

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 1: BIRTHDAY GIFT BOX

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

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

ACTIVITY:

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

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

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

To the child who came forward:

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

To all T&T kids:

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 1: GOOD OR BAD LIST?

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

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

ACTIVITY:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 2: GIFT PICTURES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 2: GOSPEL POWERPOINT

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

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

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

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

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 1: NOTE EXCHANGE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 1: BIBLE FACTS SCROLLS

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

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

ACTIVITY:

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

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

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

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

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 1



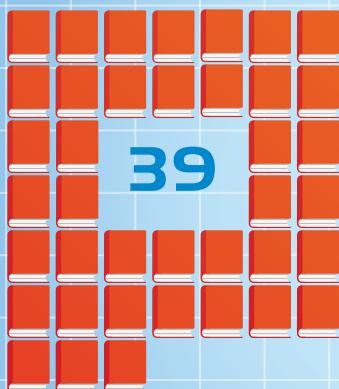
OLD TESTAMENT



NEW TESTAMENT

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

BIBLE FACT 2



39



27

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

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

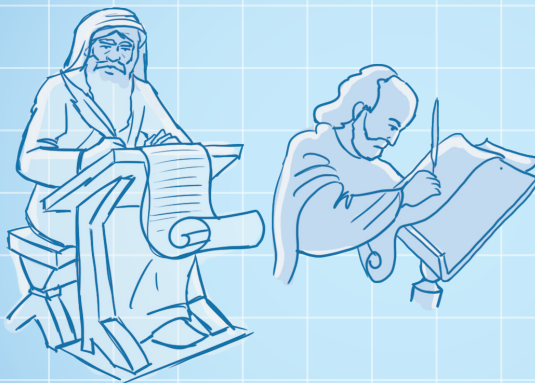
BIBLE FACT 3



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

BIBLE FACT 4

40
MEN



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

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 5

1,500
YEARS

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

BIBLE FACT 6

ישוע

JESUS
(HEBREW)

Ἰησοῦς

JESUS
(GREEK)

ישוע

JESUS
(ARAMAIC)

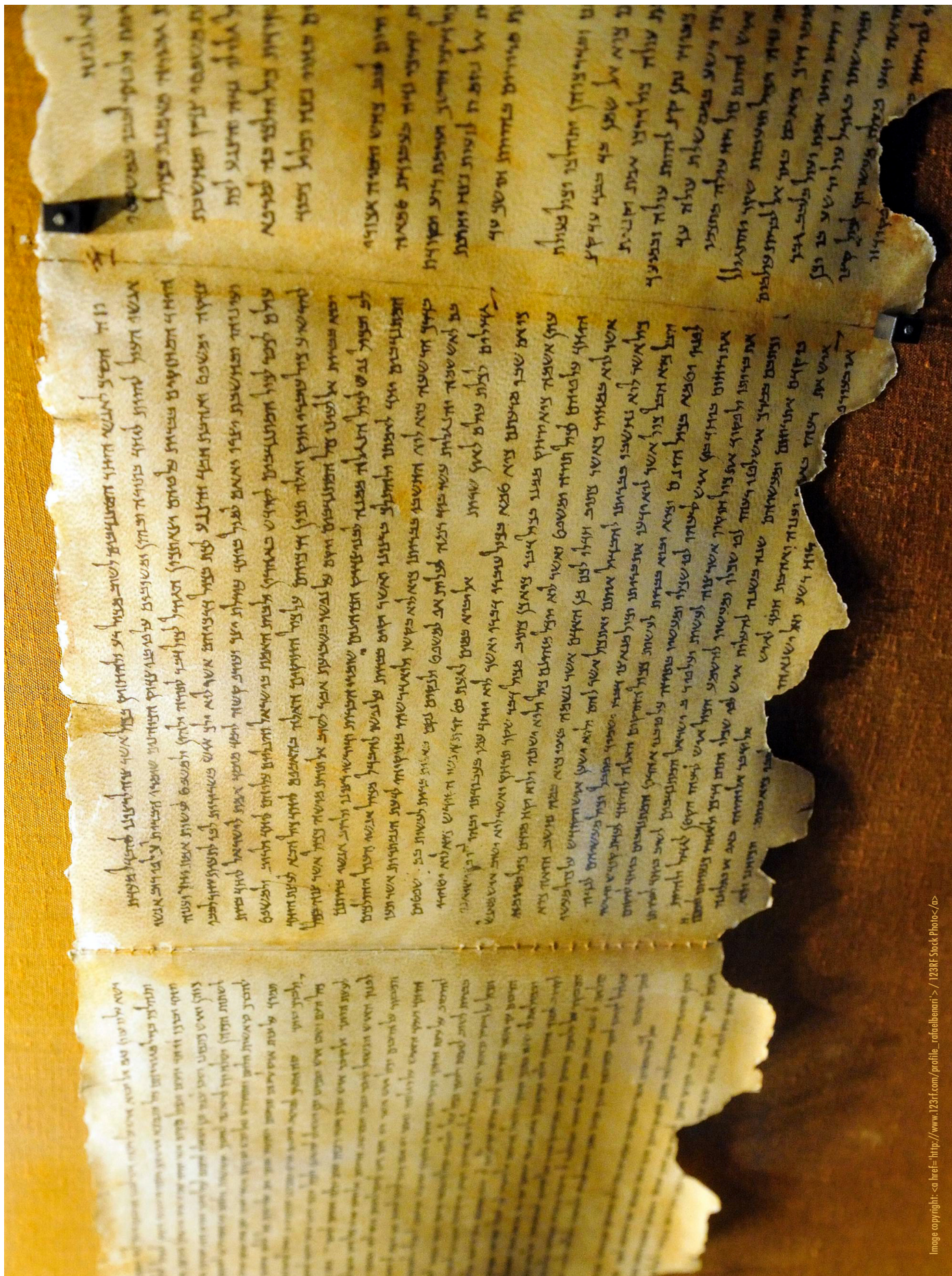
The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic.

FACTS FOR BIBLE SCROLLS

BIBLE FACT 7



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

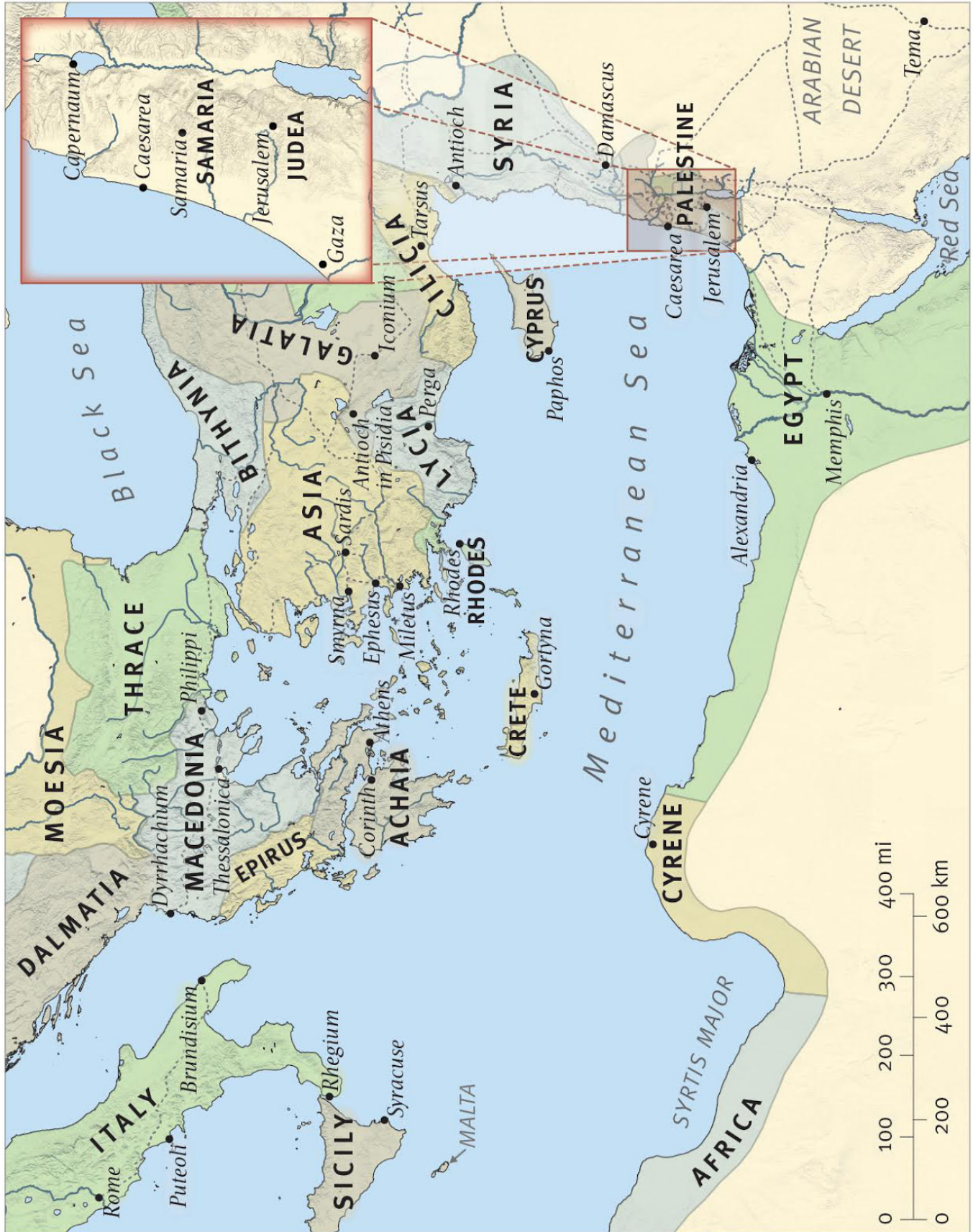


MAP OF BIBLE LANDS IN JESUS' TIME



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

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



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RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 2:

LETTER FROM A PASTOR OR AWANA MINISTRY DIRECTOR

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Notes:

RESOURCE BUNDLE ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

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

OPTION 2: MOSES INTERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. The testaments are divided into smaller sections called books. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. Use your Bible to show the kids some of the books from the Old and New Testaments.
3. Most of the true stories of the Bible take place in or near the land of Israel. Show the map of Bible lands and point out Israel and some of the other surrounding countries. Emphasize that the Bible tells us about real places and real people who really lived. The Bible is not make-believe!
4. God used at least 40 different men to write the Bible. These men lived at different times and in different places. Some were rich; others were poor. Some had gone to school; others had never gone to school. Some of the different jobs the writers had were king, farmer, fisherman, doctor, shepherd, priest, government leader, and many more.
5. It took over 1,500 years for the whole Bible to be written.
6. The Bible was first written in three languages: Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic. Point to the Greek and Hebrew words on the fact sheet. Explain that today there are Bibles in more than a thousand different languages! People all over the world can read the Bible.
7. The first book ever printed was the Bible; and more Bibles have been printed than any other book.

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

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

BIBLE FACTS FILL-IN-THE-BLANKS



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

and the

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

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4. God used at least

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6. The Bible was first written in three

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7. The

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SECTION

1.1

God Is Creator



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Make Your Own Creation

Notes:

What You'll Need: Art Supplies

STEP 1: Place art supplies on a table and give kids a few minutes to make their own unique creation with the materials provided. After a few moments, ask the following questions:

- What did you create? (Have several volunteers describe their pieces.)
- Why did you choose to create this?
- What do you plan to do with your creation?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- When a person makes something, that person must have ingredients or tools. He or she cannot just think of something to make and then speak or snap his or her fingers and have it appear.
- God Himself is the Creator. He made everything just by speaking.

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

SECTION

1.1

God Is Creator

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Creation Painting

What You'll Need: Artwork (optional: tablet or smartphone)

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

STEP 1: Display the image to the kids and pass it around the room, if possible. After the kids have viewed the image, ask the following questions:

- What is an artist?
- What was the inspiration for this piece?
- What materials do you think this artist used?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When a person makes something, that person must have ingredients or tools. He or she cannot just think of something to make and then speak or snap his or her fingers and have it appear.
- God Himself is the Creator. He made everything just by speaking.

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

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Notes:

SECTION

1.1

God Is Creator



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Creation Charades

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, scissors, container, watch or smartphone. (Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write the following words on paper:

- Sun
- Stars
- Water
- Trees
- Flowers
- Birds
- Elephant
- Giraffe
- Lion
- Fish
- Shark
- Humans

Feel Free to add other items that God created to the list. Cut out each word and place in the container.

Bookmark a Bible to Genesis 1:1 and Revelation 4:11.

STEP 1: Divide kids into two groups. Ask a volunteer from group to stand in front of the class. Choose a word from the container and reveal it to their group. At your signal, give the volunteers 30 seconds to act out the word in front of their groups. The first clubber to guess correctly can take the spot of the volunteer on their team. Ask the other volunteer to choose another kid from his or her group.

Continue the activity as time allows.

STEP 2: Ask a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1.

Share these key concepts:

- Our powerful God created the universe, the earth, and everything in it. He made all things in just six days (Genesis 1:1-31).
- God created humans for a different reason than He created the animals or anything else. We are made in His image and reflect who He is in many ways (Genesis 1:27).
- We have a relationship with God when we trust Christ as Savior (John 14:6).
- Once we have a relationship with God, we get to know Him better by reading the Bible and praying (Philippians 4:6).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Revelation 4:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The word *created* in this verse means to "make from nothing."
- God chose what He wanted to create. He created everything for His own special reasons.
- God is the one who could create the world. He deserves our praise!

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.1

God Is Creator



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Animal or Human

What You'll Need: Bible, easel, whiteboard or poster board and markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Make three columns on the whiteboard or poster board. Label the left-hand column "Animal." Label the middle column "Human." Label the last column "Both."

STEP 1: Help kids recognize that God is Creator with the following activity.

Read each of the following clues about God's creation. Ask kids to give a "thumbs up" if the clue describes only an animal, or a "thumbs down" if the clue describes only a human. If the clue describes both an animal or a human, have kids stand. Ask a leader to summarize the clues under the correct column on the whiteboard or the poster board.

May have fins (animal).

Can swim (both).

May have a tail (animal).

Can breathe (both).

Has skin (both).

Can have babies (both).

Has eyes and ears (both).

Can love God (human).

Can obey God (human).

Can make their own choices (human).

STEP 2: Ask a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1.

Share these key concepts:

- Our powerful God created the universe, and everything in it.
- He made all things in just six days. (Genesis 1:1-31).
- Everything God made was good (Genesis 1: 9, 12, 18, 21, 25).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Revelation 4:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The word *created* in this verse means to "make from nothing."
- God chose what He wanted to create. He created everything for His own special reasons.
- God is the one who could create the world. He deserves our praise!

STEP 4: Ask another volunteer to read Genesis 1: 27.

Share these key concepts:

- God created humans for a different reason than He created the animals or anything else.
- We are different from the animals that God made. We are made in His image. That means that we can think, make decisions, choose to love, and choose to obey.
- Because we are made in God's image, we reflect who He is in many ways (Genesis 1:27).

STEP 5: Under the column labeled "Human," write "can have a relationship with God."

Share these key concepts:

- God wants us to have a relationship with Him.
- We have a relationship with God when we trust Christ as Savior (John 14:6).
- Once we have a relationship with God, we get to know Him better by reading the Bible and praying (Philippians 4:6).

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Holy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Paper Object Lesson

What You'll Need: Two sheets of plain, white paper, black marker

PREP:

STEP 1: Step 1: Hold up a sheet of white paper. Ask kids to identify several wrong choices kids their age might make (e.g., disobeying their parents, lying to a teacher or friend, cheating on a test). For every wrong choice a kid suggests, draw a mark on the paper. Then ask the following questions:

- What makes a choice good or bad?
- Does God ever make a wrong choice?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We all make wrong choices. No one is perfect or holy because we are all sinners.
- A sin is anything we think, say, or do that disobeys God.
- God never has trouble making right choices. He is holy, which means He is perfect, without sin, and always does what is right.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.2

God Is Holy



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Imitation Game

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to imitate everything you do. Begin making simple hand and body motions and move to faster and more complex motions, making it difficult for kids to keep up. Continue this game for a few minutes. Then ask the following questions:

- Did you find it easy or hard to imitate (leader's name)?
- Do you think it would be easy or hard to try to imitate God? Why?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We would have a hard time trying to imitate God because we all make wrong choices.
- No one is perfect or holy because we are all sinners.
- God never has trouble making right choices. He is holy, which means He is perfect, without sin, and always does what is right.

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

SECTION

1.2

God Is Holy



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Revelation 4:8b Poster Activity

What You'll Need: Bibles, seven sheets of card stock or poster board, markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Mark Bibles to Revelation 4:8b.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Revelation 4:8b. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The verse calls God "holy" three times. That means that God is perfect and without sin. Nothing or no one can ever come close to being holy like He is.
- The almighty God is strong and more powerful than anyone or anything.
- God has always been alive and will always be alive. He never changes!

STEP 2: Help kids learn their verse with the following activity. Have kids work in groups of two or three. Give each group a marked Bible, a sheet of card stock or poster board, and several markers. Assign one of the following words or phrases to each group. Give kids three minutes to write in large letters their word or phrase on the front and a picture on the back that depicts their word or phrase.

(Note: Some kids can do more than one poster.)

Holy

Holy

Holy

Is the Lord God Almighty

Who was

And Is

And is to come!

Revelation 4:8b

STEP 3: After three minutes, have each pair share their section of the verse, along with their pictures. Have kids stand in a circle with their posters in the correct order, words or phrases facing out. One at a time, point to each pair and have them hold up their word or phrase. Have all the class read the word or phrase out loud. Repeat the activity two more times, getting faster each time.

If time allows, have kids turn their papers so the picture faces out. Repeat the activity using the pictures in place of the words.

Step 4: Share these key concepts:

- Our amazing God is perfect and without sin. He has never done anything wrong, and He will never do anything wrong (Revelation 4:8b).
- We are sinful humans because we are related to the first man, Adam, who is a sinner. Because we are sinners, we do not seek after God on our own.
- We can know how to be right with God when we study the Bible. God gives us His Word to teach, correct, and train us (2 Timothy 3:16).
- Once we trust Christ as Savior, God forgives our sins, and we become Holy in His sight! The Holy Spirit lives inside us and helps us make right choices and be more like Christ (Romans 8:9-11).

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

SECTION

1.2

God Is Holy



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: What is right?

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

STEP 1: Divide kids into four pairs or groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil. Give each group one of the following topics, and encourage a kid from each group to write down the topic:

- Obeying/disobeying parents
- Lying/telling the truth to a teacher
- Making fun of/being kind to a friend
- Getting along with/fighting with a sibling

Give groups three minutes to brainstorm a scenario in which kids would have to make a right or wrong decision.

STEP 2: Ask: Why is it sometimes hard for us to make the right choices? (Guide kids to see that we make wrong choices because we are sinners.)

Share these key concepts:

- Our amazing God is perfect and without sin. He has never done anything wrong, and He will never do anything wrong (Revelation 4:8b).
- We are sinful humans because we are related to the first man, Adam, who is a sinner. Because we are sinners, we do not seek after God on our own (Romans 3:10).
- We can know how to be right with God when we study the Bible. God gives us His Word to teach, correct, and train us (2 Timothy 3:16).
- Once we trust Christ as Savior, God forgives our sins, and we become Holy in His sight! The Holy Spirit lives inside us and helps us make right choices and be more like Christ (Romans 8:9-11).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Revelation 4:8b. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The verse calls God "holy" three times. That means that God is perfect and without sin. Nothing or no one can ever come close to being holy like He is.
- The almighty God is strong and more powerful than anyone or anything.
- God has always been alive and will always be alive. He never changes!

STEP 4: Redirect each group's attention back to their topics. Ask: How can knowing God is holy help you make the right choices in each of these situations? Give groups a few minutes to discuss the question. Then, as time allows, call on a volunteer from each group to share the group's answer.

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

SECTION
1.3

God Is Just



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Candy Justice Simulation

What You'll Need: Bowl, candy, timer

PREP: Contact a leader or kid to help with the skit. Arrange for that person to stand and complain during the activity a few seconds after you start the timer.

Fill the bowl with candy.

STEP 1: Welcome the kids and hold up the bowl of candy. Tell them you will give a piece of candy to everybody who remains seated for the next 30 seconds.

STEP 2: Start the timer and remind the kids that they only get the candy if they remain seated. Shortly after you start the timer, the predetermined kid or leader should stand, complain, and demand the candy immediately. Explain to the class that the disruptor won't get a piece of candy. If others disobey the rule, don't give them candy either.

After 30 seconds, distribute candy to those who earned it. Then ask the following questions:

- Why did most of the class earn a piece of candy?
- Was it fair for me to not give (volunteer's name) candy? Why or why not?
- What makes something fair or unfair?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Everyone has faced times when life is unfair. Things do not go as we planned, or we do not get what we think we need or deserve.
- We can never be just all the time. All humans are sinners. We are not perfect, and we cannot always make fair or just decisions because of sin.
- Only God is just. In today's lesson, you will see how God is always just to everyone. He even offers a way for us to be right with Him!

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

Notes:

SECTION
1.3
God Is Just

Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)
Option 2: A Story of Injustice
What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: (Optional: Print two copies of the following short story and ask two leaders to act it out in front of the kids.)

STEP 1: Read the following short story. (Optional: have volunteers act it out in front of the kids.)

"Life isn't fair!" Hailey Jones exclaimed after bursting through the door of her house. She slammed her backpack down onto the table.

Hailey's mom went over to sit next to her daughter at the table. "Tough day at school?" she asked.

"The worst!" Hailey said. "I wish I could go to a different school. Maybe people are nicer there!"

"Tell me what happened," said Mrs. Jones.

"Mr. Hernandez was writing a math problem on the board when Dylan Sodaro threw a paper ball. It hit Mr. Hernandez in the back of the head."

"What did your teacher do?" Mrs. Jones asked.

"He turned around and demanded to know who hit him," answered Hailey. "One kid said Dylan did it, but Dylan wouldn't admit to it. Another kid said Isabella Evans did it. And Jacob Chen said I did it. Mr. Hernandez didn't know what to do. So he made Dylan, Isabella, and me sit on the bench when all the other kids got to play on the playground. It wasn't fair!"

"Oh, that's too bad, sweetie," said Hailey's mom. "Maybe I should talk to your teacher and tell him what happened."

"Yeah, and there's more!" Hailey said, taking off her purple tennis shoes. "In gym, our class played one of the other classes in basketball. We were losing by one point. There were only a few seconds left to play. Logan Lewis passed

the ball to me, and I made a basket just before the buzzer sounded to end the game. We should have won by a point! But one of the two referees thought I shot the ball after the buzzer sounded. They talked it over and decided my basket didn't count, and we lost the game! It wasn't fair."

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Do you think it was fair for Hailey to have to sit on the bench during playground time? Why or why not?
- Was it fair that her team lost the game? Why or why not?
- What makes something fair or unfair?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes things like this happen to us too. When we are treated unfairly, we might feel upset like Hailey. We might be angry or try to get what we deserve.
- Everyone has faced times when life is unfair. Things do not go as we planned, or we do not get what we think we need or deserve.
- We can never be just all the time. All humans are sinners. We are not perfect, and we cannot always make fair or just decisions because of sin.
- Only God is just. In today's lesson, you will see how God is always just to everyone. He even offers a way for us to be right with Him!

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

Notes:

SECTION
1.3
God Is Just

Main Lesson (10 Minutes)
Option 1: Draw a Picture of Justice

What You'll Need: Bible, scissors, easel, whiteboard or poster board and markers, red cross, tape (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to Romans 3:23. Set up the easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the room. In the upper left-hand corner of the board, draw a few clouds and write the word "heaven" below them. In the center of the board, draw two stick figures, and write underneath "you and me." In the bottom right-hand corner, write the word "hell" with flames around it.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Deuteronomy 32:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God is a rock. We can trust that He is who He says He is. He will never change.
- All that God does is perfect.
- God is just; He is always fair and gives people the punishment or reward they deserve.

STEP 2: Draw the kids' attention to the board.

Share these key concepts:

- God is Just. He is always fair to everyone; He does not pick favorites, and He treats and loves everyone the same (Job 34:19, Romans 2:11, Deuteronomy 32:4).
- The Bible says that those who are sinless deserve heaven and those who are sinners deserve hell (Matthew 19:16-26, Romans 6:23).

STEP 3: Write the word "sinners" over the two stick figures. Ask a volunteer to read Romans 3:23.

Share these key concepts:

- We are all sinners because we make wrong choices.
- Because God is just, we deserve hell as punishment for sin.

STEP 4: Tape the red cross over the two stick figures.

Share these key concepts.

- God sent Jesus to take the punishment for sin.
- Jesus is the only person who is sinless and the only one who could take our punishment of death that WE deserved because of our sin.
- When you put your trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, your sins are forgiven, and God sees you as if you have never sinned. That means that one day you, too, can live forever in heaven!

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

Notes:

SECTION
1.3
God Is Just

Main Lesson (10 Minutes)
Option 2:

What You'll Need: Trash can, balloon, masking tape (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Ask a leader to volunteer to take the "punishment" of a kid at your signal.

Set a trash can on one end of the classroom. Blow up the balloon and place nearby. Place a piece of masking tape on the ground on the other side of the room. (Make sure it is impossible to toss the balloon into the basket from the marked line.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Deuteronomy 32:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God is a rock. We can trust that He is who He says He is. He will never change.
- All that God does is perfect.
- God is just; He is always fair and gives people the punishment or reward they deserve.

