

YOUR
COMPLETE
QUARTER'S
CHILDREN'S
CHURCH!

Lesson Plans &Activities

Reproducible Student

Activity Sheets

Sheet Music



UNIT THEMES

Learning about the First Easter

Learning of Jesus' Love

Telling Others about Jesus, the Saviour



How to Use This Packet

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

Transition (25–30 minutes)

Children who have been in Sunday School for an hour need a break, including a stop at the rest room. After this and a time of warm greeting and free play, have a snack. You may want to have a standard snack from week to week, such as cookies and juice, which can be provided by parents. Or you may want to have a snack that relates to the theme of the lesson. Each *Church Time*® lesson gives ideas for themerelated snacks. Be sure to check with parents for any food allergies your children may have. Then let your children 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 stories "real" to the children, consider illustrating them with the colorful visuals from our 2s & 3s Sunday School *Teaching Resources*. You can share with the Sunday School teacher, or perhaps you'd want to order a resource packet specifically for your classroom. You will also find suggestions for alternate ways of telling the Bible story. Songsheets are provided at the end of this *Church Time*® manual for the songs you will use most often this quarter. The music MP3s has more songs than those included on the songsheets. These quarterly MP3s are called *Let's Sing Motions 'n Music*. Additionally, throughout the lessons and on the songsheets, songs are recommended that can be sung to such familiar tunes as "Farmer in the Dell" and "London Bridge."

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

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

Good-bye Time (until parents arrive)

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

MATERIALS INCLUDED

□ 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:













JESUS HELPS A SICK MAN

LESSON ONE

UNIT 1: LEARNING OF JESUS' LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Now is the time to let the children relax and to prepare for Church Time. Note any allergies or restrictions on an index card with the child's name and clip it to your attendance book for safekeeping. For today's snack, you can make "Man on the Mat" snacks. Break graham cracker squares in half. Then "glue" on a mini gingerbread man cookie with a dab of cream cheese. Serve with milk.

Birthday Time (recognize birthdays each week): Birthdays are very important to young children.

Be sure to check your class roster and be prepared to celebrate children's birthdays on the Sunday closest to their special day. You can use this activity to help. Have children sing with you, as you walk in a circle around the birthday child (tune: "Mary Had a Little Lamb").

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Mark 2:1-5, 10-12

Bible Truth:

Jesus showed His care for a sick man by healing him.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for caring for us, whether we are sick or well.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack; craft sticks, thin markers, brown chenille wires, 3" x 5" pieces of burlap; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 1, crayons; flower stickers (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.

God loves you, and we do too. We do too. We do too. God loves you, and we do too. Happy birthday, (child's name)!

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Man on the Mat: Give each child a piece of burlap, a craft stick, and two brown chenille wires. Have the children draw a face on the top part of the stick. Show them how to bend a wire in half around the stick just under the face and twist to form arms. Now do the same on the lower portion of the body to form legs. Lay the man on the burlap mat. Have the children bring their men and mats to the circle for story time.

Our story today is about a man who couldn't walk. His friends believed that Jesus could help the sick man, and they were right. Let's find out how Jesus made the man well again.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.

Bible Story: Tell the story using the figures from *Teaching Resources*. For added effect, you could make a Bible-time house from a shoebox or bring a mat similar to the one the sick man might have used. (See Sheet 16, *Teaching Resources*.)

Jesus liked to talk to people and tell them about God's Word. One day Jesus was talking to people in a town called Capernaum. So many people came to listen that the house Jesus was in got very crowded. Some people even had to stand outside the door in the street.

Suddenly, the people inside the house heard a noise. Some of them felt dirt and sticks dropping on their heads. Jesus and the people looked up. They saw a man on a mat coming down through the ceiling, right in front of Jesus! The man's friends had made a hole in the roof and lowered their sick friend because they couldn't get through the door. There were just too many people inside the house. The sick man's friends wanted Jesus to help him.

All the people looked around. They probably wondered what Jesus would do. Would He be angry that the man had interrupted His teaching?

No! Jesus knew the man was sick and couldn't walk. He also knew the man needed forgiveness for the bad things he had done in his life. Jesus told the man, "Your sins are forgiven."

Then some of the people were upset. They knew that only God could forgive them when they did bad things. But they just heard Jesus tell the sick man that his sins were forgiven. The people didn't know if they should believe Jesus.

Jesus knew what the people were thinking. So He showed them that He, the Son of God, could forgive

and heal. "Stand up," Jesus told the sick man. "Take up your bed and walk."

To everyone's surprise, the man stood up. He picked up his mat and walked out the door. The man praised God for sending Jesus, and so did many people in the room. They had never seen anything so amazing. Jesus, God's Son, is wonderful!



As an alternative or review, play "A Sick Man Forgiven and Healed" from this quarter's MP3s, or try this action story:

The people came in, in, in, in. (March in step when you say "in.")

And Jesus said, "Hear God's Word." (Cup hand to ear.)

Then a man came down, down, down. (Children lower stick man on the mat to the floor.)

And Jesus forgave the man's sin. (Fold hands together in thanksgiving.)

Then Jesus said, "Walk!" And the man walked. (Children make stick man walk.)

So the people praised, for Jesus saves! (Sign "Jesus"—middle finger to opposite palm each syllable.)

Worship in Song: Sing "Jesus Is the Son of God" and "I Can Help" from this quarter's music MP3s. Then try this song to remind the children that Jesus loves and helps us (tune: "Are You Sleeping?").

Jesus tells us that He loves us.

He loves us. He loves us.

Jesus will forgive sin, if we only trust Him.

He loves us. He loves us.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Actions help children remember important words. Open your Bible to show the children where the verse comes from and are it. the children where the verse comes from, and use these actions to remind your group of today's Bible Truth. Say Hebrews 13:6 and do these actions with it:

The Lord Use sign language for Jesus—touch middle finger to opposite palm on each syllable.

is my Point to self.

helper. Stretch out arm with palm up as if offering help.

Life Application: Prayer is a great way for children to ask for and respond to Jesus' loving kindness. Gather children in a circle. Ask if they know anyone who is sick. Remind them that Jesus loves and helps us even when we're not sick; He is always with us. Once everyone has shared, pray together.

Dear Jesus, we know that You love us always. We know that You help us when we need it. Please hear our prayers for (insert requested names) and help them get well. Let them know You care for them, just as You care for us. Thank You, Lord Jesus. We love You, too.

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

The Lord's Care: For this activity you'll need copies of Copymaster 1 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):

Lie Down, Stand Up, and Walk: While waiting for parents, play "Red Light/Green Light," except change the commands to "Lie Down, Stand Up, and Walk." Children lie on floor at one end of th room. You stand at the the commands to "Lie Down, Stand Up, and Walk." Children lie on floor at one end of th room. You stand at the other end with your back to them. You will say, **Stand up and walk**, and children should stand up and start walking toward you. After a second or two, turn around and say, **Lie down**, and they all have to lie down on the floor again. Repeat this until one child tags you. Then start a new game.

If you'd rather, have the children make a large card for a shut-in. Have a note already written on the card and let the children decorate the cards with colorful flower stickers.

JESUS, FRIEND OF CHILDREN

LESSON TWO

UNIT 1: LEARNING OF JESUS' LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: This is a great time for everyone to take a break. Let children unwind while you serve a healthy snack. *Be sure to check your index card for food allergies or restrictions. Ask any parents of new students for this information.* Today you can serve "Friendship Crackers." Using the cheese spread in a can, draw smiley faces on round crackers. Put a couple of "Friendship Crackers" on a plate for each child and serve with juice.

Don't forget to pray with your group first. Also remember to celebrate any birthdays today. Check your attendance book notes and use the birthday song from Lesson 1.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Ahead of time, cut out 4" people shapes from paper, approximately two per child. Bring your people shapes, markers, glue stick, and poster board to the circle with the children. Talk with them about

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Matthew 19:13-15

Bible Truth:

Jesus was a Friend to children and still is.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for caring for us, whether we are sick or well.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:19

Materials Needed:

Snack; people shapes cut from paper, markers, tape, sheet of poster board; figures from Teaching Resources; chenille wires, pony beads, alphabet beads, Copymaster 2, brads, paper plates, stickers

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

friendship. Ask if they know what makes a good friend (plays with you, loves you, listens to you, etc.). Write each idea on one of the people shapes and glue to the poster board as you discuss. **Does anyone have a grown-up friend** (maybe an aunt or uncle or adult baby-sitter)? **How does the grown-up show that he or she is a good friend?** Write down these ideas, too (cares for you, cooks for you, etc.). Then talk about our best Friend.

Today we're going to hear the story of how Jesus told His grown-up friends to let the children come to Him. Jesus is our best Friend.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought. **Bible Story:** Have your figures from *Teaching Resources* ready to help you tell the story.

As we heard last week, Jesus loved to talk to people about God's love. But Jesus was a grown-up, so other grown-ups thought His stories were just for them, not for children. But one day, some parents brought their children to hear Jesus' stories. The children had heard their parents talking about how gentle and kind Jesus was and how wonderful His stories were. They were so excited! They couldn't wait to meet Jesus.

But when they got close, Jesus' grown-up friends stopped them. The men said that the children could not go to Jesus. They started to send the children away from Jesus.

The children were sad. They may have heard that Jesus welcomed everyone, even sinners and sick people. Why wouldn't He be a Friend to them? The children and their families sadly began to walk back to the road.

But suddenly the children heard Jesus saying, "Let the little children come to Me. Do not stop them." Jesus welcomed the children back into His arms. He held them and blessed them. Truly, Jesus loves children very, very much.

The children smiled. Jesus loved them and cared for them, too. They went back home with happy hearts. Jesus was their Friend!

Try this song as an alternate activity or to reinforce the message (sung to "Jesus Loves the Little Children").

All the children came to Jesus.
They wanted to be with Him.
When His friends said, "Go away,"
Jesus said, "No, let them stay."
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
They came to meet with Him,
And He welcomed all of them.
He's a Friend to all the children in the world.

Worship in Song: Sing "My Best Friend" and "Jesus Has Time" from this quarter's music CD. Then sing this song to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot" to help children remember that Jesus is their Friend.

I'm a friend of Jesus.
He's the One.
Who doesn't care if I'm short or young.
Jesus loves us children,
The Bible says.
And we love Him, every day.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible to show the children where the words are located and try this technique to help your children remember the words of 1 John 4:19. Divide the Bible verse and the class into two parts. Give one part of the verse to each group. Have each group stand up when they say their part and sit when the other group is saying the other part. Practice saying the verse a few times. Then switch groups and say it again. Close by saying the whole verse together.

Life Application: Help the children verbalize the Lord's love for them as they participate in this activity. Have the children sit in a circle. Point to a child and ask, Are you one of the children whom Jesus loves? He or she will stand and answer, Yes, Jesus loves me. Continue around the circle until every child has had a turn. Then ask, Where are the children whom Jesus loves? All the children should stand and say together, Jesus loves us!

