



Beam—Year One

Lesson Plan Book

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INTRODUCTION

Beam — Year One Lesson Plan Book and *Beam — Year One Visual Packet* are designed for use with children in the first grade. Together, these two publications complete one year of study in the Sunbeam program sponsored by the Women's Missionary Auxiliary.

The Lesson Plan Book is divided into four units. God's Word, God's Workers, and God's Witnesses each contain sixteen lessons. Included are guided lessons for Star Awards reviews. Four additional lessons are given in the Special Occasion unit. These optional lessons are suggested for use near the appropriate holiday. The Lesson Plan Book contains a total of fifty-two lessons for use throughout the year.

The units of God's Word, God's Workers, and God's Witnesses may be used in any order. Each unit is designed to be completed in sixteen weeks of study. Completion of one unit is recommended before another unit is begun.

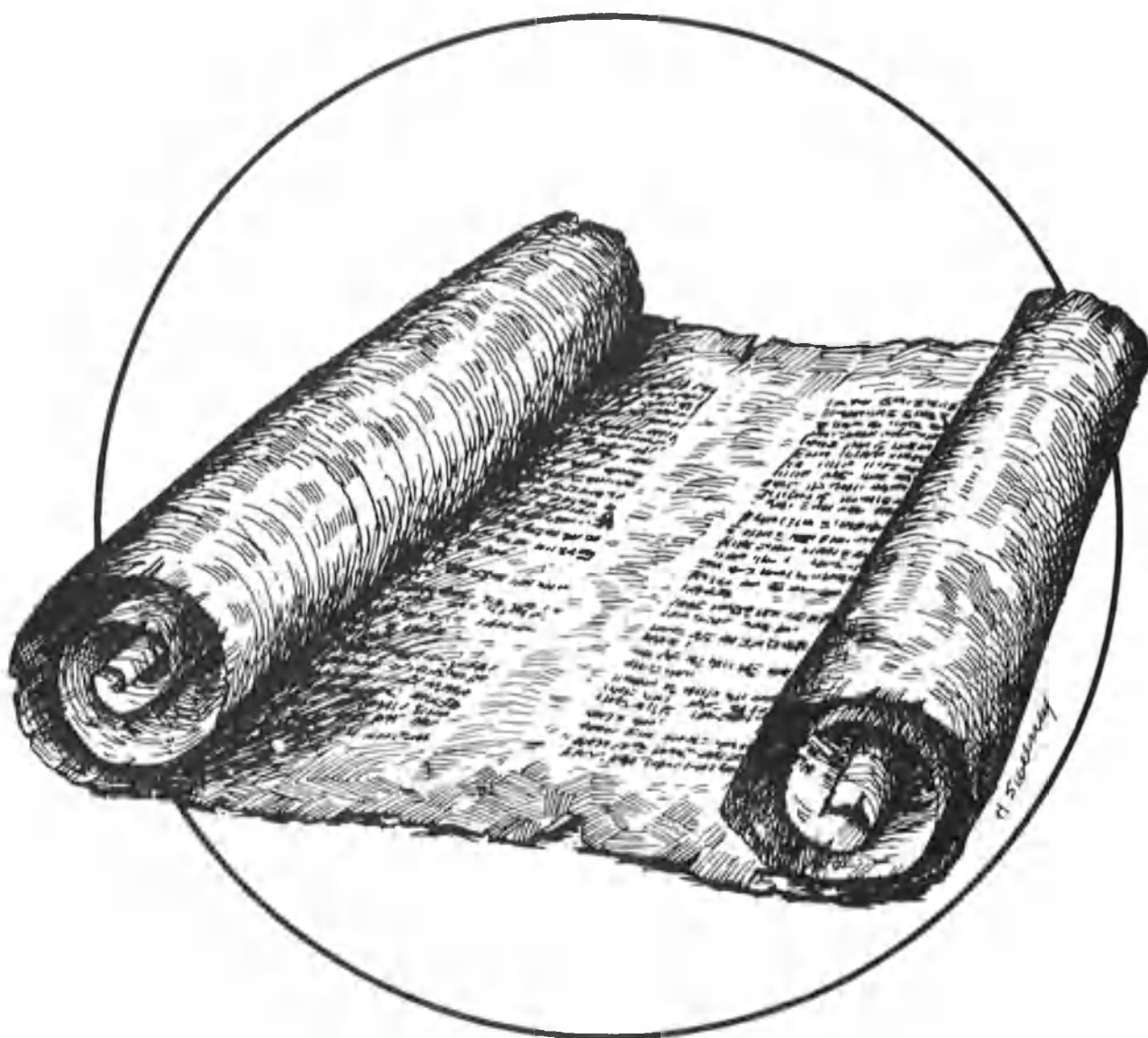
All Star Award areas are covered in the lessons of this book. At the beginning of each lesson, a box is given listing all Star Award areas. Dots indicate the areas covered within each lesson. Review is given regularly in the units to note individual student's Star Award accomplishments. At the end of the year's study, Star Awards may be given in the six areas studied — Bible, Church, Missions, Music, Memory Work, and Prayer.

To illustrate the lessons, *Beam — Year One Visual Packet* is available. This packet contains black and white art to be colored by the teacher. Full directions for preparation and use of the visuals are given in the Materials Needed and Lesson Approach sections of each lesson. Flannelgraph and storyboard figures, teaching pictures, memory verse visuals, and patterns are provided in the packet. The index for the art can also be found in the visual packet. It will give additional help in locating the art for each lesson. Visualize as you teach! Learning occurs at a more efficient rate when the visual joins the verbal.

The Sunbeam Missionary Auxiliary Program

Sparks	Flickers	Ray — Year One	Ray — Year Two	Beam — Year One	Beam — Year Two	Beacon
Birth to Age Two	Ages Two and Three	Prekindergarten	Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade

God's Word



God Gave the Word

God's Word — Lesson 1

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that God gave the Bible by (1) speaking directly to men and telling them what to write and (2) putting thoughts and words into the minds of the writers. The children will understand and be able to say II Peter 1:21.

Text: II Peter 1:19-21

Memory Verse: *“Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost”* (II Peter 1:21).

Materials Needed: Nine sheets of construction paper cut in the shape of an open Bible — on sheet 1 write “The Bible is God’s Word”; on sheet 2 write “God spoke to man”; on sheet 3 glue the picture of Adam and Eve; on sheet 4 glue the picture of the ark; on sheet 5 glue the picture of the tablets of stone; on sheet 6 glue the picture of Jesus; on sheet 7 write “God inspired man”; on sheet 8 write “God spoke to man” and “God inspired man”; on sheet 9 write the last half of II Peter 1:21.

Song: “The B-I-B-L-E”

Prayer: Lead the children in prayer that God will help them understand the lesson and realize how precious the Bible is.

Lesson Approach: (Suggestion to teacher — it might help you prepare to teach this lesson if you study the three chapters of II Peter before beginning your lesson preparation. In these chapters Peter tells of the importance of our acquiring knowledge through the Scriptures.)

I’m really excited about a book I’ve been reading this week. It has a story in it about a little boy fighting a giant, some boys being thrown

into a furnace, a man being put into a den of lions, and a family that survived a great flood in a big boat. It has some stories in it about a gentle shepherd caring for his sheep. It has a beautiful story in it about a man who loved other people so much that He died for them. This book even has a story about what is going to happen to us in the future.

This book has been read by more people than any other book in the world. More copies of this book have been printed and sold than any other book in the world. This book has been printed in almost all of the languages over the world; people everywhere read it. It has been the most popular book since books were first printed, and it was written a long, long time ago.

Can you imagine why people still like to read an old book that was written so long ago? You’ve probably guessed what this book is by now, haven’t you? Why, of course, this book is the Bible. (Pick up your Bible so the children can see it.) This book is the most exciting book ever written; and it’s so special because everything in it is true. All the stories in it really happened.

The most important thing about this book is that God has given it to us so we can learn about Him. He tells us in His book how we can become His children and live in eternity with Him. He speaks to us through the Bible. That’s why the Bible isn’t just an ordinary book like all the other books we have; the Bible is God’s Word. (Hold up sheet 1.)

Maybe you’re wondering by now how God gave us His Word. Let’s think about that right now. When God created the world and put man here to live, there were no books or paper and

pencils. Man had no way of knowing about God unless someone told him. The one who told Adam and Eve about God was God himself. God actually spoke aloud to Adam and Eve. (Hold up sheet 2.) God spoke to them and told them what He wanted them to do. (Hold up sheet 3.) They could talk with God.

One day they disobeyed God. Because they disobeyed, they had to leave the garden. They didn't get to talk with God as they had in the garden, but they remembered all that God had told them, and they told their children. This information was told over and over again from parents to children. When God had something very special He wanted to tell man, He would talk directly to man.

Do you remember how God told Noah about the coming flood and told him to build an ark? (Hold up sheet 4.)

Later, as people began to develop a way to write, all these things God had spoken aloud to them were written down. You probably remember how God spoke to Moses. God wrote the words He spoke to Moses on the tablets of stone. (Hold up sheet 5.) Moses spent many hours talking with God. Moses knew how to write, so he wrote down the words God spoke to him. God told Moses about His plans from the beginning of the world. When Moses wrote this down, he probably used a brush made from a hollow stalk. He dipped it in ink made from black soot, and wrote the words on animal skins. God continued to talk to men and they wrote the words until the time that Jesus came to earth.

By the time Jesus came to earth, God didn't have to speak directly to people because people had all the Scriptures that Moses and the other writers had written. Jesus studied these Scriptures and knew them by heart, but Jesus had a message that needed to be written down also. (Hold up sheet 6.)

As Jesus lived here on earth, He chose a special group of followers to stay with Him and help Him. He talked with these people and explained why He had come to earth. After Jesus was crucified, arose, and went back to heaven, His special followers were left here on earth to tell everyone the story of Jesus. They went about

the country telling people what they had heard Jesus say and what they had seen Jesus do.

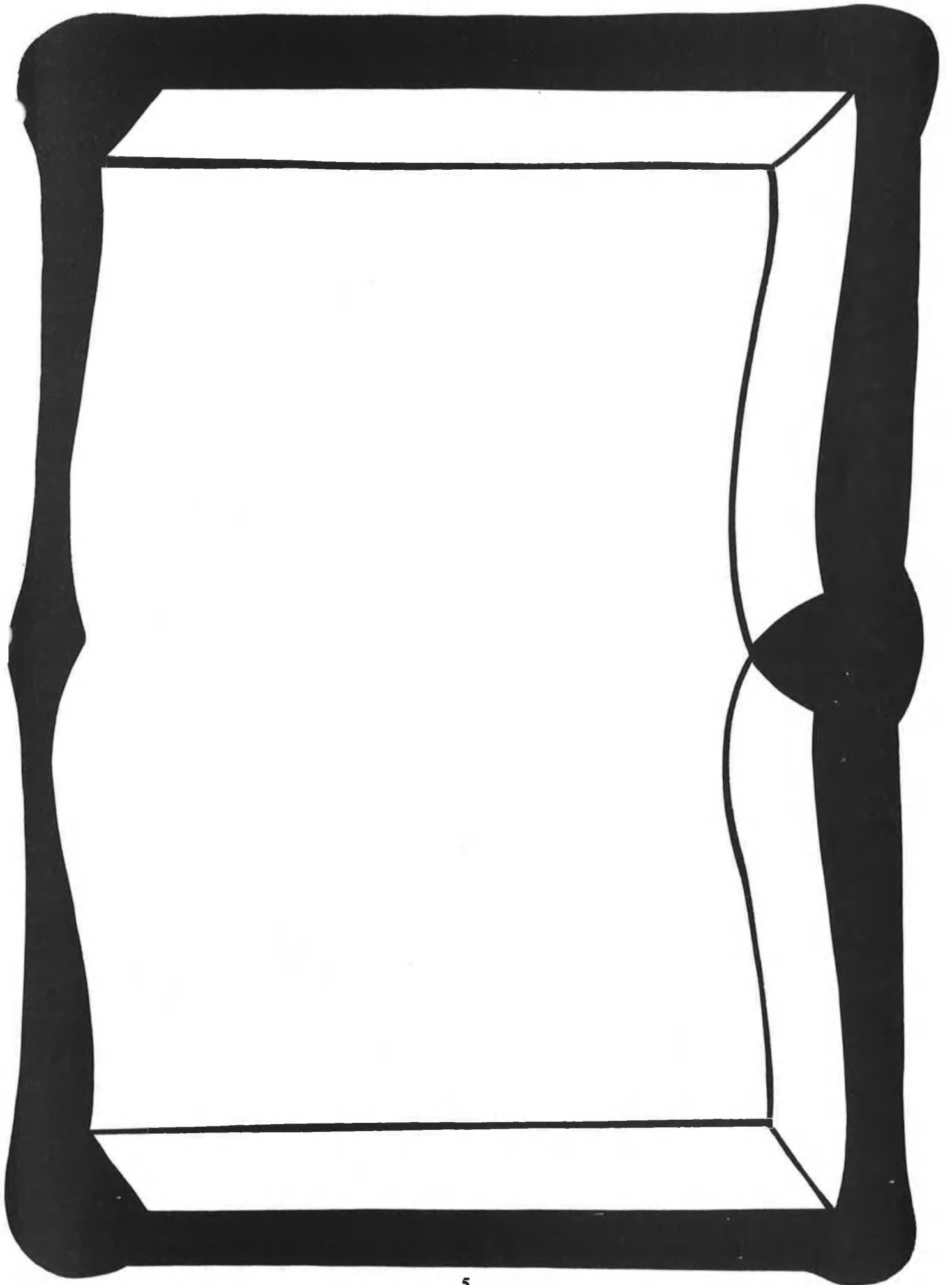
Some of Jesus' sayings were written down. Some of these leaders wrote letters to churches telling them about Jesus' teachings. As these followers grew old, it became very important that all this information be written down for people who would be born later — like us. The information that Jesus' followers had written was gathered, and it became a part of the Bible.

However, there's one very important thing you must understand. These men didn't just sit down and decide what to write. God helped them by putting the thoughts and words in their minds. (Hold up sheet 7.) We use a special word to describe God's putting thoughts and words in man's mind. The word is *inspired*. God inspired these men to write the Bible, word for word.

Now let's think about what I've told you. What's so special about the Bible? (Let children answer.) Yes, it is God's Word. What are the two ways God gave us His Word? (Hold up sheet 8.) God spoke to man, and God inspired man.

There is a verse in the Bible that I want you to listen to. (Hold up sheet 9.) "*Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost*" (II Peter 1:21). Let's put this verse into words we can understand a little better — the Scriptures weren't thought up by man on his own; they were written down by men (holy men of God) whom God inspired (they were moved by the Holy Spirit). I want you to always remember that this is why the Bible isn't just an ordinary book like your spelling book or story book. Men thought up these books on their own and wrote them for their own reasons. The Bible is God's Word. God led men to write down what He wanted them to write, so that everyone in the world can know about Him. (Repeat the verse aloud with the children. Have them practice until they learn it.)

Additional Activity: You may wish to copy the outline of the Bible for each student. Allow each one to print the words "God gave the Bible to us" on the open Bible. There is an open Bible pattern for the Bible on which you glue the pictures from the visual packet.



The Bible Will Last Forever

God's Word — Lesson 2

BEAM — YEAR ONE Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that God will always keep the Bible safe for us. They will have an understanding of how long ago the Bible was written and how we came to have it today. They will have a reverent and respectful attitude toward the Bible.

Text: Jeremiah 36:1-32

Memory Verse: *"Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever"* (Psalm 119:160).

Materials Needed: Make a booklet by fastening sheets of construction paper together. On the cover write *Bible*; on page 1 glue pictures of the scroll and tablets of stone like the ones the Ten Commandments were written on; on page 2 glue the picture of fire or flames; on page 3 glue the picture of a jail or iron bars; on page 4 write Psalm 119:160. You will find the pictures in the visual packet.

Song: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of thanks to God for giving us the Bible and allowing us to freely read the Bible. Also pray that God will help them listen to the teacher and hear what God wants them to learn.

Lesson Approach: (Hold up Bible.) What's so special about the Bible? Is it different from the books you read at school or at the library? Of course it's different! The Bible is God's Word. He actually spoke aloud to some men and told them what to write. He inspired the writers to write down His message. I hope you remember what II Peter 1:21 says, *"Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."*

Let's say this verse together. (Say the verse together.) The Bible is a very special book. Let's listen to what this Bible has to tell us.

(Use the booklet as you talk. Turn the pages as you would if you were reading a story book. Tell this part of the lesson as if you are the Bible talking.)

Hello. I'm a Bible. I am very, very old. Men wrote me long, long ago before anyone you know was even alive. In fact, you probably can't even imagine what the world was like so long ago. The world was very different. There was no electricity, so there was no television, radio, air conditioning, refrigerator, telephone, or anything like these things. There were no cars, planes, bicycles, movies, schools, or houses like you have. There wasn't even a pencil or paper like you have. Things were very different.

The first of my words that were written down were written by hand on animal skins or papyrus. Papyrus was a kind of paper. It was made by taking a tall weed that grew down by the river, splitting it open, and pressing it flat. Several of these weeds were woven together to make a mat. Then men could write on the mat. The papyrus mat and the animal skins were cut in strips and rolled up like a roll of paper towels. These rolls were called scrolls. (Turn to page 1 in the booklet.)

Some of my words were so important that God himself wrote the words on tablets of stone. Men copied God's words on scrolls. If you could look at one of these scrolls, you couldn't read it at all.

My words were first written in the language of the people who were alive at the time. These people were Hebrews, and they spoke a language called Hebrew. Back then most of the people

could not read, so the men who could read would read the Scriptures aloud to them. The scrolls were not very strong, and they could be damaged very easily. The people had to be very, very careful when they handled them.

In time the scrolls would tear and the ink would fade. Through the years some very special men were given the job of copying my words from the scrolls. These men were called scribes, and their job was not an easy one. They had to copy by hand all my words. They had to sit in a room all alone and copy my words letter by letter. They were not allowed to talk or to have anyone come in and disturb them. Some of these scribes spent their whole lives copying my words so that all people would have a chance to read me.

Finally, hundreds of years later, my words were translated (expressed in other languages) so people all over the world could read me.

When the printing press was invented, there were millions of copies of me printed. Today almost anyone who wants a copy of me can have one. But there is someone who does not like me and does not want people to be able to read me. Satan is the one who hates me. In fact, he hates me so much that he has always tried to destroy me.

(Turn to page 2 of the booklet.) Thousands of years ago when my words were first being written, Satan tried to destroy me. There was a very wicked king named Jehoiakim who lived in the land of Judah, my home. The king and his people were not obeying God. They were not even worshiping God; they were worshiping gods that they had made. They all knew that this was wrong, but they did it anyway.

God spoke to a man named Jeremiah. God told Jeremiah to write down a message to these people. The message told about some terrible things that would happen to the people if they did not start obeying God. Jeremiah had his friend Baruch write my words down and read them out loud to the people. The king heard about the words that Baruch read, and he became very angry. He sent for Baruch and had him read the message God had sent. The words made the king so angry that as Baruch read, the

king took his knife and cut up the scroll and then threw the pieces into the fire. Oh! That was so terrible — trying to burn me. But he could not destroy me.

God told Jeremiah to write the message again; except this time, God added even more terrible things that would happen if the king didn't start obeying God. The king continued to disobey, and surely enough the king and his people were punished just as God had said.

Many hundreds of years later some men tried to keep everyone from having me. When a man named Tyndale printed copies of me in the English language and tried to get these copies to the people, he was thrown in prison and later burned at the stake. (Turn to page 3.) People wanted copies of me so badly that they tried to hide me in sacks of flour and bales of cloth. But the officials would search the people's belongings. If they found any copies of me, they would burn them.

In some places in the world today, people are not allowed to have copies of me. Anyone who is caught with a copy of me can be put in jail. Many people hide me and read me in secret. Would you still keep me if you knew you would go to jail for having me?

Satan has always tried to destroy me, but God has given you a very special promise in my words. Psalm 119:160 tells you that God will not let anyone destroy me. I will always be with you, so that you can know God's will. Listen to my words, *"Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."* The words *righteous judgments* mean that God's laws are founded in truth. The word *endureth* means to last. (Turn to page 4.) Would you please say my words and try to learn them? (Repeat the verse with the children and help them learn it.)

Additional Activities: Make copies of the sheet containing Psalm 119:160 at the end of this lesson. Have a paper for each child. Let the children cut the paper on the heavy lines. Give each child two sticks (craft sticks). Have the child tape each end of the strip of paper to one of the sticks. Show the children how to roll the strips in from each end to make a scroll.

*“Thy word is true from the beginning:
and every one of thy righteous judgments
endureth for ever” (Psalm 119:160).*

The Bible — Sixty-Six Books

God's Word — Lesson 3

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible Church Missions
- Music Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the Bible is a library of sixty-six books. They will know that the Bible is divided into two testaments; and they will know the names of the books.

Materials Needed: Six sheets of construction paper — glue the pictures of traffic signs like stop, slow, yield, etc., on the first page; glue the picture of the scene from Bible times on the second sheet; glue a copy of a song or poem on the third sheet; glue the picture of a cross on the fourth sheet; glue a copy of a letter on the fifth sheet; glue the picture of a rocket or spaceship on the sixth sheet. Put these sheets in a fairly large Bible and wrap the Bible in brown paper. Have some copies of the individual books of the Bible such as John. Make a large poster listing the books of the Bible and the major divisions (a pattern is given at the end of the lesson). You may find the pictures mentioned above in your visual packet.

Song: “Books of the Old Testament” (This song can be found in *Salvation Songs for Children, Number 1.*)

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of thanks for the Bible and our freedom to read it and study it. Ask God to help the children listen to the lesson.

Lesson Approach: Before we begin our lesson today, I need your help. The most wonderful thing happened. Someone gave us a whole set of books to keep here in our classroom. I need you to help me figure out where we can put them. Now let's see. Do you have any suggestions? (Encourage the children to get involved in trying to choose a place to put the books in the

classroom.) Perhaps we could put them here on the table. There are about sixty books. Do you think they will fit? What shall we do? I guess we need to get the books and bring them in here. Then we can decide. Ask a student: Would you please go get the books for me? They're out in the hall, and they're wrapped in brown paper. Ask a student: Will you please go help? (Have the Bible that you've wrapped in brown paper out in the hall.)

Well, here are our books. There are sixty-six of them; and look, they're all bound together to make one big book — the Bible. The Bible is a very special book. Do you remember why? I'm sure you remember that the Bible is special, because it's God's Word. God gave it to us. Remember, He actually spoke to some men and told them what to write; He told other men what to write by putting thoughts and words in their minds. Do you remember what II Peter 1:21 says? Say it with me, “*Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*” To be sure that we will always have God's message to us, God has kept it safe for us. When wicked men tried to destroy the Bible, God protected it for us. Yes, the Bible is a very special, very precious book. But did you know the Bible is really made up of sixty-six books?

Let's take a closer look at our Bibles. The Bible looks like just one book. Our Bibles aren't very heavy or big, but look at the words and letters in your Bible. What do you notice about them? The letters are very small and close together. Look at the pages. The paper is very thin, and there are many pages in your Bible. Most of our Bibles have almost a thousand

pages. If the letters weren't so small and the paper so thin, our Bibles would be too big and heavy to carry. (Show the children a big family Bible to illustrate your point.)

Our Bible is bound together in one book, but it is really many books gathered together. No one knows exactly how long ago God used man to begin writing the Bible, but it was thousands of years ago. God used about forty men over a period of more than a thousand years to finish the writing. Even though all these different men wrote, God directed them all. The writers lived in different times and in different countries. The way they lived was very different, and the books they wrote were different.

Some of the writers wrote books that tell us rules for living (show sheet with traffic signs); some of the books tell us of the exciting things that happened to God's people (hold up sheet with Bible scene). Some of the books contain songs and poems (hold up sheet 3). Some of the books tell us about Jesus' birth and His life here on earth (hold up sheet 4). Other books are really letters (hold up sheet 5), and some books tell us about what will happen to us in the future (hold up sheet 6). But all these books go together to tell us about God and His plan for all of mankind.

Have you ever wondered why we call God's Word the Bible? Do you remember what a scroll is? It is a long strip of paper or leather that is rolled up something like paper towels. Before man discovered how to make the kind of paper we have now, he made a kind of paper called *papyrus*. Papyrus was made by flattening out river weeds and weaving them together to make a mat that could be written on. One of these papyrus scrolls was called a "*biblion*." If there were more than one scroll, the group of scrolls was called "*biblia*." That's where the name *Bible* came from. The word *Bible* means book. Some of these ancient scrolls were put into big earthen jars to protect them. Some have been found, and they are guarded in museums and libraries where men are learning how to take care of them so they won't crumble.

I want all of you to get your Bibles. Turn to the very front of your Bible and let's look at it. (Help all the children find the page at the front

that lists all the books in the Bible.) This is a list of the sixty-six books that are in the Bible. I want you to look at the list and see the two main parts of the Bible. The first thirty-nine books are listed together and are called the Old Testament. The last twenty-seven are listed together and are called the New Testament.

The word *testament* means a very serious promise or covenant. The Old Testament tells about what happened from the time God created the world until the time when the Jews returned from Babylon. Four hundred years pass between the testaments. The New Testament tells about what happened from the time Jesus was born until the early churches were at work. The last book in the New Testament tells what will happen in the future.

Let's look at the names of the books. (Show the poster of the books of the Bible.) First, I'm going to say all the names in the Old Testament. I'll point to the name as I say it. You will probably already know some of these names, but listen very carefully and try to remember the way the name sounds so that you can read it. (Go down the list of books in the Old Testament and point to each name as you pronounce it carefully.)

Now I want you to see how many of the names you can say when I point to them. (Go down the list again and let the children say the names. Take the time to help the children become familiar with the names. This can be a fun learning experience if you approach it in an enthusiastic way. The children will probably get involved in competing to see who can remember the most names.)

Now let's see how many of the New Testament books you already know. (Go down the list of books in the New Testament. Point to each one on the poster and say the name.) Now I want you to try to say the names with me. (Point to the names on the poster and help the children become familiar with the names. Drill on this.)

Art Page: Copy the poster listing the books of the Bible and the major divisions. Keep this poster prominently displayed in the classroom because it will be used throughout the entire unit. You may wish to give each student his own copy.

OLD TESTAMENT

Law

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

History

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
I and II Samuel
I and II Kings
I and II Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther
Job

Poetry

Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Solomon

Prophets

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

NEW TESTAMENT

Gospels

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Prophecy

Revelation

History

Acts

Letters

Romans

I and II Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

I and II Thessalonians

I and II Timothy

Titus

Philemon

Hebrews

James

I and II Peter

I, II, and III John

Jude

Star Awards Review

God's Word — Star Awards Activity Number 1

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The purpose of the Star Awards lesson is to see how much the children remember from the previous lessons so the teacher can determine whether or not the child has fulfilled the requirements needed to receive the star for the areas taught. If the children do not seem to be remembering what has been taught, the material should quickly be reviewed so that the child can learn it. This review covers lessons 1-3.

Memory Verses: *"Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (II Peter 1:21); "Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever" (Psalm 119:160).*

Lesson Approach: (Begin the lesson by briefly reviewing the main points of the previous three lessons.) Boys and girls, tonight is Star Awards Review night. I need to find out if you are remembering what we have learned, so I will know how you are progressing on getting your stars for this unit.

The first lesson we studied told us about a very special book I had been reading. I told you that it had some very exciting stories in it. I also told you it is the book that more people have read than any other book. What book was I talking about? That's right, we learned about the Bible. We learned that the Bible is a very special book because God gave it to us. It is His message to us.

In the next lesson I told you how God has promised us that He will always keep the Bible for us so we can have it to guide us. I even told you about how many evil people have tried to

destroy the Bible, but God has always provided a way for it to endure.

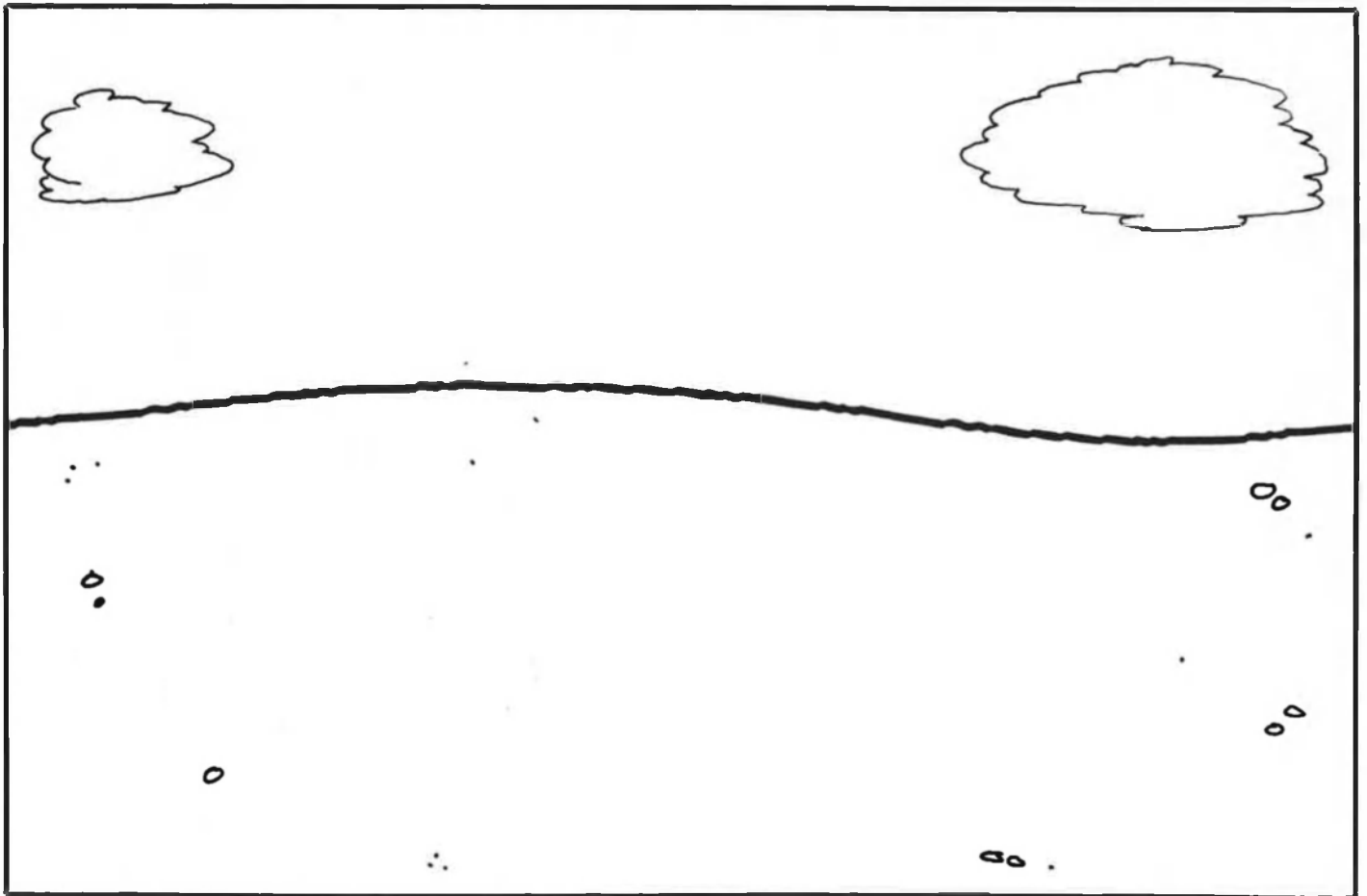
In the third lesson I told you how the Bible was really made up of sixty-six books. You looked at a list of all the sixty-six books and found that the books were divided into two main divisions.

We're going to play a game now to help you see how much you remember. I'm going to give each one of you a picture, but the only things on the picture are the earth and the sky. In order to complete your picture, you are going to have to answer some questions about our first three lessons. When I ask you a question, and you answer it correctly, I will give you an object to add to your picture. If you cannot answer the question, the person next to you will have a chance to answer the question.

When it is time for class to be over, I will give a small reward to the person who has added the most objects to his or her picture. (Give each child a piece of paper that has the sky and the earth on it. You will need a box or envelope full of pictures of objects that would be appropriate to complete the picture — such as houses, trees, flowers, dogs, animals, clouds, sun, butterflies, children, etc. Choose a question from the following list and ask the first child to answer it. If the child answers it correctly, give the child a picture from your box to glue on his or her paper. If the child cannot answer the question, go to the next child. Continue until some child answers the question. At the end of class, count to see which child has answered the most questions. Give that child a bookmark, pencil, or other small reward.)

Star Award Questions for Lessons 1-3

1. Who gave us the Bible? (God)
2. How did God give us the Bible? (He spoke to men.)
3. What word tells how God gave us the Bible? (inspired)
4. Why do people still read the Bible today, even though it was written so long ago? (It is God's Word.)
5. Is the Bible just an ordinary book like our other books? Why? (No, it is God's Word.)
6. Name one person to whom God spoke. (Adam, Eve, Noah, Moses)
7. Name another person to whom God spoke. (See answers to question 6.)
8. When Jesus was alive here on earth, why didn't God speak directly to people? (The people had the Scriptures to read.)
9. What does *inspired* mean? (God put thoughts and words into a person's mind.)
10. Say II Peter 1:21. (*"Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."*)
11. How were the very first Scriptures written down? (on animal skin or papyrus)
12. What is a scroll? (skins or papyrus in a roll)
13. What language were the first Scriptures written in? (Hebrew)
14. What is a scribe? (one who copied the Scriptures)
15. Who tries to destroy the Bible? (Satan)
16. What did evil King Jehoiakim do when Baruch read the Scriptures to him? (cut them up and burned them)
17. Say Psalm 119:160. (*"Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever."*)
18. How many books are in the Bible? (66)
19. What are the two main divisions of the Bible? (Old and New Testaments)
20. (For as many other questions as you need, point to the names of the books on the Books of the Bible poster and see if the child can say the name.)



God Gives Us Rules

God's Word — Lesson 4

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the Bible contains laws (rules) for us to follow. They will be familiar with the books that are called books of law. They will recall some of the laws given to us in the Bible.

Text: Exodus 20:1-20; II Kings 22:1-13

Memory Verse: *"I am the LORD thy God. . . . Thou shalt have no other gods before me"* (Exodus 20:2, 3).

Materials Needed: The poster with the books of the Bible that was used in the previous lesson. Be sure that each child has a Bible.

Song: "Books of the Old Testament"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them learn about His Word.

Lesson Approach: "Oh, it's such a beautiful fall day!" said Mandy, as she and Anna and Susan went out on the playground when the recess bell rang. They ran over to go down the slide. Just as Mandy was starting up the ladder, Jill ran up and pushed ahead. She climbed up the ladder and went down the slide. She just laughed when Mandy, Anna, and Susan called out, "You broke in line." They began to run after her when Mrs. Smith came up.

"What's the problem, girls?" said Mrs. Smith. Jill bowed her head in shame.

"It's my fault, Mrs. Smith," said Jill. "I broke in line."

"Why, Jill, I thought you knew that we have rules here on the playground," Mrs. Smith replied. "If everyone doesn't obey the rules, we can't all play together and have fun. Without rules, someone can always break in line in front

of you, or take your toys away, or even push you down and hurt you."

"We couldn't have any fun at all," said Mandy.

"Everyone would be angry and fussing all the time," said Anna.

Yes, we must have rules in order to all get along. Mandy thought about what happened and decided she really was glad there were rules at school.

That afternoon Mandy and her brother Chad decided they wanted to go fishing. Daddy wasn't home yet, so the fishing poles were locked up.

"Oh, come on," said Chad. "Let's just get Granddaddy's; nobody will care."

"But, Chad, you know Mom and Dad said to never go to the pond alone," Mandy replied.

"They won't know. We'll be home before they are. Let's go," said Chad.

So Chad and Mandy got the poles and went down to the pond. It wasn't long before Mandy had a big one. She pulled and tugged, but just as the fish was nearly up to the bank, Mandy's foot slipped on a wet rock and into the water she fell. Mandy struggled to get to shore, but her struggling just pushed her farther and farther away. Chad threw down his pole and ran to try to help. He tried to get to her, but he couldn't reach her. Granddaddy was up at the barn putting out hay for the cows when he heard the shouts for help. He ran to the pond and helped Chad pull Mandy out of the dirty water. It was almost too late.

"Why did we disobey? They told us not to come alone. We broke a rule, because we thought we knew better," said Chad.

Later that night Chad and Mandy talked with Mom and Dad about what had happened. Two

times that day Mandy saw why we all need rules. Rules keep us safe and let us live happily. That is why God gave us rules.

We can find rules for our lives all through the Bible. When God created the world, He set up rules for the world. He set up rules for having darkness and light — day and night. He set up rules for land and water, seasons of the year, plants and animals, rain and sunshine. And He also set up the rules for people.

I'm sure you remember how Moses went up on the mountain. God spoke to him and gave him the rules for the people. The rules that God wrote on the stones and gave to His people were called the Ten Commandments. These rules still tell us today some of the things that are right and wrong for us. These rules are like the rules the children in our story had. The rules are to keep us safe and happy.

Do you remember any of these rules? Let me remind you of some of them: you shall have no other gods but the true God; you shall not make for yourself a graven image; you shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain; remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy; honor your father and mother; you shall not kill; you shall not steal. These rules and many others are found in the first five books of the Old Testament. These writings were the very first to be called Scripture.

Sometime after these rules were written on scrolls, they were put in the temple for safekeeping. The people didn't hear the rules read, so they just forgot about them. The people began doing whatever they wanted to do; they ignored God's rules. Then a new king was crowned. His name was Josiah. In all the years he had not forgotten about God. He wanted his people to worship and obey God, so he had his workmen begin repairing the temple.

While they were cleaning and making the repairs, they found a large scroll. The men took the scroll to the king. The king had the scroll read to him. As he listened, he realized that this was the book of laws that God had given his people. Excitement filled the king — the book of

God had been found! The king was so happy. He commanded that the book be read to all the people. This scroll was one of the first five books in the Bible. It is named Deuteronomy. It tells us how we should love and serve God. It is just as important to us today as it was to the people back then.

Let's all get our Bibles and find this book. Look at the very first book; it is called Genesis. This is a really exciting book. It tells us how God created the world and the first people. We also learn in Genesis about Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

Now find the next book. This book is called Exodus. It tells how Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land.

The third book is the book of Leviticus. This book gave the children of Israel the rules they were to follow in their worship of God.

The fourth book is the book of Numbers. It tells about the children of Israel when they were in the desert.

The fifth book is the book of Deuteronomy. This is the book that King Josiah found. Look at the poster. You see that these first five books of the Bible are called the books of law. As I point to the name, I want you to say the names with me. Now close your Bibles. Let's have a little contest and see who can find the books first, when I call out the names. (Call out the names of the first five books and have the children find the books in the Bible. Continue doing this until you think all the children know the names and where to find the books.) I want you to remember now that these first five books are called the Law. Even though they were written long ago, we should still read them and know what God wants us to do. I want you to practice at home this week finding these five books in the Bible. Ask Mom or Dad to call out the names and let you find the books.

Additional Activity: Copy the color sheet at the end of this lesson and give one to each child. At the top are the words "God Gave the Law." The signs on the page may be colored different colors.

God Gave the Law



God Tells Us About His People

God's Word — Lesson 5

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know what history is and why it is important for us today. They will be familiar with the twelve books of history in the Old Testament.

Text: Judges 6, 7, 8

Memory Verse: *"They stood every man in his place"* (Judges 7:21).

Materials Needed: The poster of the books of the Bible and the major divisions. You will need a Bible for each child.

Songs: "Books of the Old Testament"; "The B-I-B-L-E"

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will realize how important history is and that they will realize how they should learn from history.

Lesson Approach: Have you ever wondered what your daddy was like when he was a little boy? One day Jeremy was telling his daddy about a game he and his friend John had played at school.

"What kind of games did you play when you were a little boy?" Jeremy asked.

"I'll have to think about that, Jeremy. Let's see, I remember playing chase and hide-and-seek," his dad replied. Grandmother laughed.

"I surely do remember one game your dad played when he was a little boy that didn't turn out to be very much fun," said Grandmother.

"Tell me, Grandmother," Jeremy requested. "Well, your dad and his friends had a special tree that they loved to play in. It was a big oak tree, and the big limbs hung so close to the ground that the boys could jump up on the limb

and climb up high in the tree. One day your dad decided it would really be fun to jump up and down on the limb, so they began jumping to see who could make the limb go down closest to the ground. They were having so much fun that they didn't notice that some big red wasps had built a nest on the bottom of that limb. Every time the boys jumped, those wasps got madder. Finally, the limb went so low that the wasp nest fell to the ground, and the angry wasps flew everywhere."

"Did they sting you, Dad?" Jeremy asked.

"I'll say they did! I had lumps all over my arms. I surely do remember that now. I still remember how fast John and I got out of that tree and ran home. I believe that's the fastest I've ever run," said Dad.

"When I grow up, will you remember the things I did like Grandmother remembers what you did?" Jeremy wanted to know.

"Why, sure I will, Jeremy; and I can tell your children all about you when you were a little boy, so we'll always remember," Dad said assuredly.

"I know. Why don't we write all these things down so we won't forget them?" Jeremy asked.

"That's a good idea, Jeremy. When we write down things, then we can always remember," Dad answered.

Grandmother said, "You know, Jeremy, that's why a lot of the stories in the Bible were written down. They were written down so we can always remember what happened to God's people.

"There are twelve books in the Old Testament that tell us about the things that happened to God's people. These books are called books of history. History is a written story of the things

that actually happened. Jeremy, you suggested writing down the things that are happening to you now so we can always remember. If we did write these things down, we would have your own history. The books of history in the Bible don't just tell us about one person; these books tell us about all the things that happened to God's people. These people were called the children of Israel.

"Maybe you remember some of the stories you've heard about the children of Israel. Have you ever heard of a man named Gideon? Gideon loved God and wanted to obey Him. A huge army of evil men was coming to fight the children of Israel. God told Gideon to choose some men for an army. God gave Gideon very special instructions about how Gideon's army was to get ready for the battle. Instead of swords and spears, Gideon had his soldiers carry trumpets, empty pitchers, and lamps. The men surrounded the army of evil men; and when Gideon commanded them, they all blew their trumpets, threw the pitchers down, and held up their lamps. The enemies were so confused that they began fighting among themselves and all ran away. This was God's plan. His people were victorious without even having to fight. This showed the rest of the world the power of God.

"Israel became a mighty people. As long as they worshiped God and obeyed Him, they were strong; but often they turned away from God and stopped obeying Him. When they did this, they always had trouble. God would always send someone to warn them.

"Maybe you remember Samuel who warned the people about disobeying God. When the people listened to the warnings, asked God to forgive them, and started obeying God, God would forgive them and bless them. Again and

again, these people would forget all the things that had happened before when they disobeyed. They would start to disobey, and then God would have to punish them."

"Grandmother, we do the same thing today, don't we," Jeremy stated.

Grandmother replied, "Yes, I'm afraid we do forget to obey God just like the children of Israel did. I know God wants us to read these stories of history and learn from them. We should always remember that if we disobey, we will be punished just like the children of Israel were punished."

The same things happen to us today; don't they, boys and girls? When we disobey God's rules, we get in trouble. God wants us to know what we should do, and He expects us to obey Him. He had men write these books of history in the Bible so we can read them and learn from them.

Now let's look at our poster and find out just where these books of history are in the Bible. The Bible has two main parts; what are they? (Be sure the children remember the Old Testament and New Testament.) Which part comes first? Let's review the first five books of the Bible. (Point to the names of the first five books, and have them say the names with you.) Remember these first five books are called the books of law. The next twelve books in the Old Testament are the books of history that we have been talking about today. I'm going to point to the names. If you know it, raise your hand. (Go down the list and let the children take turns saying the names. Keep doing this until the children are familiar with the names.)

Additional Activities: Copy the color sheet for the children to color. It is found at the end of this lesson.

