they shouldn't be sad.

"While I'm gone," Jesus said, "I want you to go everywhere and tell people about Me. Tell them that I love them and want them to be in heaven with Me."

While Jesus' friends were looking at Him, He started to go up in the air—right up in front of them!

Up, up, up He went. Higher and higher, away into the blue sky He went. Jesus' friends watched Him go. They looked and looked—up, up, up. He went so high that at last a cloud hid Him. They couldn't see Him anymore.

Still they looked and looked—up, up, up—into the sky where Jesus had gone. They knew that Jesus could still see them and hear them,

even though He had gone back to heaven. They knew He still loved them and cared for them.

Suddenly two angels dressed all in white came to where Jesus' friends were.

They stood beside the men and said, "Why are you standing there, looking up into the sky? Jesus has gone back to His home in heaven. But He will come back someday in the same way that you saw Him go to heaven." Then the angels went away.

How glad Jesus' friends probably were! Their best Friend had promised to come back someday. Jesus had

told them that He was going to get a place ready for them in heaven. They knew that Jesus loved them and would take care of them.

Jesus' friends went back down the mountain. Later they told people that Jesus had gone back to His home in heaven. They told people that Jesus loved them and wanted them to love Him. And they said He would come back someday.

And Jesus loves you! He wants you to love Him. And someday He wants you and your family to be with Him in heaven.



As an alternative, try this action rhyme.

Jesus and His friends one day

(Hold up fingers of right hand.)

Went to a mountain far away.

(“Walk” fingers horizontally, then up, up, up.)

There Jesus told His friends good-bye,

(Wave good-bye with left hand.)

And went back to His home on high.

(Raise left hand with index finger pointed upward.)

Two angels came and stood with them,

(Two fingers of left hand by fingers of the right.)

And said, “Jesus will come back again.”

(Point up, then down.)

These words pleased Jesus' friends so much.

(Point to your huge smile.)

How many people did they tell? A bunch!

(Walk quickly in place and cup hands to mouth.)



Worship in Song: Sing “How Can Jesus Know All Things?” **Even though Jesus is home in heaven, He is still with us and knows all that we do. That’s why we know that He hears us when we pray.** Then sing “Jesus Loves Me,” “I Love Him,” and “My Best Friend.”



Remembering the Bible Truth: To review the Bible words from 1 John 4:19, say the verse together a couple of times. Then you say the first part of the verse, and the children will answer, **because he first loved us.** After a couple of times, let the children say the first part of the verse, and you answer them. Team members will help children as required.



Life Application: Jesus Sees Me. Encourage children to say the words below, line by line, with you. Then pray together, thanking the Lord for being with us always.

Jesus sees me when I play.

Jesus sees me when I pray.

I’m glad for my Friend, Jesus!

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



Jesus Returned to Heaven: For this activity you’ll need copies of Copymaster 6, crayons, cotton balls, glue sticks, and brightly colored markers or thin strips of brightly colored construction paper. Before class, use a craft knife to cut out the oval on the right side of each copymaster. Let the children color the picture of Jesus; then help them fold each side of the copymaster over the picture of Jesus, as indicated. On the back of the left-hand flap, have the children glue cotton balls.

Then the children will color the back of the right-hand flap, around the oval hole, with brightly colored markers to represent bright light. Or they can glue brightly colored strips of construction paper for the same purpose. Have them open the picture completely to show Jesus, as you review the story.

One day Jesus went up, up, up until a cloud covered Him. Then His friends could no longer see Him. He went back to His home in heaven. Help the children fold the left-hand flap over the picture of Jesus to cover Him with cotton-ball “clouds.” **Then two angels told Jesus’ friends that one day Jesus will come back just as He went up to heaven.** Have children fold back the “clouds” and fold over the right-hand flap so the picture of Jesus shows through the oval hole. **What a wonderful day it will be when Jesus returns in glory!**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



If you have additional time after closing in prayer, you might try this activity:




Puppet Talk: If you have a bird puppet or stuffed toy bird, use it to talk to your children about the mural they made in Preparing Their Hearts. **My, what a beautiful blue sky and space mural you children have made. Can birds fly as high as airplanes? Oh, no, not quite, but we birds can fly pretty high. The fluffy clouds God made are fun to fly in.** Continue as time and interest allow.

JESUS TELLS US GOD CARES FOR US



LESSON SEVEN

UNIT 2: WE ARE GLAD FOR OUR SAVIOUR

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve yogurt-covered raisins with juice, *being aware of any food allergies your children may have, especially milk related.* **I think our snack looks like bird eggs, don't you? Do any of you have birds for pets? I see birds in the sky all the time. Our Bible story today tells us that God takes care of the birds, and He takes care of us too.**

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

  **Play Dough Birds and Flowers:** Have modeling clay available in a variety of colors. First have the children make birds with their modeling clay. **I like to make pretend birds out of modeling clay, don't you? God made big birds and little birds. He made birds with long necks and short necks. He made all kinds of wonderful birds.** Sing the second verse of "Swimming Fish and Flying Birds."

Then have the children make flowers with their modeling clay. God made all the beautiful flowers that we see. **God takes care of the birds and the flowers, and He takes care of us too.**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 6:25-34

Bible Truth:

God loves and cares for us.

Life Response Aim:

To want to love and trust God for our needs.

Bible Verse:




1 John 4:19

Materials Needed:

Snack; modeling clay; figures from *Teaching Resources*; bird book and a flower bouquet (optional); Copymaster 7 (copy for each student), crayons, tape, yarn

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):

   **Bible Story:** Illustrate this Bible story on your flannel-board using the colorful visuals from *Teaching Resources*. If you have a large, colorful book of birds and a vase or planter of flowers, consider bringing them to enrich your storytelling.

I see (Todd) has a new coat on! Did someone at your house buy it for you? Isn't God good to give us parents and others who love and take care of us? God knows that we need shoes and clothes and food. God loves us, and He sees that we get what we need.

One day Jesus and His friends walked up a mountain. Lots of other people went along too. Some were big people like me, and some were little like you.

Jesus sat down and talked with them.

He told them about His Father, God, in heaven. He said that God made them, and God loved them and cared for them.

As Jesus looked into the people's faces, He knew that many of them were very worried, and some of them were hungry. They needed food. But they had no money to buy any food. Others needed clothes. The clothes they had were getting worn out. Some people's clothes proba-

bly even had holes in them. The people may have wondered, Where could we get money to buy food and clothes?

Jesus pointed to some birds. *[Show the birds in your book.]*


"Look at those birds," He said. "They can't work to earn money for their food. They don't put food in places such as barns where they can get it later to eat. But God gives them lots of food. God made the birds, and He cares for them. But God cares a lot more for you."


Then Jesus pointed to some flowers. *[Show your flowers.]* **"See these flowers? They can't work or earn money to buy clothes, but God gives them beautiful petals. He takes care of the flowers. But God will take even better care of you.**


"So don't worry. Ask God for what you need. He will see that you have food and clothes and everything else you need if you love Him and trust Him. You do not need to worry, because God will take care of you."

How glad the people were to hear that God would take care of them.

 **We are glad too. Let's tell God we are glad. "Dear God, thank You that you can take care of us. Amen."**

 To add action for your children have them pretend to be birds when you get to that part of the story where Jesus brings the people's attention to the birds. The children can pretend to hop, fly, even scratch for food like barnyard fowl. Then they can be flowers at that point in the story. Have them stoop low with their arms and head tucked in close. Then slowly stand and spread out like blooming flowers. Some of the children may enjoy being bees that buzz around the flowers.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing "God Takes Care of Me," "O Give Thanks," and "Thank You Prayer Song." For this last song you could add verses about things to be thankful for, such as "the clothes we wear," "the homes we have," and "our beds for sleep."

 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** Help your children separate into two relatively equal groups. Review the Bible words from 1 John 4:19 a few times together; then have a team member lead one group of children in saying the first part of the verse to the word "because." Then another team member will lead the other group in answering by finishing the verse, "he first loved us." After doing this a couple of times, switch groups to allow the children to say both parts of the verse. End this session by having both groups saying the whole verse together one more time.

 Then take time to pray with your children. **Thank You, God, for Your wonderful love and care.**

 **Life Application:** Teach the children this action rhyme to reinforce both the Bible Truth and the Life Response Aim.

Dear Jesus cares for the little birds

(Flap arms.)

And the flowers too.

(Crouch down, then stand and "bloom" as flowers.)


He cares for little girls and boys.

(Spread arms.)


He cares for me and you.

(Point to self and others.)

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

 **God Takes Care of Birds and Flowers—a Mobile:** For this activity, you'll need copies of Copymaster 7, crayons, tape, and yarn. Prior to class, cut the three pieces of the copymasters apart along the solid lines. In class, give each child the three pieces of the copymaster and crayons to color the words, birds, and flowers. Help the children fold the top part of each section back along the dotted lines for strength; then tape the edges together so each section will stay folded.

Help the children connect the three pieces of the mobile with one long piece of yarn and tape. You'll do this by lining the pieces up, with the flowers at the bottom, the birds in the middle, and the words at the top. Then, keeping the pieces aligned and in the same order, turn them over. Tape one end of the yarn to the bottom piece where indicated; then run the yarn up and tape to the middle and top pieces. Next run the yarn to the other side of the top piece, leaving enough yarn at the top to hang the mobile, and tape the yarn going down that side as you went up the other.

 **Since God takes care of the birds and flowers, we know that He will also take care of us. Hang this in a special place at home to help you remember God's care. Let's thank God for His care.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

 If you have additional time after closing in prayer, you might try this activity:

 **God Cares for Me:** Teach the children this song to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell."

God cares for me.

God cares for me.

In my Bible Book I read,


God cares for me.

JESUS, GOD'S WONDERFUL SON


LESSON EIGHT

UNIT 2: WE ARE GLAD FOR OUR SAVIOUR

TRANSITION (25–30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve your children's favorite snack(s) from the previous lessons of this unit and talk about how much Jesus loves and cares for us. **One of the ways Jesus cares for us is by giving us good food to eat. Let's thank Him for our good food.** *As always, be aware of any food allergies your children may have.*

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Caring for Each Other:** Have some kitchen and dining toys for this fun activity about caring for each other as family members do. **Mothers and fathers help take care of their boys and girls by fixing good food for them to eat. Let's pretend that you are a mom or dad and need to take care of your family. What will you fix for dinner, (Gretchen)? What kind of food does your mother fix?**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Review of Lessons 4–7

Bible Truth:

Jesus loves and cares for us at all times.

Life Response Aim:

To want to thank Jesus for His wonderful love and care.


Bible Verse:

1 John 4:19


Materials Needed:

Snack; kitchen and dining toys; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 8 (copy for each student), glue sticks, scraps of construction paper in a variety of colors, craft knife


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.