Then pray. Dear Jesus, thank You for being our Friend. Please help us to listen to Your teachings in the Bible. We love You, Jesus. Amen.

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

Friendship Bracelets: Make simple bracelets to help the children remember that Jesus is their Friend. Ahead of time, you may want to make your own alphabet beads by using solid color pony beads and writing letters on them with permanent markers or paint markers. You will need enough alphabet beads to spell each child's name and the name Jesus for every child. When you are ready to start your craft, give each child a long chenille wire, the beads that spell his or her name and Jesus' name, and other beads for decoration. Show children how to string the decorative beads onto the chenille wire. Next help them string on their letter beads in the correct order to spell their names and put on a few more decorative beads. Then add the beads to spell Jesus. Children can place a few more decorative beads after Jesus' name if they wish. Place bracelet around child's arm and twist ends to secure.

Jesus Loves Me Always: Then hand out Copymaster 2, scissors, crayons, paper plates, glue, and decorative stickers. Have the children cut out the clock face and glue it to a paper plate. Then have them cut out the hands of the clock and fasten to the clock with a brad. Now they'll color and decorate the clock with stickers.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

After you have closed your morning in prayer and gathered the children's belongings, you can play this singing game: "Jesus Loves Us All." Sing to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." Move around in a circle with one child in the middle. When you sing the second verse, the middle child picks a friend to join him or her. When you repeat the first verse, the pair rejoins the circle, and a new middle child is moved inside the circle by the teacher. Repeat the process as you repeat the verses.

Jesus loves us all.
Jesus loves us all.
Hi-ho, He loves us so.
Whether we're short or tall.

Jesus is our Friend. Jesus is our Friend. Hi-ho, He loves us so. Jesus is our Friend.

JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER

LESSON THREE

UNIT 1: LEARNING OF JESUS' LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Let your class relax and unwind while you prepare to serve the snack. Since today's story takes place on the water, you'll be serving blue, flavored gelatin cut into wave shapes. Ahead of time, prepare the flavored gelatin according to the box instructions. Pour into a pan to set. When the gelatin has set, cut it into wavy ribbon strips. Serve these to your class with fruit juice. I think our snack looks like waves of water on a lake or sea, **don't you?** Be sure to check for any food allergies or restrictions. Make sure you celebrate any birthdays today, using the birthday song from Lesson 1.

Matthew 14:22-33

Bible Truth:

Jesus came to His helpers when they needed Him.

Life Response Aim:

To trust Jesus to take care of us.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack; sheets of paper, pencils, scissors, glue sticks, tongue depressors; figures from Teaching Resources; copies of Copymaster 3, buff-colored paper, 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.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

To prepare for today's Bible story, have children make a hand tracing on paper and cut it out. Give each child a wide tongue depressor (or other large craft stick) and glue the hand to the stick to make a hand puppet. Have the children bring the hand puppet to the circle for story time.

Today we're going to hear a story about how Jesus showed the disciples that He was their Friend. You can use your hand puppet to help me tell the story.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.



Bible Story: Have your figures from *Teaching Resources* ready to help you tell your story.

One day Jesus had been teaching about God's love. He was very tired at the end of the day and needed some quiet time to pray and talk with God. He decided to send His friends, the disciples, ahead to the next town across the lake. Jesus also sent the many people He was teaching to their homes or other places where they could eat and **sleep.** Ask children to point with the hand puppets. **So, the disciples got into** their boat and set off across the lake.

The disciples were rowing their boat. Have children make rowing motions with their hands. Suddenly a strong wind blew across the lake. The boat tossed and turned in the waves. It went up and down, up and down. Have children make up and down motions with their hands. **The disciples were**

very afraid. They didn't know what to do. They wished Jesus were there to help them.

The wind blew a long, long time. It blew until very early the next day, while it was still dark. The big waves kept going up and down, up and down.

Suddenly, the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water toward them. They couldn't believe it. "It's a ghost," they cried.

But it wasn't a ghost. Jesus called to them and told them not to be afraid.

Peter said, "Lord, let me walk to You."

"Come," Jesus said to him and motioned for Peter to join Him on the water. Have children make beckoning motions with their hands.

Peter started to walk to Jesus, but then, instead of looking at Jesus, he looked at all the waves and became very afraid. Peter forgot to trust in Jesus, and he began to sink in the water.

"Help me, Lord," Peter cried.

"Oh, Peter," Jesus said reaching for Peter's hand. Have children extend their hand out toward another person. "Why didn't you believe that I would help you?" Jesus took Peter's hand and helped him to the boat.

The disciples bowed down and worshiped Jesus. They knew they must trust in Him. Jesus would help them when they were in need, because Jesus, God's Son, was their Friend, and He loved them.

Try this action story as an additional way of telling the story, leading the children to do the actions indicated. For added interest, play "The Storm" from this quarter's music CD.

Jesus told of God's love all day. Point to mouth, then up.

Then to the mountains He went to pray. Fold hands.

The disciples began rowing across the lake. Make rowing motions.

They rowed and rowed without a break. Keep rowing.

But a strong wind came up and rocked their boat. Make rocking motion.

The disciples feared it would not float. Make scared faces.

In the morning Jesus did appear, Hand over eyes as if searching.

Walking on water. He said, "Have no fear." Walk in place.

Peter called, "Let me come to You, Lord." Put hand to mouth as if calling out.

Jesus said to him, "Come." So Peter climbed overboard. Make beckoning motion.

He took some steps and then looked down. *Walk in place; then look down.*

"Oh, Jesus, help, I'm going to drown!" Squat down.

Jesus looked down and held out His hand. Hold out hand.

So, with the Lord's help, Peter could stand. Stand.

Then all the disciples bowed low, each and every one. Bow down.

They all said together, "Truly, You are God's Son." Point up.

Worship in Song: Sing "Jesus Is with Me" and "Jesus Is the Son of God" from this quarter's music CD. Then sing these words (tune: "Pon Goes the Woosel") sing these words (tune: "Pop Goes the Weasel").

Remembering the Bible Truth: Show the children where Hebrews 13:6 is located in your Bible. Then try this simple activity to help reinforce your Bible verse. Say the verse while doing these actions. Clap your lap on the first syllable. Clap your hands on the second syllable. Snap your fingers on the third syllable. Repeat these motions for the remaining syllables. Try saying the verse slowly first, then faster and faster.

Life Application: Help the children understand that Jesus is not physically with us, as He was with Peter, but He is still very much with us. Just as Peter reached out and called to the Lord for help, we can call to the Lord in prayer for help. Reinforce this concept by leading the children in this action rhyme.

I can pray when I'm walking. I can pray when I'm hopping. I can pray when I'm sitting. I can pray when I'm standing.

Jesus hears me when I'm walking. Jesus hears me when I'm hopping. Jesus hears me when I'm sitting. Jesus hears me when I'm standing.

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

NV Give each child a copy of Copymaster 3 and a sheet of buff paper. Have the children trace one hand three times on the paper. Children should cut out two of the hands and glue them into the boat on the copymaster (their fingers will be 10 of the 12 disciples). Then the children need to cut off three of the fingers from the third hand and glue one of them into the boat for the eleventh disciple. The other two "finger" people get glued outside the boat on the water to represent Peter and Jesus. Children can now draw faces on all the people and color the scene as desired.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

After you've closed your morning in prayer and have gathered the children's belongings, continue the action rhyme from Life Application, as you wait for parents. Add your own actions, such as skipping, stretching, jogging, kneeling, etc.

JESUS TELLS OF GOD'S CARE

LESSON FOUR

UNIT 1: LEARNING OF JESUS' LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Children who have already been in Sunday School for an hour will need a little time to relax and prepare for this coming hour. A healthy and creative snack served now will help ensure you get your lesson off to a great start. Be sure to check for any food allergies or restrictions. Note any allergies or restrictions for new children on an index card along with the child's name, and clip it to your attendance book for safekeeping.

Matthew 5:1-2; 6:25-34

Bible Truth:

God loves me and takes care

Life Response Aim:

To be thankful that God loves us and takes care of us.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

Snack; a large heart drawn on a piece of poster board, pictures of food and clothing or 4" squares of white paper, crayons, tape; figures from Teaching Resources; Copymaster 4, 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.

For today's snack you'll be making "Flowers of the Field" in preparation for hearing about Jesus' story of the lilies of the field. On individual plates, fan out apple slices in a circle. Place a celery stalk at the bottom of the circle to look like a stem. Serve with milk. Be sure to give thanks to God with your group before eating.

Don't forget to sing the birthday song from Lesson 1 to your birthday children.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Today we're going to hear a story of Jesus talking to the people about how God cares for us. Sometimes we get worried about the things we need, such as the food we need to eat and the clothes we need to wear. But God loves us and gives us all the things we need.

Give each child a few pictures of food and clothing and scissors or a white square of paper (4") and crayons. Let children cut out the pictures or draw things such as shoes, hats, bananas, etc. Then gather them at the circle.

See this giant heart? It reminds me of God's love. God loves us and cares for us. He gives us all the food and clothing we need. Let children tape their pictures to the heart.

Then take time to pray with the children, helping them to understand that we talk with God by praying to Him.

Let's hear about a time that Jesus told of God's care.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.



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

Do you know what Jesus loved to do? He loved to tell people about God's love everywhere He went. One day Jesus was teaching on a hillside. He had been telling God's people how to please Him. They needed to pray, to help people, to love their enemies, and to love God.

Jesus knew that many of the people were a little worried. Many of the people who followed Jesus didn't have a lot of money. Fathers and mothers needed money for food and clothing for their children. Older people who had no one to care for them needed help. Yes, there were many, many things to worry about, but Jesus knew all about them.

So Jesus began telling them about God's love and care. "Do not worry," He said. "God knows what you need and will take care of you."

Next Jesus asked them to look at the birds in the air. "The birds don't plant and gather food," Jesus told the people. "But God makes sure they have food. And look at the flowers in the field. They're so beautiful, and they're only flowers. Since God feeds the birds and covers the plants with such beautiful flowers, don't you think He'll give you what you need too?"

Jesus knows that it is so easy for people to worry about things that we need to live, such as our clothes and food. So He told the people the best way to stop worrying.

"Be faithful," Jesus said, "and do the things that God wants you to do. Do not worry about what you need. Trust God to care for you."

Many people liked what Jesus said. They could tell He loved them. And Jesus loves us, too. When we trust and obey God, we don't have to worry either.



As an alternate activity or to reinforce the message, try this action rhyme:

God cares for the birds that fly night and day.

Have children pretend to fly.

God feeds the birds when they stop along the way.

Children pretend to land and eat.

God cares for the flowers that decorate the grass.

Children spread their hands out on either side of their face like petals.

God makes their colors like pretty stained glass.

Children make an arch shape in the air to symbolize stained glass windows.

But God loves those who are His children dear.