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- God is just. He is always fair to everyone; He does not pick favorites, and He treats and loves everyone the same (Job 34:19, Romans 2:11, Deuteronomy 32:4).
- God will give each person what he or she deserves.
- The Bible says that those who are sinless deserve heaven and those who are sinners deserve hell (Matthew 19:16-26, Romans 6:23).

STEP 3: Call on a volunteer to stand behind the masking tape line. Explain to that kid and the rest of the kids that the volunteer has only one chance to make a basket using the balloon. If he or she misses, the punishment is ten push-ups.

Give the kid the balloon and encourage him or her to take the shot. When the kid misses the shot, share these key concepts:

- All of us do wrong things. God calls the wrong things we do sin (Romans 3:23).
- Just like it would be impossible to make a basket with the balloon, it is impossible for us to deserve heaven because of our sin.

STEP 4: Remind the kid who missed the shot of the punishment. Give the signal so that the leader knows to volunteer and take the punishment of the required push-ups. Declare to the kids that the punishment was paid. Ask the volunteer to sit.

Share these key concepts:

- God sent Jesus to take the punishment for sin.
- Jesus is the only person who is sinless and the only one who could take our punishment of death that WE deserved because of our sin.
- When you put your trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, your sins are forgiven, and God sees you as if you have never sinned. That means that one day you, too, can live forever in heaven!

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

SECTION

1.4

God Is Love



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Who do you love? Hearts

What You'll Need: Colored construction paper, scissors, colored markers

PREP: Cut out hearts, one per kid.

STEP 1: Give each kid a paper heart. Place colored markers nearby. Tell each kid to write on the heart the names (or just initials) of people they love. Then ask the following questions:

- What does it mean to love another person?
- How is loving a person different from loving chocolate or loving your favorite video game, movie, or toy?
- What do you do for people you love? How do you treat them?
- Where does love come from?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We often show love to those who are closest to us, like family or friends. Those who love us and treat us kindly are easy to love.
- We have a hard time showing love to those who we don't know or those who are unkind or mean. On our own, we cannot truly love those we consider to be enemies.
- God Himself is love. He loved us even when we were His enemies.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Love*Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)***Option 2: Vote for Who Is the Most Loving**

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

PREP: Write the names Tamika, Caleb, and Emma on the board.

STEP 1: Read the following scenarios. Encourage kids to listen carefully because they will vote on which person they think is most loving.

Scenario 1: Tamika spent several weeks planning a special surprise birthday party for her best friend. She made the invitations, bought decorations, and even got a special gift for her friend. On the day of the party, her friend was surprised and happy.

Scenario 2: Marcus is the meanest bully at school. He makes fun of everyone. One day, he tripped Caleb. But then in gym class, Caleb saw Marcus sitting on a bench. Caleb brought Marcus a cup of water.

Scenario 3: Emma was swinging at the playground, and a friend asked her if she could have a turn. After a few minutes, Emma got off the swing and let her friend have a turn.

STEP 2: Ask the kids to vote by show of hands who was the most loving: Tamika, Caleb, or Emma. Record their responses on the board. Then ask the following questions:

- How did Tamika, Caleb, or Emma show love? How do you show your love to these people?
- Where does love come from?
- How did God show His love for us?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We often show love to those who are closest to us, like family or friends. Those who love us and treat us kindly are easy to love.

- We have a hard time showing love to those who we don't know or those who are unkind or mean. On our own, we cannot truly love those we consider to be enemies.
- God Himself is love. He loved us even when we were His enemies.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Love



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Word Unscramble

What You'll Need: Bible, easel, whiteboard and or large notepad and markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Set up the easel in the front of the room.

STEP 1: Write the following letters on the board: EVOL. Ask kids to work together to unscramble the letters and come up with the correct word. After 30 seconds, invite a volunteer to write the correct word on the board (LOVE).

Share these key concepts:

- God is love. He created us to have a loving relationship with Him.
- Our sin keeps us from a loving relationship with God.

STEP 2: Write the following letters on the board: ERCYM. Ask kids to work together to unscramble the letters and come up with the correct word. After 30 seconds, invite a volunteer to write the correct word on the board (MERCY).

Share these key concepts:

- We deserve punishment for our sin.
- But instead, God showed us kindness, or mercy.
- God's love is strong and amazing. He loved us and did what was best for us, even though we did nothing to deserve His love (Ephesians 2:4-5).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 2:4-5. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We were dead in our sins and could do nothing to deserve God's love.
- God was merciful and showed kindness to us.

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are saved because of God's grace.

STEP 4: Write the following letters on the board: PEEMLAX. Ask kids to work together to unscramble the letters and come up with the correct word. After 30 seconds, invite a volunteer to write the correct word on the board (EXAMPLE).

- When we remember how much God loves us, we can learn to love others.
- We learn to love others by following God's example of love (1 John 4:7-8).
- Loving others means we will choose to do what is best for them, even if it means that we will not get the best for ourselves (Philippians 2:3-4).

STEP 5: Have kids divide up into groups of two or three. As time allows, read each question aloud and give kids 30 seconds to discuss their answers together. Ask one or two groups to share their responses.

- How can you follow God's example by loving your parents?
- How can you follow God's example by loving your siblings?
- How can you follow God's example by loving someone who is unkind to you?

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.4

God Is Love



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Word Poster

What You'll Need: Bible, 3x5 cards, poster board, colored markers, art supplies, T&T handbooks (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write each of these words on a 3 x 5 card: Love, Mercy, Grace, Example.

STEP 1: Divide the kids into groups of three and give each group a sheet of poster board and materials. Assign one of the following words to each group: Love, Mercy, Example. Tell the groups to write the word in a creative and artistic way on their posters.

Then, on the back of their posters, ask groups to write one sentence that describes what the word means to them. Encourage kids to look through their handbooks to help with the meaning of their words.

STEP 2: Ask several volunteers from the first group to present their posters for the word "love" and to share their sentences.

Share these key concepts:

- God is love. He created us to have a loving relationship with Him.
- Our sin keeps us from a loving relationship with God.

STEP 3: Ask several volunteers from the second group to present their posters for the word "mercy" and to share their sentences.

Share these key concepts:

- We deserve punishment for our sin.
- But instead, God showed us kindness, or mercy.
- God's love is strong and amazing. He loved us and did what was best for us, even though we did nothing to deserve His love (Ephesians 2:4-5).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 2:4-5. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We were dead in our sins and could do nothing to deserve God's love.
- God was merciful and showed kindness to us.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are saved because of God's grace.

STEP 5: Ask several volunteers from the last group to present their posters for the word "example" and to share their sentences.

- When we remember how much God loves us, we can learn to love others.
- We learn to love others by following God's example of love (1 John 4:7-8).
- Loving others means we will choose to do what is best for them, even if it means that we will not get the best for ourselves (Philippians 2:3-4).

STEP 6: Encourage kids to write in the corner of their poster some way they can follow God's example of love this week.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Eternal



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Stacked for Eternity

What You'll Need: Easily stackable items

PREP: Ahead of time, gather items that are easy to stack (e.g., Legos, coins, paper clips, puzzle pieces, etc.). Make sure you have enough items for the activity below.

Place the stackable items in the middle of the table or on the floor.

STEP 1: Direct kids' attention to the stackable items, and tell them to imagine each item as one year. Ask each kid to make a stack that represents the number of years they have been alive. Encourage leaders to participate as well!

STEP 2: Compare the stacks to see who has the tallest and who has the smallest. Then ask the following questions:

- How tall do you think the stack would be for someone who lived to be 100 years old?
- How many items would you need to show the number of years in eternity?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- There are not enough items or enough room in the world to represent the years of eternity. We can't even count that high!
- God is eternal. He never had a beginning, and He has no end.

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

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Eternal*Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)***Option 2: What's the shelf life?****Notes:**

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

PREP: Gather food with expiration dates (e.g., milk, eggs, yogurt, peanut butter, soda). Place the food items on a table in the front of the room. Cover their expiration dates with sticky notes.

STEP 1: Tell kids that many food items have a date stamped on the container to let buyers know how long the product is good to eat. Direct their attention to the items on the table, and explain that each item has an expiration date hidden under a sticky note. Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or pencil. Encourage kids to guess the expiration date of each item.

After one minute, reveal the expiration date of each item to see which kid guessed the closest date for each one.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why do food items go bad?
- What other items around the house eventually fall apart or wear out?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God is eternal. He never had a beginning, and He has no end.
- After Adam and Eve sinned, all of God's creation began to wear out. Death entered the world, and all of God's creation would eventually die.
- Man is different from all of God's other creation. Even though our bodies will wear out, our souls—who we really are—will live forever.

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

SECTION

1.5

God Is Eternal



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Verse Sculptures

What You'll Need: Bible, Play-Doh® (Leader's Note: You can use sheets of blank paper instead if you are not able to print the handout.)

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to John 3:16.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 90:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God is eternal. He has always been God.
- There was never a time God did not exist. He was there before He created the mountains, the earth—and everything else!

STEP 2: Ask kids to work in small groups. Give each group a container of Play-Doh, and give them three minutes to make a sculpture of creation described in Psalm 90:2. While groups work, sculpt a person out of Play-Doh.

STEP 3: After three minutes, have all the groups present their sculptures. Then, display the person you sculpted.

Share these key concepts:

- We had a beginning. We have not always been alive like God.
- Man is different from all of God's other creation. Even though our bodies will wear out, our souls—who we really are—will live forever.
- We will always be alive, but we have a choice whether we want to spend eternity with God in heaven or apart from Him in hell.

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer to read or quote John 3:16.

Share these key concepts:

- Eternal life begins when we trust Jesus Christ as Savior (John 3:16, John 5:24).
- But, God says that we can have eternal life, which means we can have life forever with God (John 3:16).

STEP 5: As the Spirit leads, share how we can have eternal life with God. Then follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:

SECTION

1.5

God Is Eternal



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Creative Verse Expression

What You'll Need: Bible, circular item, easel, whiteboard, dry erase markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Locate an item shaped like a circle (e.g., Hula-Hoop®, plain wreath). Make sure the item does not have a clear beginning or ending. Bookmark a Bible to John 3:16.

Step 1: Display the circular item, and call on a volunteer to examine the item in front of the class.

Ask the following questions:

- Where does the circle begin?
- Where does the circle end?

Step 2: Share these Key concepts:

- Like this circle, God has no beginning or no end.
- No one created God. He has always been alive, and He always will be alive.

Step 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 90:2. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God is eternal. He has always been God.
- There was never a time God did not exist. He was there before He created the mountains, the earth—and everything else!

Step 4: Draw a dot on the board and an arrow extending from the dot. Near the dot, write the year you were born. Near the middle of your arrow, draw another dot with an arrow extending in same direction. Write the year that most of your kids were born near the dot. Explain that the arrow represents our lives. Point out that even though there is a beginning point when we were born, there is not an end.

Share these key concepts:

- We had a beginning. We have not always been alive like God.
- Man is different from all of God's other creation. Even though our bodies will wear out, our souls—who we really are—will live forever.
- We will always be alive, but we have a choice whether we want to spend eternity with God in heaven or apart from Him in hell.

Step 5: Ask a volunteer to read or quote John 3:16.

Share these key concepts:

- Eternal life begins when we trust Jesus Christ as Savior (John 3:16, John 5:24).
- But, God says that we can have eternal life, which means we can have life forever with God (John 3:16).

STEP 6: As the Spirit leads, share how we can have eternal life with God. Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: God's A-Maze-Ing Character

What You'll Need: Ball of yarn or string

STEP 1: Have kids sit in a circle. Call on a volunteer to name one of the five aspects of God's character studied in Unit 1 (Creator, holy, just, love, eternal).

STEP 2: After the first volunteer answers correctly, toss him or her the ball of yarn or string. Have that kid share something about God from that lesson. Have him or her hold onto a section of the yarn or string and then toss the ball of yarn or string back to you.

STEP 3: Continue the activity for several minutes, calling on different volunteers each time. Make sure each kid who answers correctly holds onto a piece of the yarn or string.

STEP 4: At the end of the activity, observe together the pattern created with the yarn or string.

Share these key concepts:

- The string represents who God is.
- All of who God is—the Creator, holy, just, love, eternal—reveals to us what He is like.
- God is all of these things all the time.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand how God's character helps us know more about Him.

Notes:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for taking notes during the activity.

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Four Images

What You'll Need: Globe or picture of the earth, white paper, gavel or picture of a courtroom and judge, circular object, cross, large box

STEP 1: Explain to the kids that the box contains items that represent God's character. Call on a volunteer to choose an item from the box and identify the character of God that item represents.

STEP 2: Continue the activity until all the items have been identified. Then have kids place all the items back in the box. Note: Be prepared to give kids hints if they get stuck.

Globe (or picture of the earth): God is Creator

White paper: God is holy

Gavel (or picture of the courtroom): God is just

Circular object: God is eternal

Cross: God is just

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- All of who God is—the Creator, holy, just, love, eternal—reveals to us what He is like.
- Just like all of these items fit in one box, all of these items describe one amazing God.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand how God's character helps us know more about Him.

Notes:

SECTION

1.6

God Is ... Review



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God Is/I Am

What You'll Need: Bible, handbooks, poster board or construction paper, markers, tape
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Write one of the following phrases on each sheet of poster board or construction paper: God is, I am. Hang the signs on the wall.

STEP 1: Read or recite together Revelation 4:11. Ask a volunteer to write Creator under the God is sign.

Then share these key concepts:

- God created everything in just six days.
- Man is God's greatest creation.
- He made us to have a relationship with Him.
- God created us in His image.
- We can have a relationship with God.

Ask a volunteer to write God's creation under the I am sign.

STEP 2: Read or recite together Revelation 4:8b. Ask a volunteer to write Holy under the God is sign.

Share these key concepts:

- God is perfect and without sin.
- He can never do anything (Revelation 4:8b).
- We are not holy like God because we are sinful.
- Once we trust Christ as Savior, God forgives our sins, and we become holy in God's sight!

Ask a volunteer to write Unholy under the I am sign.

STEP 3: Read or recite together Deuteronomy 32:4. Ask a volunteer to write Just under the God is sign.

Share these key concepts:

- God is always just and fair. He treats and loves everyone the same (Job 34:19, Romans 2:11, Deuteronomy 32:4).

- God gives each person what he or she deserves. Those who are sinless deserve heaven, and those who are sinners deserve hell (Matthew 19:16-26, Romans 6:23).
- Even though we are sinners, God loved us (Romans 5:8).
- God sent Jesus to take the punishment for sin.
- Jesus is the only person who is sinless and the only one who could take the punishment for sin.

Ask a volunteer to write Sinner under the I am sign.

STEP 4: Read or recite together Ephesians 2:4-5. Ask a volunteer to write Love under the God is sign.

Share these key concepts:

- God loves us, even though we do wrong things (Romans 5:8).
- Because God loves us, He sent Jesus to take the punishment for sin.
- When we remember how much we are loved by God, we can learn to love others (1 John 4:7-8).

Ask a volunteer to write Loved under the I am sign.

STEP 5: Read or recite together Psalm 90:2. Ask a volunteer to write Eternal under the God is sign.

Share these concepts:

- God is eternal. He has no beginning or end.
- He has always been alive, and He always will be alive (Psalm 90:2).
- Even though we had a beginning, we will always be alive.
- We have a choice whether we want to spend eternity with God in heaven or apart from Him in hell.
- Eternal life starts when we trust Jesus Christ as Savior (John 5:24).

Ask a volunteer to write Alive for Eternity under the I am sign.

STEP 6: Give kids an opportunity to respond if they want to trust Jesus as Savior. Then follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

SECTION 2.1

The Bible Is True and Without Error



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Eyewitness Account

What You'll Need: Unusual clothing accessory

PREP: Ask a leader to wear an unusual clothing accessory (e.g., crazy tie, brightly colored wig, weird sunglasses, or hat). Instruct the leader to make sure at least three T&T kids see him or her before removing the accessory and putting it out of sight from other kids.

STEP 1: Claim that (leader's name) wore an unusual item before club. Ask for eyewitnesses who could verify your claim. (Make sure they are the three kids who saw the leader.) Send the eyewitnesses outside the room with a leader. One at a time, call in the three witnesses and question them in front of the group about the unusual item the leader in question was wearing.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- How do you know what I claimed was true?
- How did the testimonies of the eyewitnesses help you believe my claim?
- Why is an unusual story easier to believe if there are people who witnessed the event?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- We know something is true when we witness an event or know the person to whom it happened.
- Things that have really happened are a part of our history.
- We can believe that the events of history are true because the people who saw the events wrote down the details and passed them along for others to read.
- We can trust the Bible is true and perfect because every word written in the Bible is from the Holy Spirit, written for us!

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible is true and without error.

Notes:

SECTION 2.1

The Bible Is True and Without Error



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Outrageous Truths

What You'll Need: Documented true but unusual story from a newspaper or Internet (optional: smartphone or tablet)

PREP 1: Make up an unusual story about yourself. Then search a newspaper or the Internet for a true but unusual story. Be prepared to share proof that the story is true (e.g., show kids the news article or the online source).

STEP 1: Share your made-up story. Be sure to give details to make the story more believable. Then share the outrageous but true story.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Which story do you think is true? Why?
- What proof would help you believe that either of the stories is true?

STEP 3: Share with kids that the first story was made up. Then show proof that the second story is true.

Share these key concepts:

- Things that have really happened are a part of our history.
- We can believe that the events of history are true because the people who saw the events wrote down the details and passed them along for others to read.
- We can trust the Bible is true and perfect because every word written in the Bible is from the Holy Spirit, written for us!

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible is true and without error.

Notes:

SECTION 2.1

The Bible Is True and Without Error



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Proofs for the Bible

What You'll Need: Bibles, four tables, (optional: tablet; computer; coins; paper clip; can of tuna; bread or a bun; 3 pitchers; 3 small, clear, plastic containers) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Depending on the size of your club, choose several unusual events recorded in the Bible, such as the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14), a floating axe head (2 Kings 6:1-7), Jesus walking on water (John 6:16-21), Jesus feeding the crowd (John 6:1-13). Bookmark kids' Bibles to the passages you chose. (Optional: Set up four tables in the classroom. Fill pitchers with water.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:160. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- All the words in the Bible are true.
- Each one of God's rules and promises will continue forever.

STEP 2: Divide kids into four groups and have them sit or stand around a table. Assign a leader to each group. Give the first group the Bible bookmarked to Exodus 14 (Optional: Give this group a clear, plastic container and pitcher of water.)

Give the second group the Bible bookmarked to 2 Kings 6:1-7. (Optional: Give this group a clear, plastic container, a pitcher of water, and a coin.)

Give the third group the Bible bookmarked to John 6:16-21. (Optional: Give this group a clear, plastic container, a pitcher of water, and a paper clip.)

Give the fourth group the Bible bookmarked to John 6:1-13. (Optional: Give this group the can of tuna and bread.)

STEP 3: Give groups five minutes to study their passages and to identify the event from each passage. (Optional: Using the supplies provided, encourage groups to experiment and see if the event seems possible.)

After five minutes, ask a representative from each group to share the unlikely event they studied.

Share these key concepts:

- Every event in the Bible really happened, and each person in the Bible really lived (Psalm 119:160).
- Archaeologists have found places mentioned in the Bible, and many of the writers of the Bible were eyewitnesses of key events mentioned in God's Word.
- Other people besides the writers saw the same things as the writers or believed the writers were telling the truth (John 20:30-31).

STEP 4: Explain to kids that the Bible also has many predictions. Some have already come true, like Jesus' birth and His death on a cross. Remind them that we know that all the prophecies will come true someday (2 Peter 1:21).

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.1

The Bible Is True and Without Error



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: History 101

What You'll Need: Bible, props, large container, scissors, paper, pens or pencils, small container (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Gather props kids can use in the activity below (e.g., hats, robes, plastic swords, stuffed animals, etc.). Put props in the large container. Cut a sheet of paper into strips. Write the names of well-known historical and biblical characters (e.g., George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Adam, Noah, David, Moses) on the slips of paper and place them in the small container. Place both containers in the front of the room.

STEP 1: Have kids work in groups of two or three. Ask a volunteer from each group to draw a name from the container. Give kids two minutes to choose props and decide how to act out their character. Ask leaders to walk among groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 2: After two minutes, have the groups who chose historical characters present their actions one at a time. Encourage the rest of the class to guess their characters.

Ask: Does anyone doubt (characters' names) lived? Why or why not?

Share these key concepts:

- We know these people are real because they are a part of history.
- Their stories were retold and written and passed down so that they would be remembered.

Step 3: One at a time, have the groups who chose biblical characters present their actions and encourage the rest of the class to guess their characters.

Share these key concepts:

- Even though we may not read about these characters in modern history books, these characters in the Bible really lived.
- They are a part of history, just like our former presidents and other well-known people of the past.
- Not only is every character in the Bible real, every event in the Bible really happened!
- Archaeologists have found places mentioned in the Bible, and many of the writers of the Bible were eyewitnesses.
- Other people besides the writers saw the same things as the writers or believed the writers were telling the truth (John 20:30-31).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:160. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- All the words in the Bible are true.
- Each one of God's rules and promises will continue forever.

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

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Helps Us Know God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Special Guest

What You'll Need: Easel, whiteboard and dry erase markers (optional: smartphones, computer, video projector)

PREP: Ask a guest your kids wouldn't know to "chat" with them using only nonverbal communication (e.g., texting, Messenger, sign language, writing messages on whiteboard). Note: Depending on the choice of communication, the guest could be in the classroom or offsite.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they will have a special guest this evening. Encourage kids to get to know the guest by asking him or her questions (e.g., What is your name? What do you do for a living? Do you have any pets?). Explain that the guest will respond using only a form of nonverbal communication.

STEP 2: After kids have communicated with the guest for several minutes, ask the following questions:

- What was unusual about the communication between you and the guest?
- What key things did you find out about the guest?
- What difficulties did you face with this form of communication?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- It is fun to get to know new people and to be known by others. There are even key things about us that we want others to know.
- God gave us a special way to get to know Him by giving us His Word, the Bible.
- God uses the Bible to tell us what He is like and to teach us who He is.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Helps Us Know God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Fast Facts

What You'll Need: Picture of a T&T leader
(optional: tablet or smartphone)

PREP: Choose a famous person to present to the kids. Be prepared to show a picture of that person and to verify key facts about that individual. (Optional: Pass around a tablet or smartphone for the kids to verify a photo or key facts.)

STEP 1: Display the image of the famous person and give kids one minute to call out fast facts about that person (e.g., his or her name, famous accomplishments).

STEP 2: Hold up the picture of a T&T leader. Give kids one minute to call out fast facts about the leader.

STEP 3: Ask the following questions:

- How many of you can claim to actually know (famous person's name) personally?
- What would be one way you could you get to know him or her?
- How is your relationship with (famous person's name) different from your relationship with (T&T leader's) name?

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- There is a difference between knowing someone and knowing about someone.
- Some people claim to know God when they really only know about Him.
- God gave us a special way to get to know Him by giving us His Word, the Bible.

STEP 5: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible helps us know God.

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Helps Us Know God



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Roving Reporters

What You'll Need: Bibles, *Start Zone*, Who? What? Why? handout (Resource Bundle), pens and pencils (optional: microphone) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Choose three or four of the following biblical events: creation (Genesis 1- 2), the flood (Genesis 6-8), the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14), the battle of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-20), the death and resurrection of Christ (John 19-20). Assign an event to each adult leader and give each of them a copy of the handout. Ask them to be prepared to act as experts on their events and to answer questions about God based on their assigned event. (Optional: Instead of breaking into groups with leader experts, you may choose to stay together as one large group for the activity by focusing on one or two biblical events.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 20:31. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word was written to help us know God.
- The Bible was written to help us know and believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- If we believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, we will have eternal life!

STEP 2: Briefly review with kids the process of biblical inspiration from the *Start Zone*. Then divide kids into small groups. Assign the corresponding "expert" leaders to that group, and give the leaders the corresponding marked Bibles. Give each kid a handout and pen or pencil. Tell kids to pretend to be roving reporters who must investigate an incident in the Bible and see what they can learn about God through that incident. Explain that good reporters study information about the incident and then question experts to help them better understand the event they are reporting.

Give groups five minutes to study their assigned passage and record their findings on the worksheet.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have a reporter from each group share the groups' findings. (Optional: Give the reporter a microphone prop.)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts:

- There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.
- We get to know God through His Word, the Bible.
- When we explore Scripture, we learn who God is (Psalm 145:8-9).
- The Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Knowing how to have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing He wants us to learn from the Bible (John 20:31).
- The Bible shows us what God wants for our lives.
- The more we read and study God's Word, the better we will know God and what He wants us to do (2 Timothy 3:16).

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.2

The Bible Helps Us Know God



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Find Out More

What You'll Need: Bibles, pieces of candy with yellow or gold wrapping, gold card stock or yellow construction paper, scissors, tape, bowl, paper, pens or pencils, easel, whiteboard and dry erase markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Cut strips of yellow card stock or construction paper. Write one of the following references on each strip:

- 1 John 1:5
- Matthew 5:48
- John 3:16-17
- Isaiah 45:18
- Numbers 23:19
- Psalm 147:5

Wrap one of the prepared paper strips around a piece of candy and tape. Make sure the reference can be seen.

Hide the prepared candy around the room. Pour the rest of the candy in a bowl.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 20:31. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word was written to help us know God.
- The Bible was written to help us know and believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- If we believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, we will have eternal life!