 **God makes sure that we have all kinds of good food to eat, doesn't He? Moms and dads are God's helpers to take care of you. Let's thank God for His care and for moms and dads.** Then sing "I Have a Message for You," as you lead your children to the story area.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

 **Bible Story:** Review the Bible stories from this unit on your flannelboard using the colorful visuals from *Teaching Resources*. Review is important, because children learn best by repetition. Open your Bible to let your children know these stories are from God's Word. As an alternative to flannelgraph stories, try these activities:

 **Lesson Four:** Play "Palm Sunday" from this quarter's music and lead the children in the actions suggested in the narration.

 **Lesson Five:** Lead the children in this action rhyme. You'll want to familiarize yourself with the actions so you can lead your children easily.

"Jesus is dead," His sad friends said, before that first Easter day.
(Shake head sadly.)

**So they placed Him in a tomb to stay (so they thought),
Three days before Easter day.**

(Close cupped hands together slowly.)

One day passed, then two, and nothing happened.

(Shake head sadly.)

But when three days passed, something exciting happened!

(Suggest suspense by your voice, and smile expectantly.)

Jesus lived again! Some of His friends saw Him alive

On that first wonderful Easter day!

(Clasp hands enthusiastically together with joy.)

Now He lives in heaven, and we're glad He's alive

On this happy Easter day!

(Nod and point to your happy smile.)



Lesson Six: Repeat this simple action rhyme.

Jesus and His friends one day

(Hold up fingers of right hand.)

Went to a mountain far away.

(“Walk” fingers horizontally, then up, up, up.)

There Jesus told His friends good-bye,

(Wave good-bye with left hand.)

And went back to His home on high.

(Raise left hand with index finger pointed upward.)

Two angels came and stood with them,

(Two fingers of left hand by fingers of the right.)

And said, “Jesus will come back again.”

(Point up, then down.)

These words pleased Jesus’ friends so much.

(Point to your huge smile.)

How many people did they tell? A bunch!

(Walk quickly in place and cup hands to mouth.)



Worship in Song: Sing “I Love Him.” Then continue your worship with “My Best Friend” and “Thank You Prayer Song.”



Remembering the Bible Truth: Review the Bible words from 1 John 4:19. Have stuffed animals available for the children to hug and squeeze each time you say the word “love.” Young children readily associate love with hugging.



Life Application: Talk with the children about the many ways that Jesus shows His love for them (homes, parents, teachers, etc.). Then receive the children’s offerings, emphasizing that we give because we love Jesus.

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



Why We Come to Church: You will need copies of Copymaster 8, small pieces of construction paper, and glue sticks for this activity. Before class, cut away the strip with the people and cut the picture of Jesus from that strip. In class, give the pictures of the church building to your children. They can decorate the picture by gluing various colored pieces of construction paper to the windows, red construction paper for bricks, and brown or black construction paper for shingles.

With a craft knife, cut slits on each side of the door and cut out the window above the door so it opens on its “hinges.” Help the children tape the picture of Jesus to the back of the sheet so He’s “looking” out the window. Have children close the window; then help them slip the strip of children through the slits until the first door on the strip is showing, covering the original door. Fold back the memory verse and song, and tape it in place as a sleeve to hold the strip of children in place. Then lead the children with this guided conversation.

We love to come to church, don’t we? There are some children waiting to come into your church. Can you open the door to let them in? Have team members help children move the strip until the second door is in full view. Great! Now, why do we come to church? Open your church’s window. That’s right, we come to church to learn about Jesus and to tell Him that we love Him.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



After closing in prayer, try this activity:




Activity Music: Play the music to “Hands That Obey” and lead the children in pantomiming the actions suggested by the narration. Then play the music again and have the children help clean up your room. **Helping is a great way to thank Jesus for the wonderful things He does for us.**

JESUS VISITS HIS FRIENDS


LESSON NINE

UNIT 3: WE ARE GLAD FOR GOD'S GOOD GIFTS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve one of your children's favorite snacks, only rather than individual servings, provide servings for two or three on the same plate. **One of the things friends do is share with each other. Can two (three) of you share your snack together?** Have team members help children share the snack, praising the children as they cooperate in sharing. *Be aware of children's food allergies or other dietary restrictions.*

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Friends Play Nicely Together:** Using your standard classroom toys or puzzles, demonstrate with another team member how friends cooperate. (Mrs. Ward), **would you please hand me that piece of the puzzle? I think it goes right here. Thank you very much. Would you please put this piece over there? Thank you, it fits just right.**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Mark 9:33-37; Luke 10:38-42

Bible Truth:

Jesus visited His friends.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for being our Friend.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:19

Materials Needed:

Snack; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 9 (copy for each student), water-colors, protective clothing, brushes, glue, yarn

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.

Then give the children opportunities to play together, encouraging sharing and cooperation. Remind them often that friends play nicely together, but keep in mind that your children are still at the point in their development where they play much better by themselves than with others. Even when they are next to each other, twos and threes will usually play separately. However, it's never too early to begin teaching God's ways, even if the children don't yet fully understand the concepts. You're building the foundation.

 When finished, sing "I Have a Message for You" on your way to the story area.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

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

One day Jesus and His helpers went to a friend's house. While they were walking to the house, the helpers talked about who was the most important helper. They didn't think Jesus knew what they were talking about, but Jesus always knows because He is God's Son. Then they arrived at the friend's house.

"What were you talking about?" Jesus asked His helpers. The helpers didn't say anything, but Jesus knew what His helpers were thinking. He knew that each of them wanted to be the most important helper. So Jesus called a little child to come to Him.

Jesus looked at His helpers and said, "You must become like this little child. Little children love Me and trust Me, so you must love Me and trust Me too. This child wants to learn how to help; you

must learn how to help. If you do, you will be My very good helpers."

Jesus looked at the child again. Jesus loves little children. He said, "If My helpers love a little child, they are loving Me too. Do not treat little children badly. Remember that God always watches over little children." When we love Jesus the way little children love Him, we are truly His friends.

Another day Jesus and His friends were walking together. After a while they came to a small town. They had been in that town many times, so they decided to stop and rest.

Mary and Martha were sisters who lived in that town. They were Jesus' friends. When they saw Jesus, they asked Him to come into their house.

Jesus was pleased to see His good friends. He loved them and wanted to visit them. Jesus loves His friends and promises to be with them always.

Jesus went into the house with Mary and Martha. While He was there, Martha fixed some good food for Jesus to eat. Mary sat and listened to Jesus talk. Martha and Mary were very happy that their good Friend, Jesus, had come to spend time with them.

Jesus was pleased that He had been invited to be with His good friends. Jesus wanted them to know He loved them very much.



As an alternative or a review, sing this song to the tune of "London Bridge."

Jesus came to see His friends,
See His friends, see His friends.
Jesus came to see His friends
They were happy.

We should love Him as a child,
As a child, as a child.
When we love Him as a child,
We are His friends.

Martha worked so very hard,
Very hard, very hard.
Martha worked so very hard.
She loved Jesus.

Mary listened carefully,
Carefully, carefully.
Mary listened carefully,
Just to Jesus.



Worship in Song: Sing "My Best Friend," "I Love Him," and "Jesus Loves Me" (found on this quarter's music CD only).



Remembering the Bible Truth: Have children stand in a circle and hold hands. **We are friends, and we want to learn about our best Friend, Jesus.** Say the Bible words from 1 John 4:19 together once with the children's hands down (they're still holding hands). Then say the verse a second time as the children hold their hands together above their heads. Continue two more times, once with the children's hands held in front of them, and once with their hands held behind them. **Aren't you glad that Jesus loves us?**



Life Application: Have the children name some of their friends; then take time to pray for friends. **One of the best things we can do for friends is to pray for them.**

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



Happy Friends: You'll need copies of Copymaster 9, watercolor paints, paintbrushes, clothing protection, glue sticks, and yarn of various colors. Cover the tables and children's clothing appropriately for painting. Point out that the two children's faces are to be of themselves and a friend. Have the children paint the two faces and glue yarn "hair" on the heads. Let the children tell who their friend is and talk about some of the fun things friends can do together. **It's good to have friends. And who's our best Friend? That's right, Jesus!**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



Be sure to close in prayer with your children. If you have additional time, you might try this activity:



Stand Up, Sit Down: Divide the class into two teams—the Mary team and the Martha team. Have the children from each team stand when you read about them, while the others remain sitting. The appropriate team will stand after you say either Mary or Martha. Other teachers may need to help.

There once was a sister who had a house. Her name was Martha. (*Martha team stands, then sits.*)

Another sister lived in that house. Her name was Mary. (*Mary team stands, then sits.*)

When Jesus came to visit these sister friends, Martha worked hard. (*Martha team stands, then sits.*)

When Jesus came to visit these sister friends, Mary listened to Him. (*Mary team stands, then sits.*)


Mary and Martha loved their best Friend, Jesus. (*Both teams stand and sing again, "My Best Friend."*)

GOD GIVES US FAMILIES

LESSON TEN

UNIT 3: WE ARE GLAD FOR GOD'S GOOD GIFTS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve one of the children's favorite snacks. *As always, check with parents for any food allergies or other dietary restrictions.* Let the children help serve and clean up after snack. It's never too early for them to begin learning the importance of helping, especially at home.

Your mothers and fathers do many good things for you, don't they? How can we let our families know that we love them? How can you tell your parents thank you for all the good things they do for you? Let children answer. **One way is to help them with the work they do. Just as you boys and girls helped me with the snack, you can help your parents at home.**

Depending on your children's family situations, you may need to adjust your comments to include other significant men and women in your children's lives.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Acts 16:1; 2 Timothy 1:5;
3:15

Bible Truth:

Timothy learned God's Word from his mother and grandmother.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for the people who care for us.

Bible Verse:


1 Peter 5:7

Materials Needed:

Snack; figures from *Teaching Resources*; "Scrolls" to show during the Bible story and to review the memory verse; Copymaster 10 (copy for each student), crayons, cotton balls, glue sticks, an ink pad with colored ink, smocks, cleanup materials, and flower-scented perfume (optional)

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):

 **"Mother's Hands":** To reinforce a mother's love, play "Mother's Hands" (music) and lead the children in doing the motions indicated by the narration. Then sing "I Have a Message for You" on the way to the story area.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

 **Bible Story:** Illustrate the story with the colorful figures from *Teaching Resources*.

Do you have a grandmother? Does she read stories for you? God gives us grandmothers in our families, and He gives us grandfathers too. We love our grandparents, don't we?

The Bible tells us about a boy named Timothy. Once he was just your size. His mother's name was Eunice.

She loved Timothy very much—and Timothy loved her too. She took care of him and told him about God's love and sang songs with Timothy.

There was a grandmother in the family too—Grandma Lois.

Grandmother Lois and Timothy were great friends. When Timothy was big enough, Grandmother would ask him to bring the big scroll Bible to her. [Show a "scroll."] Then Timothy would probably crawl up into her lap.