Children stretch out arms and point to one another.

He will care for all our needs and always keep us near.

Children cross arms and hug themselves.

Worship in Song: Sing "God Takes Care of Me" and "All Children Need the Saviour" from this quarter's CD. Then sing these words to remind the children of God's care (tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat").

God loves and cares for us Each and every day. Do not worry, do not fear,

Beside us He will stay.

Remember the Bible Truth: Actions help children remember important words. Open your Bible to show where Hebrews 13:6 is located, and try those size large ways. where Hebrews 13:6 is located, and try these sign language motions to teach your Bible truth.

The Lord Sign language for Jesus—touch middle finger to opposite palm on one hand then the other.

Point to self. is my

helper. Hold out hands and join hands with one another.

Life Application: Teach 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 Copymaster 4, crayons, tape, and varn. Prior to class cut the three pieces of the community. 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 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 will do this by lining up the pieces 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.

THE FIRST PALM SUNDAY

LESSON FIVE

UNIT 2: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Serve each child a croissant that's been cut in half and some of their favorite spreads to go on the croissant. Before the children put the spread on the croissants, lead them in this activity. Remember to check for any food allergies or restrictions. Long ago, people would blow trumpets to let everyone know when a king was coming. Can you pick up half of your croissant roll to use as a pretend trumpet? Lead the children "blowing trumpets." Our story today is about the greatest King of all coming to a big city. Do you know who that King is?

VERVIEW

Matthew 21:2-16

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:

1 John 4:19

Materials Needed:

Snack; figures from Teaching Resources; Copymaster 5, glue, crayons, tape, 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 or both.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

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

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive any offering money the children have brought.



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

One beautiful spring day Jesus said to His friends, "I want you to go to that small town and get a young donkey. Tell the owner 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 pad 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 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* CD and lead the children in doing the motions indicated by the narration.



Worship in Song: Sing "Happy Days," "My Best Friend," and "I Have a Message for You" from this quarter's

Remembering the Bible Truth: Motions help children remember important words. Open your Bible to show the children where 1 John 4:10 is 1 miles. the children where 1 John 4:19 is located. Then practice the verse with children standing up on the words "love" and "loved." They should sit down for all the other words. Repeat it several times.

VI 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,

(*Rap knuckles on the table.*)

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 (RAFTS (10-15 MINUTES):

Children Praise Jesus: You'll need copies of Copymaster 5, crayons, yarn, tape, glue, sand (optional), and palm leaves (optional). Prepare the copymasters beforeher 1 hours. 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: Since this is the only week you'll play "Palm Sunday" from the music, consider closing out your session by playing it again. Your children will love acting out Bible stories to music.

JESUS IS ALIVE

LESSON SIX

UNIT 2: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE

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 around their snack, imitating the stone being rolled away. Then pray, thanking God for your food and for Jesus being alive.

Scripture:

Matthew 28:1-10

Bible Truth:

Jesus rose from the dead.

Life Response Aim:

To be thankful that Jesus is alive.

Bible Verse:

1 Corinthians 15:20

Materials Needed:

Snacks; paper, 6" green chenille wire, tape; figures from Teaching Resources; bed sheet; Copymaster 6, copied for each child; crayons, glue sticks, construction paper; musical instruments

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

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Handprint Easter Lilies: Trace each child's hand (fingers spread) on a half sheet of paper. Cut out the hand tracing ar 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.

Who made your hands? Yes, God did! See the pretty lily flower you made. We made these pretty paper lilies, but who made real lilies? Yes, God did. Easter lilies remind us of the life God 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):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.



Bible Story: Tell the story with 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 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 showed Him how much they 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."

How sad the women had been when they had first arrived at the tomb where Jesus was buried. But what a happy surprise they soon had. The stone was rolled away from the door!

And the angel was there. What did he say to the women? "Don't be afraid. Jesus is not here. He's alive!" What did the women do? They looked inside. Jesus was not there at all. When the angel said, "Go quickly and tell all of Jesus' friends that He is alive," what did the women do? They went and told Jesus' friends.

As an alternative or a review of the story, lead the children in this action rhyme. Do the motions indicated by each stanza. You will want to familiarize yourself with the actions before class 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," "Happy Days," and "Jesus Is Living." Jesus loves to hear 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 1 Corinthians 15:20 a few times together; then help the children understand that the verse is referring to Jesus. The name Christ may not be as familiar to the children. Say each word of the verse and let the children echo. Then say two words, then three, and so on until the children can echo the entire verse. 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. In pretending, your fours and fives will remember Bible story facts far better than by just hearing them. They'll actually experience the story in their vivid imaginations.

Use an old sheet to hang over a table, to make a "cave tomb." 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 6, crayons, glue sticks, and small pieces of colored construction paper (various colors). Let the children also pieces of colored construction paper (various colors). struction 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!

BREAKFAST ON THE SHORE

LESSON SEVEN

UNIT 2: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: As children come in, invite them to wash their hands and come to the snack table. Give each child a dough stick and demonstrate how to loop it around and cross the ends to make a fish shape. Place fish on a baking sheet that's been sprayed with a non-stick cooking spray. Spread soft margarine on the surface of the fish and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Have a parent helper take the fish to the kitchen to bake. Remember to check your notes for any food allergies or restrictions. Ask parents of new or visiting children for that information. As an alternative, serve fish-shaped crackers and juice.

Be sure to celebrate any birthdays today with the birthday song (Lesson 1).

Scripture:

John 21:1-14

Bible Truth:

Jesus cared for His friends by catching fish and cooking breakfast.

Life Response Aim:

To thank Jesus for the ways He cares for us.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6

Materials:

Snack; figures from Teaching Resources; plastic bowls and spoons, empty cereal boxes and milk cartons; Copymaster 7, glue, scissors, 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.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Serving One Another: Let's pretend you're going to make breakfast for your mom and dad. What would you do first? Let children respond and pantomime those actions throughout this activity. Okay, what would you do next? Great, you're such good helpers! Now what else would you do? Maybe you would help clear the table? What about washing the dishes? Can you help with that? That's wonderful.

I think if you made breakfast for your mom and dad, they would feel very special. They would know how much you love and care for them. Today, in our story, we're going to hear how Jesus showed His disciples how much He cared for them. We're going to hear how Jesus made breakfast for His friends.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.

Bible Story: Take out your figures from *Teaching Resources* and use them to help you tell the story.

After Jesus died and came alive again, the disciples hadn't seen Jesus for a while and they weren't sure what He wanted them to do. So some of them decided to go fishing.

They fished all night but caught nothing. The next morning they saw a Man walking on the beach. They didn't know that it was Jesus.

Then the Man called out to them, "Let your nets down on the right side of your boat."The disciples must have thought this was strange. Once, a long time ago, Jesus had told them the same thing when they were having trouble catching fish. Could this Man be Jesus?

The disciples may not have been very sure, but they decided to listen to Him anyway. They put their nets over the right side of the boat, just as Jesus had told them to do. Do you know what happened next? They caught so many fish that their nets could hardly hold them all. Suddenly, they understood that the Man on the beach really was Jesus!

The disciples were very excited! Their friend Jesus had returned again to be with them! They couldn't wait to get to shore to greet Him and spend some time with Him. Peter even swam to Him.

When the rest of Jesus' friends finally got their boat to the beach, they had another wonderful surprise! Jesus had cooked breakfast for them. "Come and eat," Jesus said to His friends. They eagerly ran to be with Him.

The disciples were very, very happy to be with Jesus. Jesus had always loved them and taken care of them. And even after all this time away from the disciples, He was still caring for them.

Try singing as an alternate way of telling the story or reinforcing the message. Sing to the tune of "Down by the Station." Provide actions for the italicized words.

Down by the seashore Early in the morning, Jesus' friends went fishing, But didn't catch a thing.

Then on the seashore There was a Man standing. He called out and asked His friends, "Whatever could be wrong?"

"Sir, we haven't caught a fish." So Jesus helped them out. Then their nets were filled with fish, Jumping all about.

They knew it was the Lord, So they hurried to the shore. "Come, friends, and let us eat." Then Jesus taught them more.

Worship in Song: Sing "I Have a Message for You" and "My Best Friend" from this quarter's music. Then sing these words to the tune of "Ten Little Indians."

I have a Friend whose name is Jesus. He is with me when I wake up. I have a Friend whose name is Jesus. He is with me when I wake up. I have a Friend whose name is Jesus. He is with me when I wake up. He is with me all day long. He is with me all day long.

Other verses: **He is with me when I** (get dressed; eat breakfast; run fast; am sleeping, etc.).

Remembering the Bible Truth: Music helps children remember important words. Open your Bible to show the children where the words from Hebrews 13:6 are located and say the verse a few times together. Then sing the verse to the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot" to help them remember it.

The Lord is my helper, yes, indeed! He takes care of every need. When I am afraid, He comforts me. The Lord is my helper, yes, indeed!

Life Application: Have empty cereal boxes, plastic bowls and spoons, napkins, and an empty milk carton set out on your table. Pair up children. Explain that they will "serve breakfast" to one another, as Jesus served His friends. Let the children pretend to serve and eat breakfast. (Optional: Provide cereal for serving.) Then pray.

Dear Lord, we thank You for caring for us and always providing what we need. Help us to be good $m{Z}$ friends who care for others. Thank You for caring for us. We love You. Amen.

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

The Fishermen Eat Breakfast with Jesus: Give the children Copymaster 7, scissors, and crayons, and have them cut off the strip of fish. Then they'll color the strip and the rest of the picture. Help them cut up their fish strips and glue the pieces onto the net. There are plenty of fish for the children to glue, giving the understanding of many, many fish. Finally, talk about how many fish the disciples caught, and have the children trace the number in the box.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

Gather children's belongings. If you have more time, have the children bring their pictures from Hands-to-Hearts time to the circle. Let children take turns showing their pictures and telling part of the story. You might want to let the children pantomime the story as you narrate. Actions to include: fishing all night long, pulling in the full net the next morning, Peter swimming to shore, the others rowing to shore, eating breakfast, etc.

WE WANT TO LOVE JESUS

LESSON EIGHT

UNIT 2: JESUS SHOWS HIS LOVE

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Children who have already been to Sunday School will need some time to relax and prepare for Church Time. While they rest, set out snacks that remind them of Jesus' love. Ahead of time, cut heart shapes out of bread, using a heart-shaped cookie cutter. Spread with strawberry jam for color. Serve with milk. *Remember to check for any food allergies or restrictions.*

Children also love to celebrate birthdays at this age. Make sure you check your attendance record to see if you need to sing the birthday song from Lesson 1 for any children having birthdays this week.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Review of Lessons 1-4, 7

Bible Truth:

Jesus showed love and care for people.

Life Response Aim:

To be aware of Jesus' love for us and to love Him in return.