STEP 2: Read aloud Psalm 19:7-10 and explain that God's Word is to be desired more than gold. Then divide kids into groups of two or three. Hold up the prepared candy, and ask a volunteer from

each group to find one of the treasures hidden around the room.

Give each group a Bible, and give them three to five minutes to look up their verses and record what those verses say about God. While kids are working, pass out candy to those who have not yet had a piece.

STEP 3: After groups are finished, ask a representative from each group to share their findings and record it on the board.

Share these key concepts:

- There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.
- We get to know God through His Word, the Bible.
- When we explore Scripture, we learn who God is (Psalm 145:8-9).
- The Bible teaches us about Jesus.
- Knowing how to have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing He wants us to learn from the Bible (John 20:31).
- The Bible shows us what God wants for our lives.
- The more we read and study God's Word, the better we will know God and what He wants us to do (2 Timothy 3:16).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse John 20:31. Have kids repeat the verse with you, pausing after each phrase to help them learn the verse.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word was written to help us know God.
- The Bible was written to help us know and believe in His Son, Jesus Christ.
- If we believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, we will have eternal life!

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



Who? What? Why Handout

INSTRUCTIONS: Your leader will assign to you one of these events to study: creation (Genesis 1-2), the flood (Genesis 6-8), the crossing of the Red Sea (Exodus 14), the battle of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-20), the death and resurrection of Christ (John 19-20). Answer the following questions as you study.

1. Who are the main people involved in the incident?

2. What are some of the things God did in the Bible verses you read?

3. What are some of the things God said in the Bible verses you read?

4. Why do you think God told us about this incident in the Bible?

SECTION 2.3

The Bible Should Be Studied Carefully



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Pictionary in the Dark

What You'll Need: Easels, whiteboards or pads of paper, markers

PREP: Ahead of time, ask a leader or a special guest to playact a substitute math teacher who teaches incorrectly. Instruct the leader or guest to play along with any controversy, insisting that his or her methods and answers are correct.

Write several simple addition, subtraction, and multiplication problems on the board, but do not solve the problems.

STEP 1: Have the substitute draw kids' attention to the problems on the board and begin to teach and solve the problems incorrectly. Continue the scenario for a couple of minutes, observing how kids react to the substitute's teaching.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What did you think of the substitute's teaching methods?
- How do we know the problems and methods of solving the problem are not correct?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we focus on and commit to studying something, we really begin to learn about it. We can pick up details and can easily identify certain truths that stick out to us; we can also recognize errors.
- The same is true for God's Word. When we study it carefully, we begin to see key truths and understand concepts better. And the more we study it, the more we learn about it. When we really know and understand it ourselves, we can teach it correctly to someone else.
- We learn about the Bible by reading it, studying it, and changing our lives to match what it teaches.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible should be studied carefully.

Notes:

SECTION 2.3

The Bible Should Be Studied Carefully



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Study Hard

What You'll Need: Table, tablecloth, school supplies, paper, pens or pencils

PREP: Collect fifteen common school supplies (e.g., pencils, pens, paper, book bag, markers, textbook, locker combination, lunchbox, crayons, sweatshirt, water bottle).

Place all the items on a table in front of the room.

STEP 1: As kids enter, encourage them to look at all the items on the table and to decide what they all have in common.

After kids have settled in their seats, give each kid a piece of paper and pen or pencil. Instruct them to number their paper from 1 to 15.

Give kids one minute to write down as many of the items that were on the table that they can remember. After one minute, hold up each item and see who wrote down the most items.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What do the items have in common?
- What difficulties did you face in remembering the items you saw?
- What would have made it easier for you to be more successful in this activity?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we focus on and commit to studying something, we really begin to learn about it. We can pick up details and can easily identify certain truths that stick out to us; we can also recognize errors.

- The same is true for God's Word. When we study it carefully, we begin to see key truths and understand concepts better. And the more we study it, the more we learn about it. When we really know and understand it ourselves, we can teach it correctly to someone else.
- We learn about the Bible by reading it, studying it, and changing our lives to match what it teaches.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible should be studied carefully.

Notes:

SECTION 2.3

The Bible Should Be Studied Carefully



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Panel of Experts

What You'll Need: Bible, (optional: computer and projector) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Choose a portion of Scripture that would be familiar to your kids, such as the birth of Christ (Luke 2:4-14). Print a copy for each child. Ahead of time, ask several leaders to act as experts on the passage you chose, but to change facts or add details that are not in the biblical account.

Bookmark a Bible to 2 Timothy 2:15 and Acts 17:10.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 2:15. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul wanted a young Christian, Timothy, to do his best for God.
- If Timothy handled God's Word carefully, he could feel good about his teaching and not be ashamed.
- To carefully handle God's Word means to teach exactly what the Bible says.

STEP 2: Tell kids the Bible gives an example of people who followed the principles in 2 Timothy 2:15. Ask a volunteer to read Acts 17:10 out loud. Then share these key concepts:

- Paul and Silas went to the town of Berea and began telling the people about Jesus Christ.
- The Berean people listened to them eagerly and with excitement, but they also looked at the Old Testament Scriptures (which was their Bible at the time) every day to make sure that what the two men were saying was true. They compared what Paul and Silas said to the truth of God's Word.

(Optional: project it on a screen so everyone can read it.)

STEP 3: Give kids an opportunity to be Bereans. Pass out copies of the Luke 2 passage (or another passage you have chosen) and have volunteers read the passage aloud.

Tell kids to listen carefully as the leaders discuss the passage. Encourage them to follow along on their papers and listen carefully for any mistakes they hear. If they hear a mistake, encourage kids to stand. Call on a child who is standing to identify or correct the error. Continue for several minutes.

Share these key concepts:

- To rightly (correctly) handle God's Word, we must be IN the Word, reading as much as we can. God's Word teaches us who God is and what He has done.
- We should be faithful to study and memorize God's Word because this kind of work pleases God. And the more we study Scripture, the more we learn how God wants us to live (2 Timothy 2:15).
- We must be careful to study and teach God's Word exactly as it says. When we study and teach His Word correctly, we show we are approved by Him (1 Timothy 4:13, 15-16; 2 Timothy 2:15).

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.3

The Bible Should Be Studied Carefully



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: True or False?

What You'll Need: Bible, *T&T Grace in Action* handbook, paper, pen or pencil (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Create a list of true and false questions from the T&T student handbook or a Bible story that most of your kids should know, such as Noah's ark or the feeding of the 5,000. Bookmark a Bible to 2 Timothy 2:15 and Acts 17:10. Arrange the classroom chairs in a circle.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 2:15. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul wanted a young Christian, Timothy, to do his best for God.
- If Timothy handled God's Word carefully, he could feel good about his teaching and not be ashamed.
- To carefully handle God's Word means to teach exactly what the Bible says.

STEP 2: Ask a volunteer to read Acts 17:10. Briefly explain the background by sharing these key concepts:

- Paul and Silas went through the town of Berea and began telling people about Jesus Christ.
- At the time Paul wrote his letters, the New Testament books had not yet been written; Paul's letters to them had not yet been named as Scripture.
- These wise men and women, called Bereans, recognized the importance of making sure that the words that Paul and Silas shared with them were true and from God. These men faithfully searched the Old Testament (the only Bible they had at the time) to make sure their words were true.

STEP 3: Play a variation of Around the World. Have kids stand next to their chairs. Give the kid closest to you the first question from your list. If that person answers correctly, he or she remains standing, and each kid rotates to the right. If the individual answers incorrectly, he or she must take a seat and remain seated throughout the rest of the game. Continue the game until only one kid remains standing.

Share these key concepts:

- To rightly (correctly) handle God's Word, we must be IN the Word, reading as much as we can. God's Word teaches us who God is and what He has done.
- We should be faithful to study and memorize God's Word because this kind of work pleases God. And the more we study Scripture, the more we learn how God wants us to live (2 Timothy 2:15).
- We must be careful to study and teach God's Word exactly as it says. When we study and teach His Word correctly, we show we are approved by Him (1 Timothy 4:13, 15-16; 2 Timothy 2:15).

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.4

The Bible Teaches Us About History



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: You want me to eat that?!

What You'll Need: Empty box of cotton swabs, mini marshmallows, white candy sticks, butterscotch chips, microwave-safe bowl, spoon, wax paper, plate

PREP: Make used cotton swabs by placing a marshmallow on both ends of each candy stick. Melt 1/3 cup of butterscotch chips in the bowl for 30 seconds and stir until melted. Dip the tips of the marshmallows into the melted butterscotch chips and place on wax paper for 10 minutes. Place the empty box of cotton swabs on a plate. Arrange a few of the prepared candy in and around the box.

Before class, ask a leader or a kid to be the first to try one during class.

(Optional: Search online for alternative gross snack ideas. Prepare according to directions.)

STEP 1: Display the candy cotton swabs. Assure them that even though they look like somebody used these cotton swabs to clean their ears, they are safe to eat. Ask the volunteer to try one in front of the class. Then offer one to each kid.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why did this treat seem gross?
- Did you have second thoughts about trying it? Why or Why not?
- How did having someone else try the candy first help your decision to try it?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Knowing that someone has demonstrated courage or gone through something before you makes it easier for you to face a similar situation.

- People from the Bible often kept going and never gave up hope. They chose to follow God and serve Him faithfully.
- The Bible helps us learn about history and the people who faced trials and hardships, yet they continued to trust that God would get them through.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.4

The Bible Teaches Us About History



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Do you trust Me?

What You'll Need: Duct tape or masking tape, blindfold

PREP: Make 15 duct tape or masking tape balls of various sizes (be sure that at least one or two are fairly large). Use tape to mark off a square area of your classroom, somewhere between eight to 10 feet (2m to 3m) on each side.

STEP 1: Ask a leader to demonstrate trust in the kids. Blindfold the leader and ask him or her to stand on one end of the marked area. Instruct kids to stand outside the marked area. Give each kid one or two taped balls, and instruct them to toss the balls into the square.

Explain to the kids that their job is to get the blindfolded leader across the other side without stepping on a duct tape ball using ONLY verbal instructions.

STEP 2: After the leader is safely across, ask the following questions:

- What is trust?
- How did the leader demonstrate trust in you?
- Why would it be easier for you to go through the activity after someone else has successfully faced it?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Knowing that someone has demonstrated courage or gone through something before you makes it easier for you to face a similar situation.
- People from the Bible often kept going and never gave up hope. They chose to follow God and serve Him faithfully.

- The Bible helps us learn about history and the people who faced trials and hardships, yet they continued to trust that God would get them through.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.4

The Bible Teaches Us About History



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Real-Life Examples of Faith

What You'll Need: Bible (optional: Bible times costume) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Choose a leader(s) to act out one or both of the on separate page monologues. Give the leader a printed copy of the chosen monologue. Encourage the leader to be creative and full of expression as he or she presents the monologue. (Optional: Ask the leader to wear a biblical costume during the presentation.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 15:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The events that were written in the Bible really happened; they are a part of our history.
- The Bible was written for learning, which means that God wants us to learn from the true stories about people in Scripture.
- God gave us His Word so that we could learn more about Him and His eternal plan for us.
- God's Word teaches patience and offers comfort. By trusting in the truth of the Bible, we have hope.

STEP 2: Have the leader present the chosen monologue(s). Then, have the kids break into groups of two or three and discuss these questions:

- What hardship did that character face?
- How did that person demonstrate faith in God through the trial?
- How can these characters encourage you and give you hope when you face struggles?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- These people from the Bible really lived. Their stories really did happen (Proverbs 30:5)!

- These people—and others like them in the Bible—were not super smart or strong; they chose to have faith in God. Studying their stories encourage us and offer us hope (Romans 15:4).
- The same God who helped the people in biblical history is the same God who loves us and promises to always be with us. Our faith grows stronger as we read and believe His Word (Romans 10:17).

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.4

The Bible Teaches Us About History



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Character Comics

What You'll Need: Bibles, card stock, pencils, markers or crayons, easel, white board or poster board and markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Choose several Bible characters who demonstrated faith in trials, such as Daniel (Daniel 6), Deborah (Judges 4-5), Ruth (Ruth 1-4), David (1 Samuel 17), or Paul and Silas (Acts 16).

Bookmark a Bible to each passage you chose.

Set up the easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the room. Divide the board into three columns. At the top of the left-hand column, write "Character." At the top of the middle column, write "Experience." At the top of the right-hand column, write "faith."

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 15:4. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The events that were written in the Bible really happened; they are a part of our history.
- God gave us His Word so that we could learn more about Him and His eternal plan for us.
- God's Word teaches patience and offers comfort. By trusting in the truth of the Bible, we have hope.

STEP 2: Encourage kids to discover firsthand historical characters from the Bible who demonstrated faith in difficult circumstances. Divide kids into groups of two or three, and give each kid a sheet of card stock and markers or crayons. Assign a character to each group, and give that group the Bible bookmarked to that passage.

Give groups five minutes to create a comic strip that highlights their character's example of faith. Encourage each kid to work on one frame of

their comic strip. Ask leaders to walk around the groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have each group introduce their character and present their comic strips and highlight their character's faith.

Ask the following questions:

- What hard experience did your character face?
- How did your character show faith even in a difficult situation?

Encourage a volunteer from the group to record their findings under the appropriate chart on the prepared board.

STEP 4: After all the groups have presented their characters and comic strips, share these key concepts:

- These people from the Bible really lived. Their stories really did happen (Proverbs 30:5)!
- These people—and others like them in the Bible—were not super smart or strong; they chose to have faith in God. Studying their stories encourage us and offer us hope (Romans 15:4).
- The same God who helped the people in biblical history is the same God who loves us and promises to always be with us. Our faith grows stronger as we read and believe His Word (Romans 10:17).

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

Notes:



Bible Character Monologue Scripts

INSTRUCTIONS: Choose a leader to act out one or both of the following monologues. Encourage the leader to be creative and full of expression as he or she presents the character in front of the club. If desired, the leader can dress like the character in biblical attire.

MONOLOGUE FOR RUTH

(Begin the monologue by pretending to hold a baby in your arms, rocking him and talking to him. After several seconds of activity, notice the kids and pretend to lay the baby in a cradle. Then stand and begin the monologue.)

Pardon me. I was just taking care of my baby boy, Obed. My life is so happy now, but it has not always been easy.

My name is Ruth. I grew up in the country of Moab where we worshiped false gods. We had to do many things to please these gods, and we were frightened of them. I married a man whose family had moved into our country from the country of Israel. He and his family served only one God. They loved and trusted their God, and I learned many things about this God from them.

However, my first husband—and his brother and father—died, leaving me and my mother-in-law, Naomi, alone. I was heartbroken, but I knew Naomi needed someone to love and care for her. When Naomi decided to return to her homeland, I willingly left my hometown, my friends, and my family to be with her. It was not easy for me to go, and I was afraid. I wondered: *Who would care for us?* Where would we live? How would we find food? But I knew all about my mother-in-law's God, and I bravely declared that He would be my God as well.

Shortly after we moved, I was able to gather grain in a field owned by Boaz. I found out later that Boaz was a relative of my dead husband. The work was hard, but Boaz took notice of me and told his field workers to leave extra grain for me. I could take the grain home

and use it to make bread. Already our God was at work providing food for Naomi and me!

After Naomi saw the kindness of Boaz, she shared with me an ancient custom of her people, the Jews. Since Boaz was a relative of ours, he could become my husband and help our family! I was scared. What if he did not want me to be his wife?, I questioned. I did not understand the custom, but I knew that God would work out all things, so I obeyed my mother-in-law's unusual requests and I did EXACTLY what she told me to do. And guess what? Boaz, a man who loved and trusted God, fulfilled the custom. He became my husband.

As I think back to the times when I was scared, alone, and heartbroken, I can see that even then, God had a plan for me. Now I have a wonderful husband who provides for me and Naomi. I even have a son! God has truly been good, and I am so glad that I can trust Him.



Bible Character Monologue Scripts

INSTRUCTIONS: Choose a leader to act out one or both of the following monologues. Encourage the leader to be creative and full of expression as he or she presents the character in front of the club. If desired, the leader can dress like the character in biblical attire.

MONOLOGUE FOR DANIEL

Have you ever been challenged to do something you know isn't right? Let me tell you from experience: it's hard.

My name is Daniel. You may have heard some pretty amazing things about my time in the lion's den, but I want to share with you a true story about what happened to me when I was—well, just a few years older than some of you! (Point to the kids in the room.)

A wicked king conquered my town and forced me and many of my friends to return to his city of Babylon to serve him. I was torn from my family, my home, and my people—all that was familiar to me. Babylon, though a great city of riches and power, was completely foreign to me. The people of that city spoke a different language, ate different foods, read different books, and worshiped different gods.

Even though I was lonely, homesick, and frightened, I remembered everything that I had been taught about the one true God. I KNEW that God was with me; even in this foreign land I was not alone.

The king chose me—and several other young Jews who were about my age—to live at his palace and be trained as his special servants. The training program was challenging, and part of the training included eating rich foods that the king would eat. While I'm sure the foods were delicious, I knew that many of the foods were forbidden by my people and my God.

You see, a long time ago, God had given the Jews special rules about the foods they were allowed to eat. So to eat of the king's foods

would be like forgetting about my God and my homeland—all that I believed and had faith in.

Even though I was afraid, I made a choice that I would not go against my beliefs and dishonor God by eating the king's food. I knew that it could cost me my life—and the lives of the men who were in charge of me—but I made my request. I challenged my guards to give me and my three friends only vegetables and water (food that would honor God and my people) for 10 days. At the end of the challenge, these men could look at us to see if our special diet was good for us.

At the end of the 10 days, I stood before my captors. My friends and I were healthy and fit and able to perform better than those who were given the meat and fine foods from the king himself! My God did not fail me! In time, God made us smarter and wiser and more skilled than all the other young men in the training program.

Even though that situation was hard, I learned that I could ALWAYS trust God. I learned that if I chose to obey Him in every situation I faced, God would strengthen me and never leave me. My faith grew, and God used me in great ways. My life was not easy, but my God is good, and He is faithful. Will you choose to trust Him like I did?

SECTION 2.5

The Bible Teaches Us How to Live



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Useful Instructions

What You'll Need: Chairs, balloons, yarn, straws, scissors, painters tape, (optional: craft project and supplies)

PREP: Place two chairs, a balloon, a straw, a 6 foot piece of yarn, and a roll of painter's tape on each side of the classroom (you will have two workspaces). Print out one copy of the following directions:

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place two chairs 6 feet apart from one another with the chair backs facing each other.
2. Tie one end of the yarn to the chair.
3. Thread the straw through the other end of the yarn. Make sure the straw is near one end of the yarn.
4. Tie the other end of the yarn on a second chair.
5. Blow up the balloon but DO NOT tie it.
6. While holding the untied end of the balloon, carefully attach the blown-up balloon to the straw with two pieces of masking tape.
7. Let go of the balloon and watch what happens!

STEP 1: Divide kids into two groups and send each group to one of the prepared workspaces. Position the groups so they cannot see what the other group is doing. Explain to kids that they are going to work together to make a rocket. Give only one group a printed copy of the instructions. Assign leaders to each group, but encourage them to only give minimal assistance.

STEP 2: Give groups three minutes to successfully build a balloon rocket using the materials provided.

After three minutes, call the groups together.

Ask the following questions:

- (To the group with no instructions): What challenges might you face in this activity?
- (To the group with instructions): How did the instructions help your group?
- How important is it to have good instructions when we make something?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- If you want to make sure whatever you are making turns out correctly, you have to follow instructions.
- Instructions give us step-by-step guidelines to ensure our projects turn out how we intend them to be.
- God's Word works the same way. It offers believers instructions on how to glorify God.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible teaches us about how to live.

Notes:

SECTION
2.5

The Bible Teaches Us How to Live



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: My Favorite Recipe

What You'll Need: 3 x 5 cards, pencils or pens, chocolate chip cookie recipe, (optional: chocolate chip cookies, napkins)

PREP: (Optional: Prepare chocolate chip cookies and make available to kids during the activity.)

STEP 1: Give each child a 3 x 5 card and a pencil or pen. Encourage them to write down how they think chocolate chip cookies are made.

After two minutes, read the actual recipe out loud. Compare kids' recipes with the correct one. (Optional: Give each kid a napkin and chocolate chip cookie.)

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why is it important to follow a recipe?
- What would happen if we were to leave out any of the ingredients or recipe steps?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- If you want to make sure whatever you are making turns out correctly, you have to follow instructions.
- Instructions give us step-by-step guidelines to ensure our projects turn out how we intend them to be.
- God's Word works the same way. It offers believers instructions on how to glorify God.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible teaches us about how to live.

Notes:

SECTION 2.5

The Bible Teaches Us How to Live



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Living Words for Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark several kids Bibles to 1 Thessalonians 5:11-22.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible instructs us how to live a life that pleases God.
- We "hide" God's Word in our hearts by studying it, thinking about it, and memorizing it.
- When we are faced with temptation to do wrong, God's Word helps us make good choices and will keep our way pure.

STEP 2: Give each kid a sheet of paper and pen or pencils. Have kids work in pairs or groups. Give each group a Bible, and assign one or two verses from 1 Thessalonians 5:11-22 to each group.

Give groups three minutes to study their verses(s) and brainstorm one or two scenarios in which kids their age can live out the instructions found in their verse(s).

STEP 3: After five minutes, have groups summarize their verses and share their scenarios.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us God's instructions for life.
- When we follow God's instructions in the Bible, we will make good choices to obey Him and stay away from sin (Psalm 119:9-10).

STEP 4: Remind kids that just following God's rules and commandments will not get them into heaven.

Share these key concepts:

- You can only get to heaven if you trust that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the cross and rose again (Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-10).
- When you trust that He did that for you, you are saved forever from the punishment for all your sin (John 3:16).
- God forgives all the bad choices you have made and will make that disobey Him (Isaiah 1:18, 1 John 1:9).

STEP 5: If you have unsaved kids in your group, continue discussing God's plan of salvation. Invite anyone with questions to talk to a leader.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.5

The Bible Teaches Us How to Live



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: My Choice to Make

What You'll Need: Bible, easel, whiteboard or poster board and markers; pens or pencils
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Print copies of Ephesians 4:25-32, one copy per kid.

STEP 1: Ask the class to give examples of ways in which kids their age make wrong choices (e.g., getting angry with their siblings, lying to their parents or teacher, bullying someone at school, disobeying their parents, cheating on a test). Write their responses on the board.

STEP 2: Have kids work in pairs or small groups. Distribute copies of Ephesians 4:25-32 and a pen or pencil to each kid, and assign one or two of the scenarios on the board to each pair or group.

Give kids several minutes to look through the verses of Ephesians 4:25-32 and find a verse that offers instruction to a kid in their scenario.

STEP 3: After several minutes, have a volunteer from each group share their scenario and a verse from the passage that offers instruction and guidance to that situation.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible gives us God's instructions for life.
- When we follow God's instructions in the Bible, we will make good choices to obey Him and stay away from sin (Psalm 119:9-10).

STEP 4: Explain to kids that God gave us His Word, the Bible to help us make good choices.

Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible instructs us how to live a life that pleases God.
- We "hide" God's Word in our hearts by studying it, thinking about it, and memorizing it.
- When we are faced with temptation to do wrong, God's Word helps us make good choices and will keep our way pure.

STEP 5: Remind kids that just following God's rules and commandments will not get them into heaven.

Share these key concepts:

- You can only get to heaven if you trust that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the cross and rose again (Acts 16:31, Romans 10:9-10).
- When you trust that He did that for you, you are saved forever from the punishment for all your sin (John 3:16).
- God forgives all the bad choices you have made and will make that disobey Him (Isaiah 1:18, 1 John 1:9).

STEP 6: If you have unsaved kids in your group, continue discussing God's plan of salvation. Invite anyone with questions to talk to a leader.

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

SECTION
2.6

The Bible Is Powerful and Active



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Inside Pics

What You'll Need: Images of X-rays or sonograms, (optional: computer, digital projector)

PREP: Search online for images of X-rays or sonograms. Print out images. (Optional: Use a video projector to display the images.)

STEP 1: Display X-rays and sonogram images to kids. As time permits, have kids identify different bones or organs in the pictures.

Ask the following questions:

- What do X-rays and sonograms have in common?
- Why do doctors need X-rays or sonograms or CT scans?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is powerful and active. The Bible is alive because God is alive. God talks to us through His Word.
- Just like an X-ray or sonogram reveals what's inside our bodies, God speaks to us through the Bible and shows us each detail of our thoughts and our actions.
- God has given us His Word, the Bible, to guide us. His Word is powerful, practical, and active to help us with everything that comes our way.

STEP3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that the Bible is powerful and active.

Notes:

SECTION
2.6

The Bible Is Powerful and Active



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Sharp and Powerful

What You'll Need: Plastic knife, sharp knife, cutting board, fruits or vegetables, paper towels (optional: computer and video projector)

PREP: Purchase fruits or vegetables with seeds inside (e.g., apples, tomatoes, avocados, peppers). Place the fruit, vegetables, knife, and cutting board on a table in front of the classroom. (Optional: Search online for a video of a chef cutting fruits or vegetables. Be prepared to show the video to the class.)

STEP 1: Cut a piece of fruit or vegetable with the plastic knife. Then cut a piece of fruit or vegetable with the sharp knife. Have kids examine the different parts of the fruit or vegetable (e.g., skin, flesh, core, seeds).

