

Little kids can know God through His miracles

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(With additional ideas
from the original text)

PLEASE NOTE!

The visuals for this series can be purchased from most CEF offices and online shops.
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Why teach young children?

Whether you are a new teacher or one who is well seasoned, you have chosen to invest your time in one of the most fruitful ministries: teaching young children! Why teach young children? According to specialists, the first five or six years of a child's life are his most sensitive, receptive and crucial period of development. These years, in which he develops his will to learn, his creativity and his ability to perform, affect all of his subsequent learning. If intellectual development is half over by age five, then teaching the Bible to young children has the potential of laying some very important spiritual and intellectual foundations.

What young children are like

Players



Physically, young children's large muscles are developing. These growing muscles can actually cause discomfort if they sit still for too long. They need time to play and plenty of space to move around in. They need variety and activity in every learning situation. Let them role-play Bible stories and play-act situations and applications to allow movement and reinforce the lesson. In this series you will find dramatic activities, action rhymes and movement woven into the Bible lessons, songs and memory verse teaching to help you meet this need.

Mentally, young children are questioning, observing and learning all the time. They enjoy learning and do so through all five senses. It is important to use a variety of methods and materials that appeal to their senses and maximise learning. Young children are also literal-minded and need simple, clear terminology - words that mean what they say. This does not mean you should never use more challenging words. It is important to expose them to Bible words they may not learn anywhere else, such as "*sin*", "*Saviour*" and "*worship*". This series makes use of carefully chosen words and explanations, as well as a variety of sensory experiences.



Curious

Self-centred



Socially, young children see the world as revolving around themselves and their needs. They are limited to their own viewpoint. Avoid competition but reward them for individual effort. The welcome ideas, review games, creative and enrichment activities in this series give young children opportunities to succeed without competition.

Emotionally, young children are easily hurt and their feelings are often "on the surface". Provide security and a sense of love and belonging. Seek to build self-esteem with positive comments about their character and ways they are growing and learning to do more. Young children are trusting, so be accurate and truthful. Build trust by keeping your word and being consistent. The teaching objectives, main teachings and applications in this series direct them to their ultimate source of security and love - a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.



Vulnerable

Credulous



Spiritually, young children eagerly accept Bible truth and are capable of learning basic doctrine in broad, simple terms. Some may also be ready to receive Christ as Saviour. Be sure to teach through repetition and give opportunities for response. Always keep in mind that their relationship with you, their teacher, will influence their relationship with God. Prayerfully commit your teaching ministry to the Lord and let His love for the children flow through you. This series provides a solid foundation of basic Gospel truths, relevant examples of sin and biblical applications repeated in words, actions and songs.

How to use this series

This volume is one in a series produced by *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® for use with young children. It is our conviction that little kids *can* know God!

This book contains all the information you will need to teach your class.

The complete lesson text is included in this book. Try not to read from the book but keep eye contact with the children. A lesson that is taught, not read, is more believable and interesting for the children. More experienced teachers may want to display the visuals on an easel at eye level to the children and teach from an open Bible. This allows the teacher's hands to be free for the variety of activities woven into the lessons.

Each lesson includes many opportunities for active involvement through dramatic activities, action rhymes and songs. Be sure to evaluate the needs of your group and choose the ideas that will work best and fit within your class time.

Scriptures are quoted from the New King James Version of the Bible. If desired, you may easily substitute another translation. The verse explanations and memory verse symbols are adaptable for any translation or language.

You will find the following symbols throughout these materials. Each indicates an activity.

Activity symbols



Song



Dramatic activity



Action rhyme

Tips on teaching young children

Be prepared and organised

- ♦ Study your lesson and class schedule thoroughly.
- ♦ Plan your time well.
- ♦ Prepare a written programme and follow it.
- ♦ Organise your materials.
- ♦ Be flexible to meet the needs of your class.
- ♦ Be prepared for interruptions - and surprises!

Plan a pre-session time

Planning a pre-session, of course, assumes you will be in the classroom and ready before the first child arrives! This not only helps you be better prepared to teach, it also provides a sense of security for the children. Have nametags available. These may be created with coloured card or fun foam and attached with a safety pin or double-sided tape. Also provide pictures to colour, storybooks to look at and recorded stories or music to listen to. These activities could be organised into "interest centres" around the room. Activities you choose should reinforce the lesson aim for the day, or provide a review of previous lesson aims. The suggestions in the welcome segment are designed to be used in pre-session time. These ideas are effective yet simple and require little preparation. It is good always to have a planned activity but sometimes the best pre-session activity is just to sit, and talk with the children as they arrive.

Have a routine

It is important to establish a routine and state expectations for each area of the room and each teaching segment. The children will feel secure when they know what to expect. A suggested class schedule is given at the beginning of each lesson to use as a guide. Try to follow the schedule you decide on, but be sensitive to how children respond to each activity and adapt accordingly. Routines that provide security and interest may include regular opening and closing songs; carpet squares to sit on; areas of the room designated for certain activities (eg story area, song area, craft area); rhymes or action rhymes to signal certain activities.

Involve the children

- ♦ **Helping** - Let children hold songs or other visuals, and hand out materials.
- ♦ **Role-plays** - Children enjoy acting out events of the lesson.
- ♦ **Prayer** - Have the children pray aloud in class for specific requests.
- ♦ **Action songs and rhymes** - Sing songs with actions and include action rhymes.
- ♦ **Questions** - Ask questions while you teach as well as in a review time. Allow children time to ask their own questions.

Engage the senses

Because young children learn through their senses, an effective teaching session will include experiences with all five: seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, touching. When planning your lesson and class hour, put yourself in the story. What would have touched your senses if you were one of the characters? What would you have seen or heard? What might you have smelled or tasted? Are there objects or textures you would have touched? Asking yourself these questions will help you think creatively about what to bring to class for the children to experience. Here are a few examples:

- ♦ **Seeing** - Talk about the visuals you use and ask children questions about what they see.
- ♦ **Hearing** - Use your voice creatively to depict characters in your lesson. Let the children use their voices to imitate sounds or repeat dialogue. Include songs to reinforce the lesson.

- ♦ **Smelling** - Use lesson-related items that have an aroma (eg foods, spices, perfumes, incense). Also let the children pretend to smell aromas that would have been present (eg food cooking, flowers, animals).
- ♦ **Tasting** - Let the children taste foods mentioned or implied in the lesson and sample foods from different cultures.
- ♦ **Touching** - Provide safe lesson-related objects the children can touch. Include different shapes and textures and nature items. Also let the children help you hold flashcards, song visuals and memory verse symbols.

Use a variety of visuals

Use pictures and objects of various shapes, sizes and colours. The verse and song visuals can be presented in several different ways:

- ♦ Mount them on craft sticks.
- ♦ Add magnets to the back to use on a baking tray.
- ♦ Use clothes pegs and clip them to a string.
- ♦ Slide them in a pocket chart.
- ♦ Add flocked paper, paper towel scraps or sandpaper to the back for use on a flannelboard.

Teach with music

Music provides opportunities for movement and captures the interest of distracted listeners. It is not necessary to teach the songs word by word to the children. Just sing them. Children will learn the songs simply by listening. Even if you are not musically inclined, try to include plenty of songs. Young children often learn songs more quickly than any other part of the teaching.

Review often

Reinforce your lesson in a variety of ways. Use review games, songs, role-plays, crafts and object lessons. You can also let the children retell the lesson using your visuals.

Be friendly

Smile often. Speak to the children at their eye level. Be personal and try to always use the children's names. Show interest in each child as an individual. Be patient and be generous with praise and encouragement.

Discipline consistently

Be loving yet firm in your discipline and realistic in your expectations. Remember that young children need lots of movement and opportunity for response. When discipline problems do occur, be careful to discipline the behaviour, not the child (ie, the problem is not the child himself but his inappropriate behaviour). Keep in mind that being well prepared and providing plenty of interaction will eliminate most problems.

- ♦ Have well-defined rules and be consistent in upholding them. Review the rules verbally and possibly with a visual reminder at the start of every class. Designate how many children can be at each centre or activity.
- ♦ Give positive guidance by telling what a child should do, not just what he should not do. Say, "Do this," instead of, "Don't do that."
- ♦ When a child misbehaves, ask if he needs time to think about appropriate behaviour. If thinking time is needed, have him sit alone for one minute per year of age. When the time is up, ask if he is ready to behave appropriately. If so, he may rejoin the activity.
- ♦ Plan to have a helper sit close to a child who consistently causes a disturbance in class. Often a touch on the arm will help refocus the child.

Teaching 2s and 3s

Two- and three-year-olds are very teachable. Some even refer to these years as the "age of discovery." Because there is a wide range of maturity levels within this age group, you need to be sensitive to each child on his individual level.

Class schedule

Include an activity after every two or three minutes of teaching time.

Bible lesson

Use lots of repetition. This age group thrives on hearing the same lesson many times (at least two to four times) before going to a new one!

Songs

Choose two or three songs to use throughout the series. Sing each song several times during the class time. When using a visual for a song, have a different child hold the visual each time you sing it. Keep singing the same song until all who want to hold the visual have had a turn.

Memory verse

Repetition is the key to teaching a memory verse to these little ones. Say one short phrase at a time and have the children repeat it after you. With a small group of children have one child at a time repeat the verse. You may want to use stickers to encourage or reward them. Continue to work on the same verse during the series until the children have it memorised.

Gospel spotlight

Use the same Gospel tool throughout the series. Explain each symbol (whether it is a colour, picture or shape) using a simple description and have the children repeat it back to you. Review the Gospel at the beginning of each class. Repeat the Gospel, when appropriate, while singing a song or reciting the memory verse. Conclude each session with a Gospel presentation.

Why lead young children to Christ?

Can a young child be saved? The Lord Jesus said, “Unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 18:3). Jesus gave His promise of salvation to “whoever believes” (John 3:16) without any other limitation. He spoke of little ones who believe in Him and the danger of offending them (Matthew 18:6).

Shirley Wisner, who for many years served as a teacher trainer and a columnist for *Evangelizing Today's Child*® magazine, based the accountability of a child on James 4:17 - “Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.” Mrs Wisner stated, “Any normal child knows right from wrong long before he is five. He learns early that there are certain things he is not to do because they are wrong and that if he does them he will be punished. This same child can easily be taught that God calls such wrongdoing sin and that there is a remedy for sin.”

Statistics show that eighty-five percent of those who make decisions for Christ do so between the ages of four and fourteen. Josh McDowell, a renowned speaker and author, spoke about this statistic and said, “It’s probably going to be ninety-five percent within five years.” He also predicted the age span would likely decrease to four and

eight. It is clear that we need to reach children early and there is an advantage in doing so. Many Christian leaders were saved as preschool children. For example, Corrie ten Boom was saved at age five, Dr James Dobson at age three and Amy Carmichael at age three.

Most children who are converted at a very early (ie preschool) age have had the privilege of a Christian upbringing.

It is important that our first goal is to evangelise the children. As Dr Howard Hendricks stated, “To expect a child to live the Christian life when he does not possess it is to mock him. Until the Holy Spirit takes up residence in a person’s heart he cannot live [a life] pleasing to God.”

In Mark 16:15 the Lord Jesus commands us to preach the Gospel to “every creature.” This includes children. David Livingstone, famous Scottish missionary and explorer, said, “Our business is to teach children about sin and the Saviour, without even a hint about a certain age to accept Christ. The Holy Spirit will, in due time, convict them of sin.” God is able to draw a child to Himself. If you doubt the child’s ability to communicate with God, do not doubt God’s ability to communicate with the child!

Young children and salvation

As we work with preschoolers we endeavour to build Bible truths into their understanding, “block by block”. Each teaching session will aim to lead them to understand a Bible truth or to deepen their understanding of a truth they have already learned. In this way they will be taught the basics of the Gospel and much more. As you teach, depend on the Holy Spirit to give them spiritual understanding and to draw them to Christ. Be mindful, however, that preschoolers really want to please their teacher so we must avoid professions made on that basis.

If a child has questions, answer them on the child’s level; if he is not satisfied with the answer he will ask again, or he may have another question. Let the child set the pace and be very careful not to put pressure on a child to make a profession of faith. If a child is very clear about the Gospel and clearly wants to trust the Lord, you may find “Key questions for counselling” (see back cover) useful.

Play dough, clay, instruments and costumes

Below are some staple items for fun and learning. For a creative activity children can use play dough or clay to form lesson-related objects as you review the lesson. Rhythm instruments are great for providing active participation in a rhythm band or praise parade. Costumes allow children the fun of “dressing up” as they role-play various parts of the lesson.

Play dough

1 cup plain (all-purpose) flour
 ½ cup salt
 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
 1 cup water with food colouring added

Optional: food colouring; vanilla, cinnamon, or other fragrance; glitter.

Put all the ingredients into a large saucepan, and stir over a medium heat until the dough forms into a ball. Allow to cool, and then knead until smooth.

Store in an airtight container (a zipped plastic bag with the air pressed out is good).

Craft clay

200 g cornflour
 2¼ litre water
 400 g baking soda

Mix all the ingredients together in a medium saucepan. Cook and stir over medium heat until thickened to a dough-like consistency. Turn the mixture onto a flat surface lightly dusted with cornflour and knead. Cover with a damp cloth or keep in a plastic bag. The clay may be used for crafts or “models”, which can be painted when dry.

Rhythm instruments

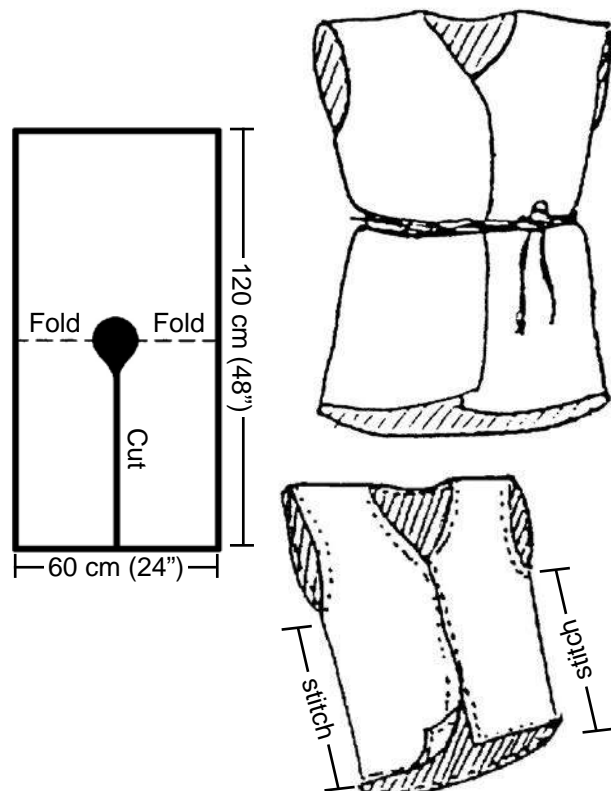
Make simple rhythm instruments from household items and decorate them with stickers, coloured tape, glitter, markers, crayons or other materials. (Do this before class or as a creative activity with the children.) Be sure to securely glue or tape the lids on instruments containing rice or beans.

- ♦ Small plastic boxes (each with a lid) filled with a few beans or rice for shakers.
- ♦ Small boxes open on one side with rubber bands stretched over the opening for harps.
- ♦ Tubes for horns.

- ♦ Biscuit tins or cardboard boxes for drums.
- ♦ Sets of two sticks or dowels for rhythm sticks.
- ♦ Bells on leather straps or ribbons for jingle bells.
- ♦ Disposable plastic containers with holes punched around the edges and bells attached with wool or ribbon for tambourines.
- ♦ Sets of two sanded wooden blocks with sandpaper glued to one side for rhythm blocks.

Bible costumes

This toga costume can be used for both male and female Bible characters. Use any material, but be sure to hem all the raw edges. Make three sizes for children: small (60 x 120 cm / 24” x 48”), medium (70 x 152 cm / 28” x 60”) and large (75 x 160 cm / 30” x 64”). (For adults and youth, experiment to determine the desired dimensions.) Create a rope or fabric belt for each toga. For simpler costumes, paper grocery sacks may be used. Cut arm and head openings in each.



Planning your class time












Below is a suggested schedule to help you plan a fun-filled 30-minute, 1-hour or 2-hour teaching time, presented once a week or daily. If you are teaching once a week, you will find there are many activities to choose from - and not enough time to use all of them! In a daycare setting these additional ideas and materials could be passed on to the daycare provider as a way to reinforce your teaching throughout the week. In a church setting these ideas would work well in a midweek service or other meeting.

To teach these materials in a Monday to Friday setting, choose one of the three plans according to the time available. If you have only 30 minutes, divide the memory verse and Bible lesson and Gospel spotlight between the five days as indicated below. A review time can be given daily or in place of the Gospel spotlight at the end of the week.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Memory verse	Bible lesson part 1	Bible lesson part 2	Bible lesson part 3	Gospel spotlight

Time schedule

(Unless otherwise noted, time segments are given in minutes.)

	Class segment	30 minutes	1 hour	2 hours
	Welcome	Pre-session	Pre-session	Pre-session
	Worship	-	5	5
	Memory verse	5	5	10
	Stretch*	5	5	5
	Bible lesson**	15	15	20
	Review	5	5	10
	Gospel spotlight	-	5	5
	Snack	-	-	10
	Creative activity	-	15	20
	Enrichment activity	-	-	25
	Going home***	-	5	10

* Use the suggested stretching activities or sing action songs.

** Include or omit dramatic activities as time allows.

*** While waiting for parents, have children help to tidy up, review the memory verse and sing songs.

Overview

Lesson	Central truth	Welcome	Worship	Memory verse	Stretch	Review	Gospel spotlight	Songs and action rhymes (Action rhymes are italicised)	Creative activity (Choose one)	Enrichment activity (Choose one)
Jesus heals a paralysed man Mark 2:1-12	Jesus has the power to forgive sin	Getting to know you game	“God is so good” Prayer “I can know God” Offering	“... The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins ...” (Mark 2:10) Sing a verse	Head and shoulders, knees and toes	Remove the tiles	Gospel tri-fold	“I believe the Bible” “I can know God” “Praise Him, praise Him”	Paralysed men Student activity sheets Play dough	Helping our friend What do friends do?
Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus Mark 10:46-52 Luke 18:35-43	God cares about everyone	Guessing game	“God is so good” Prayer “I can know God” Offering	“... He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7) Verse with actions	Head and shoulders, knees and toes (eyes closed)	Shine the light	Gospel tri-fold (review)	“Praise Him, praise Him” “Jesus loves me” “God is so good”	What eyes can see Student activity sheets Play dough	What is it like to be blind? I spy

Overview (continued)

Lesson	Central truth	Welcome	Worship	Memory verse	Stretch	Review	Gospel spotlight	Songs and action rhymes (Action rhymes are italicised)	Creative activity (Choose one)	Enrichment activity (Choose one)
Jesus calms the storm Mark 4:35-41	Jesus has power over everything	My water adventure	"I believe the Bible" Prayer "God is so good" Offering	"... The Lord is my helper; and I will not fear ..." (Hebrews 13:6) Verse on your fingers	Water fun	Sea picture	"My God is so great"	"I will trust"	Sea pictures Student activity sheets Play dough	Stormy sea mixing bag Wave bottle
Jesus feeds many people Mark 6:30-44 John 6:8-9, 14	Jesus, God the Son, loves people	My biggest dinner party	"I will trust" <i>I'm not afraid</i> Prayer "I believe the Bible" Offering	Review Hebrews 13:6 Verse on your fingers	I can go and help others	Noughts and crosses	"My God is so great" (review)	"I believe the Bible"	Picnic lunches Student activity sheets Play dough	Catch a fish

Overview (continued)

Lesson	Central truth	Welcome	Worship	Memory verse	Stretch	Review	Gospel spotlight	Songs and action rhymes (Action rhymes are italicised)	Creative activity (Choose one)	Enrichment activity (Choose one)
Jesus brings Jairus' daughter back to life Mark 5:21-24, 35-43	Jesus is the Saviour	My trip to the doctor	"I can know God" Prayer "My God is so great" Offering	"... The gift of God is eternal life ..." (Romans 6:23) Verse with actions	God makes me strong	Plaster review	Romans 6:23	"My God is so great" "Jesus loves me"	Miracle pictures Student activity sheets Play dough	First aid Memory game
Jesus brings Lazarus back to life John 11:1-7, 17-44	God has power over life and death	My family	"I can know God" Prayer "Tell the story true" Offering	"Jesus said ... 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live'" (John 11:25) Verse with actions	Follow the leader	Sad and happy faces	Romans 6:23 (review)	"My God is so great" "Praise Him, praise Him"	Coloured stones Student activity sheets Play dough	Lazarus is alive! Storytelling

Memory verse actions and music

Lessons 1

Sing a verse

Mark 2:10

“... The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins ...”