Bible Verse:

Hebrews 13:6

Materials Needed:

"Jesus Loves Us" snack supplies (bread, strawberry jam, heart-shaped cookie cutter, milk); figures from Teaching Resources; Copymaster 8, scissors, glue, 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.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Sing this song to help your children get ready for the Bible story review (tune: "Jesus Loves Me"). You may also want to choose one of the "Preparing Their Hearts" activities from Lessons 1-2, 5-7.

Jesus loves both me and you, And He cares for others too. He taught people of God's love. Jesus, God's Son from above. Yes, Jesus loves us. Yes, Jesus loves us. Yes, Jesus loves us And helps us every day.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.

Bible Story: Review the Bible stories from this unit on your flannel-board using the figures 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 One—Jesus Helps a Sick Man: Play "The Sick Man Forgiven and Healed" from this quarter and lead the children in doing the actions suggested by the narration. Or for a shorter version, 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!

Lesson Two—Jesus, Friend of Children: Have the children sit and alternately clap their hands and laps. They won't be able to do this well, but they'll 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 $\bf SEE$ Je- $\bf SUS$," par- $\bf ENTS$ did $\bf SAY$.

"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**.



Lesson Three—Jesus Walks on the Water: Sing the story to the tune of "Ten Little Indians."

One very, two very, three very big waves, Four very, five very, six very big waves, Seven very, eight very, nine very big waves, Jesus came walking on the waves.

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, eleven, twelve praise Jesus.



Lesson Four—Jesus Tells of God's Care: Say this simple action rhyme.

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.)

Lesson Seven—Breakfast on the Shore: Try singing as an alternate way of telling the story or reinforcing the message. Sing the song from page 14 to the tune of "Down by the Station." Provide actions for the italicized words.

Worship in Song: Use one or more of the worship songs from Lessons 1–2, 5–7 to review your Bible stories and praise Jesus, as well as some favorite songs from this quarter's music.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible and show the children where Hebrews 13:6 is located. Then try singing your Bible verse to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." The first, second and fourth lines of the song are your Bible verse. The third line is **Oh, yes, I need Him so!**

It is application: Talk with the children about the many ways Jesus shows His love for them (home, parents, ! teachers, etc.). Then thank God in prayer for His wonderful, loving gifts.

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 children 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):

Close the morning in prayer and gather children's belongings. If you have additional time, do one of the children's favorite Good-bye Time activities from previous lessons.

When parents arrive, be encouraging. Find something positive to say, even about the most challenging children. However, if you have significant discipline issues, don't be afraid to work them out with parents.

SAUL LEARNS THAT JESUS IS GOD'S SON

LESSON NINE

UNIT 3: TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Let your children relax and unwind while you prepare this morning's snack. In today's story, you will be meeting Paul, who was a faithful missionary in the early church. Your snack will be foods that Paul might have taken on his journeys while telling others of Jesus Christ. Your children may not want to eat all the foods, but encourage them to taste each item and be sure to tell them what each one is: grapes (cut in half lengthwise to avoid choking hazard), dates, olives, matzo crackers, and water. Check for any food allergies or restrictions. Remember to celebrate any birthdays from the past week today, using the birthday song from Lesson 1.

OVERVIE

Scripture:

Acts 9:1-9, 17-20

Bible Truth:

Jesus is God's Son.

Life Response Aim:

To tell someone that Jesus is God's Son.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snack; 6" semicircles cut from black construction paper, glue, tongue depressors, craft beads; figures from Teaching Resources; name tags, Copymaster 9, paper lunch sacks, scissors, crayons, tape or glue

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):

Saul Masks: Ahead of time, cut out 6" semicircles from black construction paper. Give each child a semicircle and a large ton construction paper. Give each child a semicircle and a large tongue depressor. Have the children glue the tongue depressor perpendicular to the straight edge of the semicircle to create a mask on a stick. Give each child two craft bead eyes to glue onto the mask. Have the children bring their masks to the story circle.

Our story today is about a man named Saul. At first Saul didn't know Jesus. He didn't believe that Jesus is the Son of God. But Jesus visited Saul and helped him see the truth.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.



Bible Story: Use you tell the story. **Bible Story:** Use the figures from *Teaching Resources* to help

Even though Saul was a teacher, he didn't know that Jesus is the Son of God. And Saul didn't like Jesus' friends either. He thought they were lying when they told others that Jesus is the Saviour. Saul decided these believers needed to be punished, so he traveled around the countryside looking for them. When he caught these followers of Jesus, he put them in jail.

One day, Saul was traveling. Suddenly, there was a bright light. Then Saul couldn't see anymore, but he heard a voice from heaven. It called out, "Saul, Saul, why do you hurt Me?"

Saul must have been very afraid. Who was talking to him? "Who are you, Lord?" Saul cried out.

"I am Jesus," the Lord said. "I am the One you are hurting. Get up, go to the town of Damascus, and wait there."

Saul's friends couldn't believe what had just happened. Saul couldn't see. Have children hold up their masks in front of their eyes. Saul's friends helped him get to a house in the town of Damascus, where he waited.

Three days later, a man named Ananias came to the door of the house where Saul was. He went to Saul and said, "The Lord Jesus has sent me here to pray for you and to tell you how to follow Him."

Then something like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes. He could see again! Have children put down masks. Saul was overjoyed! He knew that Jesus is the Son of God. Saul then wanted everyone to know. Soon Saul traveled all over the country again, but instead of hurting people who believed in Jesus, Saul spent his time teaching people. Saul wanted everyone to know that Jesus, God's Son, is the Saviour.

Try this action rhyme as an alternative to telling the story or to reinforce the message.

Saul was walking when a great bright light came. Then he couldn't see. Walk in place; cover eyes. And a voice from heaven said, "Why do you hurt Me?" Shrug shoulders questioningly. **"Who are you, Lord?" Saul cried out.** Look up with hands folded.

"I am Jesus, without a doubt." Sign "Jesus"—middle fingers alternately touching palm of other hand.

"You must do now as I say." Point at children.

"So go to Damascus, Saul. Be on your way." Point away.

Then Ananias came to tell that Jesus is God's only Son. Point up.

Then Saul could see everyone. Cover and uncover eyes.

He then told people near and far away, Walk in place.

"Believe in Jesus and obey." Hold up your Bible.

Worship in Song: Sing "Jesus Is the Son of God" and "All Children Need the Saviour" from this quarter's music CD. Then sing these words to the tune of "B-I-N-G-O."

There was a man whose name was Saul And he did not know Jesus. **Oh, no, he did not.** Say two more times. Oh, yes, Saul was his name.

Then one day Jesus came to Saul And took away his sight. **Oh, yes, Saul was blind.** Say two more times. To Damascus he did go.

Then Ananias came to him And said that Jesus sent him. **Trust Jesus and obey.** Say two more times. And that's just what Saul did.

Then Saul could see and knew the truth That Jesus is God's Son. Oh, yes, He's God's Son. Say two more times. And we all do love Him.



Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible to show the children 1 John 4:15; then sing the verse to the tune of "London Bridge" to holp the children 1 tune of "London Bridge" to help the children learn the words.

Jesus is the Son of God, Son of God. Son of God. Jesus is the Son of God. Yes, Jesus is!

Life Application: Hand out self-adhesive name tags and the paper lunch sacks.

One way we show lesse that we less that the large training that the large training that the large training training that the large training training

One way we show Jesus that we love Him is by telling other people that He loves them and wants to save them from their sin. I want you to think of one person you want to tell about Jesus. Maybe it's someone in your family or a friend or neighbor who doesn't know that Jesus is the Saviour. Let's write their names on these name tags and put them on the back side of these paper sacks. This will help you remember whom you're going to tell about Jesus.

Let's pray for these people. Let each child pray for the person he or she has named. Help as needed.

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

Saul's Eyes: Hand out Copymaster 9 and let the children color the face. Then help the children cut out the various pieces. Tape the verse and parent section on the same side of the sack as the name tags from the Life Application time. Tape Saul's face to the other side to make a puppet, leaving the top open to insert the blinders. Now you have a puppet of Saul. Let's tell the story together. Let children work with their puppets as you narrate the story. Use your puppets to tell people that Jesus is the Saviour.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

If there's time, you can play this game. Before you play, make sure all obstacles have been moved aside and you have a safe area in which to play your game. Have children lines. you have a safe area in which to play your game. Have children line up at one end of the room. One at a time, let each child close his eyes and walk toward you repeating, "Where are you?" Each time reply, "Here I am." Allow each child to touch your hand. Then the child may open his or her eyes and join hands with you. Continue until all the children have joined hands with your group.

PHILIP TELLS A PRINCE ABOUT JESUS

LESSON TEN

UNIT 3: TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Ahead of time, cut crowns from slices of bread. Then use dabs of different colored jelly in the points to look like jewels. Serve with milk. *Be sure to check for any food allergies or restrictions.* Then pray, thanking God for the good food He gives.

Also remember to check your attendance roster to see if you need to celebrate any birthdays today.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Acts 8:5-6, 26-37

Bible Truth:

Philip obeyed the Lord and told a prince about Jesus.

Life Response Aim:

To remember ways God helps us and to thank Him.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snack; paper, scissors, stapler, crayons; figures from *Teaching Resources*; Copymaster 10, sequins or colored tissue squares, glue

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):

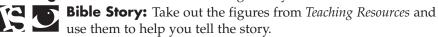
Bible Story Booklets: Before class, make a master booklet to photocopy for the children. Take a sheet of paper and divide it into four squares. In the first square write this lesson's title and the Bible words from 1 John 4:15. Leave the other squares blank.

Today we're going to hear a story about a man named Philip who loved Jesus. Philip met a prince from another country who was reading about Jesus in a book of the Bible. Philip helped the prince understand the words and know who Jesus is. Right now we're going to make a book that will help us remember the story.

Have the children cut apart the four sections and assemble the pages in the proper order. The first page is the title page. The second page is the memory verse. Also, on the second page, ask the children to draw a picture of what they think a horse and chariot might look like. It's okay if they don't know; ask them to use their imaginations. Leave the third and fourth pages blank until the Life Application time.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.



After Jesus went back to heaven, one of His helpers on earth was a man named Philip.

Philip told many people in his own country, "I want you to know that Jesus loves you." Then he went to a town in a nearby country, saying, "Do you know that God's Son, Jesus, loves you and can forgive your sins?"

One day God sent His angel to talk to Philip. God's angel said, "Philip, go to the road that leads to the desert." God's angel didn't say why Philip should go there.

Philip loved God and obeyed Him. He didn't ask, "Why do I have to go?" He just did what God's angel told him to do. When he reached the road, there was no one in sight. But wait! What was coming down the road? Philip saw a chariot. The wheels turned slowly; a man in the chariot was reading a scroll. He looked very rich.

Philip may have thought, He must be a great person, perhaps a prince from a faraway country! Just then God told Philip to go near the chariot. And Philip obeyed God.

He came close to the beautiful chariot. The prince was reading aloud from a scroll-book. What do you think he was reading? It was part of God's Word!

Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

"No," answered the prince. "Can you tell me what the words mean?"

Then Philip knew why God had sent him to this road. He quickly climbed into the chariot.

Together they read the words. "Look," said the prince, "it says someone was killed. Who was it?"

"He is Jesus," answered Philip. "When Jesus died on the cross, He didn't answer back to the men who nailed Him there. He stayed on the cross to save people from their sins."

Then Philip told the prince that Jesus, God's Son, died for the sins of everyone. Philip also told the prince that Jesus came back to life.

The prince said, "I believe in Jesus, and I want to be baptized." He was so happy to know that Jesus loved him that he probably went back to his own country and told people there about the Lord Jesus.



🚺 As an alternate way of telling the story or reinforcing the message, try this activity, having the children echo each line back to you:

Philip, Philip, you must go To a country you don't know. See that prince? He doesn't understand Who Jesus is or what's God's plan. Tell him, tell him about God's Son. **Christ Jesus is the only One.** Jesus, Jesus loves us so. This is the truth we all must know.



Worship in Song: Sing "Jesus Is the Son of God" and "I Have Loved You" from this quarter's MP3s. Then sing these words (tune: "Are You Sleeping?") to help children know that Jesus is God's Son.

Who is Jesus? Who is Jesus? Please tell me. Please tell me.

Jesus is the Son of God. **Jesus is the Son of God.**

He loves you. He loves me.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible and show the children where 1 John 4:15 is located. Have the children stand in two lines facing each other. They will be a children where 1 John 4:15 is located. the children stand in two lines facing each other. They will bounce a ball back and forth, saying one word of the verse with each bounce; then two words; then three, and so on until they can say the whole verse on each bounce.

No Life Application: Give the children the books they made earlier in Preparing Their Hearts time. Read 1 John 4:15 again. Remind children that the prince didn't know that Jesus is God's Son until Philip told him so. Have children draw a picture of a cross on the third page to help remind them that Jesus died on the cross to save us from

We are making this book today to help you with your mission this week. This week perhaps you can tell someone that Jesus, God's Son, is the Saviour. You can use your book to help you. You can tell the story of how Philip shared the wonderful news about Jesus with the prince. On the last page draw a picture of yourself telling someone about Jesus. Go around and write the names of each child and the person he or she wants to tell about Jesus under their drawing.

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

Crown Craft: Today your children will be making crowns to remind them of the prince who learned about Jesus. Give each child a copy of Copymaster 10. Have children cut out the crown shapes and the song. They can color as desired, or you may choose to also set out colored sequins or colored tissue squares for decoration. Have highlighters available for the children to color the song jewel, which they can then glue to the crown. When decorating is done, teachers staple ends together to fit crown to child's head.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

While you wait for parents, you can play "Partner Races." Philip and the prince became partners as Philip helped the prince learn about Jesus. We're going to do partner races to remind us of these two men and how they shared God's Word together.

First have pairs link arms and do a race-walk to a set point and back. Next have them walk down back-to-back. Then they can link arms and walk backward as a pair. Add other variations of your own choosing.



Close your morning in prayer and gather the children's belongings.

PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON

LESSON ELEVEN

UNIT 3: TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Let your group rest and relax as you prepare today's snack. This morning you'll be serving "Paul in Prison" crackers to get children thinking about today's story of Paul and Silas in prison. On each cracker, use the cheese spread in a can to draw a face and lines on the cracker for prison bars. Serve with juice. Remember to check your notes for any food allergies or restrictions.

Also be sure to see if you need to celebrate any birthdays today. Sing the birthday song from Lesson 1.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Acts 16:19-34

Bible Truth:

Paul and Silas witnessed for Jesus as they praised God from prison.

Life Response Aim:

To tell about Jesus as we sing and praise Him.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snack; paper plates, markers, stapler, dry beans, pieces of streamers, glue sticks; figures from *Teaching Resources*; tape recorder that can record, blank audio tape, Copymaster 11, scissors, crayons, strips of black 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.

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Music Makers: To help children remember that Paul and Silas sang praises in prison, you'll be making simple music makers that the children can use during the story. Give each child two paper plates to decorate with colored markers. Fill one plate with dried beans and staple the other plate to it. Then let children tape on pieces of streamers for added decoration. Ask children to bring their music makers to the story circle.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.

Bible Story: Have the figures from *Teaching Resources* ready to help you tell the story.

Paul loved Jesus and wanted to tell others about Him. But many people didn't like to hear about Jesus. One day when Paul and his friend Silas were teaching about Jesus, some people got very upset with them. They called the town leaders and had Paul and Silas locked in chains in jail.

Even though Paul and Silas were in jail, they sang praises to God. They sang so everyone in the jail could hear them praising and glorifying God. Let's sing praises to God too. Play "My Best Friend" from this quarter's music and have the children shake their music makers as they sing.

All of a sudden, the building began to shudder and shake. Have children shake the music makers. Parts of the walls and ceiling fell down. It was an earthquake! Have children shake music makers very loudly and continue while you say the next few sentences. But Paul and Silas weren't worried. They trusted in God and knew He'd take care of them. When the shaking stopped (stop music makers), all the jail cell doors stood open, and the prisoners' chains had fallen off their legs. They were free!

When the jailer saw all the prisoners without their chains on, he got very upset. He knew he would be in big trouble because it was his job to guard them all.

But Paul called out, "Don't worry. We are all here." The jailer was very glad to hear that. He was so amazed by God's power that he asked, "What must I do to be saved?"

"Believe in Jesus," said Paul. Then he and Silas told the jailer that Jesus is God's Son. They told him that Jesus could save him from sin. Then the jailer took Paul and Silas home. He cared for them and gave them clean clothes and good food. Then Paul and Silas continued to teach the jailer and his family about Jesus' love. They even baptized everyone in the house, including the jailer.

The jailer was so happy. His heart was filled with love because he knew that Jesus, the Son of God, had saved him from sin. The jailer and his family believed on Jesus and loved Him very much.

n As an alternate way of telling the story or reinforcing the message, try this action rhyme:

Paul and Silas walked; Walk in place.

About God they talked. Pantomime talking.

But some people got very angry *Make angry faces.*

And said that Paul and Silas were bad, you see. Shake finger.

They sent them to jail, Point away.

But Paul and Silas didn't fail. Shake head.

They sang praises to the Lord, Shake music makers.

Because they believed God's Word. Nod head.

Then God made an earthquake; Shake music makers.

Everything began to shake. Shake harder.

God set them free Stretch arms and legs.

Because they believed. Fold hands.

Then the jailer cried in fear, Put hands to face.

But Paul said, "We are here!" Wave.

Then Paul preached God's Word, Hold hands open like a book.

And the jailer believed when he heard. Nod head.

Worship in Song: Sing "I Have Loved You" and "I Have a Message for You" from this quarter's music. Then try this praise song to the tune of "Three Blind Mice."

Jesus is . . . God's own Son.

Jesus is ... God's own Son.

Paul and Silas walked to and fro.

They told the people God loves them so.

They sang God's praises, and now you know

Jesus is . . . God's own Son.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible and show the children where 1 John 4:15 is located. Then use sign language motions to help children remember these important words.

Touch middle finger to the opposite palm on each hand. **Jesus**

is the Son Pretend to rock a baby.

of God Point up.

Life Application: One way we can respond to Jesus' love is to sing praises to Him. Let's make a tape of the praise songs we've learned and about the tape of the praise songs we've learned and share the love of Jesus with someone in prison. Review the worship songs from the music and previous lessons. Practice singing them a few times. Then record them on a CD. You will send this CD along with a card of encouragement from the class to a person in prison. Your pastor will likely be able to help you find someone to send these to.

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

Paul and Silas in Prison: Give each child a copy of Copymaster 11. Have children color the picture and fold the paper as indicated. Now they can also stripe of black paper as the Co the paper as indicated. Now they can glue strips of black paper on the flaps covering the picture to make prison doors for the children to open and close.

Even though Paul and Silas were in prison, they praised God and were able to tell the frightened jailer to believe on Jesus to be saved from sin.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):



After closing your morning in prayer and gathering the children's belongings, you can play this musical game while you wait for parents to arrive (tune: "Mary Had a Little Lord")

Paul and Silas went to jail, went to jail, went to jail.

Paul and Silas went to jail;

Then there was an earthquake.

The earthquake really shook them up, shook them up.

The earthquake really shook them up.

And God freed them all.



As a Mother's Day reminder, play "Mother's Hands" from this quarter's music and lead the children in acting out some of the things mothers do to show their love.

LYDIA HEARS PAUL TELL ABOUT JESUS

LESSON TWELVE

UNIT 3: TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: This morning's snack is very simple and will introduce Lydia, one of the main characters in the Bible story today. Purple fruit rolls will help children identify with Lydia, a respected businesswoman in Philippi, who bought and sold expensive purple cloth. After children have had a little time to rest and relax, serve the snack with milk. *Be sure to check for any food allergies or restrictions.* If you have birthdays to celebrate today, you can do so with the birthday song from Lesson 1.

Scripture:

Acts 16:12-15

Bible Truth:

Lydia listened to Paul tell about

Life Response Aim:

To listen when others tell about

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snack; poster board and pictures of people and household items, tape; figures from Teaching Resources; crayons, copies of Copymaster 12

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):

Have a piece of poster board, pictures of adults and household items, and tape available for your discussion.

Today we're going to hear about a woman named Lydia, who listened to Paul talk about Jesus. But let's first talk about being good listeners. To whom do you need to listen?

Let children answer and select pictures of people to represent what they say—parents, teachers, friends, baby-sitters, etc. And what kinds of things do these people tell you? Let children answer and select pictures of household items to represent what they say—get dressed, eat your food, brush your teeth, go to bed, etc.

Good! Now, before we hear today's story, we're going to practice being good listeners, just as Lydia was. Who can tell us something **about Jesus?** Select a volunteer to come stand by you and share a fact about Jesus (God's Son, the Saviour, He lives in heaven, He's always with us, etc.). Remind children to be good listeners while this volunteer is talking. Ask them to close their mouths but open their ears. Repeat this process a few times with other volunteers. Thank you for being good listeners. Let's take a short stretch break, and then I'm going to tell you today's Bible story. You can practice being good listeners again.

Lead children in a few simple stretches, like jumping jacks or the song "Head, Shoulders Knees and Toos" This "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes." This is a good opportunity for children to get the "wiggles" out before the story.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.

Bible Story: Get out the figures from *Teaching Resources* and use them to help tell your story. The Bible tells us that on one of Paul's trips to other countries, he and his friends went down by the river, a place where people went to pray. There was one woman there whose name was Lydia. She was from a country where people didn't love and worship God. However, she had heard about God, whom she worshiped.

Lydia was a very rich woman. She sold purple cloth made from special purple dye. People used the cloth to make very expensive clothes. Listen to what Paul and Lydia may have said when they met.