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why was the sharp knife better than the plastic knife?
- What does cutting the fruit or vegetable reveal about the inside of it?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is powerful and active. The Bible is alive because God is alive. God talks to us through His Word.
- Just like the knife cuts the fruit to reveal the inside, God speaks to us through the Bible and shows us each detail of our thoughts and our actions.
- God has given us His Word, the Bible, to guide us. His Word is powerful, practical, and active to help us with everything that comes our way.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.6

The Bible Is Powerful and Active



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: God Knows

What You'll Need: Bibles, easel, whiteboard or poster board and markers, paper, pens or pencils, tape, sticky notes (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: On a sheet of paper, write each of the following words in large letters:

Angry

Frustrated

Happy

Peaceful

Sad

Scared

Worried

Tape the papers on one wall of the classroom. Set up an easel and whiteboard or poster board in the front of the room. Write on the board, "God knows"

Bookmark Bibles to Psalm 139:1-6, Psalm 139:7-12, and Psalm 139:13-18.

STEP 1: Give each child a sticky note and a pen or pencil. Instruct kids to write their names on their sticky notes. (NOTE: If kids wish to remain anonymous, they can write their initials or birthdate instead of their names.) Point out the words that are taped to the wall and have kids stick their names under the picture that closely resembles how they are feeling that day.

STEP 2: Call on a few volunteers to explain why they chose a particular word.

STEP 3: Divide kids into three groups, and assign a leader to each group. Give each group a marked

Bible, a sticky note, and a pen or pencil. Instruct the group to read through their verses and determine what God knows about them. Assign a person from each group to write their answer on a sticky note.

After three minutes, have each group stick their note on the board.

Share these key concepts:

- God knows everything about us. He knows what we are doing all the time. He knows every detail of our bodies.
- He knows if we are sad or worried. He knows if we are happy. He knows if we are frustrated or angry.
- He knows even the secret thoughts in our heads that no one else knows.
- Even though the Holy Spirit helped men write the Bible long ago, the Bible is still true and helpful for us today (2 Timothy 3:16).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Hebrews 4:12. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is alive and powerful because our almighty God talks to us through His Word.
- The Bible doesn't cut like a real sword does, but just like a sword can cut something open to show what's inside, God's Word is able to show us what's inside our hearts and minds.
- The Bible even reveals what we secretly want or want to do.
- The Bible will help us with every situation we face if we take time to read it. God's Word will comfort us when we struggle and give wisdom for the choices we face each day.

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

SECTION 2.6

The Bible Is Powerful and Active



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Situations and Bible Truths

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, container, easel, whiteboard and markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Think of common situations your kids might face (e.g., a bully who teases them, a younger sibling that annoys them, an older sibling who picks on them, a difficult homework assignment, a difficult time obeying parents).

Write five scenarios on 3 x 5 cards, one scenario per card, and place them in a container.

Search for Bible verses that could help kids in these situations. (e.g., Ephesians 4:32, Philippians 2:3-4, Proverbs 17:14, Proverbs 19:11). Write the references on 3 x 5 cards.

STEP 1: Encourage kids to work in groups of two or three. Have a kid from each group draw a scenario from the container. Give each group a reference card. Give groups five minutes to prepare a skit based on the scenario. Encourage groups to think through the following questions:

- What emotions might a child feel in that scenario?
- What Bible verse or Bible truth would help the child respond the way God wants in that situation?

Ask leaders to walk among the groups, offering assistance as needed. After groups have their skit prepared, encourage them to read their assigned verse and mark it in the Bible.

STEP 2: Have each group present their skit. Then ask other groups to share their verse if it is applicable to the situation presented in the skit.

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- Even though the Holy Spirit helped men write the Bible long ago, the Bible is still true and helpful for us today (2 Timothy 3:16).
- God knows everything about us. He knows what we are doing all the time. He knows every detail of our bodies.
- He knows if we are sad or worried. He knows if we are happy. He knows if we are frustrated or angry.
- He knows even the secret thoughts in our heads that no one else knows.
- The Bible can help us with any problem or situation we will face.

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Hebrews 4:12. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is alive and powerful because our almighty God talks to us through His Word.
- The Bible doesn't cut like a real sword does, but just like a sword can cut something open to show what's inside, God's Word is able to show us what's inside our hearts and minds.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Our Guide



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Puzzle Problems

What You'll Need: Puzzles, tables, timer

PREP: Collect 50-piece puzzles, one puzzle for every four to five kids.

Spread puzzles on tables or in separate areas on the floor. Put several pieces of each puzzle back into their original boxes, and place the boxes out of sight. Place the timer nearby.

STEP 1: Divide kids into groups of four or five and assign a puzzle to each group. Give groups three minutes to complete as much of the puzzle as possible.

STEP 2: After three minutes, check the progress of the groups.

Ask the following questions:

- What strategy did your group use to complete the puzzle?
- What problems did you face?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We will all face different challenges or puzzles in our lives.
- God's Word is a light to show us what is right, and God gave us His Word to be our guide.
- When we read and study God's Word each day, we learn what He wants us to do. The Bible is our guide to making good decisions for our lives.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Our Guide



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: All Kinds of Lights

What You'll Need: Flashlights, lightbulbs, lamps, lanterns, matches, candles, table

Prep: Set up a display table in front of the classroom. Place various forms of light on the table.

STEP 1: Direct kids' attention to the items on the table.

Ask the following questions:

- What do each of these items have in common?
- When are these items useful?
- How could a light protect you or keep you safe?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Just like these lights help us see in the dark, God's Word helps us in a world that is dark with sin where people do not know what is right or wrong.
- God's Word is a light to show us what is right, and God gave us His Word to be our guide.
- When we read and study God's Word each day, we learn what He wants us to do. The Bible is our guide to making good decisions for our lives.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Our Guide



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Key Words

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, markers, tape, pens or pencils (optional: CD and CD player or iPad, iPod, and speaker) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to Psalm 119:105. Write each of the following words on a sheet of paper: Lamp, Feet, Light, Path. Tape one sheet to each wall in the classroom.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:105. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible is like a light or a lamp.
- When we study God's Word, it guides us to make good decisions when we face challenges in our lives.

STEP 2: Play the following game to help kids memorize their verse. Have kids stand in the middle of the room. Call out one of the key words of the verse, and instruct kids to run to the wall where that word is taped. Continue the activity, calling out the words in random order and getting faster and faster as you say each word.

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- The Bible contains the words of God. They give us everything we need to know so that we can please God (1 Thessalonians 2:13).
- Each time we read and study God's Word, we learn something new about Him or about how He wants us to live, and the Holy Spirit will help us make choices that please God (Joshua 1:8a).

STEP 4: Distribute a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil to each kid. Give kids five minutes to write or draw a picture of one area in which God's Word can help them make wise choices in their lives. Optional: Play a worship song about God's Word (e.g., "Ancient Words," "Word of God Speak," "Thy Word," "Every Promise").

STEP 5: After five minutes, ask kids to share what they wrote or drew. Then pray and ask God to help your kids understand the importance of allowing God's Word to guide their lives.

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.7

The Bible Is Our Guide



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: The Big Picture

What You'll Need: Bible, puzzles, marker 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils, *T&T Grace in Action* handbooks (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Purchase three inexpensive 25-to 30-piece puzzles. Put the puzzles together and then carefully turn them over. On each puzzle, write one of the following references: Joshua 1:8a, Psalm 119:9, 1 Thessalonians 2:13. Take the puzzles apart and put them back in their boxes.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Psalm 119:105. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The Bible is like a light or a lamp.
- When we study God's Word, it guides us to make good decisions when we face challenges in our lives.

STEP 2: Divide kids into three groups. Give each group one of the prepared puzzles. Give groups two minutes to put the puzzles together and then turn them over to read the verses. Encourage kids to discuss the following questions together:

- What are the benefits of studying God's Word?
- How can reading and memorizing God's Word help a kid your age?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The Bible contains the words of God. They give us everything we need to know so that we can please God (1 Thessalonians 2:13).
- Each time we read and study God's Word, we learn something new about Him or about how He wants us to live, and the Holy Spirit will help us make choices that please God (Joshua 1:8a).

STEP 4: Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or pencil. Challenge kids to read the Bible every day this next week. (Consider recommending that they look up and read seven of their memory verses from their handbooks.) If kids want to take the challenge, ask them to write their names on the top of their cards and to number their cards from 1 to 7. Have them put the cards in their Bibles or handbooks, and encourage them to write down the reference of the verse they read for each day.

STEP 5: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help the kids understand the importance of allowing God's Word to guide their lives.

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

Notes:

SECTION
2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Famous Stories

What You'll Need: Children's books, Bible, map, heart

PREP: Choose two or three popular kids' books and items that symbolize each book (e.g., *Charlotte's Web*—pig and a spider; *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*—a diary and a stick figure). Draw the symbol(s) for each book on a sheet of paper.

STEP 1: Hold up or pass around the pictures from each book and see if kids can guess what book they are from. Give hints as needed. After three guesses, hold up the book.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- What makes a story popular?
- How do you feel when you read a good book?
- What lessons can you learn from a good book?

STEP 3: Hold up the map and the heart and see if kids can guess what book these symbols represent. Give hints as needed. After three guesses, hold up the Bible.

Share these key concepts:

- Every part of the Bible is true, and every event and person mentioned in the Bible is a real part of history.
- The Bible is God's very words to us. It tells the story of God's love for us.
- The Bible is like a map. When we read and study God's Word, we get to know God better and learn how we can obey Him. The Holy Spirit helps us apply God's Word to our lives so that we can make good choices and become good workers for God's glory.

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

Notes:

SECTION

2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Useful Tools

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils

Step 1: Give each kid a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil. Give kids 60 seconds to write down as many tools that they use every day (e.g., toothbrush, fork).

Step 2: After 60 seconds, have the kid with the longest list read their list aloud.

Ask the following questions:

- What makes a tool useful?
- How do useful tools make your life better?

Step 3: Share these key concepts:

- God's Word is the most useful tool for us. When we read and study God's Word, we get to know God better and learn how we can obey Him.
- The Holy Spirit helps us apply God's Word to our lives so that we can make good choices and become good workers for God's glory.
- God gave us a living and active tool that will benefit us not only for the rest of this life, but will also impact us FOREVER!

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

Notes:

SECTION 2.8

The Bible Is Our Guide



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Kids as Teachers

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, *Grace in Action* student handbooks (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

Step 1: Have kids work in pair or groups, and assign one of the lessons to each group. Encourage kids to use their handbooks to review their lesson and verse and be ready to give a summary of the lesson and present a creative way to teach the verse (e.g., using a simple game, adding motions).

STEP 2: After five minutes, give each group one or two minutes to summarize their lesson and present their verse.

Share the key concepts:

Group One: The Bible Is True and Without Error

- Every event in the Bible really happened, and each person in the Bible really lived (Psalm 119:160). Archaeologists have found places mentioned in the Bible, and many of the writers of the Bible were eyewitnesses of key events mentioned in God's Word.
- Other people besides the writers saw the same things as the writers or believed the writers were telling the truth (John 20:30-31).

Group Two: The Bible Helps Us Know God

- There is a difference between knowing about God and knowing God.
- We get to know God through His Word, the Bible. When we explore Scripture, we learn who God is (Psalm 145:8-9). Having a relationship with Him through Jesus Christ is the most important thing He wants us to learn from the Bible (John 20:31).

Group Three: The Bible Should Be Studied Carefully

- To rightly (correctly) handle God's Word, we must be IN the Word, reading as much as we can. God's Word teaches us who God is and what He has done.
- We must be careful to study, memorize, and teach God's Word exactly as it says. When we study and teach His Word correctly, we learn how God wants us to live, and we show we are approved by Him (1 Timothy 4:13, 15-16; 2 Timothy 2:15).

Group Four: The Bible Teaches Us About History

- The people from the Bible really lived. Studying their stories encourage us and offer us hope (Proverbs 30:5, Romans 15:4).
- The same God who helped the people in biblical history is the same God who loves us and promises to always be with us. Our faith grows stronger as we read and believe His Word (Romans 10:17).

Group Five: The Bible Teaches Us How to Live

- God's plan is for you to have a relationship with Him. This can only happen if you trust Jesus as your Savior (Acts 16:31). If we follow God's instructions in the Bible, we will make good choices to obey Him and stay away from sin (Psalm 119:9-10).
- Reading, studying, and memorizing the Bible will keep your way pure (Psalm 119:11).

Group Six: The Bible Is Powerful and Active

- Even though the Holy Spirit helped men write the Bible long ago, the Bible is still true and helpful for us today (2 Timothy 3:16). As we read His words, He will show us that He knows what's inside our hearts and our minds, even the secret thoughts and sins we may struggle with (Hebrews 4:12).
- The Bible will help us with every situation we face if we take time to read it. God's Word will comfort us when we struggle and give wisdom for the choices we face each day (Hebrews 4:12).

SECTION
2.8

The Bible Is ... Review



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Group Seven: The Bible Is Our Guide

- The Bible contains the words of God. They give us everything we need to know so that we can please God (1 Thessalonians 2:13).
- The Bible is like a light or a lamp. When we study God's Word, it guides us to make good decisions when we face challenges in our lives (Psalm 119:105).

STEP 3: Remind kids that the best way for them to learn about the Bible is to study it for themselves. Encourage kids to pray silently and ask God to help them read, study, and apply God's Word to their lives. After a minute, close in prayer.

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

SECTION 2.8 | *The Bible Is ... Review*

Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Graffiti Wall

What You'll Need: Roll of bulletin board paper, markers, container, masking tape, paper and pens or pencils, *Grace in Action* handbooks
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Hang a 6 foot (1.8-meter) section of bulletin board paper on one wall in the classroom. Write on the top of the paper, "What I Know About the Bible." Place a container of markers nearby.

STEP 1: Direct kids' attention to the bulletin board paper. Encourage kids to write or draw several key facts that they have learned about the Bible throughout this unit. Encourage them to review through their handbooks for ideas.

STEP 2: After kids have had an opportunity to participate, distribute paper and pens to kids. Encourage kids to write on the top of their papers, "What God's Word means to me." Explain that as you talk through highlights of the lesson, kids can doodle thoughts and key phrases about God's Word on their papers.

Share these concepts:

- God is perfect and doesn't lie. He has told us that all His words are true and that the Holy Spirit told the Bible writers exactly what to write. Every event in the Bible really happened and each person in the Bible really lived. Bible writers saw or heard about the true events they wrote about in the Bible, and many of the prophecies they wrote about have already come true. We know that the rest will come true someday.
- We get to know God and learn how to have a relationship with Him through His Word, the Bible. The more we read and study God's Word, the better we will know God and what He wants us to do.

- We should be faithful to study and memorize God's Word because this kind of work pleases God. We must be careful to study and teach God's Word EXACTLY as it says—without adding or subtracting anything from it.
- Faith means trusting in God's Word, even if circumstances are hard. The stories of people in the Bible teach us, encourage us, and offer us hope when we study them and apply those lessons to our lives.
- The Bible is where believers find God's instructions for living. If we follow God's instructions in the Bible, we will make good choices to obey Him and stay away from sin. We need to keep reading, studying, and memorizing the Bible so God's instructions will be stored (hid) in our hearts. This will help us stay away from sin.
- God knows everything about us, and as we read His words, He will show us that He knows what's inside our hearts and minds, even the secret thoughts and sins with which we may struggle. God's Word is living and active to help us with every situation we face if we take time to read it.
- God gave us the Bible to help us know how to live for Him. It's like a light because it guides us to make good decisions. In order for the Bible to guide us, we need to read it each day, learn what it says, and ask God to help us obey it.

STEP 3: Remind kids that the best way for them to learn about the Bible is to study it for themselves. Encourage kids to pray silently and ask God to help them read, study, and apply God's Word to their lives. After a minute, close in prayer.

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

SECTION
3.1

Jesus Is Fully God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Exact Imprint

What You'll Need: Ink pads, card stock, markers, wet wipes, magnifying glasses, tables

PREP: Place ink pads, markers, wet wipes, magnifying glass on tables in the classroom.

STEP 1: Give each child a sheet of card stock, and ask the kids to stand around the tables in the room. Demonstrate how to make your fingerprints by pressing your finger into the ink pad and carefully placing it on the paper. Encourage kids to make fingerprints on their card stock. The kids may use wet wipes to clean their hands when they are finished.

STEP 2: Pass out magnifying glasses and ask the kids to look carefully at their fingerprints and then at the fingerprints of the other kids.

- What differences did you notice between your fingerprints and the other kids?
- How do fingerprints help tell people apart?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- We often identify who a person is by their fingerprints.
- We can identify who Jesus is by what we learn about Him in the Bible.
- The Bible says that Jesus is God's Son. He is the EXACT representation of God, which means He is just like God in every way.
- The Bible also says that because Jesus is God's Son, He is fully God. That means that Jesus is powerful and can do amazing things, just like God.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

Jesus Is Fully God



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Guess My Job

What You'll Need: Toys or items that identify a specific job, large container

PREP: Gather items that identify a specific job (e.g., stethoscope [doctor], briefcase and tie [businessman], firefighter hat, hose, fire extinguisher [firefighter], diaper bag, diapers, bottle, baby items [mom or childcare provider], police badge, police car [police officer], musical instrument [musician]).

Place all items in the container and place in front of the classroom. (Optional: Search online for pictures of job specific items. Print out or be ready to display them in class.)

STEP 1: Ask a volunteer to pull an item out of the container and identify a job that would require that item. Continue the activity for three minutes.

Ask the following questions:

- How do you know what a person in that profession looks like?
- How does what they wear or carry identify them?
- Why do some people in certain professions wear a uniform?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We often identify who a person is by what they wear or by what they do for their job.
- We can identify who Jesus is by what we learn about Him in the Bible.
- The Bible says that Jesus is God's Son. He is the EXACT representation of God, which means He is just like God in every way.

- The Bible also says that because Jesus is God's Son, He is fully God. That means that Jesus is powerful and can do amazing things, just like God.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

Jesus Is Fully God



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Match Up

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, markers
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Gather four Bibles and bookmark each to the following references.

Matthew 14:13-21

Matthew 28:1-10

Mark 2:1-12

Mark 4:35-41

2 Corinthians 5:21

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 10:30. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is exactly like His Father.
- Jesus is both God and the Son of God.
- God is one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each person is fully God, and each person has a special job to do (John 10:30, 2 Corinthians 13:14). He is the exact representation, or exactly like, His Father. Jesus showed He was God.

STEP 2: Have kids divide into four groups. Give each group a marked Bible, and encourage them to read their verses and be ready to share the miracle that Jesus performed. Encourage leaders to walk among the groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, ask a volunteer from each group to share the miracle from the passage.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus has always been alive. He was alive before He was born a human. God created the world through Jesus, and Jesus upholds the universe (Colossians 1:16-17).
- When Jesus lived on earth, He did many things that only God could do. He healed people and even made people come alive again! He also knew and taught things that only God could do or know (Matthew 14:13-21, Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 2:1-12, Mark 4:35-41).

STEP 4: Ask a volunteer to read 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus can save us from sin. Because Jesus is fully God, He is without sin. Only a perfect, sinless person could be the perfect payment for sin.
- Jesus willingly chose to die on the cross to be our payment for sin because of His love for us (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- If we trust that Jesus is the perfect payment for our sin and is our Savior, we are purified from sin. God has washed away, or forgiven, all our sin — past, present, and future — and we are freed from the penalty of sin.

STEP 5: Give kids a minute to examine their hearts. If they have trusted Jesus as Savior, encourage them to thank God that Jesus took the price for sin. If they have never chosen to trust Jesus, encourage them to talk to a leader.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.1

Jesus Is Fully God



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Searching for Proof

What You'll Need: Bibles, construction paper, scissors, paper, pens or pencils, Bibles, whiteboard and or poster board and markers, tape (optional: trench coat, magnifying glass, hat, and sunglasses) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Cut out a cross and four footprints from construction paper. Write one of the following sets of references on each footprint: Matthew 14:13-21, Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 2:1-12, Mark 4:35-41. Tape the cross on a wall in the classroom where the kids can see it.

Bookmark a Bible to 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Ask a leader or special guest to pretend to be a detective in search of proof that Jesus is God. Encourage the detective to walk among the kids while they work, encouraging their progress. (Optional: Ask the leader or guest to dress up as a detective.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 10:30. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is exactly like His Father.
- Jesus is both God and the Son of God.
- God is one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each person is fully God, and each person has a special job to do (John 10:30, 2 Corinthians 13:14). He is the exact representation, or exactly like, His Father. Jesus showed He was God.

STEP 2: Ask the detective to explain his mission to the kids, and encourage kids to help him in his search. Divide the kids into four groups, and have each group choose a footprint. Give each group a marked Bible, paper, and pens or pencils. Instruct them to look up the verses on their footprint and

to identify the proof from those Scriptures that Jesus is God.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have each group present their proof of Jesus' identity. After each group has presented their information, tape the group's footprint on the floor, and ask the detective to write the group's findings on the board.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus has always been alive. He was alive before He was born a human. God created the world through Jesus, and Jesus upholds the universe (Colossians 1:16-17).
- When Jesus lived on earth, He did many things that only God could do. He healed people and even made people come alive again! He also knew and taught things that only God could do or know (Matthew 14:13-21, Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 2:1-12, Mark 4:35-41).

STEP 4: Ask the detective to read 2 Corinthians 5:21.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus can save us from sin. Because Jesus is fully God, He is without sin. Only a perfect, sinless person could be the perfect payment for sin.
- Jesus willingly chose to die on the cross to be our payment for sin because of His love for us (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- If we trust that Jesus is the perfect payment for our sin and is our Savior, we are purified from sin. God has washed away, or forgiven, all our sin — past, present, and future — and we are freed from the penalty of sin.

STEP 5: Give kids a minute to examine their hearts. If they have trusted Jesus as Savior, encourage them to thank God that Jesus paid the price for sin. If they have never chosen to trust Jesus, encourage them to talk to a leader.

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

SECTION
3.2

Jesus Is Fully Man



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Babysitting Woes

What You'll Need: Tote bag, baseball, baseball glove, football, soda, video game, diaper bag, baby bottle, baby toys, diapers

PREP: Place the baseball, baseball glove, football, soda, and video game in the tote bag. Place the baby bottle, baby toys, and diapers in the diaper bag.

Before class, ask two leaders to play act interviewing for a role as a babysitter. Instruct them to pull the items out of the bag and share why having those items make them the perfect fit to be a babysitter. Give one leader the tote bag, and another leader the diaper bag. Encourage them to look through their bags and be prepared to "show off" their skills as a baby-sitter, based on what is in their bags.

STEP 1: Tell kids you are interviewing to people for the role of a babysitter, and that you have asked each one of them to show the group why they would be the best choice.

STEP 2: Have each leader present their bags, trying to convince the group they are the best choice.

Ask the following questions:

- Who do you think would make a good babysitter? Why?
- What roles might the other applicant be better suited for?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes people are not able to fulfill a certain role. They may be more suited to do something else.
- There is one person who is able to fulfill the two most important roles for you and for me: Jesus.
- Jesus has two full roles: He is fully God and fully man.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.2 | *Jesus Is Fully Man*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: What a Beautiful Baby!

What You'll Need: Baby photos of leaders, table (optional: computer and digital projector)

PREP: Ask each leader for a baby photo. Display the photos on a table in the front of the room. (Optional: Be prepared to project the photos on a wall or screen in the room.)

STEP 1: Present the photos, and explain to the kids that they are baby photos of their leaders. Encourage the kids to guess which leader is in each picture.

Ask the following questions:

- In what ways do the leaders still look like their baby pictures?
- In what ways are they different?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Jesus has always been alive as God. But He chose to come to earth as a baby.
- He experienced the same things we do. He grew from a baby to an adult.
- Even though Jesus was always fully God, Jesus was also fully human.

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.2

Jesus Is Fully Man



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Jesus' Humanity

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils, whiteboard and markers, roll of craft paper, scissors, construction paper, tape

PREP: Make a mural by cutting a 3-foot strip of craft paper and taping it to a wall in the classroom. Write at the top of the paper, "Jesus is fully human." Cut a heart from red construction paper.

Write each the following references on a 3 x 5 card.

Luke 2:40-52

John 4:6

Matthew 4:2

Matthew 26:36-38

Mark 3:5

John 19:28-29

John 19:30

John 1:33-35

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

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus chose to become human and to live among us.
- Even while He was fully human, He was also fully God. We are able to see God's glory on display through Jesus.
- Jesus was full of grace (He loved us enough to die on the cross for sin), and He was also full of truth (He always did what was right and followed the law of the Bible).

STEP 2: Have kids work individually or in pairs or groups. Distribute a Bible, 3 x 5 card, markers and a sheet of construction paper to each individual, pair, or group.

Give kids five minutes to study their passages and draw a picture that represents how Jesus showed He was human in that passage. (If they are working in pairs or groups, encourage them to work together to draw the scene depicted in their verse.) Encourage leaders to walk among the kids, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have each individual, pair, or group summarize their passage and then tape their picture on the mural.

Share these concepts:

- While Jesus lived on earth, He experienced the same things we do.
- He felt pain and emotions. He faced struggles. Yet He was perfect and never sinned (Hebrews 4:15).

STEP 4: Tape the heart on the mural. Share these key concepts:

- Jesus came to earth and became fully human because He loved us. Jesus chose to limit His powers as God so He could become a human (Philippians 2:1-11).
- He took our punishment for sin (Romans 5:8).
- We can feel comfort knowing that Jesus went through struggles like ours and can help us (Romans 5:8, 2 Corinthians 13:4a, Philippians 2:1-11).