Very carefully they would open the Bible scroll. [Unroll your "scroll."] Timothy would listen while Grandmother Lois read to him. Timothy liked to hear about God and God's people. Grandmother told Timothy many stories from God's Word about the wonderful things God had done for His people.


One day, because Mother and Grandmother taught God's Word, Timothy was ready to hear about Jesus and to love Him as Saviour. Mother and Grandmother loved Jesus, and then Timothy loved Jesus too.

What were some of the things that Timothy learned about Jesus?


He learned many of the same things you boys and girls have learned about Jesus. You learned that Jesus did many wonderful things because He is God's Son. Jesus died on the cross for our sins, but He came back to life. After Jesus came back to life, He and His friends went up on a mountain. While they were there, Jesus left them. His friends saw Him go up, up, up—into the sky—until a cloud hid Him.

Jesus went back to His home in heaven. He is there now, but He promised to come back. Jesus is building a place for us in heaven to live with Him forever. Everyone who loves Jesus will go to live with Him in heaven. You've learned these wonderful things about Jesus, and Timothy learned these things too.

 **Worship in Song:** Sing some of your children's favorite songs from this quarter's music. Include songs of thanksgiving, such as "O Give Thanks" and "Thank You Prayer Song."

 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** Give each child a piece of paper rolled up from each end—a scroll. Have the Bible words from 1 Peter 5:7 written on each scroll. **When Timothy was a boy, God's Word was written on scroll-books that may have looked something like the scrolls you have. Can you help me say our Bible words today by reading them from your scroll-book? Let's try.**

Say the verse a few times together, as the children "read" the words from their scrolls.

 **Life Application:** Try this action rhyme to help the children remember that their parents are a wonderful gift from God. The children who are able will repeat your words, and everyone will copy the actions. Sing the song again replacing mother with father, grandmother, grandfather, etc.

Who helps me tie my shoe

[Bend down as if tying shoe.]

When it's too hard for me to do?

My mother.

Who cooks and fixes all my food

[Stir and pour.]

And makes the food that tastes so good?

My mother.

Who kisses all my hurts away

[Extend arms for child to run into.]

When I get bumps and cuts at play?

My mother.

Who tells me of dear Jesus' love

[Point upward.]

And about our Father, God, above?

My mother.

[Fold hands together.]

[Fold hands together.]

And cares for me so lovingly?


My mother.

And now I am so glad to say

On this special, happy day,


Thank You, God, for Mother!

[Fold hands together.]

 Should you have children in class who are cared for by someone other than their parents, you may want to skip the above action rhyme. Instead, simply sit down with your children and ask them to tell you about who cares for them. Then thank God for each caregiver by name.

If you have a large class, consider dividing into smaller groups so each child can pray. Let the child repeat a simple prayer. **Okay, (Sammy), it's your turn. Repeat after me. Thank You, God, for . . .**


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

 **Happy Mother's Day:** Discuss with your children about how to thank their families for all they do for them and how they can help their parents at home. For this activity you'll need copies of Copymaster 10, crayons, cotton balls, glue sticks, an ink pad with colored ink, smocks to protect clothing, soapy water, paper towels, and flower-scented perfume if possible. Give the children each a copy of Copymaster 10 and let them glue a cotton ball above the flower stem. Next, show them how to place their thumb on the ink pad and on the paper about eight times around the cotton ball to make flower petals. After washing their thumbs, the children can color the stem and leaves and anything else on the page that they wish. Finally, put a drop of flower-scented perfume in the cotton ball (*be sure to check for any perfume allergies*).

Perhaps all your children don't currently live with their mothers. Be sensitive to this and help those children identify a significant woman in their lives to receive the card. When appropriate, consider making a special copy of the copymaster for those children, and replace "My Mother" in the phrase "Thank You, God, for My Mother" with the other person's name (Aunt Sue, Grandma, etc.). Let the children take the Copymaster home as a gift to give.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

If you have additional time, you might try this activity:

 **Remembering How Important It Is to Help:** **A flower is just one way to tell Mother that you love her. What are some other ways? Helping set the dinner table, picking up toys, going to bed when told, etc.** Have your students tell what they will do today to help their mothers (or significant "mother-figure"). **What is one more way to show Mom and the other people who care for us that we love them? That's right, by obeying them. Let's play the special music that reminds us that God gave us hands to help and obey.** Play "Hands That Obey" from this quarter's *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* and lead the children in doing the motions indicated by the narration.

GOD GIVES US FOOD

LESSON ELEVEN

UNIT 3: WE ARE GLAD FOR GOD'S GOOD GIFTS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):



Snack Time: Bring a variety of healthy snacks from which your children may select, *keeping in mind any food allergies*. This will allow you to talk about the many kinds of food that God provides for us. **These are just a few of the many kinds of food that God gives us to eat. He gives us food because He loves us. Let's pray, thanking God for His love and for the good food He gives us.**

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):



Planting a Garden: For this activity you'll need a large pan of dirt, cutout pictures of fruits and vegetables, glue or tape, and straws or wooden sticks. Let the children glue or tape the pictures on the sticks and "plant" them in the dirt. **Can you tell me what these foods are? Can you tell me what other foods grow in a garden? What good foods does God give us that do not grow in gardens?** (Eggs, milk, fish, etc.) **Let's thank God with a song.**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

1 Kings 17:1-7

Bible Truth:

God fed Elijah.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for food.

Bible Verse:

1 Peter 5:7

Materials Needed:

Snacks; pan of dirt, pictures of food, tape or glue, straws or wooden sticks; figures from *Teaching Resources*; a ball for the memory verse activity; Copymaster 11 (copy for each student), tape, 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.



Sing "Thank You Prayer Song." Then sing "I Have a Message for You" on the way to the story area. Once at the story area, sing the second stanza of "Swimming Fish and Flying Birds." **Today's story has some birds that do a very wonderful thing.**

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES)



Bible Story: Illustrate the Bible story with the visuals from *Teaching Resources*.

It's time to open our Bibles for today's Bible story.

A long time ago, there was a king who would not obey God. King Ahab was so bad that God decided to punish him and all his people by not sending rain for a long, long time.

God had a special messenger. That special messenger's name was Elijah. God told Elijah to go and tell the king that it would not rain again for a long, long time. So Elijah obeyed God and told King Ahab what God had said about the rain.

He went right to the king's palace. There he walked right up to the king.

King Ahab was surprised to see Elijah walk right up and stand in front of him. But King Ahab was probably even more surprised when he heard Elijah say, "God says there will be no more rain until I tell you that it will rain again." The king was angry when he heard those words.

Elijah turned right around and walked away!

Then God said to Elijah, "Go far away to a little brook and hide

there from the angry king. There is plenty of water for you to drink, and I have told some big, black birds to bring food to you every day." God had a wonderful plan to care for Elijah.

Again Elijah did just what God told him to do because he loved God and knew God would take care of him.

He went to the brook flowing with water, and there he stayed. He drank water from the brook. And every morning and every evening God sent some birds to bring him food.

After a while the gardens stopped growing because there was no rain for the plants. People were getting hungry, and there was no food to eat. Then King Ahab remembered what Elijah had said, "There will be no more rain until I tell you."

King Ahab wanted to find Elijah and tell him to ask God to send rain.



"Go and look for Elijah," he told his men.

They looked and looked for Elijah, but they couldn't find him anywhere they looked. All the time, Elijah was safe in his hiding place. He drank the good, cool water that bubbled over the rocks in the brook.


And every morning and every evening God sent the big, black birds to Elijah with bread and meat to eat. God took good care of Elijah, God's special messenger.


Elijah loved God, and he obeyed God. That's how Elijah showed that he loved God, by obeying Him. That's how we show our love for God too.

Elijah was glad God loved and cared for him. How good God was to Elijah. And God is very good to us too.

  As a review of the story or for an action alternative, play "Elijah and the Birds" from this quarter's music and lead the children in doing the motions indicated by the narration. Acting out Bible stories to music is a wonderful way for your children to remember the essential facts.


 **Worship in Song:** Sing "O Give Thanks," "Thank You Prayer Song," and "God Takes Care of Me."

 **Remembering the Bible Truth:** Say the Bible words from 1 Peter 5:7 a few times; then have the children sit in a semicircle. Say the first word of the verse while rolling a ball to one of the children. The child who catches the ball repeats the word you said and rolls the ball back to you. Do this one word at a time until you've finished the verse. Then have the whole class say the verse together. Continue in this manner as time and interest permit.

 **Life Application:** If your classroom has toy food items, grocery cart, etc., have the children pretend to be shopping at the grocery store. Talk about how God provides food to us through stores. If you don't have toy grocery items, consider bringing in some cans and boxes of food. Bags and baskets can be shopping carts. If your church has a food pantry, you might ask parents to bring the food; then have children put the food in the pantry.

Do you like going to the grocery store with your mom or dad? What do you buy there? Bread? Cookies? Meat? Milk? Hold up some everyday food items. **Have you seen your parents buy any of these? What else do you get from the store?** Let the children name other items. **God provides many things at the store for us to eat. And He gives us jobs so we can earn money to buy the food. Let's pretend to be at a store, where we buy food.**

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

 **God Fed Elijah:** You'll need copies of Copymaster 11, tape, and crayons. Beforehand, cut the strip of ravens from the rest of the picture. Let the children color the ravens and the picture of Elijah by the brook. Then cut the two slits with a craft knife as indicated and help the children put the strip of ravens through the slits. Tape the ends of the strip together securely to form a loop that doesn't catch as it goes through the slits. You may also want to reinforce the ends of the slits with tape to avoid tearing. Show the children how to feed the loop of birds through the slits to show them coming with food to Elijah.

 **God used the ravens to feed Elijah. How does God give us good food to eat? Let's pray, thanking God for caring for Elijah and for us.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

  **How Does God Give Us Food?** To remember how God provides our food and to thank Him for it, sing this song to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." Act out each part of the song.

**Grow, grow, grow, your food,
Planting each small seed.
Thankfully, thankfully, thankfully, thankfully,
God gives all we need.**

second verse (last two lines the same):

**Hoe, hoe, hoe, your field,
Pulling each small weed.**

third verse (last two lines the same):


**Pick, pick, pick, your food,
Potatoes, corn, and beans.**


GOD GIVES US NIGHTTIME FOR SLEEP

LESSON TWELVE

UNIT 3: WE ARE GLAD FOR GOD'S GOOD GIFTS


TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve a round snack of your choice, such as cookies, crackers, melba toast, etc., with a fruit or cheese spread, *keeping in mind any food allergies your children may have*. Before eating, try this activity.

 **Would everyone hold up one of your snacks, please? It's round like the sun. God gave us the sun so we can see in the daytime. Now take a bite of your snack.** Demonstrate and hold up the snack again.

Now I think my snack looks like the moon at night. God gave us nighttime for sleeping. Let's thank God for our snack and for nighttime.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

 **Stone Pillows:** Give the children each a brown lunch bag and some stuffing, such as balls of news-paper, to put into the bags. Leave enough room to fold the top of the bags and tape them closed. **In today's Bible**

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Genesis 28:10-22

Bible Truth:

God came to Jacob while the patriarch slept.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God that He is always with us, even at night.

Bible Verse:


1 Peter 5:7

Materials Needed:


Round snacks; paper lunch bags and stuffing, such as newspaper, tape; figures from *Teaching Resources*; star and moon shapes, black construction paper; Copymaster 12 (copy for each student), tape, crayons, pieces of fabric, glue sticks, fabric batting (optional)

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.

story, you'll hear about someone who used a stone for a pillow to put under his head while he slept. Let's use our stone pillows for resting our heads on.

 Preschoolers need a time of rest, especially those who were in Sunday School earlier in the morning. Let them rest a few minutes as you quietly play some easy-listening music. Dimming the lights may help them rest. When it's time for the Bible story, play "I Have a Message for You."

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

 **Bible Story:** Tell the story, using colorful Bible story figures from *Teaching Resources*. Also let the children bring their "stone pillows" so they can participate in the story.

Jacob walked and walked and walked. All day long Jacob walked and walked and walked. The warm sun shone down on his head. He was very hot and tired. He was all alone and far from home. [*Let your voice suggest a lonely feeling.*]

Jacob was glad when it was time for the sun to go down, down, down. Soon it was dark nighttime.

Jacob looked around for a place to sleep. He found a stone to use as a pillow. He lay down to rest with his head on it. [*Let the children lie down and rest their heads on their "stone pillows."*] **It was much cooler now because the sun wasn't shining. So Jacob wrapped his coat around him for a blanket.**

Jacob probably felt lonesome as he rested all by himself in the dark. [*Let your voice indicate encouragement.*]

But when he looked up, he could see God's shining moon and friendly, twinkling stars in the sky.

He knew that the same moon and stars were shining down on his father and mother back home too. So perhaps he did not feel so lonesome. And soon he was fast asleep.

While Jacob was sleeping, he had a beautiful dream. He saw a ladder that reached way up to heaven. On the ladder, he saw shining angels going up. [*Walk in place.*]

Other angels were coming down the ladder. [*Continue walking in place.*]

Then Jacob heard God's voice from heaven saying, "I am with you and will keep you wherever you go." Jacob woke up! [*Have children sit up quickly.*]

He looked all around. He couldn't see the ladder anymore. He couldn't see the angels anymore. But he knew God was still with him, taking care of him. Jacob may have looked up at the sky with the moon and stars as he said, "God was here with me all the time and I did not know it! Now I know that God cares for me."

Jacob was so thankful to know God was with him that he took his stone pillow and set it up in a special way to remember the place where God had talked to him. [Have children set their “stones” on end.]
We too can be thankful because God is with us.



As a review or an action alternative to the flannelgraph story, play “Jacob’s Journey” from this quarter’s music and lead the children in doing the motions suggested by the narration. This is a great opportunity for your children to use their large-muscle groups. Young children need this because growing muscles can become cramped when children have to sit too long.



Worship in Song: Sing “God Watches While I Sleep,” “God Takes Care of Me,” and “Jesus Loves Me” (MP3 only).



Life Application: Have star and moon shapes cut out from yellow construction paper or have star and moon stickers available. Let the children each glue or stick stars and a moon on a piece of black construction paper. **When God made this great big world, He made lights for the nighttime—the moon and stars. Were you ever up late enough to see the moon and stars in the night sky? Our pictures can help us remember that God is with us all the time, even at night.**



Be sure to pray and receive the children’s offering. **One way to tell God “Thank You” for caring for us is to give our offering to Him at church.**



Remembering the Bible Truth: Review the Bible words from 1 Peter 5:7 with the nighttime pictures described above. After each time you say the Bible words, say,

He cares for us in the daytime,

(Children hold their pictures behind their backs.)

And He cares for us at night.

(Children hold their pictures up high.)

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



Nighttime Is for Sleeping: For this activity, you’ll need copies of Copymaster 12, tape, crayons, pieces of fabric in a variety of colors cut to fit on the pillow and blanket, glue sticks, fabric batting (optional). Beforehand, cut the strip with the sleeping children from the rest of the picture. In class, help the children fold the picture so either the boy or girl is showing, tape together, and let the children color whichever picture they want to use for this activity. Then have them glue pieces of fabric for the blanket and pillow. Be sure they leave enough room to slip the picture of the sleeping child under the covers. You might want to have small pieces of batting available for children to put under the pillow fabric.



As the glue dries, talk to the children about nighttime activities and what they think about the nighttime. Children are often fearful of the dark, so take this opportunity to say again the Bible words from 1 Peter 5:7 and introduce the children to the song on the copymaster, “God Is with Me when I Sleep” (tune: “London Bridge”). When the glue is dry, show the children how to slip the picture of the sleeping child under the blanket. **Isn’t it good to know that God is with us when we’re awake and when we are asleep.**

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



If you have additional time after closing in prayer, you might try this activity:



God Can Always See Me: Try this action rhyme to remind the children that, even though it’s hard for us to see at night, God will always see us and care for us.

I can’t see you, and you can’t see me.

(Cover eyes with hands.)

It’s just as dark as can be.

(Peek through fingers tentatively.)

But no matter whether it’s night or day,

(Uncover eyes completely.)

God can see you and me, always!


(Point up, then to children and self.)

GOD'S GOOD GIFTS

LESSON THIRTEEN

UNIT 3: WE ARE GLAD FOR GOD'S GOOD GIFTS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

 **Snack Time:** Serve flavored bread (banana, zucchini, etc.) cut into a variety of shapes (animals, flowers, vehicles, stars, moon, etc.) with cookie cutters. Talk about how these shapes represent God's good gifts. *Be aware of any food allergies.*

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Remembering God's Good Gifts: Choose any or all of these activities to help introduce this review lesson of God's good gifts:

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Review of Lessons 10-12

Bible Truth:

God gives us good gifts because He loves us and cares for us.

Life Response Aim:

To thank God for His good gifts.


Bible Verse:


1 Peter 5:7

Materials Needed:


Snack; food puzzles made from pictures, dolls and bed-time items; figures from *Teaching Resources*; picture books or magazines, Copymaster 13 (copy for each student), crayons, brads, and paper plates

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.



 Provide simple puzzles of food cut from pictures covered by clear, self-adhesive vinyl. As the children put the puzzles together, talk about being thankful for God's gift of food.

 Sing this song about mothers or fathers to the tune of "Have You Ever Seen a Lassie?" Pantomime activities that mothers or fathers do, and let the children guess what you're doing.


**Have you ever seen a mother (father), a mother, a mother,
Have you ever seen a mother (father) go this way and that?
Go this way and that way and this way and that way?
Have you ever seen a mother (father) go this way and that?**

 Encourage sleepy-time play by providing dolls, doll beds and blankets. Let the children tell of the things they do to get ready for bed and have them act out these activities.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

  **Bible Story:** Summarize each Bible story from Lessons 10-12, using the colorful figures from *Teaching Resources*. Or for more active versions of the stories, tell them in the following manner:

Lesson 10:

 Try this clapping story. Have the children sit, and lead them in alternately clapping their hands and laps. They won't be able to do this well, but they enjoy trying as you say the story in rhythm to your own claps.

There WAS a boy named TIM-o-THY,
Who LEARNED the WORD of GOD, you SEE.


His MO-ther, AND grand-MO-ther TOO,
Did TEACH him IN home BI-ble SCHOOL.

So WHEN he HEARD a-BOUT Je-SUS,
Ti-MO-thy SAID, "I BE-lieve, YES!"

Lesson 11:

 Play "Elijah and the Birds" from this quarter's music and lead the children in doing the motions suggested by the narration.

Lesson 12:

  Play "Jacob's Journey" from this quarter's music and lead the children in doing the motions suggested by the narration. Then try this action rhyme.

Jacob was so-o-o sleepy

(Yawn and stretch.)

He lay on the hard ground

(Bend over, point to the floor.)

With only stones for pillows

(Clasp hands tightly together.)

And dark night all around.

(Make wide, sweeping motions.)

God sent His shining angels

(Point up.)

To Jacob in the night.

God took care of Jacob

Until the morning light.

(Point out the window toward the sun.)



Worship in Song: Sing “God Watches While I Sleep,” “God Takes Care of Me,” and “Jesus Loves Me” (MP3 only). As time permits, sing other songs your children enjoyed from this quarter’s *Let’s Sing Motions ‘n Music*.



Remembering the Bible Truth: Review the Bible words from 1 Peter 5:7 by singing them to the tune of “Happy Birthday” in this manner: The first, second, and fourth line will be the Bible words. For the third line sing **We thank God for His good gifts.**



Life Application: Bring in a few picture books or magazines that show many good things that God provides for us. Take time to talk about these things, allowing children to express their understanding of God’s provision. These reviews are excellent opportunities for you to appraise how much the children are learning the Bible Truths and applying the Life Response Aims.

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



God Cares for Us. For this activity you will need copies of Copymaster 13, crayons, brads, and paper plates with one-fourth cut away. Leave a small circle at the center of the plate intact to hold the brad. Let the children color the picture; then help them fasten the plate to the page through the X. It may be helpful to punch a hole in the plate first. Show the children how to turn the plate to reveal each picture in the circle of Copymaster 13; then talk about how each picture shows a place where God takes care of them.



This picture shows a house at nighttime. How is nighttime a gift from God? That’s right, God gives us nighttime for sleeping. God is with us at nighttime, isn’t He? Let’s thank God for taking care of us at night. Continue in this manner with the other three pictures.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



You will want to take the opportunity to pray with your children before they leave. If you have additional time, try this activity:



We Tell God Thank You by Helping: Lead children in helping you pick up toys and other items by singing the song below to the tune of “Mulberry Bush.” Music is a good way to gently lead preschool children into learning activities. When you sing the song next Sunday the children will remember that it is time to clean up.

One way we can tell God thank You for the many good things He gives us in our classroom is to take good care of those things. Will you help me pick up toys and other things while I sing a song for you?

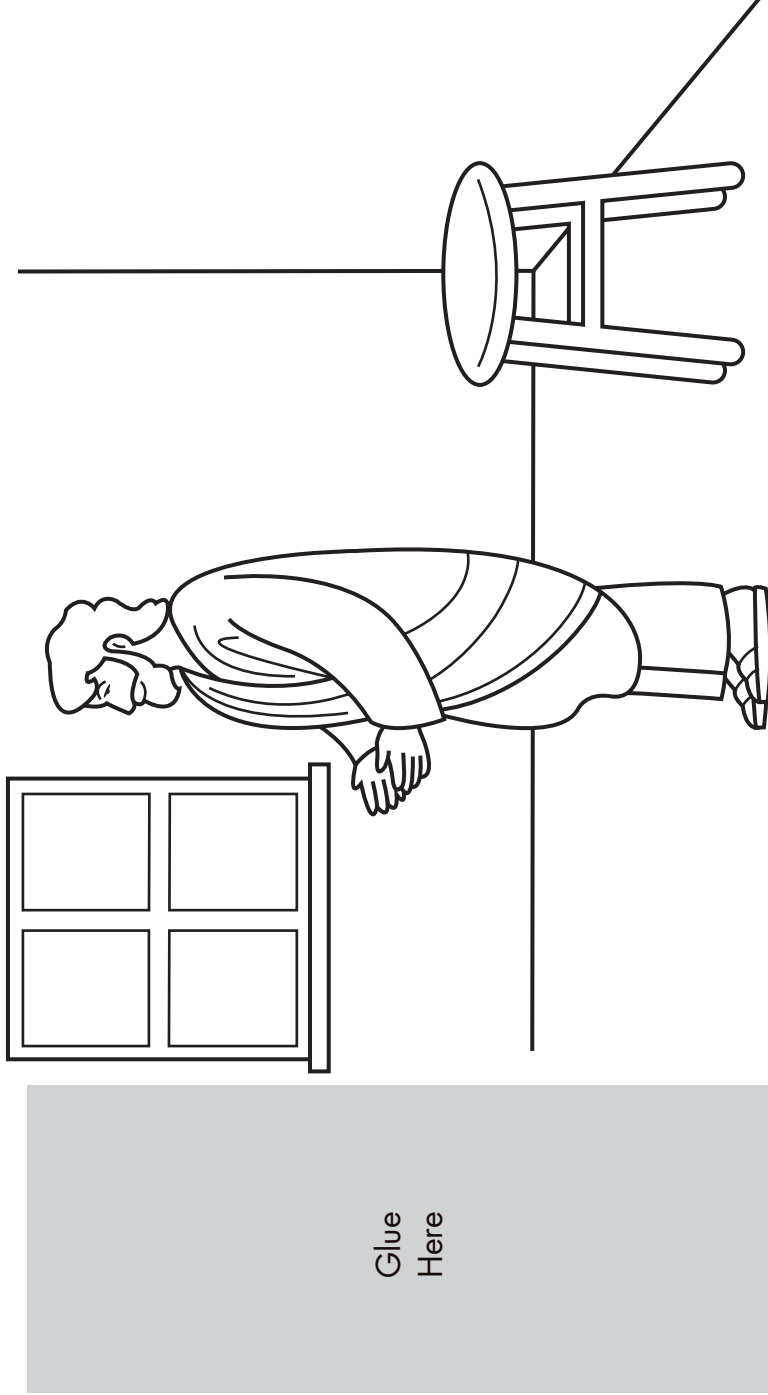
Come on, all you girls and boys,

Girls and boys, girls and boys.

Come on, all you girls and boys,

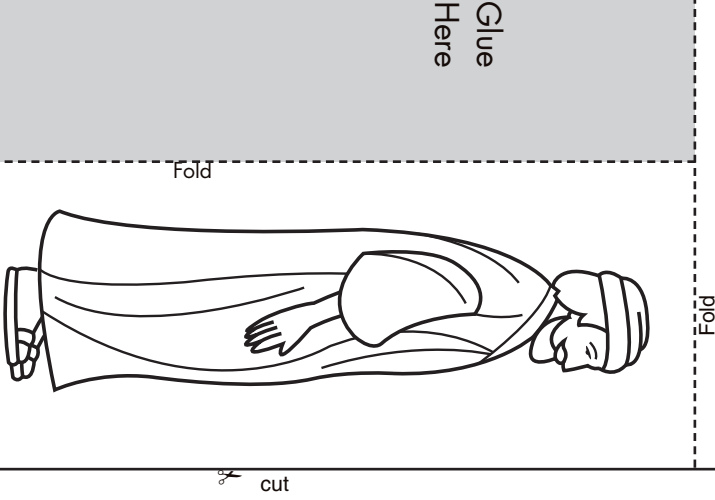
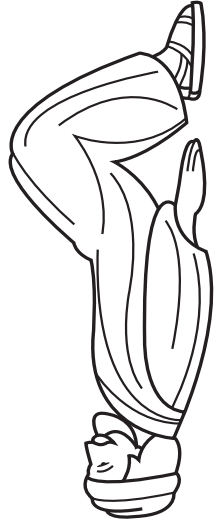
Please help me pick up toys.

Jesus Makes a Lame Man Walk

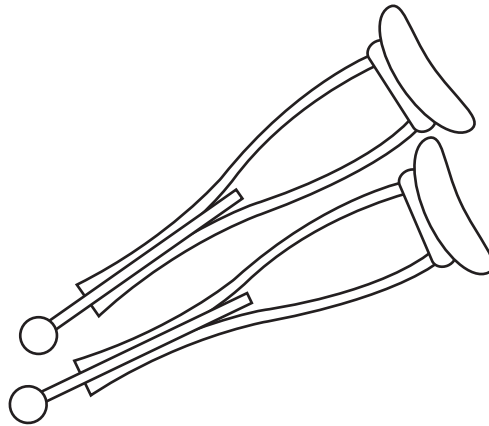
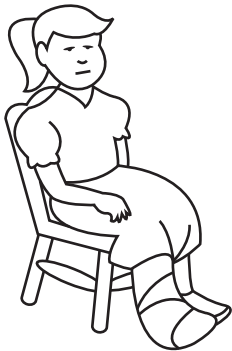
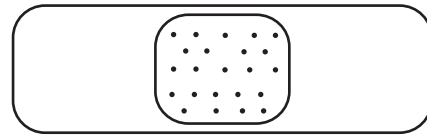
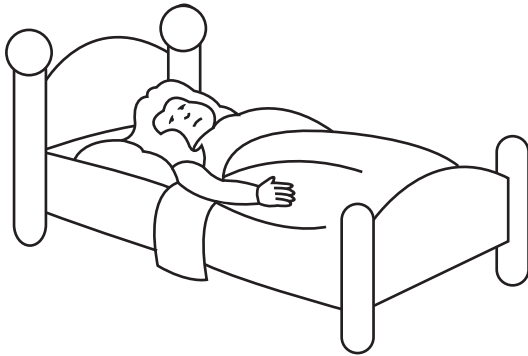
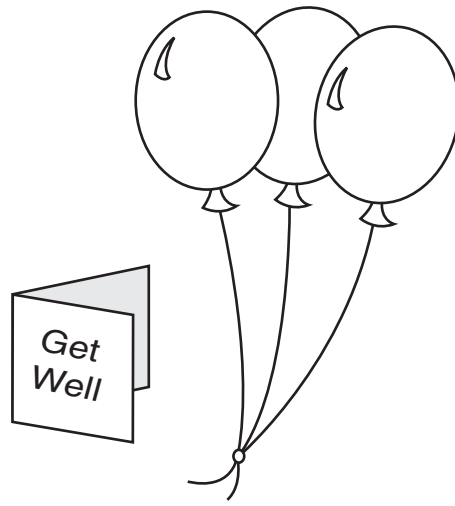
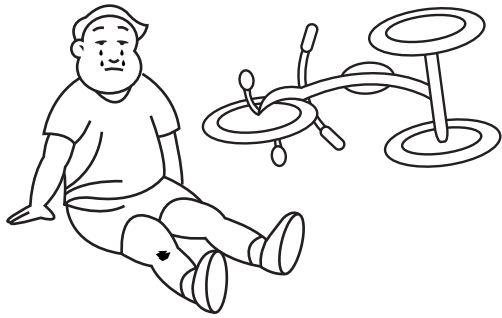


Dear Parent: This week your child learned that Jesus healed the lame man (from Mark 2:1-12). Perhaps your family knows someone who is ill or shut-in and in need of an encouraging word. Consider making some cookies or bread and visiting this person with your child. With such activities, your child will begin learning how to show God's care to those in need.

"Jesus is the Son of God." 1 John 4:15



Thank You, God, for Your Care



A Song to Sing at Home

Thank You, God

(Tune: "Mulberry Bush")

Thank You, God, for caring for us,
Caring for us, caring for us.
Thank You, God, for caring for us,
When we are sick or hurt.

"Jesus is the Son of God." 1 John 4:15

JESUS LOVES . . .



GLUE FOIL HERE

ME!

Dear Parent: Consider replacing the "mirror" with your child's picture, and remind your child often that . .

"We love him, because he first loved us."

1 John 4:19

"Sing unto the LORD."

Psalm 30:4

A Song to Sing at Home

Hosanna

(Tune: "Three Blind Mice")

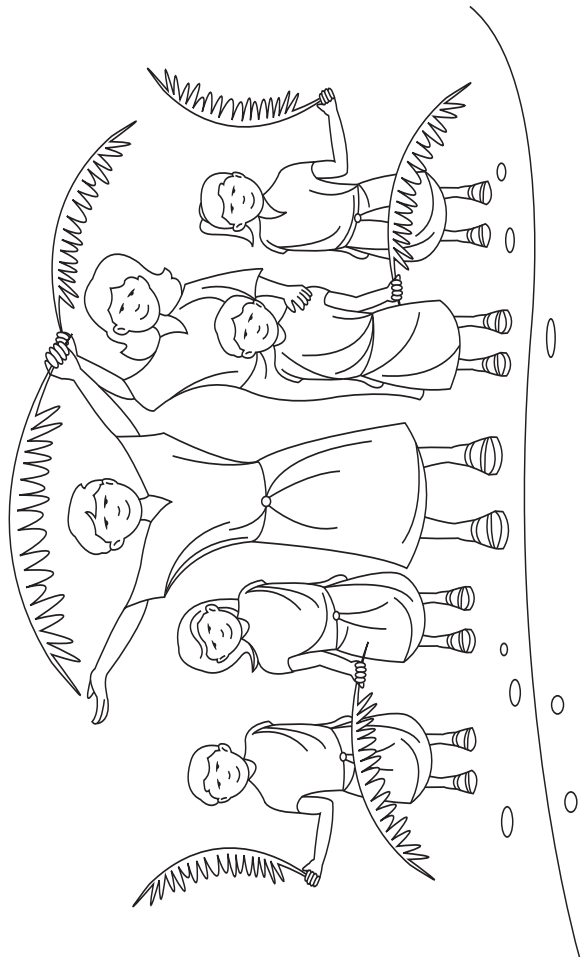
Hosanna, Hosanna,
To the King, to the King.
We thank You, God, for sending Your Son.
We sing our praise to Your Holy One.
We'll sing and sing until the day's done.
Hosanna to the King.



Fold

cut

X



X



Song to Sing at Home

Jesus Is Alive

(Tune: "Farmer in the Dell")

Jesus is alive, Jesus is alive.

Thank You, God, for Your dear Son.

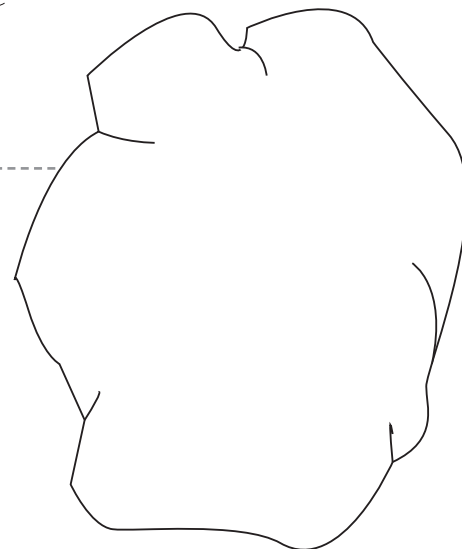
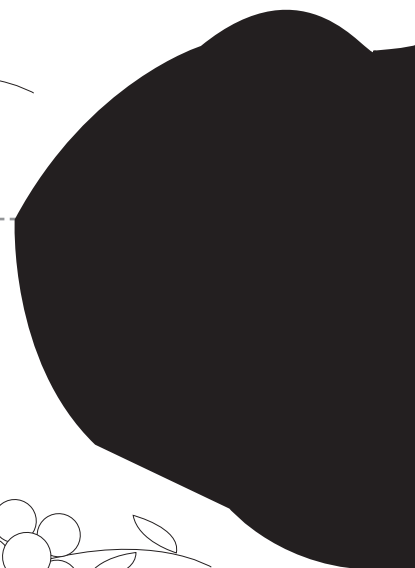
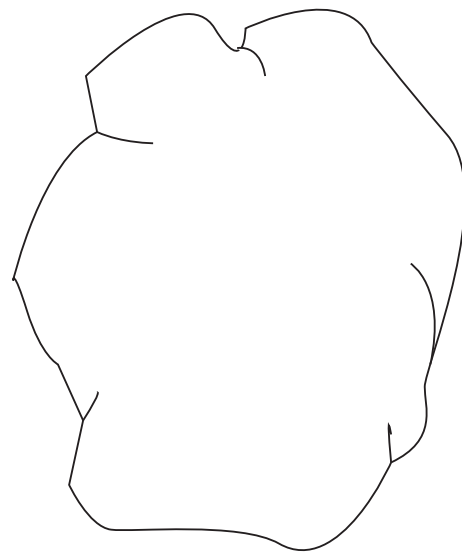
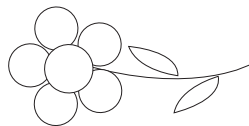
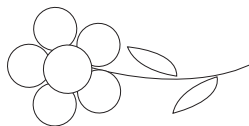
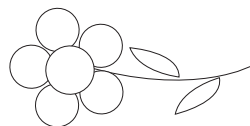
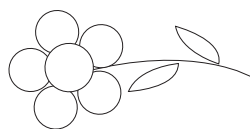
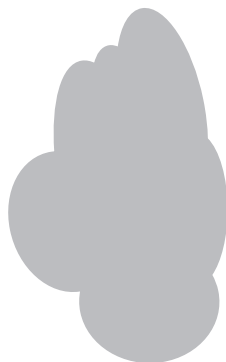
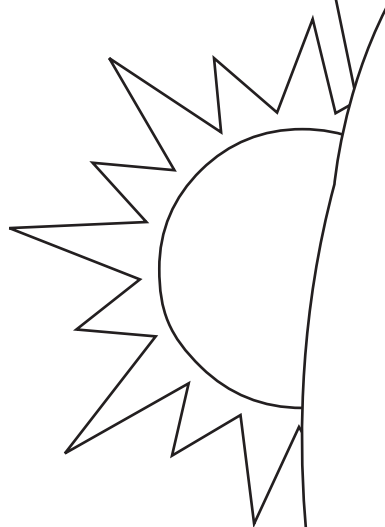
Jesus is alive.

"I am alive for evermore."

Revelation 1:18

Fold forward

Fold back

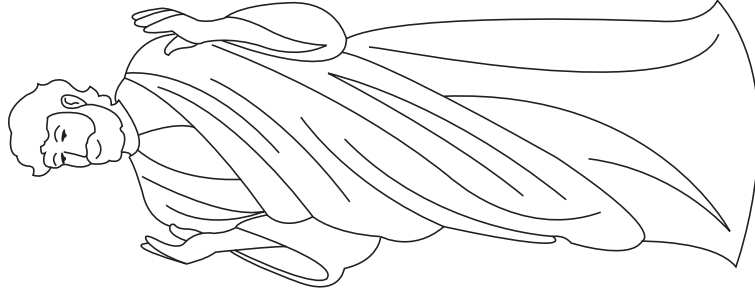


Jesus went home to heaven,

Dear Parent: Your child learned that Jesus returned to His home in heaven. Help your child understand how different homes can be by going on a nature walk to see animal homes—bird nests, holes in trees, burrows in the ground, and even spider webs. Explain that just as your home is very different from animal homes, so Jesus' home in heaven is very different from your home. Because Jesus loves us, one day He will return to take believers home to heaven with Him.

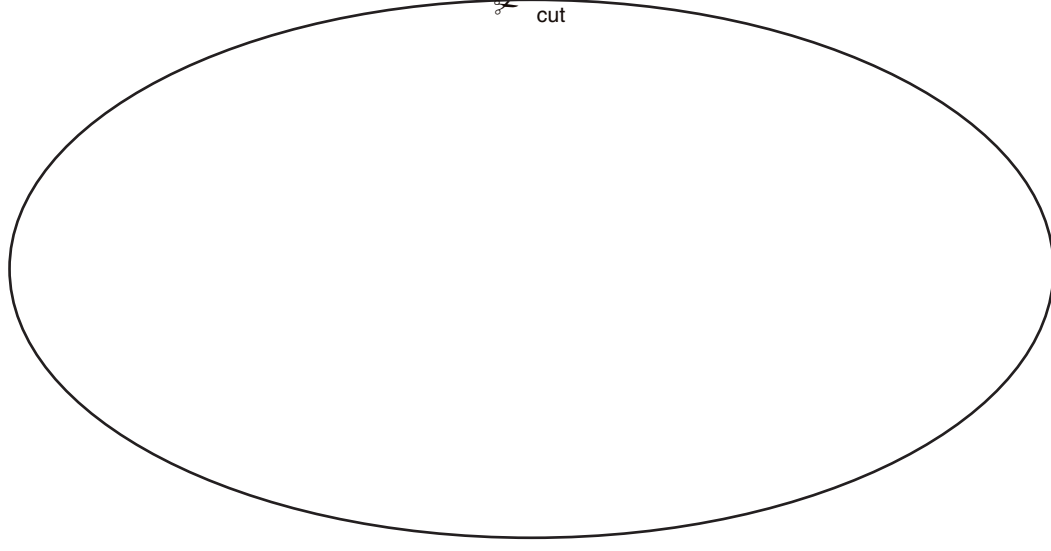
**"We love him,
because he
first loved us."**

1 John 4:19



Fold

Fold



but one day He is coming back!

Tape
yarn
here.

"We love him, because he first loved us."
1 John 4:19

Tape
yarn
here.

Dear Parent: Help your child hang this in a prominent place to remember that, since God cares for the birds and flowers, we know that He cares for us.

Fold

God Cares for Birds, Flowers, and Me!

cut

Tape
yarn
here.

Tape
yarn
here.

Fold

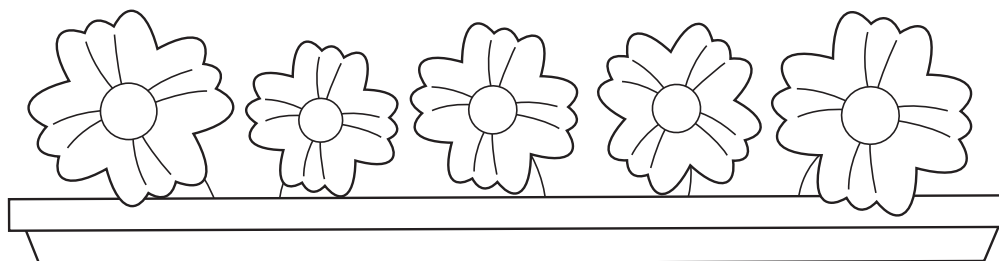


cut

Tape
yarn
here.

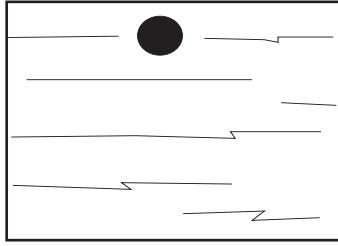
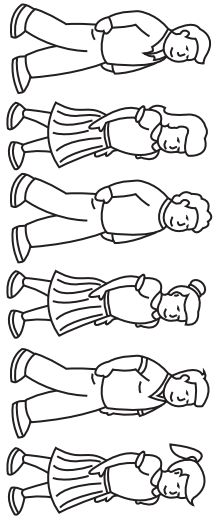
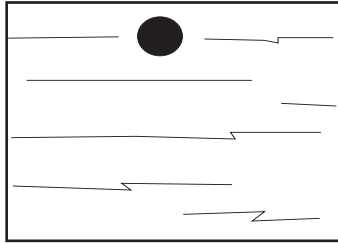
Tape
yarn
here.

Fold





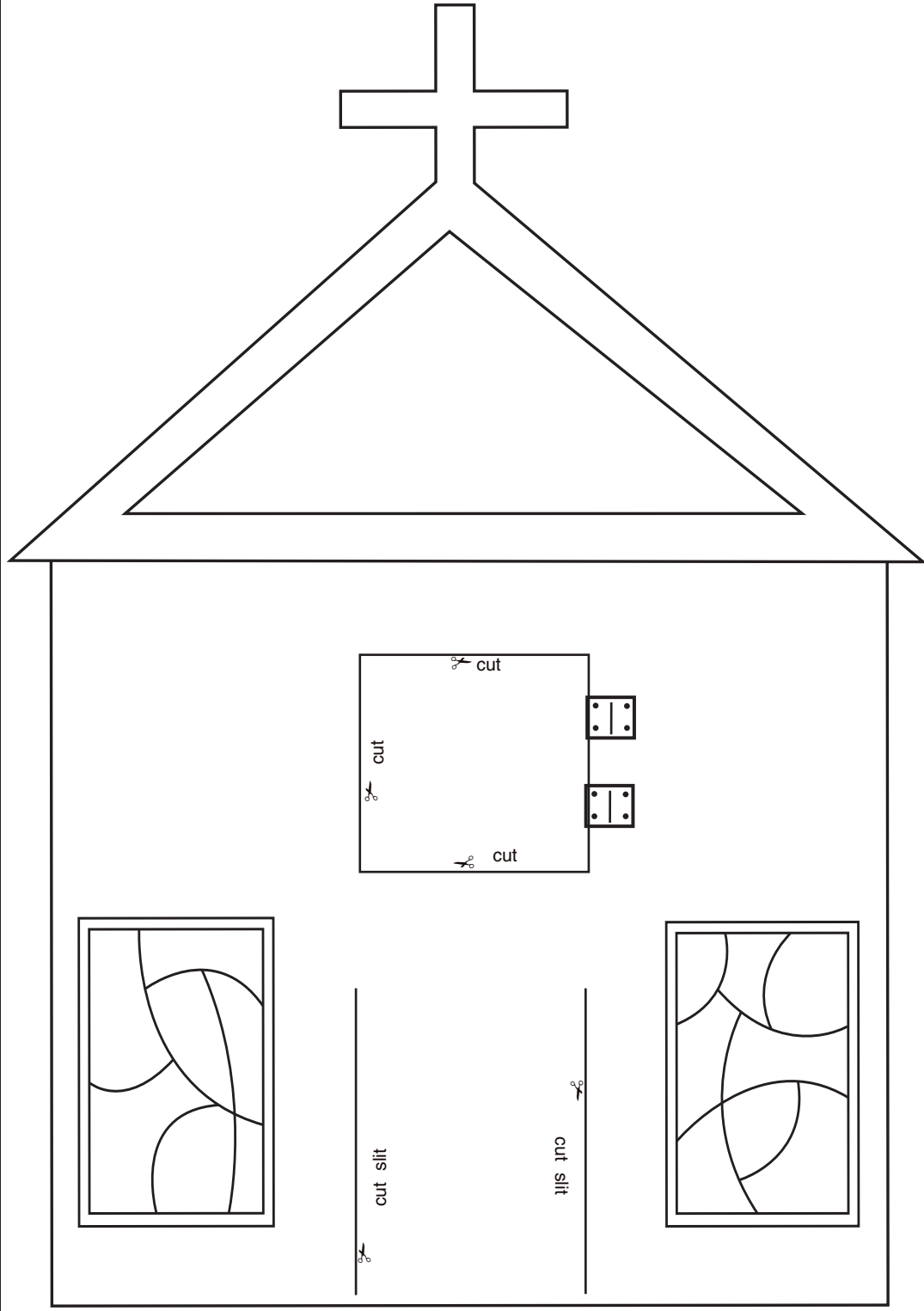
cut



cut

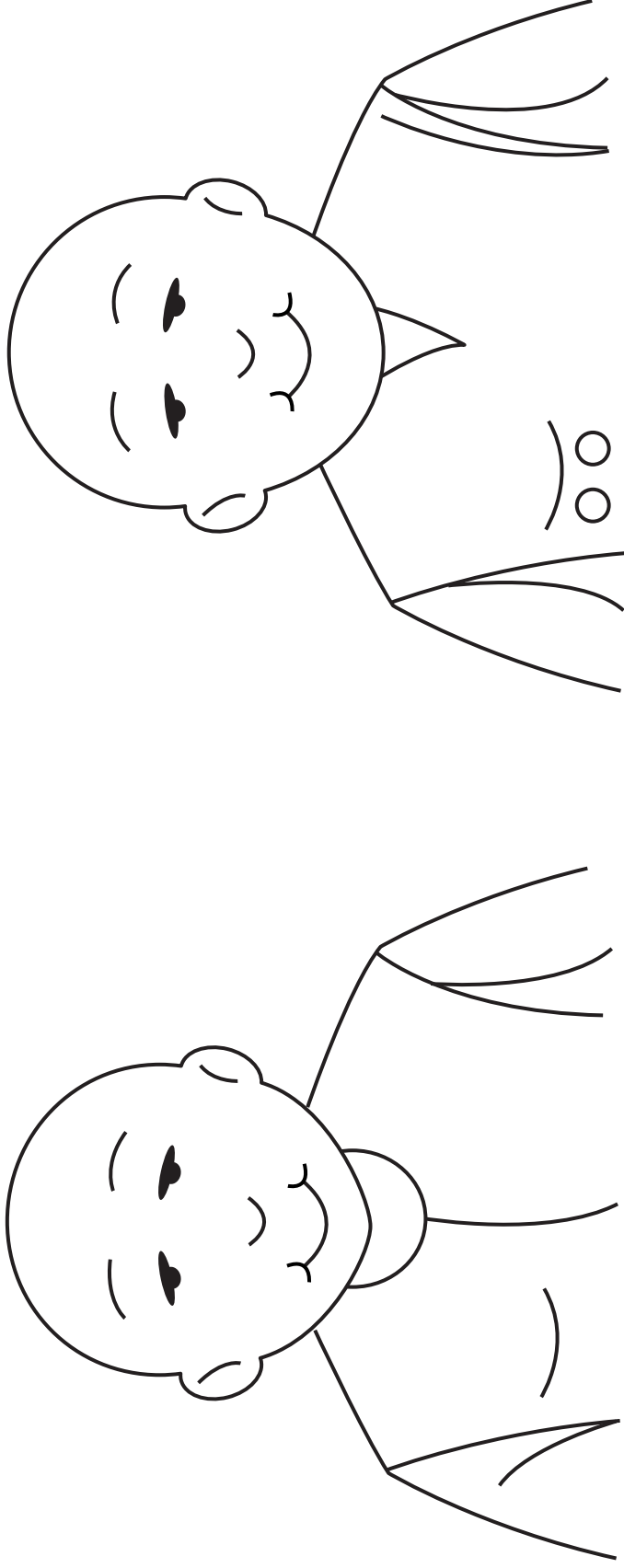
**"We love him,
because he first
loved us."
1 John 4:19**

Fold



**A Song to
Sing at Home**
Yes, I love Jesus
(Tune: "Jesus Loves Me")
Yes, I love Jesus.
Yes, I love Jesus.
Yes, I love Jesus,
Because He first loved me.

Thank You, God, for Friends



Dear Parent: This week your child learned that God gives us good friends, and the best Friend of all is Jesus. Friends help each other, so if you haven't already, consider assigning simple tasks for your child to do to help. Be sure to point out how friendly your child is when he or she helps.

"We love him, because he first loved us."

1 John 4:19

FOR
MY
MOTHER.

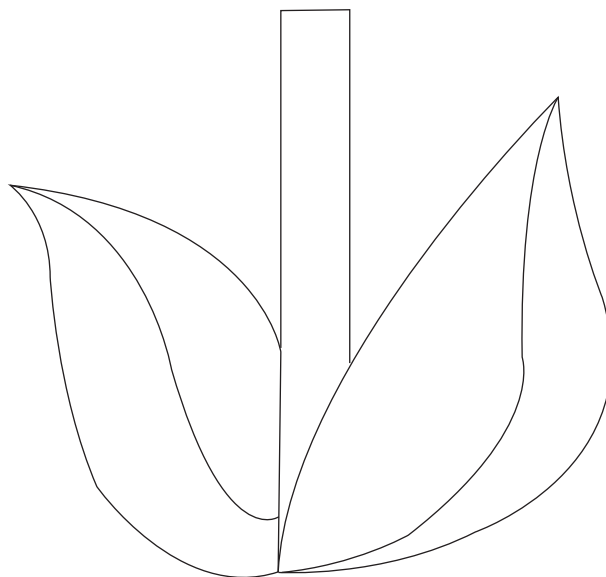
THANK
YOU,
GOD,

Fold

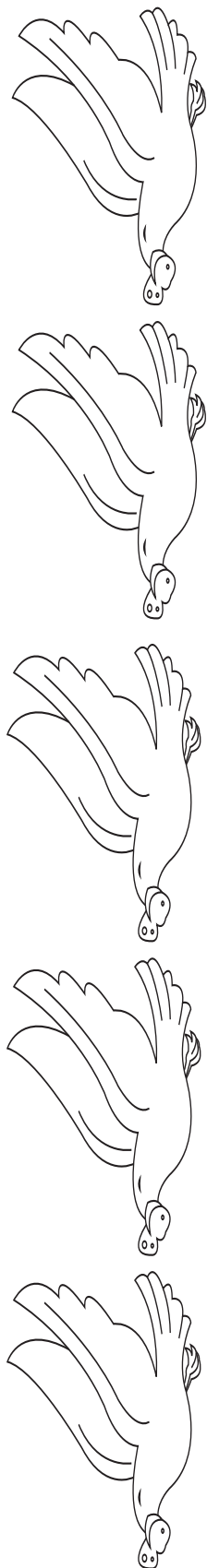
Dear parent: Today your child learned what a wonderful gift from God families are. Help your child see the many things you do for him or her. God takes care of your child through you. Remind your child often of this truth.