Paul decided that he should ask the most important question he could think of. He asked, "Have you heard of Jesus?"

"No," answered Lydia. "Who is He?"

"Jesus, God's Son, came from heaven," answered Paul.

"Oh, please tell us more," said Lydia. "Why did He come? Where is He? Can we meet Him?"

Paul was happy to answer Lydia's questions. Paul told the women about the wonderful things Jesus did. Paul told them how Jesus had taught about God, His Heavenly Father. Paul told them that Jesus had died for their sins.

Lydia was excited. "I believe Jesus is the Son of God," she said. "I believe He died for me." Right then and there by the river, Lydia thanked Jesus for loving her, and she asked Him to be her Saviour. When the people in her house heard about Jesus, they believed and were saved too.

Right away Lydia and the people who lived in her house were baptized in the river. Then Lydia had an idea. She told Paul and his friends that they could stay at her house while they were in the city. She was very kind to them, so Paul and his friends stayed at her house.

M

To tell this story in an alternate way or to reinforce the message, try this activity. The children will say "Jesus" at the end of each segment.

Long ago, Paul told people about the Saviour. Who is our Saviour? ("Jesus!")

And Lydia, who bought and sold pretty purple cloth, listened as Paul talked about . . . ("Jesus!")

Lydia was filled with joy when she heard about the Saviour, ... ("Jesus!")

Then she asked Paul to baptize her after she believed in . . . ("Jesus!")

And to show her thankfulness to God, Lydia took care of Paul and his friends so they could teach even more people about . . . ("Jesus!")

Worship in Song: Sing "My Best Friend" and "Jesus Has Time" from this quarter's music. Then sing these words to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?" to help your children remember that Jesus, our Saviour, loves us and we love Him.

Who is Jesus? Who is Jesus? He's God's Son. He's God Son. Jesus loves all children. Jesus loves all children. He loves me. I love Him.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible to show the children where 1 John 4:15 is located. Then sing the verse from Lesson 9, Remembering the Bible Truth, to the tune of "London Bridge," to help the children remember the important words. You can even combine the song with the actions from the "Remembering the Bible Truth" activity in Lesson 11.

Life Application: Say this poem to the cadence of "Pussycat, Pussycat." Then, to help your children apply the Bible Truth, substitute "Boys and girls" for Lydia and "We've" for "I've."

Lydia, Lydia, where have you gone?
I've been to the river to listen to Paul.
Lydia, Lydia, what'd you do there?
I learned that our Lord's love is for all to share.

Lydia, Lydia, what's going on? I've learned that Christ Jesus is God's only Son. Lydia, Lydia, what now will you do? I'll help the disciples and care for them too.

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

Lydia Helped Others, and So Can We: Give each child a copy of Copymaster 12 and some crayons. Before the children color each picture, talk about what's happening and how the children in the picture are helping. After the children color the page, ask how they can be helpers, just as Lydia was.

Then sing these words in closing out the craft time (tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star").

We want to be kind and good, Just as Jesus said we should. Loving others every day, Helping them in some small way. We want to be kind and good, Just as Jesus said we should.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

After gathering children's belongings and closing your morning in prayer, you can play a version of "Simon Says" with the children.

This game is called "Paul Says," and you can do Bible-related actions in it. Ask children to line up in front of you and do what you show them, as long as you say "Paul Says" first. If they don't hear "Paul Says," then they shouldn't do the action. If they do, they must sit down for one turn. Some examples of actions are: "Paul says to love Jesus" (give self a hug), "Paul says to pray" (fold hands), "Paul says to sing praises" (pantomime singing), "Paul says tell others about Jesus" (point up).

WE TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

LESSON THIRTEEN

UNIT 3: TELLING OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

TRANSITION (25-30 MINUTES):

Snack Time: Since the Life Application for this unit has been telling others about Jesus, serve "Happy Talking Face" snacks today. Cut circles out of bread and make happy faces with open, smiling mouths, using cheese spread in a can. Serve with juice. Be sure to check your notes for food allergies or restrictions.

If you have birthdays to celebrate today, you can use the birthday song from Lesson 1.

OVERVIEW

Scripture:

Review of Lessons 9-12

Bible Truth:

Bible-time people learned about Jesus when Paul preached to them.

Life Response Aim:

To want to tell others about lesus.

Bible Verse:

1 John 4:15

Materials Needed:

Snack; Copymaster 13, scissors, glue sticks, paper lunch sacks, figures from Teaching Resources; card stock, stamp pad ink, church-related stickers

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

PREPARING THEIR HEARTS (15 MINUTES):

Puppets: Give each child a copy of Copymaster 13. Have children color and cut out whichever face they want (there's a boy and a girl face). Then they can glue the face to a paper lunch sack to make a puppet. Have children bring their puppets to the circle for story time.

Today we're going to review the stories we've heard about people telling others about Jesus. Let's see if you can use your puppets to help tell our stories.

WORSHIP AND STORY TIME (20 MINUTES):

Offering: Receive the children's offering money.



Bible Story: Take out the figures from *Teaching Resources* and use them to tell the stories.

Today we're going to try to remember the four stories we heard about people telling others about Jesus. First we heard a story about a man named Saul. Does anyone remember what happened to Saul? Invite a child or small group of children to come up and help you retell the story of Saul's conversion. Let them tell as much as they can with their puppets, helping as needed. You can place the figures on the board as children tell the story.

Yes, Saul met Jesus on the road to Damascus. He was blinded for three days, but then Ananias came to him and told him about Jesus, God's Son. From then on, Saul traveled around the country teaching others about Jesus and how wonderful He is.

This next story is about a man named Philip. How did Philip help the prince? Invite another child or small group of children to come up and help you retell this story. As you place the flannelgraph figures, they can be acting out the story with their puppets.

Yes, Philip was traveling the country teaching people about Jesus when God's angel told him to take the road to the south. There he met a prince from another country, who wanted to know more about Jesus. Philip told the prince about Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection. Then the prince believed on Jesus and asked to be baptized; he also became a follower of Jesus.

Now our third story was about Saul after he changed his name to Paul. What did Paul and his friend Silas do when they got put into jail? How were they freed? What did the jailer do? Let another child or small group of children come up and retell the Paul and Silas story with their puppets as you place the figures on the flannelboard. Yes, Paul and Silas sang God's praises even while they were in jail. Then God sent an earthquake that freed all the prisoners, but they didn't run away. Paul and Silas stayed to teach the jailer about Jesus, and they even baptized him and his whole family.

And our last story was about a woman named Lydia. What kind of job did Lydia have? And how did Lydia help Paul and the other disciples? Let another child or small group of children come up and help retell the story with their puppets as you place the flannelgraph figures. That's right. Lydia was a good listener; she was so happy after Paul told her that Jesus, God's Son, is the Saviour. So she asked the disciples to stay with her while they were in her town. Lydia fed them and gave them a warm place to sleep. She showed her love to God by caring for the disciples.

Isn't it amazing that all these Bible-time people were such good listeners, just as we should be? They listened to others tell that Jesus, the Son of God, is the Saviour. Then they went out and shared that news with their friends and family, and even strangers. And you can do that too. It pleases God when we tell others about Jesus.

As an alternate way of telling the story or to reinforce the message, try this rhyming story, which has a refrain the children can say together. Point to them when they should say the refrain.

Saul became blind So that he could find . . . JESUS, THE SAVIOUR.

To the prince, Philip did explain, how to be saved in Jesus' name . . . JESUS, THE SAVIOUR.

An earthquake set Paul and Silas free. Then the jailer rejoiced and he believed . . . **JESUS IS THE SAVIOUR.**

Lydia listened from the start Then she believed with all her heart . . . JESUS IS THE SAVIOUR.

We travel far and near To tell everyone willing to hear . . . JESUS IS THE SAVIOUR.



Worship in Song: Choose one or more of the songs from Lessons 9 through 12 and the music to review your Bible stories and sing praises to God.

Remembering the Bible Truth: Open your Bible to show the children where 1 John 4:15 is located. Then use the ball activity from Lesson 10 or a different activity of your choosing to review the memory verse.

Ny Life Application: God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to us to be our Friend and Saviour. Jesus is God's Son, and one response to that great gift is to listen when others tell us about Jesus. We also need to tell others what we've learned, so they can know that Jesus is our Saviour.

Pray a prayer similar to this to close: **Dear Heavenly Father**, we thank You for sending Jesus to us. We 🔽 know You love us, and we want to tell others about Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

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

Special Announcements: Do you know what parents do when they have a baby? They're so excited that they want to tell the whole world about this special gift that's arrived, so they send out that they want to tell the whole world about this special gift that's arrived, so they send out something called birth announcements. This lets everyone know the date the baby was born, his or her name, the parents' names, and more. Today we're going to make special announcements about Jesus to help us tell others that Jesus is the Son of God.

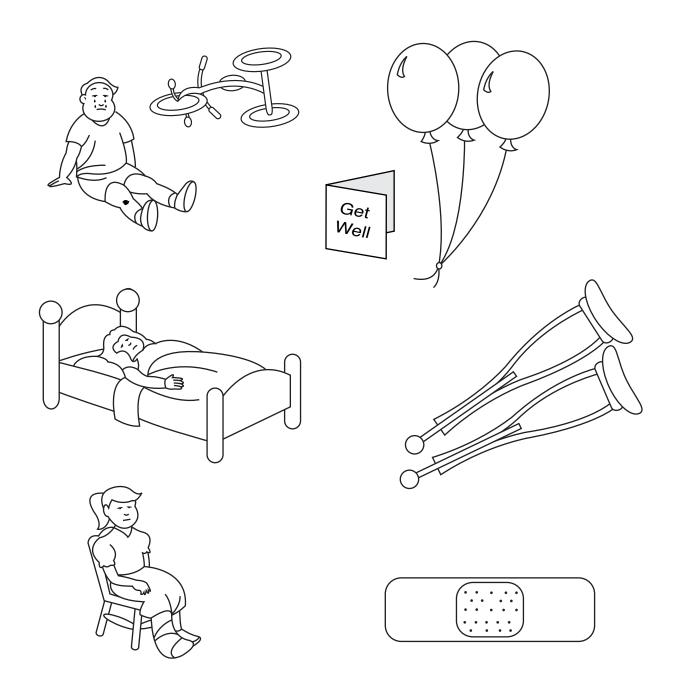
Ahead of time, make simple announcements on card stock, such as "Jesus, God's Son, is the Saviour of the world." You can fit two per sheet. Read it out loud to the children so they know what it says. Let children decorate the announcement with crayons and stickers.

GOOD-BYE TIME (UNTIL PARENTS ARRIVE):

Pray to close the morning. If you have more time, try this activity.