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

SECTION

3.2

Jesus Is Fully Man



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Fully God/Fully Human

What You'll Need: Bible, card stock, markers, tape (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: On a sheet of paper, write "Fully God." On another sheet of paper, write "Fully Human." Tape each sheet of paper to opposite walls in the classroom.

Bookmark Bibles to the following references:

John 16:27-30 John 19:28-30

Mark 1:12-13 Mark 5:21-24

Mark 1:21-28 Mark 5:35-43

Mark 4:38 Mark 16:1-8

Luke 7:44-50

John 1:33-35

STEP 1: Have kids stand in the middle of the room. Read aloud each of the following verses. Tell kids to determine if the verse shows that Jesus is fully God or fully human by standing by the wall with the corresponding sign.

John 16:27-30 (Fully God) Mark 5:21-24 (Fully God)

Mark 1:12-13 (Fully Human) John 19:28-30 (Fully Human)

Mark 1:21-28 (Fully God) Mark 5:35-43 (Fully God)

Mark 4:38 (Fully Human) Mark 16:1-8 (Fully God)

Luke 7:44-50 (Fully God)

John 1:33-35 (Fully Human)

STEP 2: Share these concepts:

- Jesus is both fully God and fully human. No one created Jesus.
- He chose to become human because He loved us, but He never stopped being God; He was both fully God and fully human at the same time (John 1:14).

- While He lived on earth, He experienced the same things we do. He felt pain and emotions. He faced struggles. Yet He was perfect and never sinned (Hebrews 4:15).
- Jesus came to earth and became fully human because He loved us. Jesus chose to limit His powers as God so He could become a human (Philippians 2:1-11).
- He took our punishment for sin. (Romans 5:8).
- We can feel comfort knowing that Jesus went through struggles like ours and can help us (Romans 5:8, 2 Corinthians 13:4a, Philippians 2:1-11).

Step 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, John 1:14. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus chose to become human and to live among us.
- We were able to see God's glory on display through Jesus.
- Jesus was full of grace (He loved us enough to die on the cross for sin), and He was also full of truth (He always did what was right and followed the law of the Bible).

Step 4: Remind kids that Jesus faced hard things like they do. He was tired, thirsty, and hungry. He had to obey His parents and get along with His siblings. He felt anger and sadness.

Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or pencil.

Ask: How does knowing Jesus experienced some of the things you do encourage you?

Encourage kids to write or draw their responses on their 3 x 5 cards.

STEP 5: Encourage kids to place their 3 x 5 cards in their handbooks or their Bibles to remind them that Jesus was fully human.

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

SECTION 3.3 | Jesus Is Savior



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: The Case of the Stolen Cookies

What You'll Need: Cookies, napkins, table, podium or music stand (optional: gavel, black robe, play money)

PREP: Print out copies of this activity. Ask leaders to role-play the following characters in the activity: a judge, the accused, an accuser, and a savior. Give each volunteer a copy of the Introduction Activity. Ask the accused to ONLY admit to taking the cookies and accept the punishment. (Optional: Give the play money to the person portraying the savior.) Set up the podium or music stand in front of the classroom. (Optional: Place the gavel and black robe nearby.) Place cookies and napkins on a table in front of the classroom.

STEP 1: Tell the kids and leaders they can take ONLY one cookie. If they break the rule, there are consequences they must face. After all kids have returned to their seats, signal to the accuser to make accusations against the accused. Immediately call for a trial.

Ask the judge to stand behind the podium and hear the case of the stolen cookie from the accuser. After hearing the accusation, have him or her call out the sentence: a fine of \$10 for the stolen cookie.

STEP 2: Signal the savior to pay the penalty and the judge to declare the punishment to be paid in full.

Ask the following questions:

- Do you think the sentence for the stolen cookie was fair? Why or why not?
- Why are there consequences when someone breaks a rule?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Just like (leader's name) broke my rule, we ALL break God's rules.
- The Bible says that everyone has sinned. Our sin separates us from the holy, perfect God forever.
- God loves us, even though we are sinners. He made a way for us to have our sins forgiven. He sent Jesus, His Son, to take our punishment for sin.

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

Notes:



EVIDENCE FOR THE PROSECUTION

1

//ROCKETS ONLINE//

2

RADER CITY TRANSPORT

WATCH YOUR STEP

SECTION 1

Instructions: Read the following verses and then answer the questions below.

Romans 3:23, James 2:10, Romans 5:12

1. Who are the guilty individuals?

2. Why do they deserve punishment?

SECTION 2

Instructions: Read the following verses and then answer the questions below.

Romans 6:23; James 1:15; John 3:36; Revelation 20:11-15, 21:8

What is the punishment that the guilty deserve?

E

F

FUEL CELLS
AT 80%

SECTION

3.3

Jesus Is Savior



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Falling Short

What You'll Need: Hula-Hoop®, two pool noodles, scissors, masking tape

PREP: Cut the two pool noodles into 2 or 3 feet sections. Place the Hula-Hoop on the floor on one side of the classroom. On the floor in the middle of the Hula-Hoop, make a small X out of masking tape. Place a line of masking tape on the floor on the other side of the classroom at least 15-20 feet from the target. Lay the cut pool noodles beside the masking tape line.

STEP 1: Have the kids stand behind the tape. Give each kid one chance to throw a pool noodle section at the target, aiming to hit the X in the center of the hoop. Have a leader or child stand next to the Hula-Hoop and judge whether or not the noodle hits the mark. Each time the noodle misses the mark, instruct the judge to call out, "Miss!"

Ask the following questions:

- What challenges did you face when trying to hit the mark?
- How did you feel when you missed the mark?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- We all miss the mark when it comes to obeying God's laws.
- The Bible says that everyone has sinned. Our sin separates us from the holy, perfect God forever.
- God loves us, even though we are sinners. He made a way for us to have our sins forgiven. He sent Jesus, His Son, to take our punishment for sin.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.3 | *Jesus Is Savior*



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Evidence for the Prosecution

What You'll Need: Bibles, Evidence for the Prosecution handout (Resource Bundle), pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Print copies of the Evidence for the Prosecution handout.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that they are going to take part in a court hearing. The judge is God. The defendants (the ones on trial) are all humans. Assign the role of prosecution (the attorneys who prove the defendant is guilty) to all the kids.

Distribute a copy of the Evidence for the Prosecution handout to each kid, along with a pen or a pencil. Encourage the attorneys to work in groups to complete the first section of the handout. Give each group a Bible, and ask leaders to help groups as needed.

STEP 2: After three minutes, collaborate with the attorneys and discuss their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Each person has sinned. Our sin causes us to fall short of God's glory. When we say God is holy, this means He is perfect, without sin, and always does what's right.
- Because God is holy, sin can never be allowed in His presence (Romans 3:23).

STEP 3: Have the prosecution study the second round of evidence in the second section of the handout. After several minutes, collaborate with all the attorneys to discuss their findings.

Share these concepts:

- Even committing just one sin keeps us from a relationship with God, but we've all sinned a lot more than once (James 2:10).
- We can never be good enough to save ourselves (Romans 6:23)

STEP 4: Ask kids to play the role of the jury, who looks at the evidence and determines whether they are guilty or not.

Ask the following questions:

- Are the defendants (all humans) guilty, based on the evidence found in God's Word?
- What punishment do we all deserve because of our guilt?

STEP 5: Explain to kids that Jesus knew there was no hope for us to have a relationship with God on our own. We needed someone who could take our punishment for us.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless. He is also fully man so He could face death and die in our place.
- Jesus is the ONLY One who could ever take the punishment for our sin because He is both fully God AND fully man (1 Peter 3:18).

STEP 6: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Peter 2:24. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless.
- He took the punishment for sin that we deserved by dying on the cross for sin.
- Because Jesus took our place, we have the opportunity to be saved from the punishment of sin. We are forgiven and made righteous in God's sight!

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

SECTION

3.3

Jesus Is Savior



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Symbols of a Savior

What You'll Need: Bible, 3 x 5 cards, card stock, markers or colored pencils (optional: iPod or iPad and speakers or CD and CD player) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write each of the following numbers and references on 3 x 5 cards: Number One: Matthew 27:27-30, Number Two: Luke 23:26-27, Number Three: Luke 23:32-46. (Optional: Be prepared to play instrumental worship music quietly during this activity.)

Ask three leaders to read Scripture during the activity. Give them each one of the prepared 3 x 5 cards.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 Peter 2:24. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless.
- He took the punishment for sin that we deserved by dying on the cross for sin.
- Because Jesus took our place, we have the opportunity to be saved from the punishment of sin. We are forgiven and made righteous in God's sight!

STEP 2: Explain to kids that in today's lesson, they will discover what Jesus did for them. Distribute a sheet of card stock and markers or colored pencils to each kid. Encourage them to imagine what it must have been like to witness the events that surrounded the death of Jesus. As they listen to the verses, encourage them to draw symbols that remind them of what Jesus did for them on the cross (e.g., the crown of thorns, a robe, the cross, the sign above the cross).

STEP 3: Ask the leaders to read their passages in numerical order. When they are finished, share these key concepts:

- Every person has sinned. Our sin causes us to fall short of God's glory. Because God is holy, sin can never be allowed in His presence (Romans 3:23).
- Every person has sinned. Even committing just one sin keeps us from a relationship with God, but we've all sinned a lot more than once (James 2:10). We can never be good enough to save ourselves (Romans 6:23).
- Jesus is God; He is perfect and sinless. He is also fully man so He could face death and die in our place. Jesus is the ONLY One who could ever take the punishment for our sin because He is both fully God AND fully man (1 Peter 3:18).
- You can receive Jesus as Savior. All you have to do to receive Jesus' payment is to believe that Jesus died for your sin and rose again. When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are forgiven for all our sin and we have eternal life (1 Corinthians 15:3-5, John 3:16).

STEP 4: Give kids an opportunity to talk to a leader if they have questions about receiving Jesus as Savior. Close the lesson in prayer, thanking God for providing Jesus to be our Savior.

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

Notes:

SECTION
3.4

Jesus Conquered Death



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: What If?

What You'll Need: Paper, colored pencils or markers, whiteboard and markers

PREP: Write several "What If" scenarios that would be relevant to your T&T kids. (e.g., What if you could live anywhere you wanted? What if you could have ice cream at every meal? What if you could play any video game for as long as you wanted?) Write these scenarios on the board.

STEP 1: Direct the kids' attention to the scenarios on the board. Distribute paper and colored pencils or markers. Give kids two minutes to pick a scenario and draw the outcome.

After two minutes, ask volunteers to share the scenarios they chose and their drawings.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Do we always get the things we hope for here on earth?
- What is the difference between hoping for something like a toy and the hope we have when we trust Jesus Christ as our Savior?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- When we hope for something like a toy or another earthly item, we aren't sure we will get it.
- However, since Jesus rose from the dead, we KNOW He has victory over death and sin.
- When we trust in Jesus as Savior, we receive the sure hope that we will be in heaven one day with Him. It's a promise!

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

Notes:

SECTION

3.4

Jesus Conquered Death



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Amazing but True Top 10

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Search online for 10 amazing but true facts. Make a top 10 list of your favorite findings.

STEP 1: Read the 10 facts or project them for the group to see.

Ask the following questions:

- What makes these facts true?
- What makes these facts hard to believe?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- The greatest amazing but true thing that has ever happened or ever will happen is that Jesus rose from the dead.
- Because Jesus rose from the dead, we KNOW He has victory over death and sin.
- When we trust in Jesus as Savior, we receive a sure hope that we will be in heaven one day with Him. It's a promise!

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus conquered death.

Notes:

SECTION

3.4

Jesus Conquered Death



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: The Rest of the Story

What You'll Need: Bible, *Grace in Action* handbooks, whiteboard or poster board and markers, construction paper, scissors, pens or pencils, tape (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Cut strips from paper and write the following verses and their references on strips of paper:

John 14:1-3 2 Corinthians 13:4
Romans 8:34 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.
1 Corinthians 15:51-53

Draw a line down the middle of a whiteboard or poster board. On the top of the left-hand side, write, "No resurrection means" On the top of the right-hand side, write "The resurrection offers"

STEP 1: Give kids one minute to review unit 3.3 in their handbooks. Ask: What was the main story of the lesson?

Share these key concepts:

- If Jesus had not risen from the dead, then our faith would be useless.
- We would still be guilty of sin and face the punishment we deserve.
- We would be completely hopeless.

Write on the left-hand side of the board, "useless faith, guilt, hopelessness."

STEP 2: Remind kids that the story didn't end there. Distribute strips of paper and Bibles to volunteers, and ask leaders to help the volunteers look up the references in their Bibles. Have volunteers read their verses. After each verse is read, write the promise the resurrection offers on the board.

John 14:1-3 (Jesus will come again and take us to heaven.)

Romans 8:34 (Jesus now intercedes for us in heaven, which means He is constantly speaking up for us and helping us.)

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 (We will someday have new bodies, like Christ's, that never die.)

2 Corinthians 13:4 (We have power to serve God in this life.)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (We have comfort that we, too, will be raised from the dead or still be alive to meet Christ in the air.)

Share these concepts:

- Jesus conquered death. Many witnesses saw Him after He came alive again, and many recorded these eyewitness accounts in the Bible (John 20:3-31).
- Because Christ died and rose to life, those of us who have trusted Christ as Savior know that we, too, will one day have a perfect body that will never die (1 Corinthians 15:51-53).
- Just as Christ lives after death, we have the hope that we will be alive with Him in heaven forever (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).
- Because Jesus Christ conquered death, we can rejoice in the hope that we have in Christ's resurrection. We can also rejoice in Christ's promise for help and power while we live on earth (John 14:1-3, 2 Corinthians 13:4).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 6:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb. Three days later, He rose from the dead!
- Because Jesus rose from the dead, He will never die again.
- Death no longer has control or power over Jesus. He has victory over death!

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

SECTION

3.4

Jesus Conquered Death



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Resurrection Eyewitnesses

What You'll Need: Bibles, sticky notes, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils, easel, whiteboard or poster board and markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write each of the following references on sticky notes.

Luke 24:1-8

Mark 16:1-8

John 20:1-8

Luke 24:15-32

John 20:19-29

Luke 24:33-49

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

Set up an easel with a whiteboard or poster board in front of the classroom. Draw a line down the middle of the board. On the top right-hand side, write, "Eyewitnesses at the tomb." On the top left-hand side, write, "Eyewitnesses at other places."

STEP 1: Divide the kids into pairs or small groups, and give a prepared sticky note and a blank sticky note to each group. Assign a leader to each group.

STEP 2: Give groups five minutes to study their passages and determine when the characters witnessed the resurrected Christ. Ask a volunteer from each group to record their findings on the sticky note.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have pairs or groups present their findings and to place their sticky notes on the correct side of the board.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus conquered death. Many witnesses saw Him after He came alive again, and many recorded these eyewitness accounts in the Bible (John 20:3-31).

- Because Christ died and rose to life, those of us who have trusted Christ as Savior know that we, too, will one day have a perfect body that will never die (1 Corinthians 15:51-53).
- Just as Christ lives after death, we have the hope that we will be alive with Him in heaven forever (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).
- Because Jesus Christ conquered death, we can rejoice in the hope that we have in Christ's resurrection. We can also rejoice in Christ's promise for help and power while we live on earth (John 14:1-3, 2 Corinthians 13:4).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 6:9. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Because Jesus rose from the dead, He will never die again.
- Death no longer has control or power over Jesus. He has victory over death!

STEP 5: Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or pencil. Encourage kids to write on the card what Jesus' resurrection means to them. After a minute or two, close in prayer, thanking God that we have hope because Jesus rose from the dead.

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

Notes:

SECTION
3.5

Jesus Wants Us to Follow Him



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Mirror Images

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Explain to the group that they will be taking turns mimicking the movements of their partners. Ask two leaders to demonstrate the activity by standing and facing each other. Ask one leader to slowly make facial expressions and arm or leg movements without making any noise. Encourage the other leader to pretend to complete the exact movements without laughing.

STEP 1: Have the kids choose a partner and have partners face each other. Choose a child in each pair to go first. Remind the partners who are mirroring movements that their goal is to imitate the exact movements of their partners.

After one minute, have partners switch roles and repeat the activity.

Ask the following questions:

- What did you need to do to mimic your partner?
- What did you learn about that person by following his or her actions?
- What makes you want to follow someone else's actions or example?
- What makes a person a good example?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- An example is a pattern or a model that can be imitated.
- A person who is a good example always tries to do what is right and to do his or her best. We often want to imitate these people.
- In today's lesson, we will study the very best person we should try to imitate: Jesus Christ. He is the perfect example of how to love others.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus wants us to follow Him.

Notes:

SECTION
3.5

Jesus Wants Us to Follow Him



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Example in Action

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ahead of time, ask several leaders to share an example of something they are good at doing (e.g., making a funny sound, playing an instrument).

STEP 1: Have leaders share their examples. As time allows, encourage volunteers to share an example of something they are good at.

Ask the following questions:

- What did you learn about that person by watching his or her actions?
- What makes you want to follow someone else's actions or example?
- What makes a person a good example?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- An example is a pattern or a model that can be imitated.
- A person who is a good example always tries to do what is right and to do his or her best. We often want to imitate these people.
- In today's lesson, we will study the very best person we should try to imitate: Jesus Christ. He is the perfect example of how to love others.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus wants us to follow Him.

Notes:

SECTION 3.5

Jesus Wants Us to Follow Him



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Perfect Example of Love

What You'll Need: Bibles (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark kids' Bibles to the following passages:

Mark 2:1-12

John 11:32-44

Matthew 14:13-21

John 9:1-15

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 John 2:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- If we have trusted Jesus as our Savior, then we should want to follow Him.
- Jesus is the perfect example for us to follow.

STEP 2: Explain to the group that after Jesus rose from the dead, He went back up to heaven to be with His Father God. He still lives there now, so we can't see Him like people could see Him when He lived on earth. But we can still imitate His love by studying how He showed love to others in Scripture.

STEP 3: Have kids divide into groups of three or four. Give each group a bookmarked Bible. Encourage them to read their passage and be ready to act out their verses. Have leaders walk among groups, offering assistance as needed.

After five minutes, have each group act out their verses. Ask the following questions after each presentation:

- How did Jesus show love?
- How did Jesus show forgiveness?

STEP 4: Share these concepts:

- We can learn to follow Jesus' example by reading about how He lived in the Bible.
- Jesus demonstrated many good examples that we should follow, like love, forgiveness, and compassion.
- Jesus' greatest demonstration of love was His death that took the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8).
- God wants us to follow Christ's example of love. We can do this by forgiving others, showing them grace, and doing kind things for them (Colossians 3:13).

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of one way they can follow Christ's example of forgiveness, love, or kindness. Encourage kids to pray silently, asking God to help them follow Jesus' example. After a few moments, close in prayer.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.5

Jesus Wants Us to Follow Him



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Demonstration of Love

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, scissors, pens or pencils, container, easel, whiteboard or large note pad and makers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write the following references on paper. Then cut the paper into strips and place the strips in the container.

Luke 17:11-19

Matthew 8:5-13

Matthew 14:13-21

Set up an easel in front of the classroom, and place the whiteboard or note pad on the easel. Write the following questions on the board or note pad:

1. Who came to Jesus?
2. What did the person(s) want or need?
3. How did Jesus respond?

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 1 John 2:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- If we have trusted Jesus as our Savior, then we should want to follow Him.
- Jesus is the perfect example for us to follow.

STEP 2: Give each group a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil. Divide the kids into three groups, and have kids sit with their groups. Ask a volunteer from each group to choose a strip of paper from the container.

STEP 3: Give groups five minutes to study their passages and to be prepared to answer the questions on the board, based on the verses they read.

After five minutes, have each group answer the questions on the board.

Share these concepts:

- We can learn to follow Jesus' example by reading about how He lived in the Bible.
- Jesus demonstrated many good examples that we should follow, like love, forgiveness, and compassion.
- Jesus' greatest demonstration of love was His death that took the punishment for sin (Romans 5:8).
- God wants us to follow Christ's example of love. We can do this by forgiving others, showing them grace, and doing kind things for them (Colossians 3:13).

STEP 4: As time allows, read one or two of the following scenarios. Encourage volunteers to share how they could follow Jesus' example in that situation.

- There is a new student in your class. He looks lonely and doesn't talk to anyone. Yesterday he played by himself at recess.
- It's Saturday and you have looked forward to playing video games and playing with your favorite toys all week long. You look out the window and see your dad working outside.
- Your best friend has been sick all week.

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of one way they can follow Christ's example of forgiveness, love, or kindness. Encourage kids to pray silently, asking God to help them follow Jesus' example. After a few moments, close in prayer.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

Jesus Showed Grace to Others



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: High Jump

What You'll Need: Tape, yarn, scissors, candy or inexpensive prizes, gift bag

PREP: Cut a 3 to 6-inch piece of yarn. Tape it on the ceiling in the classroom, making sure that the kids will not be able to jump and touch it — but that at least one of the leaders would be able to touch it.

Fill the gift bag with candy or prizes.

STEP 1: Challenge the kids to, one at a time, jump and try to touch the yarn. Display the gift bag as a prize for the person who can complete the task.

STEP 2: Give each kid a second opportunity to try to touch the yarn. Then ask the tallest leader to jump and successfully touch the yarn. Give not only the leader a prize, but offer one to each of the kids as well.

Ask the following questions:

- How did you feel when you tried and failed to reach the goal?
- How did you feel when you still received the promised prize?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Grace is giving something good to someone who doesn't deserve it.
- We offered you grace by giving you a prize even when you didn't deserve it.
- Jesus offers grace to all who trust in Him as Savior. That means you and me!

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

Jesus Showed Grace to Others



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Grace Illustrated

What You'll Need: Gift bag, prizes

PREP: Purchase two of the same inexpensive prizes (e.g., gift card, large candy bar or soda, gum).

STEP 1: Display the gift bag, and tell kids the bag contains a prize. Ask three volunteers to demonstrate an on-the-spot skill to try to earn the prize (e.g., making a funny noise, mimicking a famous character, singing a song, reciting a passage of Scripture).

STEP 2: Have the class choose the winner of the prize by clapping the loudest. Praise the winner, give him or her a prize, and have the volunteers be seated. Then, call on a kid in the class who did not participate. Give him or her the second prize.

Ask the following questions:

- Did the first kid deserve the prize? Why or why not?
- Did the second kid deserve the prize? Why or why not?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Grace is giving something good to someone who doesn't deserve it.
- I offered grace to the second kid by giving him a prize even when he didn't deserve it.
- Jesus offers grace to all who trust in Him as Savior. That means you and me!

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.6

Jesus Showed Grace to Others



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Freeze Frame Characters

What You'll Need: Bible, Freeze Frame Characters handout (optional: Bible-times costumes) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Choose one of the Freeze Frame Character monologues from the handout. Print two copies of the monologue. Ask a leader to present the monologue with you during the large group time. (Optional: Ask the leader to dress in a Bible-times costume.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 1:7. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are redeemed. That means we are freed from being a slave to sin.
- We have redemption and forgiveness from sin because Jesus gave His very life for us when He died on the cross for sin. This is God's grace to us!
- There is NOTHING we could ever do to deserve grace. God offers it through Jesus!

STEP 2: Explain to kids that when Jesus lived on earth, He showed grace to others. Present the monologue to the group, stopping and asking questions as directed.

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- Everyone has sinned and deserves the punishment of death. We inherited sin from Adam, but we also choose to sin (Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12).
- Grace is giving someone something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God offers grace to us through Christ. Christ took our punishment by dying on the cross for sin (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

- If we trust in Christ as Savior, God offers us the free gift of forgiveness from sin and eternal life that we don't deserve (Romans 6:23).
- After we trust in Jesus as Savior, we still sin. But every sin we have ever done or will do is already forgiven because of what Christ did for us. And because Jesus gives grace to us, we should show grace to others too (1 Corinthians 1:3-4, Colossians 3:13).

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

Notes:



Freeze Frame Characters

INSTRUCTIONS: Choose a leader to act out one or both of the following monologues. Encourage the leader to be creative and full of expression as he or she presents the character in front of the club. If desired, the leader can dress like the character in biblical attire.

MONOLOGUE FOR ZACCHAEUS (LUKE 19:1-10)

Hi!

My name is Zacchaeus, but you can call me Zach. Man, have I got some news for you!

See, I used to have an important job as a tax collector. Sure, people owed money, but ... (whispers to the audience) I always charged more than they owed. I turned in the money they owed, and kept the rest for myself.

LEADER yells "CUT!" ZACCHAEUS hangs his head and freezes.

LEADER: Why did Zacchaeus NOT deserve grace? (Waits for responses. Possible answers: he was a tax collector who stole money from the people, he was greedy for more money, he was a sinner.)

LEADER yells "Action" to cue ZACCHAEUS to continue.

One day I heard the crowd murmur, "Jesus is coming!"

Jesus is coming! Boy, rumors were flying about Him! Some people said that He could cast out demons and heal the sick. Others said He could make the lame walk and the blind see. I ran to the road to catch a glimpse of this man. Maybe He would heal someone from our town!

Buuut ... there was a problem. See, I'm a little ... on the short side. And by the time I made it to the main road in the city, the crowds were so thick that I couldn't see anything.

I noticed a large tree nearby, and the next thing I knew I had the best view in the crowd from a branch that hung near the side of the road.