GOD GAVE THE BOOKS OF HISTORY

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

I Samuel

II Samuel

I Kings

II Kings

I Chronicles

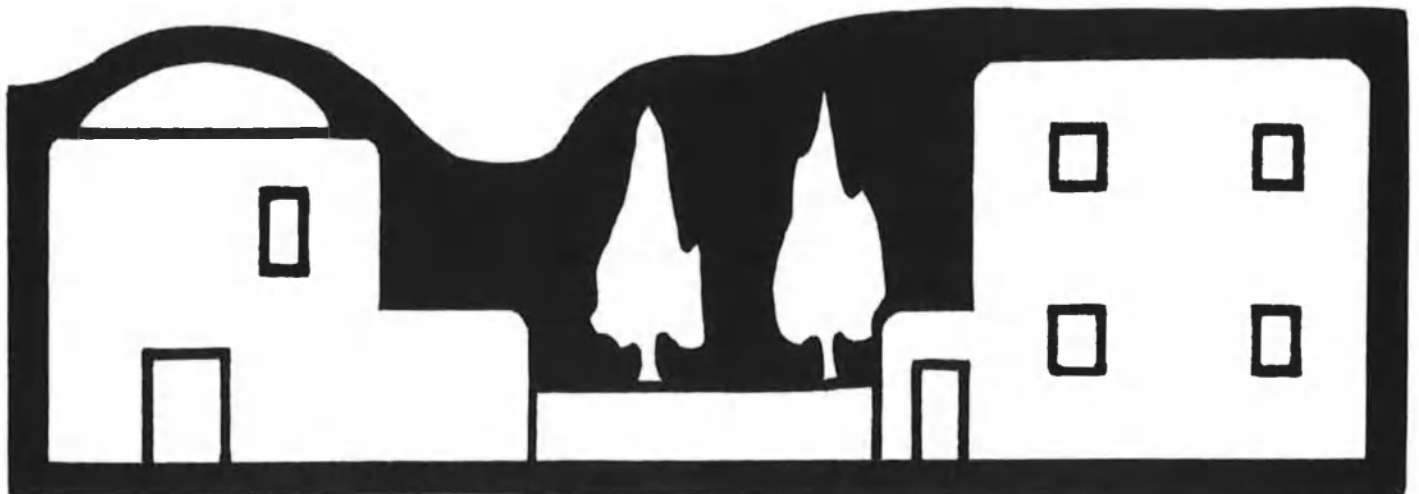
II Chronicles

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

Job



Songs and Poems Give Praise to God

God's Word — Lesson 6

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that some of the books in the Bible are songs and poems. They will know why these books are in the Bible. They will be familiar with which books are songs and poems and where they are. They will have a desire to praise God.

Text: Psalm 119:1-16

Memory Verse: *"I will not forget thy word"*
(Psalm 119:16).

Materials Needed: Have some colorful pictures depicting some scenes from nature. The story would be much more effective if it were visualized — that is, find pictures that would go along with the story. Then as the story is told, hold up the picture that is appropriate. Pictures that could be used to visualize the story are a picture of an autumn forest or pasture, a family taking a walk in an autumn setting, geese in flight, a squirrel gathering nuts, snow, sunlight, stars and moon, and some especially pretty picture of nature. The poster with the books of the Bible on it will also be needed.

Song: "Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God for all the things He gives us each day.

Lesson Approach: It's a beautiful day. The sky is blue with just a few white streaks. This is just like a day that I remember last week. When Dad came home from work, Cheryl and Danny ran out to meet him.

"Let's go for a walk," they begged. "It's such a beautiful day."

"Okay," said Dad.

The kids ran and got their sweaters, and Dad changed clothes. As Danny and Cheryl ran through the kitchen to hug Mom good-bye, they grabbed some cookies and stuffed them into their pockets. They walked down beside the fence into the woods behind the house.

"Listen," said Dad. "Do you hear that sound high up above? It's wild geese. Look at the way they are flying. They're flying in the shape of a 'V.'" They always fly like that. The goose that flies out front is the one that is leading the flock. It is much harder to fly out in front, because the wind is blowing against the leader. When the leader hits the wind, then it is much easier for the other geese to fly. The lead goose gets tired, so it has to fly back to the back and let another goose take over."

"How do the geese know how to do all this? How do they know where to go, and where are they going anyway?" the children asked.

"The geese are flying south for the winter. If they stay in the North, the weather is too cold for them. There's no food and they will starve to death, so every winter the geese leave and head south," Dad replied.

"How do the geese know when to leave? How do they know where to go? Who tells them? Who shows them the way?" the children wanted to know.

"No one has to tell them or show them the way, children. That's just the way God planned it. God created the birds so they would know when it is time to go south, and they would know which way to go.

"Look at the leaves on the tree. Look how they're turning different colors and then falling

off the trees. God planned it that way, so the trees could rest and withstand the cold winter.

“And look at the squirrel. He’s running around gathering nuts and taking them up to his nest to save for the winter. When the snow comes, he may not be able to find anything to eat, but he’ll have enough stored up to eat during the winter. Nobody tells him to get the nuts; God just planned it that way.”

Danny and Cheryl thought about the geese, the leaves, and the squirrel. They thought about how God had planned a way to take care of them. When they got back home, the stars were beginning to twinkle.

“Dad, why do we have night? Why doesn’t the sun shine all the time, so we could have light all the time?” the children asked.

“God planned the night and day. God knew that our bodies had to rest to be strong and healthy, so He gave us night to show us when to rest,” Dad replied.

“God planned everything just right, didn’t He?” Danny asked.

“Yes, God did plan everything just right. He did this because He loves us so much,” said Dad.

“You know, when I think about all these beautiful things God has planned and how much He loves us, I just feel like saying, ‘Thank You, God. I love You!’” Cheryl exclaimed.

Then Dad continued, “We should all feel that way, and we should tell God. God likes to hear us thank Him and tell Him we love Him. This is called praising God. God tells us in the Bible that He wants us to praise Him. We should by all means tell God how much we thank Him and love Him. We can just say these things to God, or we can sing to Him.

“A little boy who lived long, long ago felt the same way we do. Even though he was just a little boy, he had an important job. His job was to go out to the pasture with the sheep every day and make sure that nothing happened to them. He had to be sure none of the sheep wandered away, or no wild animal got any of them, or none of them got hurt. While he was out tending the sheep, he had plenty of time to look around him

and see all the very beautiful things God made. His heart was so full of love and thanks to God that he would take his harp and sing beautiful songs of praise to God.

“As he grew older and became the king of the entire nation, this man still played his harp and sang songs to God. The man’s name was David. His songs and poems were so beautiful. God led him to write these songs and poems, and they are now a part of the Bible. We can read in our Bibles today the songs that David sang thousands of years ago as he sat looking after his sheep and later as he sat on the throne and ruled the people.

“The songs are found in the book in the Bible called Psalms. In fact, the word *psalm* means song. The other books that contain songs and poems are called Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.”

Let’s look at our poster and find out where these books are in the Bible. (Go down the list on the poster and help the children find the books of songs and poetry.) Now I want us to find these books in the Bible. (Have all the children turn in their Bibles and find each of the books of songs and poetry. Let them keep working on this until they all can easily find the books.)

Let’s turn to one of the most famous songs that David ever wrote. This song has been read and learned by people since they first had the Bible. People all over the world love this song. Turn to Psalms and look for Psalm 23. Follow along as I read the song aloud. (Read the psalm aloud to the children. The children could probably understand better if it were read from a recent translation. After you finish reading the psalm, discuss with the children what the psalm says. Be enthusiastic in your discussion so that the children will share in the feeling of praise and love expressed in this psalm.)

Additional Activities: Let the children sing songs of praise. Let them take turns telling some of the things for which they are especially thankful to God. Let the children pray and tell God how much they love Him and thank Him. Copy the picture of David playing his harp for them to color. It is at the end of this lesson.

BOOKS OF SONGS AND POETRY



Psalms

Proverbs

Ecclesiastes

Song of Solomon

Star Awards Review

God's Word — Star Awards Review Number 2

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The teacher will determine whether or not the students have learned what they need to learn from Lessons 4-6 in order to receive their Star Awards. The things that the children have not learned will be reviewed so that every child can learn them.

Memory Verses: *"I am the LORD thy God. . . . Thou shalt have no other gods before me"* (Exodus 20:2, 3); *"They stood every man in his place"* (Judges 7:21); *"I will not forget thy word"* (Psalm 119:16).

Lesson Approach: I'm excited, because tonight is another Star Awards review! We can see how much we've learned. If you haven't remembered the things I want you to know, we can do some reviewing, so all of you can get your Star Award.

Let's think back over our last three lessons. In Lesson 4 I told you about the first five books of the Bible. Remember, the books were called the books of law. In Lesson 5 I told you about the next twelve books, the books of history. In Lesson 6 you learned about the songs and poems in the Bible. Now let's see how much you remember.

We're going to clean up some fallen leaves tonight. (Place leaves made of construction paper on the table. Make them different colors like autumn leaves.) I am going to start with _____ (fill in student's name). I'm going to ask you a question about the last three lessons. If you answer the question correctly, you get to take a leaf from the pile and keep it. If you cannot answer the question correctly, you don't get to take a leaf. At the end of class I will give a small reward to the person with the most leaves.

(Begin asking questions to each student in turn. At the end of the class period, give a small reward to the child with the most leaves. If these Star Award lessons become too competitive, or if some child is consistently being embarrassed by not being able to answer a question, you will need to adjust your approach. You may want to give a small award to everyone who answers a question. The questions on Lessons 4-6 are listed below.)

Star Awards Questions Lessons 4-6

1. What is so special about the Bible? (It is the Word of God.)
2. How many books are in the Bible? (66)
3. What are the two main divisions of the Bible? (Old Testament and New Testament)
4. What is the first book in the Bible? (Genesis)
5. What are the first five books of the Bible called? (The Law)
6. Why do we need rules? (to keep us safe and happy)
7. What is one rule in the Bible?
8. Name another rule in the Bible.
9. What did the good King Josiah do to the temple? (cleaned or repaired it)
10. What did Josiah's workmen find in the temple? (scroll)
11. Name one of the books of law. (The children can look at the Books of the Bible poster. The point is to see if they can say the word, not know the books by heart.)
12. Name another book of law.
13. Name another book of law.

14. Name another book of law.
15. Name another book of law.
16. What is history? (a written record of things that happened)
17. Why should we study history? (to learn from the past)
18. What were some of the weapons Gideon used to defeat the enemy? (trumpet, pitcher, lamp)
19. How was Gideon able to defeat the enemy without fighting? (God did it.)
20. What happens when we don't obey? (We are punished.)
21. Name a book of history in the Bible.
22. What does *psalm* mean? (song)
23. Who wrote the book of Psalms? (David wrote most of the Psalms.)
24. What is praise? (telling God how good He is, thanking Him, telling Him you love Him, etc.)
25. What famous psalm did we study that begins, "*The LORD is my shepherd*"? (Psalm 23)
26. What other book contains songs or poems?
27. Name another book that contains songs or poems.



The Prophets Speak

God's Word — Lesson 7

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that God used special men to give His message to the people. The children will know that these men were called prophets and that there are books in the Old Testament named for several prophets. The children will be familiar with names of the books of the prophets, and they will realize that the writings of the prophets are meaningful to them today.

Text: Jeremiah 1:1-10

Memory Verse: *"I have put my words in thy mouth"* (Jeremiah 1:9).

Materials Needed: The poster with the names of the books of the Bible on it. The following flannelgraph pieces: a circle with the word *God* on it, a directional arrow, a rectangle with the word *Prophet* on it, a directional arrow, a triangle with the picture of a crowd of people dressed in Bible-time clothes on it, a rectangle with the picture of a little boy on it, a triangle with the picture of a Bible-time king on it, a triangle with a flame on it, a circle with a nativity scene on it. Locate these in your visual packet.

Song: "Books of the Old Testament"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer that we will always listen to what God tells us so we can obey Him.

Lesson Approach: Listen very carefully, because I want to tell you what happened to Keri and Lynn last week. Lynn was outside playing. Mother had worked hard that day, and she was very tired. When she had dinner ready, she asked Keri to go outside and ask Lynn to come in for dinner. But Lynn was having so much fun

playing with her puppy that she didn't pay any attention to Keri. Lynn stayed outside and played. The rest of the family ate dinner and had a special ice cream treat that Daddy had brought home. Lynn missed dinner and the treat because she didn't pay any attention to the message Mother sent.

Has something like that ever happened to you? Maybe someone has warned you about doing something, and you didn't listen. Or maybe you did listen, and something good happened. This same thing happened to some of the people we read about in the Bible, too. God had some special men send messages to those people, just as Mother had Keri take a message to Lynn. Sometimes the people listened to God's message, and sometimes they didn't.

(Put flannelgraph circle with the word *God* on the top left corner of the flannel board.) God chose special men. He told these men what to tell the people. These men were called prophets. (Put an arrow pointing diagonally from the circle with the word *God* to the rectangle with the word *Prophet* on it. Put an arrow pointing diagonally from the rectangle to the triangle with the people on it.) The message God sent by each of these prophets is recorded in a book in the Old Testament that is named for that prophet. Perhaps you have heard of some of these prophets. Some of their names were Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and Jonah. Have you ever heard of any of them? Maybe you remember what happened to Daniel and Jonah. (Allow the children to try to remember what happened to these two prophets and why.)

Thousands of years ago there lived a man named Jeremiah. (Replace the rectangle with

Prophet on it with the rectangle with the little boy on it.) One day Jeremiah heard someone speaking to him. It was God talking to Jeremiah. Jeremiah was very scared. Just imagine — God was speaking to him, and he felt like he was just a little boy. God told Jeremiah that He wanted him to be His prophet. Jeremiah was so scared; he asked God what he could do. God told him that He had chosen him to be a prophet even before he was born. Jeremiah told God that he couldn't speak. God told Jeremiah not to be afraid. God promised Jeremiah that He would be with him and give him strength. Then God took His hand and touched Jeremiah's lips and said, *"I have put my words in thy mouth"* (Jeremiah 1:9). From that time on Jeremiah devoted his life to delivering God's message to the people.

Many years later God told Jeremiah to give a message to the king. The king was very evil and had forgotten the laws that God had given. God told Jeremiah to warn the king that if he didn't change and start obeying God, the king's enemy would come in and destroy the kingdom. (Replace the triangle with the people on it with the picture of the king.) The king was so angry at what Jeremiah said that he had his men beat Jeremiah and put him in a deep, dark pit. The king left Jeremiah there until he almost starved. The king went right on disobeying God, and the enemy came in, defeated the king, and burned the city.

Not all the news that Jeremiah brought was about warnings of bad things to come. God had Jeremiah deliver the best news that the world has ever heard. Jeremiah told the people that someday God would do a good thing which He had promised them. He told of one who would come and bring judgment and righteousness to the land. This one would bring safety and salvation. We know that the one Jeremiah told about is Jesus. God provided salvation through Jesus who was born in Bethlehem. (Replace the triangle with the circle with the nativity scene on it.)

God depended on His prophets. He depended on them to give His message to the people. These

messages were written down and are a part of the Bible. We can still read these messages today and learn from them. Can God depend on you? Will you read His Word and obey it? Or will you listen to God's Word and disobey it?

Some of God's prophets had to make this same decision. Remember what Daniel did. The rulers of the country made a law that said that anyone who prayed to anyone except the king would be put into a den of wild lions. Daniel knew that God expected him to pray and ask for God's help each day, so Daniel went right ahead and prayed as he always had. He was arrested and put into the den of lions just as the rulers had said. Daniel prayed to God, and God sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions. The next morning when the king went to see what had happened to Daniel, he was surprised to see that Daniel was not harmed. The king realized that God had truly been with Daniel and had protected him. Will you obey God as Daniel did?

Let's look at our poster and find the names of the books of the prophets. Each of these books is named for the prophet whose message it contains. These are the names of men who lived thousands of years ago in distant places, so the names are not names that we are used to hearing. I'm going to point to each name and say it. Listen as closely as you can. (Point to the names on the poster and say them.) I want you to turn in your Bibles and find these books now. (Help the children find each of these books as you go over the list again. The names will be difficult for the children to learn, so they will need help. It is not as important that the children can recognize each name as it is that they have an understanding of the message of obedience to God that the prophets delivered.)

Additional Activity: Copy the sheet for the children to color. At the top left corner there is a circle with the word *God* on it. There is an arrow pointing diagonally to a rectangle in the middle of the page. On the rectangle there is the word *Prophet*. There is an arrow pointing diagonally from the rectangle to a triangle with a picture of a crowd of people in Bible-time dress.

GOD



PROPHET



Good News About Jesus

God's Word — Lesson 8

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know the story of Jesus. They will know how to be saved. They will know what *gospel* means. They will be familiar with the Gospels.

Text: John 3:14-21

Memory Verse: “*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son*” (John 3:16).

Materials Needed: Cut six pieces of poster board in the shape of a star. On sheet one put a picture of an angel; on sheet two put a picture of a nativity scene; on sheet three put a picture of a temple; on sheet four put a picture of the cross; on sheet five put a picture of a cloud; and sheet six put a picture of opened golden gates, symbolizing the entrance to heaven.

Song: “Good News,” *Growing Songs For Children*, Child Evangelism Fellowship Press

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of thanks to God for sending Jesus and for loving us so much that He provided a way for us to be with Him in heaven.

Lesson Approach: Long, long ago a man named Joseph lived in a little town called Nazareth. He was a carpenter. He spent his days working in a little shop, shaping and smoothing pieces of wood into tables, chairs, and other pieces of furniture. His wife, Mary, kept the little home neat and clean and cooked good food for her husband. Mary was very happy, because soon she was going to have a little baby. This little baby was not like other little babies, however. (Hold up sheet 1.) An angel had come to Mary and told her that this baby was very special. This little baby was sent by God for a very special reason.

When it was nearly time for the baby to be born, Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem. They traveled several days. As they neared Bethlehem, the sun began to set, and the night sky began to get dark. A few stars twinkled in the sky. Mary was so tired. Even the little donkey she was riding was tired. They started looking for a place to spend the night. They came to an inn. Joseph asked the innkeeper for a room, but there were so many people in the town that there were no rooms. What could they do? It was getting cold. Joseph was really getting worried. They had to have a place for Mary to lie down. What if the baby came! Finally an innkeeper told them they could sleep in the stable with the animals.

Mary and Joseph rested in quiet stillness of the Bethlehem night. Only the animals were there to keep them company; and as the animals silently ate and rested, Mary's little baby was born. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in the little manger.

Out in the countryside the shepherds were on the hills taking care of their sheep. Suddenly many angels filled the sky. The noise and the bright light frightened the shepherds. They wanted to run away, but they couldn't leave their sheep. Just then an angel spoke to them and told them not to be afraid. The angel told them to be very happy because a wonderful thing had happened. God had sent His Son to be born in a stable on this very night. The shepherds were so happy. They wanted to go and find the baby so they could worship Him. They went to Bethlehem and found Mary, Joseph, and the babe. They knelt down on their knees and worshiped the baby. When they left to go back to

their sheep, they told all the people they met about the wonderful thing that had happened that night.

God put a brilliant star over the spot where the baby was born to show the world the spectacular happenings. The wise men in faraway countries saw the star and began their journey to find the baby. When they found Him, they gave Him very expensive gifts and worshiped and praised Him.

Mary and Joseph named the baby Jesus, just as the angel had told Mary to do. Jesus grew up in the little town of Nazareth. He probably helped Joseph in the carpentry shop and played in the dusty streets with the children born to Joseph and Mary. He grew strong and was a joy to Mary and Joseph. He studied the Scriptures and learned them by heart. When He was only twelve, He went to the temple to discuss the Scriptures with the wise teachers of the temple. (Hold up sheet 2.)

When Jesus was grown, He began the special work God had sent Him to earth to do. He and some of His special friends went around the country teaching the people the true meaning of living the way God wanted them to. He also told the people why God had sent Him to earth. Jesus explained that God loved people so much that He sent His own Son Jesus to provide a way for all people to go to heaven. The price that Jesus had to pay for sin was a horrible one. (Hold up sheet 3.) Jesus died on a cross for our sins. Because the king and other powerful men didn't believe Jesus really was God's Son, they put Him on trial and then killed Him by nailing Him on a cross. This is what God had planned for Jesus to do, and in three days Jesus was alive again. He went to His friends and explained to them what had happened; later He went back to heaven to be with God. (Hold up sheet 4.)

I want you to listen very carefully so I can explain to you what Jesus really did for you and me. God loves all people more than we can ever know, and He wants all of us to go to heaven to be with Him. However, God cannot let any sin in heaven.

Do you know what sin is? Sin is anything we do to disobey God. Do you ever sin? We all sin. There is no person anywhere who does not sin. What are some of the sins we do? (Help the children to realize some of the sins they commit such as lying, disobeying parents, etc.) God tells us that all people have sinned. What can we do? We can't do anything, but Jesus did. He took the punishment for us. (Hold up sheet 5.) That's what Jesus did for us. When He died on the cross, He was taking our punishment for our sins. Now we can go to heaven, if we tell Jesus that we know we've sinned, ask Him to forgive us, and trust in Him to save us. If we trust in Jesus to save us, He will. Then when we die, we will go to heaven. (Hold up sheet 6.) This good news that Jesus will save us is called the gospel. (At this point in the lesson you may want to further explain the plan of salvation, depending upon the children in the class.)

This most wonderful Good News can be found in the first four books of the New Testament. (Point to the names of the Gospels on the Books of the Bible poster and have the children say them. Then have the children find these books in the Bible.)

Additional Activities: Let each child make a bookmark. Use the pattern. Cut the bookmark out of poster board. At the top write *GOSPEL*. Under this title list the names of the four Gospels.



Jesus Teaches Us to Love Others

God's Word — Lesson 9

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that Jesus taught us to love one another. They will know that this is taught in the Gospels. They will be able to say John 13:35.

Text: Luke 10:25-37

Memory Verse: *"All men (shall) know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another"* (John 13:35).

Materials Needed: Select the flannelgraph figures from the visual packet to illustrate the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Song: "Jesus Loves Me"

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will be able to act the way Jesus tells us to act in the Gospels. Pray that we will all love one another.

Lesson Approach: Chad and Mandy were so upset. Mandy's cat, Fritz, was lost. They had looked everywhere — in the barn, in Dad's workshop, and in the flower bed — but they couldn't find Fritz anywhere. What were they going to do? They called and called, but Fritz didn't come. They looked all around the neighborhood, but Fritz was nowhere to be found. They walked all the way over to Maple Street. Surely Fritz didn't come this far. It was a long way from home, and they didn't know any of the people who lived here. They called Fritz, even though they didn't expect to find him here. Then they heard a weak little meow. They ran over and saw Fritz lying in a basket on a porch. Both his front paws were bandaged. A little boy came out the door. He said, "Hello, is this your cat?"

"Yes," said Chad and Mandy. "What happened to him?"

"A big dog was chasing him, and he got his legs tangled in some wire that was rolled up by the trash pile. When he got loose, he crawled under our porch. We heard him meowing. Mom and Dad helped me, and we put medicine on his paws and bandaged them. I guess he is anxious to get home," the boy explained.

Chad and Mandy were anxious to get Fritz home too, but they were wondering how they were going to take him. It would hurt Fritz for them to carry him all the way. Just then the little boy spoke up.

"Why don't you put your cat in my wagon and take him home. You can bring my wagon back tomorrow."

"That would be great," said Chad and Mandy. They put Fritz into the wagon and started home. When they got there, they ran and told Mom what had happened.

"You know, that little boy and his family surely were nice to help us like that. They didn't even know us. They weren't our friends or neighbors or anything like that. I wonder why they were so nice to help us like that?" the children asked.

"Maybe they had read in the Bible what Jesus said about how we should treat other people," Mother said.

"Does the Bible tell us that?" asked Chad.

Mother read this story to Chad and Mandy.

There was a man going down a lonely road. Some robbers jumped out. They took everything he had and beat him. They left him lying in the road for dead. In a little while a priest came by. When he saw the man lying there, he didn't stop

to help him. He walked across to the other side of the road and passed by. A second man approached and he, too, crossed to the other side and passed by. A third man traveled by. This man, a Samaritan, was an enemy of the man lying in the road; but when the Samaritan saw the hurt man, he stopped and helped him. He bandaged his wounds and sat him on his donkey. He brought him to an inn and took care of him all night. The next morning he gave the innkeeper some money to care for the man until he was well.

This story is found in the Bible in one of the Gospels we studied last week. Jesus told this story to explain to the people how they should treat each other. The story is called the parable of the good Samaritan. After Jesus told this story, He asked the ones listening which man they thought had done the right thing. Of course, they answered that the Samaritan who stopped and helped had done the right thing. Jesus then commanded all those who were there to always be like the Samaritan. Jesus commanded them and us to love our neighbors as much as we do ourselves. This means that we should treat everyone as well as we would treat ourselves. Jesus talked about this many times in the Gospels. In John 13:35, Jesus tells us, "*All men (shall) know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*" I want you to learn this verse and I want you to always remember that Jesus tells us in the Gospels that we must love one another. (Have the children practice saying the verse aloud. Let them take turns saying the verse individually.)

Additional Activities: Have the children determine how Jesus would have them handle the

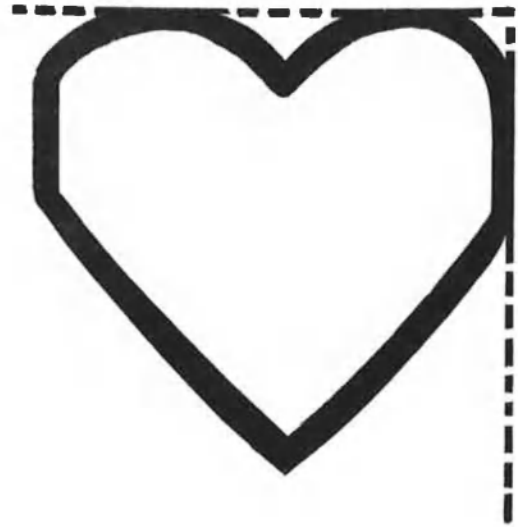
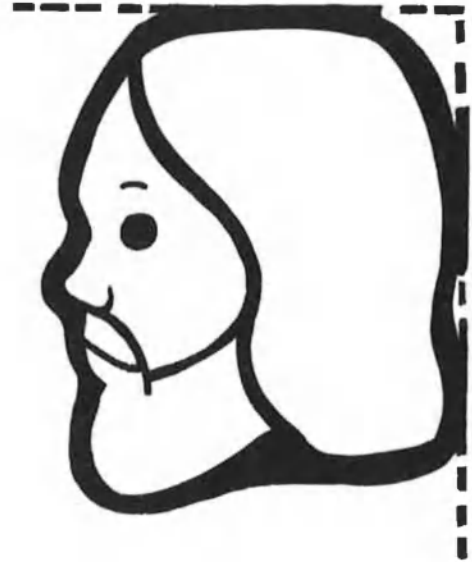
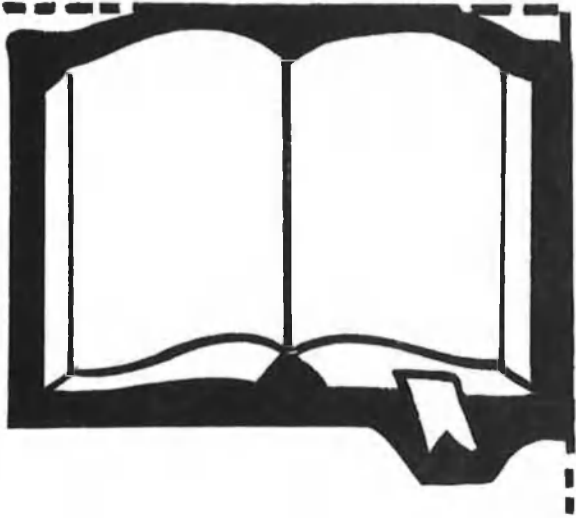
following situations based upon the story and verses.

1. Your friends are laughing at a new girl because her dress doesn't look like theirs.
2. Your friends are making fun of a little girl because she is overweight.
3. Mother has worked very hard, and it is time to prepare dinner.
4. Your little brother can't get a drink.
5. The meanest boy in school falls down on the sidewalk.
6. The lady who lives next door is old and cannot get around. She is very lonely.
7. Grandmother's yard is covered with leaves, and she cannot rake them.
8. Mother comes home with several bags of groceries in the car.
9. A boy who has said some very mean things to you drops all his books on the floor.
10. A group of girls laugh at you and call you ugly.
11. Some of your friends tell you you can't play with them.

Have the children look in their Bibles and find different verses in the Gospels. Some verses you could have them look up are John 3:16; John 14:15; Matthew 5:14; and Matthew 5:44.

Ask each of the children to try to do at least one very special thing this week to show their love to someone outside the home. Tell the children to be ready to report back to the class next week.

Have the children make a bookmark. Use one of the patterns illustrated, and give it to someone who is not in their family and who is not a close friend.



Star Awards Review

God's Word — Star Awards Activity Number 3

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The teacher will be able to determine if the children learned the main points in Lessons 7-9. If the children do not know the material, the teacher will review the points so the children can learn them.

Memory Verses: *"I have put my words in thy mouth"* (Jeremiah 1:9); *"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son"* (John 3:16); *"All men (shall) know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another"* (John 13:35).

Lesson Approach: Tonight we are going grocery shopping. I want to see who can fill his grocery bag first. You can't buy these groceries with money, however. You have to earn every item that you put into your bag. To earn an item, you have to answer a question correctly. Here are the grocery items in this box.

(Have a small box full of pictures of items that you could buy in the grocery store. You may use the patterns on the art page at the end of this review. Give each child a small brown bag.)

And here are your grocery bags. Let's go shopping.

(Begin asking the children questions in turn. If the child answers the question correctly, let him or her get a grocery item out of your box and put it in his or her bag. If the child cannot answer the question, he or she does not get a grocery item. If one child is not able to answer any questions, be sure to ask one that he or she can get before the class is over. At the end of the class, you may want to reward the children with some small prize for answering the questions correctly. If the children are having trouble with the questions, you may need to go back and review the lessons

more thoroughly. The questions are listed below.)

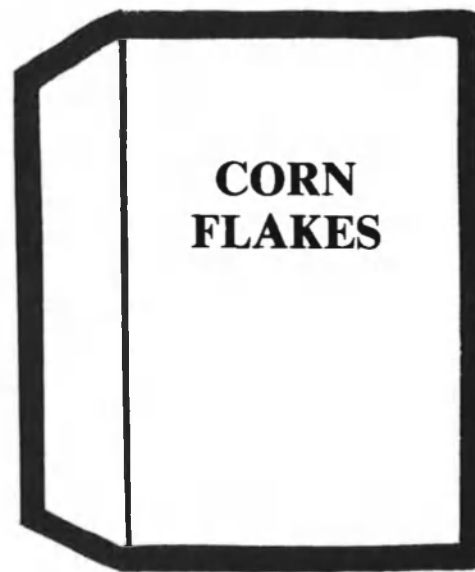
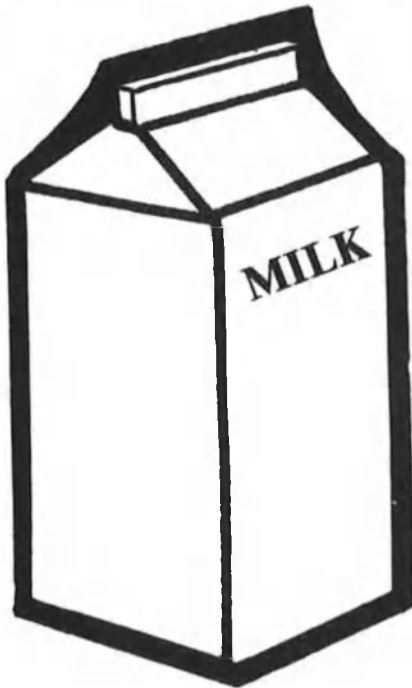
Star Award Questions From Lessons 7-9

1. What is a prophet? (a messenger from God)
2. Are the books of the prophets in the Old Testament or the New Testament? (Old Testament)
3. How were the books of prophecy named? (from the name of the man who was the prophet)
4. Who was the man who felt like he was a little boy when God chose him as a prophet? (Jeremiah)
5. What did God do to Jeremiah to prove to Jeremiah that he could be a prophet? (God touched his lips.)
6. When Jeremiah told the king to change, what did the king do to Jeremiah? (put him in a deep pit)
7. What happened to the king that Jeremiah warned? (His city was burned and he was taken captive.)
8. What good news did Jeremiah tell? (God would provide salvation through Jesus.)
9. Why did Daniel disobey his king? (The king told Daniel not to pray to God.)
10. What happened to Daniel when he disobeyed his king? (The king put him in a den of lions.)
11. What happened to Daniel in the den of lions? (God sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions.)
12. Spend the rest of the time pointing to the names of the books of the prophets on the

Books of the Bible chart. If the child can say the word, he or she has answered correctly. (If you need more questions, go back to the previous Star Award Reviews and pick out some of the most important questions.)

13. What does gospel mean? (Good News)
14. The four Gospels tell about whom? (Jesus)
15. Why did Jesus come to earth? (to die for us)
16. Without Jesus we could not get into heaven. Why? (because of our sin)
17. Why did we need Jesus to die in order for us to go to heaven? (pay for our sins)

18. Name one of the Gospels.
19. Name one of the Gospels.
20. Name one of the Gospels.
21. Name one of the Gospels.
22. Say John 13:35.
23. Why should we love? (because Jesus loved us first)
24. What did the good Samaritan do? (helped his enemy)
25. Why did Jesus tell the parable of the good Samaritan? (to teach us that we should love one another)



Letters From God

God's Word — Lesson 10

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that some of the books in the New Testament are actually letters. They will be familiar with the names and location of these books. They will realize the value of studying these books.

Text: Romans 15:4-19

Memory Verse: *"Whatsoever things were written . . . were written for our learning"* (Romans 15:4).

Materials Needed: Two letters addressed to the teacher — one an invitation and the other a get-well letter; fifteen small envelopes with the name of one of the Epistles written on each (Romans, I and II Corinthians; Galatians; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossians; I and II Thessalonians; I and II Timothy; Titus; Philemon; Hebrews; James; I and II Peter; I, II, and III John; and Jude); paper and pencils for the children to use to write a letter; envelopes with verses sealed inside them

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will listen to the lesson and use what they learn every day.

Lesson Approach: Diana ran down the driveway to the mailbox when she saw the mailman's truck. She hoped there would be a letter from Aunt Carolyn. Surely enough, when she opened the mailbox, there was a letter from Aunt Carolyn. Diana ran back to the house to tell Mother.

"Let's open it now; maybe she'll tell us about her new colt," Diana insisted.

Mother opened the letter and read it to Diana. Aunt Carolyn told all about the new colt. She

told how they had named it Buttermilk, because it had little white spots on its back. The spots made the colt look like someone had splattered milk on it. Aunt Carolyn told how Buttermilk could hardly stand on her wobbly legs at first, but now she was running through the pasture. Aunt Carolyn said that by next summer Diana could ride her. Diana was so excited. She loved to get letters from Aunt Carolyn.

All of us like to get letters. Have you ever received a letter? (Give the children time to discuss letters they have received and how much they like getting letters.) Here are a couple of letters I have received. (Open the envelopes and take out the letters.) This letter is from my friend. It says, "Dear _____ (fill in your name). I'm having a coffee Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m., so I can introduce my friends to my new neighbor. I would love for you to come."

I'm very happy about this letter, because I really like Mrs. Jones; I will enjoy going to her house.

"Here's a letter I got when I was sick: "Dear _____ (fill in your name). I'm so sorry to hear that you have not been feeling well. I am thinking of you and praying that you'll feel better very soon. If I can help you in any way, please call me."

I really like this letter, because it shows me how much my friend Jane really cares for me. Letters are important to us all. Do you know that there are many letters in the Bible? The letters in the Bible were written thousands of years ago, but they are such good and important letters that they have been kept safe for us in the Bible. Most of these letters were written by a special man who

gave his life to service to God. This man's name was Paul.

Paul went from city to city, teaching the people about Jesus. Paul took time to visit all the churches and teach them what Jesus wanted them to do. Many times Paul was put in prison for preaching about Jesus. Everytime Paul was put in prison, God prepared a way for him to use the time to tell all the prisoners and prison workers about Jesus. Paul had a physical problem, but God used him in a mighty way.

Paul became known as one of the most important leaders of the Christians. All the churches wanted him to come to their church and preach. Since he could not go to the churches as often as he wished, he wrote letters to them. In his letters he told the church members what God expected the churches to be like and to do. He also addressed some of his letters to all Christian people; in these letters he gave God's directions for Christian living.

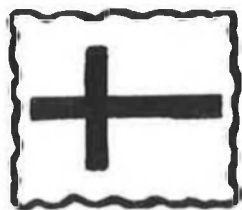
Paul would write news about what the other churches were doing, and this helped strengthen the churches and draw them closer together. God inspired Paul to write these letters, and the letters are just as meaningful to us today as they were when Paul wrote them.

Each letter that Paul wrote was given the name of the church or person to whom the letter was written. For example, the letter Paul wrote to the Romans is called Romans in the Bible. I have envelopes here with the names of each of the

letters Paul wrote written on them. As I hold up each envelope, see if you can say the name. (Practice on this until the children are familiar with the names of all the books.) Now let's turn in our Bibles and find these books. The books are in the New Testament, and they come after the Gospels. (Help each of the children locate the books in the Bible. Hold up an envelope and have the children see how fast they can locate that book.)

These letters still hold very important messages to us today. I have some envelopes here that are sealed. When I give you an envelope, I want you to open it, look up the verse that is written on the paper, and see what message God has for us. (Give each child at least one envelope to open. The children should be able to find the verse, but you may have to help them read the verse. After you help them read the verse, discuss with the children what the verse means. These are some verses that you can put in the envelopes: Romans 3:23; 5:8; 8:28; 10:13; 13:9; Ephesians 6:1; 6:2; Philippians 4:13; Colossians 3:20; I Thessalonians 5:17; 5:18; II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21; I John 4:4.

Additional Activities: Let the children write a letter to someone they love, thanking him for something the person has done for them. You will have to help them do this. If you have a chalkboard, write (print) an example on the board that they can copy.



Letters From God

The Bible Tells Us About the Future

God's Word — Lesson 11

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that Jesus is coming again and that He will take only the saved people with Him. The children will feel the urgency of being saved. They will know that the book of Revelation tells of the future.

Text: I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Memory Verse: *"Then we which are alive . . . shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord"* (I Thessalonians 4:17).

Materials Needed: This lesson could be visualized by cutting pieces of poster board in the shape of a rocket, then gluing appropriate pictures on the rockets for the different parts of the lesson. If the lesson is not visualized, you will need to find some pictures of rockets, space shuttle, spacemen, etc., to show as you teach the lesson. The memory verse should be visualized as shown on the art page.

Songs: "Countdown" and "Watch," *Growing Songs for Children*, Child Evangelism Fellowship Press (These songs can also be bought individually in visualized packets.)

Prayer: Pray with the children that we will all be ready when Jesus comes again.

Lesson Approach: Have you ever looked at the moon and thought about how far away it is? It is really a long, long way from us. It is so far away that if we could get in our car and drive to the moon without stopping, night and day, we wouldn't get there until _____ (pick some event six months from now that the children can relate to, such as a holiday or birthday). That is

really far away, isn't it? Did you know that some men from America have gotten in a spaceship, flown to the moon, and actually walked on the moon. That's really exciting, isn't it? Imagine — men walking around on the moon.

That was an important day for our country. Thousands of people crowded around the space center to watch the rocket take off. There were television people there with cameras so all the world could see the rocket launch on television. Millions of people watched their televisions and listened as the announcer counted down the time to the launch — ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, BLAST OFF. The big rocket engines roared so loudly that you could hardly stand to hear the sound. Flames and smoke rolled out of the engines as the big rocket went up, up, up, up — until you couldn't see it anymore. Everyone listened as the men in the rocket spoke over their radio and told all of us here on earth what their rocket ride was like.

It was thrilling when we watched on television as the men landed on the moon and later got out and walked on the moon. What an adventure! Just imagine what it was like. Think how powerful that rocket must have been to get those men up to the moon and back. But did you know that someone went up into space a long, long time before we had any rockets or planes or spaceships? This man didn't have a spaceship or space suit or plane or anything. He just suddenly went up into a cloud. Do you know who this man was? Yes, it was Jesus. Do you remember how this happened?

Jesus was killed on a cross by the cruel men who hated Him. They killed Him because He

told them He was the Son of God. They didn't believe Him, so they nailed Him to a cross. When He died, His friends took His body and put it in a tomb. The soldiers rolled a huge stone in the entrance so the tomb would be completely closed up. Then the soldiers stood guard. But three days later, Jesus arose and left the tomb. He was alive again. He went to His friends so they could see Him.

When they saw that Jesus was alive, they knew for sure that Jesus truly was God's Son, because only God had the power to make a person who had died live again. Jesus stayed on earth for forty days so He could tell His friends what they should do, but then it was time for Him to go back to heaven. He stood on a hillside with some of those friends. Suddenly He went up in a cloud and was gone from their sight. He didn't have a spaceship or space suit, but He went beyond where any of our spacemen have gone.

The Bible tells us that someday we are going to go on a space trip. The Bible says that one day Jesus is going to come back just like He left. Anyone who has been saved is going to go on this space trip with Jesus. Jesus will appear in the air, and we will actually see Him. He will gather His people to himself. First Thessalonians 4:17 tells us, *"Then we which are alive . . . shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."* The Bible tells us that all believers who have died are in heaven. Jesus will bring them with Him when He comes. Isn't it wonderful! We know exactly what is going to happen to us. If we are God's children, we will go to be with Jesus. We won't need a rocket; God will lift us right up with Him. We don't have to be afraid of dying, because God has promised us He will be with us and take us to heaven with Him. But only the people who have been saved will get to go on this trip. In fact, the Bible tells us that when we

are saved, our salvation is like a garment. (You will probably need to explain to the children the meaning of garment.) Our garment of salvation is the space suit we need to go on this trip with Jesus.

When all of us who are saved leave the earth with Jesus, the earth will not be a happy place in which to live. God tells us in the Bible exactly what is going to happen after He takes us. God tells us this in the book called Revelation. God had a man named John write this book. John was one of Jesus' special friends. John also wrote the Gospel According to John in which He tells how much God loves us.

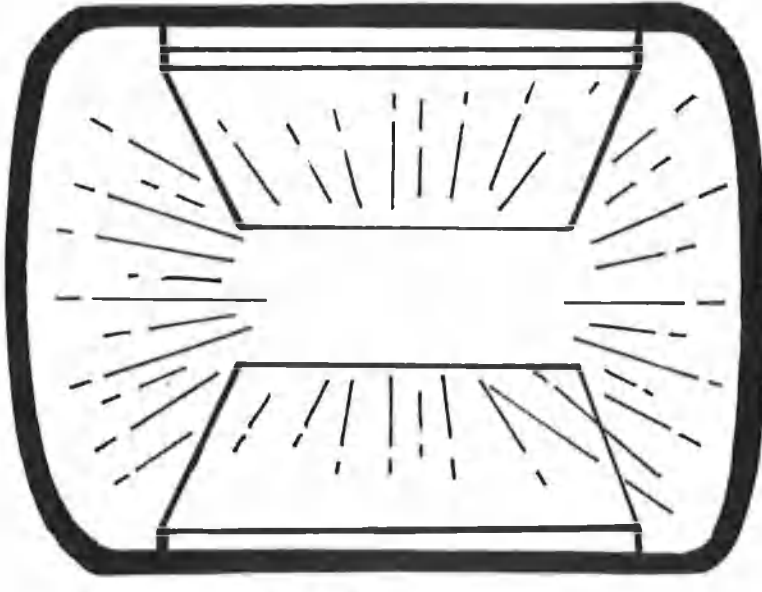
When John was a very old man, he was taken prisoner by evil men who didn't want him telling others about Jesus. He was sent to a little island to stay by himself. While John was on this island, God led him to write this last book of the Bible.

Revelation tells us of God's wonderful love for us, and it promises us that God will send Jesus back to take us with Him. The book of Revelation tells us how Jesus will one day come back to earth. The devil will try to stop Jesus, but Jesus will defeat him. Jesus will rule the world.

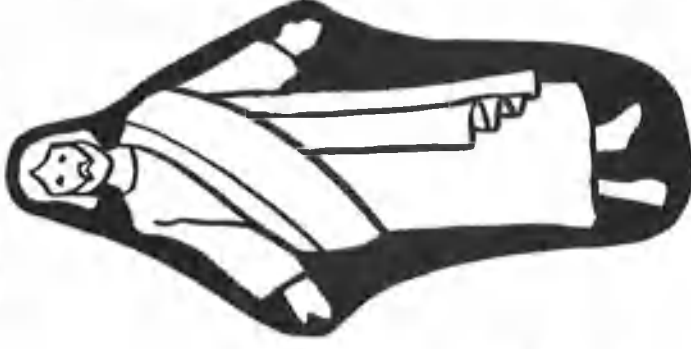
Let's take our Bibles and find the book of Revelation. Remember, it's the last book in the Bible. (Have the children look up the following verses and help them read them: Revelation 1:7; 3:20; and 22:12.)

Now let's look up I Thessalonians 4:17 that I read to you earlier. (Help them find the verse and read it. Then help them learn the verse. In learning the verse stress to them that they must be ready when Jesus comes, or they will be left behind. Have a color sheet for each child that has the verse visualized on it. Let them color this sheet and take it home. Ask them to get their parents to help them learn this verse this week.)

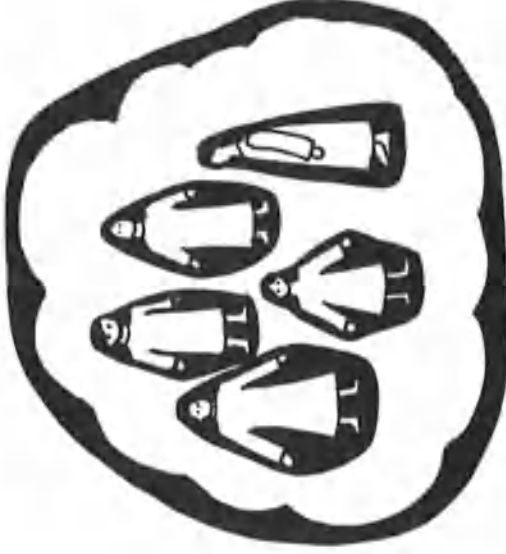
*and so shall we ever
be with the Lord”*



*to meet the
Lord in the air:*



*shall be caught up
together with them
in the clouds,*



*“Then we which
are alive . . .*



(I Thessalonians 4:17).