Play "Telephone" with your group. Form a circle or long line. Whisper a phrase in the first child's ear, and have him or her whisper the message to the next child. That child then whispers the message to the next child. and so him or her whisper the message to the next child. That child then whispers the message to the next child, and so on down the line. The last person says the message out loud. See how close your group can keep the telephone message to the original. Some sample phrases include: Jesus is the Son of God; Philip helped the prince; Saul was blind; Paul and Silas sang in jail; and Lydia loved Jesus.

THANK YOU, LORD, FOR YOUR CARE

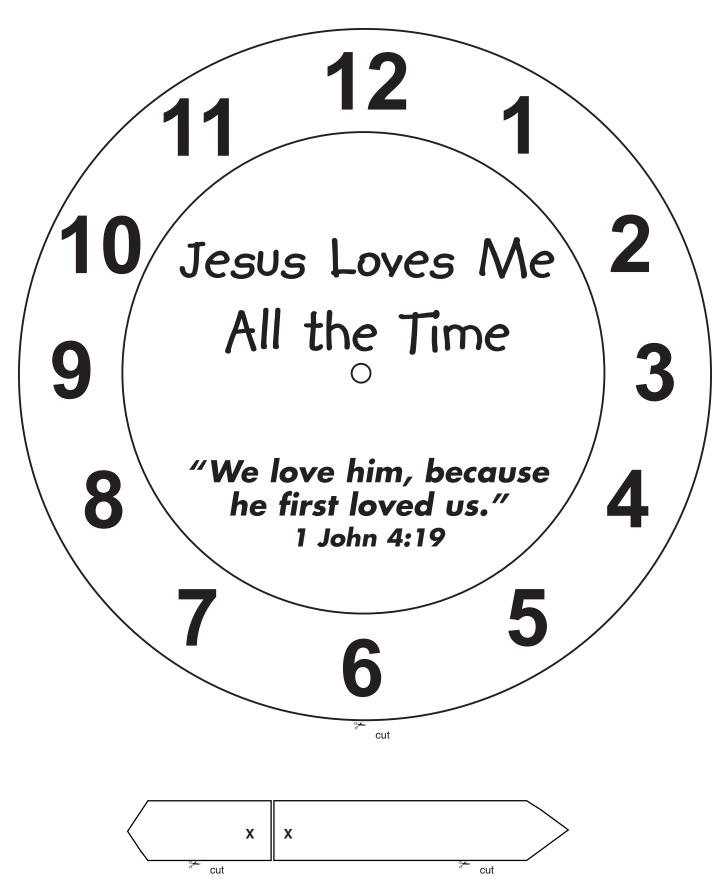


"The LORD is my helper." Hebrews 13:6

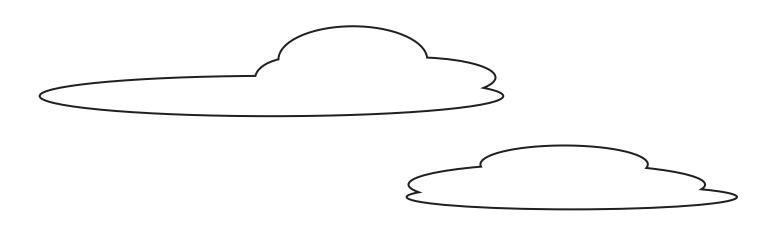
A Song to Sing at Home Thank You, Lord (Tune: "Mulberry Bush")

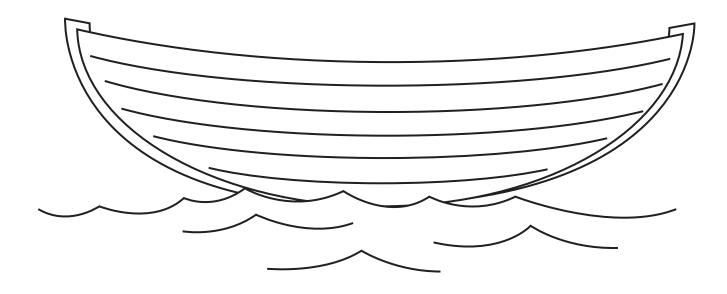
Thank You, Lord, for caring for us, Caring for us, caring for us. Thank You, Lord, for caring for us, When we are sick or hurt.





Dear Parent: Your child learned that Jesus loves children. Use this clock as a reminder that Jesus loves your child all the time





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

Dear Parent: Today your child learned about trusting Jesus. Ask your child to retell the Bible story using this picture. Talk about ways your family can trust Jesus in the home today.



Tape yarn here.

"The Lord is my helper" Hebrews 13:6

Tape yarn here.

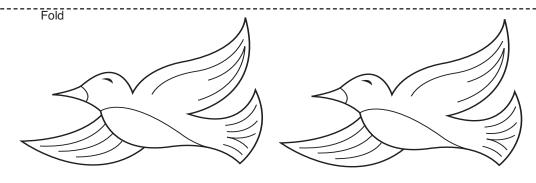
Dear Parent: Help your child hang this in a prominent place to remember that, since God cares for the birds and flowers, we know that He cares for us.

Fold

God Cares for Birds, Flowers, and Me!

cut

Tape yarn here. Tape yarn here.

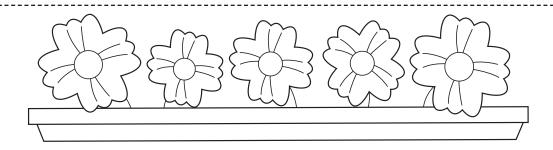


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Tape yarn here.

Tape yarn here.

Fold



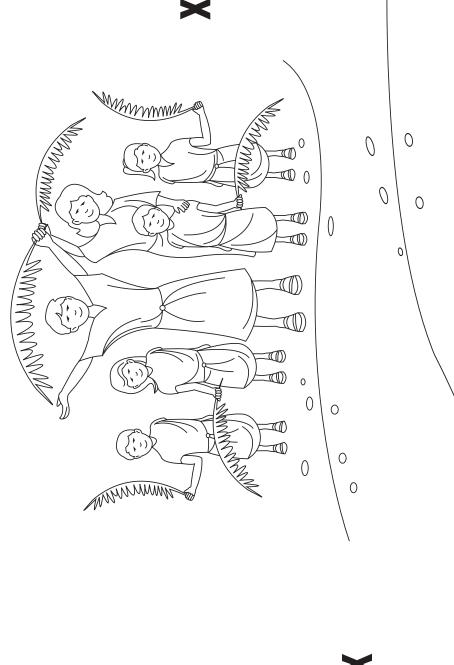


(Tune: "Three Blind Mice")

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

We love him, because he first loved us."

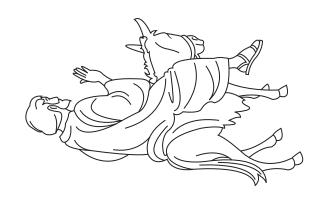
1 John 4:19



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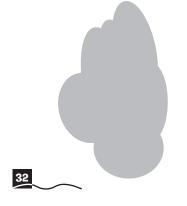
Fold



Fold

Copymaster 5

cut



Fold back

Fold forward

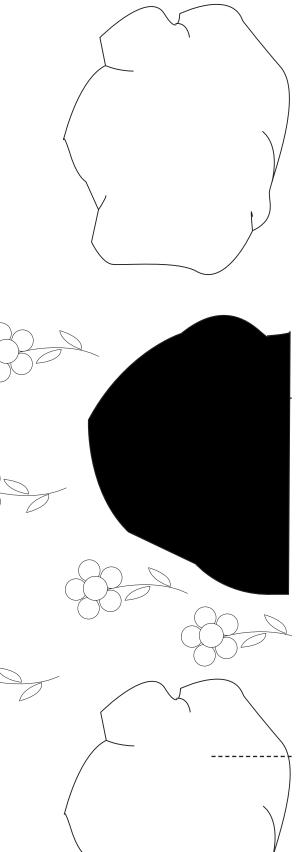
Song to Sing at Home Jesus Is Alive
[Tune: "Farmer in the Dell")
Jesus is alive, Jesus is alive.
Thank You, God, for Your dear Son.

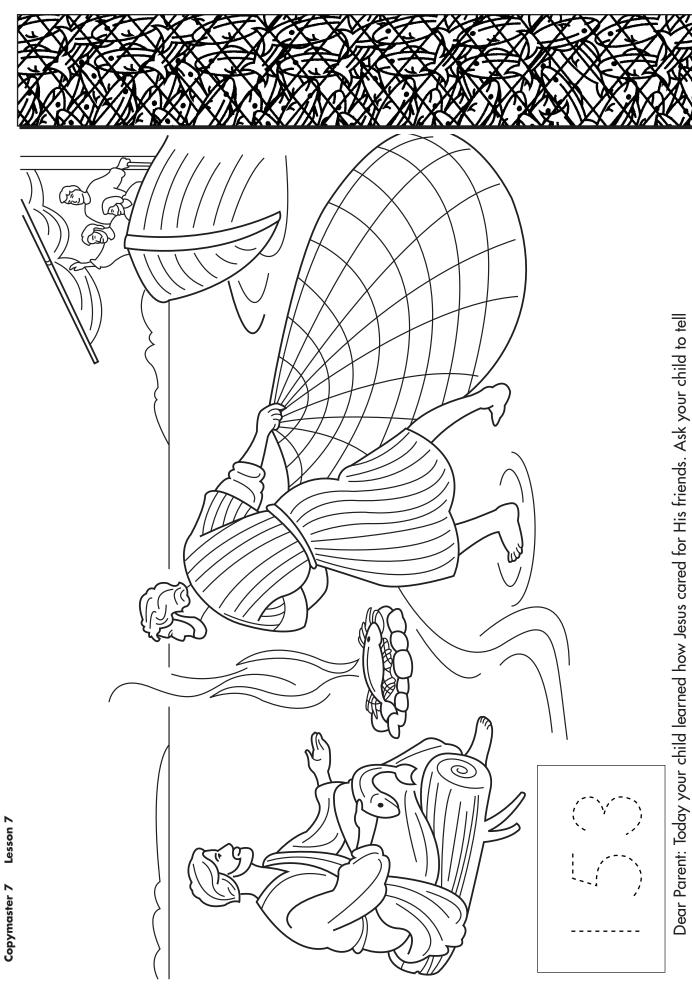
Jesus is alive, Jesus is alive.
Thank You, God, for Your dear Son.
Jesus is alive.

"But now is Christ risen from the dead."

I Corinthians 15:20







you the Bible story, and remember that "The Lord is my helper." Hebrews 13:6



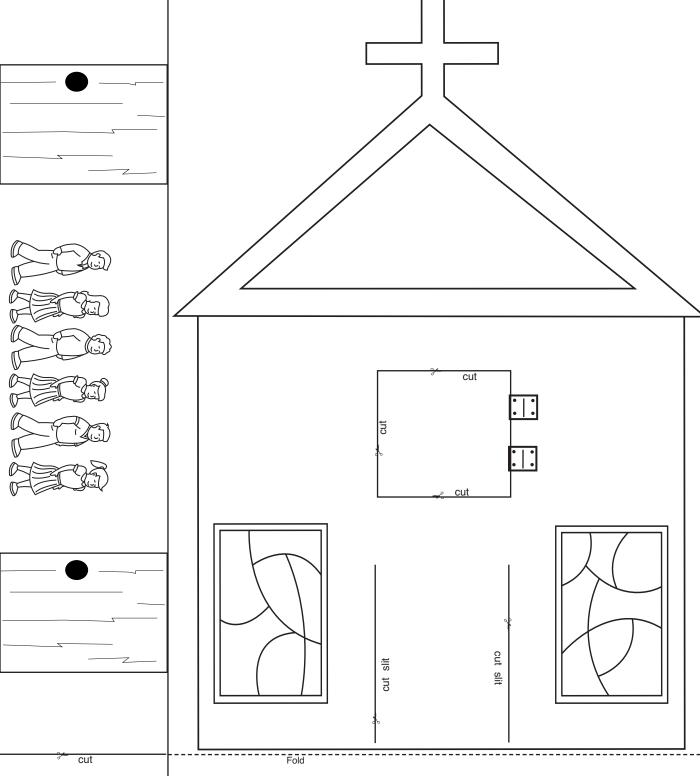


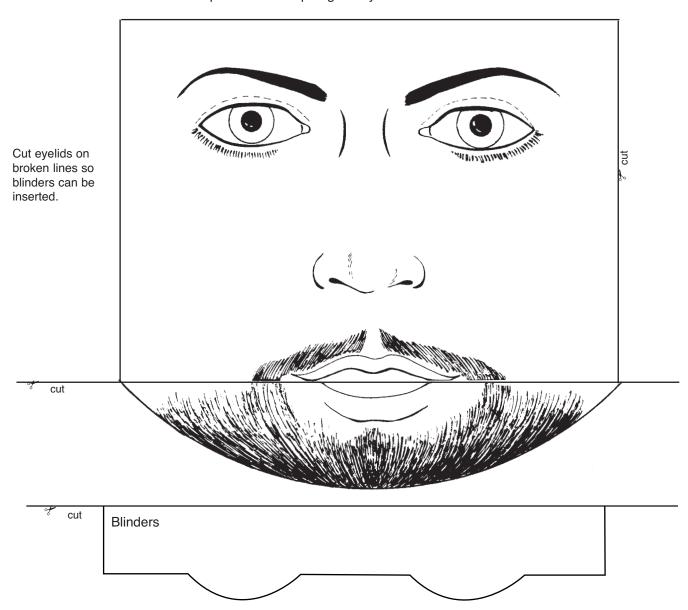
Hebrews 13:6 helper" "The Lord is my

Sing at Home of gno? A

Yes, I love Jesus. Yes, I love Jesus.

Yes, I love Jesus, Because He first loved me.

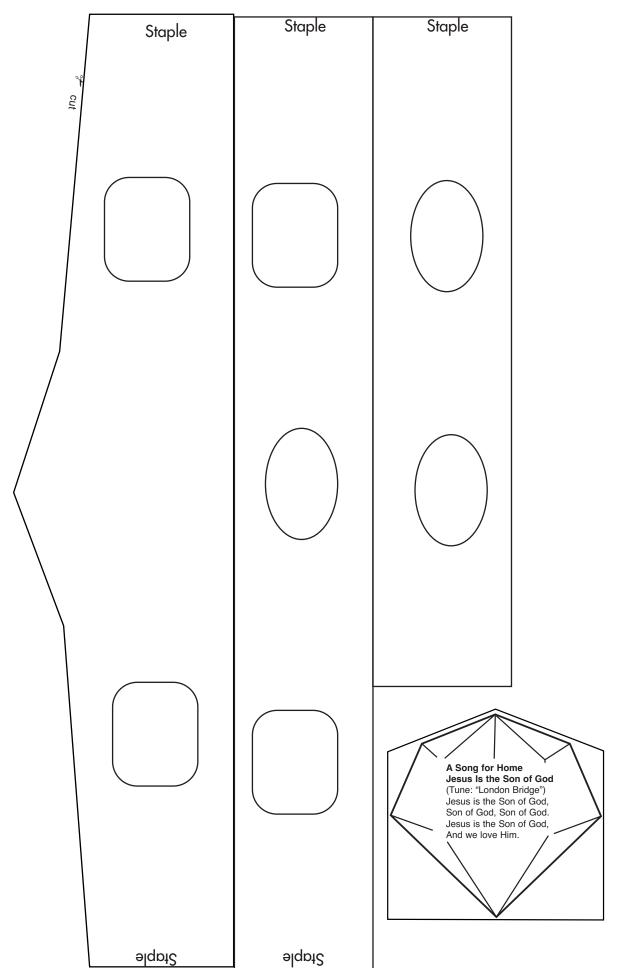




Dear Parent: Today your child learned how Saul (Paul) met Jesus in the blinding light. Perhaps you could help your child understand the blindness Saul experienced. Simply blindfold your child in a safe area, move around as you talk, and have him or her come to you. Or a game, such as "Pin the Tail on the Donkey," would be another way to demonstrate blindness. Remember what Saul learned . . .

"Jesus is the Son of God."

1 John 4:15





hard times is to sing praises to the Lord, just as Paul and Silas did while in prison. As Paul and Silas know and the jailer found out, Dear Parent: Today your child learned that a great way to get through the

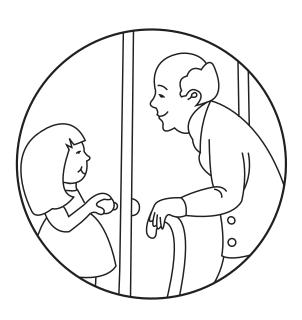
Fold

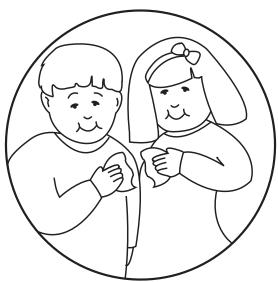
"Jesus is the Son of God." 1 John 4:15

We Want to Help Others









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

Dear Parent: When Lydia listened to Paul preach, she heard and responded to the Gospel. Immediately she wanted to help God's messengers (Acts 16:12-15). Her example is a great one for all of us. How can your family show the Lord's love by reaching out and helping others this week?

Son of God." 1 John 4:15

with this puppet. You'll be amazed at how the people you visit will Dear Parent: Your child just finished a unit on telling others about Jesus. Consider taking your child to visit a rest home or a shut-in light up with joy, and your child can begin learning the true joy that only ministering in Jesus' name can bring.



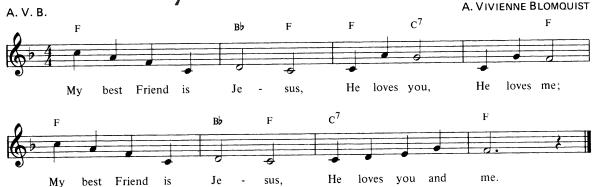
Hosanna, Hosanna!



- 1. Make two fingers walk along table, lap, or hand.
- 2. All ten fingers in running motion.
- 3. Cup hands around mouth.
- 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.

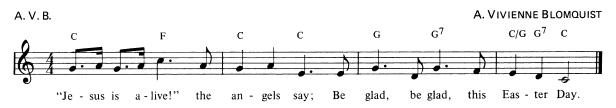
My Best Friend



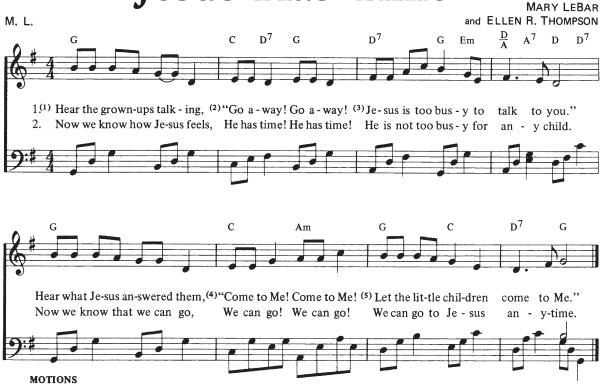
Jesus Is the Son of God



Easter Day

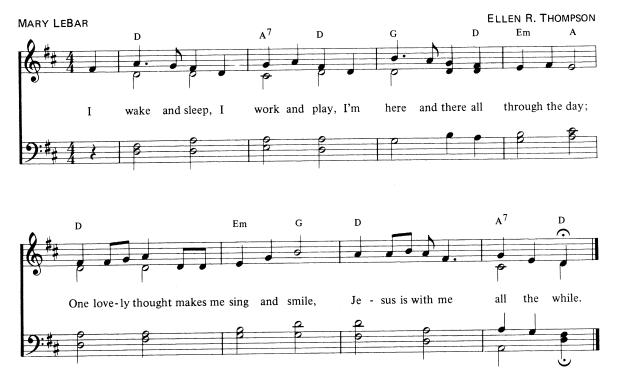


Jesus Has Time



- (1) Cup hand over ear. (2) Push hands away from body. (3) Shake head. (4) Draw hands toward body.
- (5) Cross arms over chest.

Jesus Is with Me



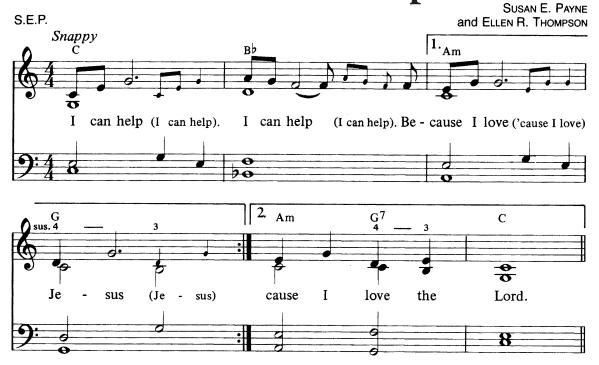
Happy Days



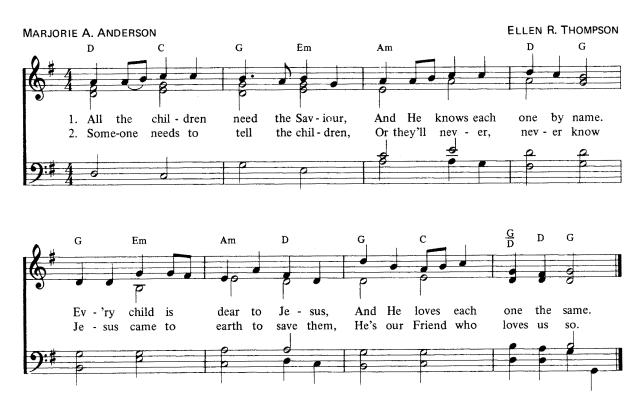
I Have Loved You



I Can Help



All Children Need the Saviour



God Takes Care of Me



I Have a Message for You