Soon I saw this Jesus. He walked closer and closer. He looked like a normal man to me, but as soon as

He came closer, He stopped.

He looked right up at me. "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down. I must stay at your house today," He said.

I about fell right out of the tree. This man — Jesus — knew my name! And not only that, He invited Himself over to my house.

Now, you've got to understand. Because of my job, not many people like me. Basically, I don't have friends. I have a lot of money and a nice home, but nobody EVER wants to come to MY house. Except for Jesus.

LEADER yells "CUT!" ZACCHAEUS hangs his head and freezes.

LEADER: What did Jesus do to show grace to the person? (Wait for responses. Possible answers: Jesus showed compassion to Zacchaeus and even went to his home — something that the rest of the people would not do because they thought it was wrong to eat with and spend time with sinners like Zacchaeus. Jesus offered salvation to him.)

LEADER yells "Action" to cue ZACCHAEUS to continue.

That day I learned that He was not just another man. He did many great and wonderful and amazing things but best of all, He loved me and offered me grace I didn't deserve. He offered me a way to have a relationship with God. Me, a tax collector and a sinner. I didn't deserve to have Jesus notice me and show me love. But I'm so glad He did



Freeze Frame Characters

INSTRUCTIONS: Choose a leader to act out one or both of the following monologues. Encourage the leader to be creative and full of expression as he or she presents the character in front of the club. If desired, the leader can dress like the character in biblical attire.

MONOLOGUE FOR THE SINFUL WOMAN (LUKE 7:36-50)

Hi, I am known in my city as a sinner. Some people don't even call me by my name. Some people just refer to me as a sinner. They don't want to have anything to do with me.

I have done many, many things that are not good, and I am not proud of the choices I have made. I am ashamed of the sins that I have done.

LEADER yells "CUT!" WOMAN hangs her head and freezes.

LEADER: Why did this woman NOT deserve grace? (Wait for responses. Possible answers: she had done many bad things, everyone in the city knew that she was a sinner, she had chosen to disobey God by living a sinful life.)

LEADER yells "Action" to cue the WOMAN to continue.

One day I heard that Jesus was coming to my town. Jesus! The one who had healed the sick and made the lame walk. The one who showed grace and mercy to sinners. Could He really care about me?! I dared to hope. Maybe, just maybe, Jesus could be the one who could help me. I heard from others around town that Jesus was going to the home of a Pharisee, one of the religious leaders of our day.

The Pharisees did not like me. To them, I was a filthy woman who had openly sinned. I knew that I was taking a huge chance going to the home of one of these leaders, but I just had to see Jesus. I brought a bottle of special fragrant oil. I quietly entered the home of the Pharisee and saw Jesus, reclining at the table.

I was unworthy to be in His presence. I was a

sinner. I began to weep and fell at His feet. I took the bottle of fragrant oil and carefully poured it out on His feet. I used my tears and my hair to wipe them.

The Pharisee looked at me with disgust. But Jesus told him that my sins were forgiven because of the great love that I showed to Jesus.

Could it be?! Could Jesus show me mercy and grace instead of giving me the punishment I deserve?! Could He truly forgive me for all the horrible sins I had committed?

Jesus turned to me and said, "Your sins are forgiven."

LEADER yells "CUT!" WOMAN hangs her head and freezes.

LEADER: What did Jesus do to show grace to the person? (Wait for responses. Possible answers: Jesus had compassion on her and let her touch His feet. He recognized her welcoming and loving actions and praised her for them in front of others. He forgave her and saved her from her sins.)

LEADER yells "Action" to cue WOMAN to continue.

Immediately, my soul was free. I knew then that this Jesus was the true Messiah. He was my Savior. He told me that it was my faith that saved me from my sin. My faith in Jesus freed me from the punishment of my sin. I was able to go in peace, knowing that Jesus offered grace to me, a sinful woman.

SECTION 3.6

Jesus Showed Grace to Others



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Giving Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, poster board or card stock, markers, paper, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to the following passages: Mark 2:1-12, Mark 10:46-52, and Luke 19:1-10.

Write each of the following phrases of this lesson's memory verse on a separate sheet of paper.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him

We have redemption

Through His blood

The forgiveness of sins (our trespasses),

According to the riches of His grace

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 1:7. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are redeemed. That means we are freed from being a slave to sin.
- We have redemption and forgiveness from sin because Jesus gave His very life for us when He died on the cross for sin. This is God's grace to us!
- There is NOTHING we could ever do to deserve grace. God offers it through Jesus!

STEP 2: Divide kids into groups of two or three. Give each group a prepared sheet of paper that contains a phrase from this week's verse, along with card stock and markers. Give groups three minutes to come up with a creative way to present their reference or phrase of this week's memory verse, such as drawing a picture or creating a motion.

After three minutes, have the groups share their creative presentation in the correct order.

Share these key concepts:

- Everyone has sinned and deserves the punishment of death. We inherited sin from Adam, but we also choose to sin (Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12).
- Grace is giving someone something good that he or she doesn't deserve. God offers grace to us through Christ. Christ took our punishment by dying on the cross for sin (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
- If we trust in Christ as Savior, God offers us the free gift of forgiveness from sin and eternal life that we don't deserve (Romans 6:23).
- After we trust in Jesus as Savior, we still sin. But every sin we have ever done or will do is already forgiven because of what Christ did for us. And because Jesus gives grace to us, we should show grace to others too (1 Corinthians 1:3-4, Colossians 3:13).

STEP 3: Remind kids that Jesus often showed grace to others while He lived on earth. He healed the sick and forgave people's sins.

Remind kids that we can follow Jesus' example and show grace to others.

Ask the following questions:

- How can you show grace to the annoying kid who bugs you each day at school?
- How can you show grace to a younger sibling who always gets into your stuff?
- How can you show grace when your mom or dad loses their cool with you or your siblings?
- How can you show grace to a teammate who messes up and costs your team the game?

STEP 4: Tell kids that it isn't always easy to give grace, but remind them that God keeps giving grace to us. Close in prayer, thanking God for Jesus' example of showing grace. Ask Him to help you and your kids continue to give grace to others in their lives.

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

SECTION 3.7

Jesus Wants You to Share the Gospel



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Extra! Extra!

What You'll Need: Newspaper, magazine, tablet, or smartphone

PREP: Search a newspaper, magazine, or online news media for a popular but positive recent news article. Be ready to share the highlights with the kids.

STEP 1: Share the news story with the kids. Be sure to tell them the source of the story, and assure them the story is true.

STEP 2: Ask the following questions:

- Why do we want to share good news with others?
- How do you feel when you get to share good news with someone?
- How do you feel when you hear good news?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The gospel is the good news that Jesus died and rose again to pay the price of sin.
- Hearing and responding to the gospel is the only way that a person can be right with God.
- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His followers to share this good news with everyone. We, too, can share the wonderful true story of Christ's love to those around us.

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

Notes:

SECTION
3.7

Jesus Wants You to Share the Gospel



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Popular Video

What You'll Need: Computer, video projector

PREP: Search online for one or two funny, clean, popular short videos. Be prepared to show it to your kids.

STEP 1: Share the video(s) with the kids.

Ask the following questions:

- What makes a video popular?
- When we see a popular video, why do we want to share it with others?
- How do you feel when someone shares a popular video with you?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- The gospel is the good news that Jesus died and rose again to pay the price of sin. It is the **MOST IMPORTANT** news we can share with someone.
- Hearing and responding to the gospel is the only way that a person can be right with God.
- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told His followers to share this good news with everyone. We, too, can share the wonderful true story of Christ's love to those around us.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance that Jesus wants you to share the good news.

Notes:

SECTION 3.7

Jesus Wants You to Share the Gospel



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Philippians Focus

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to Philippians 1:12, Acts 26:22-23, and Philippians 4:13.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 16:15. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He had a special message to give to His followers.
- He told them to go into the whole world and preach the gospel to everyone.
- The gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ.

STEP 2: Explain to kids that Jesus wants us to share the gospel with others, but that is sometimes not easy.

Ask the following question: Why might a kid your age be afraid of sharing the gospel? (Possible answers: They wouldn't know what to say, they are afraid someone will make fun of them.)

STEP 3: Tell kids that the apostle Paul is an example of someone who shared the gospel even in hard times. Ask a volunteer to read Philippians 1:12.

Share these concepts:

- When Paul lived on earth, many people did not believe that Jesus is God's Son. They did not want Paul to share the gospel.
- Paul was beaten and thrown into prison to stop him from preaching.
- When Paul wrote the book of Philippians, he was in prison.

STEP 4: Explain to kids that Paul was focused on sharing the good news and encouraging other followers of Jesus to do the same.

Ask a volunteer to read Acts 26:22-23.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul shared the gospel to everyone around Him. Jesus wants to use us right where we are to share the good news of Jesus with others (Acts 26:22-23).
- We can share the gospel with those around us — our friends, our family, and our neighbors.

STEP 5: Give each kid a 3 x 5 card and a pen or a pencil. Encourage them to write the names of two people to whom they can share the gospel. Then ask a volunteer to read Philippians 4:13. Share these key concepts:

- Sometimes it is hard to share the gospel. We may be afraid of what to say or how others may respond.
- But God gave us the Holy Spirit who lives in us; we are never alone. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength to share the gospel with those around us (Philippians 4:13).

STEP 6: Close in prayer, asking God to help your kids have the strength to share the gospel with those around them.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.7

Jesus Wants You to Share the Gospel



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: You Can Share the Good News

What You'll Need: Bibles, Grace in Action Student Handbooks, highlighters (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Mark 16:15. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Before Jesus went back to heaven, He had a special message to give to His followers.
- He told them to go into the whole world and preach the gospel to everyone.
- The gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ.

STEP 2: Ask the following question: Why might a kid your age be afraid of sharing the gospel? (Possible answers: They wouldn't know what to say, they are afraid someone will make fun of them.)

STEP 3: Share these concepts:

- We need to know the good news in order to share it with others.
- The more we practice sharing the good news, the easier it is to share it with others.

STEP 4: Give each kid a highlighter, and have kids work in groups of two or three. Encourage them to turn in their handbooks to units 3.3 and 3.7 and highlight key phrases and verses that talk about the good news of Jesus Christ.

Share these key concepts:

- The gospel is the true story of how Jesus, God's Son, came to earth.
- Jesus lived a perfect life and chose to take the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross.

- Three days later, He rose again.
- If we trust in Him as Savior, we will one day live in heaven forever with God (John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 15:4).

STEP 5: Remind kids that there are people in their lives who need to hear the good news of the gospel.

Share these key concepts:

- We can share the gospel with those around us — our friends, our family, and our neighbors. Jesus wants to use us right where we are to share the good news of Jesus with others (Acts 26:22-23).
- Sometimes it is hard to share the gospel. We may be afraid of what to say or how others may respond. But God gave us the Holy Spirit who lives in us; we are never alone. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength to share the gospel with those around us (Philippians 4:13).
- We can share the gospel with those around us — our friends, our family, and our neighbors.

STEP 6: As time allows, encourage kids to take turns sharing with one another the key truths of the gospel. Have leaders walk among the groups, offering assistance as needed.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.8 | *Jesus Review*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: A Good Foundation

What You'll Need: Building toys

PREP: Gather several different sets of building toys (e.g., Legos®, Lincoln Logs®, wooden blocks, magnetic tiles). Place sets on tables or around the room, creating several "building sites."

STEP 1: As the kids enter, assign them to a building site. Give those who are stationed together at building sites three minutes to work together to construct a structure that is able to withstand a small amount of shaking.

STEP 2: After three minutes, visit the different building sites. Briefly discuss the structure, then shake the table gently to see if the structure remains standing.

Ask the following questions:

- What are the most important pieces of the structure?
- What would happen if I were to knock out or remove these pieces to the structure?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The key to a strong structure is a solid foundation.
- There is one person who is most important to our faith: Jesus Christ.
- Jesus Christ is the **ONLY** way that we can have a relationship with God.

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

Notes:

SECTION 3.8 | Jesus Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Focal Point

What You'll Need: Camera or smartphone
(optional: computer, video projector)

PREP: Choose three or four items to photograph. Take a picture of the items, and then take a close-up of a very small section of the same items. Print all the images or project them on a wall during the opening activity.

STEP 1: One at a time, display the close-up images. Have the kids try to guess the item. After several guesses, display the big pictures of the items.

Ask: Why was it hard to identify an item from the close-up of one, small section?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- It's easy to miss out on understanding what something really is when we don't see the whole picture. It's the same way with Jesus. Some people know only certain things about Him, but they are missing out because they don't see the big picture.
- Jesus is God's Son. Since He is fully God AND fully man, He is the only person who could take the punishment for sin.
- As we review the unit on Jesus remember how important it is to know who Jesus really is.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of Jesus Christ.

Notes:

SECTION 3.8 | Jesus Review



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Who Is Jesus

What You'll Need: Bibles, Keys to Understanding Jesus handout (Resource Bundle), 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Print copies of the Keys to Understanding Jesus handout, one copy per kid.

Write each of the following key statements and references about Jesus on a 3 x 5 card, and bookmark a Bible to each reference.

Jesus is fully God (John 10:30)

Jesus is fully man (John 1:14)

Jesus is Savior (1 Peter 2:24)

Jesus conquered death (Romans 6:9)

Jesus wants us to follow Him (1 John 2:6)

Jesus showed grace to others (Ephesians 1:7)

Jesus wants you to share the gospel (Mark 16:15)

STEP 1: Divide the kids into groups of two or three. Depending on the size of your T&T club, give each group one or two prepared 3 x 5 cards. Distribute a copy of the Keys to Understanding Jesus handout to each kid. Instruct groups to complete the first section on their handouts together. Encourage leaders to walk among groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 2: After three minutes, have groups share their findings.

Share these concepts:

- Jesus is both God and the Son of God. He showed He was God when He lived on earth by doing things and teaching things that only God could do and know. Only Jesus could save us from our sins because He is the sinless God.
- Jesus Christ is both fully human and fully God. He experienced hard things like we all do — but Jesus never sinned. Because of His love, Jesus limited His powers as God so He could become human. He took our punishment for sin. We can

feel comfort knowing that Jesus went through struggles like ours and can help us.

- We have all sinned, and the punishment for sin is death and separation from God. We can never be good enough to save ourselves. Jesus took our punishment for sin. All you have to do to receive Jesus' payment is to believe that Jesus died for your sin and rose again.
- Jesus conquered death. He will also raise us to life one day with a new, perfect body that will never die. We can rejoice in the hope that we have because of Christ's resurrection. We have the sure hope of heaven someday, and we have help and power from Christ to live our lives here on earth.
- We can learn to follow Jesus' example of loving others. His greatest demonstration of love was His death and resurrection that took the punishment for sin. We can follow Christ's example given in the Bible by forgiving others, showing them grace, and doing kind things for others around us.
- Everyone has sinned and deserves the punishment of death, but God gave us grace through Christ. Christ took our punishment by dying on the cross for sin. If we trust in Christ as Savior, God offers us the free gifts of forgiveness from sin and eternal life that we don't deserve. Because Jesus has shown so much grace to us, we should also show grace to others.
- Jesus wants us to share the gospel and teach others about Him. Jesus wants to use us right where we are. The Holy Spirit will help us and give us courage to share the gospel with others so that they, too, can become followers of Jesus.

STEP 3: Open your Bible and read Ephesians 5:1-2 aloud. Direct the kids' attentions to the last section on their worksheet. Remind kids that when we study who Jesus is and understand all He has done for us, we can determine to trust in Him as Savior and follow His example of forgiveness, grace, and love. Give the group one minute to finish the sentence in the section.

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



Keys to Understanding Jesus

SECTION ONE:

Key Statement:

Clues from the Bible passage that show this statement is true:

SECTION TWO:

My Conclusion:

I believe Jesus is _____

because _____

SECTION 3.8 | Jesus Review



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Eyewitness Accounts

What You'll Need: Bibles, notebooks, paper, pens and pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Purchase inexpensive notebooks, one for each child. Write the following station numbers and Bible references on paper, one reference set per paper:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Luke 19:1-10 | 4. Luke 23:32-33, 39-43 |
| 2. Mark 2:1-12 | 5. Mark 16:1-7 |
| 3. John 1 :1-3, 17, 43-44 | |

Arrange five different stations around the room and number them. Place the reference set of the corresponding number at each station, along with a Bible bookmarked to the appropriate passage.

STEP 1: Give each child a notebook and a pen or pencil. Have them write the numbers 1 through 5 on the first page of their notebooks.

Encourage the kids to travel in groups of two or three to each station and read the verses at each station. Ask the kids to pretend they are eyewitnesses to those events in Jesus' life. Encourage them to write or draw in their journals one or two things they learned about Jesus. Explain to them that they can visit the stations in any order; they just need to record their ideas in their notebooks by the corresponding number of the station that they are visiting.

STEP 2: After five minutes, have groups return to the middle of the room.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is both God and the Son of God. He showed He was God when He lived on earth by doing things and teaching things that only God could do and know. Only Jesus could save us from our sins because He is the sinless God.
- Jesus Christ is both fully human and fully God. He experienced hard things like we all do — but Jesus never sinned. Because of His love, Jesus limited His powers as God so He could become human. He

took our punishment for sin. We can feel comfort knowing that Jesus went through struggles like ours and can help us.

- We have all sinned, and the punishment for sin is death and separation from God. We can never be good enough to save ourselves. Jesus took our punishment for sin. All you have to do to receive Jesus' payment is to believe that Jesus died for your sin and rose again.
- Jesus conquered death. He will also raise us to life one day with a new, perfect body that will never die. We can rejoice in the hope that we have because of Christ's resurrection. We have the sure hope of heaven someday, and we have help and power from Christ to live our lives here on earth.
- We can learn to follow Jesus' example of loving others. His greatest demonstration of love was His death and resurrection that took the punishment for sin. We can follow Christ's example given in the Bible by forgiving others, showing them grace, and doing kind things for others around us.
- Everyone has sinned and deserves the punishment of death, but God gave us grace through Christ. Christ took our punishment by dying on the cross for sin. If we trust in Christ as Savior, God offers us the free gifts of forgiveness from sin and eternal life that we don't deserve. Because Jesus has shown so much grace to us, we should also show grace to others.
- Jesus wants us to share the gospel and teach others about Him. Jesus wants to use us right where we are. The Holy Spirit will help us and give us courage to share the gospel with others so that they, too, can become followers of Jesus.

STEP 3: Have the kids look over all the things they wrote about Jesus. Remind the kids that the more they study God's Word, the more they will learn about Jesus.

Encourage them to determine to follow Jesus' examples of love and forgiveness as they seek to live their lives for Him.

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

SECTION
4.1

What Is Grace?



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: What Do They Deserve?

What You'll Need: Whiteboard and markers

STEP 1: Read the following part of the scenario to the class.

Alyssa received two candy bars from her piano teacher. She shared one with her brother, Ben, and put the other one in the drawer of her nightstand.

The next day after school, she noticed a candy bar wrapper in her trash can. Sure enough, the extra candy bar in her nightstand was missing.

She asked Ben if he had taken her candy bar. He didn't say anything at first, but then he told her the truth: he had eaten her candy bar.

Ask: "What does Ben deserve?" Guide kids to see that Ben deserved punishment.

STEP 2: Read the second part of the scenario:

At first, Alyssa was angry with her brother and wanted to yell at him. She thought, How could he do this after she had been so kind and shared a bar with him yesterday? She wanted to get even and steal something that belonged to Ben. She wanted to make Ben pay for this by buying her a new candy bar. But then she remembered that sometimes she does wrong things to Ben too. That thought helped her stop being so angry at Ben.

Even though Ben deserved to have Alyssa treat him the same way he had treated her, she decided to give him grace. She didn't yell or try to get even or make him buy her a new candy bar. She forgave him!

Ask: "What did Ben receive?" Guide kids to see that Ben received grace.

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Grace is giving someone something he or she doesn't deserve. No one deserves God's grace, but we all need it.
- We were enemies with God because of sin, yet God showed us grace by sending Jesus to die for our sin.
- In today's lesson, we will learn how we are made right with God because of His grace.

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

Notes:

SECTION
4.1

What Is Grace?



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Sin Versus Grace

What You'll Need: White copy paper, clear page protectors, dry erase and permanent markers, paper towels

PREP: Place a sheet of white paper inside a clear page protector. Tear off paper towels from the roll, and write the word "grace" with a permanent marker on each towel. Prepare a page protector and paper towel for each kid.

STEP 1: Give each kid a prepared page protector. Have kids use dry-erase markers to draw a bubble outline of a person on their page protector.

Ask: "What are some common sins that a T&T kid might do?" (Possible answers might include lying, stealing, cheating, being unkind to others, hitting, disobeying parents.)

Have kids write several sins on their drawings.

ASK: "If a kid chose to sin in one of these ways, why would he or she deserve punishment?"

STEP 2: Give each kid a paper towel and point out the word "grace" on the towel. Tell them to wipe the sins from their drawings.

Share these key concepts:

- Grace is giving someone something he or she doesn't deserve. No one deserves God's grace, but we all need it.
- We were enemies with God because of sin, yet God showed us grace by sending Jesus to die for our sin.
- In today's lesson, we will learn how we are made right with God because of His grace.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand what grace is.

Notes:

SECTION

4.1

What Is Grace?



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Faith and Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, markers or colored pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Fold sheets of paper into thirds, one per kid.

STEP 1: Give each kid a prepared sheet of paper and distribute markers and colored pencils among the kids. Read Romans 5:10 aloud.

Share these key concepts:

- We deserve God's wrath.
- Before we trust Christ as Savior, we are enemies of God because of our sin.
- We deserve punishment, wrath, and separation from God forever (Romans 5:10).

Draw kids' attention to first section of their papers. Ask them to draw a picture of or describe themselves as an enemy of God.

STEP 2: Remind kids that the story doesn't end here.

Share these key concepts:

- God gives grace through Jesus Christ.
- We can do absolutely nothing on our own to earn or deserve our salvation.
- God gave us grace through Jesus Christ. All we need to do is place our faith in what Christ has done for us (Romans 5:8).

In the second section of their papers, encourage kids to draw a cross and write the word "grace."

STEP 3: Explain to kids that when we trust Jesus as our Savior, God forgives ALL of our sin.

- We are justified when we trust Jesus as Savior.

- Because Christ was innocent and paid for our sin, when God looks at those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior, He sees us as if we have never sinned (Romans 5:9).

Encourage them to draw a picture to show that they are justified on the last section of their sheet.

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 8:1. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We have peace with God.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we have peace with God. We are saved from God's wrath, and we are no longer His enemies.
- We don't have to fear punishment for our sin, and we can look forward to heaven forever (Romans 8:1).

STEP 5: Give kids an opportunity to talk with a leader if they have questions about this week's lesson.

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

Notes:

SECTION
4.1

What Is Grace?



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: God's Grace to Me

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, pens or pencils
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Ahead of time, ask one or two leaders or special guests to share how they came to Christ. Ask them to share the following points in their testimony:

What you were like before you were saved?

What helped you realize you were a sinner and needed to be saved?

What did God do for you so you could be saved?

How did your life changed after salvation?

STEP 1: Review the definition of grace with the kids. Remind them that God offers His grace to everyone.

STEP 2: Ask the leader(s) or guest(s) to share their testimonies with the group.

Share these concepts:

- We deserve God's wrath.
- Before we trust Christ as Savior, we are enemies of God because of our sin.
- We deserve punishment, wrath, and separation from God forever (Romans 5:10).
- God gives grace through Jesus Christ.
- We can do absolutely nothing on our own to earn or deserve our salvation.
- God gave us grace through Jesus Christ. All we need to do is place our faith in what Christ has done for us (Romans 5:8).
- We are justified when we trust Jesus as Savior.
- Because Christ was innocent and paid for our sin, when God looks at those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior, He sees us as if we have never sinned (Romans 5:9).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Romans 8:1. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We have peace with God.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we have peace with God. We are saved from God's wrath, and we are no longer His enemies.
- We don't have to fear punishment for our sin, and we can look forward to heaven forever (Romans 8:1).

STEP 4: If time allows, play the following game to help kids memorize this week's verse.

Have kids form a circle, facing forward. Say the first two words of the verse (There is). As you say the next two words (therefore now), tell kids to jump around to where everyone is facing out of the circle. Continue the pattern of jumping to face forward in the circle (no condemnation), jumping to face out (to those), jumping to face in (who are), jumping to face out (in Jesus Christ).

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | *Grace and Law*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Guilty of All

What You'll Need: Dominoes, sturdy table

PREP: Set up a path of dominoes (at least 10 dominoes in the path) on a sturdy table. Make sure to set up the dominoes so they will fall if the first domino is knocked down.

STEP 1: Ask a volunteer to try to knock the first domino toward the others without knocking down any of the other dominoes in the pattern. The volunteer cannot move the first domino from its spot; he or she can only knock it toward the other dominoes.

STEP 2: Ask: Why does it seem impossible to complete the task?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- These dominoes represent how God views sin.
- If we sin, or break only one law one time, (knock the first domino into the other dominoes in the path) it is as if we are guilty of breaking all of God's laws.
- In this week's lesson, we will learn how God's grace offers us salvation from breaking God's laws and allows us to become more like Christ.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the difference between grace and law.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | *Grace and Law*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Rules of the Road

What You'll Need: Whiteboard and markers

STEP 1: Ask kids to list several rules a driver must obey (e.g., obeying the speed limit, no texting while driving, wear a seatbelt, obey street signs). Record their answers on the board.