The Bible Is Our Guide

God's Word — Lesson 12

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will realize that the Bible is their guide for living. They will realize that they should know how to use their Bibles.

Text: Psalm 119:11-24

Memory Verse: *"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee"* (Psalm 119:11).

Materials Needed: The story will be more effective if you can find pictures to go along with it. You will need a compass and Bibles. Visualize the verse (suggestion included).

Song: "The Wonderful Word of God" *Growing Songs for Children*, Child Evangelism Fellowship Press

Prayer: Lead the children to pray that they will study the Bible and obey it.

Lesson Approach: The sun was shining so brightly through the window that it hurt David's eyes. It had snowed last night and the sunlight made the snow sparkle like a blanket of glass. David could hardly wait for Billy to get there so they could start rolling a big ball of snow for a snowman. David put on his big heavy coat and warm fuzzy gloves and hat.

When he walked outside, he took a big breath, then blew out as hard as he could so he could see the puffs of steam his warm breath made. He and Buff, his little cocker spaniel, ran through the snow to make trails. Buff's short legs sank down into the drifts. The cold, wet snow hit his little fat stomach, and he shivered and ran back inside. David lay down on his back in the snow and spread his arms wide. Then he waved his arms up and down to make a snow angel. He got

up and looked down at the print he had left in the snow. Surely enough, there was the shape of an angel in the snow.

Soon Billy came, and the two boys started rolling a big ball of snow around the yard. When it was as big as they wanted their snowman's body to be, they stopped and began rolling a smaller ball for the head. When this ball was just the right size, they placed it right on top of the larger ball. Billy had brought an old hat from his grandfather. When they had put some little rocks in the place of eyes, nose, and mouth and had put the hat on, they thought their snowman looked just right.

Billy said that he had seen some interesting tracks on the way over, so the boys ran out of the yard and down toward the little stream that flowed behind David's house. The tracks went farther and farther away from the yard; and before the boys realized it, a dark grey cloud had covered the sun. A fine mist of snow began to fall. The boys knew they could always follow the tracks back home, so they didn't mind going deeper into the woods.

The snow began to fall harder and harder. David and Billy could hardly see. Their clothes were getting wet, and they were really cold; so they found a dry spot in a rock wall underneath a big tree. They talked about school, and they talked about the things they were wanting for Christmas.

Finally, the snow stopped and the boys came out. They looked for the trail they had made, but the snow had covered all their tracks. They both looked around and tried to find a tree or anything that looked familiar, but they didn't

recognize anything at all. They were lost. It was getting colder and colder and darker and darker. What would they do? Just then Billy remembered something. He reached into his pocket and felt the cold metal against his fingers. It was the compass Granddad had given him. He took the compass out. Granddad had shown him how to turn the compass so that the mark for north lined up with the needle. Billy knew that the stream was east of his house, so he and David began walking back the opposite direction. They weren't sure they were going the right direction, because it was getting very hard to see; they depended on the compass and kept walking.

Soon they came to the little stream, and they could see the light in the windows of David's house. They were so happy, they started running. David's mother was worried. Dad was about to come looking for them. Mom and Dad were so glad that they had found the way home. David and Billy were so glad they had had the compass to guide them; and they were so happy that Granddad had shown them how to use the compass.

Isn't it wonderful, boys and girls, that we have things like compasses to help us find our way! I have a compass here for you to look at. (Show the compass to the boys and girls and show them how it works.) Captains on ships use compasses to tell directions when they are out on the ocean. Pilots also use compasses to help them know which way to fly. We certainly do need compasses to help us know which way to go. Otherwise, we would get lost.

Sometimes in our lives we don't know exactly what to do either, just like David and Billy. If we do the wrong things, we could get into a lot of trouble. Do you know that God has given us something like a compass to help guide us every day? Do you know what this is God has given us? Our compass for life is the Bible. God gave us the Bible to use as our guide every day. If we don't know how to use our Bible, or if we just don't use the Bible, we are probably going to get off the right road. We should read our Bibles every day.

We should know how to use our Bibles. We should know which books are in the Old

Testament and which books are in the New Testament. We should know where the books are located in the Bible so we can find them quickly and easily. God has commanded us to use the Bible as our guide. If we do not study the Bible and obey its commands, we are sinning. I want all of you to look up Psalm 119:11. Let's read this verse together. (Read the verse aloud as the children follow along. Discuss with them the meaning of the verse. Stress to them that God is telling us how important it is to know what the Bible says. Use the visualized pieces to help the children learn the verse. Give each child a color sheet with the visualized pieces and verse on it. Ask them to take the sheet home and ask their parents to help them learn the verse. Suggest to them that they say the verse every day to one of their parents.)

Additional Activities: Make a list of different situations that could get the children into trouble. Have the children look up a verse in the Bible that can guide them to do the right things. Situations can be like the following:

You are at the store with Mother. You see a whole shelf of little pieces of candy. No one would know if you took just one (Exodus 20:15).

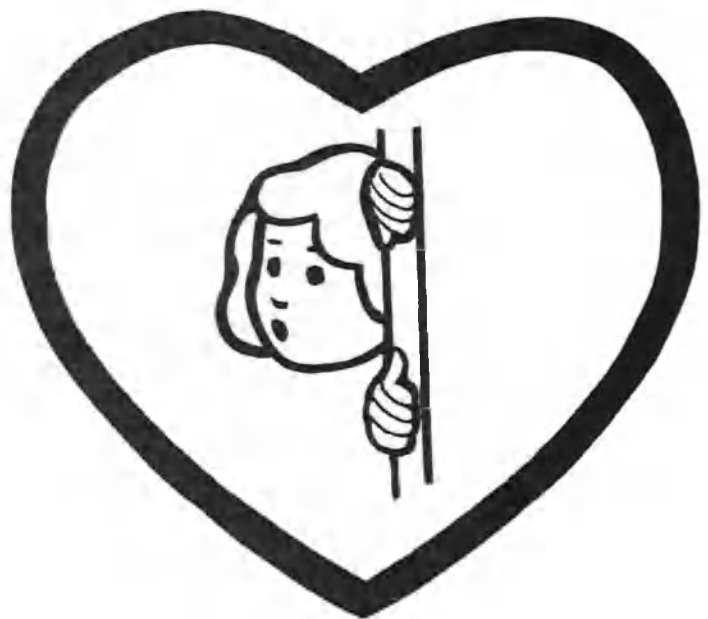
A mean neighbor tells you to get out of his yard (Genesis 26:19-22).

Your friend is cheating when you play a game (Luke 19:8-10).

A little girl that you know at school is very poor and doesn't have anything to eat for lunch (Acts 11:27-30).

Mother tells you to clean your room, but you want to watch television instead (Ephesians 6:1).

Art Page: Using the pattern, cut five heart shapes out of poster board. On the first heart put the picture of the Bible; on the back write "*Thy word.*" On the second heart put the picture of the child who is hiding; on the back write "*have I hid.*" On the third heart put the picture of the smaller heart; on the back write "*in mine heart.*" On the fourth heart write the word "SIN"; on the back write "*that I might not sin.*" On the fifth heart write the word "GOD"; on the back write "*against God.*" A color sheet shows the five hearts with the pictures or words on them.



Star Awards Review

God's Word — Star Awards Activity Number 4

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The teacher will determine if the children have learned what they should have to get their Star Awards for Lessons 10-12. If the children do not know some of the main points, the teacher will review these points and help the children learn them.

Memory Verses: *"Whatsoever things were written . . . were written for our learning" (Romans 15:4); "Then we which are alive . . . shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (I Thessalonians 4:17); "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11).*

Lesson Approach: Tonight is special, because it is the last night we will spend studying the lessons on the Bible. This is Star Awards night. I really hope you have learned a lot about the Bible in the past few weeks. I want you to understand that the Bible is very special and very important. God speaks to us through the Bible, and we must listen if we are to be what God wants us to be. The Bible is our guide in life. We must know how to use it, and we must study it. If you can't answer the questions I ask you tonight, I want you to learn the answers.

Tonight we are going to have a race. Each one of you will have a car of a different color. When it is your turn, I will ask you a question. If you can answer it, you get to move your car one space forward. If you can't answer the question, your car stays in place. (You can play this game two ways. Make a race track out of flannel; make the cars out of pelon. Color the pelon so the cars will be different colors. Put the flannel race track on

the board. The children can simply move their pelon cars on the flannel. Or, you can make the race track on poster board. This would probably be better if you have a small group.

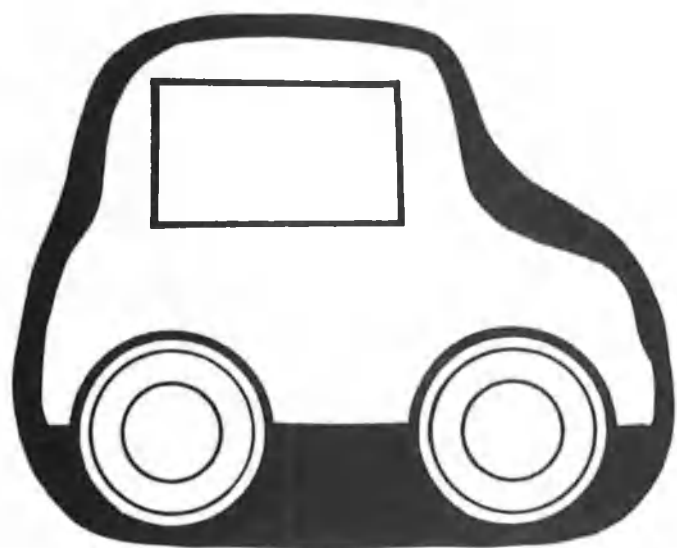
Keep the poster board flat on the table. Buy some little plastic cars, or make some little cars out of poster board.

The game works the same way. If the child can answer your question, he or she gets to move the car forward a space. If the child cannot answer the question, the car remains still. A pattern for the race track is on the page after the questions. When the game is over, the winner should get a larger reward; but all the children who answer a question should get a small reward. The questions to use are listed below.)

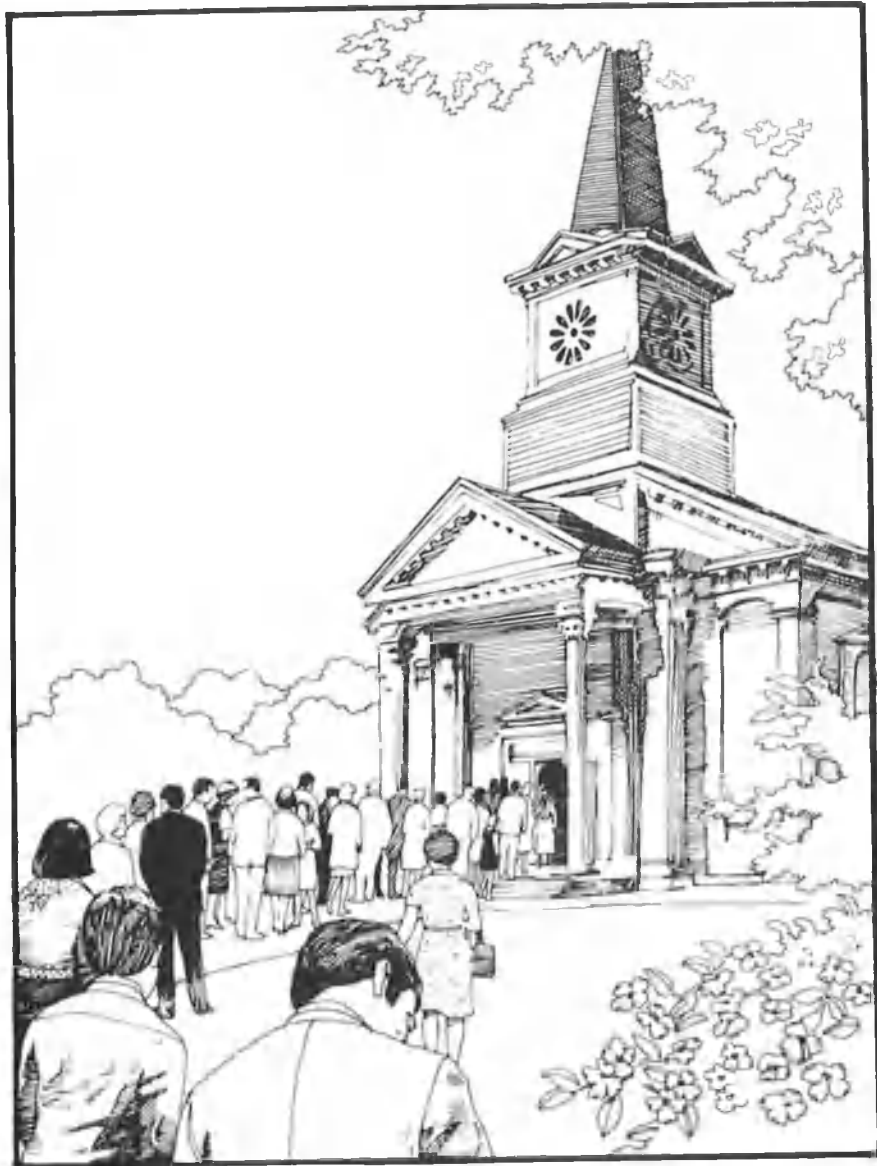
Star Award Questions on Lessons 10-12

1. Why is the Bible special? (It is God's Word.)
2. How did we get the Bible? (God gave it.)
3. How many books are in the Bible? (66)
4. What are the two main divisions of the Bible? (Old Testament and New Testament)
5. What are the first five books of the Bible called? (books of law)
6. What are the next twelve books of the Bible called? (books of history)
7. What does *psalm* mean? (song)
8. Who wrote most of the Psalms? (David)
9. What is a prophet? (God's messenger)
10. What are the four Gospels?
11. Whom do the Gospels tell about? (Jesus)
12. Why did Jesus come to earth? (to pay for our sins)

13. Why are there letters in the Bible? (They teach us how we should act today.)
14. Who wrote most of the letters in the New Testament? (Paul)
15. Where did the names of the books of letters come from? (the names of the people or churches to whom the letters were written)
16. Say I Thessalonians 4:17.
17. What is the last book in the Bible? (Revelation)
18. Who wrote Revelation? (John)
19. What does Revelation tell about? (the future)
20. For what should Christians be ready? (Jesus to come again)
21. When Jesus comes, what will He do? (take the saved people up in the air with Him)
22. When Jesus comes again, what will happen to the people who are not saved? (They will be left.)
23. How is the Bible like a compass? (It guides us.)
24. Say Psalm 119:11.



God's Workers



God Gave the Church

God's Workers — Lesson 1

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know what the church is. The children will know that Jesus started the first church. The children will know why Jesus started the church.

Text: I Peter 2:5; Matthew 4:18-22

Memory Verse: *"He saith unto them, Follow me"* (Matthew 4:19).

Materials Needed: Using the pattern from the visual packet, cut out nine pieces of poster board in the shape of a church building. On the front of piece 1 glue the picture of a church building made of stones. (Each stone has a face on it to emphasize that people are the stones that make up the church.) On piece 2 glue a typical street scene of Bible times. On piece 3 glue the picture of John the Baptist preaching. On piece 4 put the picture of Jesus and some children. On piece 5 put the picture of Jesus standing on the shore calling to Andrew and Peter in a boat. On piece 6 put the picture of Jesus on the shore and James and John in a boat. On piece 7 put the picture of Jesus and the apostles. On piece 8 put the picture of the apostles talking to other people. On piece 9 put the picture of modern-day people talking with others about Jesus.

Songs: "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me"; "Good News"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for Jesus and the church.

Lesson Approach: (Try to tell this incident in such a way to get the children's attention.) Last week I read about a terrible thing in the newspaper. The people in a town in Oklahoma heard an announcement on television and radio

that a tornado had been sighted coming toward their town. Everyone hurried to take cover. The sky was very dark, and the clouds were whirling overhead. Some people had storm cellars to go to, and others took shelter wherever they could. Suddenly, the people heard a roaring sound; the sound grew louder and louder, until it sounded like a train coming right down the street. The buildings began to shake, and windows began bursting. The wind actually pulled the roofs off the houses. Pieces of wood and bricks were flying through the air.

When the wind stopped and the storm had passed, the people came out to look at their houses and stores. Some people were hurt and had to be taken to hospitals in nearby towns. Nearly the whole town was destroyed. Most of the people's houses and stores were torn down. As soon as things calmed, the pastor drove over to the church building. The church was completely blown away.

Isn't this terrible, boys and girls? Their church was gone. Wouldn't it be awful if that happened to our church! I guess there just wouldn't be a (fill in the name of your church). I wonder what we would do? What do you think we'd do? (Let children make suggestions.) I guess we could still have Sunday School, Training Service, church, Sunbeams, and all our other meetings. We could meet somewhere else — maybe a school — until we could build another building. And even though we wouldn't have our beautiful building, we'd still have our pastor; we would still be able to meet together. We'd still be members of (fill in your church name). Really, our church wouldn't be destroyed at all. Our church isn't this

building; our church is made up of us — the people.

Jesus tells us that very thing in the Bible. In I Peter 2:5, Peter calls us “lively stones” and tells us that we are the stones that make a church. The church is the people who have been saved, baptized, and joined together to follow Jesus. (Hold up picture 1.) In fact, the first church didn’t have a church building. The first church was a group of people — just like us.

Do you know where the first church was and who the members were? (Encourage response.) The first church was begun by Jesus himself when He was here on earth. There had been a special place the people could go to for worship. This place was called the temple. It was a very beautiful building with beautiful walls and furnishings, but it was not a church. The temple was a building — not a church. Jesus started the first church.

(If you have a small group of well-behaved children, they would probably benefit by acting out the story as you tell it.) I want you to pretend you’re living many, many years ago. You live in a little house. The walls are made of dried mud, and the floor is dirt. On one wall there is a brick oven where Mother takes the sticks you’ve gathered and builds a fire to keep the little house warm and to cook.

You get up off your straw mat when the sun rises. If you want to wash your face, you go to the pot of water by the oven and splash some water on your face. There’s no bathroom, no refrigerator, no television, no radio, no air conditioning. Your mother will cook some bread for breakfast. You might have some fruit and some milk, if your family has a goat to milk. You’ll spend most of your day helping with the family chores. If you have time, you can play with the other children who live by you. You can probably make up a game with some rocks or sticks. There aren’t any books, so you can’t read or color. You can draw in the dirt with a stick.

One night Father comes home, and he’s very excited. He has heard news of a man who is staying out in the desert. The man is strange looking. His clothes are made of animal skins. He lives out in the desert and eats what he can find —

like wild berries and honey. (Hold up picture 2.) This man is telling some strange things. He says that God is going to send someone to us who is going to be our Savior and King. Many people are going out to hear this man named John the Baptist, so you go too. You hear him telling about a man who is coming to save the world. That night you wonder who this man is.

A few weeks later, Father comes home and tells about a man who is doing wonderful things, like making sick people well. Everyone is so excited. One day your family hears that this man is coming to your little village, so you all go out to see Him. You and some of your friends run to Him, and He pulls you close and tells you He loves you. (Hold up picture 3.) He tells you how to be good and do what is right. He tells you to love other people and be kind to them. And then He tells you the most wonderful news you’ve ever heard. He tells you that He is God’s Son, and He has come to save you. He says that if you trust in Him as the Son of God, you will go to heaven to be with Him when you die. You believe Him and ask Him to forgive you for all your sins. You trust Him to be your Savior and King. Then He tells you a sad thing. He says that He will soon die, but He will come back to life again so He can go to heaven and prepare a place for you.

When you go home, you are very tired; but you are so happy because you know Jesus. You want all your friends to know, so they can go to heaven too.

Later you hear that Jesus has been killed just as He said He would be. Then you hear how He came to life again. You aren’t too sad, because you know that Jesus is in heaven, and that when you die you will go to heaven to be with Him. Suddenly you think of something. Grandfather lives in a town far, far away, and you hardly ever get to see him. How is he going to know about Jesus so that he can go to heaven too? Who’s going to tell all the other people about Jesus; how will they know?

You know, boys and girls, this is really what happened. Jesus really did come to earth and die for us; and we really can go to heaven to be with Him when we die, if we receive Him as our

Savior. But think, what if no one ever told us about Jesus? How could we go to heaven? Jesus loves us all, and He wants to be sure that everyone has an opportunity to know about Him. He planned a special way for everyone in all times to learn about Him — He started the church. It is the church that tells all the world about Jesus.

One day Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, when He saw two men fishing. (Hold up picture 5.) Jesus called to these two men, Peter and Andrew, and asked them to come with Him to help Him. He told them He was going to make them fishers of men. They left their boats and followed Him.

(Hold up picture 6.) Then Jesus saw James and John in their boat. Jesus asked them to come help, too. Jesus asked twelve men to be His special helpers. These men were called the apostles, or disciples. While Jesus was on earth preaching and telling the people that He was God's Son, these apostles traveled with Him. They saw Him heal the sick and raise the dead. They heard Him teach, so they knew all about Him. They were the first members of the church.

Before Jesus went back into heaven, He gave His church a very special job. He gave His church the responsibility for telling the rest of the

people in the whole world about Jesus. The apostles and all their followers began going about and telling everyone about Jesus. They didn't have a church building. Sometimes they met in people's homes. Later, when Satan tried to destroy the church, the people met secretly in caves or wherever they could; but they still obeyed Jesus and went out to tell the Good News about Jesus.

Jesus started the first church so that the church people could tell everyone else about Him. Since that time, the church has continued to tell others about Jesus. If there were no churches, we might not even know about Jesus. Let's thank Jesus every day that He gave us the church.

Additional Activities: Let the children color the color sheet. As they are coloring, discuss the first church and who started it and why. Try to instill in them an attitude of thanksgiving for the church.

Art Page: Copy the picture for the children to color. The sheet is divided into two parts. On one part there is a picture of Bible-time people telling others about Jesus; on the other part there is a picture of modern-day people telling others about Jesus. Across the top of the page are the words, "THE CHURCH TELLS."

THE CHURCH TELLS



The Church Is Built on Jesus

God's Workers — Lesson 2

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that (1) Jesus is the one who began the church, and (2) the church is built on Jesus. They will understand and be able to say Matthew 16:18.

Text: Matthew 16:13-18; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:19, 20; I Corinthians 3:11

Memory Verse: *"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:18).

Materials Needed: Wooden blocks of different sizes; a large, flat rock with Matthew 16:16 (the entire verse) painted on one side; visualized pictures for memory verse — picture 1 is a picture of a large rock; picture 2 is people building; picture 3 is a picture of a church; picture 4 is a picture of gates with flames around the gates; picture 5 is a picture of the same gates as 4, except there is a picture of a church superimposed over the gates; a puzzle of a church (pattern on art page)

Songs: "Built on the Rock"; "I'm on the Rock"; "Building Every Day"

Prayer: Lead the children to pray for the church and ask God to always help the church to follow Jesus' will.

Lesson Approach: (Begin this lesson by reviewing the previous lesson. Your review will be much more effective if you bring back your visuals used last week. As you hold up each picture, see if the children can tell the story. Be sure in your review that you emphasize [1] that the church is the people who have been saved, baptized, and joined together to serve Jesus, [2] Jesus started the first church when He called the

apostles, and [3] Jesus made the church so that there would always be people to tell about Him.)

Have any of you ever watched the workmen building a house? Did you notice what they did first? Let's try to build some houses out of these blocks. (Give each child some different sized blocks, and let each one build a house.) That looks like fun. I think I'll try to build one. (Put a very small block on the bottom and try to stack larger blocks on the small one. Do this in such a way that the house falls down.)

Boys and girls, my house won't stand up; it keeps falling down. You're going to have to help me. (Allow some of the children to make suggestions. If no child comes up with the idea of putting the larger block on bottom, you can casually try putting the big block on bottom and the smaller blocks on top. When you do this, and the house doesn't fall, act as if you've made a great discovery.) Look, boys and girls, when I put the big block down first, then I can stack up the small blocks on top, and my house doesn't fall. I guess you have to have a big, strong block on bottom to make a house of blocks.

Come to think of it, that's what the workmen do when they build a house. First, they smooth off the ground. Sometimes they bring in a dump truck full of gravel and smooth it out on the ground. Then a big truck with cement comes in and pours out the cement. When the cement dries, the workmen come in and build the walls of the house on the cement block. This slab of cement is called the foundation of the house. You have to have a foundation before you can build any kind of building.

Our church building surely does have to have a

good foundation, doesn't it? But our church has a foundation, too. Jesus is the foundation of the church. The church is built upon Him. We're not talking about Jesus' human body being the foundation when we say the church is built upon Jesus; we mean that Jesus is the leader of the church. Everything the church does should be done the way Jesus wants it done.

Let's look at what God says to us about this. In Ephesians God tells us that Jesus is the chief stone of the church. In Colossians God tells us that Jesus is the head of the church. In I Corinthians God tells us that Jesus is the foundation. There's another verse in the Bible that tells us that the church is built upon Jesus. It is very important that you remember that all we do should be done Jesus' way, so I want you to learn this verse. The verse is found in the book of Matthew. Listen as I read it to you. *"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:18).

Now, let's think about what this verse means. In the first part of the verse God tells us that He is going to build the church on a rock. God wasn't talking about a real rock like this one. (Point to the rock that you have.) Many people who lived when Jesus was alive did not know who Jesus was.

One time Jesus and His disciples went on a trip. While they were walking, Jesus asked them, "Who do the people think I am?" One disciple said, "They think You are John the Baptist." Another disciple said, "They think You are one of the Old Testament prophets who has come back to life." Jesus then asked the disciples, "Who do you think I am?"

What do you think the answer is, boys and girls? Who is Jesus? (Be sure all children know that Jesus is God's Son.) I'm glad you know the answer to Jesus' question. One of the disciples named Peter knew the answer, too. He said to Jesus, *"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God"* (Matthew 16:16). Jesus was very glad that Peter knew the answer, because this is what Jesus wanted the church to tell all the people of the world. The only way we can be one of God's

children is to believe that Jesus is God's Son and that He can save us. The church is to teach everyone this. Jesus was so pleased with Peter that He told him he was specially blessed. Then Jesus told him, *"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."*

Now let's look at this rock I have. There is something written on it. (Turn the rock over, so that the writing shows.) Can you read this? Whom is this verse talking about? When Jesus said these words to Peter, the rock Jesus spoke of was not a real rock like this one. The rock is a symbol for Jesus, God's Son. So, the church is built upon Jesus. He started the first church, and the reason that we have a church is to tell people about Jesus and what He teaches us in the Bible.

The last part of this verse is a promise God has made. He has promised that nothing will ever destroy the church — not even the devil himself. There will always be a group of people who will go out and tell others about Jesus and how they can go to heaven.

I have some pictures that may help you learn this verse. (Hold up picture 1.) When you see this picture remember that the verse says, *"Upon this rock."* (Hold up picture 2.) When you see this picture remember, *"I will build."* (Hold up picture 3.) When you see this picture remember, *"My church."* (Go through these pictures several times until the children identify the words from the verse with the pictures. Then hold up picture 4.) When you see this picture remember that the verse says, *"And the gates of hell."* (Hold up picture 5.) This picture reminds us that the gates of hell *"shall not prevail against it."* (Practice holding up the pictures until the children are very familiar with the verse. Then let the children take turns saying the verse.)

Additional Activities: Make copies of the puzzle sheet for all the children. Let them color them and cut out the pieces and glue them in the proper place on a sheet of construction paper. If the children are not very advanced, you may need to have the pieces cut out ahead of time.



The Church Follows Jesus

God's Workers — Lesson 3

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will understand and be able to say Matthew 16:18. They will know that the church was started by Jesus, and that the church must always follow the will of Jesus.

Text: Matthew 7:24-27

Memory Verse: *"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:18).

Materials Needed: A large flat rock, a small box of sand, flannelgraph pieces that can be used to visualize the story of the wise man and foolish man

Songs: "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"; "Little Builders"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, thanking God for sending Jesus and giving us the church, and asking God to always help us to follow Jesus' will in the church.

Lesson Approach: (Begin the lesson by reviewing the previous lesson. Remember that children at this age learn through repetition. You only see them once a week, and they have six other days of being bombarded with other information. This repetition is necessary for the children to really learn the lessons you are teaching them, so don't be discouraged if they do not remember what you told them last week. Keep repeating the major concepts that you are teaching them.)

Last week we learned a verse from the book of Matthew. This verse tells us about the church. Let's see if you remember the verse. (If you visualized the verse, use the pictures to review.) The first part of the verse tells us what the church is built on. What is the church built on? (Allow

response.) That's right. The church is built on a rock. Who is this rock? (Lead children to answer that the rock is Jesus.) What did God promise the church that is built upon Jesus? He promised that nothing would ever destroy the church. Let's say this verse together. *"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:18). (Practice saying the verse together until some of the children are ready to say the verse alone. Let them take turns saying the verse.)

In the last lesson I explained to you what "building the church on Jesus" means. Do you remember? This means that everything the church does is done the way Jesus meant for it to be done. We try very hard to study the Bible and do everything in our church the same way Jesus and the people of the first church did. We believe the same way, and we teach the same things. We build our church on Jesus; He is our foundation. Do you remember what a foundation is? (Allow response, and lead the children to recall that the foundation is the base upon which something is built.) Listen to what God tells us in the Bible about foundations.

(This lesson will be much more effective if you use flannelgraph pieces to visualize this story.)

In the Bible Jesus tells us about two men who were going to build houses. I imagine that they were very excited, as we all would be, when they started to build their houses. They probably looked all around the area, deciding where they should build. I imagine they thought and planned for a long time about how they were going to build their houses. (If any of the children have recently moved into a new house,

allowing them to discuss their move at this point would be an excellent way to make the story more real.)

Finally, the two men made their choices. One man chose a beautiful place. There were trees nearby to give a pleasant shade in the summer-time, and there was a nice place to plant a garden. The man built his house. He moved in and was very happy.

Then one day the sky began growing dark. Storm clouds moved in; the lightning flashed, and the thunder rumbled. The rain began. It rained and rained. The man felt very cozy in his nice house. The fire was warm, and it was nice and dry. Then he heard a strange pop and a cracking sound. Right before his eyes he saw the walls begin to split. He ran outside just in time to see his beautiful house crumble.

After the rain was over, he went to find out what had happened to his house. Even though the man made everything look beautiful on top, he didn't take time to check his foundation. When he looked under his house, there was nothing but sand. He had built his house on sand. There was not a good foundation, so the rain washed his house away.

The other man also chose a beautiful place for his house; but before he built his house, he checked to make sure that he was making a wise choice. He dug down into the ground to be sure that he could have a good foundation. He found a strong rock and built his house on it. His foundation was strong; and when those same rains came and pounded down on his house, it continued to stand.

We are just like the men in the story. If we build our church on Jesus, the Rock, our church will always stand. (As you say this, pick up the rock and show the boys and girls how strong it is.) We should be just like the wise man in the story. We should check out everything we do in our church to make sure it is what Jesus would want. If we obey Jesus and follow Him, our church will stand strong. However, if we run our church the way men want to, instead of the way Jesus wants to, our church will not be pleasing to God. Our foundation will be just like this sand. (Put the box of sand on the table. Try to

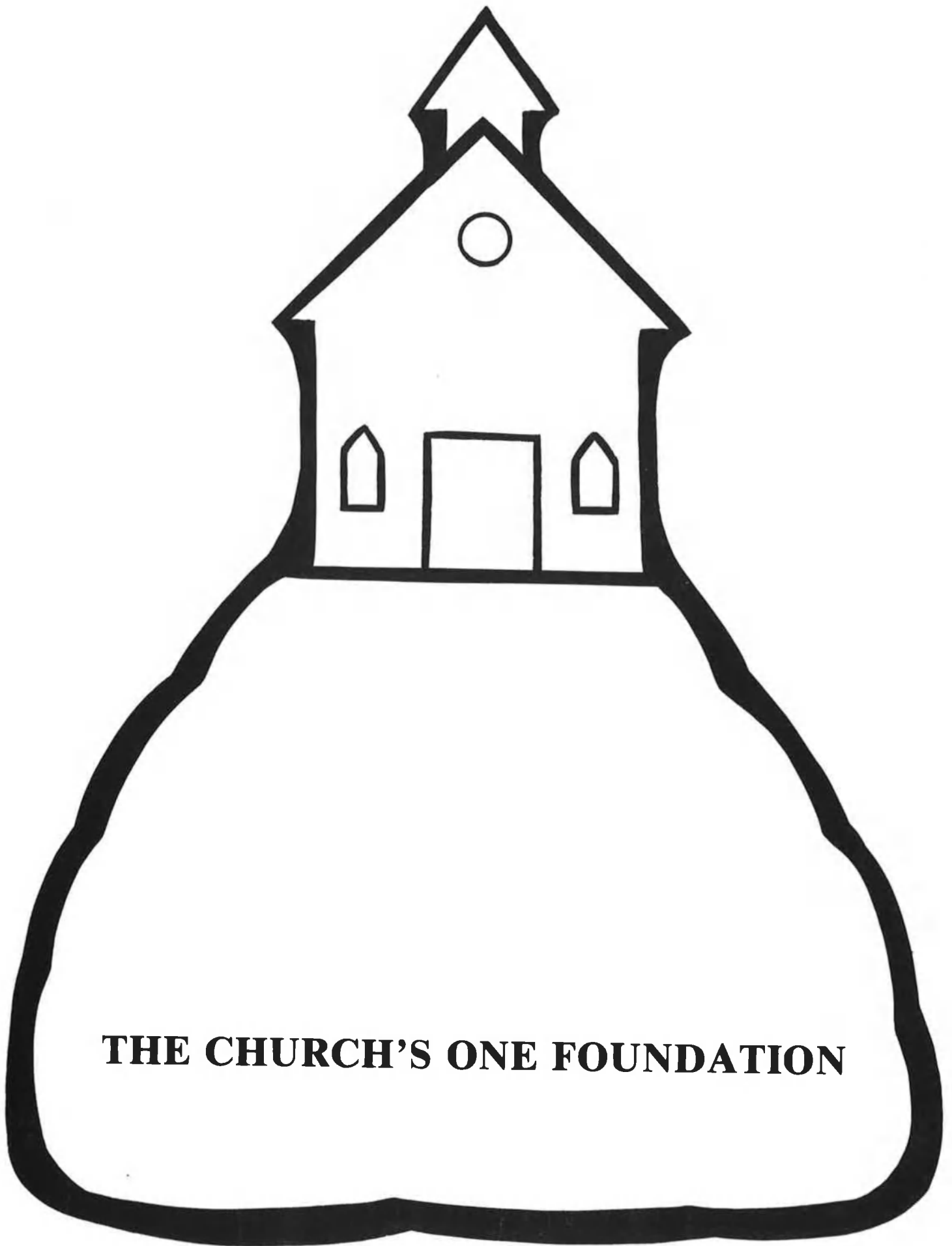
shape some of the sand into a square to form a foundation. Point out to the children how the sand is soft and changes shape. It does not stay the same. It would not make a strong foundation.) We must always work very hard to make sure that whatever we do as a church is done Jesus' way. We must make sure that we study the Bible very carefully and try to make our church just the way Jesus wants it to be. If we do this, our church will be built on Jesus, the strongest foundation there is.

Let's all join together and sing a song that will help you remember this lesson. (Lead the children in singing "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man." Sing the first two verses as they are written, but add a third verse with these words:

So build your church
(*Fist over fist in building motion*)
On the Lord Jesus Christ.
(*Raise one arm and point toward heaven.*)
(Repeat the lines above three times.)
And the blessings will come down.
(*Let hands come down.*)

Chorus:
The blessings come down
(*Let hands come down.*)
As the prayers go up;
(*Raise hands.*)
The blessings come down
(*Let hands come down.*)
As the prayers go up;
(*Raise hands.*)
The blessings come down
(*Let hands come down.*)
As the prayers go up,
(*Raise hands.*)
So build on the Lord Jesus Christ.
(*Put hands in praying position.*)

Additional Activities: Copy the color sheet with an illustration of a church standing firm on a rock. On the rock are the words, "The Church's One Foundation." Let the children color the sheet. As they color, lead them in a discussion of the lesson. You can ask review questions and see who can say the memory verse.



Star Awards Review

God's Workers — Star Awards Activity Number 1

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will be able to see how well they are listening to and learning from lessons 1-3. They will be encouraged to listen better and learn more.

Text: I Peter 2:5; Matthew 4:18-22; Matthew 16:13-18; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:20; I Corinthians 3:11; Matthew 7:24-27

Memory Verses: *"He saith unto them, Follow me" (Matthew 4:19); "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18).*

Materials Needed: A large fish bowl, box, or any other container you can fix to look like an aquarium; fish cut out of different colors of construction paper with a paper clip on the mouth and one of the review questions printed on the back (You may need to use some of the questions more than once in order to have plenty of fish.); a short stick (to use as a fishing pole) with a line attached; a magnet (that is strong enough to pick up a paper clip) attached to the end of the line; a large construction paper fish for each child (pattern at the end of this lesson). (Glue a wrapped piece of candy on one side and write the words "Fishers of Men" below the candy. The candy should be different sizes so you can give the winner a larger piece of candy than the others.)

Songs: "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me"; "Good News"; "Little Builders"; "The Wise Man and the Foolish Man"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for the church and Jesus. At the end of the lesson lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them to learn more about Him and the church.

Lesson Approach: Tonight is an exciting night. I want us to see how much you have learned from the first three lessons. Think back now. These lessons were all about the church. In the first lesson we talked about Jesus' starting the church. In the other two lessons we talked about how the church is built on Jesus.

When Jesus started the church by calling out His special helpers, the apostles, He told them something that at first sounds a little strange. He told them that if they left their boats and followed Him and helped Him, He would make them fishers of men. He would teach them and help them to tell other people about Him so that they could become children of God and one day live in heaven.

Tonight we're going to do some fishing. I have a little fishing pole, and I have a bowl with a lot of little fish in it. The line of my pole has a magnet on it, and the little fish in the bowl have paper clips on their noses. You can catch a little fish if you let the magnet on your line touch the paper clip on the fish. Then, all you have to do is pull the little fish out. However, in order to keep the fish you have to answer the question that is printed on him. The one who has the most fish when time is up will get a little reward. Let's begin our fishing trip now.

(Let the first child take the pole and put the line in the bowl to get a fish. If the child can answer the question on the fish, he gets to keep the fish. Continue taking turns around the table until it is nearly time for your lesson to be over. Let the children count their fish. Give the one with the most fish a large construction paper fish with the candy on it. This child's piece of candy

should be bigger than the other children's. Then give all the other children a large fish with candy on it, and have them return the small fish to the bowl for use later. The purpose of this game is not to foster competition — it is to encourage the children to try to learn what you are teaching them. If you have children who are slower learners, you may need to prompt them some on their questions. Be sure that no child is ridiculed or made fun of because he misses a question. Stress to the children when you give them the candy that they are not to learn God's words just to get a reward; they should try very hard to learn God's words so that they will know what to do to please God.)

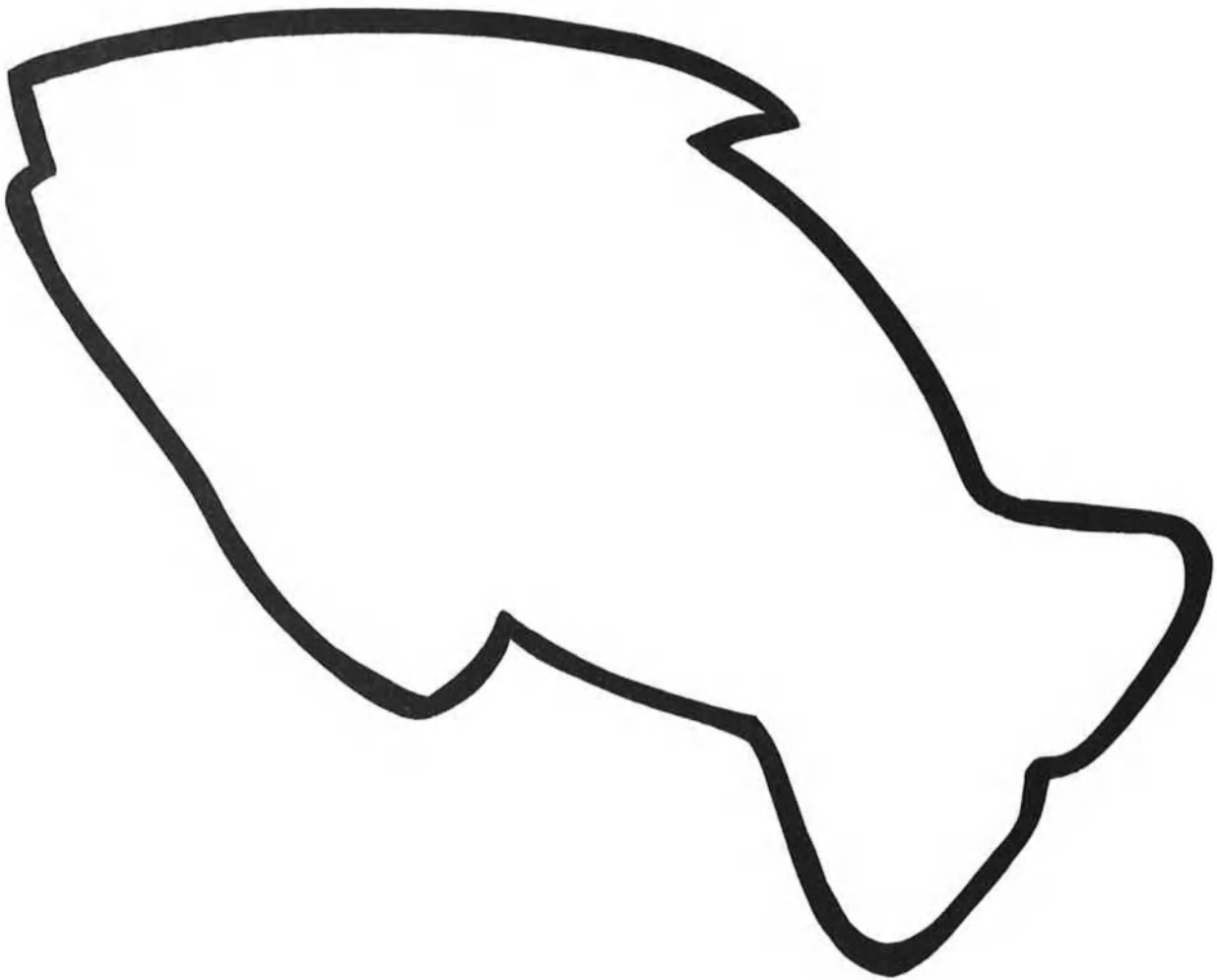
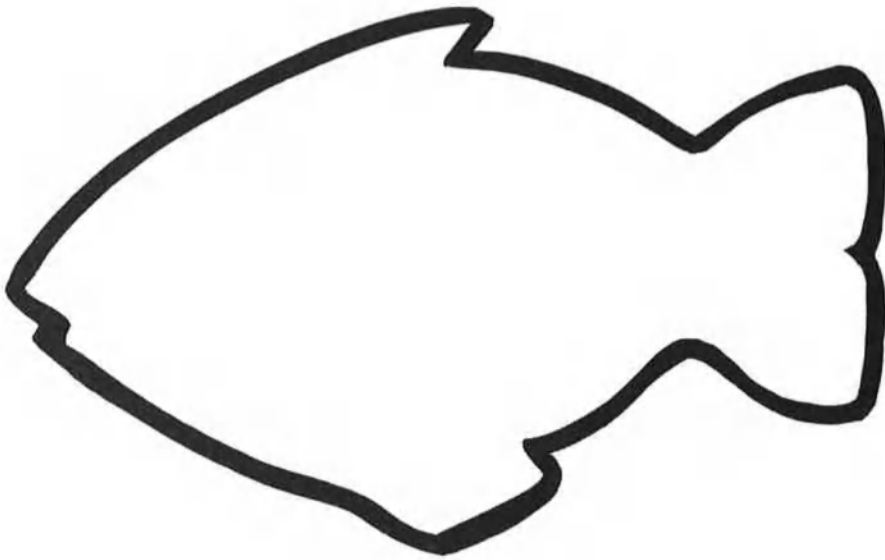
At the end of the lesson close with prayer.

Star Awards Questions — Lessons 1-3

1. What is a church?
2. When Jesus talked about lively stones, what was He talking about?
3. Who started the church?
4. Who were the first church members?
5. What kind of building did the first church have?
6. What is the purpose of the church? (to tell about Jesus)
7. Say Matthew 16:18.