"He careth for you."
1 Peter 5:7

Glue cotton
ball here



Fold



✂ cut



✂ cut

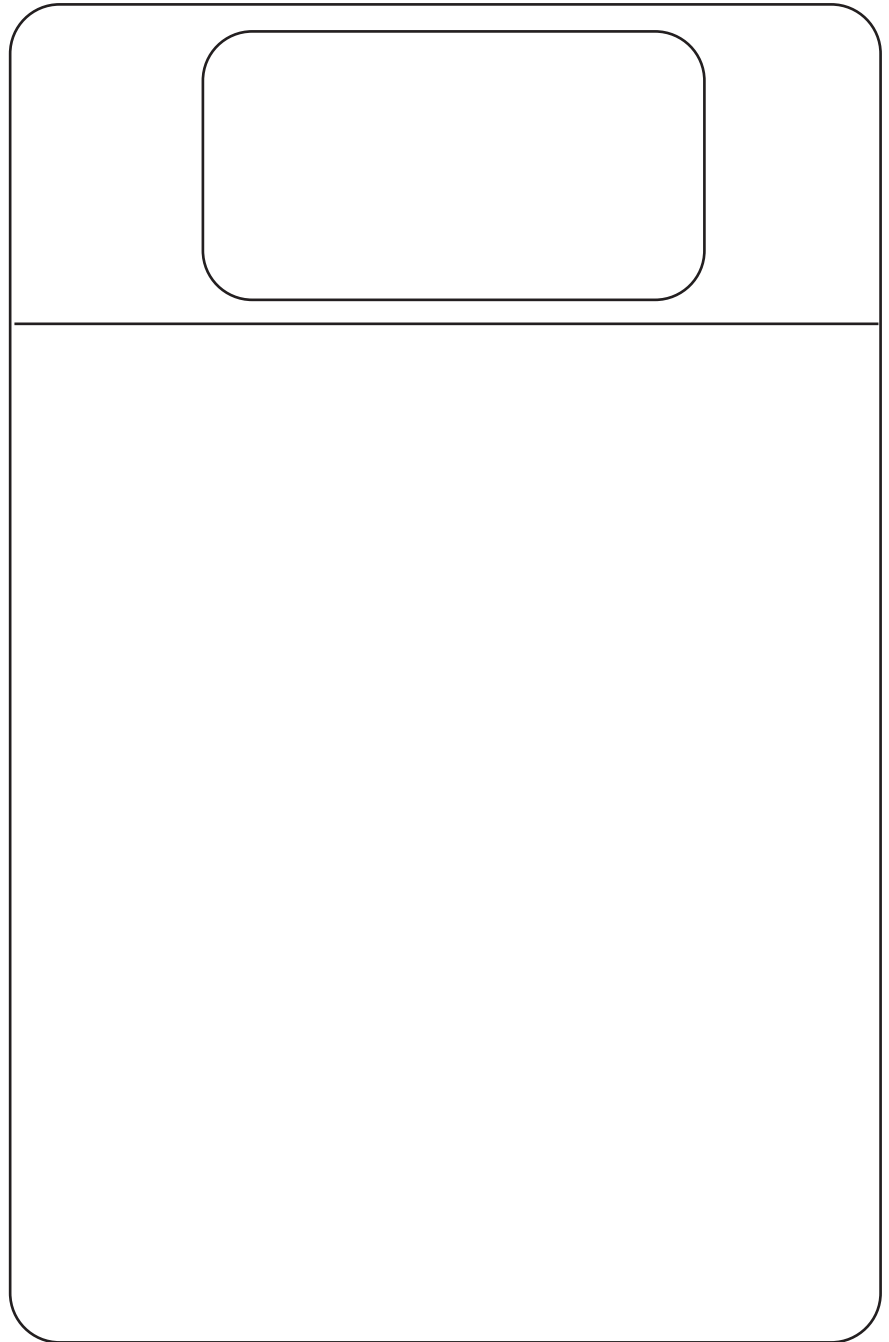
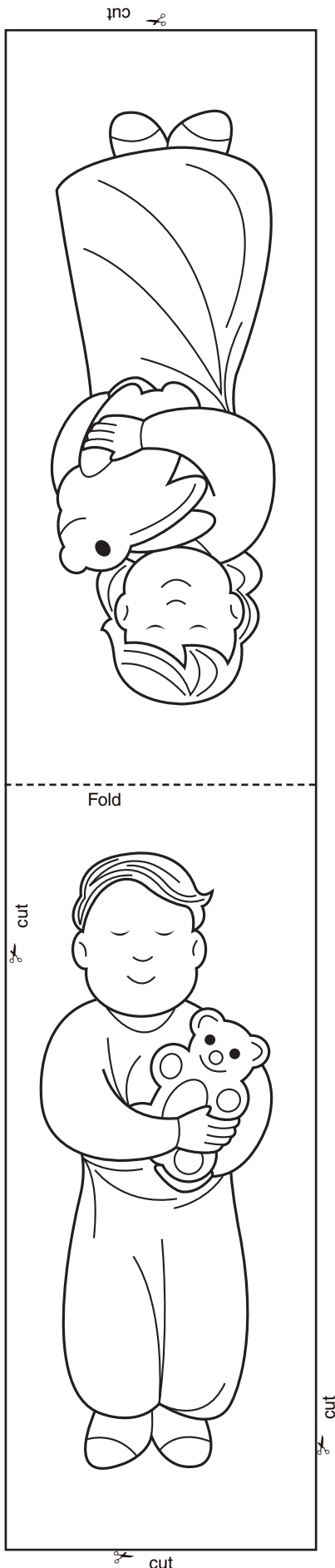
✂ cut

***“He careth for
you.”***
1 Peter 5:7

Song to Sing at Home
God’s Care
(Tune: “Mulberry Bush”)

God cared for Elijah, Elijah, Elijah.
God cared for Elijah,
And He cares for me.
(Then: God cares for boys and
girls . . . And He cares for me.)

GOD IS WITH ME WHEN I SLEEP



Song to Sing at Home

God Is with Me When I Sleep

(Tune: "London Bridge")

God is with me when I sleep,
When I sleep, when I sleep.
God is with me when I sleep.
He cares for me.

(Then: God is with me all day long
. . . He cares for me.)

***"He careth for you."
1 Peter 5:7***

THANK YOU, GOD,



FOR BEING WITH ME.

Dear Parent: Play a game of "Hide and Seek" to help your child remember that God is with us everywhere we are. Each time you find your child, emphasize that, even though you had to look for him or her, God did not. He knows where we are and cares for us all the time. Then thank God for His care.

"He careth for you." 1 Peter 5:7

O Give Thanks

Psalm 136:1

STELLA B. DALEBURN

C F C F C G

O give thanks un - to the Lord, O give thanks un - to the Lord;

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of the song. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols C, F, and G are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

C F Dm Dm⁷ C G⁷ C

O give thanks un - to the Lord, For He is good.

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols C, F, Dm, Dm⁷, C, G⁷, and C are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

I Have a Message for You

M. A. B.

MARY A. BARBOUR

F F C⁷ F

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

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols F, F, C⁷, and F are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

F F C⁷ F

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

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols F, F, C⁷, and F are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

My Best Friend

A. V. B.

A. VIVIENNE BLOMQUIST

F Bb F F C⁷ F

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

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols F, Bb, F, F, C⁷, and F are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

F Bb F C⁷ F

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

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols F, Bb, F, C⁷, and F are placed above the staff. The lyrics are written below the staves.

How Can Jesus Know All Things?

L. W.

LILLIAN WALDECKER

C G⁷ C

1. How can Je - sus KNOW all things? know all things, Yes, know all things?
 2. How can Je - sus DO all things? do all things, Yes, do all things?
 3. How can Je - sus SEE all things? see all things, Yes, see all things?
 4. How can Je - sus HEAR all things? hear all things, Yes, hear all things?

C C⁷ Dm G⁷ C

How can Je - sus know all things? Be - cause He is the Son of God.
 How can Je - sus do all things? Be - cause He is the Son of God.
 How can Je - sus see all things? Be - cause He is the Son of God.
 How can Je - sus hear all things? Be - cause He is the Son of God.

I Love Him

L. W.

LILLIAN WALDECKER

Not too fast
E^b B^b E^b

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^{b7} E^b

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
 2. Cross arms, hands on shoulders

3. Point to self
 4. Shade hand over eyes

5. Cup hand behind ear
 6. Fold hands

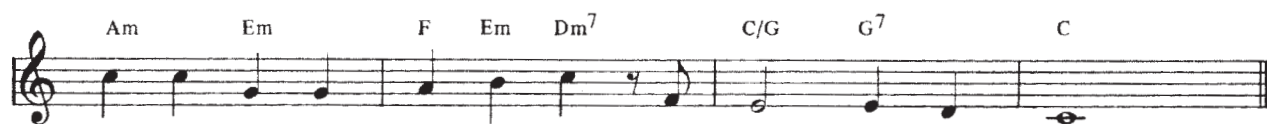
Swimming Fish and Flying Birds

M. H. F.

MARIE H. FROST



Swim - ming, swim - ming, swim - ming fish, Splash - ing, splash - ing tails that swish.
Tip - toe, tip - toe, arms stretched high, Flut - ter, flut - ter, through the sky.



Swim - ming, swim - ming, swim - ming fish, And God made them all.
God made birds to fly and hop, Tip - toe, tip - toe, stop!

Thank You Prayer Song

M. H. F.

MARIE H. FROST



Thank You for the food* we eat. Thank You, thank You, God.
Thank You, God, for Sun - day School, Thank You, thank You, God.
Thank You, God, for Je - sus too, Thank You, thank You, God.

*For the words "food we eat," you may substitute "milk (or juice) to drink" or "cookie sweet."

God Watches While I Sleep



Sleep, sleep, God — watch - es while I sleep.



When I close my eyes He helps me sleep, sleep, sleep.

Hosanna, Hosanna!

L. W.

LILLIAN WALDECKER

C F G C

1. Here comes Je - sus on a don - key Rid - ing, oh, so slow!¹
 2. Peo - ple lay their coats be - fore Him,⁴ As they ride a - long,²
 3. In God's house their voi - ces ring - ing, Prais - es loud and long.⁷

C Dm⁷ G⁷ C CHORUS

Lit - tle chil - dren run be - fore Him,² Sing - ing as they go.³
 Wav - ing branch - es, loud - ly sing - ing,⁵ Hear their hap - py song.⁶ Ho -
 Tho' men try to stop their sing - ing,⁸ Je - sus wants their song.⁹

C F C C/G D⁷ G⁷

san - na,¹⁰ ho - san - na, Sing - ing all a - long. Ho -

Am CM⁷/G F C C/G G⁷ C

san - na, ho - san - na, Je - sus loves their song.⁹

1. Make two fingers walk along table, lap, or hand.
2. All ten fingers in running motion.
3. Cup hands around mouth.
4. Motion as if laying coats on ground.
5. Hands waving branches in air.

6. Cup hands behind ear.
7. Cup hands around mouth.
8. Point finger as if scolding.
9. Point upward.
10. Cup hands around mouth from beginning of chorus.
Or you may clap in rhythm.

Hosanna! Praise the King!

M. A. B.

MARY A. BARBOUR

The children sang to Je - sus As He rode a - long. They waved and waved their palm leaves While they sang this song: Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Praise the King! Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Praise the King!

Spring Is Here! It's Easter Day

R. M. H.

RUTH M. HINDS

1. The sing - ing bird - ies seem to say, "Spring is here, — it's spring! —
 2. The lit - tle green leaves seem to say, "Je - sus is — a - live, —
 — It's a hap - py spring - time day!" — The sing - ing
 — It's hap - py East - er day!" — The lit - tle
 bird - ies seem to say, "It's a hap - py spring - time day!"
 green leaves seem to say, "It's hap - py East - er day!"
 3. The springing flowers
 4. The happy children sing and say

Easter Day

A. V. B.

A. VIVIENNE BLOMQUIST

C F C C G G⁷ C/G G⁷ C

“Je - sus is a - live!” the an - gels say; Be glad, be glad, this Eas - ter Day.

God Takes Care of Me

S.E.P.

SUSAN E. PAYNE
and ELLEN R. THOMPSON

G C Dm B \flat Gm G C

1. Look at the pret - ty flow'rs that grow. God takes care of them!
2. Look at the birds go fly - ing by. God takes care of them!

Am⁷ Em Dm G Dm C G C

Rain and sun - shine He pro - vides 'Cause God takes care of them.
Food and shel - ter He pro - vides 'Cause God takes care of them.

F G C Am F C G⁷ C

God loves me more than all the flow-ers. God loves me! He takes care of me.
God loves me more than all the birds. God loves me! He takes care of me.

Church Time®

Lead your children into joyful praise and worship.

With the Leader's Guide and *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* CD, the *Church Time*® packet contains all the curriculum you need for *Total Bible Learning*®.

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



Transition Time is a welcome break between hours filled with activities, play, snacks, and rest.

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.

Hands-to-Hearts Activities use the hands of a child to create an art or craft to etch God's truth upon a young heart.

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

The Leader's Guide gives you lesson plans to fill your whole hour; copymasters for fun, enriching activities; and sheet music to go with the *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music* CD.

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