Ask the following questions:

- Have you ever seen anyone break one of these rules?
- How many people would lose their driver's license by going one mile over the speed limit?
- How many people would lose their driver's license by breaking just one of the laws on the board just one time?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- There are a lot of laws about driving. The Old Testament contains many laws God gave to the Israelites. He told them they would be righteous if they kept them all. The problem is, they couldn't keep them all.
- Every person has broken God's law, and we are all guilty of sin because breaking just one law means we deserve the punishment of death.
- But God's love is so great that even though we were sinners, by grace He gave us the opportunity to be free from the punishment of death and hell. This grace means that we don't have to keep all the laws to be right with God. He made another way through Christ.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the difference between grace and law.

Notes:

SECTION 4.2 | Grace and Law



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Have you ever?

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, pens or pencils, markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

STEP 1: Distribute paper and pencils or pens. Then instruct the kids to fold their paper in half. Ask three volunteers to each give you one family rule from their home (e.g., 8:30 bedtime, no electronics until homework is done, one hour of video games on a school day). Share the following key concepts:

- In the Old Testament, God gave His people, the Israelites, more than 600 rules, or laws, to follow. They had to obey all of those laws all the time in order to be righteous in God's sight.
- It was a sin to break any one of God's laws.

If the answer is "no," then have them place a check mark on that side of the folded sheet.

Ask the following questions:

- Have you ever disobeyed or even thought about disobeying your parents or guardians?
- Have you ever said mean words to someone or had a mean thought about someone?
- Have you ever lied? (Remind kids that stretching the truth even a little is the same as telling a lie.)

If necessary, ask more questions like these related to the other commandments until everyone has at least one checkmark under "yes."

Share these key concepts:

- We are sinners.
- Nobody can keep all of God's laws perfectly. Even if we were to break just one law, we are guilty as if we had broken them all (Romans 3:10).

- Jesus is perfect. When He lived on earth, He kept all of God's law perfectly. Because He is fully God and fully man, He is the only one who could take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:21).
- Once we trust Christ, we are justified. We also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to live inside of us. This is by God's grace through our faith in Jesus Christ! We did nothing to deserve these things (Romans 3:24, Galatians 3:11).

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Galatians 3:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Following God's laws, or His rules in the Bible, isn't what saves us.
- The only way we can be saved is through faith in Jesus Christ.

STEP 3: Share with kids that even after you trusted Jesus as your Savior, you aren't perfect. But remind them that God gives those who trust Jesus a special gift: the Holy Spirit!

Share these concepts:

- The Holy Spirit helps believers resist sin and start becoming more like Christ. This is grace.
- We allow the Holy Spirit to work in us when we read God's Word, pray, go to church, and worship God. This process is called sanctification (Romans 8:5).

STEP 4: Remind kids that God's grace is a gift that is offered to all of us. Encourage them to talk to a leader if they have questions about today's lesson.

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

SECTION 4.2 | Grace and Law



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: A Picture of God's Grace

What You'll Need: Glass jars, measuring cups, water, bleach, red and blue food coloring, a spoon, pens or pencils, paper (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Gather the items listed above. Before class, fill one jar with 1 cup of water. Pour one-half cup of bleach in the second jar.

Place the prepared jars, spoon, and food coloring on a table in front of the classroom. (Note: If you have a large club, prepare two sets of jars, along with the other material.)

STEP 1: Display both jars to the class. Explain that the jar of water represents a person. Add one drop of red food coloring, which represents one sin that the person committed (e.g., telling one lie, disobeying parents one time). Gently stir the water.

Share these key concepts:

Just as the one drop of food coloring affected the color of the water, breaking just one of God's laws makes us guilty, just as if we had broken them all (Romans 3:10).

STEP 2: Carefully pour the bleach into the red water and gently stir the water.

Share these key concepts:

- Jesus is perfect. When He lived on earth, He kept all of God's law perfectly. Because He is fully God and fully man, He is the only one who could take the punishment for sin (Romans 5:21).
- Once we trust Christ, we are justified. We also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to live inside of us. This is by God's grace through our faith in Jesus Christ! We did nothing to deserve these things (Romans 3:24, Galatians 3:11).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Galatians 3:11. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- Following God's laws, or His rules in the Bible, isn't what saves us.
- The only way we can be saved is through faith in Jesus Christ.

STEP 4: Point out to kids that the water is clear (or becoming clearer).

Share these key concepts:

- Once we trust Christ, we are justified. Justification means to be judged by God as innocent and righteous.
- We also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit to live inside of us. This is by God's grace through our faith in Jesus Christ! We did nothing to deserve these things (Romans 3:24, Galatians 3:11).

STEP 5: Add a drop of blue food coloring. Share with kids that even after you trusted Jesus as your Savior, you aren't perfect. But even though we still sin, we are still justified; God still sees us as righteous. (Gently stir the water; it will gradually become clear again.)

Share these concepts:

- The Holy Spirit helps believers resist sin and start becoming more like Christ. This is grace.
- We allow the Holy Spirit to work in us when we read God's Word, pray, go to church, and worship God. This process is called sanctification (Romans 8:5).

STEP 6: Remind kids that God's grace is a gift that is offered to all of us. Encourage them to talk to a leader if they have questions about today's lesson.

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

SECTION 4.3 | Grace to Be Humble



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Survey Says

What You'll Need: Paper, pen or pencils

PREP: Number a piece of paper 1 to 3 vertically. Draw 3 squares horizontally next to each number. Ask a leader to collect data during the activity by placing tally marks in each box based on the show of hands. Give the leader the prepared piece of paper.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that a leader will be collecting the data for the survey. Ask kids to raise their hand for the description that best matches how they would respond in the scenario.

Read each of the following questions and options in the survey below out loud twice, pausing after each option.

1. When my parent tells me to clean my room, I usually . . .

Obey right away;

Wait until I finish whatever I am doing;

Wait until she cleans it for me.

2. When my parent asks me to help with outside chores, I . . .

Get ready for a new adventure with my family;

Groan and complain to myself;

Wait until my parent completes the work alone.

3. When my teacher assigns homework that I have a week complete, I . . .

Wait until the night or morning before it is due before starting the project;

Complete it early so I don't have to worry about the project being late;

Forget about the project and don't do it at all.

STEP 2: Have the leader give the results of the survey.

Ask the following questions:

- Why is it sometimes hard to be obedient?
- Why is it hard to do something for someone else?
- In the scenarios above, what would that person have to sacrifice or give up in order to help?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- Anytime someone helps us or does something kind for us, they are showing grace through humility.
- A humble person looks at others as more important than themselves. That person is willing to help others in need, and he or she is also willing to submit to those in authority.
- In this lesson, we will explore how God can change our hearts and give us grace to be humble.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand their need for grace to be humble.

Notes:

SECTION 4.3 | *Grace to Be Humble*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Ruler for a Day

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils

STEP 1: Give each kid a piece of paper and pen or pencil. Give kids one minute to list five rules they would make if they could be ruler for the day.

After a minute, have kids share their rules with the class.

Ask the following questions:

- What would the world be like if every person was allowed to be the ruler on the same day?
- Why is it important to have someone in charge?
- How should you respond to a person in charge?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Anytime someone obeys with a good attitude they are showing grace through humility.
- A humble person looks at others as more important than themselves. That person is willing to help others in need, and he or she is also willing to submit to those in authority.
- In this lesson, we will explore how God can change our hearts and give us grace to be humble.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand their need for grace to be humble.

Notes:

SECTION
4.3

Grace to Be Humble



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Buzz Groups

What You'll Need: Bible, whiteboard, markers, sticky notes, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write the following questions on the board.

1. Why should people obey and submit to that leader?
2. Why do you think God put that leader into our lives?
3. Why should children obey their parents or guardians?
4. Why do you think it's sometimes hard to obey parents and guardians?

Think of authority figures (e.g., police officers, local government officials, the president, supervisors). Write each figure on a sticky note.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, James 4:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God is the one who gives us grace.
- People who are proud often consider themselves or their opinions as better than someone else's.
- God hates pride, but extends His grace to those who are humble.

STEP 2: Tell kids we have the perfect example of humility: Jesus Christ.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in us. He helps us resist sin and become more like Christ.

- As we study God's Word, the Holy Spirit teaches us how God wants us to live and shows us how to be humble (2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 2:3-11, 13).

STEP 3: Ask: Who is the most important person to whom we need to submit? (God.)

Share these key concepts:

- In order to be humble, we must submit to God.
- We realize that the Creator God should have control of our lives, and we humbly submit to doing what He wants us to do (James 4:7, 1 Corinthians 10:31).
- When we read and study God's Word, we get to know Him more, and the Holy Spirit helps us make good choices (James 4:8).

STEP 4: Have kids divide into groups of three or four. Give each group a sticky note with an authority figure written on it. Instruct kids to discuss their answers to the first two questions on the board, based on the leader on their sticky notes.

After one minute, have one person from each group present their answers.

Share these concepts:

- We display humility through grace.
- As we learn to submit to God, He will give us grace to humbly submit to people in charge of us, as well as to those around us (James 4:6-8, Philippians 2:3-8).

STEP 5: Have kids discuss in their groups how they can display humility through submitting to the leader on their sticky note. As time allows, have volunteers from one or two groups share their findings.

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

SECTION

4.3

Grace to Be Humble



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Submission Scenarios

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Think of authority figures a T&T kid would have (e.g., teacher, Awana leader, babysitter, relative, parents or guardians). Write each figure on a 3 x 5 card.

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, James 4:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God is the one who gives us grace.
- People who are proud often consider themselves or their opinions as better than someone else's.
- God hates pride, but extends His grace to those who are humble.

STEP 2: Tell kids we have the perfect example of humility: Jesus Christ.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in us. He helps us resist sin and become more like Christ.
- As we study God's Word, the Holy Spirit teaches us how God wants us to live and shows us how to be humble (2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 2:3-11, 13).

STEP 3: Have kids work in pairs or groups. Give each pair or group a 3 x 5 card. Give groups three minutes to come up with a scenario in which someone would have to obey the authority written on the 3 x 5 card. Encourage them to prepare a short skit to act out the scenario. Ask leaders to walk among groups, offering assistance as needed.

After two minutes, have each group share its authority figure and short skit.

STEP 4: Remind kids that while it is important to humbly submit to these authority figures in their lives, there is one ultimate authority to whom we all must submit.

Share these key concepts:

- In order to be humble, we must submit to God.
- We realize that the Creator God should have control of our lives, and we humbly submit to doing what He wants us to do (James 4:7, 1 Corinthians 10:31).
- When we read and study God's Word, we get to know Him more, and the Holy Spirit helps us make good choices (James 4:8).

STEP 5: Encourage the kids who may struggle to obey to remember that they are never alone.

Share these concepts:

- We display humility through grace.
- As we learn to submit to God, He will give us grace to humbly submit to people in charge of us, as well as to those around us (James 4:6-8, Philippians 2:3-8).

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.4 | Grace to Forgive



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Forgiveness Short Stories

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Read one or both of the following short stories to the kids.

STORY ONE:

Andrew came home from school and put his backpack on his bed. He immediately noticed that his new Lego® set he had put together was gone.

"Sam!" he yelled as he stormed out of his room and down the hall to find his little brother. He was ready to start yelling at his brother for getting into his stuff.

Mom stepped in to settle the fight. She made Sam return the Lego set, which was now broken apart. "I'm sorry, Andrew!" Sam replied, trying to give Andrew a hug.

"I know I have to forgive you," replied Andrew with a scowl, "but you'd better NEVER come into my room or touch my stuff again!"

STORY TWO:

At dance class, Emma was trying her best to learn the new routine, but she was struggling to get the steps in the correct order.

"Look at Emma!" said Ava. She pointed at Emma and began to laugh. All of the other girls laughed too. Emma tried to ignore them, but she felt miserable for the rest of the class.

The next morning at school, Ava sat down in her seat, right in front of Emma. Ava smiled at Emma and said hello, but Emma glared at her and turned away.

Ava is the meanest person I know, and I will NEVER talk to her again, Emma thought to herself.

STEP 2:

Ask the following questions:

- Does it seem like (character's name) was willing to forgive? Why or why not?
- Why do you think it's important to forgive people?

STEP 3:

Share these key concepts:

- Even after we trust Jesus as Savior, we will still sin. And since we are sinners, we will need forgiveness. We will also have to forgive others.
- Forgiveness is not always easy, but God expects us to forgive those who have hurt us.
- When we realize that God through grace has forgiven our past, present, and future sins, it helps us understand how important it is to forgive others.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.4 | *Grace to Forgive*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: True Forgiveness

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ask a leader to share a brief testimony about a situation in which he or she demonstrated biblical forgiveness or someone demonstrated biblical forgiveness to him or her.

STEP 1: Introduce the leader and have the leader share his or her prepared testimony on forgiveness.

After the leader has finished, ask kids to think of a time when a friend or a family member forgave them for something. Encourage one or two kids to share that example, if time allows.

Ask the following questions:

- How did you feel before you were forgiven or before that person asked you for forgiveness?
- How did you feel after you were forgiven or after you forgave that person?
- Why do you think it's important to forgive people?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Even after we trust Jesus as Savior, we will still sin. And since we are sinners, we will need forgiveness. We will also have to forgive others.
- Forgiveness is not always easy, but God expects us to forgive those who have hurt us.
- When we realize that God through grace has forgiven our past, present, and future sins, it helps us understand how important it is to forgive others.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of forgiveness.

Notes:

SECTION 4.4 | Grace to Forgive



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Biblical Forgiveness

What You'll Need: Bible, Joseph's Story handout (Resource Bundle), (optional: Egyptian costume)
(Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.)

PREP: Bookmark a Bible to Genesis 50:19-21 and Ephesians 4:32.

Print out a copy of the Joe's Story handout from the Resource Bundle. Ask a male guest to present this dramatic reading. (Optional: Ask the guest to wear an Egyptian costume.)

STEP 1: Ask kids to think about someone who might have hurt them or treated them badly this past week.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, He forgives all of our sins — the ones from our past and our present.
- But He doesn't stop there; He also forgives ALL of our future sin, the sins that we haven't even done yet. That is grace!
- Because God forgives us completely, we should forgive others (Colossians 3:13).

STEP 2: Explain to kids that God gave us examples of forgiveness in the Bible. Introduce the special guest to your kids, and ask him to present his story to your club.

STEP 3: Tell kids that Joseph's story didn't end there. After Joseph's family settled in Egypt, his father died. His brothers were afraid that Joseph would harm them.

Read Genesis 50:19-21. Tell kids that Joseph showed true forgiveness.

Share these concepts:

- Biblical forgiveness is choosing not to hold someone's sin against him or her.
- It's choosing to be kind, choosing to keep loving that person, and forgetting about the sin even if the person doesn't deserve it (Ephesians 4:32).

STEP 4: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 4:32. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God gives us the command to be kind and tenderhearted, or compassionate. That means that we should truly love one another and want what is best for that other person.
- God expects us to forgive others because He has forgiven us.

STEP 5: Remind kids that forgiveness is hard sometimes, but when we read the Bible and pray, the Holy Spirit will change our heart and help us to forgive (Ephesians 3:16).

Encourage kids to remember that God will give them grace to forgive others. Close in prayer, thanking God for His amazing forgiveness and asking His help to forgive others.

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

Notes:



Joseph's Story Handout

Hey, everyone! My name is Joseph, but you can call me Joe. I am a rich and powerful leader in Egypt, but my life wasn't always like this.

See, I had 11 brothers. ELEVEN! I was the second youngest, and I was really close to my dad. In fact, Dad made me a special coat that had lots of colors. He never did anything like that for my other brothers!

My older brothers were jealous because Dad seemed to like me more than he liked them. They were so jealous that they wanted to kill me!

One day, Dad asked me to go and check on my older brothers, who were out watching our sheep. When they saw me coming, they decided to do something mean to me.

They took my coat that Dad had made me and threw me in an old well. Then they sold me as a slave to a bunch of merchants who were headed to Egypt. They put goat's blood on my coat to make it look like my own blood. They showed the coat to my dad and told him that I must have been eaten by a wild animal.

I was a slave in Egypt for many, many years. I even ended up in prison for something I didn't do! But you know what? God was always with me. He protected me, and I knew that I could trust Him.

One day, God helped me explain the dream of the ruler of Egypt, Pharaoh, when no one else could do it. I told Pharaoh that his dream meant that there would be seven years when the people of Egypt would be able to grow lots and lots of food, but those good years would be followed by seven years in which there would be no food at all.

Pharaoh was so impressed that he made me, a former slave, the second in command in all of Egypt! It was my job to gather food during those good years so that we would have food to eat in the years when there wouldn't be any.

When the seven bad years came, people from all the other countries came to Egypt to buy food. And do you know who ended up coming? My brothers!

It had been many, many years since they had sold me into slavery, and they didn't recognize me at all. As the second in command of all of Egypt, I could have done many mean things to them. I could have denied them food. I could have thrown them into prison. I could have had them killed.

Instead, I forgave them. I gave them food, and I even had them bring my whole family to Egypt to live so that I could take care of them.

I am so glad that I chose to forgive!

SECTION 4.4 | Grace to Forgive



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Picture the Scene

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, pens or pencils, construction paper, markers, cans of Play Doh® (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write the following groups of references on 3 x 5 cards, one group of references per card.

Group 1: Genesis 37:3-4, 9-11, 13-14, 23-24, 28

Group 2: Genesis 41:46-49, 53-57

Group 3: Genesis 42:3-4, Genesis 45:1-15

STEP 1: Ask kids to think about something they might have done wrong today or this week.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as Savior, He forgives all of our sins — the ones from our past and our present.
- But He doesn't stop there; He also forgives ALL of our future sin, the sins that we haven't even done yet. That is grace!
- Because God forgives us completely, we should forgive others (Colossians 3:13).

STEP 2: Divide the kids into pairs or groups. Give each pair or group a 3 x 5 card, a Bible, construction paper, a can of Play Doh, and markers. Instruct each pair or group to study the verses listed on their cards, and then choose one scene from their verses to illustrate either by drawing the images or recreating them with Play Doh. Encourage each person in the groups to take part in the activity.

Ask leaders to walk among the groups, offering assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have the first two groups present their illustrations. Share this summary:

- Joseph's brothers hated him so much that they sold him into slavery and lied to their father!
- Joseph was taken to Egypt. He was a slave, and he even ended up in prison for something he didn't do. But God was with Joseph. After many years, Joseph was made second in power in the whole country!
- Joseph was in charge of storing up food in Egypt and then selling it to other countries during a famine.

STEP 4: Have the final group present their findings.

Share this summary:

- Joseph was a powerful man, a ruler in Egypt. It had been a long time since his brothers had seen him, and they did not recognize him.
- Joseph could have had his brothers arrested and killed. Instead, he showed forgiveness. He sent food for his family.
- His brothers returned to Egypt a second time and brought along with them their youngest brother, Benjamin.

STEP 5: Ask: Why might it have been hard for Joseph to forgive his brothers?

After several kids have responded, share these key concepts:

- Biblical forgiveness is choosing not to hold someone's sin against him or her.
- It's choosing to be kind, choosing to keep loving that person, and forgetting about the sin even if the person doesn't deserve it (Ephesians 4:32).

SECTION 4.4 | *Grace to Forgive*



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

STEP 6: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Ephesians 4:32. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- God gives us the command to be kind and tenderhearted, or compassionate. That means that we should truly love one another and want what is best for that other person.
- God expects us to forgive others because He has forgiven us.

STEP 7: Ask: Has there ever been a time when someone hurt you or upset you or made you angry?

Remind kids that forgiveness is hard sometimes, but when we read the Bible and pray, the Holy Spirit will change our heart and help us to forgive (Ephesians 3:16). Encourage kids to remember that God will give them grace to forgive others.

Close in prayer, thanking God for His amazing forgiveness and asking His help to forgive others.

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

Notes:

SECTION
4.5

Grace to Be Transformed



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Butterfly Transformation

What You'll Need: Images of the different stages of butterflies (optional: computer and projector)

PREP: Search online for images of the different stages of a butterfly: egg, caterpillar, pupa, butterfly. Print out or use a computer and projector to show the images in class.

STEP 1: Show kids the image of the egg. Ask kids to guess what the egg will turn out to be. Then, display the picture of the caterpillar. See if any of the kids can guess what the caterpillar turns out to be.

Finally, display the last two pictures of the pupa and the butterfly.

STEP 2: Ask: Is there any resemblance between the egg and the butterfly?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- The egg looks completely opposite from the butterfly, but it will one day turn into a butterfly through metamorphosis, or transformation.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we change too! Our lives after salvation are completely opposite of what we were like before salvation.
- We sometimes call the difference "transformation." God wants to completely transform us to become more like His Son.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of being transformed by grace.

Notes:

SECTION
4.5

Grace to Be Transformed



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Drastic Changes

What You'll Need: Baking soda, water, food coloring, bowl, rimmed glasses or plastic containers, white vinegar, empty squirt bottles, tables

PREP: Make a ball of dough out of baking soda, water, and food coloring by mixing one cup of baking soda, four teaspoons of water, and one or two drops of food coloring in a bowl. Depending on the size of your class, make several baking soda dough balls. Place each dough ball in a rimmed glass or plastic container. Gather squirt bottles, one bottle for every ball of dough. Pour a half cup of vinegar into each bottle.

STEP 1: Put containers of dough around the tables in the classroom, and have kids gather around the tables. Place squirt bottles near each container. Choose several kids to hold the squirt bottles. At your signal, have these kids begin to squirt the dough ball. After a few squirts, encourage other kids to squirt the dough ball.

Ask the following questions:

- What happened when the vinegar in the bottle came into contact with the ball of dough? (The ball fizzed.)
- Why do you think this happened? (Explain to kids that this happened because the vinegar caused a chemical reaction to the baking soda, changing its appearance.)

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Just like the dough ball changed, when we trust Jesus as Savior, we change too! Our lives after salvation are completely opposite of what we were like before salvation.
- We sometimes call the difference "transformation." God wants to completely transform us to become more like His Son.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of being transformed by grace.

Notes:

SECTION 4.5

Grace to Be Transformed



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Before/After

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, markers, pens or pencils, Before/After handout (Resource Bundle) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Print copies of the Before/After handout, one per kid.

STEP 1: Tell kids that sometimes when a person changes, it's known as "transformation." Explain to kids that God wants us to be transformed.

Share these key concepts:

- We are sinners who deserve the punishment of death and hell because of our sin (Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23a).
- Instead of the punishment we deserve, God sent Jesus Christ, His Son, to take the punishment for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:4-5).
- After we trust Jesus as Savior, we are justified. God sees us as righteous, and we are adopted into His family (2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 1:5, 1 John 3:1-2).

STEP 2: Distribute a copy of the Before/After handout to each child., along with a pen or pencil. Have kids work in groups of three or four, and assign half of the handout to each group.

Give groups five minutes to read through their verses and record details of Paul's life before or after he trusted Jesus as Savior. Encourage leaders to help groups as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have groups that completed the "Before" section of the handout briefly share their findings.

Share these concepts:

- After he met Christ on the road, Paul believed that Jesus was the Savior. Once he could see again, he started to tell people that Jesus was the Son of God, the Savior.

- At first, the followers of Christ did not believe Paul. They were afraid of him because of what he had done to other believers. But as Paul continued to share the truth that Jesus is the Savior, they recognized the changes in his life.

STEP 4: Have groups who completed the "After" section of the handout briefly share their findings.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul spent the rest of his life telling others that Jesus is the Son of God, the true Savior. He told people who were Jews (like he was) and people who were not Jews the truth about Jesus. He wrote letters to many churches and taught those believers how to live in love and obedience to Jesus. Many of Paul's letters are now books in the Bible!
- Paul suffered many things because he believed Jesus is the Savior. He was persecuted, beaten, stoned, shipwrecked, and put in prison. Eventually, Paul was put to death because of his faith in Jesus (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

STEP 5: Tell kids that Paul was the perfect example of a person who was transformed by God's grace. In fact, he wrote our memory verse for the week.

STEP 6: Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Corinthians 5:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we are changed. God sees us as justified! It's as if we are a new creation.
- We are not the same as we were before salvation.

SECTION
4.5

Grace to Be Transformed



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

STEP 7: Remind kids that God wants to transform their lives too!

Share these key concepts:

- When we study the Bible, the Holy Spirit will show us how we can be more like Christ.
- The Holy Spirit will help us make right choices that show our love for God, and will help others know Him (Ephesians 2:10).

STEP 8: Encourage kids to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit to give them grace to be transformed. After a minute, close in prayer.

STEP 9: Follow up with Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements from the Large Group Guide.

Notes:



Before/After

PAUL: BEFORE

Read the following verses and write characteristics and details of Paul's life before he trusted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

Acts 7:55—8:3

(Note: Paul used to be called Saul.)

Acts 26:9-11

Galatians 1:13-14

1 Timothy 1:15

PAUL: AFTER

Read the following verses and record the characteristics and details of Paul's life after he trusted Christ as his Savior. Note that all these verses were written by Paul, and he is speaking about himself.

Romans 1:1

Romans 1:16

Philippians 3:8-9

Philippians 4:11-13

SECTION

4.5

Grace to Be Transformed



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: A Changed Life

What You'll Need: Bibles, 3 x 5 cards, paper, pens or pencils, easel, whiteboard and markers

PREP: Set up an easel in front of the room. Place the whiteboard on the easel. Number 3 x 5 cards 1 to 7, and write each of the following references in order on the numbered 3 x 5 cards.