8. What is a foundation?
9. Who is the foundation of the church?
10. When Jesus said, "*Upon this rock*," what rock was He talking about?
11. Who is Jesus?
12. What did Jesus promise would happen to the church? (It will last forever.)
13. What happened to the foolish man's house?
14. What happened to the wise man's house?
15. Why did the foolish man's house fall down?
16. Why did the wise man's house stand firm?
17. How can the church please Jesus? (by following Jesus' will)
18. Explain what Matthew 16:18 means.
19. If our church building burned, would we still have a church?
20. What did John the Baptist do?

Comment to the Teacher: This lesson is to be used as an evaluation tool — something like a test. The list of questions for the review covers the first three lessons. You can determine how well the children are learning by their ability to answer the questions. You should use the results of this questioning to evaluate the effectiveness of the lessons. If the children are not retaining as much as you think they should, you can adjust your lessons accordingly. You can simplify the lessons; or if needed, enrich the lessons to make them more challenging.



Becoming a Church Member

God's Workers — Lesson 4

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know how to be saved. They will know the difference in being saved and joining the church. They will understand and be able to say John 3:16.

Text: Romans 3:23; Psalm 89:32; Matthew 5:48; Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 1:1, 14; John 3:16; John 6:47; I John 5:13

Memory Verse: *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16).

Materials Needed: Cut out eight pieces of poster board in the shape of a lamb. Glue or draw the following pictures on the pieces — 1, a white, wooly lamb; 2, some lambs in a pasture; 3, a farmer putting out hay; 4, flames and smoke; 5, a deep canyon with steep walls on each side (Put flames and smoke on one side and a lush pasture on the other.); 6, a helicopter; 7, the same canyon, except with the word *hell* on one side, *heaven* on the other side, and *sin* in the middle; 8, a cross and John 3:16

Songs: "Jesus Loves Me"; "For God So Loved the World"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer that God will help you teach the lesson, and God will help them understand.

Lesson Approach: (Teacher, this is the most important lesson you will ever teach. Well in advance of the day of the lesson pray earnestly and study the scriptures listed in the text. Be sure you have an understanding of the plan of salvation. If you have questions, seek help from your pastor. Be careful in presenting the lesson so that

you don't scare the children into a superficial profession of faith or persuade them to make a false commitment. At this age, you could probably persuade any of the children to make such a commitment, if you pushed hard enough; but if the experience were not real, the child might have even greater difficulties later on. God will lead you to know how to present the lesson if you pray and follow His leadership. We can't choose the time for another person to be saved. Let the Holy Spirit lead. All we can do is plant the seed.)

For the last few weeks we've been learning about our church. I've really enjoyed learning how Jesus started the church when He was here on earth, and how He called out the disciples to follow Him. I'm so thankful that our church is built on Jesus, and it will last forever. I love Matthew 16:18. Can you say it with me? (Say the verse with the children.) Tonight I want to tell you how you can become a member of the church.

Have any of you boys and girls already joined the church? (If any have, take the time to let them tell about their experience. If you think it would help, you may want to tell about your salvation experience and joining the church.) I want to help you understand how you can become a member of the church; but before we can even talk about that, I have to tell you about something special that has to happen to you before you think about joining a church. This special experience is called *salvation* or *being saved*. I know you have heard about this many times before, but maybe I can help you see it a little better. There's a story about a little lamb that helps us to understand what being saved is.

There was a little white, wooly lamb named Puff. (Hold up picture 1.) Puff lived on a big farm with all his family. The farm was so beautiful. There were big pastures with delicious green grass. (Show picture 2.) When Puff ran through the pasture, his little hooves buried up in the lush grass. In the summer, when the sun was shining and it was warm, Puff and the other lambs ran through the pasture playing chase. When they were thirsty, they ran down to the little stream by the grove of willow trees and drank the cool water. They would lie down in the shade and sleep so peacefully.

(Show picture 3.) When winter came, they didn't have to worry. Their nice wooly coats kept them warm, and Farmer Jones brought big, round bales of hay for them to eat. Even when it was very, very cold, they stayed close to the barn, and their fleecy coats kept them warm. Puff was so happy; everything was just perfect, until late one fall afternoon. All the sheep were in the pasture grazing when they began to smell the faint odor of smoke.

(Show picture 4.) The big ram raised his head and searched the sky for signs of fire. Surely enough, he could see the fire burning in the pine forest. The fire was coming right toward them. He bleated a warning to the flock, and all the sheep began running. They ran as fast as they could, but the fire was catching up with them. They could feel the heat, and the smoke was burning their eyes and noses. Suddenly the ram and several of the sheep at the front disappeared. Before they could stop, they had come to the edge of a big cliff and had run off.

(Show picture 5.) The other sheep stood at the edge of the cliff. What could they do? It was much too far to be able to jump across the canyon to the other side. If they jumped, they would fall to their deaths. The fire was coming closer and closer. Puff cried for his mother, but there was nothing she could do. There was no way they could save themselves. They were sure to die. Then they heard a roar overhead, and a gust of wind almost knocked them down.

(Show picture 6.) Up in the air was a helicopter, and there was Farmer Jones riding in the helicopter. Farmer Jones and a soldier

lowered a line. Another soldier was in a little carrier at the end of the line. The soldier got out, picked up a lamb, and put it in the carrier. Then the helicopter lifted the lamb and took it across the canyon to the other side. The helicopter flew back and forth across the canyon until all the sheep were safe on the other side.

Boys and girls, we are all just like Puff. Until we are saved, we are standing on the edge of a canyon with a fire rushing toward us. There is nothing we can do to get to the other side. Our families can't get us across. When the time comes that we must die, we will go to hell. Heaven is just across the canyon, but we can't get there. We can't get there because of the deep canyon that separates us from God. The canyon is our sin. You see, God cannot allow sin to come into heaven.

You may think that you don't have any sin in your life, but we are all sinners (Romans 3:23). No matter how good we try to be, we still sin. Maybe we tell a lie, or disobey our parents, or treat someone cruelly at school. We may get angry and hit someone or be jealous or want to hurt someone. These are all sins. We do these bad things because we are sinners.

What do we do to get rid of this sin? We can't do anything, but someone else did something for us long, long ago. He said, "I will take all the sins, and I will take all the punishment for them." Jesus did this for us. You probably already know this verse, but I want you to listen to me say John 3:16. Repeat this verse with me. If any of you don't know the verse, let's learn it. When Jesus died on the cross, He was taking the punishment for our sins. If we ask Jesus to take away our sins and forgive us, and we trust Him to do so, He has promised He will save us. This is the special experience called *being saved*.

It is very important that you understand that you don't just pick a time and decide this is when you're going to be saved. There's no certain age that you have to be to be saved. Sometimes boys and girls your age are saved, and some people aren't saved until they are much older. You don't just decide you're old enough to be saved, and you don't decide to be saved because some of your friends are saved and join the church. Only

you and God will know when you're ready to be saved. When that time comes, God will help you know that you are a sinner. If you don't feel sorry down deep in your heart, and really and truly know that you are a sinner who only can go to heaven by trusting in Jesus, then you aren't ready to be saved. You do not join the church until *after you are saved*. Going down the church aisle and joining the church does not save you.

After you have been saved, you need to join the church. You don't join the church to be saved, but God wants saved people to join the church. (Explain to the children how your church receives new members by profession of faith.)

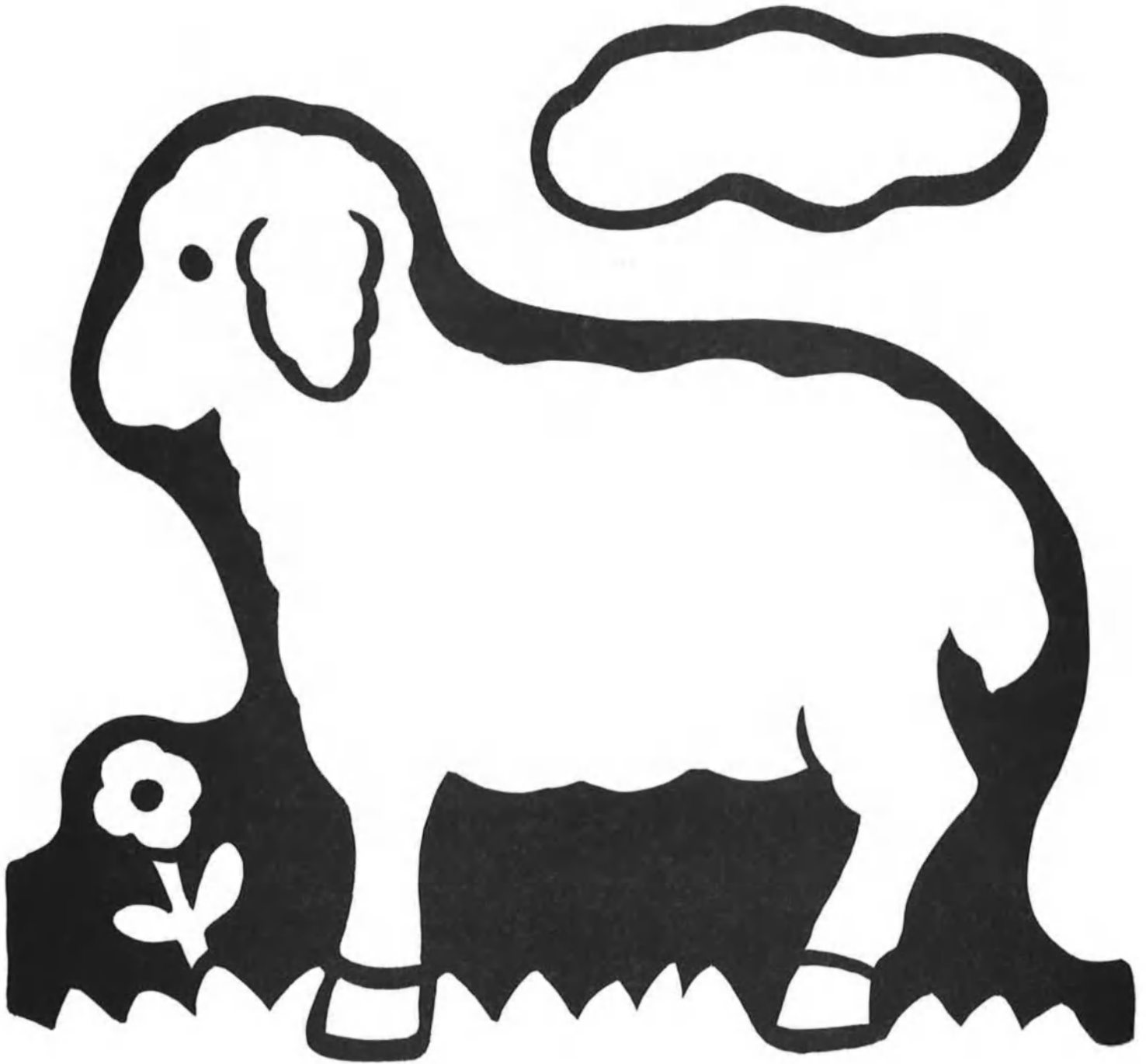
There is nothing in your life that will be as important as being saved. Right now I want all of you to be very quiet as I pray.

(Pray and ask God through the Holy Spirit to help these children understand what you have

said. Pray that they will know when the time comes that God calls to them to be saved. Pray that they will accept God's call and receive Jesus as their Savior. Pray that after they are saved, their faith will grow, and they will become workers for God. Pray for yourself that God will use you to help these children.)

After the prayer, tell the children that if they have any questions, to stay and talk with you or let you take them to talk with the pastor. Don't try to push them. Help them to truly understand, and not just make a commitment because some other child may. Don't discourage them either.

Additional Activities: Prepare a color sheet for each child. The sheet is a picture of a lamb with John 3:16 at the bottom. If you have time, you could have the children cut out pictures of lambs, and let them glue cotton balls on the picture to make the lambs look fleecy.



“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Everyone Is Important in the Church

God's Workers — Lesson 5

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: Each child will realize that he or she is an important person in the church.

Text: John 6:1-14

Memory Verse: *"We (are) workers together with him"* (II Corinthians 6:1).

Materials Needed: You will be illustrating what the children can do to help the church by using the various parts of the body. Cut a circle from poster board to be used as a blank face. Then cut eyes, mouth, and ears that can be stuck on the face. Cut out an upper torso that includes the arms and hands to add to the head. Cut out a lower torso, including legs and feet, that can be added to the body. You will also need two toy cars — one with four good wheels and one with a broken wheel.

Songs: "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me"; "What Can You Do?"; "Helping Hands"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to show all of us what He would have us do in the church.

Lesson Approach: We've really learned a lot about our church the last few weeks, and I hope you are beginning to understand how important the church is. I hope you love the church and want to come to church. I hope you never think that the church is just for the grown-ups. You are a very, very important part of the church — yes, you, a first or second grader, are an important part of the church. You can do many things to help the church. We will be talking about some of the things you can do to help in the next few lessons we have. I want you to remember that no

matter how old you are or how big you are, God always has something that He wants you to do for the church. If you are willing to do this work for Him, you are showing Him that you love Him; but if you don't do the work He has for you, you are showing Him that you don't really care. You have to be willing to do the work He wants you to do. Sometimes it is easier for you to think that you are just one little person, and what you do doesn't matter; but that is not the way it is.

Let me tell you about a little boy who thought he wasn't very important, but he did a very special thing for Jesus. This little boy lived long, long ago when Jesus was living here on earth. He lived in the same country in which Jesus lived. For many weeks he and his family had heard the other people talking about this man named Jesus. He heard them tell about some amazing things that Jesus had done, like bringing a dead man back to life. The little boy had listened carefully as the people told about the news Jesus was sharing. Jesus was telling them that God had sent Him to save the world.

The people were so excited that if they heard that Jesus was going to be anywhere nearby, they quit whatever they were doing to go see Jesus. The little boy heard that Jesus was coming to his town, so he decided he must go and hear Jesus. The little boy got up very early. He knew he would have to walk a long way out to the hillside where Jesus was going to be. He also knew there would probably be a lot of people, so he decided he had better take a little lunch to eat. It might be after dark before he would be able to get back home.

The little boy got two little fish that his mother had cooked, picked up five little rolls, and put them in his bag.

Then he set out to find Jesus. He walked and walked. Finally he got to the hillside where Jesus was going to speak. There were already hundreds and hundreds of people there. There was hardly an empty place left on the ground to sit down. More and more people kept coming, and the crowd grew and grew.

Then a hush fell over the crowd as Jesus approached. Jesus stood on the hill and began to talk to the people. He taught them many wonderful things about how they should act every day. The boy was so happy when he heard Jesus talk about loving everyone and being kind.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone would do what Jesus said to do? There wouldn't be any mean people. Jesus told them how they should help each other and work together. The little boy was so interested in what Jesus was saying that he hardly noticed how late it was getting. It would not be long until the sun went down. Jesus also noticed how quickly the time had passed, and He knew that the people were getting hungry.

There weren't any cafes or restaurants anywhere for the people to get food, and there were five thousand people crowded there. Where could all those hungry people get food? Jesus asked one of the disciples where he could get food, but the disciple didn't have any ideas. The little boy had an idea. He could give his little lunch to Jesus. At least Jesus would have something to eat. He very shyly walked up and gave his lunch to one of the disciples. That disciple probably thought that that was a nice thing for him to do for Jesus, but what about all the rest of the people?

Then Jesus did a wonderful thing. It was so amazing that it was called a miracle. He took that little boy's two fish and five pieces of bread, gave thanks, and began handing it to the disciples. That lunch just seemed to grow and grow. The disciples just kept on giving out food. Finally, every person had eaten all the food that he wanted. Everyone was full, and there were twelve baskets of food left over. Jesus took that little lunch and made something quite marvelous

out of it. The little boy didn't think he had much to give to Jesus; but because he willingly gave what he had, Jesus used it in a very mighty way.

You may feel the same way. You may think that just because you are a child there is not much you can do for Jesus, but that is not so. If you are willing to give yourself and do what Jesus wants you to do, Jesus will use what you have done in a big way. We all have something we can do to help our church. No matter how small it seems to us, it is important to Jesus.

We are a little like the wheels on a car. (Take the good car and roll it across the table.) When all the wheels are working right and working together, the car moves easily. But when one of the wheels doesn't work, the car doesn't go very well. (Take the car with the broken wheel and try to roll it across the table.) When everyone in the church does his or her part, the church is able to do what Jesus wants her to; but if some of the people in the church sit back and do not help, the church will not be able to do all that Jesus wants her to do.

Let's talk about some of the things you can do to help in the church. Let's put this head up here. (Put the blank face up.) Inside this head God has put a brain. This brain is the part of human beings that allows them to think. We can use our brains to think about Jesus and know what He wants us to do.

God has given us eyes. (Put eyes on the face.) We can use our eyes to look around and see where we can help. We might see something out of place in our classroom that needs straightening. We might see someone who needs help. We can see all kinds of things we can do to help.

God has given us ears. (Put ears on the face.) We can use our ears to hear God's Word. We can listen very carefully and learn the things that God wants us to learn.

God has given us a mouth. (Put the mouth on the face.) We can use our mouth to pray and to sing to God. In this way we can tell Him how much we love Him and how wonderful He is. We can use our mouths to tell others about Jesus. We can use our mouths to say kind words that will help other people.

God has given us hands. (Put the upper torso

on the head.) We can use our hands to work for Jesus. We can share, and we can help. We can use our hands to earn money and give to the church.

God has given us feet. (Put the lower torso on the body.) We can use our feet to go so that we can tell others about Jesus. We can use our feet to walk to church, to run errands, and to be helpful. We can use all the parts of our bodies to help Jesus, if we are willing to give ourselves. And whatever we give, no matter how small it seems to us, it will be very big to Jesus.

God says that we should all work together in

the church. II Corinthians 6:1 says, "*We (are) workers together with him.*" I want you to repeat this verse with me and learn it. I want you to remember this verse, so you will always know that God wants all of us to do our part in the church. No matter how young we are, we must give ourselves to Him. (Repeat the verse with the children until they learn it.)

Additional Activities: Copy the color sheet for each child, using the pattern given. Have each child print on his or her sheet the things that body parts can be used for to help in the church.



We Should Love the Church

God's Workers — Lesson 6

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that God expects them to love the church and to come to church regularly.

Text: Ephesians 5:25-27

Memory Verse: *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching”* (Hebrews 10:25).

Materials Needed: Make a flip chart to use to illustrate the lesson. Use five pieces of poster board. On the first piece put the picture of a church. On piece 2 put a picture of David. On piece 3 put a picture of Samuel. On piece 4 put a picture of Jesus as a child. On piece 5 write the memory verse. Attach the pieces at the top with two metal rings, so that you can turn the first piece over and show the next piece easily.

Songs: “I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me”; “Quiet in God’s House”; “O Come, Let Us Worship”

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, thanking God for the church and asking God to help them and you realize how precious the church is.

Lesson Approach: Can any of you say the names of the days of the week? What do you do on Monday? (Allow the children a few minutes to discuss their daily activities.) Usually there are certain things that you do on certain days. Maybe you have a music lesson one day, or you practice ball or go to boy scouts or girl scouts. I think I know what most of you do on Saturday mornings.

What about Sunday? What do we usually do on Sunday? What is different about Sunday?

Of course, we usually come to church — that’s what is special about Sunday. It is a special day set aside to show God how much we love Him. God himself set a day aside when He created the earth; and since that time, God has wanted all people to use a special day to show love to Him. When we show love to Him, we are worshiping Him. We can worship God any day and any place; but when God gave His people the rules to live by, He told them to set aside a special day to come together and worship Him. Later, the writer of the book of Hebrews encouraged Christians not to forsake assembling together.

What does this mean? *Forsake* means to give up. If you forsake something, you quit doing it. *Assembling together* means meeting together. When the writer said not to forsake assembling together, he meant that the followers of Jesus should not stop meeting together to worship Him. This verse is found in Hebrews 10:25, *“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.”* (Repeat this verse together with the children until they learn it.)

(Picture 1) We all know that we are supposed to come to church. The verse we just learned tells us that, but how do you really feel about coming to church? Maybe you think it is boring, or maybe you come just because your parents make you. If you feel this way, you aren’t really worshipping God. I want you to learn to love the church, because that is what God wants.

I have some pictures of some people who lived long, long ago. I am going to tell you something about these people. I want you to try to guess who the people are.

(Picture 2) This little boy was a shepherd. He had a very important job. He took the sheep

where there was grass for them to eat. While they ate, he was in charge of watching over them. He had to make sure none of the sheep wandered off and that nothing bothered the sheep. Sometimes when the sheep were quiet and there was no danger, he would play songs on his harp. The songs he sang and played were songs about God.

This little shepherd was very brave, because he knew God was always with him. Once he killed a bear that was trying to get his sheep. One day his father sent him to the battle front where his brothers were soldiers to take them some food. When he got there, a terrible, giant man from the enemy camp was making fun of God and daring any of the soldiers to fight with him. None of the little boy's brothers or other soldiers would go out and fight this man, so the little boy did. The little boy took his sling and a small rock and defeated the giant. When this little boy grew up, he became the king.

This man seems like a very exciting and courageous man. Do you suppose he thought it was important to go to God's house? Let's hear what he said about it. He said, *"I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness"* (Psalm 84:10). He was very happy in God's house, and he said, *"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord"* (Psalm 122:1). Can you guess who this man was? Yes, I am telling you about David. He loved the Lord's house and went there regularly.

(Picture 3) This little boy had an unusual childhood. He not only went to the Lord's house on the special day of worship, he also lived at God's house. Before this boy was even born, his mother, Hannah, prayed a special prayer for a baby son. She promised God that if she got this son, she would give him to serve the Lord. She kept her promise. When her little boy was old enough, she took him to the temple to live so he could help Eli. The boy was very happy working in God's house. When he grew up, he became a great leader of the people. Who was this boy? His name was Samuel.

(Picture 4) This is another little boy who loved God's house and thought it was very important to go there. This little boy's family went to

Jerusalem with a group of family and friends for a special service at the temple. When the group started home, they were happy and excited about worshiping God. They didn't notice until the end of the day that the little boy was missing. They looked everywhere, but He wasn't there. His parents were frantic. They returned to Jerusalem and finally found Him at the temple, listening and talking with the wise teachers about God. This little boy loved God's house. Do you know who He was? He was Jesus.

So you see, the Bible gives us many examples of how children and adults loved and went to God's house. If these Bible heroes and God's own Son, Jesus, loved God's house and felt that they needed to attend, don't you think that every boy and girl and man and woman should want to attend and love God's church?

(Picture 5) What did the verse in Hebrews tell us about going to church? Let's say the verse together. *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together."* (Have the children repeat the verse with you several times.)

One Saturday afternoon Billy was helping his dad rake leaves in the yard when the telephone rang. The call was for Billy. It was his friend Kurt. Kurt told Billy that his dad was taking him to the zoo the next morning. He invited Billy to go with them. Billy thought, "Tomorrow is Sunday. I always go to church on Sunday, but I want to go to the zoo so badly." It was a hard decision so he asked Dad what he should do.

His dad said, "Tomorrow is Sunday. We always go to church on Sunday."

Billy replied, "But couldn't I miss church just this once?"

Dad asked, "What do you think, Billy?"

Billy walked over to the phone and called Kurt. He told Kurt that even though he wanted to go to the zoo very much, he would have to go to church.

Kurt asked Billy, "Do you go to church every Sunday?"

"Yes," replied Billy.

Kurt said, "I never go to church. What is it like?"

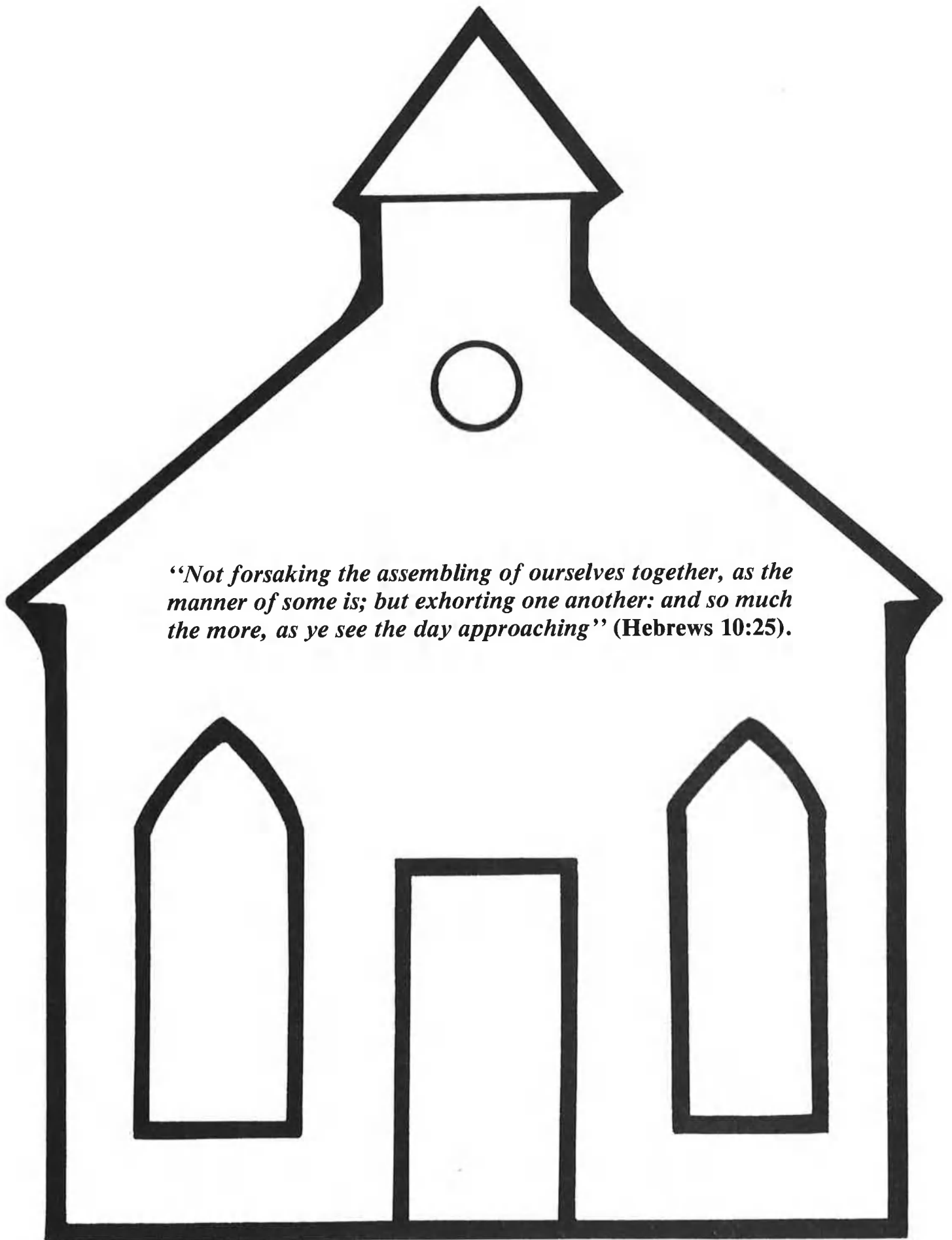
Billy couldn't believe that Kurt had never gone to church. He thought about all the good times

Kurt had missed, but most of all he thought about how Kurt had never had an opportunity to be saved. Billy immediately invited Kurt to come to church with him, and Kurt agreed. Billy felt good because he had kept God's day special, and he had given someone else the opportunity to learn about God.

I hope that you will always love the church and

always remember how important it is to be an active part of the church.

Additional Activities: Copy the sheet that has a picture of a church building and the memory verse on it. Let the children cut out pictures of people from old magazines and catalogs and glue them on the picture to look like the people are going to church.



Star Awards Review

God's Workers — Star Awards Activity Number 2

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will be able to see how well they are listening to and learning from lessons 4-6. They will be encouraged to listen better and learn more.

Text: Romans 3:23; Matthew 5:48; Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 1:1; John 3:16; John 6:47; I John 5:13; John 6:1-14

Memory Verses: *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16); *"We (are) workers together with him"* (II Corinthians 6:1); *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching"* (Hebrews 10:25).

Materials Needed: Enough loaves of bread and fish cut from construction paper for each child to have two fish and five loaves; a basket; enough small prizes to give the children in the class rewards for answering questions

Songs: "Jesus Loves Me"; "For God So Loved the World"; "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me"; "What Can You Do?"; "Helping Hands"; "Quiet in God's House"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them remember the lessons they have heard.

Lesson Approach: In the last three lessons we have talked about how to be saved, how to become a church member, how important we all are in the church, and how we should love the church and come to church.

Tonight we are going to play a game to review

what you have learned and to see how much you remember. Before we begin, let's think back for just a few minutes about the lessons.

In the first lesson we learned about a very special experience that should happen to you before you even consider joining the church. What is this special experience? (being saved) Can any of you tell me briefly how you can be saved? (Encourage the children to at least try to explain the plan of salvation.) Maybe if you think about the story of Puff that I told, you can remember.

After you become a church member, it is important that you take part and work in the church. Do you remember how the little boy helped out? (Briefly review the story of the little boy who shared his lunch. Point out that Jesus took something very small and used it for a very important work.) You really can't work and serve God if you don't realize how important it is to go to church. Do you remember some of the Bible-time people we talked about who went to church? (Remind them of David, Samuel, and Jesus who loved the place of worship.)

As I told you, we are going to play a game tonight to see how much you remember about these lessons. Instead of my giving you something when you answer a question correctly, tonight you're going to give me something. Tonight you're going to be like the little boy who shared his lunch. I'm going to give you five loaves of bread and two fish, just like the little boy had. Then I'm going to begin taking turns asking you questions about the lessons. If you can answer the question, you will get to put one of your loaves or fish into the basket here on the table. If you cannot answer the question, you

will have to keep your loaves and fishes. The first person who gives away all his loaves and fishes is the winner of the game. As you are playing, remember that we are playing this game to help us learn more about God, and we must play in a manner that is reverent.

(Give each child the loaves and fish and put the basket on the table. Begin by asking the first child a question from the list. If the child answers correctly, let him put a loaf or fish into the basket, then go to the next child. If some are having difficulty, try to ask them the easier questions. Try to make every child feel successful. At the end of the lesson, be sure everyone has a reward of some kind. The prizes could be small pieces of candy, bookmarks, pencils, etc.)

Questions for Review

1. Does joining the church save a person?
2. Before you are saved, what keeps you from going to heaven?

3. Who are sinners?
4. Who is Jesus?
5. What did Jesus do for us?
6. Say John 3:16.
7. How old should you be when you are saved?
8. How can people be saved?
9. Do you have to join a church to be saved?
10. Do you have to be baptized to be saved?
11. Say II Corinthians 6:1.
12. What did the little boy give to Jesus to help?
13. True or false, children aren't important to the church.
14. Name three things you can do to help the church.
15. Say Hebrews 10:25.
16. What is special about Sunday?
17. True or false, coming to church isn't important.
18. Name a child in the Bible who loved to go to God's house to worship.

The Church Tells the Good News

God's Workers — Lesson 7

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the most important work the church does is spreading the gospel. The children will know that God expects them to tell others about Jesus.

Text: Acts 9:1-22; Acts 26

Memory Verse: “*And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God*” (Acts 9:20).

Materials Needed: Use flannelgraph pictures to illustrate the story of Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus.

Songs: “Let's Stand Up”; “We've a Story to Tell to the Nations”

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them to always remember that they should tell others about Jesus.

Lesson Approach: We have learned a lot about the church. We've learned that Jesus started the church. Do you remember what our lesson told us about the reason that Jesus started the church? Think back a moment. Do you remember how the lesson told us that Jesus knew He was going to die on the cross so that we could be saved? Jesus knew that after He died, He would go back to heaven. He needed someone here on earth to tell everything that had happened. If Jesus hadn't provided a way for the world to know about Him, how would we be saved? How would we know about Him? But Jesus did provide a way; He started the church.

The main purpose of the church is to tell the world about Jesus. That's why we give our money and send missionaries to other places to tell others about Jesus — so that they can be

saved. Jesus even *commanded* us to tell others about Jesus. If we do not tell others about Jesus, we are disobeying Him. It is so important that we tell others. This is one of the most important ways we can help the church. Wouldn't it be sad if someone did not go to heaven because we didn't tell him about Jesus?

I want to tell you about someone in the Bible who did not want to tell others about Jesus. There was a man named Saul. He was very, very smart. He had gone to school, and he knew much more than most of the other people. Saul was also very powerful. He was one of the leaders, but Saul did not love Jesus. He did not want anyone else to love Jesus either. He didn't love Jesus because he did not believe that Jesus is God's Son. Saul was angry with the people who did believe in Jesus, and he went about the country looking for Jesus' friends. If he found anyone who believed in Jesus, he would put him in prison.

One day Saul was on his way to a town called Damascus so he could find Jesus' friends who were there. As he traveled down the road, suddenly a bright light shone all around him. He was very frightened, and the light was so bright it blinded his eyes. He fell on the ground and hid his eyes. Then he heard a voice talking to him.

The voice said, “*Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?*” (Acts 9:4).

Saul asked, “*Who art thou?*”

The voice said, “I am Jesus, the one you have been trying to hurt.”

Jesus was talking to Saul from heaven. Saul was afraid because he realized that Jesus actually is the Son of God. Saul knew that he had been

very wrong, and he asked Jesus what He wanted him to do. Jesus told him to go to the city, and He would then tell him what to do. When Saul got up, he was blind, and those traveling with him had to lead him into town by the hand. After a few days, Jesus sent someone to talk to Saul. This man put his hands on Saul. Saul could see again. Saul had been saved on the road to Damascus. Saul was baptized and became part of the church.

Now Saul loved Jesus. He wanted others to love Jesus too. Saul began to tell everyone that Jesus is God's Son. (Remind the children that Saul was also called Paul.) Paul traveled to many places to tell people about Jesus. Some of the people Paul talked to did not want to hear about Jesus. They put Paul in prison. But even in prison, Paul did not stop talking about Jesus. While Paul was in prison, he was brought before the king. Paul wasn't afraid. He told the king about Jesus.

Paul was a good helper for Jesus. He was not afraid to tell anyone the good news that Jesus loves us. God gave Paul a special job to do — he was to tell everyone the news about Jesus.

God has given us that same job. It is our job to tell everyone about Jesus. Have you told anyone this week about Jesus? Are you doing your job? Are you being a good helper for Jesus? If you don't tell others about Jesus, who will? Have you told your friends about Jesus? Did you invite anyone to church this week? Boys and girls, it is so important for all of us to tell others about Jesus. Let's not be afraid; let's be like Paul and tell everyone the good news.

What are our friends going to think if we tell them all about Jesus and then we don't act the way a friend of Jesus should?

Let me tell you about a girl named Ann. Ann was a very pretty girl, and she always made good grades at school. She got up every Sunday morning and went to church with her family. She tried to be a good helper for God by telling the other boys and girls at school about Jesus.

One Sunday, when Ann came home from church, something awful happened. When she walked up the sidewalk to her house, she looked down and found that someone had drawn a

picture of a chicken on the sidewalk. Under the chalk drawing was written, "Ann is a big liar and chicken." Ann was so upset. Who could have done this, and why? Mother told her not to get upset about it, so Ann just washed it off and forgot about it until the next afternoon.

When Ann came home from school the next afternoon, there was that picture on the sidewalk again. It was terrible. Who could be doing this? Why would anyone want to do this?

The next afternoon, Ann was almost afraid to come home. Would that awful picture be there? She got off the bus and very slowly walked around the corner. She was afraid to look. Then she saw it. There it was again. Why was this happening? She was a good girl. Everyone liked her. She decided she would have to find out why this was happening.

The next day at school she looked at everyone very carefully. She tried to see if anyone in particular was not being friendly with her. She thought of all her friends and tried to think of who would have an opportunity to go by her house and draw that picture. She found her friend Mary on the playground. She wanted to tell Mary about it; but what if it were Mary drawing the pictures? Ann couldn't think of any lies she had told Mary. Mary was her friend. Why would Mary do something like that?

That night she lay in bed and tried to sleep, but her mind just kept going back to that picture of the chicken and those awful words on the sidewalk. Ann finally just cried and said, "I am not a chicken. I am not a liar." Then she had an idea. She was going to find out what was going on.

The next afternoon she raced home from school and hid behind the bush by her front door. She stayed there for a long time, but no one came. The next afternoon she did the same thing. Just as Ann was about to give up and go inside, she saw Julie sneaking up toward the house. Julie looked all around to make sure no one was watching. Then surely enough, Julie took out a piece of chalk and started drawing. Julie? How could it be Julie? She didn't even know Ann. Julie had just moved in down the street. Julie's family was poor, but Ann had been

nice and had even invited her to church. One Sunday Julie had even come to Sunday School class, but she hadn't been back since. Ann jumped out from behind the bush and faced Julie. Julie started crying. Ann shouted, "Why are you doing this? Why are you so mean? You are just awful."

Then Julie looked at Ann with big tears streaming down her face. Julie said, "Ann, you are so pretty, and everyone likes you. You have everything. You have a nice house and nice clothes. When I first moved here, I thought you were going to be my friend. You told me about this man named Jesus, and you invited me to come to your church. Well, I came to your church to hear about this man. When I got there, you wouldn't even sit by me. You acted as if you didn't know me. And worst of all, when the other girls laughed at my dress and made fun of me because there was a hole in my dress, you joined in with them. You are not my friend, and all the things you told me about Jesus loving me are just all lies. You are a liar."

Julie ran down the street. Ann hung her head in shame. Everything Julie had said was true. Ann had thought she was being so good. She was telling others about Jesus just as she was supposed to do, but she was not living the way Jesus wanted her to live.

She remembered laughing at the funny dress Julie wore to church. Julie had just seemed to ignore her and the other girls. The other girls didn't want Julie to come to their class anyway. She was poor, and the other kids didn't like her very much. Then Ann really realized what she had done. Because of the way she had acted, Julie might never have an opportunity to learn about Jesus. Julie might not be saved and go to

heaven, all because of the way Ann had acted. Right then and there Ann asked God to forgive her. She ran down the street and caught up with Julie. Ann asked Julie to forgive her. Ann confessed that she had been wrong and begged Julie to walk to school with her the next morning.

The next Sunday morning Ann and Julie walked to church together. When they went in, the other girls just stared. They wondered why Ann had brought that girl back. But Ann was happy. She was being God's helper. She was obeying God. Now, Julie was really a lot of fun to be with.

Boys and girls, let's remember this story about Ann. Remember that God expects us to tell others about Jesus; but also remember that if we tell people one thing and act a different way, people won't trust us. They won't believe what we say. Let's all try to tell someone about Jesus this week, and let's all try to treat others the way Jesus would have us to.

Next week we are going to talk about what we have done this week to tell and show others about Jesus. To help you remember to do this, let's make a special invitation to give to someone, inviting him to come to church with us.

Additional Activities: Give each child a piece of construction paper and a piece of white paper. Fold both pieces in half. On one half of the white paper, have the children print an invitation to come to church. (If the children are not good at printing yet, you may have to print the words on the sheet before class.) Glue the white sheet to the construction paper sheet. Let the children decorate the invitation with the stickers. Encourage them to give the invitation to other children and bring them to church next week.

You are invited . . .

(Fold on dotted line.)

We Give Our Money Through the Church

God's Workers — Lesson 8

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will realize that they can be part of the church by giving. The children will develop a desire to express their love for God by giving. The children will understand and be able to say Acts 20:35.

Text: Mark 12:41-44

Memory Verse: *"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35).

Materials Needed: Write each word of the memory verse on a piece of pelon (or flannel-graph material). Cut out circles of poster board. Make the top piece look like a nickel. Put the following pictures on the other pieces — 2, a little boy on a tricycle; 3, little boy sitting on a step; 4, a sucker; 5, a smaller boy crying; 6, the smaller boy smiling and holding the sucker.

Songs: "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me"; "Little Builders"; "I'll Share My Offering"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them realize how important giving is, and asking God to help them learn to give in the spirit of love and joy.

Lesson Approach: I hope you've been thinking about how important you are to the church. In our last lesson we talked about how you can help the church by telling others about Jesus and by bringing others to church. This week we're going to talk about another way you can help the church. You can help by giving your money.

Let's think about why our church needs money. Can you think of some things for which

our church needs money? (Encourage discussion.) We need money to send to our missionaries, so that they can have a place to live, food to eat, and clothes to wear. They also need money to provide a place of worship and to buy books and other materials, so that they can teach others about Jesus. We need money to send to the schools where our preachers and music and education directors go to learn how to be able to work for the church. We need money to send to our children's home. The children have to have a place to live, food to eat, clothes to wear, and school supplies to use.

Here at our church, we need money to pay our pastor and the other staff workers. We have to buy the paper, books, colors, glue, scissors, pencils, and all the other things you use to help you learn about Jesus. We have to have money to take care of our building. Light bulbs burn out and have to be replaced. We have to pay electric, gas, and water bills so that our church will be warm in the winter and cool in the summer. It takes a lot of money for our church, and this is one way we can be a helpful part of our church. We can give; and when we give, we are showing God we love Him. You may not have a lot of money to give; but if you give what you have with love in your heart for God, He will be very pleased.

In the Bible Jesus tells us a lot about giving. One day Jesus was in the city of Jerusalem. He went to the temple. Just inside the door was a special box with a slot in it. The people in the temple did not pass around an offering plate as we do. This special box was used to collect the money that the people brought to the Lord. As

the people came into the temple, they would drop their money into the box. As Jesus and some of His disciples watched, many people passed by. There were men, women, boys, and girls.

A rich man came in carrying a big bag of money. He threw many gold pieces into the box. The coins clanked loudly as they dropped into the box.

Another rich man passed by. He stood by the box until he was sure everyone was watching him. Then he threw his money into the box. He made sure that everyone knew that he was giving his money.

Then a poor man went by. He looked as if he really didn't want to give any money; but when he saw the people watching him, he put a few coins in. Jesus felt sad, because He knew these men had not given their money because they loved the Lord. The rich man gave money just to show everyone else how rich and important he was. The poor man didn't really want to give his money; he wanted to use it for something else. These people were not giving happily and with love. They gave for the wrong reasons. Jesus was not happy with their gifts.

A very poor woman came into the temple. Her clothes were old and faded. Her hands were rough and red because she had to work at any job she could get in order to earn money. Her husband had died, and she was very poor. The disciples thought that she probably wouldn't have any money to put in the offering box; and, if she did have any money, she would probably have to save it to buy food. As she walked by, however, she dropped two little pieces of money in the offering box. She put the coins in the box very gently so they would make no noise. She was not giving to try to impress the others in the temple. When she put the coins in the box, she looked very happy.

She had put in only two mites. Mites were small copper coins. They were made like our pennies, but they were not worth even as much as a penny. The amount she really gave was small. When she went on into the temple to pray and praise God, Jesus called His disciples and told them, *"This poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury"* (Mark

12:43). The disciples wondered how Jesus could say this. They had all seen the rich men put much money into the offering box. Jesus explained that the rich men and all the others had much money left even after giving to God, but the poor woman had given all she had. She had nothing left. It is not only important what amount of money we give to the Lord; it is also important how much money we keep for ourselves.

God tells us in Acts 20:35, *"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive."* Let's learn this verse, so we will always remember how God expects us to give. (Put the words of the verse on the flannelgraph board. Repeat the verse several times with the children. Point to the words as you say the verse. Then remove two of the words, and have the children say the verse. Keep removing words from the board, one or two at a time, until all the words are gone. By that time the children should be able to say the verse. Let the children volunteer to say the verse individually.)

I know a story that goes right along with this verse. It is a story about a shiny nickel. (Show picture 1.) Mark stared at the shiny circle on the sidewalk. His eyes opened wide. He got off his tricycle and looked more closely. It was a nickel — a bright, shiny new nickel!

He picked up the nickel and held it in the palm of his hand. Mark looked at the coin and wondered whose nickel it was. (Show picture 2.)

He stopped Mr. Wilson on his way home from work and asked him if he had lost the nickel. No, it wasn't Mr. Wilson's nickel.

He climbed up Mrs. Brown's porch steps and rang her doorbell. When she came to the door, he told her that he had found the nickel in front of her house, but Mrs. Brown said it was not her nickel.

He saw Mr. Jones mowing the lawn, so he went over and asked Mr. Jones if the nickel was his. Mr. Jones shook his head and wiped the sweat from his face and said, "No, Mark, it's not mine. If you have tried to find the owner and can't, then you may keep the nickel. Maybe you can think of something nice to do with it."

(Show picture 3.) Mark parked his tricycle by his front step, got off, and sat down to think. What was something nice he could do with a nickel? He thought of the memory verse he had learned last Sunday: *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* Whom could he help with that nickel? He thought about that new toy car he had wanted so badly, but a nickel surely wouldn't buy that. It would take much too long to try to save money to add to the nickel to buy the car. He would rather use the nickel today. He thought about how much fun his cousin Jimmy had with his bird whistle, and he wished he could have one like it. When Jimmy blew the whistle, hungry birds would come for seeds and bread crumbs in the winter. But it wasn't winter yet, and the birds had food to eat now. What could he use his one nickel for today?

Then Mark had an idea. He could buy a sucker — an orange one, or a red one, or a brown one, or a purple one. The more Mark thought about a sucker, the more he wanted one. He put the nickel in his pocket and rode down to the store on the corner. He put his nickel on the counter and asked Mr. Green for a sucker. He forgot all about last Sunday's memory verse.

Mr. Green asked, "What kind of sucker do you want?"

It was hard for Mark to decide. Finally he said, "A red one."

(Show picture 4.) Just then he heard a scream behind him. A curly-haired boy about the age of Mark's little brother had tripped and hit his head against a counter. His mother was kissing the red lump on his forehead, but the little boy kept on screaming.

Mr. Green handed the boy's mother a piece of

ice. "Here, put this on his head. It will help him." But it didn't help him. He screamed louder.

Mark looked at the sucker in his hand. Maybe the sucker would help.

"Here," he said, holding the sucker out for the little boy. The little boy closed his mouth and opened his eyes. Then he reached for the sucker and smiled. (Show picture 6.)

Mark got back on his tricycle. He didn't have the nickel anymore, and he didn't have the sucker; but he had something better — the memory of the little boy's happy face. Sunday's memory verse had been right: *It is more blessed to give than to receive.* Mark had spent his nickel for the best thing — someone's happiness.

There are many other nice things Mark could have used his nickel for. He could have taken his nickel to church and put it in the offering plate, or he could have helped someone else like he did the little boy. The important thing is that Mark showed his love for God by giving his nickel. Let's all remember this story and this verse and give our money to God in love and joy. Let's pray — "Take, dear God, the gifts we bring with thankful hearts and true; we hope that they will help to show the love we have for You."

Additional Activities: Cut out a round piece of felt for each child. Punch holes about one-half inch inside the outer edge of the circle. Let each child take a string and run it through the holes. When the string is drawn taut, the child will have a little pouch. This is a special little pouch in which the child can bring his offering.

Copy the picture to color and provide one for each student. The picture shows a boy and girl placing an offering in an offering plate.



We Praise God in the Church

God's Workers — Lesson 9

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know what praise is. The children will know that the church praises God. The children will have a desire to praise God.

Text: Psalm 100; Psalm 104:33; Ephesians 5:19

Memory Verse: *"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord"* (Ephesians 5:19).

Materials Needed: A record or tape of a song of praise and a piece of poster board with the words of the song written on it; pictures of beautiful things like butterflies, birds, flowers, baby, family, etc., around the border of the poster board; a poster board with Psalm 100 written on it; a piece of poster board cut in the shape of a child singing; a piece of poster board cut in the shape of a musical note; a piece of poster board cut in the shape of a heart; and a piece of poster board cut in the shape of the cross.

Songs: "Praise Him, Praise Him"; "I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer of praise to God.

Lesson Approach: Once there was a very dear lady named Corrie who lived across the Atlantic Ocean. Her father made beautiful clocks and repaired watches. They had a happy family, until something terrible happened. A very mean man took control of the government of their country. This cruel man was determined that he would build a very powerful army and rule all the

people of the world. This man was also determined that only the people who thought the same way as he did, and were of the same nationality as he, would be allowed to stay in his country. Any other people were to be put in prison or killed.

Corrie and her family were of a group of people called Jews. Have you ever heard of this group of people before? If you have ever heard very much about the Bible, then you know that the Jews were the group of people that were called God's children.

This very cruel man especially hated Jews, and he was determined to get rid of them. He made every person who was a Jew wear a band of cloth with a star on it around his or her arm. This would let everyone else know that this person was a Jew and was not to be treated nicely. This man would send soldiers into the homes of the Jewish families during the middle of the night and take the whole family away to prison or to be killed.

Corrie's family built a special hiding place in their home where they could let people hide so the soldiers could not find them. Finally, the soldiers came and got Corrie and her family. They took them to a faraway prison. They were not allowed to stay together. The prison was very cold and dirty, and there was very little food to eat. The soldiers were very mean to the prisoners and often beat them.

Many people died in this prison. Corrie's sister died there. Corrie's life was unhappy. Her mother had already died; her father had been killed; and now her sister was dead. We could never understand how much pain and suffering Corrie had.

Finally, she was released from prison. What do you suppose she did? How do you think she felt? (Encourage the children to try to imagine how Corrie felt. Talk about the cold, the pain from being hit by the soldiers, and the sadness of losing her family.) You might think that Corrie would be angry, and that she would never be happy again. Do you know what Corrie did? She traveled all over the world, telling people how wonderful God is. Even after all the suffering she went through, she still said that God was wonderful, and she thanked Him for all He had done for her.

Corrie has gone home to be with God. While she lived, she traveled everywhere telling everyone about Jesus. She wrote several books that many people have read, telling how wonderful God is. In all her travels she always told people that no matter how bad things were, praising God would make them happy.

When you are afraid, praising God will give you courage. When you are sad, praising God will make you happier.

Do you ever tell anyone how wonderful God is? Do you ever think about how wonderful God is? Don't you like to have people tell you that you have done something good? If you draw a pretty picture at school and take it home to Mother, don't you want her to tell you how pretty it is? Don't we all like to feel that people love us and think we are special? God wants us to tell Him that we love Him. He wants us to thank Him and praise Him.

When we do tell God that we love Him, we are praising God. There are many ways we can praise God. Can you think of any? (Encourage the children to think of ways.) We can praise God by praying — just simply talking to Him and telling Him we love Him. Actually, when we give our money, we are praising God. Sometimes we just praise God silently in our hearts. Another way we can praise God is by singing.

We can read in the Bible about many people who praised God. The one person you probably know the most about is David. What do you remember about David? (Allow the children to discuss all they can remember about David.) One thing that most people remember about David is

that he played a harp and loved to sing. He wrote a whole book of songs. Do you remember what this book is called? It is the Book of Psalms. I want to read one of David's songs to you.

(Read Psalm 100 to the children. Try to read in such a way that you convey the happiness and praise that David expressed in the psalm. As you read, show the poster board and point to the words. After you read through once, let the children read it with you. Show the children the poster board with the words to the song written on it. Go over the words with them, and make sure they understand what the words mean. A good song to use is "All Things Bright and Beautiful." Play the record or tape of the song, and let the children sing along.)

In Ephesians 5:19, God tells us that we should praise Him. The verse says, "*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*" I want you to learn the last part of this verse, so that you will always remember to praise the Lord.

(Show the poster board cut-out of the child singing.) What is this I am holding up? Yes, it is a child, but what is this child doing? (Lead the children to the conclusion that the poster cut-out child is singing.) The first word in the verse I want you to remember is the word *singing*.

(Hold up the musical note.) The next part of the verse says, "*And making melody.*" Let's all say this much together — "*Singing and making melody.*"

Now what am I holding up? (Hold up the heart shape.) This is where our singing and making melody come from — the heart. "*Singing and making melody in your heart.*"

(Hold up the cross, and let the children tell you what this is representative of — the Lord.) Let's say this together, "*Singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord*" (Ephesians 5:19).

As the children repeat the verse, show the poster pieces to help them remember. Keep practicing this until they know the verse.

Boys and girls, every Sunday when you come to church, you have a wonderful opportunity to praise God. Of course, we should praise God every day, but on His special day let's be extra

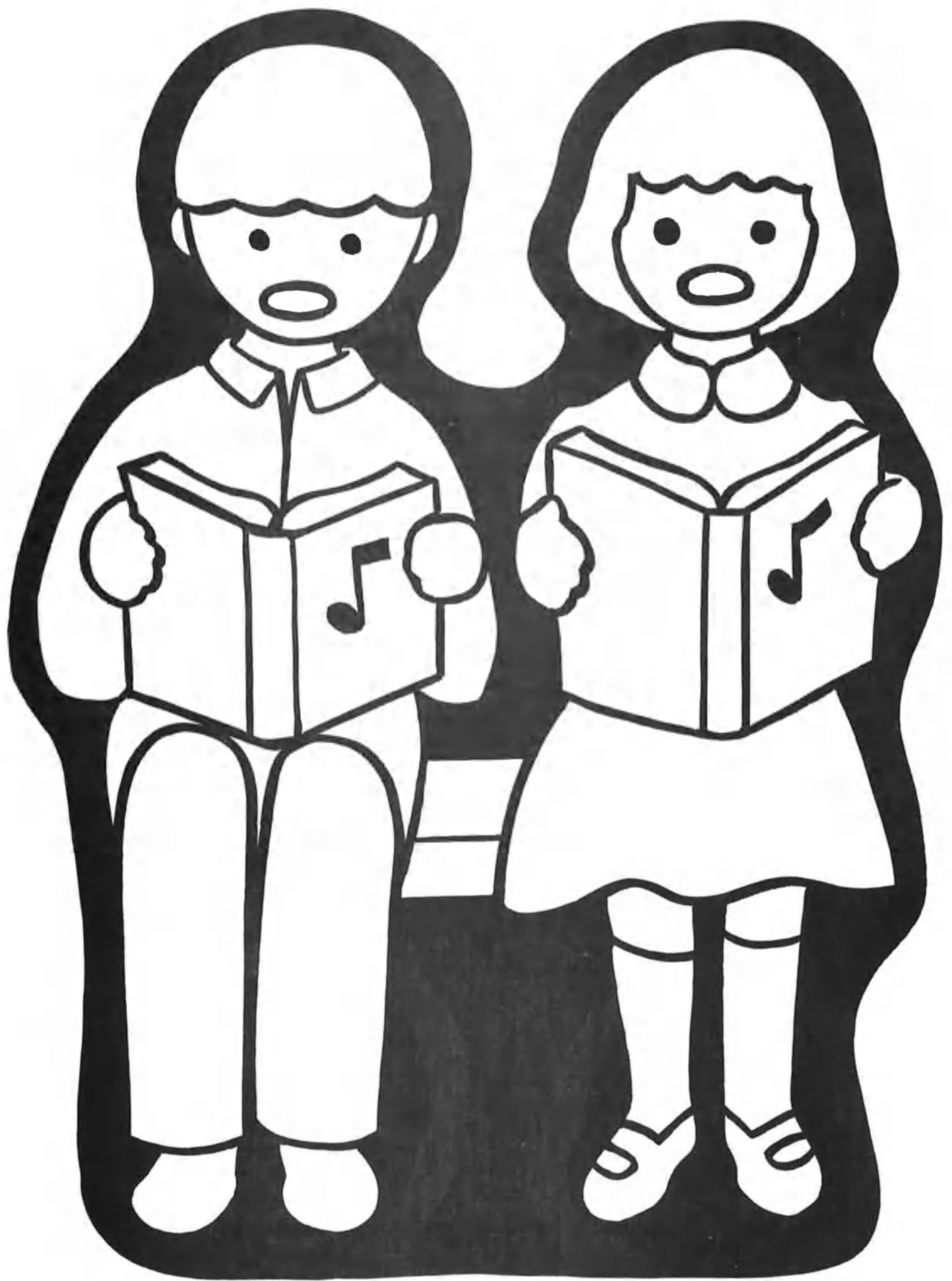
sure that we praise Him. Let's pray and sing and tell God that we love Him. Let's think about the wonderful things God has made — big animals, little animals, animals for the land, and fish for the sea, rain to fall, sun to shine, plants to grow, and especially people to love.

Let's think about how God always stays with us and loves us. He loved us so much that He sent Jesus, so that we would be able to go to heaven to be with God. When I think about how wonderful God is, I get so happy that I feel like I will burst! I talk to God and sing, even when I'm outside. I just shout to the whole world that God is wonderful.

Additional Activities: Let the children make some musical instruments that they can use to praise God. A clean, plastic-topped oleo tub, coffee can, small shortening can, or round

oatmeal box can be used for a drum. The children can use their hands or a smooth stick to beat the drum. The children can color pictures on the drum or place stickers on it for decoration. Scratchers can be made by gluing pieces of sand paper to blocks of wood. The blocks can be rubbed together to make a scratchy rhythm. Rattlers can be made by putting a few seeds, such as bean or corn, into small boxes or other containers. An instrument the children will really enjoy is made by putting a small handful of little pebbles in an aluminum pie pan and stapling another pie pan on top to make an instrument similar to a tambourine.

Prepare a color sheet for each student. The picture shows a boy and girl singing. At the bottom of the picture are the words "We Praise God in Church."



WE PRAISE GOD IN CHURCH.

Star Awards Review

God's Workers — Star Awards Activity Number 3

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will be able to see how well they are listening to and learning from lessons 7-9. The teacher will be able to determine the effectiveness of the lessons.

Text: Acts 9:1-22; Acts 26; Mark 12:41-44; Psalm 100; Psalm 104:33; Ephesians 5:19

Memory Verses: *"And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God" (Acts 9:20); "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35); "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19).*

Materials Needed: Enough pennies for each child to have one; a strip of poster board approximately 4" x 12" with four large footprints drawn on it for each child; a basket or bowl to put on the table; small prizes to give to the children as rewards for answering the questions correctly

Songs: "Let's Stand Up"; "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"; "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me"; "Little Builders"; "I'll Share My Offering"; "Praise Him, Praise Him"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them remember what they have learned and to help them use the things they have learned in their everyday life. Ask God to help them learn to praise Him more and to be less selfish.

Lesson Approach: This week we will get to see just how much we have learned from the last three lessons.

Before we begin our Star Awards review, let's think back to the three lessons we have covered. The first lesson in this section was called "The Church Tells the Good News." What does the church tell? Yes, God commanded the church to tell everyone the good news that Jesus, God's Son, came to earth, was crucified, and rose again to pay for our sins; anyone who believes on Him can be saved and go to heaven when he dies. Remember, in this lesson we learned about a man named Saul (who was also called Paul) who had a very exciting thing happen to him. Do you remember what happened to Saul on the road to Damascus? Yes, Jesus talked to him and the light that shone down from heaven was so bright that it blinded him. After he was saved, he then became one of the greatest preachers and missionaries that the world has ever known.

In this lesson we also learned about some very strange drawings that a little girl found on her sidewalk. Do you remember the story of Ann and how she found the drawing of a chicken on her sidewalk? We found out that Julie drew the pictures because Ann was not living the Christian life she pretended to.

The next lesson we studied told us how important it is to give, and we learned about a very poor widow who gave all she had.

In the last lesson in this section we learned that God wants us to praise Him, and we learned how we praise God at church.

Tonight we are going to play a game of giving. In this game you can earn a coin to give to the church. If you can answer the first review question that I ask you, I will give you a coin. Each one of you has a sidewalk with four big

footprints on it. The next time it is your turn, if you can answer the review question, you get to put your coin on the first footprint. If you cannot answer the question, you have to leave the coin until your next turn. Each time you answer a question correctly, you get to move your coin one footprint closer to the offering plate that I have sitting here on the table. If we have time, you might be able to earn more than one coin. After you get your first coin into the offering plate, when you answer the next question correctly, you get to earn another coin. Let's begin our game; but remember, we are playing to help us learn about God, not to see who's the best.

(Continue to play the game until class time is nearly over. As each child moves his coin far enough to put it in the offering plate, give him a small prize. Be sure that all the children get a prize, but also be sure that the child who remembers the most gets the best prize. Try to keep the level of competition down; instead, encourage the children to pull for each other. This can be a very valuable lesson in itself. If you have time, you can go through the list of questions a second time. Remember, children learn by repetition.)

Questions for Review:

1. What's the main reason Jesus started the church?

2. Who is to tell the good news about Jesus?
3. If we give our money for missionaries, then do we have to tell about Jesus?
4. Why did the first church members not like Saul?
5. What blinded Saul on the road to Damascus?
6. Saul heard a voice talking to him on the road to Damascus. Whose voice was it?
7. What did the voice ask Saul?
8. How was Saul changed on the road to Damascus?
9. What was Saul's other name?
10. What was Paul's new job?
11. Do you have the same job Paul did?
12. Why did Julie draw the picture of the chicken on Ann's sidewalk?
13. How will people feel if we say we love Jesus and then treat other people cruelly?
14. Say Acts 20:35.
15. Give two reasons the church needs money.
16. Why was Jesus so pleased with the poor widow who gave her two little coins?
17. In the story about the shiny nickel, how did Mark use the nickel he found?
18. Say Ephesians 5:19.
19. What does it mean to praise God?
20. Name two ways we can praise God.
21. What is the name of the book of songs that David wrote?

Our Prayers Help Us to Be Better Church Workers

God's Workers — Lesson 10

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will realize how prayer can help them every day. The children will realize that if they pray daily, they will be able to be more effective in the church. They will realize that God answers prayer in the way that is best for them, but not necessarily the way they wanted the prayer to be answered.

Text: Matthew 21:18-22

Memory Verse: *"All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive"* (Matthew 21:22).

Materials Needed: Cut out seven pieces of poster board shaped like a shoe. On piece 1 put a picture of a little girl; On 2 put a picture of a worn-out shoe; On 3 put a picture of the girl praying (or a silhouette of a girl praying); On 4 put a picture of a new pair of tennis shoes and a new pair of Sunday shoes; On 5 put a picture of the little girl dressed up for church with the new Sunday shoes on; On 6 write out Matthew 21:22; On 7 draw a circle and divide it into four different parts — on one part write YES, on another part write NO, on another part write WAIT, on the other part write DIFFERENT.

Songs: "Always Take Time to Pray"; "Whisper a Prayer in the Morning"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them to remember how important prayer is.

Lesson Approach: (Show picture 1.) Louise was a little girl about three years old. Her mother and daddy loved God and tried to serve Him. When Louise's father felt that God wanted him to be a preacher, he didn't hesitate to obey God.

Louise's father was the preacher for a very small church in a little town in Kansas. The church hadn't been organized for very long, so the people could only pay Louise's father a little amount of money. Louise's family had plenty of food to eat, but there wasn't any money for clothing. However, they were doing what God wanted them to do, and they were very happy.

Louise had heard all about Jesus, and she loved Him very much. She talked with Him every day. When she was happy, she talked with Him and thanked Him for all the things He had given her. When she was sad, she talked with Him, and it made her feel happier. When she was afraid, she talked with Him and knew that He would take care of her. Louise knew Jesus was her best friend, so she prayed to Him several times every day.

(Show picture 2.) Louise was already awake when Mother called and told her to hurry and come eat breakfast. Louise hopped out of bed and quickly pulled on her shirt and jeans. Then she began the very difficult job of getting her shoes on. She didn't have much trouble getting her socks on, but it wasn't so easy to get those shoes on. She worked and worked, and finally got the string through all the holes and tied a neat knot. It wasn't as good a job as Mother could have done, but it was very good for a girl as young as she.

Louise looked down at her shoes and noticed the hole where her red sock was showing through. Her shoes were completely worn out. She had worn those same shoes all summer, and here it was fall. She really did need a new pair. When she got to the breakfast table, she asked

her daddy if she could have a new pair. Her daddy looked at her sadly and told her he knew she needed new shoes, but they just didn't have any money.

(Show picture 3.) Later that day, when Louise was playing with her dolls, she stopped and talked with Jesus. She explained to Jesus how worn her shoes were. She asked Jesus to give her some new shoes by Sunday. Her mother just happened to be passing by at that time, and she overheard Louise praying. Mother was so sad because she knew there was no way she could get Louise any shoes by Sunday, but Louise went to bed that night sure that she would have some new shoes by Sunday.

(Show picture 4.) The next day Louise went with her mother to visit Mrs. Kent. While Mother and Mrs. Kent were visiting, Louise was playing. Mrs. Kent noticed that Louise needed some new shoes. When she mentioned this, Louise looked straight at her and told her that Jesus was going to give her some by tomorrow. Mrs. Kent was touched, and she persuaded Louise's mother to let her take Louise down to the store and buy her a new pair of shoes.

Later that day Mrs. Kent was telling her neighbor about what Louise had told her. The neighbor said, "Why, my little girl has a pair of Sunday shoes that she only wore one time before she outgrew them. They might be just right for Louise." Mrs. Kent got the shoes and took them over to Louise.

(Show picture 5.) When Louise got up Sunday morning, her eyes were sparkling and her heart was filled with joy. She had TWO new pairs of shoes. If you had asked Louise where she had gotten the shoes, she would have said, "Why, from Jesus, of course."

(Show picture 6.) Louise believed Jesus when He said, "*All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive*" (Matthew 21:22).

(Have the children repeat this verse with you several times until they learn it. Then let the children take turns saying the verse.)

When Louise prayed, God answered, and she got the shoes she had prayed for. The verse we just learned tells us that if we ask believing, we

shall receive. Does this mean that we will get everything we pray for? Of course, it doesn't. What if we prayed for something that would hurt us? Do you think that God would give it to us? God answers our prayers in different ways. (Show picture 7.) Sometimes God answers yes. Sometimes we get exactly what we pray for.

Sometimes we pray for things that we don't really need or that would not be good for us. What if you prayed that God would give you a grocery sack full of candy? Would that be good for you, or would it be something you really need? What do you think God's answer would be?

What if you were angry at someone else because he had done something to hurt you? If you prayed for God to let something bad happen to him, do you think God would answer yes? Many times we ask for things that would not be good for us, so God answers no. God knows better than we do what will be good for us, so whatever He does, it is for our own good.

Sometimes God answers our prayers by giving us something different from what we asked. If you asked your mother for \$5.00 to buy a pencil, she probably wouldn't give you the \$5.00, but she might give you the money you need to buy the pencil. God knows what is best for us. Sometimes He gives us something different from what we ask.

Sometimes God answers our prayers by telling us to wait. Probably you have asked Mother before to let you have a candy bar right before you eat a meal. I imagine she told you to wait until after the meal, then you could have the candy bar. Sometimes God tells us to wait.

Regardless of how God answers our prayers, He does answer our prayers, if we pray believing. If we pray every day, we get to know God better. If you talk with the person next door every single day, don't you get to know that person better; but if you never talk to the person, how are you going to get to know him?

It is the same way with God. The more you talk with Him, the closer you get. You can be more like Jesus if you talk with Him daily. You will be better able to know what He wants you to do if you talk with Him. That's why your prayer

life is important to the church. If you pray regularly, you will be better able to do the work in the church that God wants you to do. So, by praying, you are helping the church.

Let's all pray together.

"Dear God, we are so glad that we can talk to You, and You will always hear us. We know that You love us, and we thank You for sometimes

telling us no, because it is best for us. Help us to remember to pray every day. Amen."

Additional Activities: The children can make a prayer reminder plaque by cutting out the silhouette of a boy bowed in prayer and gluing the silhouette on a paper plate. Write the memory verse on the bottom of the plate.



The Church Prays

God's Workers — Lesson 11

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will realize how important prayer is in the church.

Text: Acts 12:1-17

Memory Verse: *"All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive"* (Matthew 21:22).

Materials Needed: Have flannelgraph pieces to illustrate the biblical account of the angel freeing Peter from prison. Scene 1 should be Peter preaching to a crowd. Scene 2 — add soldiers standing by Peter to scene 1. Scene 3 — on the left side of the flannel board place a prison cell with Peter in it chained to the two soldiers. On the right side of the board place a room with the church people praying. Scene 4 — add an angel in the prison scene. Scene 5 — move the angel and Peter out of the prison cell to the space between the prison and the room. Scene 6 — remove the angel, and have Peter knocking on the door of the room of believers and have Rhoda opening the door.

Songs: "Always Take Time to Pray"; "Whisper a Prayer in the Morning"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them to remember how important prayer is in the church.

Lesson Approach: Last week we talked about how important prayer is to each one of us. We also talked about how your praying can help you do better work in the church.

Prayer also helps the church in another way. When the people in the church pray together for something, prayer is especially powerful. Listen as I tell you what happened to one church that prayed together.

One of the special helpers that Jesus called while He was here on earth was Peter. (Show scene 1.) After Jesus returned to heaven, He gave a special work to Peter and the other apostles and the church. This work was to tell all other people about Jesus. It seems that God gave Peter an extra blessing in that Peter was very good at going out to tell others about Jesus. God was with Peter and gave him special power. God even allowed Peter to perform miracles. Perhaps you remember from an earlier lesson how God gave Peter the power to heal a lame man. Peter told people about Jesus everywhere he went. Because of Peter, many people were added to the church.

God was using Peter in a special way; but if you will remember, many of the Jewish leaders did not like Peter. Some did not think he was really telling what God wanted told. They thought that what Peter was telling the people about Jesus was a lie, so they decided they had to do something about Peter. At this time the king of the country was named Herod. Herod listened to the leaders who were speaking out against Peter and the others who were telling about Jesus. He decided he would get rid of all these people who were going around spreading stories about a man rising from the dead, so he had James (one of the apostles) killed. This pleased the Jewish leaders so much that Herod sent his soldiers to arrest Peter. (Show picture 2.) The soldiers found Peter and took him back to the prison. Peter was chained to two soldiers, and many other soldiers were left to guard him so he could not escape. (Show scene 3.) Herod planned to try Peter the next morning, and Peter would probably be condemned to die. Peter knew of Herod's plans, but he was not afraid. He knew

that whatever happened, God would give him the strength and courage to face it, so he lay down and went to sleep.

In the meantime, the people of the church heard about Peter's arrest. They knew that Herod had killed James and would probably kill Peter. Mary, the mother of John Mark, invited the people to come to her house. The word was spread, and soon many of the friends of Jesus crowded into her house. They began to pray for Peter. These church people prayed as hard as they knew how. They didn't say a short prayer and then stop. They prayed and prayed and prayed. The night was passing quickly, and still the people prayed.

Peter was sleeping peacefully, chained between the two soldiers, when God sent an angel to the prison. (Show scene 4.) A light shone, and the angel touched Peter on the side and told him to stand. The chains fell off Peter. He stood up and followed the angel. Peter thought he was having a dream. The angel and Peter walked past two guards and came to the big iron gate of the prison. The gates opened by themselves, and Peter and the angel walked out. (Show scene 5.) When they came to the street, the angel left.

Peter turned and walked down the street to Mary's house. He knocked on the door. A young girl named Rhoda came to answer the door. (Show scene 6.) When she asked who was there, and Peter answered, she recognized Peter's voice. But she was so surprised and happy that she left Peter standing outside the door and ran to tell the others. When she told them Peter was at the door, they didn't believe her. They thought she was crazy. How could Peter get out of that prison? There were hundreds of soldiers, and they had Peter chained.

Rhoda insisted that Peter was at the door. They all rushed to the door and opened it. There was Peter. They were astonished. Peter came into the house and told them what had happened. Surely God had answered their prayers. Peter told the people to tell everyone else how wonderfully God had answered their prayers.

Listen carefully as I read Matthew 18:19. *"Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall*

agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." What is this verse saying?

(Encourage the children to talk about the verse. If they cannot seem to come up with an explanation, you explain the verse.)

First of all, who is the person saying the verse? (Jesus) Jesus is making a promise to us. Let's see what this promise is. He says that if two of us agree and ask for the same thing, what is He going to do? He promises that He will answer. Does this mean that the answer will be yes? The answer may not be yes, but the answer will be the answer that is best. If we pray together for the same thing, our prayers are very powerful. This is why prayer is so important to the church.

Prayer is a special gift God has given to us. It is through prayer that we can ask God to give us the strength and courage that we need. It is through prayer that the church can ask God to lead and help her make sure that what she is doing is right.

(At this time you need to talk to the children about some special need the church, or the class, or some particular person in the church has. Then pray specifically for that person or need. Remember, pray *specifically*.)

(This would be a good time to let the children say a chain prayer. You could begin the prayer, and then start with the child on your right and go around the room, letting each child pray. You could end the prayer. Don't force any child to pray, but encourage each one to do so.)

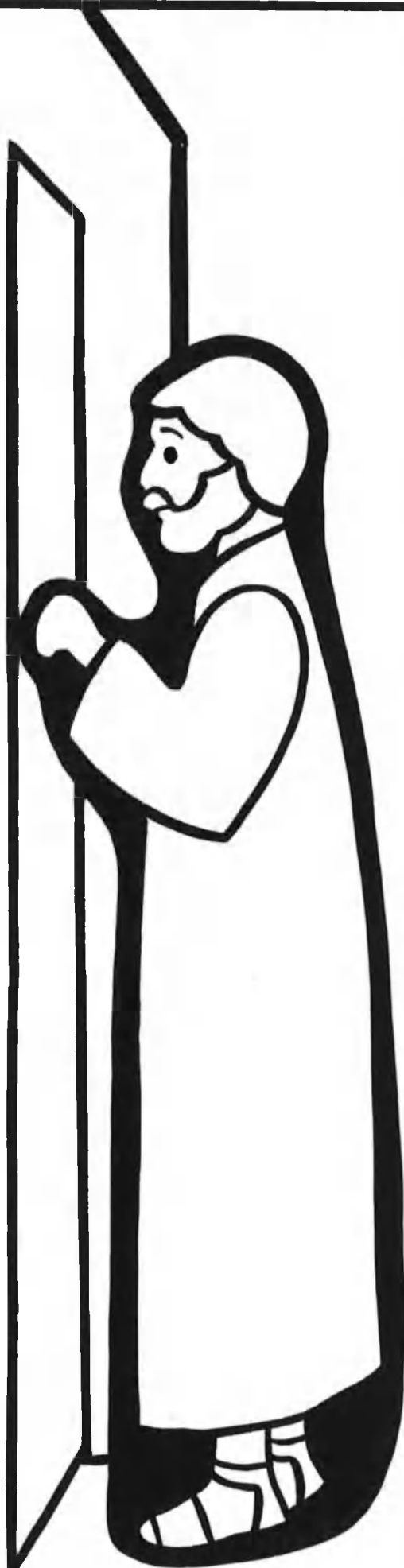
(Somewhere in the classroom [unless the item of prayer is for a certain person] you need to place a poster with the item of prayer written on it, so you can anticipate the answer and rejoice when the answer comes.)

(Remind the children of last week's memory verse. Remind them that if they don't pray believing, the prayer won't be answered.)

Additional Activities: Copy the color sheet for each child to color. It shows Peter standing outside the door knocking and the believers inside praying. Matthew 21:22 is on the bottom of the sheet.



“All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive” (Matthew 21:22).



The Church Studies

God's Workers — Lesson 12

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will realize how important it is for the church to study the Bible.

Text: Luke 6:12-19; Luke 4:1-15

Memory Verse: *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him" (James 1:5).*

Materials Needed: Make a flip chart out of poster board. On the first piece print "DECISIONS" in bold print at the top. Then under the word write, "How do I make decisions? How does the church make decisions?" On piece 2 write at the top "FOLLOW JESUS." On piece 3 write "PRAY" at the top, and have a silhouette of Jesus praying on the rest of the page. On piece 4 write "STUDY" at the top, and have an open Bible under it. On piece 5 have a picture of a church with the door open and the people inside praying and a large open Bible beside the church. On piece 6 write the memory verse. Fasten the pieces together at the top with two metal rings so that you can easily turn the pages. The chart will be easier to use if the poster board is sturdy enough to stand on the table.

Songs: "Don't Forget to Read Your Bible"; "The B-I-B-L-E"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them to remember how important it is that the church use the Bible for guidance.

Lesson Approach: (Hold up flip chart.) Have any of you ever had to make a decision? (Let the children discuss some of the decisions they have to make. You might mention deciding what to wear, what to get a friend for his or her birthday,

with whom to play, etc.) We have to make many decisions every day. Some of the decisions are much more important than others. Let's think about some of the more important decisions you have to make.

What if everyone else is making fun of another girl in your class? If you don't make fun too, your friends might not want to play with you. If you make fun of the little boy too, you would feel really bad. What would you do?

What if you are at the grocery store with Mother. You are so hungry, and you see a whole rack of candy. No one is looking; and if you picked up just one little piece and ate it, no one would probably miss it. What would you do?

If you see some older boys at school writing ugly words on the wall in the restroom, what would you do? If you tell the teacher, the boys might hurt you and call you "tattletale," but you don't want those words on the wall. It's your restroom, too. What will you do? These decisions are not always very easy to make. Sometimes it seems that no matter what you do, it is not going to work out very well.

Jesus had to make decisions when He was here on earth, too. (Turn to page 2.) Let's see how He made His decisions. One very important decision Jesus made was choosing His special helpers who would continue to lead the church after He went back to heaven. This was a hard choice. Many men wanted to be near Jesus and to be one of His special helpers, but the men Jesus chose had to be very special. They would have to withstand many hardships to follow Jesus' commands. They would be laughed at and even put in jail. Some of them would have to die.

Jesus knew this, so He knew He had to choose the right men. Do you know what He did to help Him make His choice? He went by himself to a mountaintop. He stayed there all night. He prayed *all night long*.

(Turn to page 3.) He asked God to give Him wisdom. Wisdom is the ability to make good decisions. He asked God to help Him decide which ones to choose. We can do the same thing when we have a tough decision — we can pray. James 1:5 says, *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, . . . and it shall be given him.”* This means that if we need help in deciding what is right and wrong, we can ask God, and He will help us.

Jesus had another decision that was very difficult also. After Jesus was baptized, He went out into the desert. He went there to pray and be alone with God. Day after day Jesus prayed. He had no food. After forty days of praying and thinking about the work He had to do, Jesus was very hungry. He heard someone whisper to Him. It was Satan.

Satan told Him, “If You are God’s Son, turn this stone into bread.” Jesus was very hungry, and He probably would liked to have had some bread. He certainly could have turned the stone into bread. What was He going to do? He used words from the Bible. (Turn to page 4.) He said, “The Scripture says, ‘Man cannot live on bread alone.’” Then Satan told Jesus, “If You will kneel down before me and worship me, I will give You all the riches and kingdoms under my power.”

Boys and girls, Satan is very powerful, and many people follow his way of life instead of God’s.

Jesus was weak from hunger, and He was going to need special helpers. He told Satan, “The Scripture says, ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve only Him!’”

A third time Satan tried to get Jesus to sin. Satan told Jesus, “If You are really God’s Son like you say You are, jump off the high mountaintop. The Scriptures say that God will order his angels to take good care of You.”

Satan was really trying to get Jesus to do what he wanted Him to. Satan was giving Jesus a dare,

just like boys and girls do sometimes. Haven’t you heard someone at school say, “If you don’t give me your pencil, I won’t play with you again”? Or, haven’t you heard children say, “I dare you to jump across that mud puddle. You can’t do it. You’re just a chicken to try”?

It seems like many times Satan still tries to get us to do wrong things just like he tried to get Jesus to sin. But Jesus stood firm, and He used the Bible words to make His decision. He said, “The Scripture says, ‘You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Finally Satan left, when he realized that he couldn’t get Jesus to decide to do what he wanted Him to. Jesus used words from the Bible to help Him in His decisions.

If you don’t know any of the words from the Bible, then it is going to be much harder for you to make the decisions you have to make every day. You should study the Bible so you will know what to do.

The church has to make decisions too. Sometimes the church has to decide things, just like we do. The church has to decide whether or not to build another building. The church has to decide what books it will use in Sunday School and all the other classes. The church has to decide how to spend the money. The church has many very important decisions. We want our church to be exactly the way Jesus wants it. The only way the church can make the right decisions is to follow Jesus’ example.

(Turn to page 6.) The church must pray and study God’s Word to find the best choice. This is why we have all the opportunities at church to study the Bible. We study the Bible in Sunday School, in Training Service, in Sunbeams, in Children’s Worship, in general worship, and all the other classes we have at church. In the summer we have a whole week of studying the Bible in Vacation Bible School. We must study the Bible to know God’s will — it’s very important.

Let’s review the verse I told you earlier. (Turn to page 6.) *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, . . . and it shall be given him.”* (Have the children repeat the verse with you several times. Then have some of the children tell in their own words what the verse means. Let the children take turns saying the verse.)

Long ago when your grandfather was very young, there was a war. In this war our country was fighting a country called Japan. The American soldiers were on a small island hunting for Japanese soldiers. They came to a small town called Shimabuku (shim-ah-boo-koo). They noticed immediately that this town was different. They had been in many other towns on the island, but none of them was like this town. All the other towns were dirty, and the people were very mean. But this town was very clean. The people had pretty grass and flowers growing in their yards, and the people were very friendly. The soldiers hadn't been in the town very long before they heard a bell ringing.

What on earth was that? What was the bell ringing for? The soldier couldn't imagine why the people of the town were ringing a bell. Then one of the Japanese men who could speak English explained to the soldiers. The people were ringing the bell to invite the soldiers to church. They explained that there the soldiers could join them in giving thanks, and they could study the Great Book that was in the church.

One of the American men asked, "Does he mean the Bible?"

The Japanese man answered, "Yes."

Many years ago a missionary had come to the town and brought a Bible. The missionary had told the people about Jesus. Many of the Japanese people in the town had accepted what the missionary had said and had been saved. The missionary helped them start a church. It changed the lives of the people. They loved God and studied the Bible. They tried to obey God. They cleaned up the town. They began showing love one to another. The people were happy, because they had the love of God. The soldiers were amazed. A whole town was changed because they believed in Jesus and studied the Bible.

This is a true story, boys and girls. This really did happen during World War II. This is a perfect example of how studying the Bible can help people make the right decisions. I want you to always remember how important it is for the church to study the Bible.

Additional Activities: Let each child trace his or her hand on a sheet of white paper. Cut out the hand and glue it on a piece of colored construction paper. Use the ideas given to explain how to use the hand as a prayer reminder.



Star Awards Review

God's Workers — Star Awards

Activity Number 4

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will be able to see how well they have learned from lessons 10-12. They will have another opportunity to hear the main lesson points. The teacher will be able to determine whether or not the children will receive a Star Award for the church study.

Text: Matthew 21:22; James 1:15

Memory Verses: *"All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive"* (Matthew 21:22); *"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him"* (James 1:5).

Materials Needed: Make a butterfly and a bee out of suede paper; back with suede paper also, so they are fuzzy on both sides. Locate pictures of large individual flowers and a board to put the flowers on.

Songs: "Always Take Time to Pray"; "Whisper a Prayer in the Morning"; "Don't Forget to Read Your Bible"

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, asking God to help them realize how important it is to learn His Word, so that we will know what we should do; thank God for promising to answer our prayers; thank God for our church.

Lesson Approach: Who remembers what we have studied in the last three lessons? This is our last Star Awards lesson on our study of the church. We have really learned a lot about the church. I hope you love the church and now know how important the church is. Jesus started the church, and He wants us to love it and work to help the church. We studied many lessons that

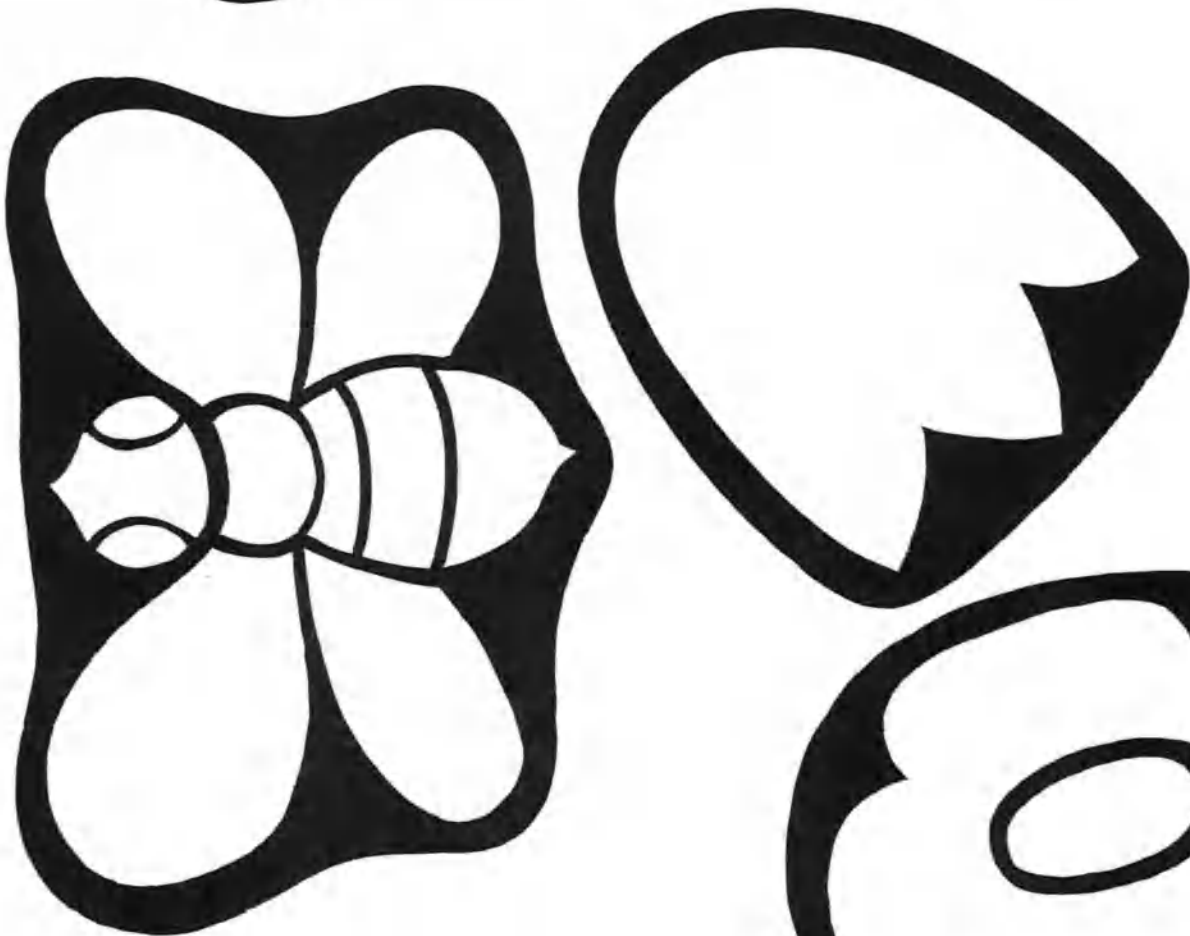
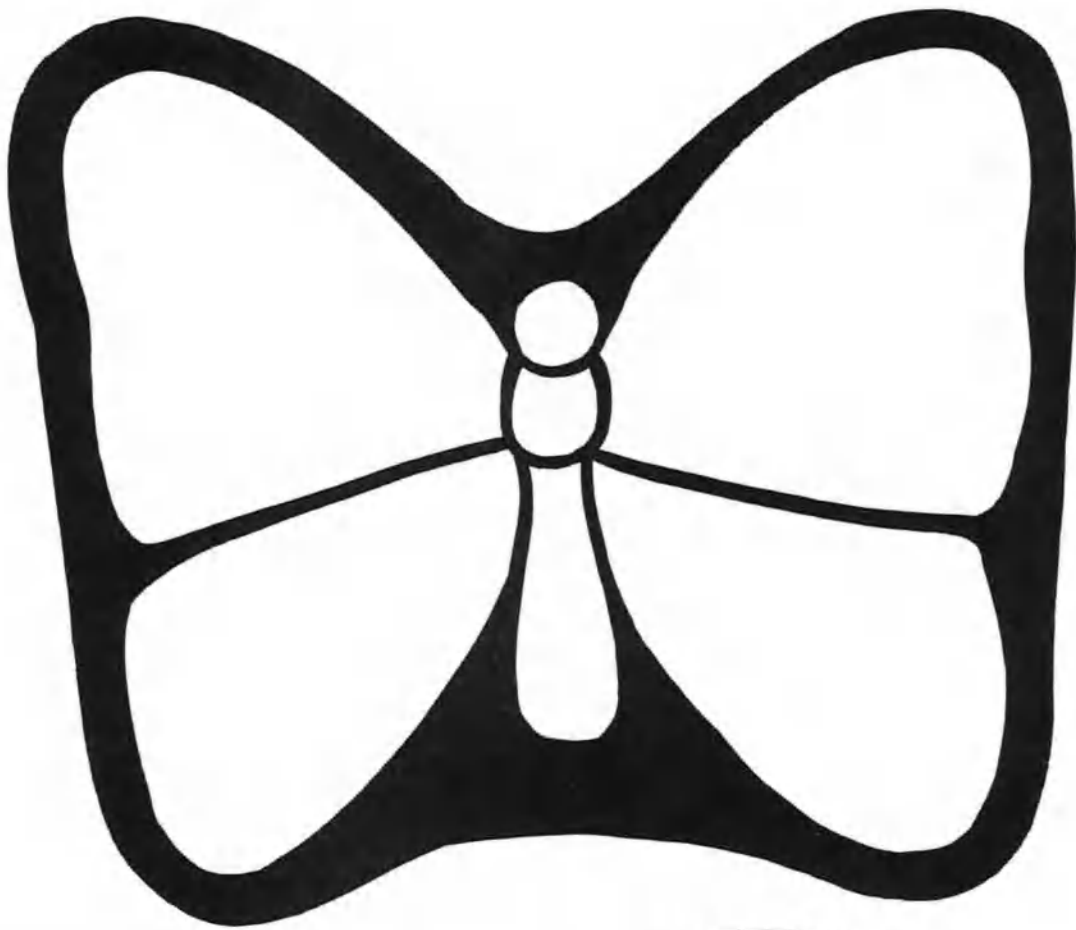
told us how we could help the church. We learned that we could help the church by coming to church, by telling others and bringing them to church, by giving our money to the church, by praising God in the church, by praying in the church, and by learning God's Word. In the last three lessons we have studied how we can help the church by praying and learning. Let's see how much you remember from these lessons by playing a game.

I'm going to divide you into two teams. One team will be the butterfly team, and the other team will be the bee team. On the board I have some big, pretty flowers. Bees and butterflies love to drink the nectar from the flowers, so we're going to see whether the bees or the butterflies can move across the flower patch to the other side first. In order to do this, you have to answer Star Award questions. If you answer the question correctly, your team's insect gets to move to the next flower. The team who is able to get their insect across the whole line of flowers first wins the game. Let's begin.

(Use the Star Award review questions. Take turns giving each team a chance to answer a question. If you want to make the game even more exciting, hang the large flowers on a string across the front of the room. The game is played the same. The children will enjoy moving the bees and butterflies from flower to flower. The teams could be divided into a boys' team and a girls' team or any way that seems fair. If there are not enough children to have teams, make each child a different colored butterfly or bee. The game will be played the same way. Have small prizes for each child.)

Star Awards Review Questions:

1. Does God always answer prayer?
2. Does God always answer prayer with a yes?
3. What are some ways God might answer prayer?
4. Say Matthew 21:22.
5. Why was Peter put in prison?
6. How did Peter escape from prison?
7. Why was Rhoda surprised when she saw Peter?
8. How did the church people help Peter get out of prison?
9. What did Jesus promise if two or three people pray together?
10. Say James 1:5.
11. How does the Bible help you make decisions?
12. Who followed Jesus into the desert and tempted Him?
13. When Jesus was trying to decide whom to ask to be His special helpers, what did He do to help Him decide?
14. When Satan tried to get Jesus to turn the stones to bread, what did Jesus do?
15. How did Jesus use the Bible to help Him decide whether or not to do what Satan tempted Him to do?
16. How did a Bible change a whole town?



God's Witnesses



Introduction

God has directed every Christian to spread the gospel to the lost, whether in his own home, next door, or across the sea. It is the responsibility of the Sunbeam teacher to teach the young child the importance of his obedience to God's command to be a witness (missionary). Before trying to teach these lessons, the teacher needs to pray that God will make witnessing a burden to his or her heart.

The unit on God's Witnesses has a three-fold purpose: (1) To teach what a witness is; (2) To teach how to be a witness; and (3) To teach how the Baptist Missionary Association of America witnesses.

The first three lessons are designed to teach the child what a witness is and how to be one.

The remaining lessons are designed to familiarize the child with how the Baptist Missionary Association of America witnesses. The various lessons deal with the areas of the world where BMAA missionaries serve. An introductory lesson is given to familiarize the child with the location, geographical data, culture, and customs of each area of the world.

It is hard for a preschool or primary child to visualize other countries that are many miles away. He has to have concrete things to aid in the learning process. Teachers need to use many visual aids in teaching missions to children. Good sources of information are the public library, travel agencies, travel magazines, school catalogs, *The Gleaner*, *National Geographic*, *Evangelizing Today's Child*, *Discovery*, maps, atlases, other teachers, friends who have traveled, store displays, and coloring books; the list is endless. You may be surprised at the various places where you will find missions ideas. Many times you may find a good idea for teaching missions, but you may not be able to use it for the present year — file that idea. You will undoubtedly use it later.

Try to make the classroom as attractive as possible. Plan to use as many visual aids as possible — things that will aid the children in really "seeing" that country. Children remember much more when the facts are presented visually. They usually remember 50 percent of what they see. These lessons will present ideas relating to room design, study helps, activities, missions giving, slogans, and songs.

Each lesson that follows an introductory lesson features a missionary in that area. Because of occasional changes in the BMAA missionaries and their locations, only a general outline is given for the teacher to use. (See the outline following this introduction.) The teacher will be allowed to select the featured missionary. Information on the featured missionary will need to be obtained from current issues of *The Gleaner*, 712 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201. This will need to be done in advance of lesson preparation.

HOW TO PRESENT A MISSIONARY

(This is to be used in Lessons 5, 7, 9, 11, and 12.)

1. Point out the countries in the region of study where the missionaries are located. (Use world map or globe.)
2. Place names and/or pictures of each family on the map near the country where they are serving.
3. Give the history of the missions work in that area of the world. Include the following information: how long the BMAA has had missionaries serving there; where BMAA missionaries have served,

but are no longer serving (in the area of study); major accomplishments for the area (Example: churches, Bible schools, hospitals, orphanages, etc.).

4. Choose one family and tell about their life (biographical data). If possible, invite the missionary to make a personal visit to the class. Secure from the missions department current slides and tapes of this family. Secure recent *Gleaner* letters from this family and read to the class. Write a letter (each child, or as a group) to this family. Encourage older Sunbeams to establish a pen pal with a missionary child. Support this family by praying and sending cards, gifts, or special offerings on special occasions. Secure Missionary Prayer Cards from the Missions Office, 721 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201.
5. Choose one of the carry-through activities listed on page 108 to use with the study of each missionary featured.

CARRY-THROUGH ACTIVITIES

(This is to be used with Lessons 5, 7, 9, 11, and 12.) Below are listed just a few suggestions and sources to obtain numerous ideas for carry-through activities.

MISSIONARY MOBILE

Cut a 12" X 12" strip of poster board. Staple ends together to form a circle. Staple yarn to each side of circle, so it can be hung. As each missionary is studied, let the children cut pictures of the missionary from *The Gleaner*. Print the country name on a 3" X 5" card and glue the picture on the card. Staple yarn or strips of crepe paper to the card, and then staple them around the circle. At the end of the unit on God's Witnesses, each child can carry his or her mobile home.

PRAYER AROUND THE WORLD

Put a globe of the world in the middle of a round table. As the missionaries are studied, tape their pictures and names on the table around the globe. Show where each missionary is located by connecting his picture to the globe with yarn.

Each week have the children to join hands around the table and pray for the missionaries. Encourage them to "circle the world with prayer."

MISSIONARY SCRAPBOOK

Let each child (or the whole group) make a missionary scrapbook. Use construction paper for a cover and unlined paper for the inner pages. As each missionary is studied, cut out pictures and articles of the missionary and the country in which he is serving and glue them on the pages.

SOURCES OF OTHER ACTIVITIES

Vacation Bible School Missions Studies (Books available for Taiwan, Mexico, Bolivia, Brazil, Japan, Australia, and The Philippines. Tapes and slides or filmstrips available also for Japan, Brazil, and Australia.)

Baptist Bible and Book House
712 Main Street
Little Rock, AR 72201-4695

Missions Ideas or 101 Ideas
Sacred Literature Ministries, Inc.
P. O. Box 777
Taylors, SC 29687

TO THE TEACHER

Teaching children about missionaries and their work is in itself a mission field, for these children are at the age when ideas and concepts are being formed. They have open minds and are eager to learn.

When children begin to learn about various missionaries and the work they do, they develop a personal concern for these missionaries and their families.

The term *missionary* includes all Christians, not just those who actually go to foreign fields.

Boys and girls should be led to the place where they will say from their hearts, "*Here am I; send me*" (Isaiah 6:8).

Who Is a Missionary?

God's Witnesses — Lesson 1

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know what a missionary is. The children will understand and begin learning Mark 16:15. The children will realize the importance of missions.

Text: Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20

Memory Verse: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: A small box filled with construction paper fish. Write Mark 16:15 on the back of each fish.

Cut out six pieces of poster board in the shape of a fish. On piece 1 put a picture of a green signal light; on piece 2 put a circle of smooth foil so it will look like a mirror; on piece 3 put a picture of the world; on piece 4 put a picture of someone talking; on piece 5 put a picture of the cross; and on piece 6 put a circle filled with faces of people from various countries. Use these six pieces to visualize the memory verse.

Cut out four pieces of poster board in the shape of a primitive native hut. On piece 1 put a picture of a South American boy in native dress; on piece 2 put a picture of a primitive witch doctor; on piece 3 put a picture of a beautiful jungle scene with lots of birds; on piece 4 put a picture of a missionary in a primitive village.

You will need a color sheet for each child. An explanation of what is on the color sheet is given under *Additional Activities*.

Songs: "In My Own Neighborhood," *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; "Be a Missionary," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations," *Baptist Hymnal*; "The Children of a

Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer in which you thank God that He has sent someone to tell them about Jesus; thank God for the church; and ask God to help them understand the importance of the lesson.

Lesson Approach: As soon as the children come in, have them take a scripture fish from the box and look up the scripture. When they find their scripture, verify it and help them read the verse. Let all the children find the verse and read it.

Boys and girls, you just went fishing in the Bible for a very important verse. This verse tells us what Jesus said about being missionaries. I want you to learn what a missionary is, and I also want you to begin learning the verse you just found in your Bibles.

Let's think back to the time when Jesus was living here on earth. He came to earth for a special reason. Do you remember why Jesus came to earth? (Allow the children to respond.) Yes, Jesus came to earth to die on the cross for our sins so that when we die, we can go to heaven. Jesus knew from the beginning that He would not have a very long time here on earth, so He asked some of the men He met to be His special helpers. Perhaps you remember Andrew, Peter, James, and John.

One morning they were washing their nets when they saw Jesus coming. Many people were following Him to listen to Him. He got into Peter's boat and asked to row out a way from the shore. Jesus stood in the boat and spoke to the people.

After the people left, Jesus asked Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him, and He would make them fishers of men. What did Jesus mean by this? He meant that they could tell others about Jesus and lead lost souls to Him.

Jesus had other special helpers. Maybe you remember Paul.

The most important job for these people to do was to tell others about Jesus. Just before Jesus left to go back to heaven, He commanded them, *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature"* (Mark 16:15). Jesus gave this command to His church to obey always — even today.

Jesus expects us to go and tell others about Him. In other words, He has commanded us all to be missionaries. Do you know who a missionary is? A missionary is a person who tells other people how Jesus came to earth, died, and rose again to take the punishment for all people's sins. If we believe that Jesus is God's Son who died for us, and we trust in Him to save us, He will.

Jesus commanded all of us to be missionaries. Let's read our verse again. This time as I say the verse aloud, I'm going to hold up a picture that may help you learn the verse.

The first word in the verse is *"Go."* (Hold up piece 1, the green light.) When the traffic light turns green, what do we do? We go. So when we see the green light, we're going to remember the word *"Go."*

The second word in the verse is a word we don't use very often — it is the word *"ye."* We use the word *you*. (Hold up piece 2.) This second piece represents a mirror; when you look at it, you see yourself. Let's remember, the second word is *"ye"* or *"you."*

Now, where are we to go? (Hold up piece 3.) We are to go *"into all the world."*

What are we to do? (Hold up piece 4.) We are to *"preach the gospel."* Don't let the word *preach* make you think that this command is only for preachers. This word *preach* simply means to tell.

What are we to tell? Tell *"the gospel."* (Hold up piece 4.) We are to tell the gospel to every creature. Listen carefully as I say the verse. (Say

the verse, holding up the pieces as you say the verse. Have the children repeat the verse several times until most of them can say the verse. Let some of them say the verse alone.)

God commands us all to be missionaries. We don't have to go to a far country to be a missionary. We can be a missionary anywhere we can tell others about Jesus. It is very important that we obey.

Listen to what happened to Kenitta. (Hold up piece 1A.) Kenitta was a little boy who lived in a town in the mountains of South America. This little town was so far up in the mountains that the people didn't have most of the modern conveniences that we have. There was no electricity for the little town. There were no telephones. None of the people had cars. The people lived in very small houses or huts with roofs made of tin or of grass woven together. Most of the people had never been out of the little village to any of the larger towns, and they had never seen a car or a television. Very few of the people could read or write; there was no school in the village.

The villagers were very happy, except for one thing. (Hold up piece 2A.) The Poison Man practiced Voodoo. He told the villagers that there were evil spirits all around them, and that he could talk with the evil spirits. He told them that he could get the evil spirits to hurt them or to help them. If he liked a person, he could get the evil spirits to leave the person alone; if he didn't like the person, he could get the evil spirits to hurt the person. The people gave the Poison Man gifts and tried to pay him to keep the evil spirits away. If the Poison Man didn't like a person, he threatened to capture that person's voice in a can and make bad things happen to him. Kenitta and the other children were very afraid of the Poison Man. When they saw him coming, they ran as fast as they could.

(Hold up piece 3A.) Kenitta would often sit alone in the jungle and watch very quietly. Kenitta loved animals, and he could be so quiet that sometimes the animals would come very close to him. The animals were so beautiful. Sometimes one of the parrots would lose one of its beautiful feathers. Kenitta would pick it up and save it in the little box he had hidden.

Kenitta listened to the beautiful sounds the birds made, and he wondered if the evil spirits made all these beautiful creatures as the Poison Man said.

The more Kenitta watched, the more he became convinced that there was something more than just the evil spirits Kenitta talked about. All the beautiful things that he saw and heard and felt couldn't be made by the evil spirits. Kenitta decided that maybe there were also good spirits. And maybe these good spirits made the good things happen. He wondered which were stronger, the evil spirits or the good spirits. If only he could know. He wished so hard that someone who knew would come and tell him. Life would be so much better if he and everyone else didn't have to be so afraid of the Poison Man.

(Hold up piece 4A.) One day Kenitta went with his father down the mountain to another village. While they were there, Kenitta heard that there was a strange white man and woman in the village who had come to help the people. When the people were sick, the man and woman would give them funny tasting liquids, and they would get better. The man and woman told the villagers about someone called Jesus.

Kenitta went to hear this man talk. He told how Jesus was the Son of God, and he told that God is the one who made the whole earth and

everything in it. The man said that God was the most powerful over everything. The man also said that God made the first man, and He loved all people — even people today.

The man said that whoever believes in Jesus would get to go to heaven to be with Jesus when the time came to die. Kenitta was so happy. He had been right. There was a good person who created and loved man. Kenitta just hadn't known the name — God. Kenitta was so happy to hear about Jesus. Kenitta believed in Jesus and accepted Him as his Savior.

When Kenitta went back to his village, he told all his friends. God had heard Kenitta and sent a missionary to tell him about Jesus. What if there had not been a missionary to go? What would have happened to Kenitta? Kenitta would never have known about Jesus. When Kenitta died, he would not have gone to heaven.

That's why God commands us to be missionaries. We must let others know about Jesus so that others can be saved. That is what a missionary is — one who tells others about Jesus.

Additional Activities: Provide a color sheet for each child. On the sheet there is a picture of the world. At the bottom of the sheet there are blank lines. Have each child color the world and write the words of the memory verse on the blank lines.



You Can Be a Missionary

God's Witnesses — Lesson 2

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that they can be missionaries by simply telling those around them the gospel story. The children will understand and be able to say Mark 16:15.

Text: Acts 7:51-60; Mark 16:15

Memory Verse: *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature"* (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: Six pieces of poster board cut out in the shape of a barn — on card 1 put a picture of a boy on a horse; on card 2 put a picture of the horizon with smoke coming up from a distant farm; on card 3 put a picture of the outside of a barn with smoke coming out the door; on piece 4 put a picture of the inside of the barn with a stack of hay on fire; on piece 5 put a picture of two boys outside the barn and fire trucks; on piece 6 put a picture of flames; on piece 7 put a picture of Stephen being stoned. Use the visuals for the memory verse from last week's lesson.

Songs: "In My Own Neighborhood," *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; "Be a Missionary," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations," *Baptist Hymnal*; "The Children of a Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, thanking God for sending someone to tell us about Jesus, asking God to help those who go to faraway places to tell strangers about Jesus, and asking God to help us have the desire and courage to tell others about Jesus.

Lesson Approach: Last week we talked about some very special helpers whom Jesus called.

Peter, Andrew, James, John, and Paul were some of the men we talked about. Do you remember what Jesus asked them to do? (Let children discuss until they remember that these helpers were left to spread the gospel.) That's right! Jesus asked these men to tell all the other people that Jesus is God's Son who came to earth to die for everyone's sins. Those who trust Him as Savior will have eternal life. We learned a verse in which Jesus commanded these men to go and tell.

Who can say Mark 16:15? I will hold up these cards to help you remember. (Use the cards for visualizing the verse that you used last week.) Let's say the verse together. (Lead the class in saying the verse. Then ask one of the children to explain what the verse means — an explanation of the verse was given in last week's lesson. Make sure that each child understands the verse. Repeat the verse several times. Allow some of the children to say the verse. Emphasize to them that you want them to learn this verse, because it is a very important command that Jesus has given us.) I want you to remember, boys and girls, that Jesus gave this verse to every one of us, not just to the preachers and missionaries who go to faraway countries to tell others about Jesus. He wants each of us to be missionaries. He may call some of you to go to some place far away to be a missionary; but if He doesn't ask you to go far away, He still expects you to be a missionary where you are.

I want us to think about how we can be missionaries. Think very hard and see if you know of some ways that we can be missionaries right here in our town. Do any of you have any ideas?

(Allow the children to respond. They will probably come up with most of the right answers. If they have trouble, you may have to suggest ways. As they suggest the different ways, you should write them on a chalkboard or on a large piece of poster board. The following ways should be listed: tell others, pray, give, act in a manner that shows others that we love Jesus.) There are lots of ways we can be missionaries, but in this lesson I just want us to talk about one way — telling others.

This is probably the best thing we can do to be missionaries for Jesus. After all, didn't Jesus tell us to tell others? Have any of you ever told another person the gospel story — that Jesus is God's Son and that He came here to earth, died, and rose again so that we can trust in Him and have eternal life? (If any child has, let him tell about it.) You know it's easy to ask a friend to come to church with us and to tell him all about what we do at church, but the most important thing is telling about Jesus. If we don't tell, we are not obeying Him.

What is going to happen if we don't tell others about Jesus? Let me tell you a story about Joey. (Show card 1.) Joey and Carl had always been good friends. They lived on farms next to each other. They had always ridden horses and played together.

They were both excited when it was time for the baseball team to choose a captain. Both of them had their hearts set on being captain. When the coach announced that Joey had been selected, Carl became very angry. Since that day, Carl had not spoken to Joey. Joey was sad because he missed riding with Carl, and there was no one else to play with.

(Show card 2.) One day as Joey was riding home, he noticed some smoke on the horizon. He stopped his horse and tried to figure out where the smoke was coming from. It looked as if the smoke were coming from Carl's house. Well, Carl was angry with him and he didn't want to go over to his house. It was probably just some brush Carl's father was burning. What should he do? Should he go over to investigate or just ride on home? It really wasn't any of Joey's business. He turned his horse to go home and

started to leave when he thought, "I care about Carl — even if he is mad at me. I don't want anything bad to happen to him and his family." Joey turned his horse and whispered, "Go like the wind, Blue Star."

(Show card 3.) As Joey came close to Carl's farm, he could see the smoke billowing into the air. The barn was on fire! Joey jumped off Blue Star and ran up to the house. He knocked on the door, but nobody answered. "I've got to call for help," Joey thought, so he shoved against the door. The door was open, and Joey ran inside to the telephone. He called his dad and told him about the fire.

"Are there any animals in the barn," asked his dad.

"I don't know," answered Joey.

His dad said, "Just hang on, and I'll be there with help as soon as I can."

(Show card 4.) Joey ran to the barn. He could see the blaze in the hay stacked in the back corner. "What if there are animals in here!" Joey took the rope from his saddle and tied one end of it to the saddle horn. Then he crawled — as fast as he could — under the smoke. He checked the stalls where the horses and cows usually stood to eat. None of the animals were there. The smoke was getting worse. Tears flooded Joey's eyes. He couldn't see, and he could hardly breathe.

As he made his way toward the door, he bumped into something on the floor. It was Carl! Joey shook Carl and yelled, "Get up Carl. We have to get out of here!" But Carl didn't move. Maybe he was dead.

Joey took the rope and tied it around Carl's waist. He called out to Blue Star, "Pull, boy; pull!" Blue Star began backing up. As he did, he gradually began pulling Carl. Joey crawled with Carl, holding onto him so he could find his way out. At last Joey and Carl were out of the barn.

(Show card 5.) Joey heard the sirens and saw the fire trucks coming. One of the firemen put a mask over Carl's nose and mouth.

"This will help him breathe," he said.

The other firemen ran into the barn with hoses from the truck. Soon the fire was out.

Carl began coughing, and his eyes opened. He yelled, "The barn is on fire."

“Not anymore,” the fireman told him. “Joey called us just in time. If he hadn’t cared enough to come over to warn you, the barn and you would probably be burned up by now.”

Carl didn’t know what to say. Finally, he said, “Thanks, Joey, if you hadn’t come, I would have died.”

(Show card 6.) Boys and girls, what does this story have to do with our lesson? Think about what I asked you just before I told you the story. Remember, I asked you what would happen if we didn’t obey Jesus and tell others about Him. Boys and girls, if a person has not accepted Jesus as his Savior, what is going to happen to him when he dies? That’s right, he will not go to heaven. So if we don’t tell others, just as Joey went over to tell Carl about the fire, they may not be saved. It is important that we obey Jesus’ command and tell others. We must be missionaries. We don’t have to go somewhere special; we just need to tell the people we are around every day. God will give us the courage and help us know what to say if we will ask Him.

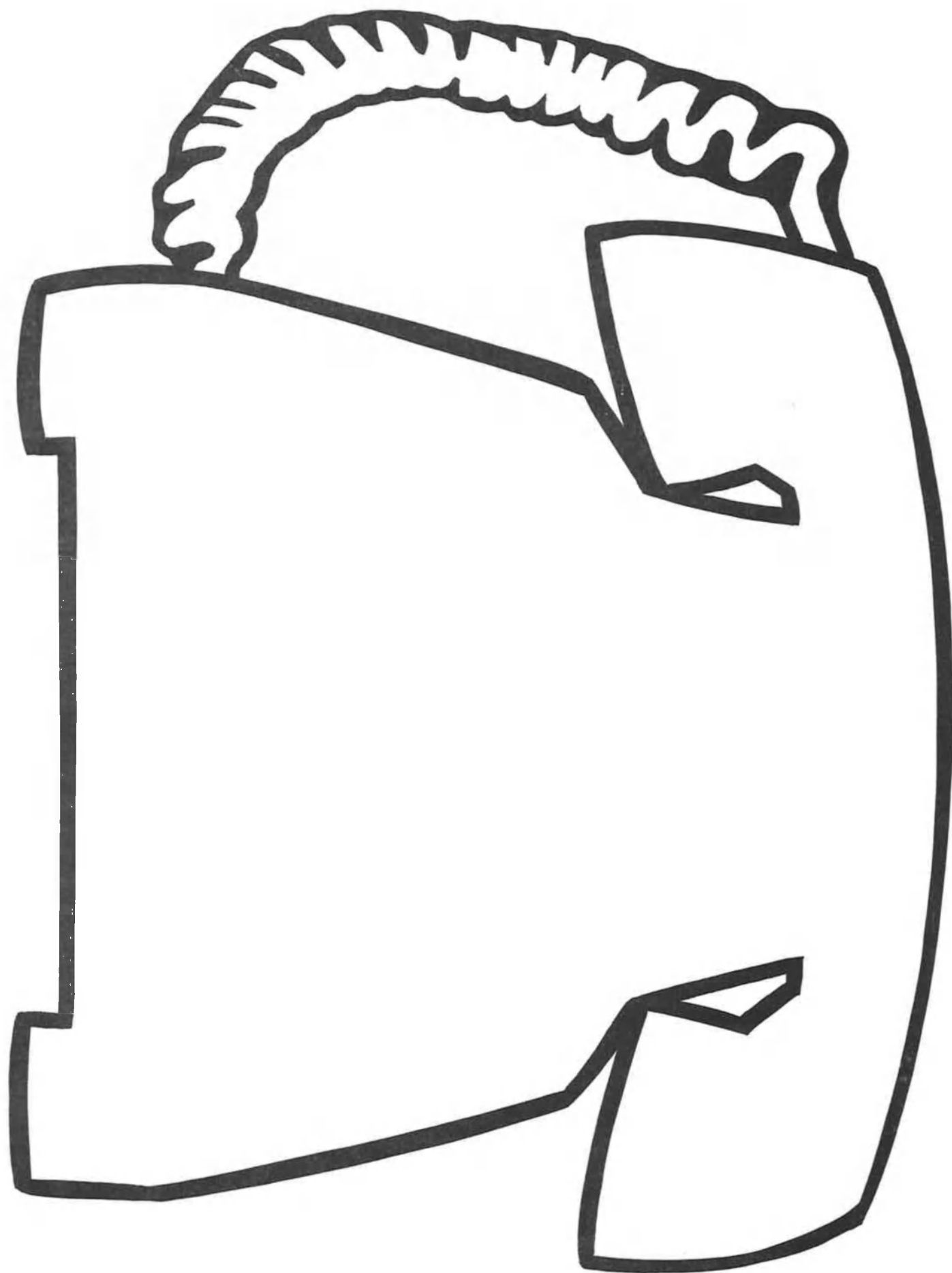
(Show card 7.) Do you remember Stephen from the Bible? Stephen lived during the same time that Jesus lived. After Jesus was crucified, arose, and went back to heaven, Stephen obeyed Jesus’ command to tell others. Stephen told everyone he met about Jesus. Many of the people who heard Stephen trusted Jesus and came into God’s family. But some of the rulers did not want Stephen to tell about Jesus, so they made a plan. They found some men who would tell lies for them. These men said, “Stephen talks against

God and God’s laws.” Many people believed the lies and became angry, so the rulers arrested Stephen. Stephen knew that if he promised never to preach about Jesus again, the rulers would let him go; but Stephen wanted to do what God wanted him to do.

Stephen prayed and asked God to give him courage. God helped Stephen stand up and tell everyone about Jesus. The rulers dragged Stephen outside Jerusalem. They picked up stones and threw them at him, but Stephen wasn’t afraid to die. He prayed, “Jesus, take me to heaven to be with You.” And as the men threw the stones, Stephen prayed, “Lord, forgive them.” Then Stephen closed his eyes and died. When he opened his eyes, he was with Jesus!

Stephen was willing to obey Jesus. Are we? We are very blessed, because we can tell others about Jesus and not have to be afraid. Let’s say our verse together again, and let’s try to tell at least one person this week about Jesus.

Additional Activities: Provide a copy of the outline of a telephone for each child. Let the children cut the phones out and then write the name of one person they are going to talk to this week on the phone. They should tell this person the gospel story. Keep a list of the names of the people the children are going to contact, so you can ask next week if the children actually did talk to the person. Before the class is dismissed, have a prayer, asking God to give each child and you the strength to talk to at least one person this week.



You Can Be a Missionary by Giving

God's Witnesses — Lesson 3

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that they can be missionaries by giving. The children will have a desire to give to missions.

Text: Mark 16:15; I Peter 3:15

Memory Verse: “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: You will need the visuals you used to visualize Mark 16:15. Locate in the visual packet the picture of the young girl weeding a flower bed. You will need the Tell the News game pieces (explained under the *Additional Activities* section).

Songs: “In My Own Neighborhood,” *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; “Be a Missionary,” *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations,” *Baptist Hymnal*; “The Children of a Thousand Tongues,” *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in a prayer, thanking God that He has sent someone to tell them about Jesus; thanking God for the church; asking God to give them the strength to tell others about Jesus; and asking God to help them realize how important it is to pray and give for the missionaries.

Lesson Approach: (Begin the lesson by reviewing the memory verse. Use the visuals from last week.) Last week I asked you to do something. Who remembers what I asked you to do? (Tell at least one other person about Jesus.) Did any of you tell someone else about Jesus? Tell us about it. (Allow the children time to tell about their

experiences; then tell the children about how you told someone about Jesus.) If you did not tell someone about Jesus, I want you to tell someone this week. When we tell someone about Jesus, we are being missionaries.

Another word that means about the same thing as the word *missionary* is the word *witness*. Please, let’s all try to witness to at least one person this week. If you are a little afraid or embarrassed to talk to someone about Jesus, what can you do? You can pray, and God will give you the help you need.

Please look in your Bibles and find the book of I Peter. Now turn to chapter 3, verse 15. Can any of you read this verse? (Allow one of your good readers to read the verse. If the children cannot read the verse, read it for them, then have them read it aloud with you.) Now, can any of you tell me what this verse means? Maybe if I use these words to say the verse you will understand. “Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you.” Now, you understand that God is telling you to always be ready to tell someone else about Jesus. Are you ready to tell others about Jesus? It is very important for all of us to tell others, so don’t forget to tell someone this week.

Last week we learned that one way to be a missionary is to tell others about Jesus. Tonight we are going to talk about another way we can be missionaries. We can be missionaries by giving money that is sent to help those who are telling about Jesus. Are you giving part of your money to help the missionaries? Sometimes you may not have very much money to give; and sometimes you may have some money, but your heart is set

on buying some special thing that you have been wanting for a long time. Is it really important that children give money to missions? Listen to Linda's story and decide for yourself.

It was hot. The sun was so bright that the heat just seemed to bounce right off the ground into Linda's face. Little rivers of sweat trickled down her neck. Linda had been working all morning for Mrs. Jones. Linda had wanted so badly to have some money to give last week when the Sunbeam teacher took up the offering to send to the missionary in the Philippines, but Linda's dad had been laid off his job. There was barely enough money to buy food. Linda knew her mother and dad didn't have any money to give her, but she had still felt so bad when the offering plate passed by her. She decided right then that she was going to earn some money to give.

The very next afternoon after school she went over to Mrs. Jones' house and asked Mrs. Jones if she would like to have some help working in her flower beds. Mrs. Jones was delighted, so Linda pulled the weeds in Mrs. Jones' flower beds.

As Linda worked, she dreamed about what it would be like to go to a faraway country and be a missionary. She could just see herself walking through a jungle with all kinds of birds and wild animals around her. Finally, she would get to the village, and all the people would run out to greet her. She would tell the people the good news about Jesus, and they would believe. Just then the thorn on a weed scratched Linda's finger and her dream was gone. A little girl like Linda couldn't take off and go to a faraway land to be a missionary; but Mrs. Jackson, the Sunbeam teacher, had said that she could be a missionary by telling others. Maybe she would talk to Ann this week and tell her about Jesus.

Finally, the job was completed. Mrs. Jones came out and looked at the flower bed and smiled.

"Linda, you have done a wonderful job. Here is your dollar," Mrs. Jones said.

Linda was so happy as she walked home. She had earned a whole dollar.

Just then Linda passed by the book store. In the window was a notebook just like the ones all

her friends had been bringing to school. Everyone had one but Linda. She wanted it so badly. She went inside just to look, and she asked the saleslady the price. It was only one dollar. Oh, dear, Linda thought, "I worked so hard for that dollar. I want that notebook so badly. My one little dollar won't make any difference anyway. What should I do?" In her heart Linda knew what she should do.

The next week Linda was beaming as she put her dollar in the offering plate. She was so happy as Mrs. Jackson talked about the missionary family to which the money was going to be sent.

Linda asked Mrs. Jackson, "What will my dollar buy for the missionaries?"

Mrs. Jackson almost said, "Nothing." But then she remembered that Mrs. Jones had told her how hard Linda had worked for that dollar.

Mrs. Jackson said, "Linda, your dollar will buy a small New Testament that the missionaries can give to someone."

Mrs. Jackson couldn't get Linda off her mind during the next week, so she wrote a letter to the missionary when she sent the money the Sunbeams had collected. She explained to him how Linda had worked for the dollar she sent.

A month or two went by, and Linda and Mrs. Jackson forgot about the dollar Linda had sent. One day Mrs. Jackson received a letter from the missionary. He thanked her and the Sunbeams for the offering they had sent. He told her a special story about Linda's dollar. Mrs. Jackson went over to Linda's house to tell her the wonderful news.

The missionary had used Linda's dollar to buy a small New Testament, and he had given it to the chief of the little village that was far back in the jungle. The chief had come to the town where the missionary lived and had heard the missionary talk. The chief went back to his village and took the New Testament. The next time the missionary went to the village, he found that the chief had read the New Testament every night to the people in the village. Many of them had believed the Word and had accepted Jesus as their Savior. With the help of the chief, the missionary started a church in the village, and many souls were saved — all because of Linda's dollar.

So you see, what you give is important. What if Linda had bought the notebook instead? Let's all be missionaries by telling and by giving.

Additional Activities: Play the Tell the News game. On a large piece of poster board draw a 12" X 12" square. Divide the square into sixteen equal squares. Label each of the sixteen squares as indicated below. Let the first child toss a small

rock onto the board. The child must then use the word that the rock lands on to tell the rest of the class something about Jesus. For example, if the rock lands on the word *tell*, the child might say that God commanded all Christians to tell others about Jesus. Let the children take turns until class time is over. This game will give the children an opportunity to practice telling others about Jesus in a nonthreatening situation.

PRAYER

LORD

SAVIOR

JESUS

BIBLE

JESUS

BELIEVE

HEAVEN

GOD

**ETERNAL
LIFE**

MISSIONARY

GIVE

TELL

WITNESS

SALVATION

JESUS

Star Awards Review

God's Witnesses — Star Awards Activity Number 1

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The teacher will be able to determine whether or not the children have learned the concepts she has taught in Lessons 1-3. The teacher will be able to determine which children have learned enough to fulfill the Star Awards requirements for these lessons. The teacher will be able to judge the effectiveness of her teaching and adjust it as needed.

Memory Verse: *“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”* (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: Prepare a suitcase for each student by taking an envelope and gluing a construction-paper handle on it. Locate pictures in the visual packet that are representative of the five articles each child will have to have to begin his or her missionary journey — (1) pictures of clothes, (2) Bibles, (3) toilet articles, (4) plane tickets, (5) Spanish dictionary

Songs: Review all songs that have been learned so far in this unit.

Prayer: Lead the children in asking God to help them remember what they have learned and to put into practice what they have learned. Ask God to help all Christians to have the courage and desire to tell others about Jesus.

Lesson Approach: There is a little girl and a little boy who live in a small village in Honduras. They have never heard of Jesus; they have no idea who He is. If someone doesn't go and tell them soon, they may never have an opportunity to know Jesus as their Savior. We are going to gather the things we need to go and tell them. Here are the things each of you will need in order to go: (1) a Bible; (2) clothes; (3) toothbrush and

similar articles; (4) a Spanish dictionary; (5) a plane ticket. Until you have all of these things, you cannot go. I am going to give each of you a suitcase (hand each child the envelope that you have prepared). We're going to begin with ____ (student's name). I'm going to ask _____ a question. If she can answer it, I will give her one of the five articles she has to have. If she cannot answer the question, we will go to the next student. The first student who gets all five articles will be the winner. Let's begin.

(Play this game until your time is up. You will have to repeat some of the questions, but this will help the students learn the concepts. Use your own judgment in deciding whether or not to award a prize to each child as he gets all five articles. When the child does obtain all five articles that are needed, have each to tell the class what he will tell the little boy and girl in Honduras.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Name at least one person whom Jesus called to help Him as a fisher of men.
2. What did Jesus mean when He said that His helpers would be fishers of men?
3. Say Mark 16:15.
4. Who is a missionary?
5. Who is to be a missionary today?
6. Where does a person have to go in order to be a missionary?
7. What good thing happened to Kenitta which changed his life?
8. Explain what Mark 16:15 means.
9. To whom was Jesus speaking in Mark 16:15?

10. Tell one way that you can be a missionary.
11. Tell another way that you can be a missionary.
12. Does Jesus expect us to tell people what we don't like about Him?
13. What happened to Stephen?
14. Why did this happen to Stephen?
15. How did Stephen feel toward the people who stoned him?
16. If you have a very small amount of money, does Jesus expect you to give a part of it to the church?
17. What did Linda learn about giving?

The BMAA Sends Witnesses

God's Witnesses — Lesson 4

BEAM — YEAR ONE Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the churches who believe and worship as we do form a group called the Baptist Missionary Association of America. The children will know that the Baptist Missionary Association takes money sent in from all the churches and sends missionaries to all parts of the world. The children will know that the missionaries that the Baptist Missionary Association sends out report to the churches through a magazine called *The Gleaner*.

Text: Mark 16:15; John 4:34-38; Acts 13:1-5

Memory Verse: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: Cut five pieces of poster board in the shape of a church building. On piece 1 write the words of Mark 16:15; on piece 2 write "BMAA"; on piece 3 write "INTERSTATE"; on piece 4 write "FOREIGN"; on piece 5 put a front page of *The Gleaner*.

You will need a picture of a combine harvesting grain in a wheat field. You will also need a picture of some farm workers (preferably Bible-time people) harvesting grain by hand.

You will need a recent issue of *The Gleaner* and some pictures of foreign people that you have cut from *The Gleaner*. You will need a color sheet for each child with a picture of the world on it and the words of John 4:35 written at the bottom.

Songs: "In My Own Neighborhood," *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; "Be a Missionary," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations," *Baptist Hymnal*; "The Children of a

Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in asking God to help them realize how important missions work is and making them feel responsible for helping in the missions fields in whatever way God asks them to.

Lesson Approach: Let's all say Mark 16:15 together. (Repeat the verse with the children.) For the last few weeks we have been talking about how important it is that we tell others about Jesus.

Do you remember the true story I told you about the little boy who lived in South America? Remember how he had never heard about Jesus and prayed to the great good spirit to send someone to tell him about Jesus? Surely enough, a missionary came to his village. If the missionary had not come to tell him about Jesus, Kenitta would have never known. Wouldn't it be awful to know that because we did not send a missionary, someone would not go to heaven? But that's exactly what happens. We must realize that Jesus left it up to us to tell others. That's why Jesus gave us the command in Mark 16:15.

The church must send the gospel everywhere. Have you ever thought about how much money it costs to send just one missionary to a faraway land? It costs hundreds and hundreds of dollars to send a missionary to a faraway land. Even a big church would not have the money to send more than one missionary, so the churches that believe as we do and worship as we do have formed a group of churches. This group of churches is called the Baptist Missionary Association of America. Churches all over our

country that believe and worship as we do are members of this group. Many of the churches in this group collect their money for missions and send it to an office in Little Rock, Arkansas. A committee from the churches then decides how to spend the money and where to send missionaries.

Some of the missionaries are sent to places right here in America. Yes, that's right. There are many people here in our own country who do not know Jesus. Aren't there people that you know at school who don't know Jesus? At least here in our town the people in our church can tell others about Jesus; but in many towns there are no churches like ours, so we send missionaries to towns here in the United States. The missionaries who work here in the United States are called interstate missionaries. (Show piece 3.) (Have the children repeat the word *interstate* with you and discuss who an interstate missionary is until you feel that all the children understand the concept.)

The BMAA sends some of the missionaries to other countries far, far away. We have missionaries in the countries to the south of us and far away across the oceans on the other side of the world. These men and their families leave their homes here and go to a faraway land. They have to learn how to speak a new language, and they often have to live in places where there are none of the nice things that we have in our homes. These missionaries who go to other countries are called *foreign* missionaries. (Show piece 4.)

Since we help to send these missionaries, we are interested in hearing about what they are doing. Every month the missions office publishes a magazine that tells us what the missionaries are doing. The name of this magazine is *The Gleaner*. (Hold up a copy of the magazine.)

Do any of you happen to know what the word *gleaner* means? We can read in the Bible about people who were gleaners.

Long ago all the crops that were grown were gathered by hand. Today our farmers may plant miles and miles of wheat, barley, oats, and other plants that are used to make the flour for all our bread. When these plants are ripe, there are big machines that the farmer drives through the

fields that pick the ripe grain. (Show a picture of a combine in a wheat field.) But long ago, there were no machines, so when the grains were ripe the farm workers had to go out and gather the grain by hand. (Show a picture of workers in a field of grain gathering the crops.) The poor people who didn't own any land to plant a crop would come along after the workers and pick up the grain that the workers had missed. These people were called the gleaners.

Jesus knew all about the gleaners, and He compared the gleaners to the church people. He told His church, "*Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest*" (John 4:35). When Jesus said this, He was not talking about the ripe grain in the fields; He was telling the church that there were millions of people in the world who were ready and needed to hear about Him. Actually, He was telling them to go and be gleaners of souls. They were to go and gather people to tell about Jesus, just like the farmers go out and gather their ripe grain.

Since Jesus used this picture to explain to the church members what they should be doing in missions, the people in our own missions office thought the name *Gleaner* would be good for our magazine. *The Gleaner* tells us how our missionaries are gleaning (or winning) lost souls for Jesus.

(At this time the teacher needs to take a copy of *The Gleaner* and skim through it with the children. Pick out an article that would be of particular interest or that would be exciting to the children and read it to them.)

Before we end our class, I want us to remember what we have learned tonight. Let me see if you can answer my questions. What is the group of churches with which we work to send missionaries to tell about Jesus? (Baptist Missionary Association of America) Why do the churches work together? (So more missionaries can be sent out.) What do we call the missionaries who work here in America? (interstate missionaries) What do we call the missionaries who go to other countries? (foreign missionaries) What is the name of the magazine that our

missions department publishes once a month to tell what the missionaries are doing? (*The Gleaner*)

Additional Activities: If there is time, use the illustrated story “Carlos Finds Forgiveness.” This story is found in the booklet *Missions Studies — Bolivia* by Mrs. Jim Beasley and is published by the Baptist Publishing House. It may be ordered from Baptist Bible and Book House, 712 Main Street, Little Rock, AR

72201-4695 and other Christian bookstores.

Copy the color sheet with a picture of the world on it for each child. At the bottom of the sheet are the words of John 4:35. Let the children cut out pictures from old issues of *The Gleaner* and glue the pictures around the world. As they complete this activity, be sure to emphasize to them that millions of people all over the world need to hear about Jesus and be saved. The church is responsible for sending the gospel to these people.



“Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest” (John 4:35).

We Send Witnesses to America

God's Witnesses — Lesson 5

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America work together to send missionaries here in our own country. The children will become familiar with one interstate missionary and the work that he does.

Memory Verse: “*Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature*” (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: The teacher will need to study the lesson outline given at the beginning of this unit — “How to Present the Missionaries.” She will then need to gather all the information needed to teach the children about one of the interstate missionaries and the work he does — using the outline given.

The teacher will also need to study the suggestions for having a carry-through activity (one that will be begun in this lesson and added to in Lessons 7, 9, and 11) that are given at the beginning of this unit. She needs to select one activity to use throughout the remaining lessons on specific missionaries and gather any materials she will need to begin the activity.

Songs: “In My Own Neighborhood,” *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; “Be a Missionary,” *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations,” *Baptist Hymnal*; “The Children of a Thousand Tongues,” *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will know how important it is to tell others about Jesus and to send missionaries to the places we cannot go. Pray that the children will listen

attentively to the lesson. Pray for the specific interstate missionary that you have selected.

Lesson Approach: Last week we talked about how our churches that believe alike and worship alike join together to send more missionaries to more places. Do any of you remember what our group of churches is called? (Baptist Missionary Association of America) Yes, we are the Baptist Missionary Association of America. We work together because this is the way the churches worked in New Testament times. We know that sending out missionaries is one of the most important things the churches do. Jesus started the church so there would be a way for people to hear the good news about Him. We must always remember Mark 16:15. Let’s say it together. (Repeat the verse with the children.)

Last week we also read in John that Jesus told the church that the fields were white and ready for harvest. He reminded them that they shouldn’t wait to go and gather the grain. What was Jesus talking about? He was talking about all the people in the world who need to hear about Him. We need to realize that missions work is very important.

We also talked about someone called an interstate missionary. Do any of you remember who an interstate missionary is? Yes, an interstate missionary is one who works here in our own country.

This week I want to introduce you to one of the interstate missionaries who is working for the Baptist Missionary Association of America. (Continue the lesson by presenting the information about a specific interstate missionary and by beginning the carry-through activity.)

OUR CHURCH
SENDS THE
GOOD NEWS

We Send Witnesses to Our Neighbors to the South

God's Witnesses — Lesson 6

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America work together to send missionaries to countries to the south of us. The children will become familiar with the countries to the south of us where we have foreign missionaries.

Memory Verse: “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: You will need three hand puppets — two girls and a boy, or you can use the stick puppets in the visual packet by cutting out the pictures of faces and gluing them on craft sticks. These puppets are representative of typical American boys and girls.

You will need a map that includes the North and South American continents or a globe.

You will need to gather some pictures of Mexico, Central America, and South America. You can find pictures in *The Gleaner*, travel brochures, travel books, and magazines such as *National Geographic*. You could probably find appropriate pictures in coloring books of children around the world. The pictures you will need are: 1 — a desert scene; 2 — a typical Mexican village; 3 — Mexican dressed in native costume; 4 — pictures from any of the Central American countries; 5 — a picture of the Andes Mountains; 6 — a jungle scene; 7 — a picture of the city of Brasilia; 8 — a sugar cane field.

If possible, decorate the room before class by displaying any pictures or items that are native to Mexico, Central America, and South America. You could use such items as sombreros, Mexican jars and pots, etc. Many ideas for decorating the room can be found in the two booklets published

by the Baptist Publishing House — *Missions Studies, Mexico*, and *Missions Studies, Bolivia*.

Songs: “Jesus Loves Me” and “The Sunbeam Song” sung in the Spanish words

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will know how important it is to tell others about Jesus and to send missionaries to the places we cannot go. Pray that the children will listen attentively to the lesson. Pray for the people who live in Mexico and the Central and South American countries and for the missionaries who will be carrying the gospel to them.

Lesson Approach: For the last two weeks we have been learning about interstate missionaries. This week we are going to begin learning about foreign missionaries. Do you remember who a foreign missionary is? Yes, a foreign missionary is a missionary who goes to another country to tell people about Jesus. This study is going to be very exciting, because we have a special guest to visit with us. Boys and girls, I want you to meet Linda. Linda's father is a missionary. Linda is going to tell us about some countries that are located to the south of us. (Use a map or a globe.)

This is where we are. (Point to your town's location on the map or globe.) Follow along as I trace a path that goes from the state of Texas and then directly south. After we leave our own country, we cross the border into a country called Mexico. Look at the way this country is shaped on the map. (Use your finger or a pointer to outline the country of Mexico.) Linda's family lived in Mexico, so let's let Linda tell us about the country of Mexico.

(Have the puppet speaking.) When you first go into Mexico, you will think that you are in a desert. (Picture 1) The land is very flat and sandy. There is not much grass and hardly any trees. Almost all of the roads are dirt. The weather is hot most of the time. (Picture 2) There are a few big towns, like we have here in the United States; but most of the Mexican people live in small villages.

Most of the houses are made of adobe and have tin roofs. There is usually only one room. The bathroom is outside; the fire for cooking is also outside. Some of the villagers who have more money have bathrooms and kitchens inside. Some even have radios.

Most of the people eat the typical Mexican food — tortillas, beans, and corn. Most of the children only get to go to school until about the fourth grade. Then they have to quit and work on the farm and help the family.

The Mexican people wear some beautiful clothes. (Picture 3) In fact, they make most of their own clothes. They weave them by hand. When Americans come to Mexico, they usually want to buy some of the beautiful ponchos, serapes, and sombreros. The Mexican people are also famous for the beautiful pots which they make out of clay, and for the leather and silver with which they work. There are beautiful cities in Mexico, too. These cities are very modern, and the people live very much as we do here in our own country. There are also mountains and beautiful beaches in Mexico, but most of us missionaries work in the poorer areas of the country.

(Teacher) Now, boys and girls, I want you to look at the map and see the next group of countries that are even farther south than Mexico. This group of little countries is called Central America. Some of the names of the countries are Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala. (Trace the outline of Central America on the map — don't worry about the individual countries.) We have another guest who is going to tell us about these countries.

(Puppet speaks) Hi, *niños* and *niñas*. *Me llamo* Frank. My father was a missionary in Central America. There are several small countries in Central America. There used to be missionaries

in almost every one of these countries, but there is a lot of fighting going on in some of these countries. The people are very poor and have always been ruled by a very strong leader who told them everything to do. Some of the people didn't like these leaders, so they began fighting against the government troops. When this happened, most of the missionaries had to leave. Maybe one day our missionaries can go back. (Picture 4)

The people in Central America are a lot like the Mexican people. Most of them speak the Spanish language. Most of them are a little darker skinned than we are, and some of them are black. Most of the people are very poor. About all they can do for a job is to work on the plantations that grow rubber, cocoa, coffee, bananas, and plants such as these. Some of the people live on the beaches and fish for a living.

Most of the people have very small houses or huts. There are some larger cities, but very few are modern like our cities. Most of the people do not have electricity.

Life is different for the children there. Most do not get to go to school very much. Most of the people are nice and friendly, but sometimes it is not easy for missionaries to work there. It was really difficult for me to have to learn to speak Spanish. I couldn't talk to the other children for a long time.

There are very few doctors there, so when the people get sick they would come to my father for help. He helped some of them; but if the Voodoo doctor found out the people had come to him, the Voodoo doctor would put an evil spell on them.

It's kind of scary having to worry about being robbed all the time. We've already been robbed four times since we've been there.

(Teacher speaks.) Thank you so much, Frank. That is really interesting; isn't it, boys and girls? If we go even farther south than Central America, we come to a large area of land called South America. (Trace the outline of South America on the map.) There are many very large countries in South America. Right now we have missionaries in only two of these countries — Brazil and Bolivia. Let's let Ann tell us about

South America, since she lived there for quite a while when her father was a missionary there.

(Puppet speaks.) Hello, my name is Ann. I want to tell you just a little about South America. The two countries I lived in were Brazil and Bolivia. These countries are a little different from the other countries that Linda and Frank told you about. (Picture 5) Bolivia has the very high Andes Mountains. There are some beautiful, modern cities there just like our cities in the United States. Most of the people in these cities live much as you do, except their houses are not as nice, and they don't have as many things like televisions and stereos. However, some of the people live in little villages in the mountains. They mainly have little shacks. (Picture 6) Most of the other people of Bolivia live in the part of the country that is jungle. These jungles are just like the ones you've seen on television. The bushes and trees are so thick that you have to cut your way through. There are jaguars and other wild animals roaming the jungles. The rivers that run through the jungles have piranha (flesh-eating fish) and crocodiles, so you can't swim in the rivers.

There are many people who live in these jungles who have never heard about Jesus. Our missionaries travel deep into the jungles to find these natives to tell them about Jesus. Some of our missionaries can fly airplanes to get from place to place in the jungles.

Brazil has some deep jungles, but it also has some of the most beautiful and modern cities in the world. (Picture 7) In Brazil there are miles and miles of sugar cane. It is one of the main crops grown there. (Picture 8) It is hard for us missionaries to work in Brazil because the Roman Catholic leaders, who represent the largest religious group in Brazil, do not want us there. In fact, the people are afraid to come to our churches sometimes. One time the people told our church members that they had better stop coming to church, because there was a man in the village who was killing the children of all the Christians. There are thousands of people in Bolivia and Brazil who do not know Jesus. We must keep our missionaries there — that is the people's only hope.

(Teacher speaks.) Well, boys and girls, we've learned a lot about the countries to the south of us. I guess their way of life is a lot different from ours, but they are just as special to God as we are.

Additional Activities: If you have time, you may want to use the visualized story "Maria's Friend" taken from the booklet *Missions Studies — Bolivia* written by Mrs. Jim Beasley and published by the Baptist Publishing House. It may be ordered from the Baptist Bible and Book House, 712 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201-4695 and other Christian bookstores.

Each child can make a crocodile by cutting out a body and the bottom of the mouth from construction paper. Glue one piece to one side of a clothespin and the other piece to the other side of the clothespin, so that when you press on the crocodile's back the mouth opens.

Spanish Words for the chorus of "Jesus Loves Me"

Si, Cristo me ama;
Si, Cristo me ama;
Si, Cristo me ama;
La Biblia dice asi.

Spanish Words for the Chorus of "The Sunbeam Song"

Un nitido rayo,
Nitido rayo por Cristo;
Un nitido rayo,
Nitido rayo seré.

"Little Missionaries" (Tune: "Jesus Loves Me")

Jesus loves us, this is true,
But He loves the Mexicans too,
And this is His last command,
"Take My gospel to each land."

Chorus:

Yes, Jesus loves them,
Yes, Jesus loves them,
Yes, Jesus loves them,
The children of the world.

Even tho' we're children small,
We can help Him one and all.
With our money and with prayer,
Send the Gospel everywhere.

(Repeat chorus.)



Cut the crocodile's body and mouth from construction paper. Glue one piece to one side of a clothespin and the other piece to the other side of the clothespin. When the clothespin is pressed, the crocodile's mouth will open.

Meet a Missionary From a Country to the South

God's Witnesses — Lesson 7

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will know that the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America work together to send missionaries to countries to the south of us. The children will become familiar with a missionary who works in Mexico, Central America, or South America.

Memory Verse: *“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”* (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: You will need to gather all materials to teach a lesson (following the outline given at the beginning of this unit — “How to Present a Missionary”) on one specific missionary serving in Mexico, Central America, or South America.

You will need to gather all materials to continue the work on the carry-through activity that you started in Lesson 5.

Songs: “Jesus Loves Me” and “The Sunbeam Song” sung in the Spanish words

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will know how important it is to tell others about Jesus and to send missionaries to the places we cannot go. Pray that the children will listen

attentively to the lesson. Pray for the people who live in Mexico and the Central American and South American countries, that the missionaries will be able to reach them.

Lesson Approach: Last week we learned about the countries that are to the south of our own homeland. Do you remember the names of any of these countries? (Discuss with the children some of the names of the countries you learned about last week.) Do you remember any of the things you learned about these countries? Do you remember Frank’s telling us about the jungles in Bolivia? (Help the children recall some of the things they heard last week about Mexico, Central America, and South America.)

I hope that you have been thinking this week about the people who live in these countries. I hope that you have prayed for them. This week we are going to learn about one of the men whom the Baptist Missionary Association of America has working in this part of the world. (Continue this lesson by following the lesson outline for presenting the missionaries. After you finish teaching the lesson, continue the carry-through activity begun in Lesson 5.)

Color the picture.



Star Awards Review

God's Witnesses — Star Awards Activity Number 2

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The teacher will be able to determine whether or not the children have learned enough to receive a star award for Lessons 4-7. The teacher will be able to determine how effective her teaching methods have been. The teacher will have an opportunity to reteach any concepts that the children failed to learn.

Memory Verse: *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature"* (Mark 16:15).

Materials Needed: If possible get a large sombrero that you can suspend from the ceiling on a string. If you cannot get a real sombrero, make a sombrero out of poster board.

Attach small numbered cards around the brim of the sombrero with questions on one side and answers on the other side.

Provide a color sheet for each child. The color sheet has a picture of a big sombrero on it. Across the bottom are the words, "We must tell others about Jesus." You may find it at the end of this lesson.

Songs: "Jesus Loves Me" and "The Sunbeam Song" (in Spanish words), "In My Own Neighborhood," *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; "Be a Missionary," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; "The Children of a Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will know how important it is to tell others about Jesus and to send missionaries to the places we cannot go. Pray that the children will listen attentively and learn the concepts that you are trying to teach each week. Pray that the children

will tell someone about Jesus this week. Pray for the interstate and foreign missionaries that you have studied.

Lesson Approach: As you can see from the sombrero, we're going to have some fun tonight. We're going to play a game that will help us remember all we have learned about our interstate and foreign missionaries that we have studied so far. Notice the cards hanging from the brim of the sombrero. On one side of the card I have a number and a question. The questions are about things we have studied in the last four lessons. This is the way we will play. I will let _____ take a number from the basket. Then _____ will look and find the card that has that number on it. He will read the question and try to answer it.

If he answers it correctly, he will keep the number, and the next student will get to draw a number and answer a question. If he cannot answer the question correctly, he will have to put the number back into the basket. We will see who can collect the most numbers by answering the most questions. (Continue the lesson using the questions below, plus those added from Lessons 5 and 7, until time is nearly up.)

Additional Activities: Let each child color the color sheet.

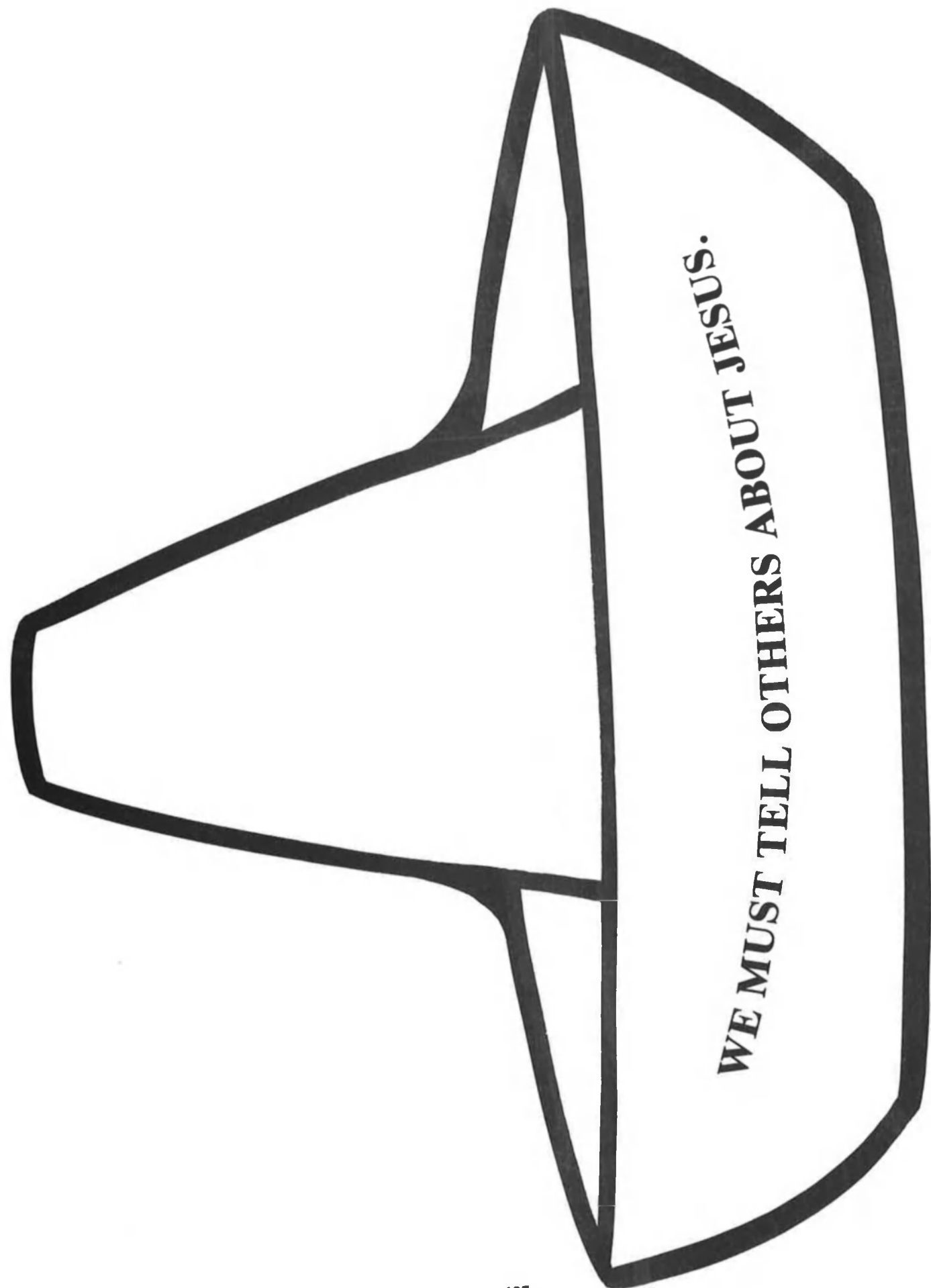
QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

1. What is the name of the group of churches our church works with to send out missionaries?
2. Why do the churches work together in missions?

3. Who is an interstate missionary?
4. Why do we need interstate missionaries?
5. Who is a foreign missionary?
6. How do we keep up with what the missionaries are doing?
7. Explain what John 4:35 means.
8. Tell one fact about the country of Mexico.
9. Name one Central American country.
10. What language do the Mexicans speak?

11. Where is Bolivia?
12. How is Bolivia different from Mexico?
13. Are most Mexicans, Central Americans, and South Americans richer than we are?
14. Tell of one danger that missionaries in Bolivia face.

Add questions about the specific missionaries and countries that you taught in Lessons 5 and 7.



WE MUST TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS.

Our Neighbors in the Orient

God's Witnesses — Lesson 8

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

Bible

Church

● Missions

● Music

Memory Work

● Prayer

Aim: To familiarize the children with the countries in the Orient, along with their culture and customs

Materials Needed (See *Room Preparation Ideas* at the beginning of this unit.): construction paper; string; gift wrapping paper or wallpaper samples; patterns and instructions from the art page.

Songs: "To the East, to the West," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 3, CEF Press; "Jesus Loves Me" — chorus in Japanese; "Sunbeam Song" — chorus in Chinese. (Words for the Japanese and Chinese choruses are included in this lesson.)

Prayer Suggestion: Offer a prayer that the people of the Oriental countries may understand the gospel and come to realize the need for Jesus in their lives.

Room Preparation Ideas: (Prepare the classroom ahead of time to set the atmosphere for the study of the Orient. Several suggestions are given. You may wish to use all or some of these. The classroom setting should be left set up so that it can be used in the next lesson when the missionaries to this area of the world are presented.)

1. Place a large world map on the wall. Outline the countries of Japan, China, and Taiwan with a felt-tip pen. Using stick pins to hold the yarn in place, run a string of yarn from your location in the United States to the countries of the Orient.

2. Children-of-the-world coloring books will provide many pictures of Oriental children. Try to find pictures of children in their traditional

country's dress and also in their modern dress. Mount these on the wall around the room.

3. Make Japanese lanterns and simple carp kites to hang. This will help create an Oriental atmosphere. (See art page for directions.)

4. Make coolie hats and fans. Give the boys a hat to wear and the girls a fan to carry as they enter the room. (See the art page at the end of this lesson for directions.)

5. Make a blossoming cherry tree. To do this, cut a large branch from a tree. Remove all the leaves. Crinkle one-inch squares of tissue paper for the blossoms. Glue the tissue paper onto the branches. Place the branch in a bucket of sand or dirt.

6. Look in geographical magazines for pictures of the land, sea, and mountains in China and Japan. Mount these on the wall around the room.

7. Cut out letters from black construction paper to spell Japan, China, and Taiwan. Mount these on the wall near the map. (See illustration.)

JAPAN

8. Have a low table and mats for the children to sit around when they enter.

9. Display any Oriental souvenirs you may have access to on a table in the room.

Lesson Approach: (Set up chairs just outside the classroom in two rows with two chairs at the front to resemble airplane seating. Have the children take a seat. The teacher takes the pilot's seat. You may choose a copilot. Tell the children you are going to fly across the ocean on a mission

trip to the Orient. You will visit the mainland of China and the islands of Taiwan and Japan. After a few minutes, have the children leave the airplane and enter the missions classroom. Upon entering the room, let them take off their shoes and be seated around the low table. Give the girls a fan and the boys a coolie hat to wear.)

Welcome to the Orient, boys and girls. I hope you enjoy your visit and learn something about the Japanese and Chinese people. (Refer to the world map.) Look how far we have traveled from _____ (name of your town). (Trace the path with yarn or a marker.) The countries in the Orient are beautiful places to visit. Taiwan and Japan are island countries, and China lies by the ocean. (Point out the countries on the map.)

These countries have beautiful snowcapped mountains. There are lovely fruit trees growing in many places. (Begin pointing out any pictures around the room that depict the landscape.) Their climate is warm like our spring weather, but there is a lot of rain in some places. There are also hurricane-like winds called typhoons which occur in some areas.

Most of us think of Japanese and Chinese people dressing in kimonos and tunics. (Show a picture of these types of dress.) But today they dress like this only for special occasions. Their everyday clothes are much like the outfits we wear.

Japan and China have many small farms where they grow food. The main food they grow is rice. Most Orientals eat rice with chopsticks. (Show a set of chopsticks, if available.) They also grow oranges, plums, and cherries, and they drink tea made from herbs.

Since these countries are surrounded by water, they turn to the ocean for food, also. Fish is one of their main foods.

However, if you were to visit Japan today, you would see American-based fast food and ice cream places in some of the large cities.

Older Japanese houses were made of wood, with doors inside which were made of paper in wooden frames. These doors would slide away so that the rooms could be made larger. Chinese houses were bamboo-type huts. Today, however, most Japanese homes are built much like ours.

(Show pictures of the two styles of homes, if available.)

Japanese and Chinese children go to school and study most of the subjects that you do. However, they go to school until noon on Saturday. They also have a summer vacation, but it only lasts two months.

Japanese boys and girls play games like leap-frog and jump rope. One of their favorite pastimes is kite flying. There is a special holiday, called Boy's Day, where the boys fly fish kites from flag poles. Girls also have a holiday called Doll's Festival. A girl's best dolls are put out for her friends to see.

In China and Taiwan, the dragon is important to many people. Many Chinese people believe that the dragon will chase away evil spirits and keep bad things from happening to them.

Although the Orient is a beautiful area of the world and has many modern ways like America, it is a difficult place for our missionaries to work. Very few Japanese or Chinese people attend church. Most of them worship idols or their ancestors. Many follow the religious beliefs of Buddha and Confucius. They offer the gods gifts every day. Because the Oriental people have worshiped these idols for many years, it is very difficult for missionaries to teach them about our God. (Show pictures of idols if available.)

Prayer Suggestion: Let's bow our heads and ask God to help the missionaries serving in the Orient to lead the people there to realize their need to know the real and living God.

(Tell the following story by LaTrell Bateman. This has been adapted from articles in *The Gleaner* and can be effectively presented by using puppets or cardboard figures.

A Strange Adventure

LaTrell had wanted to be a missionary since she was nine. At college she met and married a boy who had been raised in China.

They went to Taiwan in 1953. The people were friendly, but one of their customs was that a housewife had to stop what she was doing and spend her time entertaining her friends and visitors. So they had to hire an *amah*, or live-in maid.

Mrs. Shu, their maid, was a Buddhist; although she was friendly, she would simply become quiet when they began talking about the Bible and the Savior. LaTrell became burdened and prayed for Mrs. Shu. The Batemans started having youth meetings in their home. They knew Mrs. Shu could hear the Bible being discussed. Seeds were being sown. One day Mrs. Shu started talking to LaTrell.

MRS. SHU: I don't understand you.

LATRELL: Why?

MRS. SHU: Well, I don't understand your leaving the United States. In your country you have so much, and here you have so little.

LATRELL: I'm here because of love. My parents loved me so much they saw that I went to Sunday School, church, Training Service, and to youth meetings. My pastor loved me enough to help me come to know Christ as my Savior.

MRS. SHU: Oh, that is so wonderful to have people who love you so much!

LATRELL: This isn't nearly so wonderful as the love that God has for me.

MRS. SHU: You talk about God. Of what do you speak?

(LaTrell was amazed. She knew the Chinese people had many gods: kitchen gods, ancestor gods, furniture gods, lamp gods, and rain gods. But it had never occurred to her that they didn't know the one true God. So LaTrell tried to explain about God.)

LATRELL: God created the heavens and the earth and everything in them. He created man and gave him a beautiful home. But man disobeyed God and became sinful. God is a jealous God and is to be worshiped in Spirit and in truth. God loved all people and wanted them to be saved, so He sent His only Son to die on the cross of Calvary for them.

(Mrs. Shu said nothing; she only went on with her work. One day a telegram came. LaTrell's grandmother had died.)

MRS. SHU: Missy, would you tell me something?

LATRELL: I'll be glad to, if I can.

MRS. SHU: Were you not sad when your grandmother died?

LATRELL: Of course, I was. I was heart-broken.

MRS. SHU: Is this the way of Americans, that you show no emotion at the passing of loved ones?

LATRELL: A Christian can endure many things because of Christ's love for us. You see, my grandmother was a Christian. Although I'm sorry that she passed from this life, I know that she is in a far better place.

MRS. SHU: But you did not build a paper house.

LATRELL: Mrs. Shu, tell me, how do your people deal with death?

MRS. SHU: Taiwanese homes have family altars in the best room. Food is placed on an altar. Later the family eats the food after the ancestor gods have eaten the spiritual part. Incense burns daily on the altar. Sometimes incense sticks are also burned at the door or the gate. At the altar the family worships their ancestors and prays for them. They burn special paper money so the ancestors will have money to spend in the place where they have gone.

A member of a family who dies may be placed in a coffin and not be buried for weeks or even months. They seal the coffin and place it in the main room of the home. The family consults the priest for a suitable time for burial. Before burial of the body, the family orders a paper house. Tissue paper and small sticks of wood are used to build it. It is very colorful and resembles a large doll house. The house comes complete with small dolls dressed as servants. At the grave the paper house is burned; this provides the dead with a grand house and servants in heaven.

You have offered no food to the spirits. You have not tried to appease them. Do you not know that your grandmother will be tormented?

LATRELL: Jesus Christ has died for the sins of all people, and all who believe in Him have everlasting life. God is a loving God, and everyone is happy in heaven. You, too, can be saved if you will trust Jesus as your personal Savior.

(Mrs. Shu did not accept Christ at that moment; but almost every day she would ask questions, and LaTrell would take the Bible and teach her. One day Mrs. Shu told LaTrell that

God had revealed to her that Christ was her Savior. LaTrell thanked God for giving them their first victory.)

Activity 1: Teach the children to sing the Japanese chorus of “Jesus Loves Me” and the Chinese chorus of the “Sunbeam Song.”

“Jesus Loves Me” (chorus in Japanese)

Wa ga Shu E-su,
(Yes, Jesus loves me,)
Wa ga Shu E-su,
Wa ga Shu E-su,
Wa-re wo a-i-su.
(The Bible tells me so.)

“Sunbeam Song” (chorus in Chinese)

R-r gwang, R-r gwang
(*A sunbeam, a sunbeam*)
(*Tah urr gwong, Tah urr gwong*)
Yesu yau w jyuli r-gwang.
(*Jesus wants me for a sunbeam.*)
(*Yeh-su yaw wah dzwah Tah urr gwong.*)
R-r gwang, R-r gwang
(*A sunbeam, a sunbeam*)
(*Tah urr gwong, Tah urr gwong*)
Wo yau shr r gwang ti ta.

(*I'll be a sunbeam for Him.*)

(*Wah yaw way Tah dzwah urr gwong.*)

Activity 2: Let the children choose an Oriental item to make.

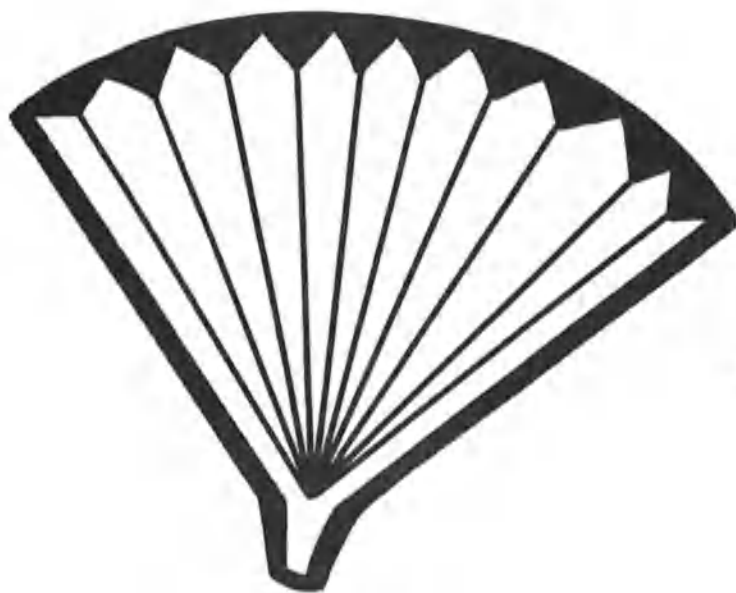
Japanese fan — select gift wrapping paper that has an oriental design. Cut the paper into the desired length and width. Accordion fold the width until all the paper is pleated. Staple one of the folded ends.

Paper lanterns — Use heavy construction paper and decorate the paper as desired with crayons or paints. Fold the sheet of paper in half lengthwise. Cut deep slashes on the folded side every one-half inch. Open the paper and roll the ends into a tube shape. Glue the edges together. Add a paper handle.

Carp kite — Cut two matching fish shapes from lightweight paper. Glue only the side edges of the fish together. The mouth and tail sections should be left open. Glue long, colorful streamers to the tail. Decorate the fish as desired. Attach a string to the mouth.

Coolie hats — Cut out a construction-paper circle and staple A and B together. Paste on colorful flowers.

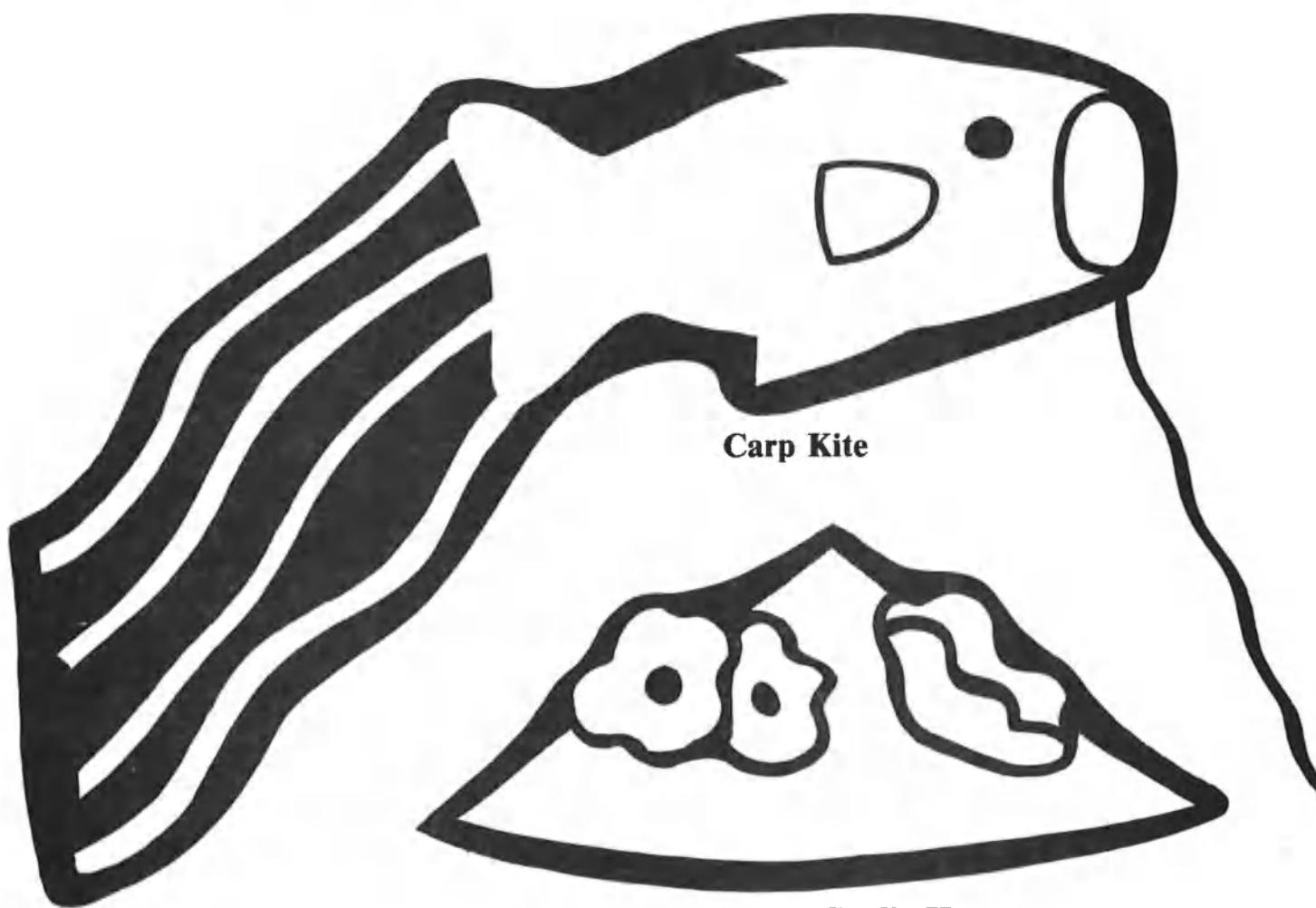
(You will find figures for these items on the art page at the end of this lesson.)



Japanese Fan



Paper Lantern



Carp Kite

Coolie Hat

Our Missionaries in the Orient

God's Witnesses — Lesson 9

BEAM — YEAR ONE
Star Awards
Bible
Church
● Missions
● Music
Memory Work
● Prayer

Aim: To acquaint the children with a Baptist Missionary Association missionary family serving in the Orient

Materials Needed: Room preparation ideas and materials used in Lesson 8 should be continued; materials necessary for the follow-through activity will be the teacher's choice.

Songs: "Jesus Loves Me" (chorus in Japanese, see Lesson 8); "Sunbeam Song" (chorus in Chinese, see Lesson 8); "To the East, To the West," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 3, CEF Press

Prayer Suggestion: Ask God to protect and supply the needs of the missionaries in the Orient. Encourage the children to pray for the featured missionary family during their daily prayers.

Lesson Approach: (Arrange the chairs outside the classroom door to resemble the seating of an airplane as suggested in Lesson 8. Tell the children that they will be making a return visit to the Orient. This trip will be somewhat different because they will be visiting a family. Explain

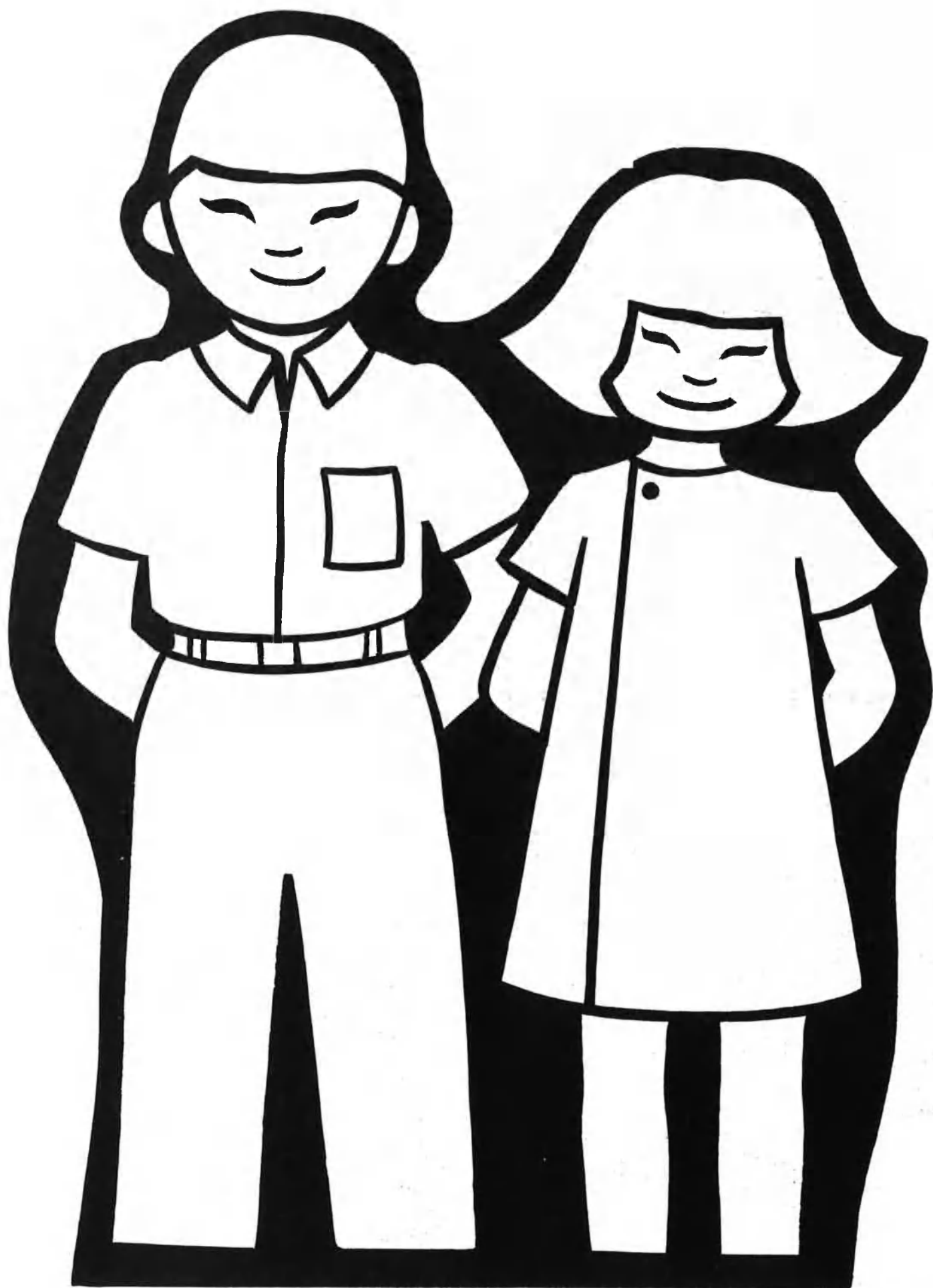
that this family is special since they are missionaries in the Orient. Their place of service is _____ (name of location). This missionary family is the _____ (name of missionary) family.

Review some of the culture and customs of the area where this family lives from Lesson 8; then, using the outline at the beginning of this unit, introduce the featured missionary and tell of the BMAA work being done there. Be sure to use slides, tapes, pictures, letters, etc., to make this lesson come alive for the children.

Prayer Suggestion: At the close of the lesson, be sure to offer a prayer asking God to bless and protect this family. Encourage the children to pray specifically for this family during the coming week.

Activity: This missionary study will need to be added to the follow-through activity that you have chosen for the missions unit.

Give each child a copy of the color sheet at the end of this lesson. Write *God loves us* at the top of the picture after it has been colored.



Our Friends in the Pacific

God's Witnesses — Lesson 10

BEAM — YEAR ONE
Star Awards
Bible
Church
● Missions
● Music
Memory Work
● Prayer

Aim: To acquaint the children with the culture and customs of the countries in the Pacific where Baptist Missionary Association missionaries are serving.

Materials Needed (See *Room Preparation Ideas* at the beginning of this unit.): poster board; old *Gleaner* magazines; felt-tip pens; clear contact paper

Prayer Suggestion: Offer a prayer for those missionaries serving in the Pacific Islands.

Songs: "Be a Missionary," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; "The Children of a Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press; "Missionary Chorus," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 4, CEF Press

Room Preparation Ideas: (Prepare the classroom ahead of time to set the atmosphere for the study of the Pacific. Several suggestions are given. You may wish to use all or some of these suggestions. The classroom setting should be left set up so that it can be used in the next lesson when the missionaries to this area of the world are presented.)

1. Place a large world map on the wall and outline the countries with a felt-tip pen. Write *Australia* and *Philippine Islands* in large black letters above the map.

2. Place pictures of Australian animals and birds on the wall — the kangaroo, the koala, the emu, the parrot, and the cockatoo.

3. Put up geographical pictures of both countries to show the type of land, beaches, etc.

4. Show pictures of modern houses as well as bamboo huts in the Philippines.

5. Have pictures of tricycles and jeepneys mounted on the wall.

6. Show or display pictures of how people dress in the western style and of school children in uniforms, if available.

7. If available, have some Filipino money and other souvenirs on display around the room.

8. Make a tray of fresh fruit from these countries for the children to sample — pineapple, coconut, bananas, and sugar cane.

9. Make a poster of some of the Australian words that are different from ours. Examples: *lift*-elevator; *dinkum*-real or true; *station*-ranch; *postie*-postman; *cobber*-friend; *tomato sauce*-catsup; *ta*-thank you; *ta ta*-goodbye; *truckie*-truck driver.

10. Make a poster showing the location of the Philippines and Australia in the Pacific Ocean. Color the background blue. This will enable the children to see the closeness to each other. Title the poster *Islands in the Pacific*.

Lesson Approach: (Using some or all of the suggestions for room preparation, have the classroom set up and greet the children at the door with the tray of fresh pineapple, coconut, bananas, and small bits of sugar cane. Welcome the children to the "Pacific Isles" and ask them to sample some of the native fruit. Tell them you are their tour guide for the day. Allow them a few minutes to walk around the room and view the displays as they eat the fruit; then invite them to sit near the world map.)

Today, we are going to visit two countries that lie in the Pacific Ocean. Both of these countries are island countries because they have water on all sides of them.

The first country we are going to visit is really a group of seven thousand islands. (Outline them on the world map.) The children here are sometimes told a story that their land was made when a giant threw a huge rock into the sea. The rock was supposed to have broken into many pieces, and each piece of rock became an island. We know, however, that God had a better way of creating this group of islands, which is called the Philippine Islands.

There are really only two seasons here, instead of four like we have. One season is rainy, with typhoon winds from June to October, and the other is hot and dry from November to May.

The native people of the Philippine Islands have black hair, dark eyes, and olive skin. (Show a picture of the Filipino people.) Many live in cities like ours in the United States. Their houses are much like ours. They speak English and wear western-style clothing. The children attend schools much like ours, and they can become Brownies or Cub Scouts. Their most popular sports are basketball and baseball.

Many Filipinos live in small towns or villages. (Show pictures of rural life.) Their houses are often built upon bamboo stilts, and they don't have electricity and running water. The people are mostly farmers or fishermen. These people speak a native language, not English.

The Filipino people eat a lot of rice and fish. They also enjoy fresh coconuts and pineapples.

Most of the people in The Philippines travel by boat from one island to another and use tricycles and jeepneys instead of cars. (Show pictures of these modes of transportation.)

Let's travel south to another island country called Australia. (Trace the path on the map with a marker or yarn.) Australia is the largest island in the world. It is called the "Sunburst Country" because of its lovely climate.

The weather is usually warm. Summer begins in December, and the people here often visit the beach for Christmas. (Show pictures of the landscape.)

Australia has several animals that we seldom see in the United States, unless we visit the zoo. (Show pictures of the animals and birds as you

name them.) These are the kangaroo, the koala bear, and the emu, which is a bird.

In Australia most of the people live in the cities which are much like ours. Some people live on farms and raise cattle and sheep. They eat a lot of meat and, like the Filipinos, enjoy fresh fruits, especially pineapple.

The children attend schools like ours, but they all dress alike in uniforms for school. (Show pictures of children.) Their favorite sports are cricket, soccer, and rugby. The people of Australia speak English, but they have some phrases and words that are different from ours. Some examples are: *lift*-elevator; *cobber*-friend; *tomato sauce*-catsup; *ta*-thank you; *ta ta*-good-bye; *postie*-postman; *truckie*-truck driver.

In Australia, only the children attend Sunday School. The grown-ups only go to church. Most of the people of Australia and The Philippines are Catholics; but thanks to our missionaries, the Lord is opening the hearts of many to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior. There is much work to be done in the islands of the Pacific to provide churches and workers. We must remember to support our missionaries in this area with our prayers.

(Tell the following story. It may be visualized or told with puppets.)

"The Little Circus Boy"

All of the children of Queensland, Australia, were excited. A circus had come to town. They all watched as the animals were unloaded and the circus people set up the tents.

When the missionaries saw so many children in one spot, they decided it would be a good place for a Bible class. They ran back to the mission and got pictures to show the children as they told stories about Jesus. Most of the children who came to see the animals, and even some of the circus people, came over to listen to the missionaries tell the stories. They even stayed to sing.

One little boy who came to hear the stories was named Donnie. Donnie rode a pony in one of the circus acts. After his parents died, Donnie had joined the circus because he had no one to love him and take care of him.

Donnie heard the children singing “Jesus Loves Me” and “Jesus Is My Best Friend.” He heard the missionary tell how Jesus loved everyone so much that He died on the cross to save them from their sins. The missionary also told about the beautiful home Jesus had for him in heaven, if he only believed. Donnie was so excited. He did not know that anyone really loved him that much. When the story was over, he talked to the missionary and told him that he wanted to be saved. He wanted to have Jesus as his friend. Right there, outside the big circus tent, Donnie asked the Lord Jesus to come into his heart.

After several days, the circus moved to another town in Australia. But Donnie had a friend to carry with him. He was so happy, he went from town to town telling others what the

missionary had told him about his new friend, Jesus.

You know, boys and girls, we should be like Donnie. We should be telling everyone, everywhere we go, about Jesus.

Activity: Missionary place mats — Cut a piece of poster board 12 x 16 inches for each child. Cut out pictures from old *Gleaner* magazines, *National Geographic*, etc., that show pictures of Australia and the Philippine Islands. Glue the pictures on the poster board. Be sure to leave a space in the center to write the memory verse(s) being used during the missions unit and other phrases. (See illustration.) Let the children (with your help) cover the place mats with clear contact paper and take them home. This will be a good reminder for them to pray for the missionaries in this area.

Australia Needs Jesus

*“Go ye into all the
world, and preach
the gospel to
every creature”*
(Mark 16:15).

**Philippine Islands
Need Jesus**

Our Missionaries in the Pacific

God's Witnesses — Lesson 11

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

Bible

Church

● Missions

● Music

Memory Work

● Prayer

Aim: To familiarize the children with a Baptist Missionary Association missionary family serving the Pacific

Materials Needed: Any materials used in Lesson 10 for the room preparation; any materials needed to add to the follow-through activity that was chosen for this unit; any background information, pictures, tapes, slides, etc., that you wish to use in featuring a missionary family

Songs: "Here Am I, Send Me," *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; "I'm a Missionary's Helper"; "The Children of a Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer Suggestion: Offer a prayer asking God to meet the needs of the missionary families serving in the Pacific. Be sure to encourage the children to pray for the featured missionary

family in their daily prayers during the coming week.

Lesson Approach: Have the children enter the classroom and sit near the world map. Tell them they will be making a return visit to the Pacific Islands, but this time they will be visiting a special family. This family is a missionary family who is serving God in _____ (location of family). The family is the _____ (name) family. Briefly review the information supplied in Lesson 10 on the culture and customs of the area in which this particular missionary family lives. Then, following the outline in "How to Present a Missionary," tell about the missionary you have chosen to feature and the BMAA work that is being done in this area.

Activity: Continue the follow-through activity that was chosen for this unit.

Copy the picture at the end of this lesson and give a copy to each child to color.



JESUS
LOVES
YOU

Orient and Pacific Missions Review

Star Awards Activity Number 3

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

Bible

Church

● Missions

● Music

Memory Work

● Prayer

Aim: To review the main ideas and Star Awards requirements that were introduced in Lessons 8-11

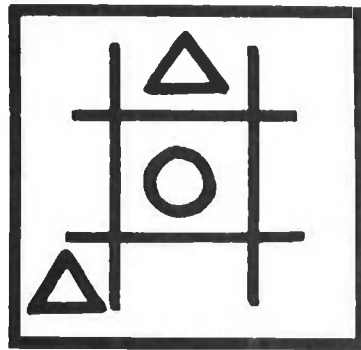
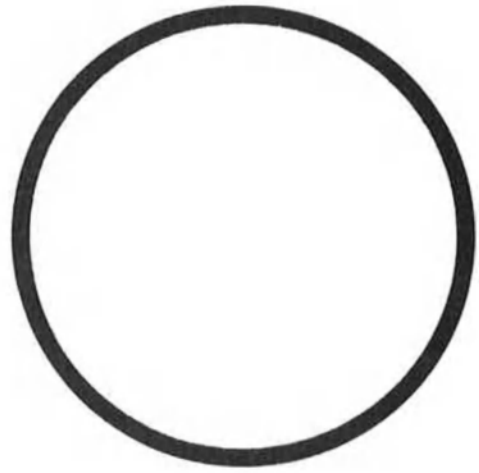
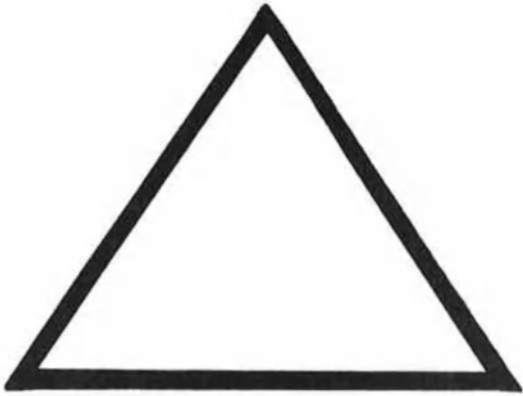
Materials Needed: Felt strips; circle patterns and triangle patterns from felt; flannel board; review questions from Lessons 8-11

Lesson Approach: Using narrow strips of felt, make a diagram on your flannel board as seen in illustration at the end of this lesson. Make five felt markers of two different colors. Use circle patterns for one color and triangle patterns for the other. Divide your group of children equally

and choose a captain for each team. The captains should stand on each side of the flannel board and hold the markers representing their team.

Have a list of questions on hand that will review the highlights from Lessons 8-11 that you have presented in class. The captain of each team takes turns choosing someone to answer a question. He must use everyone on his or her team.

When a question is answered correctly, the captain places a marker in a block the same way you would ordinarily place an X or O in a tic-tac-toe game. The first team to place three markers in a row down, across, or diagonally, wins.



They Will Tell Others

God's Witnesses — Lesson 12

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The children will understand that our missionaries try very hard to teach the national citizens of the places they go to be missionaries themselves. The children will know what a national missionary is. The children will develop an attitude of love and support for our national missionaries.

Materials Needed: Cut seven large pieces of poster board in the shape of a butterfly. Locate in the visual packet and glue pictures of the following: on 1 — a Spanish man with a jar in his hand and several Spanish children around him; 2 — the Spanish man holding a butterfly net; 3 — a beautiful butterfly; 4 — the jagged pieces of a broken jar; 5 — a closed door; 6 — a Bible; 7 — the words "NATIONAL MISSIONARY."

You will need to get some information about one of the BMAA-supported national missionaries to teach the children.

Songs: "In My Own Neighborhood," *Growing Songs for Children*, CEF Press; "Be a Missionary," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 1, CEF Press; "The Children of a Thousand Tongues," *Salvation Songs for Children*, Number 2, CEF Press

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will know how important it is to tell others about Jesus and to send missionaries to the places we cannot go. Pray that the children will listen attentively and learn the concepts that you are trying to teach each week. Pray that the children will tell someone about Jesus this week. Pray for the missionaries that you have studied.

Lesson Approach: We have learned how we should be missionaries and how our church

should send missionaries to all the people of the world. Before we end our missions study, there is one other area of missions work that is very important. I want you to listen to this story very carefully and think about what is happening.

If you ever visit Brazil, you will see many beautiful sights: wide, flowing rivers; high, rugged mountains; lofty plateaus with coffee trees planted row after row; wide fields of wheat; flat pasture land on which large herds of cattle graze. But one of the most beautiful sights is the many brightly-colored butterflies. Some of the most beautiful butterflies found anywhere in the world are found in that country.

(Piece 1) As you might suppose, there are many butterfly collectors in Brazil. These men are truly artists, for they collect butterflies and mount them, forming beautiful designs for pictures and trays. These pictures and trays are sent to all parts of the world.

Raimun was a butterfly collector and an artist. Everything about Raimun made his friends think of him as the artist he truly was. He was quiet in speech and ways. He never shouted or even raised his voice. He found much beauty in the world about him and seemed to delight in helping to bring beauty into the lives of his friends. Raimun's best friends were the boys and girls in the neighborhood. They often came to his home to see his beautiful work and to hear the stories he told in such an interesting and exciting way. The children would beg for another, and another, and another. Finally, Raimun would jump to his feet and exclaim, "Shoo! Shoo! All of you! This is no way to get my work done!" The children would laugh merrily and start

home, waving happy good-byes and telling him they would be back soon for more of his stories. Then something happened that changed Raimun's whole life.

(Piece 2) The day dawned sunny and bright. "Just the kind of day made to chase butterflies," Raimun thought, as he quickly packed his lunch and left his little cottage, headed for some of his favorite spots. Across one shoulder he carried his little wicker basket holding the jars in which he placed the butterflies after he caught them. And in his hands he carried a butterfly net. His shiny black hair glistened in the sunlight as he walked along silently. It seemed to Raimun that all the butterflies in Brazil must be traveling up and down the road he had chosen that day. Before noon he had already collected many butterflies, each one seeming more beautiful than the rest. About two o'clock in the afternoon Raimun decided that he had caught all the butterflies he needed for a while. He was very pleased with his day's work. He stood near a tree, screwing the top onto the jar in which he had placed the last butterfly he had caught.

Just then the most magnificent butterfly fluttered by. Raimun had not seen one of that kind for a long time. He set the jar on a rock and grabbed his net. He raised the net into the air, keeping his eyes on the butterfly as it fluttered from one place to another. The beautiful butterfly was on a limb of the tree — just out of his reach. He began to jump in an attempt to capture the butterfly in his net. Then without noticing how close he was standing to the rock on which he had placed his jar, Raimun turned quickly and stumbled against the rock. His hand crashed against the glass jar on the rock. The jar broke into many sharp, pointed pieces. (Piece 4)

Raimun stood motionless, stunned by the blow. Then he was aware that his right hand was bleeding and feeling numb. When he saw that there were several deep cuts, he hurriedly wrapped his hand in his handkerchief and set off at a rapid pace to the home of his friend, Dr. Ricardo.

As the doctor washed the blood from Raimun's hand, he had shaken his head. "These

are deep cuts, Raimun," he had said. "I fear you have greatly injured your hand."

Weeks passed. The deep cuts healed, but Raimun could no longer use his fingers or his right hand as he once could. This made him very sad. At first the children tried to visit him, but he grew more and more unhappy until finally everyone stopped coming to his house. Raimun was a lonely, unhappy man.

Two of the children, Paula and Salvador, were determined that they were going to help Raimun. "Raimun has made us very happy many times by telling us stories. Now it is our turn to make him happy by telling him stories. Let's tell him stories about Jesus. They will make him happy again. Raimun never speaks of Jesus. Maybe Raimun doesn't know Him," the children reasoned.

Salvador stopped suddenly and cried, "That's it! Raimun does not know Jesus. We must tell him!" They hurried to Raimun's house, but when they got there Raimun shouted for them to leave him alone and go home. They tried to talk to him, but he just slammed the door.

The children were determined. They told the missionary in the village about Raimun, and every day the missionary went to Raimun's house to tell him about Jesus. Raimun kept on slamming the door, until one day he finally gave in and asked the missionary to come in.

(Piece 6) The missionary sat down with Raimun and told him all about how Jesus died for our sins, and if we believe in Him and trust in Him, He will be our Savior. That day changed Raimun's whole life. As he and the children gathered around the missionary in the mission church, singing hymns, listening to the Scripture and the prayers, he felt as if he were a different person. All the hatred he had in his heart was gone. He no longer felt alone and useless and unhappy. Instead, he felt happy inside once more.

"There must be something I can do to show my thanks for this wonderful love of God," Raimun thought as the missionary finished his lesson. Maybe if I could come to the mission every day and ask this missionary to teach me — maybe someday I would be able to tell the stories of Jesus to the rest of the people in my village.

Then, for the first time in his whole life, Raimun closed his eyes and asked God for strength and understanding.

Raimun's prayer was answered, for in time he became one of the teachers at the mission. Before long Raimun went out and talked with everyone he met about Jesus.

The missionary's prayer was answered, also. All missionaries pray that when they go into a country to tell the people about Jesus, some of the people will become missionaries themselves. When one of these people does become a teacher or preacher, we call this person a *national missionary*. (Piece 7) Hundreds of people in many countries around the world have been led to Jesus because of national missionaries. The BMAA does have some national missionaries working. Some of these national missionaries are able to work in places that our American

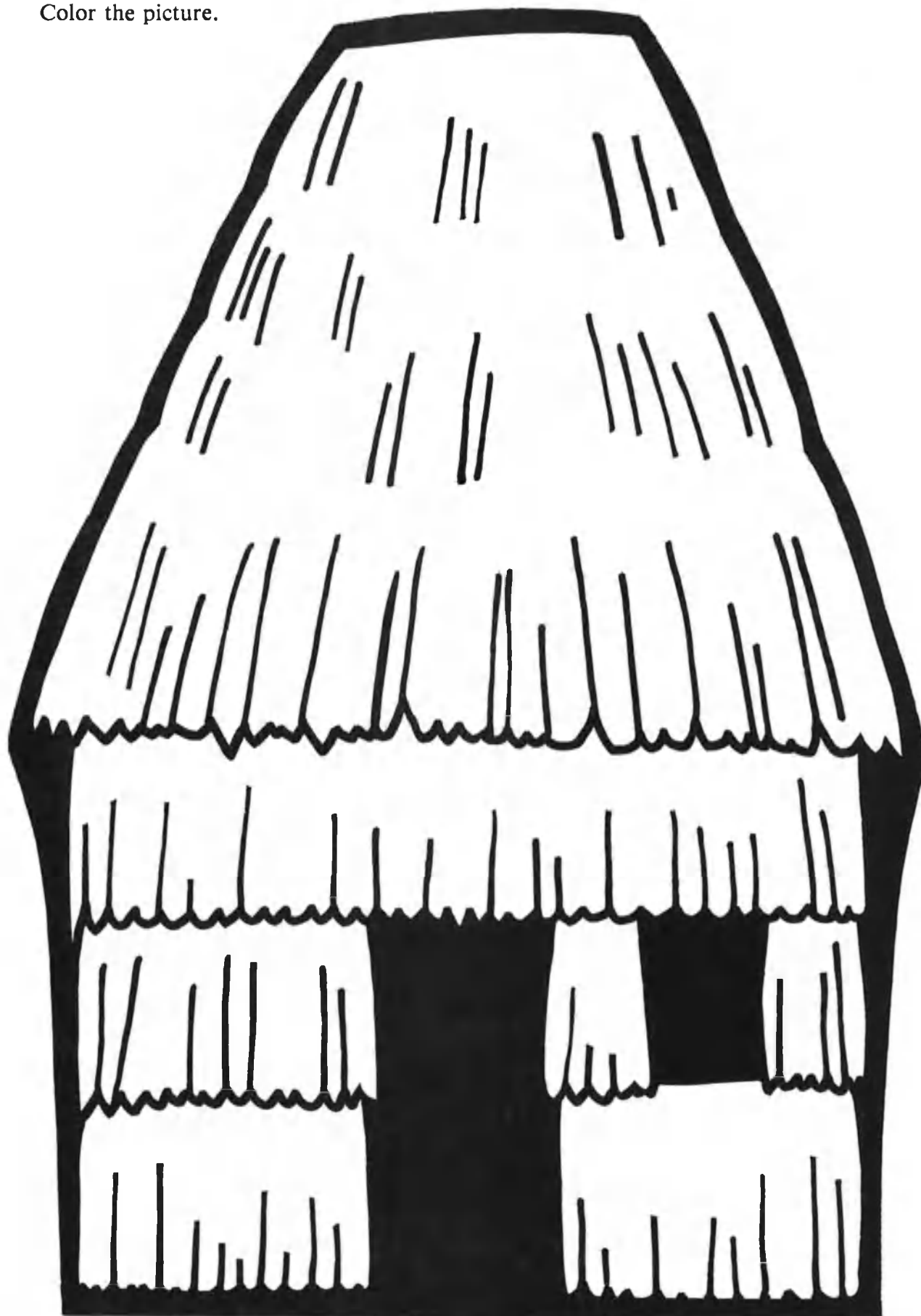
missionaries are not allowed to work in. It is very hard for these national missionaries to work, because most of the time their own people turn against them.

I want to tell you about one of our national missionaries. (Use issues of *The Gleaner* to gather information about one of our national missionaries. Tell the children about the missionary and the work he is doing.)

After telling the children about the specific missionary, ask them to pray with you for all our missionaries, but particularly our national missionaries. Call the missionary that you have studied by name in the prayer.

Additional Activities: Provide the color sheet that has the picture of the straw hut on it, or add the information about the national missionary to the carry-through activity that you have worked on in Lessons 5, 7, 9, and 11.

Color the picture.



WE MUST TELL OTHERS.

I Will Tell the World

Star Awards Activity Number 4

BEAM — YEAR ONE

Star Awards

- Bible
- Church
- Missions
- Music
- Memory Work
- Prayer

Aim: The teacher will be able to determine how much the children have learned about missions. The teacher will be able to judge the effectiveness of her teaching so that she can adjust the lessons if necessary. The teacher will have one last opportunity to reteach any major missions concept that the children have failed to learn.

Materials Needed: A large world globe to sit in the middle of the table; strips of construction paper cut three inches long and one inch wide; a stapler and staples

Songs: Review all missions songs that you have sung throughout the unit on missions.

Prayer: Lead the children in praying that they will know how important it is to tell others about Jesus and to send missionaries to the places we cannot go. Pray that the children will listen attentively and learn the concepts that you are trying to teach each week. Pray that the children will tell someone about Jesus this week. Pray for the missionaries that you have studied.

Lesson Approach: Boys and girls, this is the last lesson we are going to have on missions in this unit, and tonight I want to find out just how much you have learned. I pray that by now all of you know deep within your hearts that each of us *must* tell everyone we meet about Jesus, and our church *must* send out missionaries to tell the people in the world about Jesus.

Let's circle the world tonight telling everyone about Jesus. The way you are going to circle the

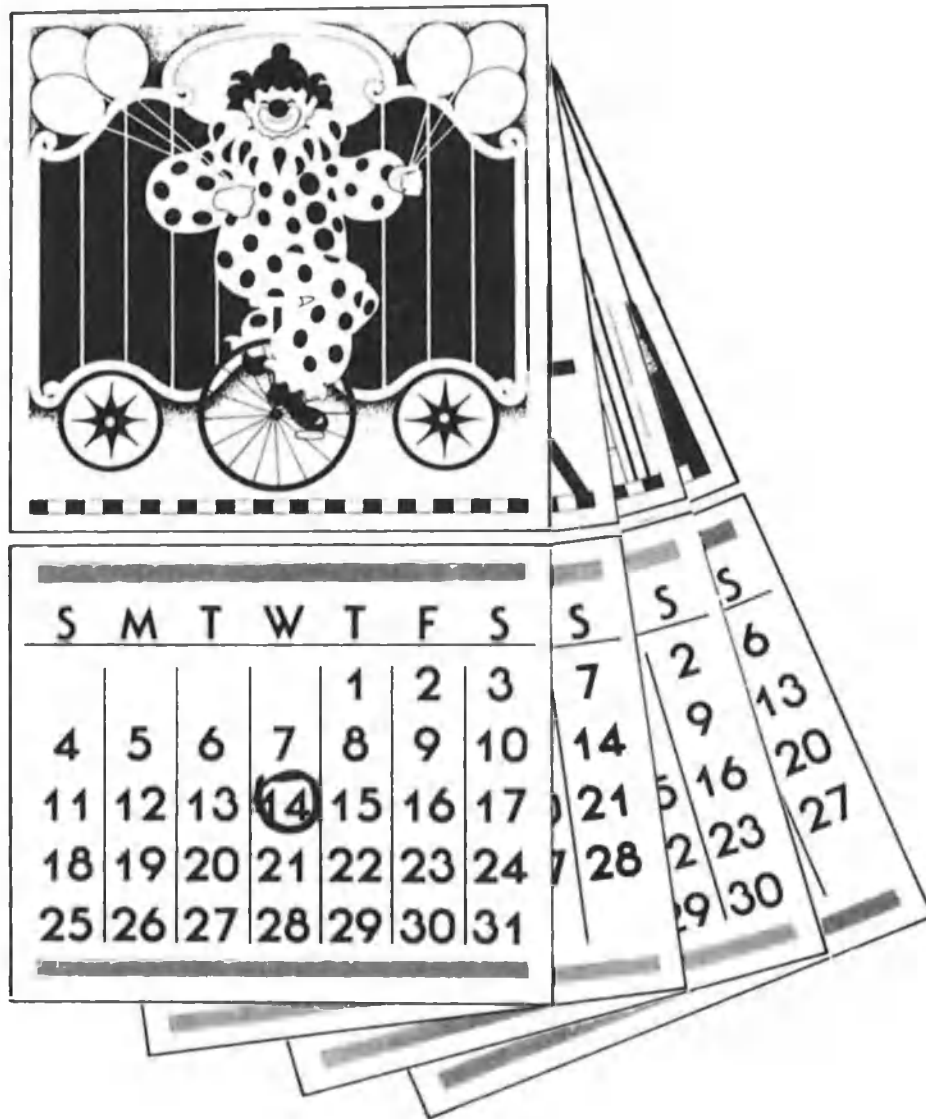
world for Jesus is to answer some questions about missions. I have a basket sitting here on the table beside the globe. In the basket I have several slips of paper, and each slip has a missions question on it. We are going to take turns going around the table. When it is your turn, you will draw a question out of the basket. If you can answer it, you can take a strip of construction paper, loop one end through the last construction paper loop, and staple it together. As we answer the questions and staple the loops together, we will make a chain. I want to see if you can answer enough questions and make enough loops in the chain to circle this world (globe) for Jesus. Let's begin.

(Go back through all the previous Star Awards review activities and take those questions, plus questions you make up from Lesson 12. Write each question on a slip of paper, and put the slips in the basket. This will be a good way to end the unit of study on missions, and it will reinforce the concepts you have taught.)

Additional Activities: Have pieces of construction paper and some patterns of suns with beams streaming out. Let the children take a piece of construction paper and trace the pattern on the construction paper, cut out the sun, and write "I Will Tell" on the sun. Provide pins so that the children can pin the suns on their shirts. In this way others will know that they are committed to being a missionary.



Special Occasion Lessons



Love the Unlovely

Special Occasion — Lesson 1

(Valentine's Day)

This lesson provides basic Bible truths related to Valentine's Day. Principles of relations with others are noted. Specific Star Award requirements as stated in the Sunbeam Work Plan are not covered.

Aim: The children will know that they should show love toward everyone — not just those people whom they like.

Text: Luke 19:1-10

Memory Verse: *"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself"* (Matthew 22:39).

Materials Needed: Six large heart shapes cut out of red construction paper. The following pictures should be on the front of the six hearts: (1) a box decorated for Valentine's Day, (2) a mean looking, well-dressed girl, (3) a black valentine with the words "Everybody hates you" scrawled on the valentine, (4) the same girl as on card 2 crying, (5) Zacchaeus in a tree, (6) Matthew 22:39. The appropriate parts of the lesson should be put on the back of each heart.

Lesson Approach: (Begin the lesson by using the heart shapes to tell the following story.) Jeremy was so excited. Tomorrow was Valentine's Day. There was going to be a party at school. (Show heart 1.) Everyone was going to bring an old shoe box that had been decorated with tissue paper and red hearts. The boxes were going to be used as mail boxes for everyone to exchange valentines.

Jeremy had had his valentines for two weeks. He had very carefully printed his name on each card with a new pen filled with bright red ink. He had looked at the cards over and over, selecting just the right one for each of his friends.

(Show heart 2.) But there was one girl in class who was not his friend, and he didn't want to give her a valentine. Nobody in class liked her. She was the meanest girl in class. Yesterday his friend Joey had worn his new pair of shoes, and

she had made fun of him and made him cry. She told Joey, "Those shoes look so dumb, just like you. Where'd you get them? They are probably hand-me-downs." Big tears ran down Joey's face. He couldn't help it if his family couldn't buy expensive shoes like hers.

If that wasn't enough for her, she made Linda cry, too. Linda had worked very hard on her paper, but she just couldn't print the letters very well. When Mrs. Harrington put papers on the bulletin board, the girl had pointed at Linda's paper and said, "Look at the little baby's paper. She can't even print her letters. She ought to go back to kindergarten. She's so dumb." Linda's face turned red in embarrassment.

That's the way the girl was. She hurt everybody. She had everything money could buy. She had the cutest clothes, and she had a beautiful room at her house filled with toys. She had everything, but nobody in class liked her. She was mean and cruel. Why should Jeremy give her a valentine?

(Show heart 3.) Jeremy had a great idea. He would give her a very special valentine, and he would make it himself. A girl like her deserved a special valentine. Jeremy got out his package of construction paper and searched for just the right color. There it was — black. He took the black piece of construction paper and cut out a lopsided black heart shape. Then he cut out a white shape and glued it on the black heart. He took his red pen and very carefully printed, "Everybody hates you." Jeremy folded the black heart and put it in an envelope. He carefully wrote her name on the outside of the envelope and placed it at the bottom of his stack

of valentines. He couldn't wait to see her face tomorrow when she opened the special valentine.

The next day Jeremy hurried through breakfast and anxiously waited for the bus to come. All day Jeremy could hardly wait until time for the party. Finally the party began. Each child took his or her time to pass out the valentines. Everyone excitedly tore open his valentines and began looking at them. Jeremy's heart beat faster as he watched her.

(Show heart 4.) When she opened the card, she stared at it, and tears trickled down her cheek. She ducked her head and wiped away the tears. She sat quietly for a few minutes. Then she raised her head and looked around. She picked up one of her other valentines and said, "Hey! Look at this card. Boy, what a cheap-o. This looks like somebody had this one left over from last year." She kept on the rest of the day making fun of everyone else. She seemed even meaner than before.

As Jeremy rode the bus home, he kept remembering the tears. The more he thought about her, the sadder he had become. He was sorry. His heart felt as black as the black heart he had given her. Suddenly, he remembered something his Sunbeam teacher had read from the Bible. Jesus told us to love everyone — even the people who are hard to love. Maybe the girl acted so mean because she didn't feel as if anyone loved her.

(Show heart 5.) Jeremy remembered the story he had heard about Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus was a very short man. His job was to collect tax money from the people. Sometimes he was not very honest, and he collected more money than was really owed. Many times when he went to collect the money, the people did not have enough to pay what they owed. But he was not kind. He was very mean and took things from them. Everyone hated Zacchaeus. No one wanted him

to come to their home to visit them, and no one wanted to go to his home.

One day Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to Jericho. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, so he went out to the road where Jesus was supposed to pass by. When he got there, there were so many people already crowded by the road that he could not see. He decided to climb up into a nearby tree in hopes of seeing Jesus. He climbed up into a sycamore tree and waited for Jesus. When Jesus came by, He looked up in the tree and said, "*Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house*" (Luke 19:5). Zacchaeus came down and joyfully welcomed Jesus to come to his house.

All the people complained because Jesus was going to a sinner's house. The people thought that Jesus should not have anything to do with Zacchaeus because Zacchaeus was mean, but Jesus loved everyone. In fact, Jesus gave us a command (an order) as to how we should treat all people — even the people whom we do not like. (Show heart 6.) In Matthew 22:39 Jesus tells us, "*Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*" Who is our neighbor? Is it just the person who lives next door? No, our neighbors are all the people we come in contact with — even the people at school that we don't like. We should love them and treat them nicely.

Have the children repeat Matthew 22:39 until they can say it by themselves.

Activities: Have each child make a valentine and ask him to give it to someone that he doesn't particularly like. Discuss with the class how they should treat all people.

The color sheet depicts two different scenes. In one scene a child is doing kind things to show love. In the other scene a child is doing unkind things. Ask the children to color the scenes and place a check (✓) on the scene which shows love.



He Gave His Life for Us

Special Occasion — Lesson 2

(Easter)

This lesson provides basic Bible truths related to the death and the resurrection of Jesus. The lesson is designed to be used near Easter. Specific Star Award requirements as stated in the Sunbeam Work Plan are not covered.

Aim: The children will learn that Easter is a special time because we are reminded that Jesus died, was buried, and rose again. He is alive and with us all the time.

Text: Mark 15:24-47

Materials Needed: Use a hand puppet of a dog. If you don't have a dog puppet, any animal puppet will substitute. Change the character in the story to the animal you have. If you don't have a hand puppet, you can cut out a picture of a dog (or other animal) and glue it on a wooden stick (a tongue depressor works well) and use it as a puppet.

You will need the following flannelgraph pictures: (1) a picture of Jesus praying in the garden; (2) a picture of soldiers who came to arrest Jesus in the garden; (3) a picture of Jesus on the cross; (4) a picture of the tomb with the stone sealing the entrance; (5) a soldier standing guard at the tomb; (6) the risen Jesus; (7) a picture of the apostles.

Lesson Approach: (The first part of the lesson is a puppet story. Use your puppet to tell the story. Remember, the effectiveness of the lesson depends upon your willingness to dramatize the story in the puppet's own words.)

Hello, boys and girls; my name is Duffey. I'm so glad to be here with you. Mrs. _____ (teacher's name) asked me to come and tell you about something very awful, yet very wonderful, that happened to me. It all began about a year ago when my parents decided that I was old enough to go out in the yard and play by myself. Always before, Mother or Daddy had gone out

in the yard with me to watch me and take care of me, but I was beginning to grow up. It was time that I did a few things on my own.

I'll never forget that first time. Before I went outside our fence, Mother and Daddy sat me down and talked with me. They said, "Duffey, that's a big yard out there; and there are lots of bad things that can happen. Sometimes Fleck, the dog from across the street, will come over and try to take your food or toys away from you. Sometimes mean children will come by and throw things at you and chase you. Sometimes your friends will come over and try to get you to do things that we have told you not to do. You must always be alert. We have taught you many times before how we expect you to act, and we are depending on you to obey us. One thing more we must tell you: **DO NOT GO ACROSS THE STREET OR PLAY IN THE STREET.** Many cars and trucks speed by on that street; it is very, very dangerous. Stay away from the street."

Well, Mom and Dad didn't have to tell me all that stuff. I'd heard it all before. I knew what was right and wrong. I could hardly wait. It was going to be so much fun. That first day I could hardly wait to get out in the yard by myself. All my friends were going to think I was so grown up.

All went well the first few weeks. At first I was scared out there by myself, but as time passed by I learned that it wasn't nearly as dangerous as Mom and Dad said; so I got braver and braver. Before long I was the king of the yard. When those kids came walking by in the afternoon, I could growl at them just right and they would run down the street screaming. I would laugh

and laugh. And Fleck from across the street, well, he wouldn't even look at my bone.

One day, though, that nasty old black cat from Mrs. Smart's house dared to sneak into my yard. At first I didn't see him. Then I heard a plop when he jumped up on top of my dog house. Can you imagine that cat having the nerve to get on my house?

Well, I would show him a thing or two. I ran toward him as fast as I could. He jumped down and started running around the yard. Boy, this is fun. We played chase all over the yard. I was barking and barking. I guess he got tired of running in circles around the yard, so he ran out into the street. I stopped quickly and thought about what Mom and Dad had said about the street. Well, I was pretty grown up and there weren't any cars or trucks coming. It won't hurt anything just this once.

Carefully I looked around and stepped out into the street. Everything was all right. Just then that old cat started meowing at me; it sounded as if he were laughing. That did it! I would get him for sure. I ran into the street. Everything happened so fast. I heard a truck horn blowing and Mom barking. Then I was pushed out of the street by something. Then I heard that terrible yelp. It was Dad. The truck had hit Dad. I ran over to him and licked his face, but Dad was dead. Oh, no! What have I done. Dad had run into the street and pushed me aside to keep the truck from hitting me. I was safe, but Dad had given his life for me. Even though I was wrong and had been bad, Dad loved me so much that he died to save me.

(Teacher) Boys and girls, I asked Duffey to come and tell you what happened to him because it reminded me so much of what Jesus has done for us. Duffey's Dad loved him so much that he died for him. Jesus loves every one of us so much that He died to save us. Think of that. Jesus died for you. Even though you have sinned, Jesus still loves you so much that He died for you.

(Put picture 1 on the flannel board.) We have often talked of all the things that Jesus did while He was here on earth. You remember how He did wonderful things. He healed the sick and raised the dead. When the time came that Jesus knew He would soon die, He went to a garden and prayed. (Show picture 2.) While He was there, the soldiers came to arrest Him. Jesus' friends were very sad. The soldiers took Him away. Jesus had told them that they would be sad, but soon they would be happy. After Jesus stood before the court and was found guilty, He was taken up on a hill and nailed to a cross.

(Show picture 3.) There He died. He died for you and me. Just as Duffey's father loved him so much that he pushed Duffey out of the street and let the truck hit him, Jesus died for us.

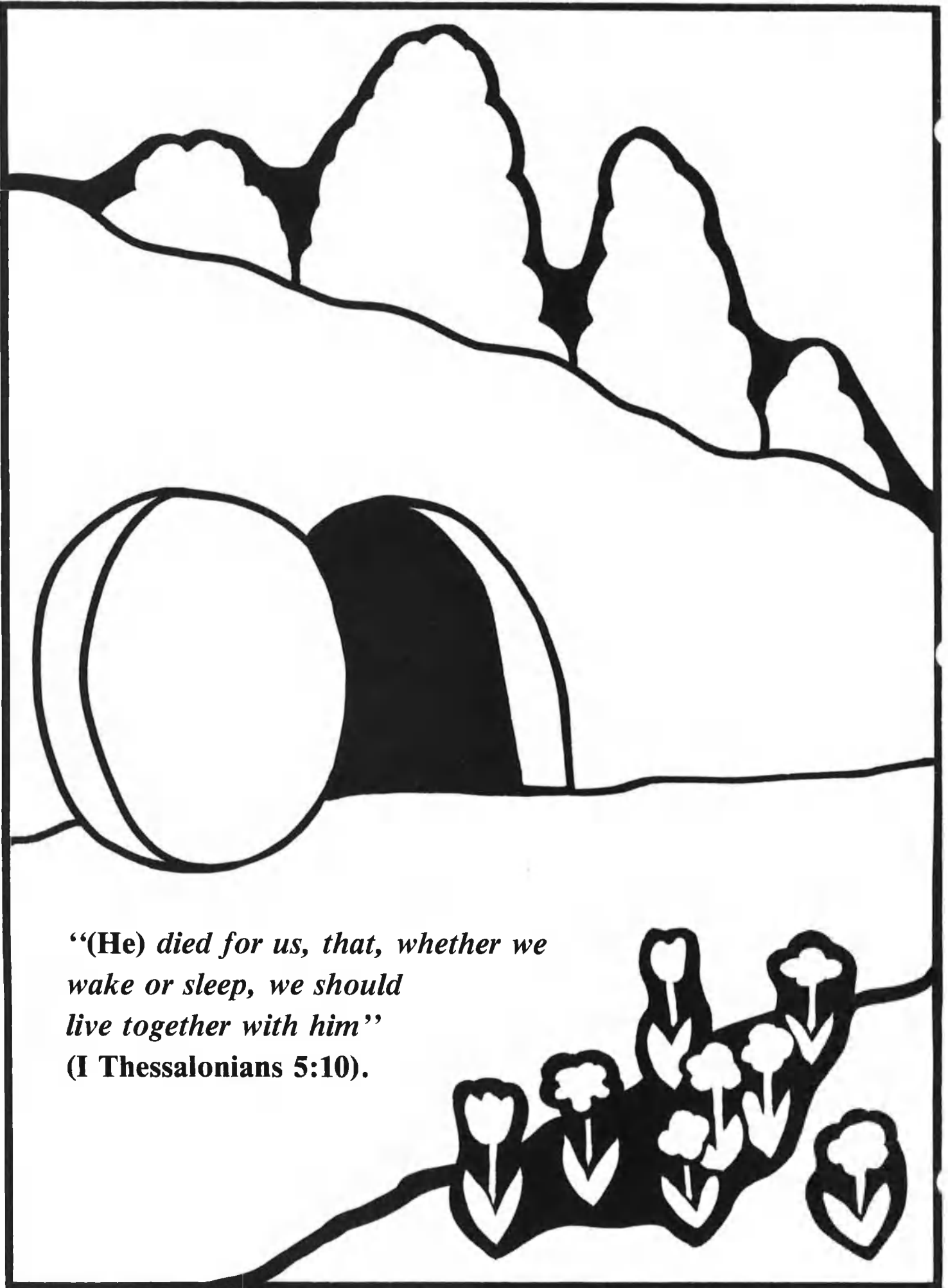
(Show pictures 4 and 5.) But something happened to Jesus that did not happen to Duffey's father. Jesus is God's Son, so He was able to come back to life.

(Show pictures 6 and 7.) Jesus met with His friends once again. Before He went back to heaven, He promised them that because He had died for all people's sins, all could live forever with Him in heaven. They needed to believe that He is God's Son, ask Him to forgive sins, and trust in Him to save. First Thessalonians 5:10 tells us that "(Jesus)... *died for us, that... we should live together with him.*"

Jesus loves us so much that He died for us and was resurrected from the dead. That's what the Easter story is all about. That's why we celebrate Easter. Do you love Jesus enough to trust Him and serve Him?

Activities: If you have time, you can let the children take turns using the puppet to tell the Easter story.

Copy the color sheet of the Easter scene with I Thessalonians 5:10 printed on it. Give one to each child to color.



*“(He) died for us, that, whether we
wake or sleep, we should
live together with him”*
(I Thessalonians 5:10).

In Everything Give Thanks

Special Occasion — Lesson 3

(Thanksgiving)

This lesson provides basic Bible truths related to Thanksgiving. Specific Star Award requirements as stated in the Sunbeam Work Plan are not covered.

Aim: The children will understand why we celebrate Thanksgiving and will realize that they should thank God every day for all that He gives them.

Text: I Thessalonians 5:18

Materials Needed: Use the seven picture cards to visualize the story. Have the pictures on the front of a piece of construction paper or cardboard. Put the appropriate story text on the back of each card so you can hold the picture up for the children to see and read the information off the back.

Copy the color sheet that accompanies the story.

Provide a pine cone for each child and autumn-colored construction paper from which to make a turkey head and tail.

Lesson Approach: The lesson can be started by having a brief discussion of what the children are going to do (or have done) on Thanksgiving day. Tell them that you are going to tell about Christine's Thanksgiving. Use the picture cards to present the story.

(Hold up picture 1 of a little girl looking out the window.) Today had been a very busy day, and Christine was so excited. She and Mother and Daddy were going to Granny and Granddaddy's for Thanksgiving. Last night Mother and Christine had packed their clothes and had gotten everything ready. As soon as Christine had come from school, they had loaded their things in the car. It was so hard to wait for Daddy to come home from work. Every few minutes Christine had run to look out the window.

Finally Daddy came and everyone piled into the car. They stopped for hamburgers, and then they were on their way.

(Hold up picture 2 of a big country living room with a fireplace and a cat curled up in front of the fireplace.) Christine could hardly wait. Granny and Granddaddy lived out in the country in a big house. As soon as one walked in the door, he could smell something cooking. The old yellow cat would be curled up in front of the fireplace. Granddaddy would tell wonderful stories about what he did when he was a little boy. Tomorrow all of Christine's aunts and uncles and cousins would come. The house would be filled with people, talking and laughing. The table would be covered with food. All the children would go outside after lunch and play chase.

(Hold up picture 3 of the three family members in the car.) The car sped along in the dark night, and Christine snuggled up in the back seat with her fuzzy bear. She looked up at the twinkling stars in the sky and thought about tomorrow.

"Mother, why do we always have turkey on Thanksgiving? Why don't we have hot dogs?"

"Well, Christine, having turkey for Thanksgiving is something that started long ago. Would you like to hear about it?"

"I'd love to," Christine replied.

(Hold up picture 4 of a ship — typical of one the Pilgrims would have come over on — sailing on a rough sea.) "A long time ago in a land far across the Atlantic Ocean, a group of people were very sad. They were sad because their king would not let them go to the church they wanted

to go to and worship God the way they wanted to. They loved God very much, and they wanted to be able to worship Him the way they thought God wanted to be worshiped. So, they gathered all their belongings and paid a ship captain to take them across the ocean to a new land of which they had heard. This land was called America.

“At that time the land of America was a wilderness. It was nothing like we know it today. The only people who lived in America were the Indians and the few people who had just come to America.

“The little group of people boarded the ship and set sail for America. The weather was very bad. There were many storms, and the little ship rocked back and forth. Many of the people got sick, and some died. Finally they saw the new land that they had come to find.

(Hold up picture 5 of a typical Pilgrim settlement.) “The people lived on the ship for many weeks until they could leave the ship and take their things ashore. They had to cut down trees to build shelters in which to live. As the weeks passed, they had to hunt animals to have food.

“The weather was very cold, and many people were scared and sick; but when spring came, the Indians showed them how to plant corn.

As the summer passed, the vegetables they had planted grew; and in the fall they had many delicious vegetables to gather and store for the winter.

“When they thought about all the things that had happened, they realized that they really had many things for which to be thankful. They remembered a verse in the Bible in I Thessalonians 5:18, *‘In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God.’* They knew that God wanted them to say thank You to Him, so they planned a big feast. (Hold up picture 6 of a scene of the Pilgrims and Indians having the first Thanksgiving feast.) All the people were to meet and eat together. They even invited the Indians who had helped them. The purpose of this feast was to get together and have a special Thanksgiving service to thank God for keeping them safe and blessing them with the food and new homes.

“This was our first Thanksgiving day. Since

there were many wild turkeys in the forest where they lived, the main meat that they had that day was turkey. Today we still have Thanksgiving day for the same reason these people did. We know that God wants us to thank Him for all the wonderful, wonderful things He does for us.”

“And we have turkey on Thanksgiving because that’s what they had on that very first Thanksgiving?” Christine asked.

“That’s right, Christine. We should think of this when we sit down to eat our Thanksgiving turkey — or whatever we have to eat. We should always tell God that we thank Him for all that He does for us. Let’s thank Him right now. ‘God, I do thank You so much for loving us and taking care of us. We know that You always give us what we need — our houses, our food, our family, our friends. We especially thank You for giving us Jesus. Amen.’”

Boys and girls, God wants us to thank Him, too. He wants us to thank Him every day, not just on Thanksgiving. How can we thank Him? (Let the boys and girls suggest ways of thanking God. Be sure to point out, if they do not, that we can thank Him by praying, by singing praise and thanksgiving songs to Him, by giving to Him, by telling others about Him, and by doing whatever He wants us to do.)

(Hold up picture 7 of a modern-day Thanksgiving scene with I Thessalonians 5:18 printed across the bottom.) Let’s all say this verse together. (Repeat the verse with the children until they can say it by themselves.)

Activities: Copy the color sheet for each child to color. The modern-day Thanksgiving scene has I Thessalonians 5:18 printed on it.

If you have time, allow each child to make a Thanksgiving thanks turkey. Cut out the head and feathers from construction paper. Each child will need a head and five feathers. Be sure each child has five feathers with the words *In Every Thing Give Thanks* printed on them. Take a pine cone and lay it down horizontally. Stick the construction paper head down in the more pointed end of the cone so that the head stands up appropriately. Put the five feathers in order fanned out across the fatter end of the cone to form the turkey’s tail.



“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (I Thessalonians 5:18).

The Greatest Gift Ever Given

Special Occasion — Lesson 4

(Christmas)

This lesson provides basic Bible truths related to Christmas. Specific Star Award requirements as stated in the Sunbeam Work Plan are not covered.

Aim: The children will know that the greatest gift ever given is Jesus and that He was given so we can have eternal life.

Text: John 3:16; Luke 1 — 2

Memory Verse: “*Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift*” (II Corinthians 9:15).

Materials Needed: You will need a flannel board and the following flannelgraph pieces: (1) small pictures of the world, a family, the people in a church, friends, school, shape of the United States; (2) a picture of Jesus in the manger; (3) Mary; (4) an angel; (5) Mary and Joseph in a stable; (6) small picture of baby Jesus in manger; (7) shepherds to place around manger; (8) Jesus on the cross; (9) words of II Corinthians 9:15.

You will also need a box wrapped in Christmas paper. The flannelgraph pieces will be taken out of this box.

Lesson Approach: Enter the class with a large, gaily-wrapped Christmas package. Wrap the package in such a way that you can lift the top off the box. The gift will catch the children's attention, and they will begin asking whom the gift is for. At this time you can open class by *briefly* discussing the gifts they want for Christmas and the gifts they are giving for Christmas. Try to emphasize the gifts they are giving rather than what they are getting. Tell them that the lesson is going to be about the best gift that anyone has ever given them. Ask them what is the best gift they have ever received.

(Open the gift box. Hold it so that they cannot see what is in the box. Take out the first flannelgraph piece and place it at the top center of the flannel board.)

I want to talk with you about the gifts that God has given us. This first gift is the world we live in. God created this world for us to live in and to enjoy.

(Place the second piece to the right of the world.) God has also given us our families. Our families love us and take care of us.

(Place the third piece to the left of the world.) Our church is another gift that God has given us.

(Continue placing the pieces left and right until you have spread all the small pieces across the top of the board.) All of these are special gifts that God has given us. He has given us the world, our families, our church, our friends, our school, and our country.

But what is the very best gift that God has given us? Who knows the answer? This is the very best gift that has ever been given. (Remove all other pieces and put the large picture of baby Jesus in the center of the board.) The very best gift that has ever been given is Jesus. Why is Jesus the very best gift ever given? Listen and let me explain.

(Remove all pictures, and place the picture of Mary on the board.) Long ago there was a young woman named Mary, who lived in a little town called Nazareth. Mary was a good woman, and she loved God very much. (Add picture of angel.) While Mary was alone one day, something wonderful happened. An angel came to her and told her that she was very special to God. The angel told her that she had been chosen to do something very special for God. She was to have a baby, and that baby would be God's own Son. (Remove picture of angel.)

Things happened just as the angel had said. The king, Caesar Augustus, commanded all people to go to the town of their birth to be counted and taxed, so Mary and Joseph (her husband) left their home in Nazareth and went to a town called Bethlehem. When they got to the town, there was no place for them to stay. (Put on the board the picture of Mary and Joseph in a stable.) They finally took shelter from the night in a stable. There they lay on the sweet-smelling hay and felt the warmth of the animals who shared the stable with them. During the night Mary's baby was born. (Add picture of Jesus in the manger.) She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in the manger (the trough where the animal feed was placed).

Out in the country there were shepherds watching over their flocks of sheep. Suddenly a light shone around them. They were very frightened; but an angel told them not to be afraid, because he was bringing them some wonderful news. That very night Christ the Lord had been born and was lying in a manger in the town of Bethlehem. Hundreds of angels appeared in the air and began praising God. When the angels left, the shepherds decided to go to Bethlehem to find this baby. (Add pictures of shepherds to the stable scene.) They found the baby just as the angel had said, and they knelt and worshiped Him.

After some time, Jesus and His family returned to their home in Nazareth. There Jesus grew into a man and was ready to do what God had sent Him to earth to do. Do you know why Jesus came to earth? God loves all people. He wants people to be able to live with Him in heaven, but all people are not good enough to go

to heaven. All people do wrong things; all people are sinners. Sin keeps us from going to heaven unless we have some way of getting rid of our sin.

Jesus can take that sin from us. Jesus was punished for our sins long ago, even before we were born. (Put on the board the flannelgraph picture of the cross.) He was killed on a cross; but after three days, He came back to life. He took our punishment. If we believe He is God's Son, that He died for us and rose again, and if we ask Him to forgive us, He will hear our prayer and we will go to heaven when we die. (Read John 3:16 to the children from your Bible. Then have them repeat the verse with you. Ask them to explain the verse. If they don't understand the verse, take the time to explain it.) What a wonderful gift! This is the best gift anyone has ever offered us — to live forever with God in heaven instead of going to hell when we die.

There is a verse in the Bible that reminds us of this very thing. (Open your Bible and read II Corinthians 9:15. Help the children learn this verse. After you read the verse, put the flannelgraph words on the board. Have the children repeat the verse until they learn it.)

Activities: Read the following poem to the children:

God loves Jesus; God loves His only Son.
God loves me; God loves everyone.
God gave a gift; God gave His only Son.
God gave Him to me; God gave Him to every-
one.

Allow the children to cut out and color the folding gift package.