Mark 2:10

(Tune: London Bridge)

The Son of man hath pow - er on earth,

Pow - er on earth, pow - er on earth. The

Son of man hath pow - er on earth

To for - give sins.

Lessons 3-4

Verse on your fingers

Hebrews 13:6

“... The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear ...”

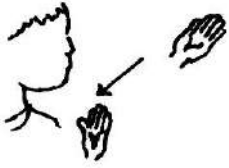

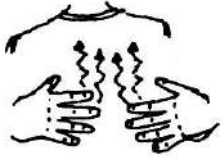
(Instructions for “verse on your fingers” are included with both lessons.)

Lesson 5

Verse with actions

Romans 6:23

“... The gift of God is eternal life ...”

 <p><i>The gift of God</i> Move open palm toward self.</p>	 <p><i>is eternal</i> Draw circle in front of body.</p>	 <p><i>life</i> Move wiggling fingers upward from waist then separate hands in front of face.</p>
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Song lyrics and actions

The following songs are included in the *Little kids can know God - songbook and CD* which is available from your CEF National Office. If you need an address, contact the European Headquarters (address at the front of this book).

The CD notation indicates the vocal and accompaniment only track numbers on the CD.

(CD: 2/23)

God is so good

- 1 (1) God is (2) so good. (repeat twice)
(2) He's so good (3) to me.
- 2 (1) God (4) loves me so. (repeat twice)
(2) He's so good (3) to me.
- 3 (5) I praise His name. (repeat twice)
(2) He's so good (3) to me.

Actions: (1) Point up with index fingers. (2) Look up while lifting outstretched hands. (3) Point to self. (4) Clap to rhythm.

Lyrics by Robert J. Hughes. © 1984 Lorenz Publishing Co. Used by permission.

(CD: 8/29)

I believe the Bible

- 1 (1) I believe the Bible. (repeat)
(1) I believe the Bible is the Word of God.
- 2 (2) I believe in Jesus. (repeat)
(2) I believe in Jesus; He's the Son of God.
- 3 (3) You and I have sinned. (repeat)
(3) You and I have sinned and that makes God sad.
- 4 (4) Jesus died for sinners. (repeat)
(4) Jesus died for sinners; Jesus died for me.
- 5 (5) Jesus Christ is risen. (repeat)
(5) Jesus Christ is risen; He arose for me.
- 6 (6) Will you now receive Him? (repeat)
(6) Will you now receive Him and be saved today?

Actions: (1) Hold hands like an open Bible. (2) Point up. (3) Point to others then to self. (4) Make cross with index fingers. (5) Raise hands, palm up. (6) Fold hands as if in prayer.

By Hubert Mitchell. © 2001 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. All rights reserved.

(CD: 12/33)

I will trust

- (1) When I am afraid, (2) I will trust in You,
(2) Trust in You, (2) I will trust in You.
- (1) When I am afraid, (2) I will trust in You
(2) For You are (3) my Saviour (4) and my Lord.

Actions: (1) Clench fists close to chest and shake as if in fear. (2) Point up with index fingers. (3) Make cross with index fingers. (4) Place hands on heart.

By Cynthia L. McClurg. © 1999 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. All rights reserved.

(CD: 9/30, 10/31)

I can know God

(Adapted)

- 1 (1) I may not be big (2) like the mountains so tall
(3) But I can know God, (4) Who made them all.
(5) I may not be strong (6) like the rivers that flow
(3) But I can know God, (6) Who makes them go.

Chorus

- (7) Yes, I can know (3) God. He's (5) big and strong.
(7) Yes, I can know (3) God and (8) sing His song.
(9) God loves me so much (7) and wants me to be
(10) A child in His own (11) forever family.
- 2 (12) I could not be there (13) to see Jesus die
(3) But I can know God (14) and understand why.
(1) I may not be big or tall (15) or so wise
(3) But I can know God (16) made Jesus alive.

Actions: (1) Stretch tall. (2) Touch fingertips together in a point above head. (3) Point up with index fingers. (4) Move hands, palms up, from in front you to each side. (5) Flex muscles. (6) Wiggle fingers, palms down, moving hands from right side of body to left. (7) Point to self. (8) Cup hands around mouth. (9) Hug self. (10) Hold hand low. (11) Look up while lifting outstretched hands. (12) Shake head no and wave index finger. (13) Make cross with index fingers. (14) Hold hands like an open Bible. (15) Point to head. (16) Raise hands, palms up.

Verse 1 by James L. Swindle. © 1986 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc.
Verse 2 and adapted chorus by Shirley Person. © 2001 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. All rights reserved.

Song lyrics and actions (continued)

(CD: 15/36)

My God is so great

(Use with PMIR-k - n)

- 1** (1) My God is so (2) great,
(3) So strong and so mighty;
(4) There's nothing my God cannot do!
(repeat first three lines)
(5) The mountains are His.
(6) The rivers are His.
(7) The stars are His handiwork too.
(repeat first three lines)
- 2** (8) God's love is so (2) great
(9) And I know He loves me
(1) For He gave (10) His Son for my sin.
(repeat first three lines)
(11) Christ died for me. (12) He rose again.
(13) He's coming back for me too.
(repeat first three times)

Actions: (1) Point up. (2) Cup hands around mouth and shout the word great. (3) Make a muscle with one arm then the other. (4) Shake head no and wave index finger. (5) Touch fingertips together in a point above head. (6) Wiggle fingers, palms down, moving hands from right side of body to left. (7) Wiggle fingers above head. (8) Hug self. (9) Point to head. (10) Touch right middle finger to left palm; touch left middle finger to right palm. (11) Make cross with index fingers. (12) Raise hands, palms up. (13) Lower hands, palms up.

Verse 2 by Elsie Lippy. © 1981 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. All rights reserved.



Action rhyme



I'm not afraid

- (1) When the thunder crashes
(2) And the rain begins to fall,
(3) And the wind blows in the treetops,
(4) I'm not afraid at all!
(5) I say a little prayer
(6) Then close my eyes and smile.
(4) I'm not afraid because I know
(7) Jesus is with me all the while.

Actions: (1) Clap hands. (2) Flutter fingers downward. (3) Blow, making a whirring noise. (4) Shake head no. (5) Fold hands. (6) Close eyes and smile. (7) Point to self.

From Teach Me Now Vol. 2, p. 49, used with permission from DC Cook, 1960.

Lesson 1





Jesus heals a paralysed man






Scripture for teachers Mark 2:1-12


Central truth Jesus has the power to forgive sin

Application
 Unsaved: Ask Jesus to forgive you
 Saved: Believe that Jesus has forgiven you

Memory verse "... The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins ..." (Mark 2:10)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do	
 Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player Nametags (page 78), one per child Ball 	Welcome Activity	Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags. "Getting to know you game" Have the children sit close together in a circle. Pass a ball around the circle as music is being played. When the music stops, the child holding the ball answers a question about himself (eg "What is your name?" "What is your favourite toy?").
 Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) "I can know God" visualised song Offering basket or bank 	Song Prayer Song Offering	(CD: 2/23) "God is so good" Lead the children in prayer: "Dear God, thank You that You are good and You love us so much. Thank You that we can know You and talk to You in prayer. In Jesus' name. Amen." (CD: 10/31) "I can know God" (chorus twice) (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)
 Memory verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMIR-R1, PMIR-R2, PMIR-R3 and PMIR-R4 (page 75) Instructions (page 20) Music (page 13) 	Verse Repetition	Mark 2:10 "Sing a verse"
 Stretch		Activity	"Head and shoulders, knees and toes" The following may be spoken or sung to the tune of "London Bridge" while doing the actions: Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Knees and toes, knees and toes. Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Clap your hands and praise Him.

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Bible lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson text (page 22) PMIR1-1, PMIR1-2, PMIR1-3, PMIR1-4, PMIR1-5 and PMIR1-6 "I believe the Bible" and "I can know God" visualised songs Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) Duplo® or similar building blocks Large doll and stretcher made from a towel and rods of dowel Some cut flowers in a vase 	Lesson "Jesus heals a paralysed man" Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.
 Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House and tiles (page 80) Questions (page 24) 	Game "Remove the tiles" Place the house and tiles on a flannelboard. When a child answers a question, he may take a tile off the roof. The children may also put the tiles back on the roof.
 Gospel spotlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 21) Gospel tri-fold (PMIR-e, PMIR-f, PMIR-g, PMIR-h, PMIR-i and PMIR-j) 	Spotlight "Gospel tri-fold"
 Snack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have) 	Break Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands. Prayer Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Snack Channel conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)
 Creative activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paralysed men (page 79), one per child 5 x 7.5 cm (2" x 3") felt, one per child Craft sticks, two per child Crayons or markers Scissors Glue Assorted lengths of string, two per child Student activity sheets, one per child Play dough or clay (page 8) 	Craft "Paralysed men" Have each child colour and cut out a paralysed man. Each child can then make the stretcher by gluing two craft sticks under a piece of felt and finish by gluing the man on top of the felt. Activity sheet* "Jesus healed a paralysed man" Assist the children in gluing string to the stretcher. Play dough "House with a roof" Guide the children in building a house with a flat roof. As they do, briefly review how the men brought their paralysed friend to Jesus by lowering him through the roof.

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Enrichment activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House made from cardboard boxes with a hole cut in each roof, one per six children Paralysed men from the creative activity above with 30 cm (12") wool strands tied to the craft sticks, one per six children 	<p>Activity</p> <p>"Helping our friend"</p> <p>If desired have each group of six children decorate their own house. Then let the children take turns lowering a paralysed man into the house by holding onto the "ropes". Review the story as they do.</p> <p>Drama</p> <p>"What do friends do?"</p> <p>The friends in the story helped the paralysed man. The children can talk about or act out things friends do for each other. Here are some examples: share toys, play together, pray for each other, help each other, comfort each other when they are sad, etc.</p>

*Available online at www.cefonline.com

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“... The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins ...”
(Mark 2:10)

Introduction

Who has the power to tell you what time to go to bed? Who has the power to tell you to pick up your toys?

Briefly discuss.

The Bible tells about a very special power.

Presentation

We can read about that power in our verse today. The words written in the Bible are called verses. Each verse has an address to help us find it. This verse lives at Mark 2:10.

Say the address together three times - first in a “mummy voice”, then a “daddy voice” and finally a very loud voice with your hands as a megaphone.

Have a child help you find the verse by opening your Bible to a marker placed at Mark 2:10. Read the verse then show flashcards PMIR-R1, PMIR-R2, PMIR-R3 and PMIR-R4.

Explanation

The Son of Man - Jesus is talking in this verse. He calls Himself the “Son of Man”. Jesus is God the Son. Jesus came to Earth as a baby and grew up to be a man so sometimes He calls Himself the Son of Man.

has power on earth - Because Jesus is God, He has all the power of God. God created (made) the Earth and rules over everything He created.

to forgive sins - Only God can forgive sins. Jesus is God so He has the power to forgive sins.

Give two or three examples of sin.

Jesus can make you and me clean from our sins.

Application

Unsaved: Jesus is the Saviour, Who was punished for your sins and mine when He bled and died on the cross. Then He came alive again. When you receive (trust) Jesus as your own Saviour, your sins will be forgiven.

Saved: If you have already received Jesus as your Saviour, you can thank God that He has forgiven you.

Repetition

“Sing a verse”

Point to the symbols in sequence as everyone sings the verse several times to the tune of “London Bridge”.

Gospel spotlight

Gospel tri-fold

Show flashcard PMIR-e.

Jesus is God's perfect Son. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit together are God. God created (made) the world and everything in it: the trees and flowers, the fish and frogs (Acts 17:24). God created people too. God created me and God created you!

Show flashcard PMIR-f.

The Bible says, "God so loved the world" (John 3:16). God loves the people He made. God loves you! God knows everything about you and He loves you just the way He made you! God wants you to be able to live with Him in Heaven someday. But you have a problem that can keep you out of Heaven and away from God.

Show flashcard PMIR-g.

God calls the problem "sin". Sin is anything you think, say or do that does not please God.

Share the following examples of sin or discuss PMIR-a, PMIR-b, PMIR-c and PMIR-d.

Being mean to other children or hurting your brother or sister when you are angry is sin. You have sinned. I have sinned. In fact God says, "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23). You sin because you were born wanting to sin. The punishment God gives you and me for sin is separation (being away) from God forever.

Show flashcard PMIR-h.

Because Jesus loved you and me so much, He came down from Heaven to be punished for our sin. He was born as a baby and grew to be a man. Jesus was perfect in every way and always did everything right. Jesus did not deserve to be punished. But He was willing to be punished for your sin and my sin and the sin of everyone in the world. One day He was nailed to a cross. Jesus bled and died on that cross. The Bible says, "Christ died for our sins ... He was buried ... He rose again the third day" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Jesus is the Saviour (the only One Who can save you from sin and its punishment)!

Show flashcard PMIR-i.

The Bible says, "As many as received Him [Jesus], to them He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12). If you receive (trust) Jesus as your Saviour because of what He did on the cross, you will be made clean from your sin. You will become a child of God and not be separated from Him. You will be God's child and your parents' child.

Show flashcard PMIR-j.

You will be able to live with God in Heaven someday! Jesus is in Heaven now. He is getting special homes ready for all who receive Him. Do you want to receive Jesus as your Saviour? You can today! I will be happy to help you (*designate time and place*).

Lesson - part 1

Do you have a really good friend? What do you like most about your friend?

Briefly discuss.

It is nice to have a really good friend. The Bible tells us that Jesus can be your very best Friend. The Bible is God's Word and all of it is true. You can believe everything the Bible says!



(CD: 8/29) "I believe the Bible" (verses 1-2). Stand to sing.



Flashcard PMIR1-1

Jesus loved the people who lived in Galilee. He talked to them about God. He showed them that He was God the Son by healing people who were sick. The Bible tells us that God loves you and me. God loves you and cares for you. He knows everything about you - the colour of your hair, the food you like to eat, the things that make you happy and sad. God wants you to know Him, and the good news is that you can!



(CD: 9/30) "I can know God" (verse 1).

Jesus was in a very crowded house. People had come to listen to Him teach them about God. Have you ever been somewhere that was really crowded with people?



Give the children an example of somewhere you have been that was very crowded, allow them to share their experiences.

There were so many people that soon you could not even get in at the door! Maybe people were trying to look in at the window.



Ask the children to pretend to be peering through a window or standing on tiptoes to see.

Why did so many people want to see Jesus? They had heard about how Jesus had made sick people well again and they wanted to see and hear Him for themselves. They were curious. What was Jesus really like? What was He going to do next? Not everyone who came to the house believed in Jesus, but they all wanted to see what He would do.

We can find out about Jesus today by listening to true stories from the Bible. We can find out how to be friends with Jesus.

Part 2

Flashcard PMIR1-2

Four men really wanted to see Jesus that day. They had a friend who could not walk. He lay on a mat all day. Imagine how sad it was for him not to be able to run, skip or jump. It was a very big problem that he had. His four friends carried him.

Ask the children to count the friends with you.

They carefully carried the paralysed man on his bed. "Paralysed" means that he could not walk. They went to the house where Jesus was. But



... oh no ... it was full already and there was no way that they could get to the door!

The friends did not give up. They believed that Jesus could help their friend to walk. But what could they do?

Listen to the children's ideas.

Flashcard PMIR1-3

The house had steps leading to a flat roof. They climbed up with the man on his mat. Then they made a hole in the roof.



Use the Duplo® (or similar building blocks) to show how a hole could be made and/or act out trying to get through a crowd of people (large group of children) with a paralysed man (large doll) on a stretcher (large towel with edges rolled and firmly secured over the rods) carried by your children.

Flashcard PMIR1-4

Once the hole was big enough the four friends lowered the man on his bed down to the floor right in front of Jesus. Jesus was not angry with the men for ruining the roof. He was not cross that they had interrupted Him while He was talking. Jesus cared about the man who could not walk.

Part 3

Flashcard PMIR1-5

Jesus said to the man, "Son, your sins are forgiven you" (Mark 2:5).

Even though the man could not walk that was not his biggest problem. Sin was his biggest problem. Sin stops us from being friends with God. It is a problem that every one of us is born with. We sin when we break God's law. Lying is sin. Not doing what mum and dad say is sin. Fighting with other children is sin. We all have this problem, but the good news is that it is a problem that Jesus can sort out.



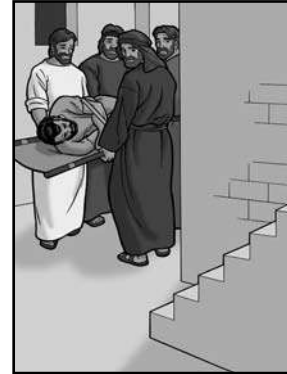
Do a short role-play to demonstrate forgiveness. You will need two adults/helpers and some cut flowers in a vase. One takes the role of a father and the other of his child. In a temper tantrum the "child" tears the heads off the flowers and throws them on the floor. He looks up at his dad's face and after a moment says, "I am very sorry." The "father" replies gently, "That was very naughty. I bought those flowers for your mum's birthday and you have destroyed them. You deserve to be punished, but I forgive you because I love you."

There were some important men listening to Jesus. They did not believe that Jesus could forgive sin. They thought that Jesus was just an ordinary person.

But Jesus knew what they were thinking and he said to them, "What's easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or, 'Get up and walk?'" (from Mark 2:9).

Then He spoke to the man who could not walk and said, "Take up your bed and walk to your house" (from Mark 2:11).

What do you think happened?





Flashcard PMIR1-6

The paralysed man got up on his feet! Look at his face in the picture - he is so happy! The man picked up the mat he had been lying on and he walked through the crowd in front of everyone. Wow! How was Jesus able to do that? Jesus is God the Son. He was able to make the man walk and He is able to forgive sin.

Have you asked Him to forgive you? If you have then thank God that Jesus forgives sins. When we have our sins forgiven we become friends with Jesus.

The people were amazed at what they had seen. The paralysed man had got up and walked! They praised God for what they had seen.



(CD18/39) "Praise Him, praise Him".

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 Who in the Bible calls Himself the Son of Man? (Jesus, God the Son.)
- 2 Who has power over everything on Earth? (Jesus.)
- 3 Who has power to forgive sins? (Jesus.)

Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 Who knows everything about you and loves you? (God; Jesus.)
- 2 What is something a paralysed man cannot do? (Answers will vary. Examples given in the lesson are run, skip, jump or walk.)
- 3 What was the paralysed man's biggest problem? (Sin.)
- 4 How did the man's friends get him to Jesus? (They carried him and then lowered him through a hole in the roof.)
- 5 Why did the friends want Jesus to see the paralysed man? (They believed Jesus could help him.)
- 6 Why was Jesus able to make the man walk? (Jesus is God the Son.)
- 7 Because Jesus has God's power, what did He do for the paralysed man? (Forgave his sin and healed him.)
- 8 How did the man show he was forgiven and healed? (He got up and walked.)
- 9 What did the people do when they saw the man walk? (They praised God.)

Gospel spotlight

- 1 What is sin? (Anything you think, say or do that does not please God.)

- 2 What punishment was given to Jesus for your sin? (He bled and died on the cross.)
- 3 What do you need to do to be forgiven for your sin? (Receive/trust Jesus as your own Saviour. Use this question to review - tell God, "I know I have sinned. I believe Jesus died for my sin and came alive again. Please forgive my sin and make me Your child.")

Lesson 2





Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus






Scripture for teachers Mark 10:46-52
Luke 18:35-43


Central truth God cares about everyone

Application Unsaved and saved: You can know that God cares about you, and you can ask God for His help

Memory verse "... He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do	
 Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player Nametags, (page 78), one per child Objects that can be identified by touch Dark cloth 	Welcome Activity	Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags. "Guessing game" Place an object under the cloth on a table. Have each child put his hand under the cloth and guess what the object is by touching it. Have several objects to rotate under the cloth so each child has a turn.
 Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) "I can know God" visualised song Offering basket or bank 	Song Prayer Song Offering	(CD: 2/23) "God is so good" Lead the children in prayer: "Dear God, thank You that You are good. Thank You that You love us and our friends. Help our friends to know about You. In Jesus' name. Amen." (CD: 10/31) "I can know God" (chorus twice) (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)
 Memory verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 30) 	Verse Repetition	1 Peter 5:7 "Verse with actions"
 Stretch		Activity	"Head and shoulders, knees and toes" (eyes closed) The following may be spoken or sung to the tune of "London Bridge" while doing the actions. Instruct the children to do it with their eyes closed. Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Knees and toes, knees and toes. Head and shoulders, knees and toes, Clap your hands and praise Him.

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Bible lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson text (page 32) PMIR2-1, PMIR2-2, PMIR2-4, PMIR2-5 and PMIR2-6 Bag packed with things you would take on a journey (eg clean T-shirt, soap, toothbrush, map, etc) Wooden bowl and a few small coins Cloak or coat 	Lesson “Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus” Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.
 Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Torch Questions (page 34) 	Game “Shine the light” When a child answers a question, he may turn the torch on and shine it on a predetermined object in the room.
 Gospel spotlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 31) Gospel tri-fold (PMIR-e, PMIR-f, PMIR-g, PMIR-h, PMIR-i and PMIR-j) 	Spotlight “Gospel tri-fold” (review)
 Snack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have) 	Break Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands. Prayer Snack Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Channel conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)
 Creative activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature pictures (page 81), two per child Crayons or markers Student activity sheets, one per child Glue Pennies, one per child Play dough or clay (page 8) 	Craft “What eyes can see” Have the children colour over one of the pictures with the side of a dark crayon to show that blind people cannot see the things we see. They may then colour the other picture with bright colours to show how we can enjoy seeing the things God has made. Activity sheet* “Jesus healed blind Bartimaeus” Have each child glue a penny in Bartimaeus’ beggar bowl. Play dough “Beggar’s bowl and pennies” Make a large bowl then guide the children in making pennies to drop into the bowl. Use this time to briefly review the lesson.

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 <p>Enrichment activity (choose one)</p>	<p>♦ Blindfold</p>	<p>Activity</p> <p>“What is it like to be blind?” (Do not use this activity if you have a blind child in your class.) Children can take turns being blindfolded or closing their eyes (younger children might fear being blindfolded). Two friends lead the “blind” child around the room. This will give them the idea of how it feels to be blind and have to depend on others. Talk about it after the activity. “How did you feel when you couldn’t see? How did you know you wouldn’t bump into anything? How did your friends help you?”</p> <p>Game</p> <p>“I spy” Choose one child to find an object in the room. The child says, “I spy something ____ (<i>add colour</i>).” The other children take turns guessing what the object is. Conclude each turn by saying together, “I thank God I can see ____ (<i>name the object</i>).” Continue until all the children have had a chance to “spy” something.</p>

*Available online at www.cefonline.com

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“... He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7)

Introduction

Show the children a photo of someone you care for - a child or a husband or a parent. Tell them the practical ways you show you care and why you care - you love them.

But there is Someone Who cares for the person in the photo more than I do. The Bible tells us Who that is.

Presentation

Say the address together, explaining that this is where we find out Who cares for us so very much.

Have a child help you find the verse by opening your Bible to a marker placed at 1 Peter 5:7. Read the verse.

Application

God cares when we are sad.

Ask the children to make a sad face.

God cares when we are happy.

Ask them to make a happy face.

He never stops caring about us. However you feel and wherever you are, you can ask God to help you because He cares about you.

Repetition

“Verse with actions”

Use actions to say the verse:

He - point upwards with both hands.

cares - hug yourself.

for you - point to one another.

Repeat this several times including the address.

Gospel spotlight

Gospel tri-fold (review)

Show flashcard PMIR-e.

- ◆ Who is Jesus? (God's perfect Son.)
- ◆ Who made you? (God.)

Show flashcard PMIR-f.

- ◆ Who loves you the most? (God.)
- ◆ Where does God want you to live someday? (In Heaven.)

Show flashcard PMIR-g.

- ◆ What will keep you out of Heaven? (Sin.)
- ◆ What is sin? (Anything you think, say or do that does not please God.)
- ◆ Who has sinned? (All have sinned - Romans 3:23.)
- ◆ Why do you sin? (You were born wanting to sin.)
- ◆ Tell me a way someone your age might sin. (Answers will vary.)

Share other examples or discuss PMIR-a, PMIR-b, PMIR-c and PMIR-d.

Show flashcard PMIR-h.

- ◆ How was Jesus punished for your sin? (He bled and died on a cross.)
- ◆ Why was Jesus willing to be punished for your sin? (He loved you.)
- ◆ What happened to Jesus three days after He died and was buried? (He came alive again - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.)

Show flashcard PMIR-i.

- ◆ How can you be made clean from your sin? (Receive Jesus as your own Saviour - John 1:12.)

Show flashcard PMIR-j.

- ◆ What is Jesus doing in Heaven now? (He is getting special homes ready for all who receive Him.)
- ◆ If you receive Jesus as your Saviour, where will you live someday? (With God in Heaven.)
- ◆ Do you want to receive Jesus as your Saviour? You can today! I will be happy to help you (*designate time and place*).

Lesson - part 1

Have you ever been on a long journey?

Have a bag of some things you would take on a journey (eg clean T-shirt, soap, toothbrush, map, etc). Show these things to the children.

Journeys can be really exciting, especially if something unexpected happens. Jesus was on a journey. He was travelling with His disciples to a place called Jerusalem.

Ask the children to repeat this name. Explain that it was an important place.

A big crowd was walking along the road with Jesus. Everyone was going to Jerusalem for a special celebration. It was something that happened every year, but this time something amazing happened on the way, just as they were near to the town of Jericho.



Pretend that you are travelling to Jerusalem. What would you be carrying? Walk around the room on your "journey" and then back to where the children are sitting. Help the children to understand that this was an exciting journey because Jesus was there. Sing as you "travel". This is what the people did on their way to Jerusalem.



(CD: 18/39) "Praise Him, praise Him".



Flashcard PMIR2-1

A man was sitting by the side of the road begging. He sat there every day asking people to give him money because he could not work. His name was Bartimaeus.

Ask the children to repeat his name.

Bartimaeus was blind, which means that he could not see. Imagine what it is like not to be able to see anything.

Ask the children to cover their eyes with their hands. Ask them what they can see.

Flashcard PMIR2-2

In those days, being blind meant that you could not work to earn money for food and clothes, so every day Bartimaeus had to beg.



Show the children a wooden bowl with a few coins inside. Explain that each day Bartimaeus would sit by the roadside asking for money. It was the only way he could get money to buy food.



Do you think that God cared about Bartimaeus? Yes, He did. God knew that Bartimaeus was blind. He cared about how he lived and how he had to beg for money. God cared about Bartimaeus more than anyone else cared about him. God cares about you too. God knows all about you and He cares about how you feel. He cares about you wherever you go and whatever you do. God cares about you because He loves you. Your parents care about you very much. Who else cares for you in your family?

Let the children answer.

It is amazing that God cares for us even more than our family.



(CD: 13/34) "Jesus loves me" (verse 1 and chorus).

Part 2

Bartimaeus must have found out that something was unusual about the crowd going to Jerusalem. Jesus was well known. Lots of people had heard about how He made sick people well. Maybe Bartimaeus had overheard them talking. He had found out that Jesus was in the crowd travelling through Jericho.

Flashcard PMIR2-4

So as the crowd got nearer Bartimaeus started shouting, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" (Mark 10:47).



Ask the children to call this out with you. Explain that "mercy" is kindness we do not deserve.

The people standing near to Bartimaeus told him to be quiet. "Sssh, Bartimaeus."

Ask the children to shush each other.

What do you think Bartimaeus did? He kept on calling to Jesus! He knew that this was his only chance of meeting Jesus and he was not going to give up.

Jesus stopped walking. He stood still. He had heard Bartimaeus calling His name. Jesus commanded that Bartimaeus be called.

"Bartimaeus, cheer up. Get up, He's calling you," said the people at the roadside (from Mark 10:49).

Bartimaeus threw aside his coat and jumped to his feet. He was in a hurry! He came to Jesus. What was Jesus going to do?



Get the children to act out what has just happened. One child is Bartimaeus sitting at the roadside calling out, "Jesus, have mercy on me!" Some children are the crowd arriving with Jesus, others are the group by the road telling Bartimaeus to be quiet. One of the teachers/helpers can say the words of Jesus. Then the group by the road tell Bartimaeus to get up. He does so in a hurry leaving his coat behind.

Part 3

Flashcard PMIR2-5

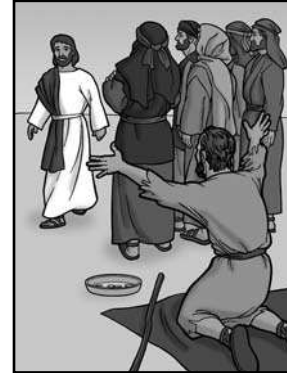
"What do you want Me to do for you?" Jesus asked (Mark 10:51).

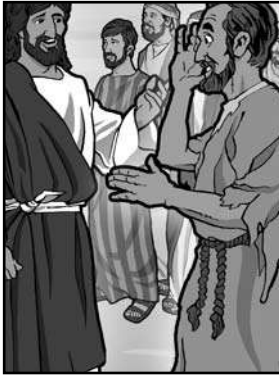
Was Bartimaeus going to ask Jesus for money? No. He wanted more than money. Was he going to ask Jesus for a job to do? No. He wanted more than a job. Bartimaeus believed that Jesus could help him.

Bartimaeus said, "I want to see" (from Mark 10:51).

Bartimaeus believed that Jesus had the power to make him see! Do you think Jesus could do that?

Jesus said to Bartimaeus, "Go, your faith has healed you" (from Mark 10:52).





Flashcard PMIR2-6

Straight away Bartimaeus could see! He could see the people around him, the clouds, the trees and he could see Jesus. He was so happy and he followed Jesus along the road. Jesus cared about Bartimaeus and He helped Bartimaeus.

Jesus cares about you and, because He is God the Son, He can help you too. Jesus loves to hear you talk to Him in prayer and ask Him for His help. You can talk to Him anytime - in the morning when you get up, in the middle of the day and at night before you go to sleep. Even though we cannot see God, He sees us and He hears us when we pray to Him. You can ask Him to help you to learn more about God from the Bible. You can ask for His help when you are at nursery (kindergarten). You can ask Him to help you to obey your parents.



Lead the children in prayer. Ask them to share prayer requests. Depending on your group they may wish to say short prayers aloud. In a large group of children split into smaller groups first, with a teacher/helper leading each group.

The people in the crowd who had seen Bartimaeus healed praised God. We can praise God that He cared for Bartimaeus and heard his call for help. We can praise God that He cares for us and hears us when we ask Him for help.



(CD: 2/23) "God is so good".

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 Where do we find out about Someone Who cares for us? (The Bible.)
- 2 Who will never stop caring for you? (God.)
- 3 How many people does God care for? (Everybody.)

Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 What was Jesus doing at the beginning of our lesson? (Going on a journey.)
- 2 What did Bartimaeus do to get food? (He sat by the road asking/begging for food.)
- 3 Who cared about Bartimaeus? (God.)
- 4 God cares about you too! Why does He care about you? (He loves you.)
- 5 What did Bartimaeus do when he heard Jesus was coming down the road? (He called out to Him.)
- 6 What did Bartimaeus want Jesus to do for him? (He wanted Jesus to help him to see.)

- 7 Why was Jesus able to make Bartimaeus see? (Jesus is God the Son.)
- 8 How can you ask for Jesus' help? (By talking to Him in prayer.)
- 9 When can you talk (pray) to Him? (Anytime - in the morning, in the middle of the day and at bedtime.)

Gospel spotlight

- 1 What can keep you out of Heaven? (Sin.)
- 2 Tell me a sin someone your age might do. (Answers will vary.)
- 3 What do you need to do to be forgiven for your sin? (Receive Jesus as your own Saviour. Use this question to review - tell God, "I know I have sinned. I believe Jesus died for my sin and came alive again. Please forgive my sin and make me Your child.")

Lesson 3





Jesus calms the storm






Scripture for teachers Mark 4:35-41


Central truth Jesus has power over everything

Application
 Unsaved: Ask Jesus to be your Saviour
 Saved: Trust God to take care of you

Memory verse "... The Lord is my helper; I will not fear ..." (Hebrews 13:6)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do	
 Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player Nametags (page 78), one per child A4 sheets of paper, one per child Crayons or markers 	Welcome Activity	Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags. "My water adventure" Have each child draw a picture of his favourite time at the beach, the lake, the swimming pool, etc. After the pictures are drawn, gather the children in a circle. Have the children take turns telling about their water adventures.
 Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) "I believe the Bible" visualised song Offering basket or bank 	Song Prayer Song Offering	(CD: 8/29) "I believe the Bible" Lead the children in prayer: "Dear God, thank You for the Bible. Thank You that the Bible tells the true story of Jesus. God, You are good and You love us so much. In Jesus' name. Amen." (CD: 2/23) "God is so good" (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)
 Memory verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMIR-R5, PMIR-R6, PMIR-R7 and PMIR-R8 (page 76) Instructions (page 40) Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) 	Verse Repetition Song	Hebrews 13:6 "Verse on your fingers" (CD:12/33) "I will trust"
 Stretch		Activity	"Water fun" As you say the following statements, the children can follow your lead and do the actions: Let's rock in a boat. (Sway side to side.) Let's swim in the lake. (Swim with your arms.) Let's run on the beach. (Run on the spot.) Let's hop in the sand. (Hop on the spot.) Let's sleep on the shore. (Rest your head on your hands.)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Bible lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson text (page 44) PMIR3-2, PMIR3-3, PMIR3-4, PMIR3-5 and PMIR3-6 Pictures or photographs of the natural world and different types of weather conditions (rain, snow, lightning, etc) and/ or a DVD of weather conditions A rug or mat to use as a pretend boat, or a parachute to imitate the waves 	Lesson <p>“Jesus calms the storm” Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.</p>
 Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large plastic sheet (to cover the floor) A3 sheet of white paper/ card Two water spray bottles filled with dark blue and light blue paint Questions (page 46) 	Game <p>“Sea picture” Lay the plastic sheet on the floor. Place the A3 paper/card in the middle. When a child answers a question correctly, he chooses a paint colour to spray on the paper/card.</p>
 Gospel spotlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 42) Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 15) PMIR-k, PMIR-l, PMIR-m and PMIR-n 	Spotlight <p>“My God is so great” (CD: 15/36)</p>
 Snack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have) 	Break <p>Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands.</p> <p>Prayer Snack Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Channel conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)</p>
 Creative activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sea pictures (page 82), one per child Blue glitter glue, one tube per teacher Fish confetti (available at party supply stores) Uncooked seashell pasta Cotton balls Glue Student activity sheets, one per child Play dough or clay (page 8) 	Craft <p>“Sea pictures” Guide each child in adding three or four “waves” of blue glitter glue. They can then stick fish confetti into the glitter glue on the sea. They may also glue seashell pasta to the shore and cotton ball clouds to the sky.</p> <p>Activity sheet* “Jesus calmed a storm” Guide the children in spreading a thin layer of glue on the water and letting it dry to make it look shiny and smooth.</p> <p>Play dough “Two boats” Guide the children in making two boats. Review how God took care of the disciples in a storm and how the children can trust God to take care of them too.</p>

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Enrichment activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Large zipper freezer bag ♦ 5 tablespoons cornflour ♦ ½ cup water ♦ ½ cup oil ♦ Green and blue food colouring, 8 drops each ♦ Duct tape ♦ Clear two-litre bottle, half filled with water dyed with blue food colouring, the remaining half nearly filled with vegetable oil, fish confetti added if desired, the lid secured with a glue gun 	<p>Game</p> <p>“Stormy sea mixing bag”</p> <p>As the children watch, mix cornflour, water and a few drops of food colouring in the bag then add the oil. Seal the bag, adding duct tape around the edges if desired. Let the mixture rest for at least 10 minutes, then lay the bag flat on a table and let the children press it with their fingers to watch the colours mix and separate like a stormy sea.</p> <p>Activity</p> <p>“Wave bottle”</p> <p>Let the children move the bottle back and forth. The oil should stay on top of the water, forming waves.</p>

*Available online at www.cefonline.com

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“... The Lord is my helper; I will not fear ...” (Hebrews 13:6)

Introduction

Do you ever get scared during a storm? Are you ever afraid when it is very dark?

Briefly discuss.

Storms and darkness are not so scary when you are with someone big and strong!

Presentation

In Hebrews 13:6 the Bible tells Who is always with you.

Say the address together three times - first while covering your eyes, then while covering your ears and finally while hiding your head in your arms.

Have a child help you find the verse by opening your Bible to a marker placed at Hebrews 13:6. Read the verse then show flashcards PMIR-R5, PMIR-R6, PMIR-R7 and PMIR-R8.

Explanation

The Lord - “Lord” is a title for God or Jesus. Sometimes you call me “Teacher”. “Teacher” is a title for me. The title “Lord” reminds us that God is the boss over everything. That means Jesus, God the Son, is boss over everything. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit together are God.

is my helper - If Jesus is your Saviour, the Lord is always with you. He wants to help you with everything. He wants to help you with easy things. He wants to help you with hard things. He is your helper always.

I will not fear - If you remember the Lord is your helper, you will never need to be afraid. The moment you start to feel afraid, remember the Lord is with you. He has power over everything! You can trust in Him and not be afraid.

Application

Unsaved: The Lord is the helper for God’s children. You can become God’s child by believing on Jesus as your own Saviour from sin.

Saved: If you have already believed on Jesus as your Saviour, you are God’s child. The Lord is your helper always! When you are afraid, trust God to take care of you.

Repetition

“Verse on your fingers”

Starting with your little finger, touch one finger for each word you say in the first phrase. Then switch hands and say the second phrase .

Song: (CD: 12/33) “I will trust”.

Gospel spotlight

“My God is so great” (CD: 15/36)

Show flashcard PMIR-k.

God is so great. He is all powerful, holy (perfect) and never sins. God knows everything there is to know. He knows you and loves you! The Bible says, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us” (1 John 4:10). God loved you before you ever loved Him!

Show flashcard PMIR-l.

God is the great Creator of all things. He made the mountains and the trees - even the ones in your neighborhood. God made the water in the rivers, in the clouds and even the water in your bathtub. He made the stars that twinkle in the sky at night. God keeps them there by His mighty power! God can do everything He decides to do!

Show flashcard PMIR-m.

God decided to send His own Son, the Lord Jesus, to Earth. Jesus, God the Son, came down from Heaven to show people His love. Jesus was born as a baby boy and grew to be a man. Jesus showed God’s love and power by doing many great miracles (things only God can do)! Jesus loved the people. He saw their troubles and their sin. Jesus knows about your sin too! You and I sin against God when we do things we want to do instead of what God wants us to do. The Bible says, “To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin” (James 4:17).

Share the following examples of sin or discuss PMIR-a, PMIR-b, PMIR-c and PMIR-d.

You sin when you do not share your toys like you should, or when you do not listen to what your mum is saying when she is asking you to do something. You sin because you want to! You deserve to be away from God’s love forever because of your sin. But Jesus loves you and wants you to be saved from your sin!

Show flashcard PMIR-n.

Jesus never sinned. He bled and died on the cross to be punished for your sin and mine. That is how much He loved us! Jesus was buried in a tomb (cave), but on the third day Jesus came alive again (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Today Jesus lives in Heaven! When you believe on (trust) Jesus as your own Saviour from sin, you will be saved. You will not be separated (away) from God forever as punishment for your sin. Instead you will be God’s child starting the moment you believe. And you will live forever in Heaven someday!

Show flashcard PMIR-k.

All sin is against our perfect and holy God. Do you know you have sinned against God?

Show flashcard PMIR-m.

Do you know God loves you and wants to save you from sin?

Show flashcard PMIR-n.

Do you know Jesus was punished for your sin on the cross? You can believe on Jesus as your Saviour today (Acts 16:31)! I will be happy to help you tell God that you believe on Him. (*Designate time and place.*)

Lesson - part 1



Show pictures and photographs of the natural world (sea, mountains, forests, lakes) and different types of weather (rain, snow, lightning). If you have a short DVD clip of different weather conditions you could show it to the children. Ask the children if they can make it snow or stop raining or be sunny all the time.

We cannot tell the weather what to do, but we are going to find out about Someone Who can.

Jesus had had a really busy day. He had been beside the Sea of Galilee (a long lake) teaching crowds of people about God. Jesus is God the Son. Before He lived on Earth He had been in Heaven with God the Father. He knows all there is to know about God, because He is God! Imagine how good it would have been to listen to Him.

Today we can still listen to the things Jesus said because they are written in the Bible. It is good to listen really carefully to what Jesus says.

Jesus had been beside the Sea of Galilee and crowds of people had followed Him there to listen to what He had to say.

Jesus was God the Son but He was also a man and He got tired just like you and me. So at the end of the day Jesus said to the disciples (followers), "Let's go to the other side of the lake" (from Mark 4:35).



Flashcard PMIR3-2

The disciples and Jesus got into a boat. Some of the disciples were fishermen so they were very good at sailing boats. They knew the Sea of Galilee really well - they had been fishing there nearly every day for years. Jesus came with them.



Have the children sit in a pretend boat (you could use a rug or mat). Talk about how it would have felt to sway from side to side in the boat.

Alternatively use a parachute to imitate the waves. Have the children sit around the edge of the parachute and ask the group to make small waves and then bigger waves.

Everything was going fine. Jesus was very tired so He lay down at the back of the boat with His head on a cushion. Soon He was fast asleep.



Flashcard PMIR3-3

But then all of a sudden the weather changed! The sky grew dark, the wind started blowing very hard and the waves got bigger and bigger. What was going to happen to the boat?

Part 2



If you are sitting in your pretend boat, ask the children to sway from side to side as if they are in a storm.

If you are using a parachute get the children to make some really big waves.

Flashcard PMIR3-4

The disciples were scared. The water was coming inside the boat! The wind was blowing really hard. What was Jesus doing?

Allow the children give suggestions.

Jesus was fast asleep! The disciples could hardly believe it. How could He sleep in such a storm? What do you think they did?

Listen to the children's answers.

The Bible tells us that the disciples woke Jesus up.

Flashcard PMIR3-5

“Teacher, don’t You care if we drown?” (from Mark 4:38).

Explain the word “drown” if necessary.

The disciples had forgotten that it was Jesus Who had asked them to go to the other side of the lake. In their panic they had forgotten all the things they had heard Him teach the people. They were really scared.

Part 3

Jesus got up and said to the wind and the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” (from Mark 4:39).

Everything was calm. The storm stopped.

Flashcard PMIR3-6



In your pretend boat act out being in the storm and then when you say, “Quiet! Be still!” get the children to be still.

Or make big waves with the parachute and call out, “Quiet! Be still!” When you do, the children hold the parachute still.

Now that the storm had stopped Jesus asked the disciples a question, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” (from Mark 4:40).

The disciples still needed to learn that they could trust Jesus to care for them and help them. It had been Jesus’ idea to get into the boat and travel to the other side of the lake and He was able to take care of the disciples. Maybe there are times when you feel afraid - maybe when you go to a new place, or it is time for bed and you do not want to be upstairs while your mum and dad are downstairs.

Let the children share with you what they feel afraid of.

God understands when you are afraid. God is able to care for you. He is powerful. He made everything and He is in charge of everything. You can talk to Him in prayer and ask Him to help you. When you feel afraid, say today’s memory verse to remind yourself that God can help you. You can trust Him to take care of you when you are at home or out shopping or at nursery school (kindergarten). God is more powerful than anyone or anything else.

The disciples were amazed at what Jesus had done. The Bible tells us that they were terrified. They had never seen anyone else control a storm before.



“Who is this? Even the wind and waves obey Him!” they said to each other (from Mark 4:41).

They were learning that Jesus was no ordinary man - He is God the Son. Have you come to know that Jesus is God the Son? He is so powerful that even the wind and the waves obey Him. He is more powerful than anyone else. We can thank God that Jesus came to the Earth. He came because He loves you and wants to be your Saviour. Have you asked Him to forgive you? If you have, remember that He is able to help you when you are afraid.



Lead the children in a simple prayer. “Thank You, Heavenly Father, for sending Your Son Jesus. Thank You that He is God the Son. Thank You that He is more powerful than anyone else. Amen.”

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 What is another name for the Lord? (God; Jesus.)
- 2 What can the Lord help you with? (Hard things, easy things - everything.)
- 3 Why do God’s children not need to be afraid? (The Lord is their helper.)

Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 Why had Jesus had such a busy day? (He had been teaching crowds of people about God.)
- 2 How can we listen to what Jesus said? (We can listen to the words of Jesus written in the Bible.)
- 3 Where did Jesus ask His disciples to take Him? (To the other side of the lake.)
- 4 What happened when they were in the boat? (There was a storm.)
- 5 How did this make the disciples feel? (Scared/frightened.)
- 6 What was Jesus doing? (He was asleep.)
- 7 When the disciples woke Him, what did Jesus do? (He spoke to the wind and the waves - “Quiet! Be still!”)
- 8 Why was Jesus able to do that? (Jesus is God the Son.)
- 9 What should you do when you are afraid? (One or more of the following: talk to God in prayer, asking for His help; say today’s memory verse to remind you that God can help you; trust God to take care of you.)

Gospel spotlight

- 1 What is sin? (Doing things your own way instead of God’s way.)

- 2 What punishment do you deserve because of your sin? (Separation/ being away from God forever.)
- 3 What do you need to do to be saved from your sin? (Believe on Jesus as your own Saviour. Use this question to review - tell God, "I know I have sinned. I believe Jesus died for my sin and came alive again. Please forgive my sin and make me Your child.")

Lesson 4





Jesus feeds many people





Scripture for teachers Mark 6:30-44
John 6:8-9,14



Central truth Jesus, God the Son, loves people

Application Unserved and saved: Believe that Jesus, God the Son, loves you

Memory verse Review Hebrews 13:6

Class schedule	What you need	What to do	
 Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player Nametags (page 78), one per child A4 sheets of paper, one per child Crayons or markers 	Welcome Activity	Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags. “My biggest dinner party” Have the children draw a picture or tell about a time when they had a special dinner with a large group of people (eg a birthday party, family reunion, picnic, etc).
 Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (pages 14-15) “I believe the Bible” visualised song Offering basket or bank 	Song Action rhyme Prayer Song Offering	(CD: 12/33) “I will trust” “I’m not afraid” Lead the children in prayer: “Dear God, thank You that we can trust You when we are afraid. Thank You that we can trust You to take care of us. Thank You for Your true story, the Bible. In Jesus’ name. Amen.” (CD: 8/29) “I believe the Bible” (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)
 Memory verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PMIR-R5, PMIR-R6, PMIR-R7 and PMIR-R8 (page 76) Instructions (page 52) Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) 	Verse Repetition Song	Hebrews 13:6 “Verse on your fingers” (CD: 12/33) “I will trust”
 Stretch		Activity	“I can go and help others” Lead the children around the perimeter of the room doing actions that could take them to someone they can help (eg walking, running, hopping, skipping).

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Bible lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Lesson text (page 54) ♦ PMIR4-1, PMIR4-2, PMIR4-3, PMIR4-4, PMIR4-5 and PMIR4-6 ♦ “I believe the Bible” visualised song ♦ Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) ♦ Some food to share (but not enough for everyone) ♦ Five small loaves and two small fish (real if possible or cut out shapes of fish) ♦ Cut-out “leftovers” and small baskets to carry the “leftovers” 	Lesson <p>“Jesus feeds many people”</p> <p>Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.</p>
 Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Fish and bread shapes (pages 83-84) ♦ Four pieces of wool ♦ Bulldog clips ♦ Questions (page 56) 	Game <p>“Noughts and crosses”</p> <p>Clip four pieces of wool to a flannelboard to make a noughts and crosses grid. When a child answers a question, he may place a shape in the grid. The next child to answer may place the other shape. Continue playing until three of the same shape line up horizontally, vertically or diagonally or until the grid is full. Do not divide into teams unless you have older preschoolers. Younger preschoolers enjoy placing the shapes and the surprise of finding three in a row.</p>
 Gospel spotlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Instructions (page 53) ♦ Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 15) ♦ PMIR-k, PMIR-m and PMIR-n 	Spotlight <p>“My God is so great” (review - CD: 15/36)</p>
 Snack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have) 	Break <p>Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands.</p> <p>Prayer Snack</p> <p>Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Channel conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)</p>

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Creative activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ White paper lunch bags, one per child ♦ Crayons or markers ♦ Stickers (optional) ♦ Five bread shapes per child, not cut apart (page 83) ♦ Two fish shapes per child, not cut apart (page 84) ♦ Scissors ♦ Student activity sheets, one per child ♦ Glue ♦ Small goldfish crackers, two per child ♦ Play dough or clay (page 8) 	<p>Craft</p> <p>“Picnic lunches”</p> <p>Have the children colour their bags and decorate them with stickers if desired. Then guide the children in colouring and cutting apart the loaves and fish. When finished, the children can put the loaves and fish in their bags to take home.</p> <p>Activity sheet* “Jesus fed many people”</p> <p>Assist the children in gluing goldfish crackers in the baskets.</p> <p>Play dough “Bread and fish”</p> <p>Guide the children in making five bread loaves and two fish. Point out that Jesus, God the Son, made just five small loaves of bread and two fish feed five thousand men plus women and children!</p>
 Enrichment activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Fish (page 78), with a paper clip and message (page 79), attached to each ♦ Fishing pole (string with a magnet on the end attached to a dowel rod) 	<p>Activity</p> <p>“Catch a fish”</p> <p>Allow the children to take turns fishing. Read the message/suggestion on each fish as it is caught. Continue until each child has had a turn, tossing the fish back as needed. Discuss how these suggestions are ways God can use the child to help others.</p>

*Available online at www.cefonline.com

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“... The Lord is my helper; I will not fear ...” (Hebrews 13:6)

Introduction

Do you ever think, “I’m too little to do that?” Maybe you think you are too little when your teacher asks you to learn a long verse, colour inside the lines, share or do something special in front of the class. Do not be afraid to try. You can have a Helper every time!

Presentation

In Hebrews 13:6 the Bible tells Who can always help you.

Say the address together three times - first in a quiet voice, then in a normal voice, then in a loud voice.

Have a child help you find the verse by opening your Bible to a marker placed at Hebrews 13:6. Read the verse then show flashcards PMIR-R5, PMIR-R6, PMIR-R7 and PMIR-R8.

Explanation

The Lord is my helper; and I will not fear - “Lord” is a title for God or Jesus. We often use titles like “teacher” or “doctor” for people. The title “Lord” is a special one for God. Saying “Lord God” or “Lord Jesus” reminds us God is the boss over everything. If you are God’s child, the Lord is always with you. He will help you obey your parents. The Lord will help you be kind to your friends. The Lord will help you do His work. If you remember the Lord is your helper, you will never need to be afraid. The moment you start to feel afraid, remember the Lord is with you. He has power over everything! Trust in Him and do not be afraid.

Application

Unsaved: The Lord is the helper for God’s children. You can become God’s child by believing on Jesus as your own Saviour from sin.

Saved: If you have already believed on Jesus as your Saviour, you are God’s child. The Lord is your helper always! The Lord God can even use you to help others.

Repetition

“Verse on your fingers”

Starting with your little finger, touch one finger for each word you say in the first phrase. Then switch hands and say the second phrase.

Song: (CD:12/33) “I will trust”.

Gospel spotlight

“My God is so great” (review - CD: 15/36)

Show flashcard PMIR-k.

- ♦ Who knows everything there is to know about you? (God.)
- ♦ Who loved you before you ever loved Him? (God - 1 John 4:10.)

Show flashcard PMIR-l.

- ♦ Tell me something God created. (Answers will vary.)
- ♦ Who can do anything He decides to do? (God.)

Show flashcard PMIR-m.

- ♦ Who did God send to Earth because He loved you? (Jesus, God the Son.)
- ♦ What is sin? (Doing things you want to do instead of what God wants you to do - James 4:17.)
- ♦ Tell me a way you sometimes sin. (Answers will vary. Share other examples or discuss PMIR-a, PMIR-b, PMIR-c and PMIR-d.)
- ♦ Why do you sin? (You want to.)
- ♦ What is the punishment God gives you for sin? (Being away from God forever.)
- ♦ Because Jesus loves you, what does He want to save you from? (Sin; being away from God forever.)

Show flashcard PMIR-n.

- ♦ How was Jesus punished for your sin? (He bled and died on the cross - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.)
- ♦ What happened after Jesus had been buried for three days? (He came alive again.)
- ♦ Where is Jesus now? (In Heaven.)
- ♦ What happens to people who believe on Jesus as their own Saviour? (They are saved; they become God's children.)

Show flashcard PMIR-k.

- ♦ Do you know you have sinned against our perfect and holy God?

Show flashcard PMIR-m.

- ♦ Do you know God loves you and wants to save you from sin?

Show flashcard PMIR-n.

- ♦ Do you know Jesus was punished for your sin on the cross?
- ♦ You can believe on Jesus as your Saviour today (Acts 16:31)! I will be happy to help you tell God that you believe on Him. (*Designate time and place.*)

Lesson - part 1

Are you feeling hungry?



Let's pretend I have some of your favourite biscuits. Now I will give them out.

Hand the pretend biscuits to some children. Then show empty hands.

Oh, dear! Not enough! And I can't do anything about it!

We are going to hear a true story from the Bible about Jesus and food.

Jesus' disciples (followers) had been very busy. They had been travelling around towns and villages telling people about Jesus. In those days they would have walked everywhere. There were no cars or buses. They had come to report back to Jesus, to tell Him about all the things they had said and done. How do you think the disciples felt after all that travelling?

Let the children give ideas.

Even when they were telling Jesus about the things that had been happening there were lots of people coming and going. Jesus was quite famous and people wanted to see Him. But the disciples were tired and they had not even had a chance to eat.

So Jesus said, "Come with Me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" (from Mark 6:31).

Jesus cared about His disciples because He loved them. Having a rest was a really good idea, wasn't it! When we are tired and hungry we need to have a rest and eat.



Flashcard PMIR4-1

So Jesus and His disciples got into a boat to sail to a quiet place. But people recognised them! What do you think the people were going to do?

Allow children to share their ideas.

The Bible tells us that the people came out from the towns and villages and ran on ahead to get to the lake shore before Jesus did. As the boat came ashore crowds of people were already there!

Flashcard PMIR4-2

It was no longer a quiet place, but a very busy crowded place.

Do you think Jesus was angry with the people? They had spoiled His plan for peace and quiet. The Bible tells us that Jesus had compassion on the people (Mark 6:34). That means that He was concerned for them. He cared about them because they looked like sheep without a shepherd to care for them and tell them what to do.

Jesus cares about people because He loves them. He wants people to know what to do. He wants them to know Him. He wants to help



them to live in the very best way. Jesus wants you to know Him as your Saviour.

You and I need a Saviour. We have broken God's law. God has told you, in the Bible, to obey your mum and dad. Sometimes you don't do that! The Bible tells us that everyone who breaks God's law will one day be punished by Him. But God sent Jesus to save people from that punishment. That is why Jesus is called the Saviour. He came to Earth to save people from God's punishment. You can ask Jesus to forgive you for the wrong things that you do. Then He will be your Saviour and will help you to live your life in the best way.

Part 2

Jesus was not going to send the people away. He began to teach them about God.

The crowds spent a long time listening to Jesus. It got later and later in the day. The disciples noticed the time.

They came to Jesus and said, "It's very late, send the people away so that they can buy some food to eat" (from Mark 6:35-36).

Jesus, the disciples and the crowds of people were in the middle of nowhere. There were no shops and no-one had thought to bring any food with them. The disciples' idea to send the people to nearby villages to buy food was a good one.

Flashcard PMIR4-3

But Jesus turned to His disciples and said to them, "You give them something to eat" (Mark 6:37).

The disciples were surprised. "That would take loads and loads of money!" they said. "We can't spend that much on food!" (from Mark 6:37).

The disciples had no food with them and there were many, many people to feed.

"How much food do you have?" Jesus said.

The disciples went to find out. The disciple called Andrew found a boy who had lunch with him.

Flashcard PMIR4-4

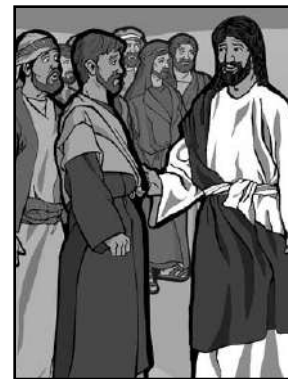
He brought the boy to Jesus. "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two fish" (from Mark 6:38 and John 6:8-9).

Show the children five small loaves and two small fish.

"But that still isn't enough for all these people."

Part 3

Jesus already had a plan. Jesus knew how He was going to help the people. He told the disciples to organise the crowd of people so that



they sat in groups. Jesus was going to use the lunch that the little boy had brought to help everyone.

Today Jesus is still interested in children - children just like you! He wants to use the things that you do. You can invite a friend to come to hear about Jesus. You can pray for other people. Jesus is interested in the things that you do.

Jesus took the five loaves and two fish and thanked God for them. Then Jesus did something amazing. He shared the loaves and the fish out between everyone!



Flashcard PMIR4-5

You and I could not have done that. Jesus was able to give everyone enough to eat. All the people were full. No-one was hungry anymore. There was so much food that after everyone had eaten, the disciples collected up twelve baskets of leftovers!

Flashcard PMIR4-6



Ask the children to help you gather up the "leftovers" (bread and fish shapes made of paper) that you have previously placed around the room. Give each child a basket to use.



How could Jesus feed so many people with such a small amount of food? It was not a magic trick. It was not that suddenly everyone found food that they had been hiding. Jesus did a miracle. He did something that only God can do. He was showing us that He is God. Jesus is able to do things that we cannot do. He used His power to care for people. Today Jesus still cares about people. He has promised to help those who love Him. Have you believed that Jesus is God the Son? The Bible tells us that that is Who Jesus is.

The people who were there that day and had seen what Jesus had done began to wonder just Who He was. How could He have fed so many people with so little food? The Bible tells us that Jesus could do this amazing miracle because He is God. Isn't it great to know that Jesus, God the Son, loves you and wants to be your Saviour?

He came to Earth and died on the cross to take the punishment that you deserve. Three days later He came back to life again. He is in Heaven now. You can ask Him to forgive you for your sin and become your Saviour today.



(CD: 8/29) "I believe the Bible" (verses 1-2).

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 Who is the Lord? (God; Jesus.)
- 2 Tell me something the Lord can help you with. (Answers will vary. Examples given in the lesson include during fearful times, in

choosing to obey parents, being kind to friends, and doing God's work.)

- 3 Why can the Lord help with anything and everything? (He has power over everything.)

Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 Why were Jesus and His disciples going to a quiet place? (They had been busy and needed a rest.)
- 2 When they got to the quiet place who were already there? (Lots of people.)
- 3 How did Jesus feel about the crowd of people? (He had compassion; He was concerned for them; He cared about them.)
- 4 Jesus had come to be the Saviour. What do we need to be saved from? (God's punishment.)
- 5 Why do we deserve God's punishment? (We have broken God's law.)
- 6 It got really late. What did the people need? (Some food to eat.)
- 7 What had the little boy brought with him? (Five loaves and two fish.)
- 8 What did Jesus do with the five loaves and two fish? (He fed everyone in the crowd.)
- 9 How could Jesus do that? (Jesus is God the Son.)

Gospel spotlight

- 1 Who has sinned? (You, me, everyone.)
- 2 How was Jesus punished for your sin? (He bled and died on a cross.)
- 3 What do you need to do to be saved from your sin? (Believe on Jesus as your own Saviour. Use this question to review - tell God, "I know I have sinned. I believe Jesus died for my sin and came alive again. Please forgive my sin and make me Your child.")

Lesson 5





Jesus brings Jairus' daughter back to life








Scripture for teachers Mark 5:21-24,35-43

Central truth Jesus is the Saviour

Application
 Unsaved: You can trust Jesus to be your Saviour from sin
 Saved: You can trust Jesus to care for you

Memory verse "... The gift of God is eternal life ..." (Romans 6:23)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do	
 Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player Nametags (page 78), one per child A4 sheets of paper, one per child Crayons or markers 	Welcome Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags.	Activity "My trip to the doctor" Have each child draw a picture of a trip to the doctor or to a hospital. After the pictures are drawn, gather the children in a circle. Have the children take turns telling about their trips.
 Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (pages 14-15) "I can know God" visualised song PMIR-k, PMIR-l, PMIR-m and PMIR-n Offering basket or bank 	Song Prayer (CD: 9/30) "I can know God" Lead the children in prayer or let them pray with you phrase by phrase: "Dear God, thank You for Your great power. Thank You that You can do miracles. Thank You also for loving us. In Jesus' name. Amen."	Song Offering (CD: 15/36) "My God is so great" (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)
 Memory verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Either PMIR-o, PMIR-p and PMIR-q Or PMIR-R9, PMIR-R10 and PMIR-R11 (page 77) Instructions (page 61) Actions (page 13) Wrapped gift box 	Verse Repetition Romans 6:23 "Verse with actions"	
 Stretch		Activity "God makes me strong" As you say the following statements, the children can follow your lead and do the actions: God made me strong so I can walk. (Walk on the spot.) God made me strong so I can hop. (Hop on the spot.) God made me strong so I can run. (Run on the spot.) God made me strong so I can stretch tall. (Reach high.) God made me strong so I can sit. (Sit down.)	

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Bible lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson text (page 63) PMIR5-1, PMIR5-2, PMIR5-3, PMIR5-4, PMIR5-5 and PMIR5-6 Chair 	Lesson “Jesus brings Jairus’ daughter back to life” Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.
 Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colourful children’s plasters, one per child Large paper cut-out shape of a person Questions (page 65) 	Game “Plaster review” When a child answers a question, let him unwrap a plaster and stick it on a large cut-out person.
 Gospel spotlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 62) PMIR-p, PMIR-q and PMIR-r 	Spotlight “Romans 6:23”
 Snack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have) 	Break Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands. Prayer Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Snack Channel conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)
 Creative activity (choose one) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miracle pictures (page 85), one per child Stickers Crayons or markers 10 cm (4”) strands of wool, one per child Tape Student activity sheets, one per child Glue Small crackers, one per child Play dough or clay (page 8) 	Activity “Miracle pictures” Let the children trace the dotted letters and decorate the frame with stickers. Tape a piece of wool behind each frame for hanging. The children may then draw a picture of a happy girl inside the frame. Activity sheet* “Jesus brought Jairus’ daughter back to life” Help each child glue a small cracker in the mother’s hand. Play dough “Jairus’ daughter” Guide the children in making Jairus’ daughter. Use this time to help the children understand death - Jairus’ daughter could not talk, move or do anything. No-one could wake her up, but Jesus brought her back to life!
 Enrichment activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid kit Tray 	Activity “First aid” Bring a first aid kit to class. One by one take the items out of the kit and place them on a tray. (Or if possible have a nurse do this.) Discuss what each item is, when we use it and what it does. Talk about how none of these things could help the little girl in the story. Only Jesus could bring her back to life. Activity “Memory game” After you have talked about the first aid supplies, have a helper take the tray out of sight and remove one item. Let the children guess which item was removed.

*Available online at www.cefonline.com

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“... The gift of God is eternal life ...” (Romans 6:23)

Introduction

How many of you like to receive a gift? (*Allow response.*) Did you know God has a gift for you? He tells about it in the Bible!

Presentation

Romans 6:23 is the address of this verse.

Say the address together three times - first while jumping excitedly on one foot, then the other foot, then both feet.

Have a child help you find the verse by opening your Bible to a marker placed at Romans 6:23. Read the verse then show either flashcards PMIR-o, PMIR-p and PMIR-q; or PMIR-R9, PMIR-R10 and PMIR-R11.

Explanation

The gift of God - This is a gift God gives you. You cannot earn it by doing something good. You cannot buy it. It is a gift from God to you. You can only receive this gift by believing in Jesus as your Saviour.

is eternal life - “Eternal” means “never ending”. Eternal life is a new kind of life God gives His children. It will never stop. It starts the moment you believe in Jesus as your Saviour and lasts for ever and ever! God’s children live on Earth until they go to Heaven.

Hold out a wrapped gift box.

If I say this gift is for you, how do you make it your own? I offer it to you and you receive it - you take it from me and call it your own. God offers you the gift of eternal life. You receive eternal life by believing in Jesus as your own Saviour.

Application

Unsaved: You can believe in Jesus as your Saviour today! Then you will have the gift of eternal life.

Saved: If you have already believed in Jesus, thank God for His great power to give you eternal life.

Repetition

“Verse with actions”

Repeat the verse phrase by phrase, practising the actions (see page 13). Then use the symbols to recite the verse.

Gospel spotlight

Romans 6:23

Show flashcard PMIR-p.

You all like to receive gifts, don't you?

Allow response.

You like gifts just right for you - the right size or in your favourite colour or the kind of toy you really like. To give a gift that is just right for you, a person needs to know you and what you like or need. If that person loves you, he will want to give you the best gift he can!

I know Someone Who gives the best gifts of all - God! Because God made you, He knows just what you need. He knows how big you are. He knows your favourite colours and favourite toys. God knows everything about you and He loves you! In the Bible God says, "I have loved you with an everlasting [forever] love" (Jeremiah 31:3). God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you - and God's love lasts forever!

So when God gives you a gift, you can be sure it is something just right for you!

Show flashcard PMIR-q.

God knows that eternal life with Him in Heaven is the best gift you could ever receive. Eternal life lasts forever. Heaven is a real and wonderful place. The Bible tells us that there is no sadness or sin in Heaven. There are no tears in Heaven. It is the place where Jesus is and where He is worshipped. There is no death in Heaven. It never comes to an end. To be able to live with God in Heaven forever is the best gift you could ever receive (take).

Recite Romans 6:23 together while doing the actions.

Show flashcard PMIR-r.

How can you receive this gift of eternal life? By believing in Jesus as your Saviour! Jesus, God the Son, came to Earth, lived as a perfect boy and grew to be a perfect man. You and I are not perfect. The Bible says, "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23). You sin when you disobey God.

Share the following examples of sin or discuss PMIR-a, PMIR-b, PMIR-c and PMIR-d.

When you disobey your parents, you sin. When you do not share your toys, you sin. Jesus knows you have sinned and deserve to be punished, but He was willing to be punished for your sin when He bled and died on the cross. Jesus was buried in a tomb (cave) then came alive again three days later (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Jesus is the Saviour. He wants to save you from your sin.

The Bible says, "Whoever believes in Him should not perish" (John 3:16). If you believe in Jesus as your Saviour, you will not perish (be away from God forever). You will have the gift of eternal life! Someday you will go to live with God in Heaven forever! If you would like to receive God's gift of eternal life, I would be happy to help you (*designate time and place*).

Lesson - part 1

Having faith is believing that something is true. It is being so sure something is true that you are willing to do something about it.



Have another adult or teenage helper stand in front of you with a chair nearby but not directly behind her. Say to the adult/helper, "There is no chair behind you but I have one nearby. Have faith that when I say, 'Sit down,' you can sit on the chair, because I will have put it there at the right time. Do you have faith that I will not let you fall?" Silently put the chair in position. "Then sit down." The adult/helper will then sit on the chair.

This is just a way to help you understand what faith is. It is like trust. It is being so sure that something is true that you are willing to do something about it!

Flashcard PMIR5-1

Jesus taught the people in Galilee about having faith in Him. To show that He was God the Son, with the same power as God, Jesus did miracles (things only God can do).



Use the individual pictures in the cloud shapes to remind the children of the feeding of the five thousand, the healings of Bartimaeus and the paralysed man, and the stilling of the storm. You could ask the children simple questions about these lessons.

More and more people were hearing about the things Jesus was doing. Many of them were curious. Who was this Person Who could do such amazing things? Crowds of people began to gather around Jesus wherever He went.

One day as Jesus got out of a boat a crowd gathered around Him. A man called Jairus made his way through the crowd. He desperately wanted to speak to Jesus. He knew that no-one else could help him.

Flashcard PMIR5-2

Jairus was an important man in the synagogue (a place very like a church where people met to learn about God). He really wanted to meet with Jesus.

When he got through the crowd he fell at Jesus' feet. He began to plead with Jesus.

"My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live" (from Mark 5:23).

Jairus must have been very worried and sad, but he believed that Jesus was the right Person to ask for help.

You and I need to ask Jesus for help. We have a problem that only Jesus can sort out. You and I have sinned against God. The Bible says that, "There is no one who does not sin" (2 Chronicles 6:36). God has said that we must obey mum and dad, so when we do not do what they say we sin against God. Sin must be punished. The punishment for sin is being away from God forever and never being God's child. But



Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment you deserve. You can ask Jesus to forgive you and you can trust Him to be your Saviour.

Part 2

Do you think that Jesus could help Jairus? Could Jesus really help a little girl who was dying? Let's find out.



Flashcard PMIR5-3

Jesus went with Jairus. They began to walk to Jairus' house. But there was a problem. There were people all around Jesus. The crowd was still following Him. It is really difficult to go anywhere quickly when you are in a crowd, and Jesus stopped to talk to a lady who was sick! (Mark 5:25-34.)

Imagine what Jairus was thinking! He probably wanted to hurry and ignore the crowd, but Jesus stopped!

As Jesus was talking to a woman who had been sick for a long time and healing her, some men came looking for Jairus.



Flashcard PMIR5-4

These men had some very sad news.

"Your daughter is dead. Why bother Jesus anymore?" they said (from Mark 5:35).

Now that the little girl was dead the friends of Jairus did not believe that Jesus could help anymore. They wanted Jairus to come home.

Jesus did not listen to the men. He said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid, just believe" (from Mark 5:36).

It is not always easy to believe that someone can help you. It probably was not easy for Jairus to believe in Jesus just then. He had come to ask for Jesus' help and because of the delay now his daughter had died. Jairus must have felt very sad, but he believed that Jesus could still help.

Do you think that Jesus can help?

Show the children the first flashcard (PMIR5-1). Remind them of the things Jesus had already done.

We can believe that Jesus is able to help because we have learnt about the other things He was able to do. Jesus is not just an ordinary man - He is God the Son and He can do amazing miracles (things that only God can do). If you have trusted in Jesus you can be sure that He is able to help you. You can talk to Him in prayer and tell Him about the things that you do each day. He loves to listen to you pray.

Give an example of how God has helped you.



(CD: 15/36) "My God is so great".

Part 3

Jesus and Jairus carried on walking to Jairus' house. This time Jesus would not let anyone follow except three of His disciples. When they got to the house there was a lot of noise, as people were crying loudly. They were so upset that Jairus' daughter had died. Jesus went into the house.

"Why all this noise? She isn't dead, she is sleeping," He said (from Mark 5:39).

What an odd thing to say! She was not asleep, she had died. But Jesus knew that He could do something to change that. The people in the house did not understand that Jesus could help. They did not believe in Him. They laughed at what He said.

Flashcard PMIR5-5

Jesus emptied the house of everyone except the little girl's mum and dad and the three disciples. They went into the room where the little girl was.

Jesus took her hand and said to her, "Little girl, get up" (from Mark 5:41).

Flashcard PMIR5-6

Straight away the little girl got up and walked around!

"Give her something to eat," Jesus said (from Mark 5:43).

Jairus had believed that Jesus could help him. He had come to Jesus with a big problem - his daughter was dying. Jesus had been able to help Jairus because He is God the Son.

You and I can believe in Jesus - He is still God the Son. Jesus can be your Saviour. He came to Earth and died on the cross to take the punishment you deserve. Three days later He came back to life again. He is now in Heaven. You can ask Him to forgive you for your sin and become your Saviour today. If you have already done that you can know that Jesus is able to care for you, because He is God the Son. Today Jesus does not always make sick people better or take their problems away, but we can believe that He always does what is best and He loves us very much.



(CD: 13/34) "Jesus loves me".

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 Who has a gift for you that you cannot earn or buy? (God.)
- 2 What is God's gift to you? (Eternal life; life as God's child forever.)
- 3 How can you receive God's gift? (By believing in Jesus as your Saviour.)



Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 What is faith? (Believing something is true; being so sure something is true that you are willing to do something about it.)
- 2 What amazing things did Jesus do to show His power as God the Son? (Miracles - He healed a paralysed man and Bartimaeus, calmed a storm, fed many people with a boy's lunch, etc.)
- 3 How did Jairus show faith in Jesus' power? (He asked Jesus to help his sick little girl.)
- 4 As Jesus and Jairus were walking to Jairus' house, what happened to his little girl? (She died.)
- 5 What did Jesus tell Jairus to do as they kept walking to his house? (To believe and not be afraid; to have faith in Him.)
- 6 The people in the house didn't believe that Jesus could help. What did they do? (They laughed.)
- 7 What did Jesus say to the little girl? ("Little girl, get up.")
- 8 What happened when Jesus told the dead girl to get up? (She came alive and got up!)
- 9 Who should you have faith in to forgive you for your sin? (Jesus, the Saviour.)

Gospel spotlight

- 1 What is the best gift you could ever receive? (Eternal life as God's child.)
- 2 When does eternal life start and how long does it last? (It starts the moment you believe in Jesus as Saviour and lasts forever!)
- 3 What do you need to do to become God's child? (Believe in Jesus as your own Saviour. Use this question to review - tell God, "I know I have sinned. I believe Jesus died for my sin and came alive again. Please forgive my sin and make me Your child.")

Lesson 6






Jesus brings Lazarus back to life






Scripture for teachers John 11:1-7,17-44
(Also read verses 8-16)

Central truth God has power over life and death

Application Unsaved and saved: Believe that Jesus is more powerful than death

Memory verse "Jesus said ... 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live'" (John 11:25)

Class schedule	What you need	What to do	
 Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player Nametags (page 78), one per child A4 sheets of paper, one per child Crayons or markers 	Welcome Activity	Have soft music playing. Greet the children by name and give them their nametags. "My family" Have each child draw a picture of his family. (They may include pets.) After the pictures are drawn, gather the children in a circle. Have children take turns telling about their families.
 Worship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music CD and CD player; songbook or lyrics (page 14) "I can know God" visualised song Offering basket or bank 	Song Prayer Song Offering	(CD: 9/30) "I can know God" Lead the children in prayer or let them pray with you phrase by phrase: "Dear God, thank You that You love us. Thank You that You have a special plan for my life. Help me tell others about You. In Jesus' name. Amen." (CD: 20/41) "Tell the story true" (Optional.) Pass around a basket or bank and let children give an offering. (Be sure to inform the parents how the money will be used.)
 Memory verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 69) 	Verse Repetition	John 11:25 "Verse with actions"
 Stretch		Activity	"Follow the leader" Do an action and let the children follow: run on the spot, jump up and down, swing your arms, stretch tall, touch your toes. Then let different children be the leader.
 Bible lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson text (page 71) PMIR6-1, PMIR6-2, PMIR6-3, PMIR6-4, PMIR6-5 and PMIR6-6 Objects for introduction (eg tin of soup, empty plastic carton, telephone directory, etc) 	Lesson	"Jesus brings Lazarus back to life" Teach the entire lesson, or one part each session. To allow your hands to be free for the activities within the lesson, you may want to display the flashcard visuals on an easel that is at eye level to the children.

Class schedule	What you need	What to do
 Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sad and happy faces (pages 88-89), fifteen of each Questions (page 73) 	Game "Sad and happy faces" Place sad faces on the flannelboard. When a child answers a question, he can remove a sad face and replace it with a happy face.
 Gospel spotlight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructions (page 70) PMIR-p, PMIR-q and PMIR-r 	Spotlight "Romans 6:23" (review)
 Snack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snack of your choice (be sensitive to food allergies the children may have) 	Break Take a toilet break, allowing the children to wash their hands. Prayer Lead in prayer, thanking God for the food. Snack Channel conversation to review the lesson. (Note: foods may be sampled during the lesson to enhance learning, but these should be very small portions and should not replace the regular snack time.)
 Creative activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large smooth flat stones, one per child Markers, paints and paint-brushes, or stickers Student activity sheets, one per child Glue 1.5 cm (0.5") strips of gauze cut from a 5 cm (2") wide roll, four per child Play dough or clay (page 8) 	Activity "Coloured stones" Give each child a stone. Let him decorate it with markers, paints or stickers. Remind them that the stone was moved and Lazarus came out alive. Activity sheet* "Jesus brought Lazarus back to life" Assist the children in gluing strips of gauze onto Lazarus. Play dough "Tomb for Lazarus" Guide children in making a tomb and talk about how Lazarus was dead for four days in a tomb. Next have the children make Lazarus and place him in the tomb. Say, "Lazarus, come out!" and take Lazarus out of the tomb.
 Enrichment activity (choose one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Costumes (see page 8) Large towel, bundles of potpourri wrapped in netting Story suggestions (page 90) "God makes me glad" song visuals (pages 86-87) 	Drama "Lazarus is alive!" Have the children act out the story as you slowly retell it. Assign roles and have simple costumes available since preschool children enjoy being able to "dress up." Have the children smell bundles of potpourri wrapped in netting. Let a few children help wrap a child's upper body in a large towel with the potpourri tucked in the folds. Place the child in a pretend cave. When "Lazarus" is wrapped up, ask the children what Jesus said. They can shout together, "Lazarus, come out!" and clap as he does. All the children help unwrap him. Activity "Storytelling" Use the story suggestions to begin a "let's pretend" story that is interrupted by an "uh-oh" situation. Make faces suggesting the disappointment and sadness. After each, sing "God makes me glad", or say, "God's plan is best."

*Available online at www.cefonline.com

Teaching the memory verse

Memory verse

“Jesus said ... ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live’” (John 11:25)

Introduction

Sometimes when people tell us things we are not sure whether or not to believe them! Sometimes people make promises and they do not keep them. But we can always trust what Jesus says. We are going to read something that Jesus said.

Presentation

Read the verse from the Bible. Show the children that it is written in the Bible.

John 11:25 is the address of this verse.

Say the address together three times.

Explanation

I am the resurrection and the life - “Resurrection” means “to bring back to life”. Jesus has the power to bring people that have died back to life again.

He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live - Those who believe in Jesus, who have trusted Him as their Saviour from the punishment for sin, will live forever. Even if they die Jesus will give them life forever in Heaven.

Application

Unsaved: If you want to live forever in Heaven one day, you need to believe in Jesus. You need to believe that He came to Earth to be your Saviour and that He died on the cross to take your punishment for sin.

Saved: If you have believed in Jesus and asked Him to be your Saviour, thank Him that one day you will live forever in Heaven.

Repetition

“Verse with actions”

Say the verse sitting on the floor, then again while kneeling, then crouching, then standing. Repeat.

Gospel spotlight

Romans 6:23 (review)

Show flashcard PMIR-p.

- ◆ Who likes to give you gifts? (Answers will vary. Conclude with, “Someone who loves you.”)
- ◆ What must someone know to give you a gift that is just right for you? (He must know you and what you like or need.)
- ◆ Who gives the best gifts of all because He knows you the best? (God, Who made you.)
- ◆ Who loves you more than anyone else could ever love you? (God - Jeremiah 31:3.)
- ◆ What is the best gift God wants to give you? (Eternal life.)

Show flashcard PMIR-q.

- ◆ How long does eternal life last? (Forever.)
- ◆ Where will you live forever someday if you have eternal life? (Heaven.)
- ◆ What is one thing you know about Heaven? (There is no sadness, no sin, no tears, no death; it is the place where Jesus is and where He is worshipped; Heaven never comes to an end.)

Show flashcard PMIR-r.

- ◆ How do you receive this gift of eternal life? (By believing in Jesus as your Saviour.)
- ◆ What do you need to be saved from? (Sin and the punishment for sin - Romans 3:23.)
- ◆ What is a way someone your age might sin? (Answers will vary.)

Share other examples or discuss PMIR-a, PMIR-b, PMIR-c and PMIR-d.

- ◆ Did Jesus ever sin? (No, He was perfect.)
- ◆ How was Jesus punished for your sin? (He bled and died on the cross - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.)
- ◆ If you love God where will you live with Him someday? (Heaven.)
- ◆ If you would like to receive God’s gift of eternal life, I would be happy to help you (*designate time and place*).

Lesson - part 1



Do some activities to find out how strong the children are.

Who can lift a tin of soup? Who can blow over an empty plastic carton?
Who can tear a telephone directory?

Some things the children will be strong enough to do. Make sure there is at least one thing they can attempt (without getting hurt!) but cannot do. Explain that we can be strong but some things are stronger than we are.

Nothing is stronger or more powerful than God. He is able to control everything in the world.



(CD: 15/36) "My God is so great".

Flashcard PMIR6-1

A man called Lazarus was very sick. He lived in a village called Bethany.

Ask the children to repeat this name.

He had two sisters called Mary and Martha.

Draw the children's attention to the faces of the sisters in the visual.

How do you think these two sisters, Mary and Martha, felt? They look sad and worried, don't they? They did their best to help their brother, but they could not make him well again - but they knew Someone Who could! Mary, Martha and Lazarus were friends of Jesus, they knew what He could do and they believed that He could help them. So they sent a message to Jesus.

"Lord, the one You love is sick" (from John 11:3).

Flashcard PMIR6-2

Jesus got the message. A good friend of His was very sick. What do you think Jesus did? You might expect Jesus to rush to the village of Bethany where Lazarus lived, but He didn't!

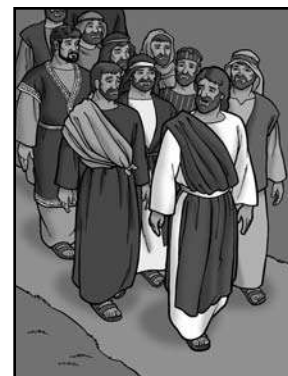
Jesus listened to the message and then He said, "This sickness won't end in death. It is to glorify God's Son through it" (from John 11:4).

That was good news, but it was a strange thing to say. What did Jesus mean? We have been finding out from the Bible that Jesus is God the Son. So this sickness was to show people Who Jesus was.

The Bible tells us that Jesus loved Mary and Martha, but He did not rush off to see Lazarus. He stayed where He was for two more days! Only then did Jesus say to His disciples, "Let's go back to Judea" (the place where Bethany was).

When Jesus and His disciples arrived in Bethany (the village where Lazarus and his sisters lived) He found that Lazarus had been dead for four days.

Ask the children to count to four on their fingers.



This was not a surprise to Jesus. He knew that this had happened.

In those days in the country where Jesus lived people were buried in a tomb. It was like a cave and a big stone was put over the entrance. Friends, family and neighbours had come to visit Mary and Martha to show how sad they were that Lazarus had died.

When someone dies their body stops working, but the real person inside (the person who feels happy or sad or lonely or frightened) carries on. Lazarus' friends were sad because they knew they would not see him anymore.

Part 2

Flashcard PMIR6-3



When Martha heard that Jesus was coming she went out to meet Him.

“Lord,” she said, “if You had been here my brother wouldn’t have died” (from John 11:21).

Do you think Martha was right to think that Jesus could have helped? Do you think that Jesus could still help, even though Lazarus had died?

Jesus is God the Son. He has amazing power. He has the power to help. He loves people very much and He cares about what happens to them. Jesus cared about Lazarus and Martha and Mary. Jesus also cares about you too, even when sad things happen in your life. You can pray to Him and ask Him to help you.

Martha said to Jesus, “I know that even now God will give you anything that you ask” (from John 11:22). Martha knew that Jesus was Someone special.

Then Jesus told her, “Your brother will rise again” (John 11:23).

Jesus meant that Lazarus would come back to life again. Martha believed that that would happen, but she thought it would be a long way away in the future when the world came to an end. She was about to find out something amazing about Jesus.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.”

Read this aloud from the Bible - John 11:25.

What did Jesus mean? He was telling Martha that people who believe in Him will live with Him forever in Heaven, even though their body dies. Jesus has power over death. Jesus is more powerful than anything.

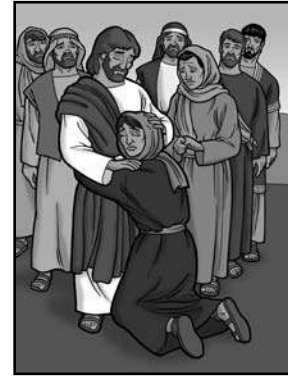
Martha believed what Jesus said. “I believe that you are the Son of God,” she said (from John 11:27).

Martha went back to the house and called Mary. Mary got up quickly and came to Jesus. The people who had been in the house comforting Mary followed her.

Part 3

Flashcard PMIR6-4

Mary came to Jesus and knelt down in front of Him. Just like her sister she thought that if Jesus had come sooner her brother would not have died. Mary and the other people with her were so sad that they were crying. The Bible tells us that Jesus also cried. Jesus was sad at what had happened. He loved these people and He felt for them in their sadness.



Flashcard PMIR6-5

Jesus came to the tomb where the body was.

“Take away the stone,” He said (John 11:39).

This was a strange thing to ask, because after four days there would be a bad smell if the stone over the entrance was moved. But they did as Jesus said.



Then Jesus called with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” (from John 11:43).

The people stood waiting, they must have been quite shocked. It was a very unusual thing to call a dead man. But something incredible happened.

Flashcard PMIR6-6

Lazarus, who had been dead, came out of the tomb alive! Jesus is more powerful than anything else. He is God the Son. Today people who die do not get raised to life again like Lazarus did. That was a special miracle to show us Who Jesus is, so that we can believe in Him. But everyone who trusts in Jesus will live with Him forever in Heaven one day. We can thank God that Jesus is more powerful than death.



Lead the children in a simple prayer.

(CD: 18/39) “Praise Him, praise Him”.

Review questions

Memory verse

- 1 What can we know about the things that Jesus said? (They are always true; we can believe/trust what He says.)
- 2 What does “resurrection” mean? (To bring someone who has died back to life.)
- 3 Who will be able to live with Jesus forever in Heaven one day? (People who have believed in Jesus.)

Lesson (parts 1-3)

- 1 Why did Mary and Martha send for Jesus? (Their brother Lazarus was sick.)

- 2 When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, what did He do? (He waited two days before starting the trip to Bethany.)
- 3 What happened to Lazarus before Jesus arrived at Mary and Martha's town? (He died.)
- 4 Was the fact that Lazarus had died a surprise to Jesus? (No, He knew before He got there that it had happened.)
- 5 Who had the power to give life to Lazarus? (Jesus, God the Son.)
- 6 When Jesus came to the tomb where Lazarus' body was, what did He ask the people to do? (Take away the stone.)
- 7 What did Jesus say in a loud voice? ("Lazarus, come out!")
- 8 What happened when Jesus called for Lazarus to come out of the tomb? (Lazarus came alive again; he walked out of the tomb.)
- 9 Who is more powerful than death? (Jesus.)

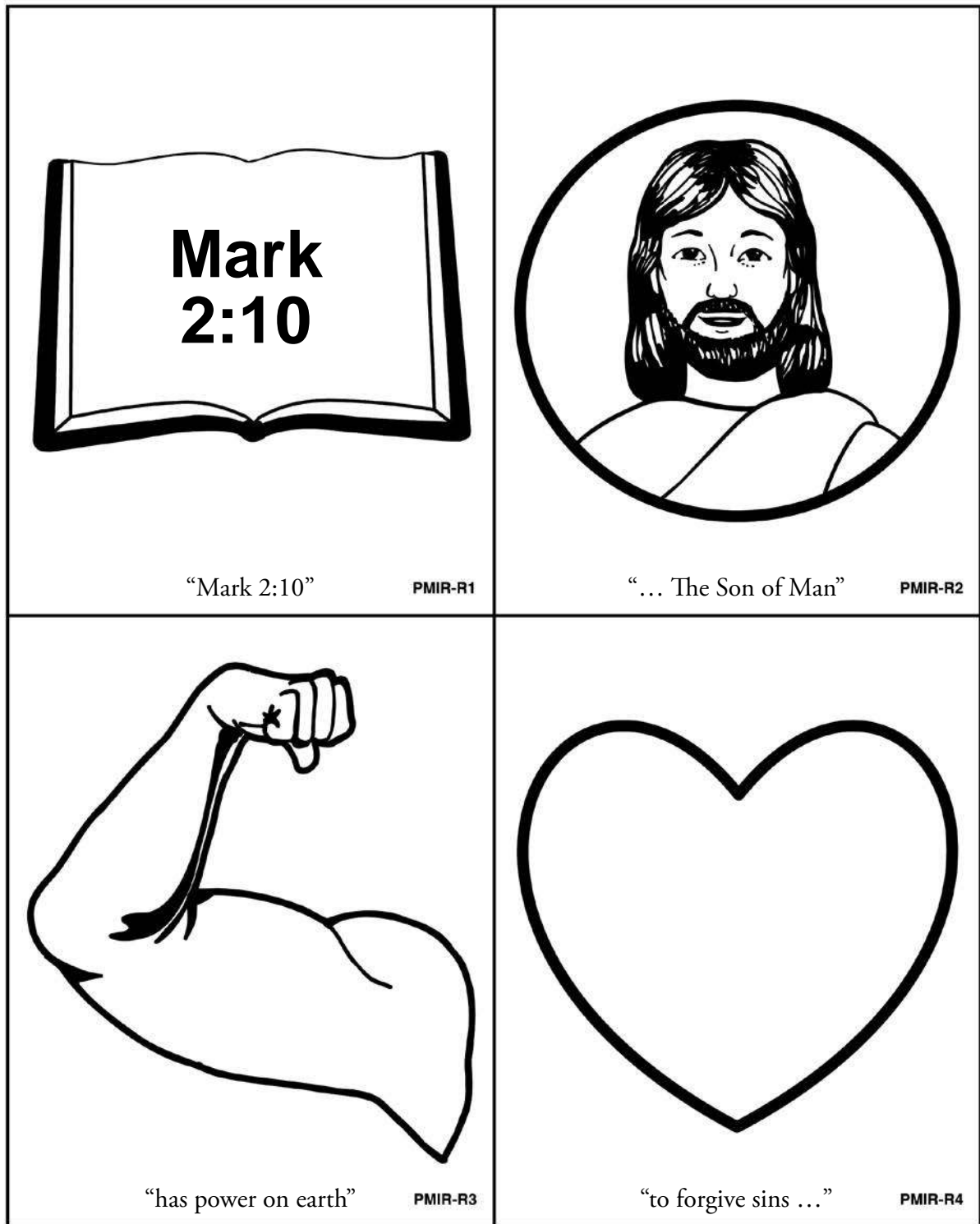
Gospel spotlight

- 1 What is sin? (Disobeying God; not pleasing God; doing things your own way instead of God's way.)
- 2 What did Jesus do so you can be saved from your sin? (Jesus bled and died on a cross as punishment for your sin, then came alive again.)
- 3 What do you need to do to receive God's gift of eternal life? (Believe in Jesus as your own Saviour. Use this question to review - tell God, "I know I have sinned. I believe Jesus died for my sin and came alive again. Please forgive my sin and make me Your child.")

Memory verse symbols

Lesson 1

Photocopy, colour and cut out the verse symbols. For suggestions on usage, see tips under “Use a variety of visuals” (page 5).



Memory verse symbols

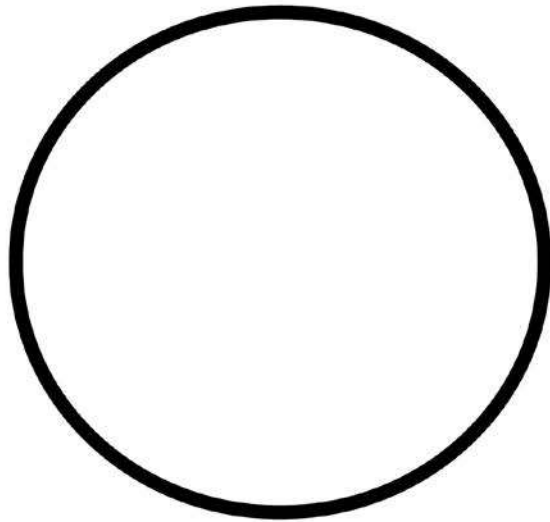
Lessons 3 and 4

Photocopy, colour and cut out the verse symbols. For suggestions on usage, see tips under “Use a variety of visuals” (page 5).



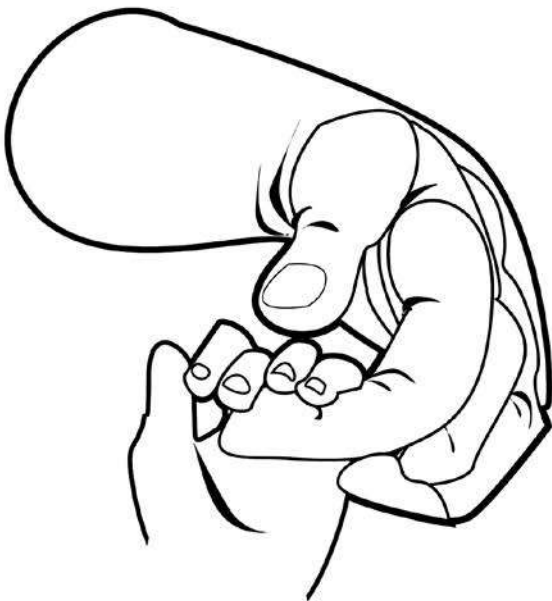
“Hebrews 13:6”

PMIR-R5



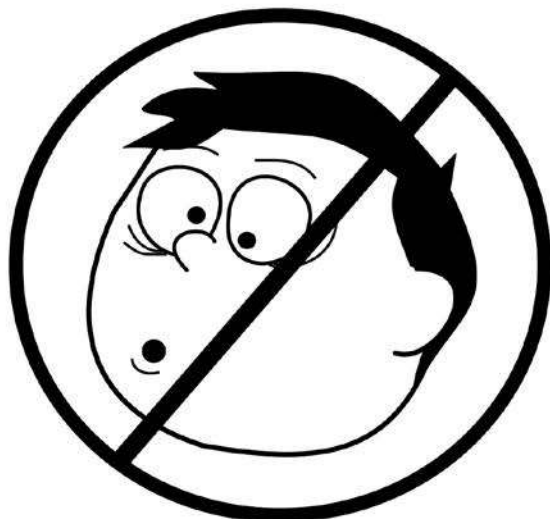
“... The Lord”

PMIR-R6



“is my helper;”

PMIR-R7



“I will not fear ...”

PMIR-R8

Memory verse symbols

Lesson 5

Photocopy, colour and cut out the verse symbols. For suggestions on usage, see tips under “Use a variety of visuals” (page 5).



“Romans 6:23”

PMIR-R9



“... the gift of God”

PMIR-R10



“is eternal life”

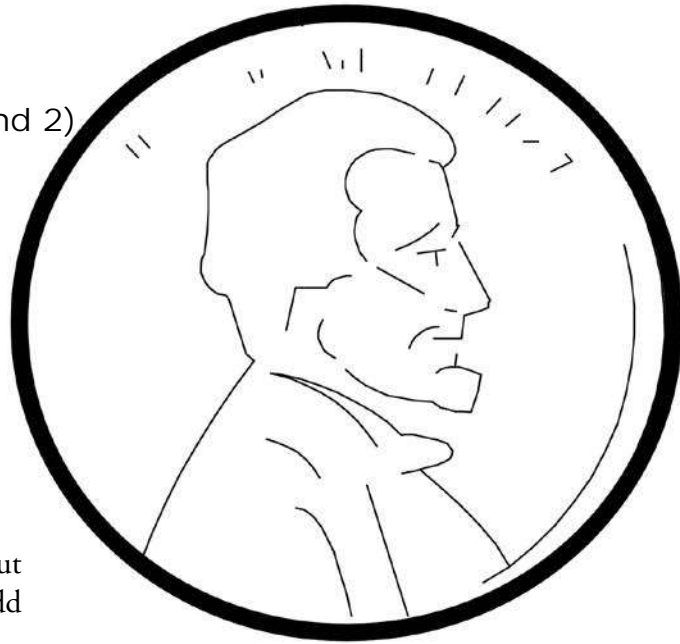
PMIR-R11

Nametag patterns

Lessons 1-6

Photocopy the patterns below and cut out enough nametags to allow one per child and plenty of extras. The nametags may be created with coloured card or fun foam, and attached with a safety pin or double-sided tape.

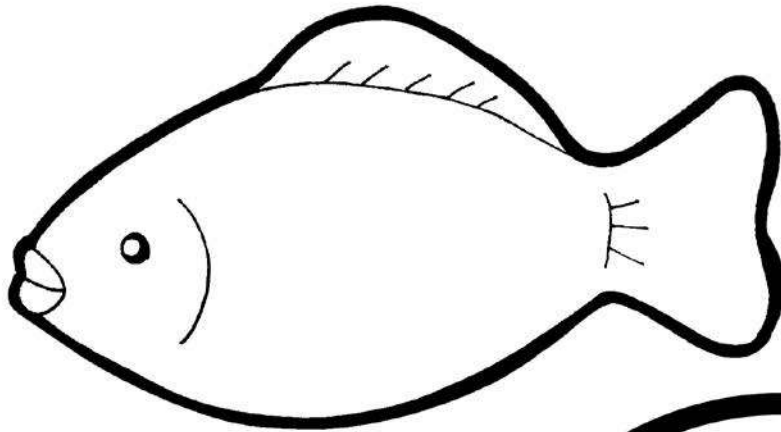
Coin
(lessons 1 and 2)



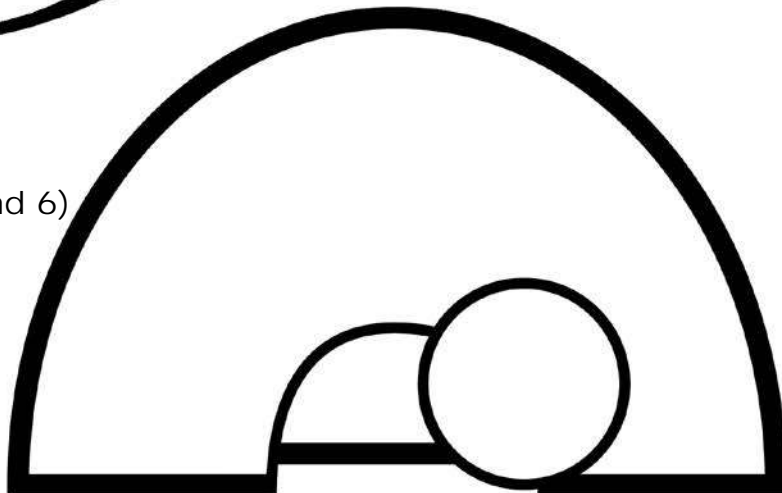
Fish (lessons 3 and 4)

Prepare as directed above for nametags.

For lesson 4 "Catch a fish" photocopy and cut out at least twelve from construction paper. Add a message (page 79) and paper clip to each.



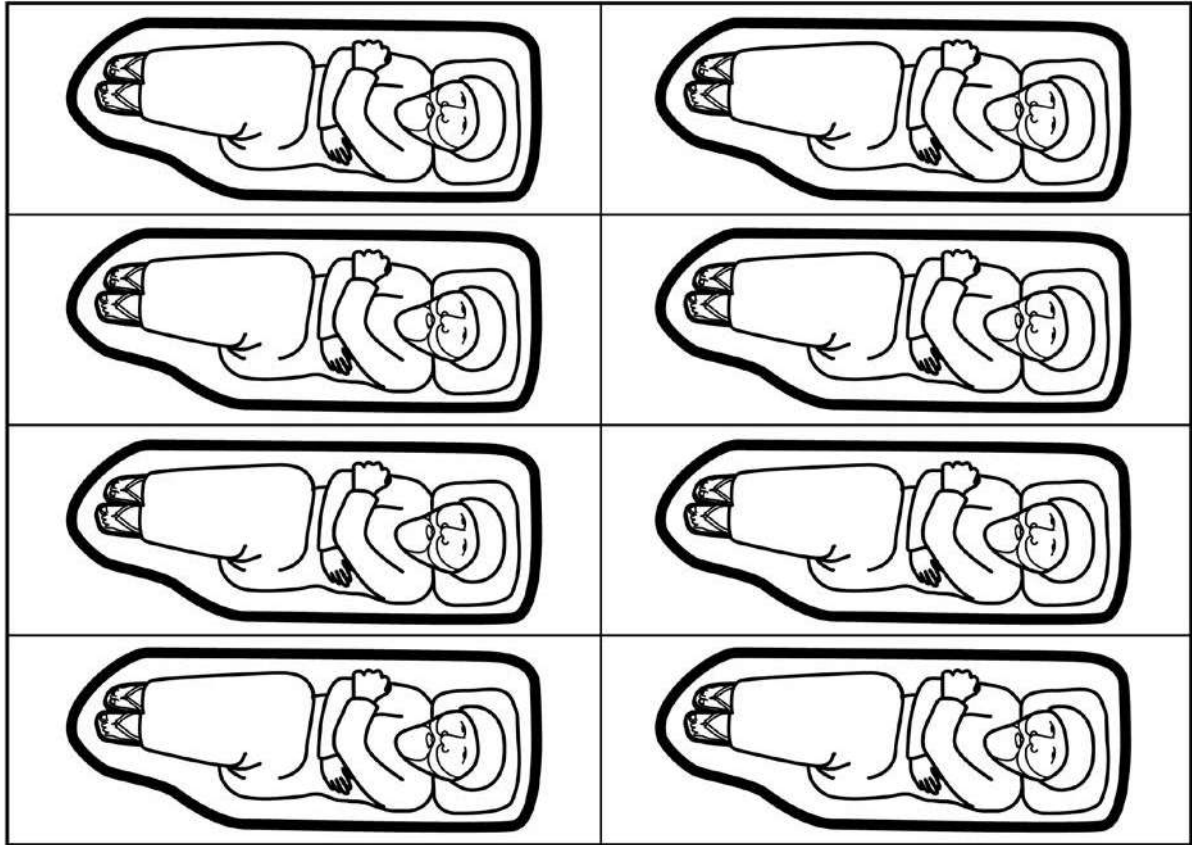
Empty tomb
(lessons 5 and 6)



Paralysed men

Lesson 1

Photocopy the men on to card, one per child.



Messages

Lesson 4

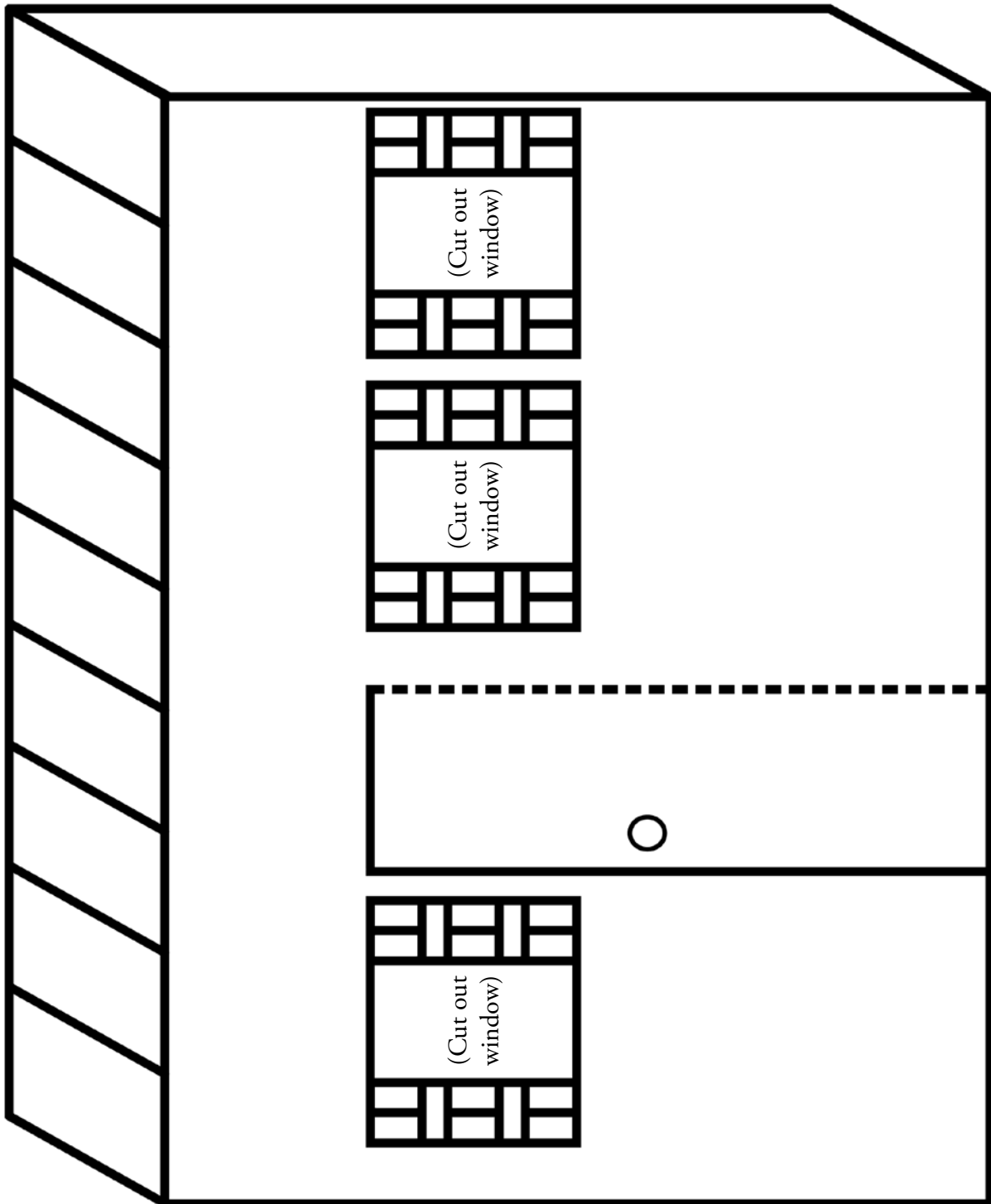
Photocopy the messages and cut them out. Glue each to a fish (page 78), then attach a paper clip to each fish's mouth.

Smile at a friend.	Give a friend a hug.	Share a toy or treat.
Help clean up after a meal.	Help put away toys.	Help care for a pet.
Make a picture for someone in your family.	Make a picture for someone who is sick.	Make a picture for someone far away.
Tell a friend about God and His love.	Sing a song about God's love.	Pray for a friend to know God.

House and tiles

Lesson 1

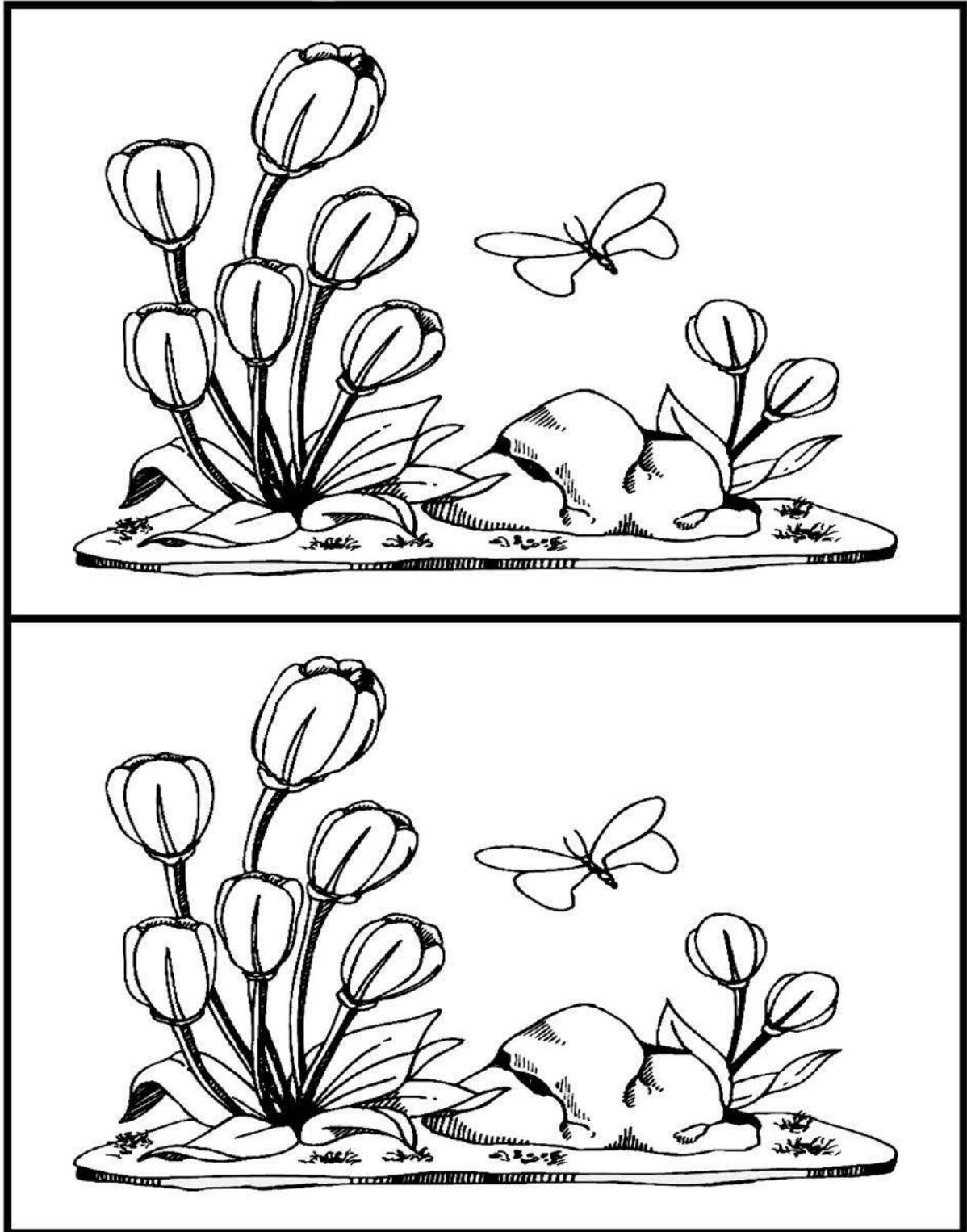
Photocopy the house and tiles on to coloured card. Glue paper towel, sandpaper or flocked paper scraps to the back. Add colour if desired, then cut out the house, tiles and windows along the solid lines. Cut along the top and left side of the door, then fold it along the other side to create a hinge.



Nature pictures

Lesson 2

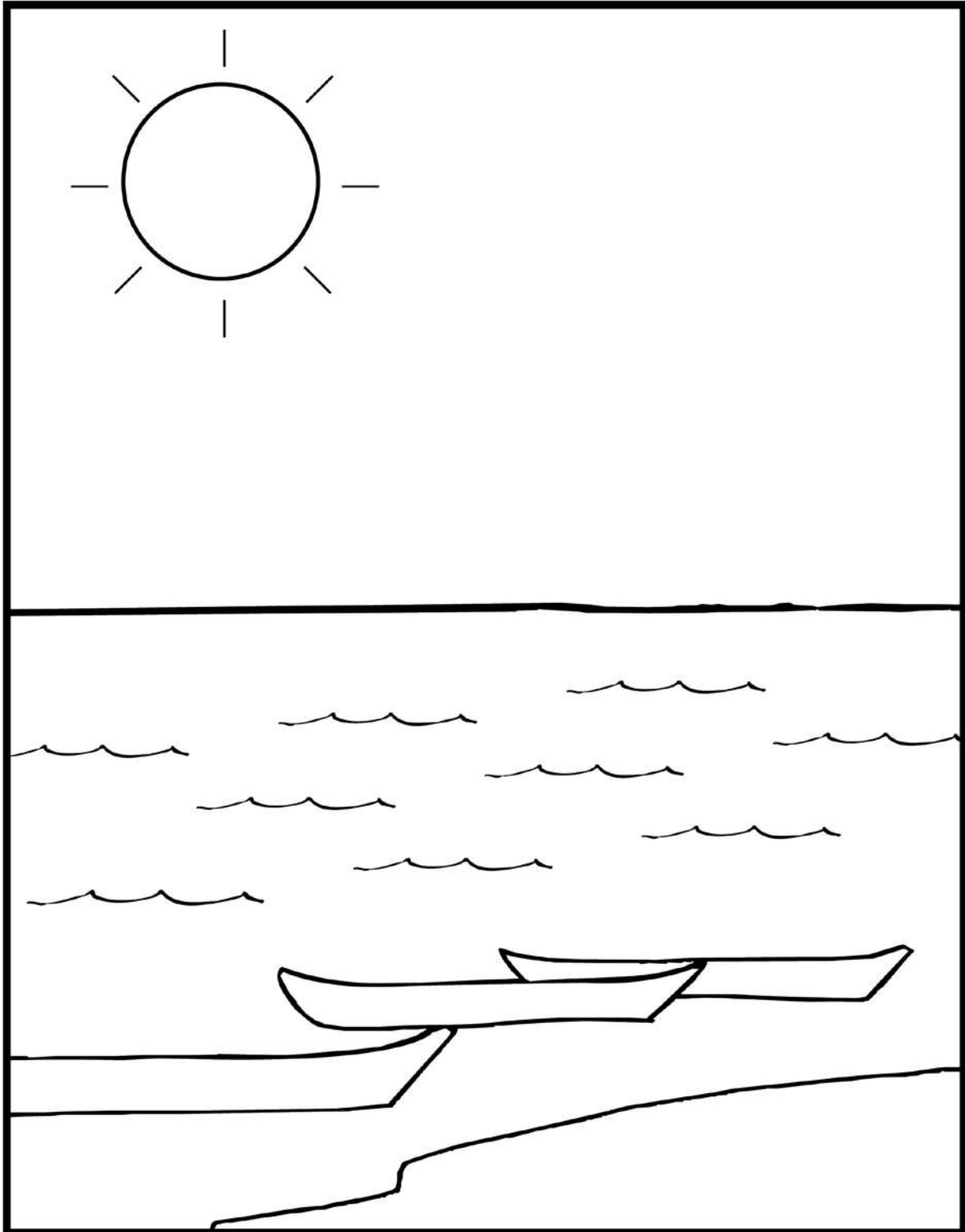
Photocopy and cut in half. Give each child two pictures.



Sea picture

Lesson 3

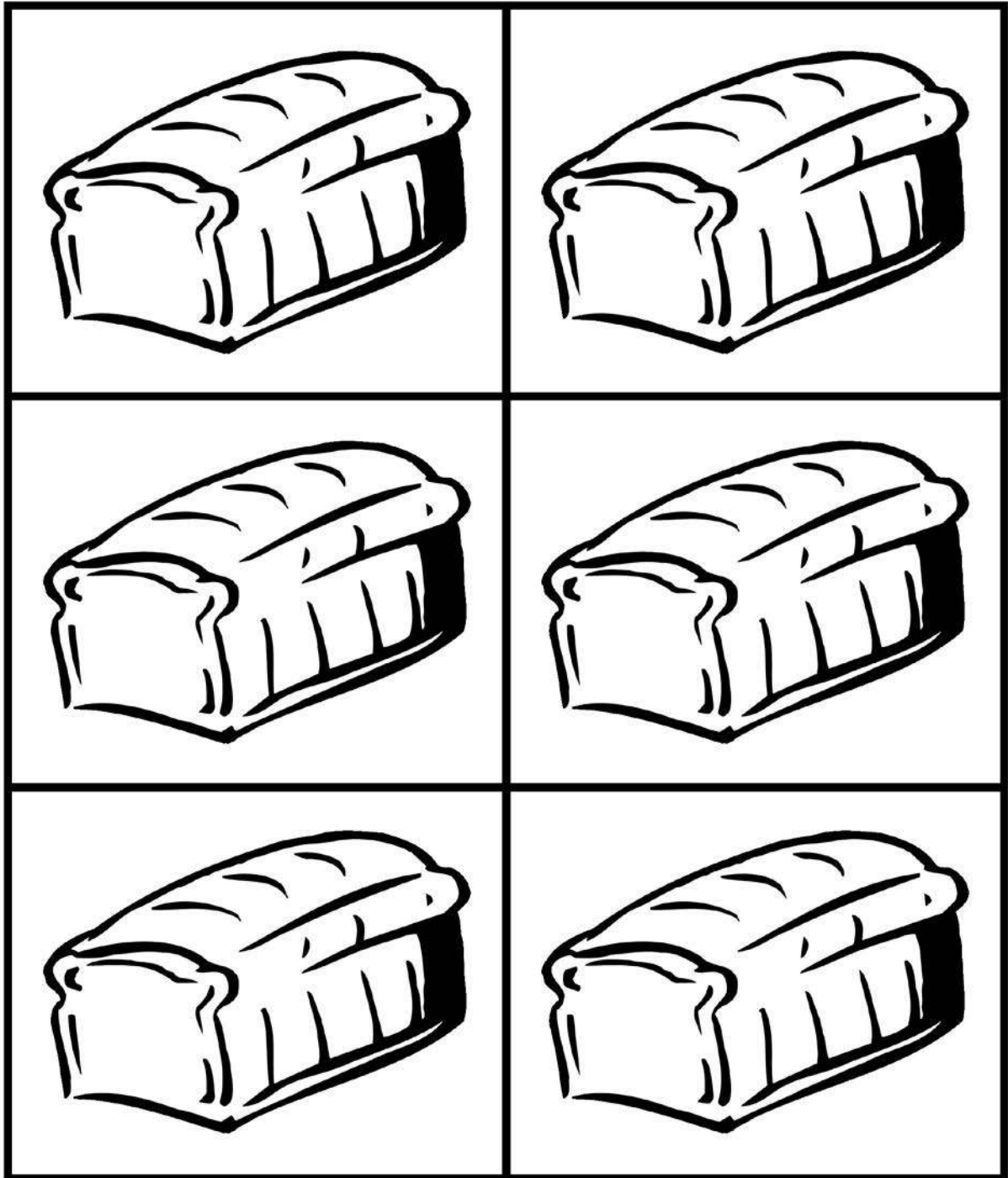
Photocopy on to white card, one per child.



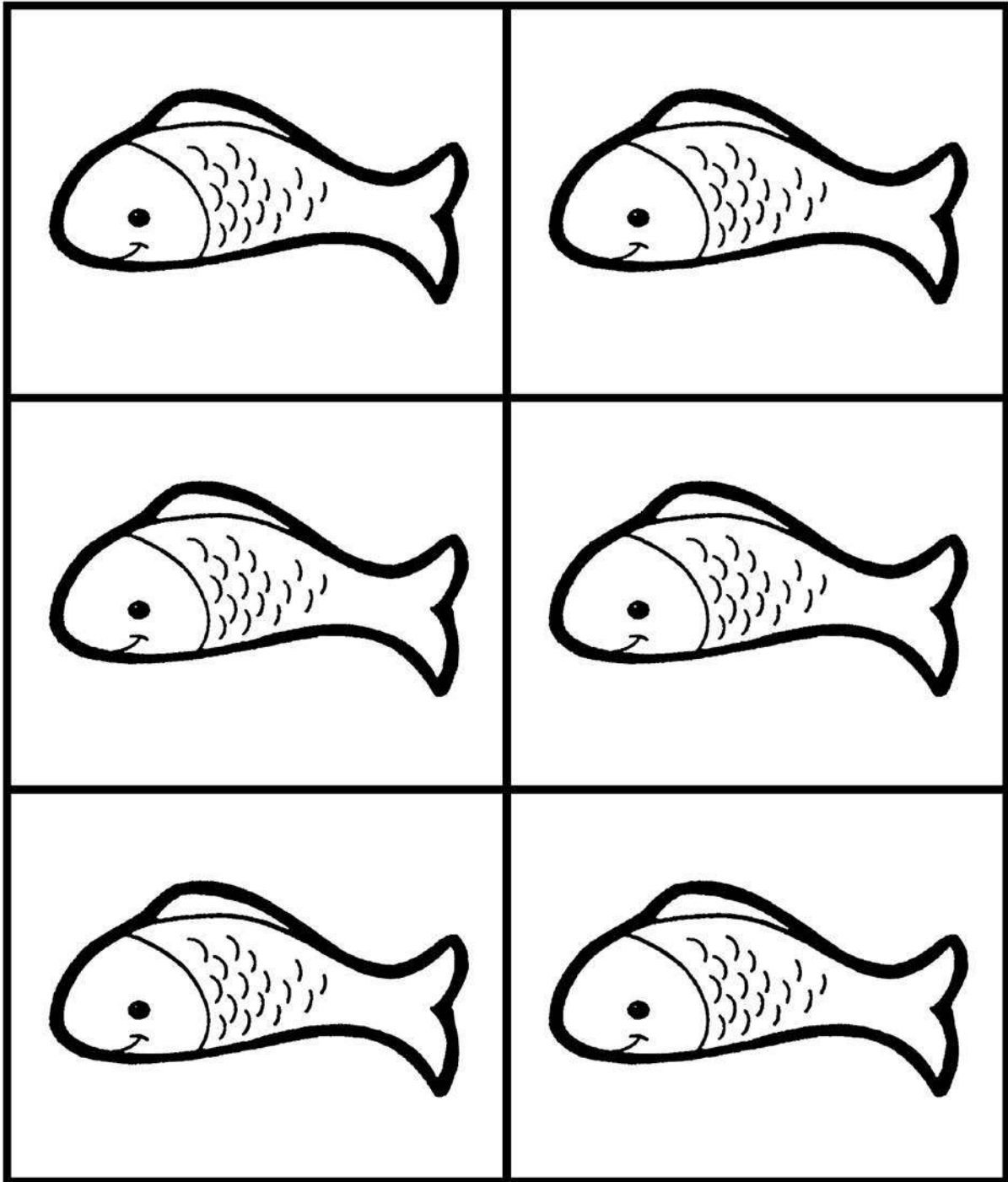
Bread and fish

Lesson 4

Photocopy the loaves and fish on to coloured card. For the review game cut out five of each and glue a paper towel, sandpaper or flocked paper scraps to the back. For the creative activity give each child one set of five loaves and two fish.



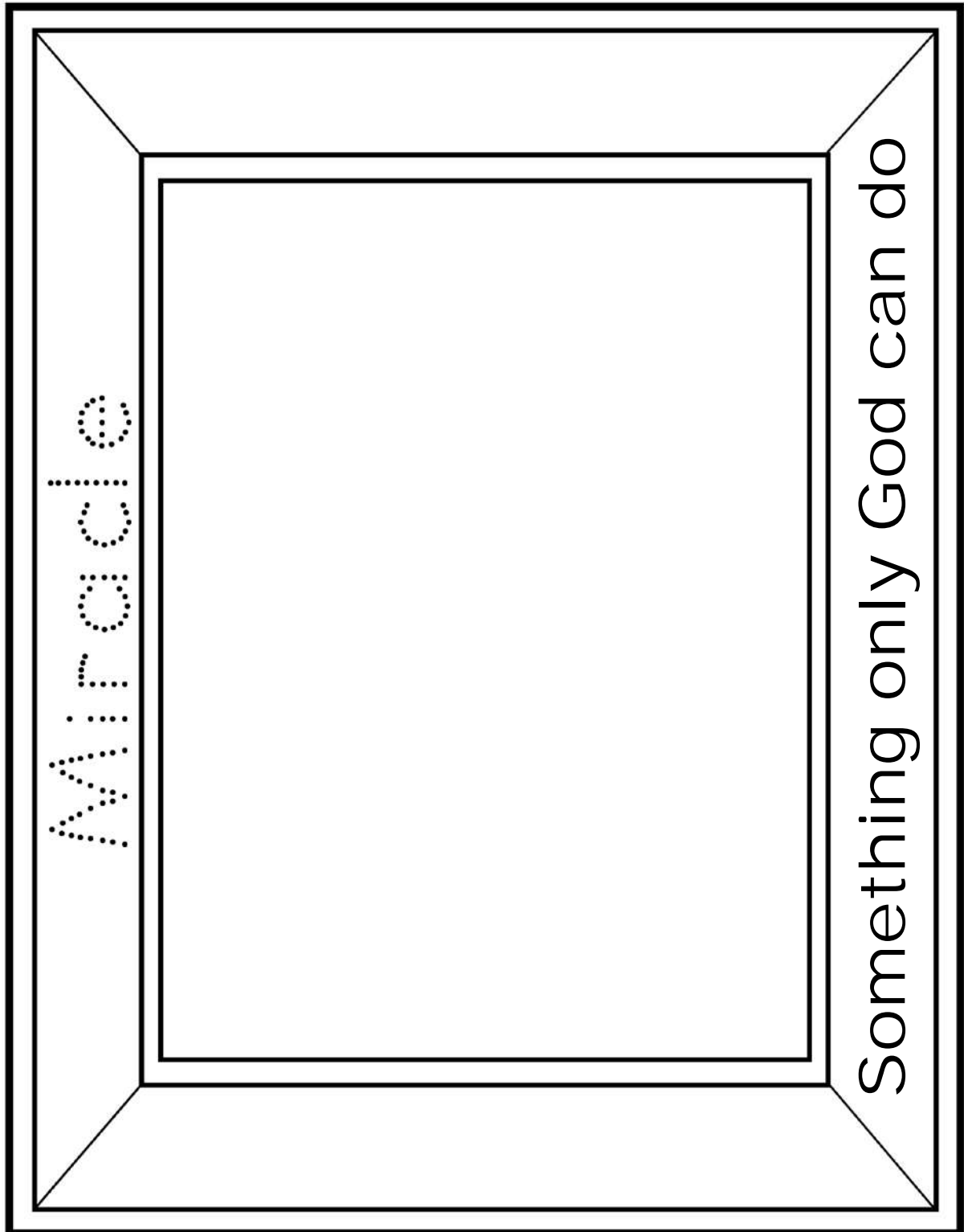
Bread and fish (continued)



Miracle picture

Lesson 5

Photocopy the frame on to card, one per child.



“God makes me glad” song visuals

Lesson 6

Photocopy a set of the four visuals on to card. Colour and cut out.



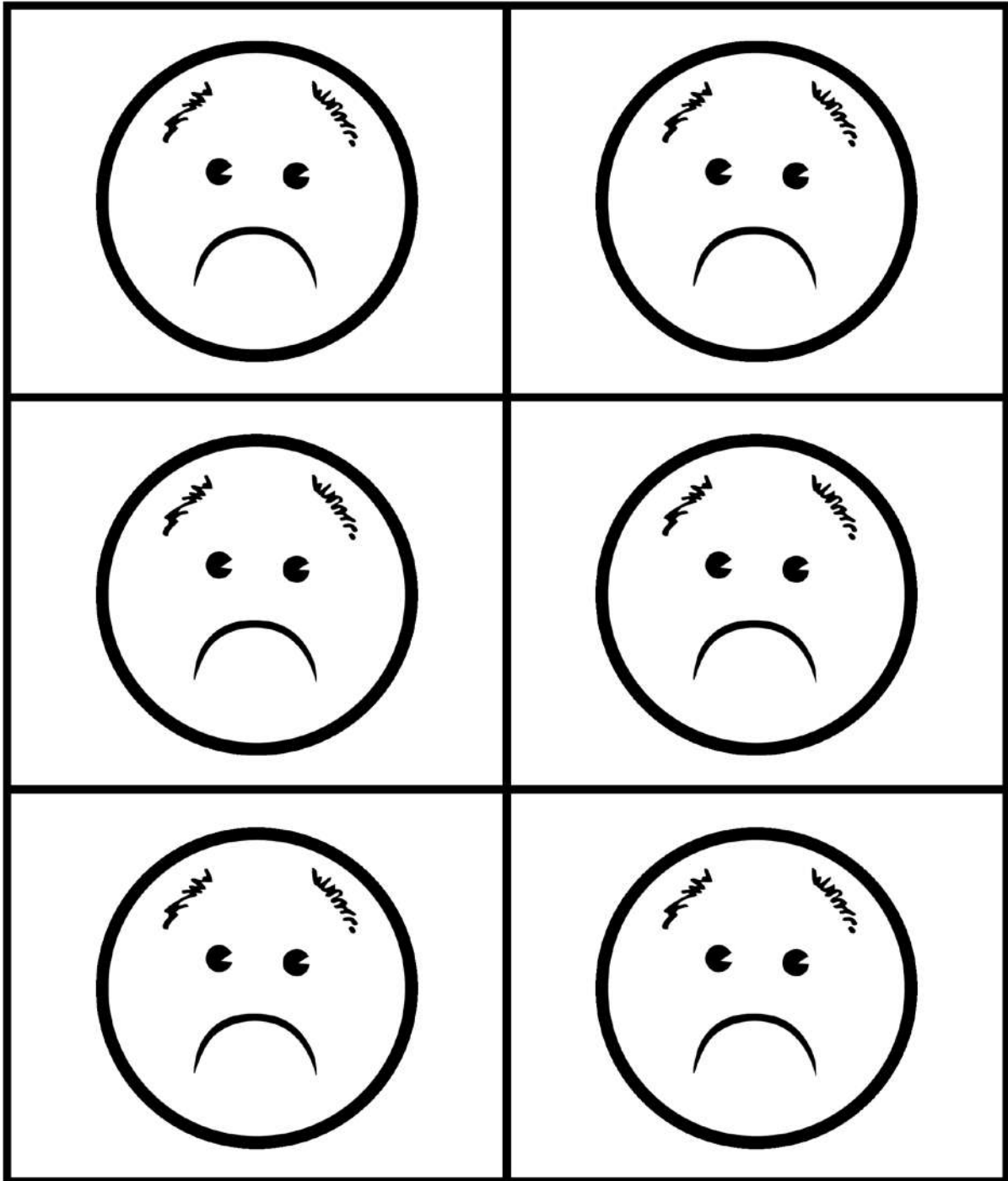
“God makes me glad” song visuals (continued)

<p>A large circle containing a stylized face. The face has two parentheses '(' and ')' for eyes, a single closing parenthesis ')' for a mouth, and a vertical double-headed arrow for a nose. The text 'Without delay I'll stop to pray' is written vertically to the right of the circle.</p>	<p>A large circle containing a stylized face. The face has two short diagonal lines '/' and '/' for eyes, two solid dots '•' and '•' for a nose, a single closing parenthesis ')' for a mouth, and a vertical double-headed arrow for a nose. The text 'So God can make me glad.' is written vertically to the right of the circle.</p>
3	4

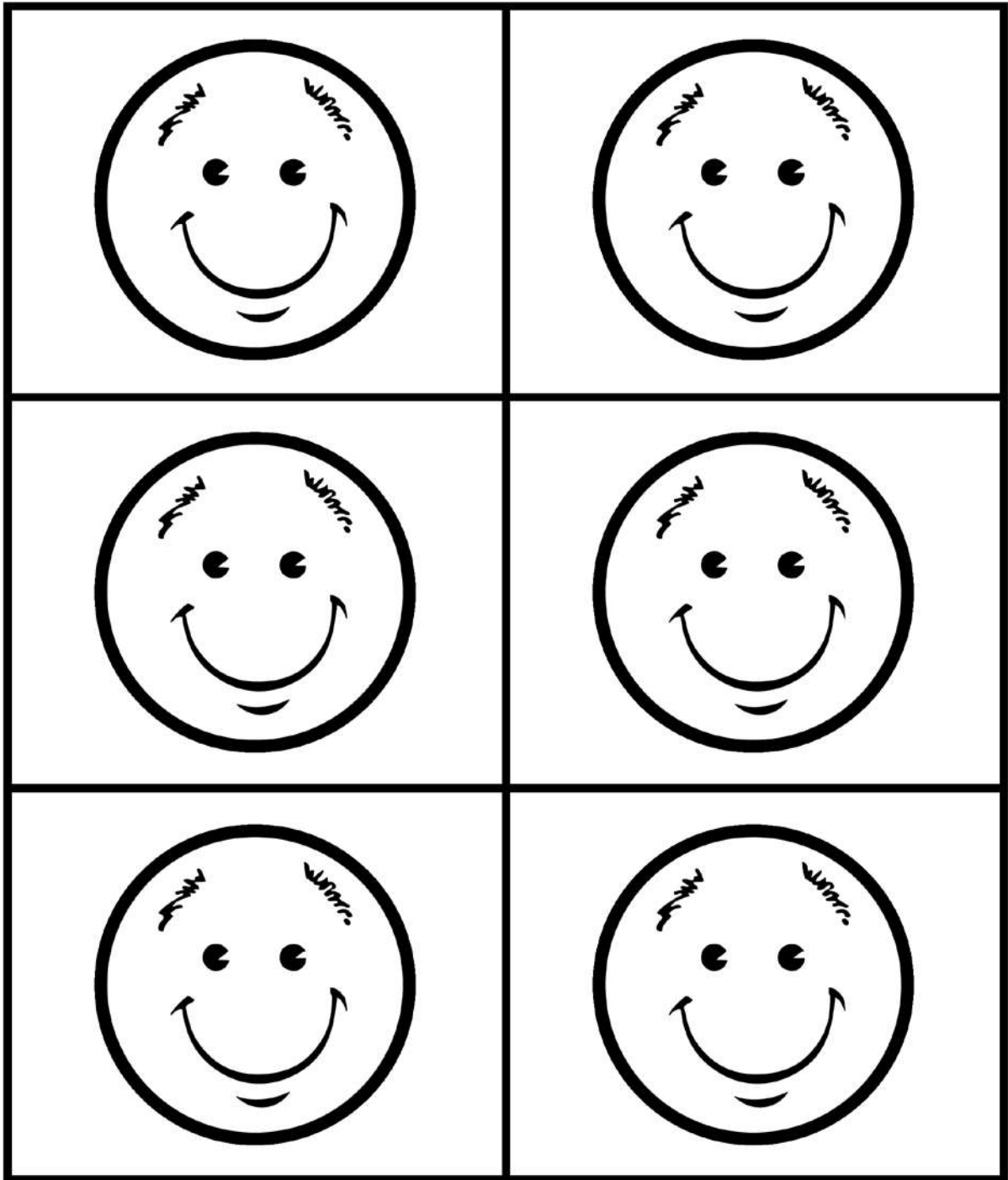
Sad and happy faces

Lesson 6

Photocopy three sets of each on to coloured card. Glue a paper towel, sandpaper or flocked paper scraps to the back then cut the faces apart.



Sad and happy faces (continued)



Story suggestions

Lesson 6

Let's pretend ... we are going to see the doctor.	Uh-oh ... the doctor says you need an injection.	Let's pretend ... we are going to play a favourite game with your brother or sister.	Uh-oh ... you lose and someone else wins.	Let's pretend ... we are going to wear our favourite clothes.	Uh-oh ... the clothes are in the washing machine.
Let's pretend ... we are going to get an ice cream cone.	Uh-oh ... they don't have your favourite flavour.	Let's pretend ... we are going to give mummy a hug.	Uh-oh ... Mummy is feeding the baby and can't hug you now.	Let's pretend ... we are going to tell daddy something.	Uh-oh ... Daddy is too busy to listen.
Let's pretend ... we are going to the shop.	Uh-oh ... the shop doesn't have what you want.	Let's pretend ... we are going to class at school or church.	Uh-oh ... there is a new teacher you don't know yet.	Let's pretend ... we are going to the park.	Uh-oh ... it starts to rain.
Let's pretend ... we are going to Grandma's house.	Uh-oh ... Grandma's not home.	Let's pretend ... we are going somewhere special with daddy or mummy.	Uh-oh ... Daddy or mummy changes the plan.	Let's pretend ... we are going to a friend's house.	Uh-oh ... the friend is sick.

How to lead a child to Christ

The following symbols represent key parts of the Gospel message. Sample truths and verses that may be used with each are listed below. You may want to photocopy and cut out “Key questions for counselling.” Place it in your Bible to use when counselling a child for salvation.



God's Person and love for the child

- ♦ God is the Creator; He made you.
- ♦ God is holy (sinless, perfect).
- ♦ God loves you.
- ♦ The Bible says, “God so loved the world” (John 3:16).



The child's problem or condition before God as a sinner

- ♦ Sin is anything you think, say or do that displeases God.
- ♦ You were born with a “want to” to do things your own way.
- ♦ You sin by ____ (*give examples on a preschool level*).
- ♦ The Bible says, “All have sinned” (Romans 3:23).
- ♦ The punishment God gives for sin is death - separation from God forever.



God's remedy: forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ

- ♦ Jesus is God the Son.
- ♦ Jesus never sinned.
- ♦ Jesus willingly bled and died on the cross to take God's punishment for sin.
- ♦ The Bible says, “The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).
- ♦ Jesus died and after three days came back to life (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
- ♦ Jesus is now in Heaven.



The way to trust Christ as Saviour

- ♦ Be prepared to say “no” to sin.
- ♦ Thank the Lord Jesus for dying on the cross for you.
- ♦ Ask Him to forgive all your sins and to give you everlasting life.
- ♦ The Bible says, “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). (*Quote this condition/promise verse or another, such as Acts 16:31 or John 1:12. A condition/promise verse gives a condition that must be met for God to fulfill a certain promise. In John 3:16 the condition is belief in Jesus and the promise is everlasting life. Tell the children when and where they can talk with you during the next activity if they would like to trust Christ.*)

Key questions for counselling

The need



- ♦ I think I know why you came to talk to me, but would you tell me?
- ♦ Why do you need the Lord Jesus?
- ♦ What is sin? Who has sinned? (Romans 3:23.)
- ♦ Can you think of something you have done that God calls sin?

The remedy



- ♦ Why did God send the Lord Jesus to Earth?
- ♦ Who is the Lord Jesus?
- ♦ What did Jesus do about your sin? (1 Corinthians 15:3-4.)
- ♦ What happened three days after Jesus died and was buried?

The way



- ♦ (*Show, read and let the child say after you one condition/promise verse; eg John 3:16, John 1:12 or Acts 16:31.*) What does God promise to do for you?
- ♦ What do you want God to do for you now? (*If the child is clear on his need, let him pray. Helps for guiding prayer: tell God about the sin problem between you and Him; what you believe Jesus did because of your sin; what you want Him to do for you today.*)

Assurance and growth



- ♦ What did God just do for you? How do you know? (*Show same condition/promise verse.*) Thank God for saving you.
- ♦ Will God ever leave you? (Hebrews 13:5.)
- ♦ God will help you say “no” to sin. If you do sin, what should you do? (1 John 1:9.)
- ♦ Allow the child to say a “thank you” prayer.