1. Acts 7:55-8:3
2. Acts 26:9-11
3. Galatians 1:13-14
4. 1 Timothy 1:15
5. Romans 1:1, 16
6. Philippians 3:8-9
7. Philippians 4:11-13

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

STEP 1: Divide kids into two groups. Distribute Bibles, paper, and pens or pencils to each group. Give the first group the four 3 x 5 cards numbered 1-4, and the second group the 3 x 5 cards 5-7.

Give each group five minutes to study their verses and be ready to teach the other group what Paul was like before he was saved and after he was saved. Tell kids they can use the whiteboard or poster board during their "lesson."

STEP 2: After five minutes, have the first group teach what Paul was like before he was saved.

Share these key concepts:

- Paul was a "religious" Jew, called a Pharisee. Paul believed in God and knew the Old Testament well. Paul obeyed God's rules in the Old Testament and the other rules Jews made up (Galatians 1:14, Philippians 3:4-6).
- Paul knew the Old Testament promised a Savior; however, Paul did not believe that Jesus

was that person. Paul hated the followers of Jesus who were telling everyone that Jesus was God's Son and the promised Savior. Paul believed his actions were right according to the rules of the Jewish religion.

STEP 3: Have the second group teach what Paul was like after he was saved.

Share these key concepts:

- God spoke directly to Paul to get his attention and to show him that Jesus is the Savior who was promised in the Old Testament.
- God used believers to help Paul understand the truth of Scripture.
- God used Paul in a great way to share the gospel with many people.
- Paul even wrote 13 books in the Bible that help us learn more about how we can live by loving and obeying Jesus!

STEP 4: Tell kids that Paul was the perfect example of a person who was transformed by God's grace. In fact, he wrote our memory verse for the week.

Read or recite this week's memory verse, 2 Corinthians 5:17. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- When we trust Jesus as our Savior, we are changed. God sees us as justified! It's as if we are a new creation.
- We are not the same as we were before salvation.

STEP 5: Remind kids that God wants to transform their lives too!

Share these key concepts:

- When we study the Bible, the Holy Spirit will show us how we can be more like Christ.
- The Holy Spirit will help us make right choices that show our love for God, and will help others know Him (Ephesians 2:10).

SECTION
4.5

Grace to Be Transformed



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

STEP 6: Encourage kids to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit for grace to be transformed. After a minute, close in prayer.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | Grace in Action



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Construction Helpers

What You'll Need: Spaghetti noodles, miniature marshmallows, paper plates, yardstick, individually wrapped candy

PREP: Purchase two boxes of dry spaghetti noodles, two bags of miniature marshmallows, paper plates, and individually wrapped candy. Divide the two boxes of spaghetti noodles evenly onto four paper plates. Divide the two bags of marshmallows evenly onto the paper plates.

STEP 1: Divide kids into four groups. Give each group a plate of dry spaghetti noodles and a plate of marshmallows.

STEP 2: At your signal, have groups work together to build a tower, using only the spaghetti noodles and the marshmallows.

After two minutes, have kids stop building. Use the yardstick to measure the height of each tower, and give candy to each member of the group that built the tallest tower.

Ask the following questions:

- How did having other group members make building the tower easier?
- Why do you think it's important to help others?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God offers us grace through Jesus Christ, and when we trust Jesus as Savior, we become a member of God's family.
- God wants us to help and encourage others.
- As a part of God's family, we can learn to show grace to others and help them grow in grace too.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | Grace in Action



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Helpless Baby

What You'll Need: Pictures or video of a newborn baby (optional: computer and digital projector)

PREP: Gather pictures or video of a newborn baby from your family albums or from a friend with young children. Or, search online for pictures and videos of newborns. (Optional: Project the pictures and video on a wall in the classroom.)

STEP 1: Present the pictures or video of a newborn baby. Ask any kids who have younger siblings or younger relatives to describe a newborn baby.

Ask the following questions:

- What are some of the needs of a young infant?
- Who are often the ones responsible to care for a baby?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- A helpless baby needs family who will love and care for it.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, we become a member of God's family.
- As a part of God's family, we can learn to show grace to others and help them grow in grace too.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of grace in action.

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | Grace in Action



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Unique Helpers

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils, index cards, whiteboard and markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to the following passages.

2 Samuel 23:13-16

2 Kings 4:8-10

2 Kings 5:2-5

Acts 11:27-30

Write the following questions on the board:

1. What was the need in these verses?
2. Who was the helper or helpers?
3. How did that person or (people) help meet the need?

STEP 1: Give each kid a pen or pencil. Divide kids into pairs or groups, and give groups a marked Bible. Give kids three minutes to study their verses and answer the questions on the board or on their papers.

STEP 2: Have each group present their findings. Encourage other kids to fill in the information on their handouts as they listen to the other groups.

Share these key concepts:

- Because God helped us and gave us so much grace, we need to be willing to help others and give them grace (John 15:12).
- People have many different needs, but God can use ANYONE as a helper. You are never too young or too old to help meet the needs of others.

- All those who have trusted Christ as Savior become part of one big family. We should take care of those in our Christian family first, so every part of God's family can work at its best. We should also help those outside of our Christian family, which is a way to share the gospel (Galatians 6:9-10).

STEP 3: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Galatians 6:9-10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We are encouraged to continue doing good, even when it would be easy to grow weary of it.
- When we continue to do good, even when it is hard, we will reap blessings.
- God wants us to help others, especially those who are a part of His family.

STEP 4: Explain to kids that God wants to use THEM to be helpers in God's family. Give each kid an index card, and encourage them to write a simple note to a pastor, youth leader, Sunday School worker, or Awana leader to encourage that person. Then, challenge them to pray and ask God to show them one way they can help that person.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.6 | Grace in Action



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Service Charades

What You'll Need: Bible, paper, scissors, pens or pencils, small container (optional: props and costumes, large container) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Cut paper into squares. (Optional: Gather various props and costumes [e.g., backpack, Bible, phone, wrapped snack, coats, pretend or real money, hats, purses, clip-on ties, canned goods and a grocery bag, cane or walker, wigs, rake]).

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verses, Galatians 6:9-10. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- We are encouraged to continue doing good, even when it would be easy to grow weary of it.
- When we continue to do good, even when it is hard, we will reap blessings.
- God wants us to help others, especially those who are a part of His family.

STEP 2: Briefly share with kids a time when someone from church helped you.

Share these key concepts:

- Because God helped us and gave us so much grace, we need to be willing to help others and give them grace (John 15:12).
- People have many different needs, but God can use ANYONE as a helper. You are never too young or too old to help meet the needs of others.
- All those who have trusted Christ as Savior

become part of one big family. We should take care of those in our Christian family first, so every part of God's family can work at its best. We should also help those outside of our Christian family, which is a way to share the gospel (Galatians 6:9-10).

STEP 3: Give each kid a square of paper and a pen or pencil. Ask kids to write on it one way they could be a help to someone this week. Collect their responses, and place them in a container.

STEP 4: Choose two or three volunteers to draw a slip of paper from the container. Give them one minute to come up with a charade depicting that service opportunity. (Be ready to offer help as necessary.)

STEP 5: After a minute, have the volunteers act out their charade, and encourage the rest of the kids to try to guess it.

As time allows, continue the activity with different kids.

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

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Grace to Persevere



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Quitting vs Persevering

Notes:

What You'll Need: Styrofoam cups®, marker

PREP: Color the rims of two Styrofoam cups with a marker. Stack 30 cups on top of each of the prepared cups. Ask two leaders to compete in a cup stacking challenge. Ask both to mess up, but ask one to give up and quit the activity and the other to keep going to the end.

STEP 1: Have the chosen leaders stand in front of the kids. Give each a stack of prepared cups and explain that the leader who is the first to restack the cups one at a time so that the marked cup is on top is the winner.

STEP 2: Give the leaders a signal to begin and observe the kids' responses when the leaders struggle and one quits. After the activity, ask the kids to compare the attitudes of the two leaders.

Ask the following questions:

- How would you feel if it was you who messed up?
- Why is it sometimes hard to finish a task after you mess up?

STEP 3: Share these key concepts:

- God doesn't promise that life will always be easy. In fact, we will face hard times.
- How we respond during hard times depends on whether or not we rely on God.
- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, then God is always with you. He will give you grace to persevere in whatever task you face.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of having grace to persevere.

SECTION 4.7 | *Grace to Persevere*



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Inspirational Concert

What You'll Need: Nothing

PREP: Ask an instrumentalist to come and play a difficult piece (approximately 3 minutes in length) in front of the kids.

STEP 1: Introduce the guests and explain that he or she will be performing a difficult piece. After the performance, ask the guest the following questions:

- How long have you been playing your instrument?
- How long did you have to practice in order to perform that piece?
- What would have happened if you had given up practicing when you were tired or bored?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- It is not easy to stay focused on something that is difficult or hard, but God doesn't promise that life will always be easy. In fact, we will face hard times.
- How we respond during hard times depends on whether or not we rely on God.
- If you have trusted Jesus as Savior, then God is always with you. He will give you grace to persevere in whatever task you face.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of having grace to persevere.

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Grace to Persevere



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Never Alone

What You'll Need: Bible (optional: props, container) (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Bookmark Bibles to Deuteronomy 31:6 and Daniel 3. (Optional: Gather props for the Bible story drama [e.g., crown, toy flute or horn, soldiers' attire, furnace made from a large cardboard box and painted with red flames]. Place the props in a large container.)

STEP 1: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Deuteronomy 31:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The book of Deuteronomy was written to God's people, the Israelites.
- God promised His people that He would never leave them or stop taking care of them.
- God will keep that promise to all who trust in Jesus as Savior.

STEP 2: Divide kids into three groups. Ask the first group to act out the passage as you read Daniel 3:1-2, 4-7. (Optional: Encourage them to use the props as desired.) Instruct a leader to stand by all the groups and give them simple directions or help with any optional props. Instruct three of the group members to pretend to be King Nebuchadnezzar, the herald, and the instrumentalists. Encourage the herald to move his or her lips and pretend to talk as you read his or her parts.

After the group has acted out the passage, ask them to be seated. Call up the second group. Have this group act out Daniel 3:8, 12-18. Assign the roles of Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and King Nebuchadnezzar. Encourage the kids to move their lips and pretend to talk as you read their parts.

After they have acted out the passage, ask them to be seated. Have the final group come forward and act out Daniel 3:19-28. Assign the roles of Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and King Nebuchadnezzar. Encourage the kids to move their lips and pretend to talk as you read their parts.

STEP 3: Read Daniel 3:25 again. Emphasize that God was with them in the midst of the fire and they could clearly see that! The Bible doesn't tell us if it was Jesus Christ or an angel with them, but we know the fourth one in the fire was from God.

STEP 4: Tell kids that even though we may not have to face a fiery furnace, we all face hardships and trials.

Share these concepts:

- Even after we trust Jesus Christ as Savior, life will sometimes be painful, and we will face hard times and situations that make us want to quit (Philippians 4:12).
- If we have trusted Christ as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in us. We are not alone; He is always with us and will help us get through the painful times so that we are prepared for God to use us (Romans 8:28).
- Even if we are scared or frustrated, the Holy Spirit will give us strength and courage so that we can be brave enough to obey God (Deuteronomy 31:6).

STEP 5: Ask kids to think of one area in which they are struggling. Encourage them to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit to give them the strength to persevere.

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

Notes:

SECTION

4.7

Grace to Persevere



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Encouraged to Persevere

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, pens or pencils (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

Prep: Bookmark Bibles to the following passages.

Isaiah 41:10

Romans 5:3-4

2 Timothy 1:7

Isaiah 40:31

Step 1: Ask, "What are some situations in which kids your age might want to quit?" If kids are reluctant to share, suggest one or two of the following scenarios.

- Missing the last goal of the tied soccer game
- Messing up on your piano recital piece
- Being made fun of for sharing the gospel

STEP 2: Read or recite this week's memory verse, Deuteronomy 31:6. Repeat the verse a second time, pausing after each phrase.

Share these key concepts:

- The book of Deuteronomy was written to God's people, the Israelites.
- God promised His people that He would never leave them or stop taking care of them.
- God will keep that promise to all who trust in Jesus as Savior.

STEP 3: Remind kids that the promises and truths in God's Word can help them persevere. Give each kid a piece of paper and a pen or pencil. Ask volunteers to read the following verses. Encourage kids to listen carefully as each verse is read and to record key words from the verses on their papers, such as, "I am with you"; "I am your God."

Isaiah 41:10

Romans 5:3-4

2 Timothy 1:7

Isaiah 40:31

STEP 4: Ask kids to share some of the key words they wrote.

Share these key concepts:

- Even after we trust Jesus Christ as Savior, life will sometimes be painful, and we will face hard times and situations that make us want to quit (Philippians 4:12).
- If we have trusted Christ as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in us. We are not alone; He is always with us and will help us get through the painful times so that we are prepared for God to use us (Romans 8:28).
- Even if we are scared or frustrated, the Holy Spirit will give us strength and courage so that we can be brave enough to obey God (Deuteronomy 31:6).

STEP 5: Challenge kids to record on their papers one challenge or situation they are facing. Encourage them to pray silently, asking the Holy Spirit to give them grace to persevere through their situation.

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

Notes:

SECTION 4.8 | Grace Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: A-Maze-Ing Grace

What You'll Need: Chairs, large cardboard box, Hula-Hoop®, masking tape, rope (optional: mask)

PREP: Set up a maze in the classroom using the suggested items above (e.g., have kids walk around chairs, have them crawl through the box, have them jump on an X in the middle of the Hula-Hoop, have them hop over a rope tied between two chairs).

STEP 1: Have each kid go through the maze. If time allows, blindfold a volunteer and ask him or her to choose a guide to lead them through the maze.

Ask: What part of the maze was the most challenging for you?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- A Christian's life is often like a maze. We might not be sure of which decision to make or where to go.
- There will be times in our lives when we are uncertain of our future. We may face hard times and challenges, and we may have difficulty getting along with others.
- We have the grace of God to face any situation, whether it is easy and happy or hard and discouraging. And when we rely on the Holy Spirit's help, we will grow closer to God through His grace.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of living by grace.

Notes:

SECTION 4.8 | Grace Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Gifts of Grace

What You'll Need: Gift bags, tissue paper, paper, markers, *Grace in Action* handbooks

PREP: Write each of the following words on a sheet of paper: What Is Grace? Grace and Law, Grace to Be Humble, Grace to Forgive, Grace to Be Transformed, Grace in Action, Grace to Persevere. Place each sheet of paper in a gift bag and cover with tissue paper.

Set the seven bags in the front of the room.

STEP 1: Ask seven volunteers to choose a gift bag. Give them 30 seconds to pull out the paper and prepare to summarize that lesson and memory verse. Encourage them to seek help from other kids.

After 30 seconds, have kids share their summaries.

Ask the following questions:

- Why is it important to know what grace is?
- What are some key truths we need to know about grace?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- Before salvation, we were sinners and enemies of God. But God offered us grace and forgiveness through Christ.
- When we trust Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit lives in us and helps us grow to be more like Christ. He helps us understand God's Word and apply it to our lives.
- As we grow in grace, we are able to love and serve others, forgive those who hurt us, and persevere through hard situations. God's grace is on display in our lives!

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of living by grace.

Notes:

SECTION 4.8 | Grace Review



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Panel Discussion

What You'll Need: Bible, Panel Questions handout (Resource Bundle), Overview of Grace handout (Resource Bundle), tables, chairs, scissors, plastic cup (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Ask six leaders or other adults to be a part of a panel to discuss grace. Print out seven copies of the Panel Questions handout and six copies of the Overview of Grace handout from the Resource Bundle. Give each panel member a copy of each handout ahead of time. Assign a section to each panel member so that he or she is prepared to answer the questions that correspond to the assigned section. Encourage panel members to be familiar with the information on the Overview of Grace handout and to include that information in their answers. Encourage panel members to keep their answers to under one minute and to consider age appropriateness as they craft their answers for the kids.

Cut apart the last copy of the Panel Questions handout and place the sections in a plastic cup.

STEP 1: Have panel members introduce themselves. Ask a kid to choose a paper from the cup and to read the questions on the paper aloud. Ask the panel member to whom that section was assigned to answer the questions.

STEP 2: After each panel member answers his or her questions, review the memory verse corresponding to the questions. After all the questions have been answered, share these key concepts:

- God's grace is freely offered to everyone. God gives us grace through His gift of salvation. Christ took the punishment we deserve for our sin, and when we place our faith in Christ and believe that He died for our sin and came to life again, then we will be saved from sin's punishment (John 3:16).

- There is nothing we can do to earn grace. It is a free gift from God (Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 3:2-3).
- When we trust Christ as Savior, we are justified. The Holy Spirit lives in us and helps us learn more about who God is and how we can be transformed to be more like Christ (Romans 5:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:17).
- Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can say no to sin and become more like Jesus (John 14:26).
- God's grace will help us learn to be humble, forgive, help, persevere, and tell others the good news of grace through Jesus Christ (James 4:6, Ephesians 4:32, Galatians 6:9-10, Deuteronomy 31:6, Ephesians 2:8-10).

STEP 3: Conclude by saying that God's grace is so amazing that we should want to tell everyone about the grace we have received in Christ. This is the most important thing that people could ever hear!

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

Notes:



PANEL QUESTIONS

SECTION 1 — WHAT IS GRACE?

What is grace?

How has God shown you grace in salvation?

SECTION 2 — GRACE AND LAW

When is a time you broke one of God's commands from the Bible?

How is the Holy Spirit helping you choose not to sin and be more like Jesus?

SECTION 3 — GRACE TO BE HUMBLE

How does being humble help you treat others like you should? When is a time you were not humbly submissive to an authority in your life? What happened, and how does (or how could) the Holy Spirit help you be more submissive and humble?

SECTION 4 — GRACE TO FORGIVE

What does it mean to forgive like God wants us to forgive? When is a time you showed biblical forgiveness to someone? Describe what happened.

SECTION 5 — GRACE TO BE TRANSFORMED

How is your life different now from before you were saved? How is the Holy Spirit helping you transform your life to become more like Christ?

SECTION 6 — GRACE IN ACTION

Why is it important to help those in our Christian family? When is a time you saw Christians serving each other well?

SECTION 7 — GRACE TO PERSEVERE

Can you describe a tough situation in your life in which you wanted to quit? How did God give you strength and courage to persevere?





OVERVIEW OF GRACE HANDOUT (1 of 4)

Study the section that your leader assigns you. Please be familiar with the verses, as well as the summary information. During T&T, you will be asked a question with the same number as your section number. Please use the information in your section to help you formulate your answer.

SECTION 1 — WHAT IS GRACE?

ROMANS 8:1

We can do absolutely nothing to earn or deserve our salvation, but God offers us grace. Grace is giving somebody something good that he or she does not deserve. God's grace to us begins with the gift of salvation. Christ took the punishment we deserve for our sin, and when we have faith that Jesus died for our sin and rose to life again, we will be saved from punishment. When we are saved, God says we are justified, which means that God judges us as innocent and righteous. When God looks at us, He sees Christ's perfect righteousness that covers all our sin! We also have peace with God, which means that we are no longer His enemies who deserve His wrath (very strong anger); instead we are friends of God.

SECTION 2 — GRACE AND LAW

GALATIANS 3:11

No human can keep all of God's laws perfectly. If we break one of God's laws, it's as bad as breaking all of His laws. Our good works can't save us, no matter how hard we try. Jesus is the only one who kept the law perfectly and took our punishment for breaking the law. It is through God's grace, by faith in Christ, that we can have salvation and become righteous, but God continues to give us grace after we trust Christ through the gift of the Holy Spirit. We receive the Holy Spirit when we place our faith in Christ, and the Holy Spirit helps us to choose not to sin and become more like God's Son, Jesus. This is called sanctification. We could never become like Jesus on our own. We need to depend on God's grace to help us! We will never be perfect like Jesus until we get to heaven, but we can let the Holy Spirit work in us by reading God's Word, believing what it says, and praying.





OVERVIEW OF GRACE HANDOUT (2 of 4)

Study the section that your leader assigns you. Please be familiar with the verses, as well as the summary information. During T&T, you will be asked a question with the same number as your section number. Please use the information in your section to help you formulate your answer.

SECTION 3 - GRACE TO BE HUMBLE

JAMES 4:6

We please and honor the Lord when we are humble and submissive to others, especially those in authority over us. It is not easy to be humble; we must follow the perfect example of Christ, who willingly humbled Himself and looked at us as more important than Himself. We must rely on God's grace to work in our hearts to help us be humble and submissive.

SECTION 4 - GRACE TO FORGIVE

EPHESIANS 4:32

God forgives all our sins — past, present, and future — when we trust that Jesus Christ died for us on the cross and rose again. We should forgive others when we remember the way God forgave us. Biblical forgiveness is choosing to love another person even though he sinned, choosing not to punish someone for her sin, being kind and forgiving to people even if they do not deserve it and they never say, "I'm sorry." Forgiveness is also choosing to forget and stop thinking about a person's sin. Once you forgive, don't remind the person of the bad thing he or she has done to you. When we remember how much God has forgiven us, it is easier to forgive others. The Holy Spirit can help us forgive and change our hearts as we read the Bible and pray. He will help us offer biblical forgiveness to others who have wronged us.



OVERVIEW OF GRACE HANDOUT (3 of 4)

Study the section that your leader assigns you. Please be familiar with the verses, as well as the summary information. During T&T, you will be asked a question with the same number as your section number. Please use the information in your section to help you formulate your answer.

SECTION 5 - GRACE TO BE TRANSFORMED

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

We were once God's enemy because of our sin, but God gave us mercy and grace instead of the punishment we deserved. When we trust Jesus as Savior, we are a new creation. We are justified, and we are made righteous. The Holy Spirit lives in us and helps us understand God's Word and make choices that please God. He draws us closer to God, and we are transformed as we become more and more like Christ. Others can see this change in our lives as we are transformed through grace.

SECTION 6 - GRACE IN ACTION

GALATIANS 6:9-10

The memory verses say to do good, especially to those who are part of the household, or family, of faith. All who have trusted Christ are part of one big, Christian family that includes Christians in your church and Christians from all over the world. God wants us to first help those who are in our Christian family, and then help others outside our Christian family. Sometimes we may not feel like helping others, but the Holy Spirit can make us willing and strong to help others. We will receive an eternal reward for doing good when we rely on the Holy Spirit to help us do good to others.





OVERVIEW OF GRACE HANDOUT (4 of 4)

Study the section that your leader assigns you. Please be familiar with the verses, as well as the summary information. During T&T, you will be asked a question with the same number as your section number. Please use the information in your section to help you formulate your answer.

SECTION 7 — GRACE TO PERSEVERE

DEUTERONOMY 31:6

When we trust Jesus as Savior we are justified and we have the eternal promise of heaven, but we are not promised an easy life on earth. Sometimes God allows us to go through painful times in life to prepare us for what He wants us to do in the future. We may struggle when things do not go the way we would like them to go, but the Holy Spirit gives us strength and courage to face each situation. We are never alone; God is always with us. Even through hard times, we can know that God gives us grace to persevere.



SECTION

4.8

Discovery of... Review



Main Lesson (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Your Pictures of Grace

What You'll Need: Bibles, whiteboard and markers, *Grace in Action* handbooks, pens or pencils, markers (*Leader's Note: Larger clubs may divide into smaller groups to complete the activity.*)

PREP: Write the following titles and references on the board.

What is Grace? (Romans 8:1)

Grace and Law (Galatians 3:11)

Grace to Be Humble (James 4:6)

Grace to Forgive (Ephesians 4:32)

Grace to Be Transformed (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Grace in Action (Galatians 6:9-10)

Grace to Persevere (Deuteronomy 31:6)

STEP 1: Remind kids and leaders that God's grace is offered to everyone and that His grace continues in the lives of believers. As we continue to allow the Holy Spirit to change us to be more like Christ, we will learn to love, obey, serve, forgive, and tell others about God's grace.

STEP 2: Have kids work in pairs or small groups. Assign each pair or group one of the topics and verses listed on the board.

Encourage kids to review that topic and verse in their handbooks and create one or more pictures to illustrate the topic and verses (e.g., the pair with the first topic and verses may choose to picture grace as a gift box; the second group may picture their topic as a cross and a list of rules). Give pairs or groups five minutes to create their pictures demonstrating that topic of grace.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have pairs or groups present their pictures and read their verses in the order listed on the board.

Share these concepts:

- God's grace is freely offered to everyone. God gives us grace through His gift of salvation. Christ took the punishment we deserve for our sin, and when we place our faith in Christ and believe that He died for our sin and came to life again, then we will be saved from sin's punishment (John 3:16).
- There is nothing we can do to earn grace. It is a free gift from God (Ephesians 2:8-9, Galatians 3:2-3).
- When we trust Christ as Savior, we are justified. The Holy Spirit lives in us and helps us learn more about who God is and how we can be transformed to be more like Christ (Romans 5:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:17).
- Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can say no to sin and become more like Jesus (John 14:26).
- God's grace will help us learn to be humble, forgive, help, persevere, and tell others the good news of grace through Jesus Christ (James 4:6, Ephesians 4:32, Galatians 6:9-10, Deuteronomy 31:6, Ephesians 2:8-10).

STEP 4: Conclude by sharing with kids that God's grace is so amazing that we should want to tell everyone about the grace we have received in Christ. This is the most important thing that people could ever hear!

Close the lesson in prayer, thanking God for His amazing grace.

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

Notes: